

A caution and instruction to the Sealed, that they may know for what they are sealed. February 3d, 1807 / [Joanna Southcott].

Contributors

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A CAUTION AND INSTRUCTION

TO THE

SEALED,

that they may know for what they are sealed.

FEBRUARY 3d, 1807.

I SHALL begin my Book with an observation to those who sign, that they may discern what they sign to. It is to petition with their hands and hearts to what our blessed Lord and Saviour taught us to pray for in his Gospel. If they discern the sense of the words, HE taught us to pray to our Father in Heaven, that his Kingdom might come and HIS will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven; and to deliver us from Evil for HIS is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory. And this is the Petition believers sign to, that the earth may be the Lord's and the fulness thereof; and that we may be delivered from Satan's power. This is the sense of the first. And now I shall come to the Sealing. Those who thus join hand and heart, and subscribe with their hands unto the Lord, to petition for the fulfilment of HIS words, are sealed to be made Heirs of God. Not that it is said they are already so, but that they may be made so, to enjoy the Tree of Life, and be freed from Satan's power. This is what they are sealed for: but how many have presumptuously cast these Blessings from them! After they

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had signed to be made Heirs of God, they have fallen off by temptations, which plainly proved they were not Heirs of the Promise; and therefore let them discern, from the sealed letters, how it stands on conditions.—And now I shall come to the Scriptures, where I was answered in a Communication. The words stood on record, though in different places; they were brought together by the Spirit to me. On searching the Scriptures I found the Words in the following Chapters:

Rev. vii C. 3 v.—Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of God.

1 Peter, ii C. 6 v.—Behold I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious; he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.

Ephesians, iv C. 30 v.—Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed to the day of Redemption.

Rev. xxii C. 14 v.—Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the Tree of Life.

Romans, viii C. 17 v.—If children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ.

From the above verses, you will find is the sense of the Words in the Seals, which may easily be placed together. And now I shall give the answer of the Spirit to the different chapters, from where the Words were taken and brought together to me.

THE ANSWER OF THE SPIRIT.

“ Let them discern, these chapters stand for the end, when the awful stroke, that cometh grievously upon the earth and the seas, to destroy those that mock the coming of the Lord, is kept back, before the servants of God are sealed; and let them discern how the sealing stands for the

end ; and it is for those who shall stand with the Lamb on Mount Sion. So let them discern where these words stand ; and let them discern the chapter before, how the seals were opened in heaven, before the sealing is pronounced. And this men must discern ; then let them discern the words of the Apostle Peter—Behold I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious ; and he that believeth in him shall not be confounded. Unto you therefore, who believe, HE is precious ; but a stone of stumbling and a rock of offence even to them who stumble at the word, being disobedient, whereunto also they are appointed. Then let them discern, from these words, what they are appointed for, if they are not disobedient to the heavenly calling ; and for what ends the corner stone is laid for the elect, whom I said in my Gospel the days should be shortened for ; and then I should bring in man's redemption ; and let them discern where the words are taken from in part : the corner stone being laid for men, to make them a royal priesthood to them that believe he is precious, but not to the disobedient ; and therefore it is written, a stone of stumbling to many : and thus it is known many have stumbled at the words, being disobedient, whereunto they were appointed. Let them discern the truth of the Apostle's words, which is proved by many who sign to be the elect, to rely on the corner stone laid in the foundation of the world, and the promise that was made in the fall. This is the corner stone for man, wherein your redemption must take place, when I avenge you of your adversary the devil. And this is believed by some, that I shall fulfil my words, and on my promises do they rely, that I shall make them a royal priesthood, a holy nation, and a peculiar people, to shew forth my praises to the ends of the earth. This is the faith in them that believe, and obey the call ; but to

the disobedient, discern on the other hand, it is a stone of stumbling to them; because they stumble at the Words, and do not believe my promise sure, that man's redemption shall take place; and therefore they grieve the Spirit, whereby they were sealed, and fall off through unbelief. But mark the end of the chapter—Ye were as sheep going astray, but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls; and this will be the end of them that believe and rely upon the corner stone, that I told them in my Gospel I should come again, in might, majesty, and glory, to bring in the redemption of man, to inherit the tree of life, according to the promise made in the beginning: and I have told thee the flaming sword shall surely bruise the serpent's head, and keep the tree of life for them that believe: and blessed are they that do my commandments, that they may have a right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. And now discern, this chapter speaks of the end: and let them discern what the chapter contains—Behold I come quickly, and my reward is with ME: I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, the first and the last. So let them discern, the promise made at first must be accomplished at the last: if I made man innocent at first, and pronounced all things good, I shall accomplish it at the last; and then they will know I am the root and offspring of David, and the bright and morning star, and the spirit is come to warn you, that whomsoever will come may come, and take of the water of life freely, to be made heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, according to the words of the Apostle. And let them discern the chapter through, from whence these words were taken, and discern what ye are waiting for, in hopes of your redemption. Here let men discern every chapter, where the words were

taken from, not according to thy wisdom, to search the Scriptures and place them together, as thou knewest not where the words were dispersed, before this time, that I ordered thee to search the Scriptures, and told thee the words stood on record, that I had brought together to be placed for the sealed people that believe. But now discern, from all the chapters, how some are sealed after the spirit, and others after the flesh. Those that are sealed after the flesh are soon broken off, because they have no faith to believe in the spirit by whom they are sealed. And now discern, from these chapters, how the Apostle speaks of the end, that ye should be waiting for your redemption, that was not accomplished: and let them discern all these Scriptures where I gathered the words from, for thee to place in the seals, how the Apostles speak of the end in the chapters, after being filled with the Holy Ghost, and inspired from on high: and now I tell thee, those that are after the spirit will mind the things of the spirit, and discern from the Scriptures for what they are sealed, and have the eyes of their understanding opened to discern the words of the Apostles, where the words were taken from. This the believers will discern, in what manner I took the words to bring them together, that they may see the words of the Apostles before them; but those, on the other hand, will not discern that the petition they are to sign to is a likeness of the words I taught them to pray for: that the kingdom of God might come on earth, and his will might be done upon earth as it is in heaven, to deliver you from evil, is the prayer I taught mankind: and now discern from the sealing, to pray that Satan's power may be destroyed is to deliver you from all evil: so if men discern what they sign to, it is what I taught them to pray for. And here I have shewn thee, from the Scriptures, in what manner they both stand together; then let

them judge for themselves, how fatal must be the sin of those that profess to be believers in my Gospel, and will presumptuously mock the sealing. Therefore, I tell thee, the command must be strict unto all for the future; and let them discern, from the Scriptures where the words were taken from, how the different sorts of people were foretold and prophesied of by the Apostles. This men must discern themselves, what the Apostles told them they were waiting for, and what they had to hope to attain. So if men clearly discerned their words, they would discern that the mystery of the sealing is great to the believers, that are obedient to the heavenly calling, but not to the disobedient and unbelievers, who walk not after the spirit but after the flesh, and soon fall back through unbelief. And here let them discern further, though the Apostles are dead their words appear to speak to the living, and to confound the disputers of this world."

Here ends the communication concerning the Scriptures, where the words in the Seals were taken from.

Given Jan. 29, 1807.

A Communication, given Dec. 14th, 1806.

"Now I shall come to caution the Sealed People who are sealed to be elect members of Christ: but let them consider, they must strive to make their calling and election sure; as they are not all of Israel that are in Israel; neither are they all sealed in faith that are sealed in names; and those that are sealed in unbelief and have departed from the faith cannot be called of the sealed number; because the Lord will judge from the heart; and it is from the heart man believeth unto righteousness, to fulfil the Gospel. The Sealing hath already went out like the net cast into the sea, gathering in good and bad; but many have come in

as thieves and robbers, professing faith when they had none, after the command was given that none should come in but by faith. Yet as it is impossible for men to judge from the heart; if they profess a faith when they have none, the evil is to themselves; and therefore the caution must be strictly given for the future, that no one is to be sealed, but such as have read to judge for themselves, and are convinced the calling is of God, from the manner of my visitation.

And now I shall give them the Communication that was given me after hearing that many had fallen back, that were first sealed, and many had come in as impostors, whose names I am ordered to blot out from the Second Sealing. These things I marvelled at, that they should be permitted; but was answered as follows.

THE ANSWER OF THE SPIRIT.

“ Know I told thee of the Sealing in the beginning, it was like the net cast into the sea, gathering in good and bad. This I told thee of the first; and like thieves and robbers, know I told thee, many would come in, as I placed it to my parables in my Gospel; and these things stand on record, to prevent the subtlety of Satan’s arts, that he may not be able to swell their pride of being some of the sealed number, that will stand to the end with the Lamb on Mount Sion; because there are none who can stand of the sealed number in the end, but such as are true believers in heart and mind, unshaken in faith, and perfect in obedience to the heavenly calling. It is these are the people that are the sealed number, to stand to the end. But I now tell thee of this nation; were there as many true and faithful believers in this nation as there are names sealed, ye need not fear any enemy ever coming to this nation; because my judgements upon the unbelieving world

would come another way. But now I tell thee of many, they are like the fish that came into the net to be cast away, as many already are become thy enemies; but were such to profess their faith was strong and unshaken in my visitation to thee, then their sins must be of the blackest dye, and sin through light and knowledge, doing despite unto my Spirit, if they profess to believe it is by my Spirit thou art led. He that is not with ME is against ME; he that gathereth not with ME scattereth. What I said in the days of the flesh, when I was amongst them, I now say by the visitation of my Spirit: those that were offended at my sayings, and went back and walked no more with ME, I never called them my friends, or followers, or my disciples: but know what I said in my Gospel, he that began in the spirit and ended in the flesh, the last state of that man was worse than the first; therefore marvel not in thy heart that such men should be chosen, as fall back; neither marvel that men should be suffered to be sealed who are thy enemies; because there were such professors when I was amongst them in the flesh; and such I said there would be in the end, that in the time of temptations would fall away; but it is those that endure to the end will be saved. Therefore I tell thee of the sealed people; it is not their names being sealed will be of any use to them, unless their hearts are sealed in faith and love for my kingdom; and it is those are the sealed people, that will stand with ME on Mount Sion, whose eyes of their understanding are opened clearly to discern, from the manner of my visitation to thee, the justice of my decrees in the beginning, and the promise that was first made after the fall, and the justice of my decrees in setting bounds for the adversary, that betrayed at first, as bounds were set for man in the beginning. Thus men must discern my ways, and my wisdom,

my justice in my decrees, and be clearly convinced it is from the visitation of my Spirit to the woman, that the promise is first pleaded by the woman; this men must clearly discern, before they can be of the sealed number that stands with ME on Mount Sion, to plead the promise made in the beginning, that your adversary may be destroyed, that your redemption may take place in and through my death and sufferings.—And now I ask thee, where is the man who can thus believe that my Spirit is joined with thy spirit, and thy spirit is joined with my Spirit, to be thus united for the glory of God and the good of mankind, for the earth to be the Lord's and the fulness thereof? I now ask thee, where is the man who can thus believe, and be at enmity against thee, or depart from thee, without Satan, as an angel of light, hath blinded his eyes, and hardened his heart against ME, as well as thee? so that hypocrisy must fill the heart, where malice appeareth in a believer, to withdraw from my visitation to thee, and cleave to others. They no more understand the meaning of my visitation to thee, or for what ends, than the Jews understood the meaning of their prophets, who rejected ME and my Gospel; therefore they cannot stand as sealed people in the end; for I shall blot them out of the book of remembrance, as thou must blot out the names of those that publicly owned they came in as impostors; because they came in as thieves and robbers, who have no right to the tree of life, or to be called the sealed of the Lord; because their hearts are not sealed by faith.—And let them remember what I have said in thy writings—the hand and the heart must be united together: and though thou canst but judge by outward appearance, let them know I judge from the heart: and therefore another year, when I permit the sealing to go on again, a stricter command than hath yet been

given will be given unto all. Hitherto my Gospel hath went on to prove the truth of my words, from the net being cast into the sea, gathering in good and bad, which is proved by the different people; and now like thieves and robbers many have come in, professing faith when they have none; but now I shall begin to change the scenes, that no more are to be sealed, but such as can draw their judgment clear from thy writings and the Scriptures, that the eyes of their understanding are opened, clearly to discern that the visitation is from ME the living Lord; and for what ends the visitation is—to free the fall of the woman, and set bounds for her adversary, as bounds were set for man. This they must see and understand, and have their hearts united with ME, to be longing for my coming, to give you life. As the Jews clamoured for my death, this must be the desire of those that are the sealed people, to stand with ME on Mount Sion, of the hundred and forty and four thousand, which I have told thee is the sealed number, that are sealed in heart by faith, to join with the Lamb that was slain from the foundation of the world, by the promise made in the fall. Here I have already shewed thee, how the promise must be clearly discerned, for what end it was made, and for what end it was said my heel should be bruised—to bruise the serpent's head. Thus the sealed number must discern, what they have signed to—to join with the Lamb, that your adversary the devil may be destroyed; that your redemption may come, according to my promise made in my Gospel; that the kingdoms of this world may become the kingdoms of the living God; that Satan may be cast out, and I may draw all men to ME, according to my words that are written in my Gospel. Thus the eyes of their understanding must be opened to discern the promise at first, and how I am come

to visit in the Spirit, to warn you all the end is at hand, that I shall fulfil the promise made to the woman: But ye must ask it in my name, that your joys may be full. These are they that stand with ME, to overcome in the end the world, the flesh, and the devil. I am coming in the Spirit to overcome in man, that now in heart and faith relieth upon my words and promises: but all my Gospel must be discerned, and understood, by the sealed people, that will stand to the end. Know what I said in my Gospel—many should come from the east, and the west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, when those of the kingdom should be cast out; perfectly so I tell thee of the sealed people, who have come in through unbelief, pretending themselves to be children of the kingdom, that they are sealed to be heirs of the promise, but have come in as thieves and robbers. Such will be cast out: and some of different nations will come in to take their place; that meaneth, they will come in by faith, and the eyes of their understanding will be opened clearly to discern for what they are sealed, and how the promise stands on record; they will discern that stand to the end; but the others, that are cast out, will not have the eyes of their understanding opened, to know for what they are sealed, any more than these thou marvellest at have understood for what they are sealed: and therefore it is written, none could learn the song, but the hundred and forty and four thousand. Now were all the sealed people thus enlightened, and this clearly understood; then Satan would find a way to swell their pride, to make them judge they were more than mortals; so marvel not in thy heart, that many deceivers are come in, and many unbelievers, that do not discern for what they are sealed—to stop the arts of Satan's working, that men may not boast, because they are sealed their

foundation is sure ; but let them discern, it is he that holds out to the end, whose foundation is sure, whether in death, or in life, if their hearts are sealed by faith and love to ME, and my kingdom of righteousness and peace, to refuse the evil and choose the good ; forsaking all to follow ME. Such are the sealed number, that will stand in glory at the end. But here is room for all to be cautious, and keep their eye to the end, that they may not be high-minded, but fear : and let their inquiry be like my Disciples, Lord is it I ? This must be the caution to mankind, that they may not begin in the spirit and end in the flesh : but know, he that putteth his hand to the plough and draweth back, is by no means fit for the kingdom of heaven ; and he that putteth his hand to this plough to be united with ME and my kingdom, if he goeth back he is by no means fit for my kingdom ; therefore a caution must be given to the sealed people, and warn them to make a deep inquiry, whether they are sealed by a true faith, and a knowledge for what they are sealed ; because, I tell thee, to learn a thing is to come to a knowledge thereof.—Canst thou learn Hebrew, Greek, or Latin, thou dost not understand thyself, before it be taught thee of others ? Now perfectly so I tell thee of the sealing, men cannot learn to understand the perfect meaning thereof, before the mysteries are clearly revealed, and clearly explained ; therefore I said the kingdom of heaven was like a pearl of great price, that ye must dig deep to find. And here I have shewn thee how men must dig deep from the Scriptures and my visitation to thee, to find out in what manner the sealed number, that stands to the end, must find out the mystery, for what they are sealed—to be united with ME, and I with them ; and those that have not already learnt, but are come in as little children, wishing

to learn, that they may stand with joy to the end, such will seek instruction from the words that I have revealed to thee, and weigh it deeply with the beginning, that they may see their calling clear; but such as are self-confident, and wise in their own conceit, will never learn the new song, to stand with the Lamb on Mount Sion: but the sealed number, that are true believers, and know for what they are sealed, they are the very elect for whom the days will be shortened; therefore let them try to make their calling and election sure, that they may be redeemed from the fall, and stand with ME for their redemption.—And now come to my Gospel—Whosoever eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. And know I commanded the bread and wine, as in memory of my death and sufferings, to be kept in remembrance of ME, that trust in ME for salvation; but do men vainly suppose every one that eats the bread and drinks the wine hath eternal life in ME, because they do it as a form? I tell thee, no: it is done by many who are enemies to ME and my Gospel; and perfectly so I tell thee of the sealing. And now discern further, after the command was given by my Disciples, of the bread and wine, to set forth my death and sufferings, and to be kept in memory of ME; discern how soon the Apostles complained of many, as though they came to make themselves drunk with wine. Here you may discern, how soon was Satan's working in such minds, to bring a disgrace upon my death and suffering; and how soon the evil was mixed with the good; and perfectly so I tell thee of the sealing; it is not their names being sealed will be of any use to them, unless they are sealed in heart by faith, and love for my kingdom to be established in righteousness and peace, and longing for the evil to be destroyed. And here

let them discern the type of them both, how the bread and wine is kept in memory of my words, that they might be fulfilled by believers, who trust in ME for salvation; and perfectly so I tell thee of the sealing that trust in ME for their redemption: and let them remember the words I said to John the Baptist, when I came to him to be baptized—Suffer it to be so now; for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness: and perfectly so stands the sealing; it is to fulfil the Scriptures to them that believe; for if I suffered myself to be baptized by man; and suffered myself to be rejected by men, and submitted to the cross by their desire; then let them know, in the end I shall submit to be chosen of men to come again, in might, majesty, and glory, by their desire, to avenge them of their adversary, that goeth about like a roaring lion; seeking whom he may devour: and therefore I tell them all, the sealing is deep to them that believe and trust in ME, as their Prince and Saviour, to bring in my kingdom of righteousness and peace, and have my delight with the sons of men, whose delight is in their Lord. And let them discern from the beginning, how offerings were commanded to be offered up, of bullocks and sheep; but now discern, it is the hand and heart that I have commanded to be offered up, as tokens of love, by them that wish for the fulfilment of my Gospel, and trust in ME for salvation and redemption. And now let men search the Scriptures, and then they will discern how the Sealing must appear, before my Gospel is fulfilled: and those that say it is blasphemy must make my Gospel the same: and let them answer why they keep the bread and wine in memory of ME, to set forth my death till my coming, and reject the hand that signs for my kingdom? Let this be answered by man, and I shall answer thee again. And I shall further answer thee of the

objections men may make, saying it is sinners that are sealed; but know, I came to seek and to save that which was lost; and the returning sinners I promised in my Gospel should be saved; and so I tell thee of the returning sinner now; and let them discern from the Scriptures how mercy is held out to all that turn unto ME: I shall turn unto them; and whosoever will come may come, and take of the water of life freely; therefore mercies are held out to all: and where is the man who can judge the heart? It is I the Lord that searcheth the heart, and trieth the reins of the children of men; therefore ye can judge no man but by his fruits: but let every man judge for himself, what the desire of his heart is; and let them consider, from the fall, how Satan tempted the woman to pluck the fruit with her hand; then let no man marvel that my command should be to the woman, to give her hand to pull down the evil and cast it away, that she may reach unto the good. Here is a mystery deep for man, that will be deeply discerned in the end: and men will know in the end that the Sealing is done by my command, the Lord of lords, the King of kings, your Creator and Redeemer, to bring all to my Gospel, and the likeness of my words that I said of eating my flesh, and drinking my blood, which is known to thee could not be done by man in the manner I spoke the words; but it is my words that are left on record, when I come to bring in man's redemption, to make you a likeness of my flesh and blood, that ye may dwell in ME, and I in you: and for this end I came into the world—to raise you up at the last day, that ye may be one with ME, and I with you, and drink deep into my Spirit, seeing my blood, that was shed for you, must cleanse you from all sin, and avenge you of your adversary in the end: then shall ye be clothed with my righteousness, when my Spirit

is poured out upon all. Thus men must clearly discern the depth of my words, how they stand for the end, when I come to cleanse you from all sin, and bring in your full redemption: then my flesh will be meat indeed, and my blood will be drink indeed; because ye are freed by my blood, that was shed for you. And as my body was offered for the transgression of man, so shall I fulfil my words, to avenge you of your adversary the devil. Here I tell thee, men must discern the meaning of my words, how they stand for the end: and know, the bread and wine, that have been already kept in remembrance of ME, to set forth my death till my coming, hath only been as types and shadows to men, which they themselves no more understood how my words stand for the end, when I come to bring in eternal life, than thou understoodest in the beginning, for what ends the Sealing went out in such a careless manner to man, without any strict caution to be given, but as a type of the likeness of Moses sprinkling the door-posts. And here stands the mystery, to bring the likeness of Moses and the Lamb, and to try mankind, and bring all to my Gospel, that the Blood of the Lamb may deliver you from all sin, and free you from Satan's power in the end, as the children of Israel were freed from the hand of Pharaoh. This was the shadow in the beginning, when I gave no command of faith, only required the desire of the heart to be freed from the power of Satan, by the Blood of the Lamb: then you will see that my flesh was meat indeed, to make you meet for your master's use, and clothe you all with my righteousness: and my blood is drink indeed, that ye may drink with joy into my Spirit, when I come to avenge you of your adversary, and bring in my kingdom of righteousness and peace. Then will my words be fulfilled, that no man

understood; perfectly so I tell thee of the Sealing, men have not understood for what ends the type and shadow began, concerning the sealing—to shew you all the substance must follow: and it is for those whose eyes are opened to discern from the Scriptures, that if ye wish to drink deep into my Spirit, to be one with ME, and I with you, ye must discern the promise at first, that as my heel was bruised, to suffer for the transgression of man, the curse that was pronounced on the serpent, which is your adversary the devil, must take place; and this must be discerned by the sealed people, that are of the number to stand with ME on Mount Sion; and therefore I tell thee, it is a new song to man, that neither the prophets nor Apostles understood; for had it been clearly understood, it could not be fulfilled; because Satan would have found a way to be working in every age with impostors and deceivers; and as men have went on in the Sacrament, thinking my words were fulfilled by them that received it, perfectly so they would have went on by the sealed number, and no new song could have come to man. But here is a new song for man, to sing that their redemption draweth near, by the blood of the Lamb, that was slain for the transgression of man. And thus men must discern, in what manner all is explained, and in what manner I am coming to fulfil my Gospel, according to my words: and those that have the eyes of their understanding opened clearly to discern, and faith to believe in my visitation, that I am now come to fulfil the whole; such, I tell thee, are the sealed people that will stand with ME at the end; but marvel not in thy heart, why I chused a man whose heart was known to ME would draw back in heart and life, and cause others to do the same. These things I permitted to shew them plainly

from my Gospel, how they are fulfilling my words: and know it is those who endure to the end that are the good to be preserved; and those are my sheep that come in by faith: but the others are thieves and robbers, who have no right to the tree of life: for they are not all of Israel that profess to be in Israel; but they must try to make their calling and election sure, if they wish to be the elect members, for whose sake the days will be shortened of sin and sorrow: and these are the elect that I shall avenge of their adversary, whose faith is strong in ME, that I shall fulfil the words I spoke in my Gospel, to dwell in you, and you in ME, who clearly discern from the bread and wine, that is kept in memory of my death, that the words are not perfectly fulfilled in them; any more than the sealed people have already learnt the new song of their redemption, to be redeemed from the power of death, hell, and sin. This they have not already learnt: and there are thousands sealed, that know not for what they are sealed; but those that are sealed in faith I shall open the eyes of their understanding, to discern for what they are sealed—with the Blood of the New Covenant, to bring in man's redemption. This is what the Sealing is—for to fulfil my promise, and bring in the tree of life, that was preserved for man in the beginning, as a type and shadow to man; which type and shadow are done away; but the promise stands sure; for the promise stands to the end, though the tree is not standing to this day: and so I tell thee, the sword is standing in my death, to bring in a newness of life to man, and cut off your adversary that betrayed. This is the promise that is standing; but how can the promise that stands on the records of heaven be a standard to man, if the type and shadow had never appeared to man? And though the type is done away, the promise stands sure to the end.

And this the wise will discern, that the tree of life was preserved for man, that he might have hope in the end, that man's redemption will take place, as it stands on record, though never understood by man, in what manner it would be accomplished, before I come to reveal the whole, that it is by the promise made to the woman in the beginning it must be completed in the ending; and the promise must be claimed, to whom it was made. And this must be discerned by men, how my dealings in all ages of the world with men were after the manner of men: and after the manner of men I submitted to the cross. Then now let them discern clearly how it is after the manner of men, by prayers and petitions, that I shall come and destroy your adversary, and bring in my kingdom of righteousness and peace. These are the things the wise must discern, for what ends my Visitation is; and let them discern at what time this Revelation came as a new song, never before thought of by man; but now will be discerned by the sealed people, that are sealed in faith, and wish to know for what ends they are sealed; but now I tell thee, for the future, no more must be sealed, but such as can give a clear account of their faith, from my revelation to thee. They must weigh the whole together, and discern the Scriptures clear, and examine their hearts, whether they can clearly see the wisdom and justice of my decrees, that they may come in by faith, as sheep into the fold; for it must be made known that thieves and robbers have come in, professing to have faith when they had none: then they cannot be heirs to the tree of life, to be made heirs of God, and joint heirs with the Son. For I now tell thee, to be made joint heirs with ME, that as my blood was shed to destroy your adversary, they must believe in the promise that was made, that I shall fulfil it; and here

they stand joint heirs of the promise. And this must be the faith of men, and those that are sealed, if they will be of the number that stands with ME in the end. But this they cannot be taught by man; they must read and judge for themselves, in what manner the whole is explained, and at what time this Visitation appeared—at a time my Gospel is fulfilling, and before it sprang forth I warned you of them. This must be discerned together, that they may get wisdom and learn instruction: and let them discern, it is a new song that never before was thought of by man, but the wisdom of a God revealed; and let them discern in what manner thou hast been led on, year after year, with writings put in such form as it was out of the power of Satan to use arts to invent in any one; but had thy writings been put plain in a few prophecies, and plain directions; then Satan could soon have found a way to work the likeness in others; but I have brought it round in such a manner as no likeness can appear; and in thy writings they will discern truths in the end, that they themselves have never understood, before I place the truth before them what they do not discern. But now I am come to open the eyes of men's understanding concerning the Scriptures, that they may clearly see the meaning of my words, that I spoke of a time to come, of casting out the prince of this world, and drawing all men after ME, to fulfil the words of the prophet, for death to be swallowed up in victory, and the rebuke of my people to be taken away from off the earth. So let not the believers grieve that they have drawn a wrong judgment concerning the words I spoke to thee in 1792; because it was permitted by ME, to shew mankind what wrong judgment they have drawn from the Scriptures; and from thy senses being confined, not to understand the meaning of my words, is to shew them plainly from the disci-

ples, that they did not understand the meaning of my words, when I said, if I was lifted up, I would draw all men after ME. And now I shall answer thee from the comforter's coming, and when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; of sin, because they believe not on ME; of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged: howbeit when the Spirit of Truth is come, he will guide you into all truths, and shew you things to come. These words are judged by the believers in my Gospel to be fulfilled in the days of my disciples, without discerning there was no likeness of their fulfilment; neither was the prince of this world judged; neither was it understood, that he should be judged by the judgment of mankind; neither did such a thought enter man, of the way I am working, to shew you all in what manner things stood from the creation of the world, and how Satan's working hath went on to this day: but now I am come to set bounds for him, as I set for man in the beginning; and by his temptations he is judged, as man was judged by his disobedience; and now the Comforter is come, to warn you that the time draweth near, when he shall be cast out. And let them discern, from the Spirit of Truth, what things already have come to pass, and how the words agree together, to comfort the believers that are looking up for their redemption, waiting for the kingdom of God to be at hand. So if men discern deeply the words I spoke in the days of the flesh, and the words I have spoken now by my Spirit, they must discern this is the time that the words in my Gospel shall be fulfilled; and thus they may see the likeness of my words, by the manner all is brought round; and if men clearly discern these things, they must know the Spirit of truth must first come to warn you, that ye may ask and receive, that your joys may be

full. And these are the words I told my disciples to be left on record for the end; then let all men discern, if ye must ask to receive, it must be revealed to you what to ask, that your joys may be full: but know, at that time, it was not revealed to them what they should ask in my name, to make your joys complete: and had it then been revealed, before the time came to be fulfilled; then men might say they asked in vain. So here are Scriptures I have pointed out to thee, that were not understood by men."

In answer to the number that is sealed, which is near fourteen thousand, I was answered, If there were seven thousand of them true believers, who had not bowed a knee to Baal, by temptations, to go from their faith, but were sealed in heart and faith, no Enemy should hurt this Land, by coming within the borders: and your deliverance must be near, if seven thousand true believers are found in the land, sealed by faith, and longing for their coming Lord, to establish peace and righteousness in the earth: and I hope this will put every one upon an inquiry, whether they are sealed in faith or not.

When the Lists were sealed up at the end of the year 1806, I was ordered to have the Lord's Prayer copied off and sealed up with the lists; and from the last words of the Lord's Prayer—For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever, amen—my Petition was, Even so come, Lord Jesus, O come quickly—

Thou that fillest the heavens with thy majesty, fill the earth with thy goodness, that all the earth may praise thy name, from the ends of the earth; that all the earth may see thy salvation, and give unto the Lord the glory and honour due unto HIS name; that thy delight may be with the sons of men, and they may walk in the light of thy countenance; that righteousness and truth may meet

together, love and peace may kiss each other ; that the promise made in the fall may now be fulfilled ; and the tree of life, that was preserved for man, grant, O God, it may now come to man ; that the flaming sword may destroy our adversary, that is the devil, and our God be all in all ; and may we all unite together in heart and soul in this petition, and request that death and hell may be swallowed up in victory, that dust and ashes, whom the Lord hath created, may set forth his praises, world without end, amen, is my desire,

Joanna Southcott.

For the future all that are sealed must join with me in this petition, as well as the former.

And now I shall finish this book, from a communication given in 1796. In answer to a Text preached by the Rev. Archdeacon Barnes—"The ox knoweth his owner, the ass his master's crib, but Israel do not know, my people do not consider."—To these words I was answered, that the Text was like the sons of men—

“ Because the ox his owner knows,
 The ass his master's crib,
 But Israel backward they do go,
 And do not know their Lord :
 The birds know their appointed time
 To build and hatch their young,
 But man is wasting all his time,
 Nor knows the days are come,
 That like the birds 'tis time to build,
 And make their nests secure ;
 The hawk is hovering o'er the fields,
 And will your joys devour ;
 And therefore be not now unwise,
 But seek the truth to know ;
 I will no longer now disguise :
 If men do careless go,
 Their houses desolate will be,
 The flames will kindle fast ;
 In every land my hand you'll see,

And England's dye is cast ;
 But every land I'll visit first,
 That England may awake :
 But here my anger it will burst,
 And make your hearts to shake ;
 Unless like thee they do begin
 To seek their chosen Friend,
 And seek to hear the words from ME—
 'Tis deep what thou hast penn'd.
 The grapes have made all nations drunk ;
 The children now appear
 To end as Noah's sons began ;
 Then see the deluge near,
 To run with blood, much like the flood,
 Abroad in every land :
 'Tis kindling fast, the flames will burst—
 Oh ! how will England stand
 Encompass'd round with such a sound
 The deluge from abroad ?
 And now at home doth England groan ;
 Your sorrows will be know'd.
 Could you discern how I do warn,
 Then warning you would take ;
 If you do not I'll tell your lot—
 Your sorrows they will break."

FROM JOANNA SOUTHCOTT.

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