



# William Clarence White

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Learner, Lifter, Leader

West Jamaica Camp-Meeting, 12-26-13

Dr. Delbert W. Baker, Presenter

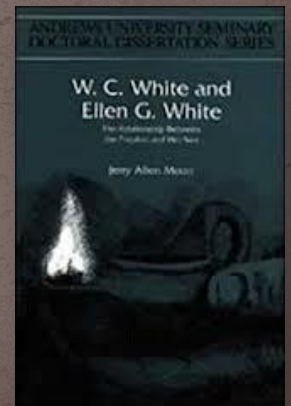
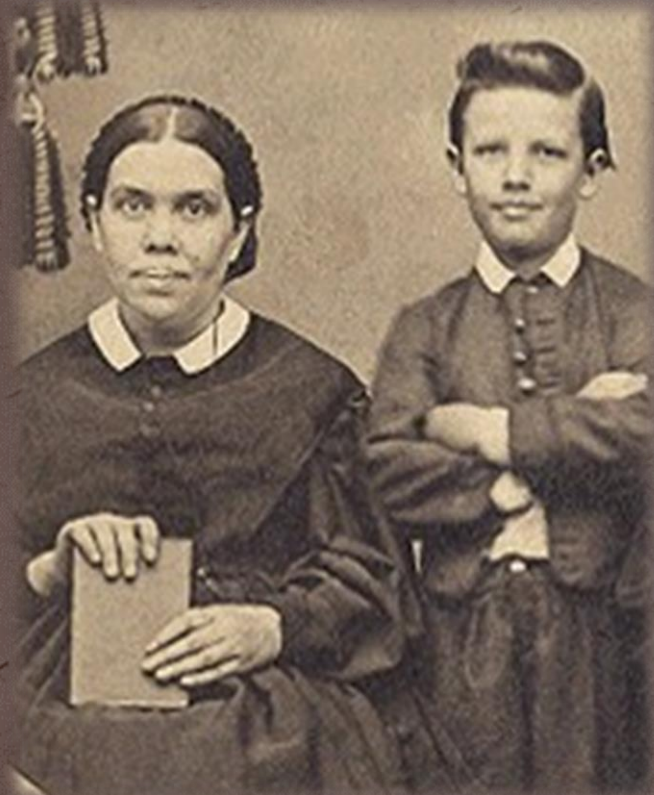
# William Clarence White

## Success in Systems

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Learner, Lifter, Leader

# William Clarence White (1854-1937)



# William Clarence White (1854-1937)

1. 3<sup>rd</sup> son and major SDA leader in the 19<sup>th</sup> century who was working in the press when under age of 10
2. At 21 he was PP manager, 29 member of GC Ex Comm and at 34 was the acting GC President
3. At 40 he initiated Union Conf sys, a founder & pres of Aus Union Conf & chaired 1901 GC reorganization
4. Better kn for 2<sup>nd</sup> half of his life; after his fathers death he was EGW's escort, advisor, Bus manager, liaison to pub & admin, superv of EGW ed staff
5. Trusted EGW delegate and spokesman (1900-1915)
6. For 34 years (1881-1915) closest confidant & co-laborer
7. Addt 22 yrs after death; 56 yrs EGW position of trust

**William the Learner**

**William the Lifter**

**William the Leader**

**William the Learner**

**William the Lifter**

**William the Leader**

#1 Henry Nichols White  
(1847-1863)

- “Sweet singer”, died prematurely at 16 years of age, of pneumonia.



#2 James Edson White  
(1849-1928)

- Known by his middle name (to differentiate him from his father)
- Felt challenges and experienced, caused pain to his parents



#3 William Clarence White  
(1854-1937)

- Affectionately "Willie"



#4 John Herbert White (1860); died at age 2 ½ months, from erysipelas (known medically as "St. Anthony's Fire").

- #1 Henry Nichols White (1847-1863)

- “Sweet singer”, died prematurely at 16 years of age, of pneumonia.



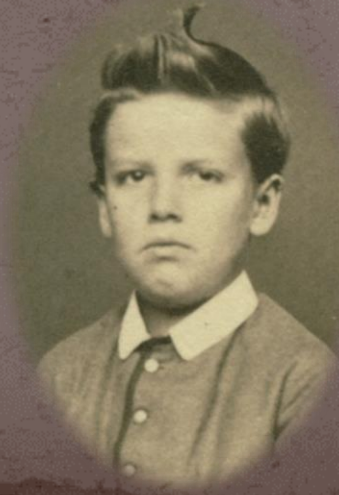
#2 James Edson White (1849-1928)—Oldest

- Known by his middle name (to differentiate him from his father)
- Felt challenges and experienced, caused pain to his parents



#3 William Clarence White (1854-1937)—Youngest

- Affectionately "Willie"



#4 John Herbert White (1860); died at age 2 ½ months, from erysipelas (known medically as "St. Anthony's Fire").



Acquainted with grief..  
Four Siblings, then three and then two



# PK4 Presented Unique Challenges

+Preacher(s)

+President

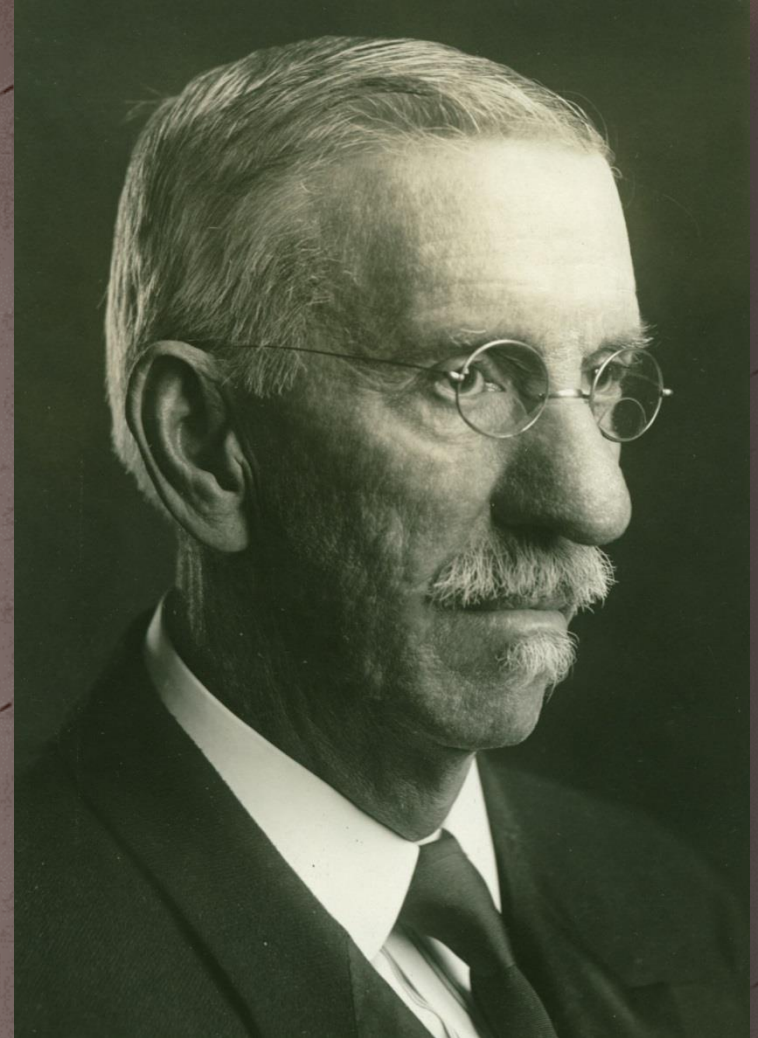
+Prophetess

+Pioneer(s)

PK4



**William Clarence White**  
1854-1937 (83 years)



**and brother James Edson White**  
1849-1928 (79 years)

Meet William Clarence White  
aka 'Willie' or 'WC'

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Rescued

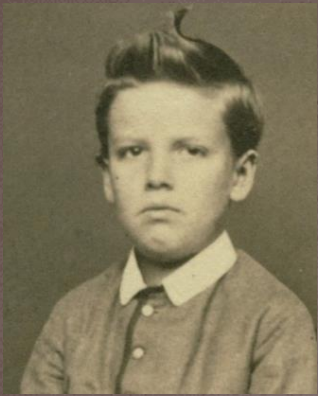
Willie, age 5



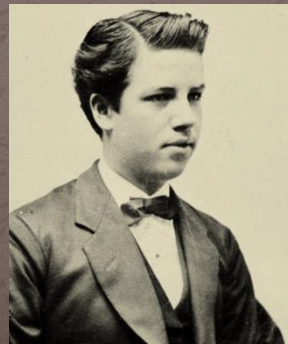
# Willie, age 5 (2Spititual Gifts, pgs 207-8)



“The Lord spared our dear babe to us, when to all appearance he was already in death’s cold embrace. O how grateful we felt to GOD for his mercy to us.... I clasped my little Willie to my heart, and thought how near we came to losing our dear boy.”



Edwin White





**William the Learner**

**William the Lifter**

**William the Leader**

Turning Point

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Challenge Emerges



**BABYLON**

677	2520	7
677	1843	12
		84
		30

**BABYLON**

538	2300	2520
457	457	1843

**A CHRONOLOGICAL CHART OF THE VISIONS OF DANIEL & JOHN.**

**677**

**164**

**158**

**PAGAN ROME**

**THE TEN KINGDOMS**

1335	490	34
1290	508	12
45	538	42
	606	30
	1299	1260
	1449	
	1798	508
	45	1335
	1843	1843

**GOD'S EVERLASTING KINGDOM**

1850

**TEMPERANCE AND GOSPEL SONGS**

BY **JAMES WHITE**

FOR THE USE OF

Temperance Meetings.

ASSOCIATION

OSWEGO

**HYMNS.**

FOR

**GOD'S PECULIAR PEOPLE**

THAT KEEP THE

**COMMANDMENTS OF GOD.**

AND THE

**FAITH OF JESUS**

COMPILED BY

**JAMES WHITE.**

OSWEGO

PRINTED BY RICHARD OLFPHANT.

1849.

**400**

**THE THY-THREE HUNDRED DAYS.**

**B.C. 457**

**70**

**THE SEVENTY WEEKS.**

**7**

**THE ONE WEEK.**

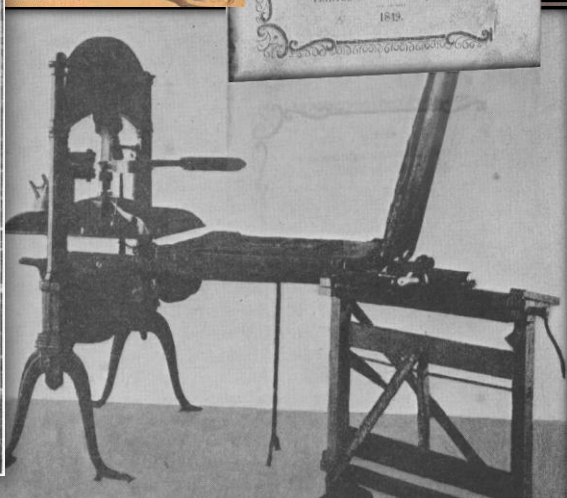
**1844.**

**THE ORIGINAL WASHINGTON HAND PRESS**

**A CHRONOLOGICAL CHART OF THE VISIONS OF DANIEL & JOHN.**

**DANIEL & JOHN.**

OSWEGO, N. Y.



THE ORIGINAL WASHINGTON HAND PRESS

# James Springer White, 1821-1881 (60 years )

1. Born in Palmyra, Maine, August 4, 1821, fifth of nine children
2. School teacher who became a successful Advent minister in Maine; outlived Millerite movement to become first great apostle of the SDA
- 3.
4. Talented, capable executive, leader, evangelist and pioneer.
5. Publisher of first periodical issued by Seventh-day Adventists, *Present Truth* (1849); the first editor of the *Review and Herald* (1850), the *Youth's Instructor* (1852), also the *Signs of the Times* (1874); With wife Ellen was founder of RHPA; also sponsor of PPPA
6. President of the GC between 1865-1867, 1869-1871, and 1874-1880
7. Died August 6, 1881, when only sixty; indefatigable worker; leaders leaned heavily on him; sixty unselfishly, sacrificially years; build high principle , efficiency into life of churches/institutions

# GC Presidents First 50 Years

When progress among diverse groups was made.



**John Byington #1**

(1798 – 1887)

\*Tenure: 2 years

Terms: 1863-65,



**James Springer White #2, #4, #6**

(1821 - 1881)

\*Tenure: 2, 2, 6 yrs (3 terms-10 yrs)

Terms: 1865-67; 69-71;74-80.



**John Nevins Andrews #3**

(1829 – 1883)

\*Tenure: 2 years

Terms: 1867-69.



**George Ide Butler #5, #7**

(1834 – 1918)

\*Tenure: 3, 8 years

Terms: 1871-74, 80-88.



**Ole Andres Olsen #8**

(1845 – 1915)

\*Tenure: 9 years

Terms: 1988-97.



**George A. Irwin #9**

(1844 – 1913)

\*Tenure: 4 years

Terms: 1897-1901.



**Arthur Grosvenor Daniells (#10)**

(1858 – 1935)

\*Tenure: 21 years

Terms: 1901-1922.

# A Terrible Darkness. . .



“Side by side we had labored in the cause of Christ for thirty-five years; and we hoped that we might stand together to witness the triumphant close. But such was not the will of God.

“The chosen protector of my youth, the companion of my life, the sharer of my labors and afflictions, was taken from my side, and I was left to finish my work and to fight the battle alone.”

*Life Sketches, page 247.*

# Providence

Turning Point

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Challenge Emerges

But at the same time...



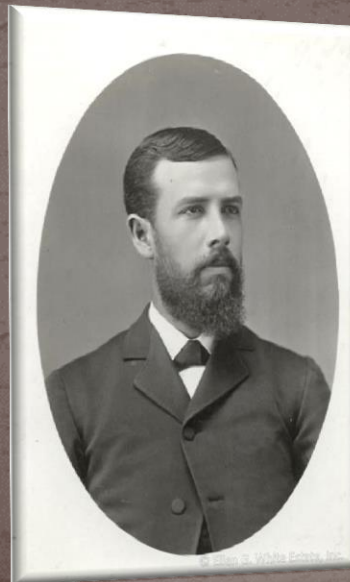
Turning Point

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Solution Develops

# Meet 'WC'

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“After this experience, light was given me that the Lord had raised me up to bear testimony for Him in many countries, and that He would give me grace and strength for the work.

It was also shown me that my son, W. C. White, should be my helper and counselor, and that the Lord would place on him the spirit of wisdom and of a sound mind.

I was shown that the Lord would guide him, and that he would not be led away, because he would recognize the leadings and guidance of the Holy Spirit.”

Will Willie accept the responsibility?

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‘WC’, age 27, rises to the occasion!



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How could this young inexperienced man accept such an momentous task?

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Why would he do it?

“The place God calls you to is where your deep gladness and the world’s deep need meet.”

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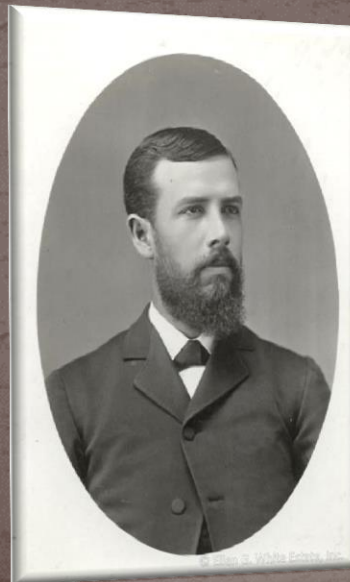
WC understood what Francis Buechner said years later..



Promise

Not the message  
God gave EGW about WC

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“This word was given me in 1882, and since that time I have been assured that the **grace of wisdom** was given to him. More recently, in a time of perplexity, the Lord said: ‘I have given you My servant, W. C. White, and I will give him judgment<sup>1</sup> to be your helper. I will give him skill<sup>2</sup> and understanding<sup>3</sup> to manage wisely.’”

1SM 55

# Specific Gift



“The Lord will be your instructor. You will meet with deceptive influences; they will come in many forms, in pantheism and other forms of infidelity; but follow where I shall guide you, and you will be safe.

“I will put My Spirit upon your son, and will strengthen him to do his work. He has the **grace of humility**. The Lord has selected him to act an important part in His work. For this purpose was he born.”

1 Selected Messages, p. 55

Fulfillment...

**WC: served as publisher, missionary, educator, administrator, inst. founder, assistant to EG White, 1<sup>st</sup> secretary of White Estate**

- Industrious, patient, thoughtful, kind, clever, forceful, resilient
- Married twice with 7 children—4 sons, 3 daughters
  - Feb. 11, 1876 (22), married to **Mary Kelsey**; died 1890
  - 1895, married (43) **Ethel May Lacey**, from Tasmania.
- 1883, ordained to the ministry (29) GC session
- 1887, (33), elected GC foreign mission secretary; 1888, (34) O. A. Olsen, in Europe, acting GC president
- 1891, (36) went with EGW to Australia: 1897, asked to be relieved of executive responsibilities to devote time to EGW work
- 1901, GC session , chair of GC reorganization committee

- 1915, His mother Ellen White dies
- 1926, Led in making of comprehensive index; 1933..., participated in laying plans for the transfer of the files and office of White Estate to Wash, D.C., done after his death
  - Served as sec of Estate; member of multiple committees
- Wisdom was reputed and his counsel was widely sought
- He worked actively to the day of his death at the age of 83; Legacy lived on in lives of progeny: 4 sons and 3 daughters
- Son, Arthur, served as secretary of the Ellen G. White Estate.
- WC's death occurred Sept. 1, 1937; Buried with honors; Funeral services held in California & Battle Creek Tab; Buried in the family lot in the Oak Hill Cemetery, BC





William the Learner

William the Lifter

William the Leader

# Charge



# Supporters



James, 1<sup>st</sup> Generation



William, 2<sup>st</sup> Generation



Arthur, 3<sup>st</sup> Generation

# Family



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# Europe



# Meetings



# Camp meetings



Nevada, 1888

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# Elmshaven



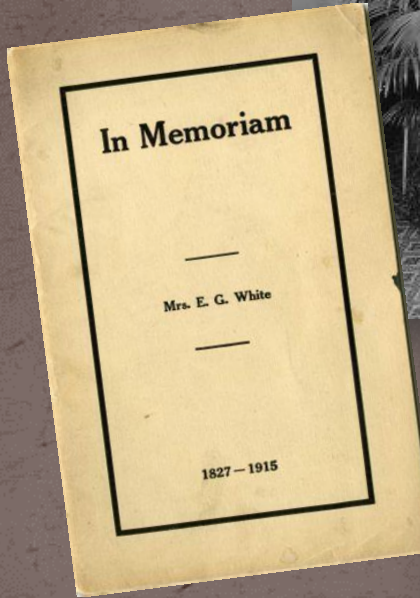
Final



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# Farewell



# Leadership Habits

# WC the Leader



Successful Habits...

**#1 Practical  
Spirituality**

**#2 Timely  
Initiative**

**#3 Good  
Network**

**#4 Self  
Manage**

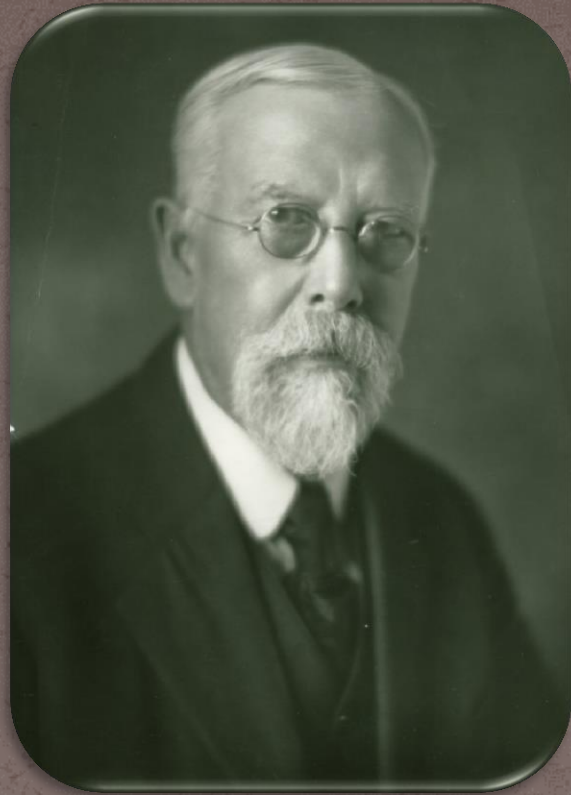
**#5 Humble  
Follower**

**#6 Servant  
Leader**

**#7 Church  
Savvy**

# Faithful





Faithful WC

Delbert W. Baker  
General Vice President  
General Conference of SDA  
12501 Old Columbia Pike  
Silver Spring, MD 20904  
[BakerD@GC.adventist.org](mailto:BakerD@GC.adventist.org)