

# THE LOGOS



Christ, Our Soon Coming King

“Lord Transform Me”

A Weekly Publication of the South Bahamas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Editor: Lavern A. Sturup

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## SOUL CARE – HOW TO AVOID INFECTION FROM ANOTHER PANDEMIC



Mark A. Finley

Another deadly pandemic is even more fatal than the coronavirus. Sin’s virus has infected the entire human family, and we’re on the front lines of the battle.

Church administrators, pastors, departmental directors, and gospel workers of all types also need personal protective equipment. If in our busyness we neglect our personal protective equipment, we are likely to be infected with the virus of sin. If in our frantic rush to minister to others we don’t have on our protective equipment, we, too, may contract a fatal disease.

The apostle Paul must have had something like this in mind when he wrote: “For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand” (**Eph. 6:12, 13**).<sup>1</sup> The armor of God is our PPE—our personal protective equipment against the virus of sin.

A medical professional wouldn’t think of entering a coronavirus patient’s room without wearing protective gear. Every day we gospel workers enter the evil one’s territory, where millions are infected by the virus of sin. We aren’t immune. To enter unprotected is spiritual disaster.

### Clothed With the Armor of God

Not long ago a respected church administrator was discussing the challenges of ministry with one of his colleagues. The discussion turned to their devotional life and its relationship to busyness. The administrator made this fascinating and tragic admission: “With everything I do and all my administrative responsibilities, I’m just too busy to spend any significant time in prayer or Bible study. That’s my wife’s thing, not mine.”

After a regional pastor’s meeting, one of the pastors in attendance approached the speaker and asked if they could have a private discussion. When they were alone in a quiet corner of the room, the pastor said something like this, “No one knows this, but I’m exhausted, burned out, fatigued. I can no longer function in ministry. I’m out of gas and running on fumes. Can you help me?”

Chuck Swindoll, in his book *Intimacy With the Almighty*,<sup>2</sup> comments: “Noise and words and frenzied, hectic schedules dull our senses, closing our ears to His still, small voice and making us numb to His touch.”

Someone has said, “Superficiality is the curse of our age. The doctrine of instant satisfaction is a primary spiritual problem. Our greatest need is not for a greater number of intelligent people, or gifted people, but for deep people.”

When we’re incredibly busy, when we perceive that we have more to do than we have time to accomplish it, it’s very easy to neglect the deep,

reflective prayer and Bible study that’s transformational.

### Keeping Our First Love

In Revelation, John describes the church at Ephesus: “I know your works, your labor, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. . . . Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love” (**Rev. 2:2-4**).

Every day we gospel workers enter the evil one’s territory, where millions are infected by the virus of sin. To enter unprotected is spiritual disaster.

John Stott put it this way: “Their first flush of ecstasy had passed. Their early devotion to Christ had cooled. They had been in love with Him, but they had fallen out of love.”

Duty overshadowed devotion. What they *did* for Christ surpassed who they *were* in Christ. *Doing* became more important than *being*. They were defenders of the faith, but they lost sight of Him whom they were defending. They preserved an orthodoxy at the expense of knowing Christ. Their work for Christ became more important than their relationship with Him.

Busyness with the business of the church overshadowed the priority of the gospel, which is knowing Christ, experiencing His grace, internalizing the truths of Scripture, and sharing the message of His love in active mission.

Here are two biblical illustrations of busyness: one from the Old Testament, one from the New Testament.

“Busy here and there, he was gone” (**1 Kings 20:40**) summarizes this moment in the narrative. Here’s the background of this story. Ahab, king of Israel, battled Ben-Hadad, king of Syria. When Israel won the battle, Ahab and Ben-Hadad signed a peace treaty, and Ahab let Ben-Hadad get away.

The prophet of God disguised himself and waited for King Ahab by the side of the road. He said he had been beaten because a prisoner in his care had escaped. He said, “While your servant was busy here and there, he was gone” (*ibid.*). The prophet’s illustration is clear. The king had commissioned him to guard the prisoner, but he was so busy that he failed in the task he was called to do.

The point is simply this: busyness causes us to lose something valuable. Busyness may cause us to miss the very assignment we were called to accomplish. Busyness may cause us to confuse our priorities. Busyness may cause us to forget our true life’s purpose. Busyness may cause us to substitute activity for godliness.

The second illustration of losing something precious in busyness is found in the experience of Jesus’ parents, Mary and Joseph. Jesus’ parents were preoccupied, busy here and there (see **Luke 2:41-49**).

We know the story well. At 12 years of age, Jesus’ parents brought Him to Jerusalem to participate in the Feast of the Passover. When the Passover was over, they began making their way home, along with thousands of other worshippers. In the busyness of their lives, they neglected to notice that their 12-year-old son, Jesus, was not with them.

The fascinating thing about this story is that Mary and Joseph were not doing anything wrong. They were handling the duties of the day, visiting with friends, calmly traveling home. They were so busy, so caught up with the daily activities of the journey, that they didn’t notice Jesus was missing.

If you have ever lost a child in a crowd, you can identify with their feelings of absolute horror. Mary and Joseph immediately began to frantically search for Jesus, and they eventually found Him in the temple.

Commenting on this experience, Ellen White adds these insightful thoughts: “By one day’s neglect they lost the Saviour; but it cost them three days of anxious search to find Him. So with us; by idle talk, evilspeaking, or neglect of prayer, we may in one day lose the Saviour’s presence, and it may take many days of sorrowful search to find Him, and regain the peace that we have lost.”<sup>3</sup>

### The Perils We Face

When the busyness of life overwhelms us, three things begin to happen.

- *We begin to lose focus.*
- *We become physically, mentally, and emotionally exhausted.*
- *Our devotional life suffers.*

Have you ever felt that you’re running from one thing to the next, overwhelmed with the busyness of life? There’s one more e-mail to answer, one more text message to respond to, one more phone call to make, one more committee to attend, one more person to see. Your life seems to be governed by “one more.” You have just too much to accomplish. When you flop into bed at night you think about all you’ve left undone. Your work is certainly not finished; your to-do list is half done at best; your mind is racing; sleep does not come as you frantically attempt to think how you can cram more into an already overloaded schedule.

Heaven’s call in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic is for us to put on our personal protective equipment, to spend time with God’s Word. Let the beauty of Scripture bathe your soul. Find that quiet spot and allow the Holy Spirit to move in your life. Sense anew the unmerited, undeserved, unearned grace of God.

*Mark A. Finley is an evangelist and editor-at-large for Adventist Review Ministries.*

*This article is adapted from the original which was published in the Adventist Review Magazine, April 23, 2020. You can find the article in its entirety at <https://www.adventistreview.org/soul-care> or at [southbahamasconference.org](https://southbahamasconference.org) —Editor.*



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## ADVENTIST BOOK & NUTRITION CENTER

The Adventist Book & Nutrition Center continues to serve you during our adjusted store hours:  
**Mondays - Fridays 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**  
**Sundays - Closed.**  
The social distancing rule will be applied during your visit. - *ABNC Manager.*



### BIBLE CLASS

Bible class for the South Bahamas Conference will be available via Zoom on Sunday @ 6:30p.m. Contact your church Pastor for the Meeting number.  
Topic: "Understanding the Spirit of Prophecy". The study will also be livestreamed via Youtube: Look for Englerston Adventist.  
-- *Pastor Lynden Williams, Bible Studies & Spirit of Prophecy Coordinator.*



### COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT ATV SPECIAL BROADCASTS

**Children's Programming**  
*Sabbath Mornings 9:30a.m. – 10:00a.m.*

**Regular Broadcasts**  
*Fridays 7:00p.m. – 9:00p.m.*  
Including Children's & Adult Programming:  
News Update / News Page  
Inspirational Thoughts  
Bible Trivia  
Children's Shows  
Lessons from the Word  
Adventist Spotlight (Local Sermon)

*Saturday Afternoons 3:00p.m. – 5:00p.m.*  
(A replay of Friday evenings broadcast).

--Mrs. Lavern Sturupp, Communication Director.



### HEALTH MINISTRIES Maintaining Physical and Emotional Wellbeing Amidst COVID19

**Lecture Series**  
**April 26 @ 4:00p.m. – 5:30p.m.**  
"The Philosophy of Hydrotherapy – Its Effects" – Dr. Mark Sandoval, M.D., Uchee Pines Lifestyle Centre.

**May 3 @ 4:00p.m. – 5:30p.m.**  
"Boost Immune w/Natural Remedies" – Hydrotherapy – Mrs. Valarie Schreiber, N.D.

**May 10 @ 4:00p.m – 5:30p.m.**  
"Coping with Changes" – Dr. Stephanie Hutcheson.  
**ZOOM ID: 970 175 45323**  
**PASSWORD: 204223**  
LIVE on Facebook / YouTube.  
--Mrs. Nathelyn Lacroix, Health Ministries Director.



### WORSHIP WITH ONE OF OUR CHURCHES

*Friday April 24<sup>th</sup> – Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020*  
*Wednesday April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020.*

**Churches Worshipping Via ZOOM**  
Please Contact Pastors for Links to Meetings

• **BETHANY (VIA ZOOM & YOUTUBE)** – Pastor Jamal Franklin – Email: [jfranklin@sbcadventist.org.bs](mailto:jfranklin@sbcadventist.org.bs)  
**Adventist Youth Service**  
Time: Friday at 7:00 p.m.

**Sabbath Prayer & Praise Service**  
Time: Saturday at 8:00 a.m.

**Sabbath School Services**  
**Adult Unit - Classes 1-3**  
Time: Saturday at 5:00 p.m.

**Children's Class**  
Time: Saturday at 3:00 p.m.  
**Youth Class**  
Time: Saturday at 5:00 p.m.

**Divine Worship**  
**Via YouTube and Facebook**  
[@bethany242](https://www.facebook.com/bethany242)  
Time: Sabbath at 10:00 a.m.

**Wednesday Prayer & Praise Service**  
Time: Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

• **GOOD NEWS & EXUMA DISTRICT (VIA ZOOM)** - Pastor T. Basil Sturupp  
Email: [sturrup1@gmail.com](mailto:sturrup1@gmail.com)  
**Facebook page:** Good News SDA Church Bahamas  
**Adult Sabbath School** - Zoom ID: 520 352 629  
Time: 9:30a.m – 10:50a.m.  
Topic: Jesus and the Apostles' View of the Bible.

### C.H.A.M CONNECT

Children ages 5-14years  
Time: 10:00a.m – 10:50a.m.  
ZOOM ID: 884 560 031

**Divine Worship Service (Hosted by Exuma District)** ZOOM ID: 998 4782 7550  
Time: 11:00a.m – 12:00p.m.  
Speaker: Pastor T. Basil Sturupp  
Topic: "The Ultimate Assignment of Every Believer".

**Youth Bible Class/ Vesper – Sabbath Afternoon** Time: 5:30p.m.

**Wednesday Prayer & Praise Service / Bible Study – The Book of Proverbs**  
Time: Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.  
ZOOM ID: 903 357 876

• **GRANT'S TOWN (VIA ZOOM)**  
Pastor Leonardo Rahming  
Email: [lrahming@sbcadventist.org.bs](mailto:lrahming@sbcadventist.org.bs)

• **HILLVIEW (VIA ZOOM)**  
Pastor Michael Toote

• **JOHNSON PARK, CROOKED ISLAND, ACKLINS (VIA ZOOM)**  
Pastor Danhugh Gordon

• **BEREA & BREATH OF LIFE (VIA ZOOM)** - Pastor Edward St. Fleur

• **MESSAGE OF HOPE (VIA ZOOM)**  
Pastor Melvin Lewis

• **NEW PROVIDENCE & REAL HARVEST, ELEUTHERA, NORTH & SOUTH ANDROS DISTRICTS (VIA ZOOM)** - Pastors: Alvarico Moss, Manasseh Simms, Lee Burrows, Kareem Black

Email: [amoss@sbcadventist.org.bs](mailto:amoss@sbcadventist.org.bs)  
**Friday Vesper** - 7:00p.m.  
**Sabbath School** – 9:30a.m.  
**Divine Worship** – 11:00a.m.  
**Wednesdays** - 7:00p.m.

• **NEW ENGLERSTON** – Pastor Lynden Williams  
Email: [lwilliams@sbcadventist.org.bs](mailto:lwilliams@sbcadventist.org.bs)  
VIA ZOOM & NEW ENGLERSTON SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH YOUTUBE CHANNEL  
Sabbaths: 9:15a.m.  
AY: 6:00p.m.

• **LONG ISLAND (VIA ZOOM)** - Pastor Jon Dorsett  
Email: [jondorsett7@gmail.com](mailto:jondorsett7@gmail.com)  
**Sabbath School** – 9:00a.m.  
**Divine Worship** – 11:00a.m.  
**Sabbath Afternoon Bible Class** – 5:00p.m.  
• **ADELAIDE / BETHEL (VIA ZOOM/ Whatsapp)**

Pastor Larry Green  
Email: [pastorlg@yahoo.com](mailto:pastorlg@yahoo.com)

**Sabbath School** – 10:00a.m.  
**Divine Service** – 11:00a.m.

• **LIVING FAITH (VIA ZOOM)** – Pastor Raydell Duffis  
Email: [rduffis@sbcadventist.org.bs](mailto:rduffis@sbcadventist.org.bs)

**Prayer Meeting** Wednesday - 7:00p.m.  
**Night of Encouragement** Thursday - 8:00p.m.  
**Youth Bible Study** Friday - 5:30p.m - 6:30p.m.  
**Sabbath Reception** Friday Evening - 7:00p.m  
**Sabbath School** - 9:15a.m  
**Divine Service** - 11:00a.m.

• **LA SENDA DE LA VIDA (VIA ZOOM)** - Pastor Ludwing Garcia  
Email: [lgarcia@sbcadventist.org.bs](mailto:lgarcia@sbcadventist.org.bs)  
**Sabbath School** - 10:00a.m.  
**Divine Service** - 11:00a.m.  
**Wednesday Prayer & Praise Service** - 7:30p.m.

• **GAMBIER** - Pastor Craig Williams  
VIA ZOOM Saturday @ 10:00a.m.  
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### FACEBOOK

• **AGAPE, REDEMPTION (VIA ZOOM) & PHILADELPHIA**  
Pastors: Carl Johnson, Peter Joseph  
Wednesdays @ 7:30p.m.  
Saturdays @ 11:30a.m (LIVE)  
Theme: The Power of Prayer in a Time of Crisis. \*\*Visit David William / Philadelphia Church FB Page

• **CENTREVILLE & NEW HAVEN**  
Pastor Paul Scavella  
Centreville Church's FB Page  
**Sabbath School** at 10:30a.m.  
**Divine Worship and Sermon** at 11:00a.m.  
**Bible Study/Mid-Week Prayer Service** - Wednesdays at 7:00p.m.



### WHATSAPP VIDEOS / MESSAGES

• **PEARDALE & EPHEBUS (VIA ZOOM)** - Pastor Nikita Thompson  
Email: [nthompson@sbcadventist.org.bs](mailto:nthompson@sbcadventist.org.bs)

• **EBENEZER & FRANCOPHONE**  
Pastor Wilson Isnord (Facebook)

• **MARANATHA** - Pastor Valentino Campbell

• **SAN SALVADOR** – Pastor Ludwing Garcia / Elder Michelle Williams



*Please Email Weekly Announcements*  
To: [sbclogos@gmail.com](mailto:sbclogos@gmail.com)  
Or [logos@sbcadventist.org.bs](mailto:logos@sbcadventist.org.bs)  
By Tuesday at 3:00p.m.  
Visit the Conference website:  
<http://southbahamasconference.org>  
for the Logos publication archives & the ATV658 NEWS, as well as weekly programming.

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*Happy Sabbath!*