

PROPHECY COUNTDOWN: AFTER THE LOAN

PART ONE OF TWO

A liberal, spendthrift leadership took control of the Christian Science Church in the late 1970s. We reported on it, in depth, in our three-part *Christian Science Lawsuit [WM—515-517]*. Once in power, those men set out to buy or construct several white elephant communications projects.

They began by spending \$200,000 to launch *Monitor Reports*, a monthly nationwide television show, which, later, was aired weekly. Before long, it was costing \$2 million annually to maintain.

Monitor Reports later collapsed.

The church also bought a complete television station in Boston (*WQTV, Channel 68*) for \$7.5 million.

The Boston station bled the church half to death, and when they later tried to sell it—they experienced agony, because the white elephant station just would not sell. Eventually, Boston University offered them a mere \$3.8 million and acquired the station on June 23, 1993.

Then there was the *Monitor Channel*, a nationwide television broadcast. This had cost millions to set up and millions more to maintain yearly. But the cost of keeping such a station was crushing the 170,000-member church. A couple times the Christian Science Church came close to a sale, but no one really wanted it. Finally the last prospect disappeared. No one would buy their white elephant television station, so they finally had to dismantle it and sell its equipment to whoever wanted to pay something. Held on December 10, 1992, it was a bargain basement auction. They only got \$4 million for equipment which they earlier had paid \$8 million to purchase.

And then there was the Scott's Corner, Maine, shortwave station (*WCSN*), which the Christian Science Church constructed at a cost of \$7.2 million, building and equipment. (By the way, that station only had transmitting equipment; it never had any broadcasting studio facilities or equipment.)

This was the only sale which turned out well for Mary Baker Eddy's church; it turned out very well. When, at first, the church was forced to dispose of it, no willing buyers were found. It is true that several interested organizations considered it, but none were desirous to pay the very high price the church was asking: \$8 million—which was more than the initial construction cost of \$7.2 million.

The prospective buyers recognized that, in order to dispose of it, the church would likely end up dropping the selling price by more than one-half,—especially since the church membership was angrily demanding that it, along with the television station

and *Monitor Channel*, be sold. The prospective buyers decided to wait until the price lowered to half price—\$2.5 or \$2 million,—and then it would be time to start bargaining seriously. That was the way it had been for the Boston television station: a half-price sale. And it had been the only other of the church's communications' projects which had sold at all. The *Monitor Channel* had been sold off piece by piece for half price.

In addition, it was recognized that the Maine station was not as capable as the church's South Carolina shortwave station. The Maine station could reach western Europe and northern Africa, but could not effectively reach other areas of the world field. The station was too far north to effectively do more than to beam across the ocean. Yet most western Europeans were television viewers, and north Africa is primarily Muslim. Elsewhere in the world, the weaker incoming signal and irregularity in getting it on small home sets eliminated many regular listeners.

So the prospective buyers were hesitant to jump in early.

Then Prophecy Countdown, a Mount Dora, Florida-based organization, stepped in and—to everyone's surprise—offered \$5 million!

As noted in our detailed three-part study on the Christian Science white elephant projects, the sale of the Maine station was the only project that turned out well for the Boston-based denomination.

This was especially true since, after building the Scott's Corner, Maine, station, the Christian Science Church found it provided unsatisfactory coverage,—so it had gone to the great expense of constructing a second East Coast station—in Cupress Creek, South Carolina—in order to remedy the defects of the Maine station. It could not only reach Central and South America well, but could also reach western Europe, eastern Europe, and all of Africa far better than the Maine station. So the church decided to keep that station.

There was also the problem of ongoing costs; the *Monitor Channel* had cost \$60,000 to \$100,000 an hour to maintain. The Maine station was costing about \$2 million a year to operate yearly.

Another drain, which the young liberals running the church placed on it, was the “consultants” they paid to tell them how to spend their money. One was paid \$50,000 a year in consultant fees. Paying big fees to consultants is the way of the world today.

According to the November 27, 1993, issue of the *Boston Globe*, the church agreed to sell *WCSN* (the Maine station) to Prophecy Countdown for \$5

million.

As part of the purchase agreement, \$40,000 was given to the Christian Science Church by Prophecy Countdown on November 27, 1993, along with a second check for \$400,000 on January 17, 1994. It was understood that the remainder (\$4,560,000) would be paid on or before May 16, 1994.

Partway through the campaign to obtain funds, when asked about the matter, the director of Prophecy Countdown stated flatly on nationwide television that, if not enough donations came in to purchase the station by May 16, none of those donations would be returned to the donors. That was a stunning revelation.

But, shortly thereafter, it was stated on another Prophecy Countdown telecast that, *if not enough donations came in to buy the station by May 16,—the donations definitely would be returned.*

But, when less than half the money (about \$2 million in donations, plus jewelry, etc.) came in by the May 16 date, the donations were not returned.

Instead, the purchase contract was extended for extra time, on the proviso that Prophecy Countdown hand a check for \$1 million to the Christian Science Church—which was done.

Prophecy Countdown began talking about borrowing the rest of the money to buy the station. Vows are mutual; the donors had agreed to send in money, and Prophecy Countdown had agreed to use it only to buy the station, and refund it to them if there was not enough cash to do so. That was the understanding.

There is a story behind that bank loan. Prophecy Countdown found it could not get a suitable “line of credit” to buy the station, because the purchase price was so close to the original cost of construction and installation, and the bankers had learned that Prophecy Countdown had been the only organization willing to pay so much for it. Therefore, if the banks had to foreclose, in case of nonpayment, they would have a harder time selling it.

So Jim McGovern was hired by Prophecy Countdown as a consultant, and, to start with, was paid \$60,000 up front. The assignment: Find a way so the organization could borrow enough money—us-

ing only the station as collateral for the loan. It was a tough assignment.

McGovern is a non-Adventist financial advisor. He appeared on two or three Prophecy Countdown videos, and was praised as the man who was persuading the world that Prophecy Countdown was a good firm to loan large amounts of money to.

It is remarkable what McGovern was able to do, but it was to his decided advantage to succeed: The usual arrangement is for the consultant to receive a percentage of the total loan as a fee.

We now know that McGovern not only received the initial \$60,000 as a retainer, but \$85 an hour thereafter for many weeks while he worked on getting the loan worked out. Partway through his work, he complained that he was not being paid enough, and his salary was raised to \$100 an hour.

McGovern managed to work up a deal with the banks, whereby they would loan millions to Prophecy Countdown, with only the Maine station as collateral. Of course, such an arrangement would imperil all the money donated for the station, while placing no risk on the Florida properties.

Keep in mind that the money had been donated with the stated understanding that it would be returned if not enough came in to purchase the station by May 16. In other words, the station was to be purchased for cash. At least, that was the understanding the great majority of donors had, when they sent in the money.

McGovern initially swung a loan offer of 13 percent. But, afterward, he was able to obtain one for 10 percent.

Yet details of the loan are, to say the least, remarkably frightening: The donors had given approximately \$2. million (plus jewelry, gold, etc.) toward the \$3,560,00 still owed on the station. Then \$3.8 million was borrowed on the station.

Because a historical review showed that no one else was willing to buy the station for anywhere near \$5 million, the bankers decided that they must have a full 10 percent interest. That is steep interest for such a large loan. To make matters worse, they demanded that the contract must be paid out in only 6.86 years. That is an extremely short time in which to try to pay off a \$3.8 million loan!

Frankly, it appears to have been a desperate measure, on the part of Prophecy Countdown, in order to obtain such a dangerously large loan. *They would not accept the fact that there were not enough historic believers to pay for and maintain this enormous outlay of means.* Keep in mind that it had been all that the donors could do to come up with the initial \$2.5 million. Henceforth that money would be in hock.

Apparently, it has been a tumultuous year for Prophecy Countdown, the Florida-based organization which purchased the Christian Science Church’s Maine short-wave station. In the past twelve months alone, 22 people have been fired or forced to resign. One lady was fired, because she told an inquiring supporter that the Spirit of Prophecy did not teach that the Adventist Church was Babylon.

Because of the loan, the donors would be required to pay an additional \$3.8 million, with interest, within 6.86 years—in order to keep from losing the first \$1.44 million to the bankers.

In addition, they would have to donate between \$1.8 and \$2 million each and every year, just to maintain the station and keep it on the air.

Not included in these figures is the \$3 million, which Prophecy Countdown has wanted to spend for a better antenna (a *log periodic vector antenna*), so Adventists in America (who are the primary listeners to the station) might hear it better.

You might wonder why I would say “primary listeners,” but if you will purchase a quality shortwave receiver, you will quickly discover that there are hundreds and hundreds of stations transmitted by shortwave. That is because shortwave stations are to be found all over the world. Although expensive receivers, equipped with good antennas, can get most of them; most people around the world have cheap ones, which can only get the closer stations which are powerful.

In an earlier study, the present writer stated that Prophecy Countdown, broadcasting over that station (which began over eight months ago on January 17, 1994), should be bringing in 3,000 to 5,000 letters a day,—if that station was really being listened to by the people who live all over Europe and north Africa.

But a recently fired member of the board of Prophecy Countdown, firmly declares that he doubts that the organization receives even ten letters a week from overseas listeners. After eight months of operation, it appears that hardly anyone is listening.

Some of these financial figures were partially verified by a conversation a friend recently had with a current board member of Prophecy Countdown. What do these figures add up to, in the way of monthly costs? The following is a brief summary of

The Federal Communications Commission must grant written approval, which must be renewed each year, in order for a shortwave station to operate in the United States. If complaints are received by the FCC during the year, from individuals or foreign governments objecting to the content of the broadcasts, the approval may not be granted for the next year. It is impossible to give the Third Angel’s Message (Daniel 7 and Revelation 12-14), without giving the Sabbath truth and the efforts of Rome to destroy the Sabbath and its followers.

present—not future—costs at Prophecy Countdown.

*This is the money which it had to pay out each month, **before** borrowing nearly four million dollars:*

\$31,000 each month - on the budget which was in effect at the time, a few months ago, when Howard Anderson and Hector Perez were on the Prophecy Countdown board.

More than \$6,000 each month - as interest payments to the “partners” who loaned Prophecy Countdown about \$800,000 with the proviso that they pay monthly interest on the loans, and to those who loaned on the “pool program.”

That totals \$39,000 each month, which had to be paid monthly by Prophecy Countdown,—BEFORE taking out the loan.

*This is the money which it must henceforth pay out each month, **after** borrowing nearly four million dollars:*

\$64,000 each month - for principle and 10 percent compound interest on the \$3.8 million, 6.86-year loan.

\$31,000 each month - on the budget which was in effect at the time, a few months ago, when Howard Anderson and Hector Perez were on the Prophecy Countdown board. It may be larger now, but we will assume it has not changed.

\$166,000 each month - as operating expenses for the Maine shortwave station.

More than \$6,000 each month - as interest payments to the “partners” who loaned Prophecy Countdown about \$800,000 with the proviso that they pay monthly interest on the loans.

That totals more than \$267,000 each month, which must be paid monthly by Prophecy Countdown AFTER taking out the loan,—all apart from any new projects or activities.

That is \$3.2 million a year!

Because Prophecy Countdown had to pay the highest premium in order to get that station, its monthly expenses are fantastic! They are so high that you had better pray that the organization does not close its doors within the next year or two.

Frankly, Prophecy Countdown will probably not close its doors. It will do something different when it cannot meet those monthly bills: *It will probably give the Maine station back to the creditors!* Then the bankers will take that station and sell it. That will be a tragedy, for such a massive amount of money was invested into it by the supporters of Prophecy Countdown. Many homes and life savings were sacrificed, in order to provide the initial \$2

million—all of which is now locked into a massive, and almost unrepayable loan arrangement.

Keep in mind that *the well-established Christian Science Church*, which has 170,000 supporting members, was not able to fund all its communications empire, and had to drop the Maine shortwave station. It is well-known that many Christian Scientists are intellectual and wealthy. In contrast, there are relatively few historic Adventist believers in the United States at this time, who are able to even partially support such a mammoth project.

(Ironically, the same week that the Christian Science Church signed the contract to sell the station to Prophecy Countdown, a multimillion dollar lawsuit was filed against that denominational leadership by its members for wasting money on white-elephant projects, including the Scotts Corner, Maine, station. Christian Science believers had discovered that, for the amount of money being spent each year just to maintain that one station,—upwards of 300 foreign Christian Science missionaries could be supported at \$500 a month.)

The balance due on the station, as of May 16, was \$3.56 million, and Prophecy Countdown borrowed \$3.8 million. The donors did not give the money for any purpose other than the Maine station.

Here is the data on the actual amount borrowed, the amount of interest, the amount to be repaid, etc.:

\$3.8 million in principle - the amount borrowed.

10 percent - rate of interest.

\$64,000 - monthly payment on interest and principle.

\$768,000 - yearly amount to be paid on interest and principle.

6.86 years - life of the loan.

\$1,465,509 - total accumulated interest on the loan.

\$5,265,509 - total cost of the loan that was borrowed; that is, the total amount to be paid to the bankers for the privilege of borrowing \$3.8 million for 6.86 years.

It was originally agreed to pay \$5,000,000 for the station; now, with the loan in place, Prophecy Countdown must pay \$5,265,509 for the station,—after already having handed over \$1,440,000 for it!

The information contained in this sheet is the best information we could obtain from current and former staff members of the organization.

Prior to the May 16 date, it was well-known among Independent Ministry leaders, that world-covering shortwave station time could be rented for

only \$200 an hour! And that, without buying any station! Steps to Life had demonstrated the fact—by doing just that. Why, then, did Prophecy Countdown go ahead and get that massive loan so they could get a station of their own?

Why is earth-girdling shortwave time so cheap? Because, as mentioned earlier, there are so many shortwave stations in the world. They are competing with each other for the broadcasters' money. That fact, when discovered, had been shared with other Independent Ministry leaders—prior to the May 16 deadline. Prophecy Countdown would have been wiser to walk away, before May, from the contract, and spend its money on rental time on shortwave. The initial payments—\$440,00—is far less to lose than millions upon millions.

But, taking out the loan did not give Prophecy Countdown the station;—not with \$5,265,509 still to be paid on what originally amounted to \$5 million. Yet let us assume that the donations had come in, and the station had been bought with only \$5 million (instead of the much higher amount they are going to pay—\$6,705,509): At current shortwave broadcast rental costs, one Independent Ministry leader, in America, calculated that Prophecy Countdown would have to broadcast 24 hours a day for 300 years, in order to recover the money spent to buy the Maine shortwave station.

Yet Prophecy Countdown was acquainted with the situation prior to handing over the \$1 million on May 16, and after borrowing \$3.8 million.

Actually, \$200 for a one-hour earth-circling broadcast is a very low price! It is low because there is so much competition out there for the broadcaster's dollar. Thousands of stations are broadcasting every day. The present writer used to own a book containing the data. It had several hundred pages of small print.

But, the cost is even less if you want to broadcast to a single continent. One former Prophecy Countdown board member, after leaving that organization this spring, began a shortwave broadcast in his house to most of Central and South America. Unbelievable? No, not at all in light of today's markets. All he needed was a tape recorder and a microphone. That did not cost him more than a few hundred dollars, at the most. When he completes each tape, he sends it to a station in Honduras—which broadcasts it over shortwave. His voice reaches down through most of South America! The cost: \$12.50 (twelve dollars and fifty cents) for each

Continued on the next tract

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PART TWO OF TWO

half hour he broadcasts. **For \$25, he can talk for an hour to nearly all of Central and South America! How is that for keeping your shortwave broadcasting costs down?** In addition, because he speaks in Spanish, the people understand him. He is talking to them in their language. *If you are going to broadcast to a foreign country, you had better speak their language, or they will not understand you.*

Well, so the station will have cost \$6,705,509 before it is owned free and clear. That will occur in September 2000.

But forget about that for a minute. *Turn your attention to the upkeep on the station. It will cost \$20 million every ten years—just to keep the Maine station operating!* The upkeep alone is enough to sink an Independent Ministry, even if the station was given to them free.

The best thing the Jesuits could do to us would be to give us a shortwave station free of charge for our very own, or, even worse, talk us into buying one! Trying to feed the white elephant would stop nearly all other forms of evangelism and eventually consume us. Especially when almost no letters arrived in response at the station. We are beating the air,—when we could

be going door-to-door with Christian literature, holding Bible studies, supporting Bible workers.

If you are a Prophecy Countdown follower, I am telling you, for a fact, that it will not be enough that you send them your donations! You will also have to sell your house, your land, and your car, and send those proceeds to them too. It is not merely that they need it; they must have it!

Right now, each month, they need \$267,000. That is \$3,204,000 a year! Do you know how much that is? Do you catch the awesome, terrible significance?

\$3.2 million is more than the \$2.5 million which the believers sent them during the campaign to pay cash for the station. That means the incredible sacrifices which God's people underwent, in 1993 and 1994, will have to continue on for years to come. How many homes do you own? If each family sells one a year, the station might be paid for, and still operating, by the end of A.D. 2000.

Consider this as an earnest appeal to Prophecy Countdown followers: Prophecy Countdown needs your help!

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What is the basis for these figures?

The basic financial data was obtained from present and former staff members of Prophecy Countdown. We are in contact with former board members who have served at various times, frequently overlapping. The most recent one was fired in August. They knew the financial data. Certain items (such as the amount of the loan, amount of interest on the loan, and monthly cost of the operating expenses on the station) were partially verified on the phone with a current board member, before she suddenly hung up.

Are you certain of all the figures?

In addition to the \$2 million donation figure, were pledges, jewelry, and gold to be sold. There may have been unfulfilled pledges. Regarding the jewelry, an appraiser was called in and estimated each item. They were then marked down 20 to 50 percent. But, when professional buyers arrived, they refused to pay those prices, so the jewels and gold are still stored in a room. The former board members believe the cash donation figure amounted to about \$2 million. But, if the final donation total were less

than \$2 million, that would make the financial picture even bleaker, and even more reason why Prophecy Countdown should not have gone ahead and contracted a loan, requiring a \$3,204,000-a-year payout on the loan and station upkeep. ***If they could not even initially get \$2 million to buy the station, how could they ever pay \$3.2 million a year to meet its debt and operating expenses?***

Although we were told that the loan was for 5 or 6 years, the figures did not turn out right. We knew there was a flaw since, two days before this writing, the loan percent, total, and monthly payments were partially verified with a current board member—the third in command at Prophecy Countdown. So a friend ran the figures through a computer accounting program—and determined that the data (a \$3.8 million loan, at 10 percent interest, with a \$64,000 monthly payment on interest and principle) exactly agreed with a 6.86-year loan length. So we went with that time span. *If it is less (only 5 years), the monthly and yearly debt load will be far worse for Prophecy Countdown.*

The above two assumptions were based on the

best information available, and would favor the financial position of Prophecy Countdown better than the alternatives.

We have heard figures of \$1.8 to \$2 million for the cost of yearly maintenance. John himself told a friend that it was \$2 million, and he also mentioned it in the pulpit at the Hiawassee, Georgia, campmeeting, so we use that figure. We feel certain that there will be hidden costs which will insure that figure as a minimum. One item: *the Federal Communications Commission issues a yearly license on each shortwave station within U.S. territory, after reviewing its performance and programming. The initial license requires a \$500,000 bond.* That means half-a-million dollars of Prophecy Countdown money to be handed over and locked away in the banks. That license must be renewed yearly, after a review.

Why are you giving us this information?

Should you not know it? Prophecy Countdown has placed itself in a disastrous situation, which only massive property sell-offs by hundreds of people yearly, and continuing on after the debt itself is paid, can save it from. Would not the God of heaven want you to know what is happening? Is there a virtue in living in the dark?

If Satan wanted to lock the historic believers into a sit-and-be-able-to-do-nothing situation, there would be few ways better to do it—than to lock all the money into a white elephant which was accomplishing very little. No means would be available for any other kind of missionary work or projects.

We could go into debt and buy the largest television or FM radio station in America, or purchase the *New York Times*. Yes, it might appear to be a great way to give the message, but so much would

We have the names and work assignments of 21 of the 22 people fired or forced to resign from Prophecy Countdown in the past twelve months. Here were their work assignments, before being suddenly terminated:

Assistant pastor / Bible instructor / Assistant pastor (Spanish) / Teacher / Research and Minister of Music / Teacher and cameraman / Bookkeeper / Tape and video duplicator / Director of computers and repair / School principal / Secretary / Engineer in charge of the satellite trucks / Cameraman / Correspondence secretary / Video production and manager of satellite trucks / Correspondence secretary / Engineer on satellite trucks / Construction and repair work / Computers, research, and designing / Research and video / Secretary.

be absorbed in one project that the people of God would collapse under the load long before the message was given.

This is what John Harvey Kellogg tried to do to God's people in 1902. (Read our *Alpha of Apostasy* for the story [now in Part One of our *Doctrinal History Tractbook*]). He wanted the believers to put their money into a gigantic new sanitarium. Ellen White protested, and said there should be many different missionary projects and institutions, not one gigantic one.

But is not the Prophecy Countdown station going to give the Loud Cry for us?

First, that station is hardly receiving enough responses to indicate that many are listening to it.

Second, the Federal Communications Commission would not permit a shortwave station in U.S. territory to broadcast the full Third Angel's Message to other nations.

Third, far less expensive ways to broadcast shortwave sermons, to large areas of the earth's surface, were known before the loan was taken out. In light of such facts, it was presumption to go ahead and do it.

Fourth, the station was only designed to broadcast effectively to western Europe and north Africa. But the people in western Europe are television viewers.

Fifth, there are 37 languages in greater Europe. Of these, 25 are major: Bulgarian, Byelorussian, Czech, Danish, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, Georgian, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Kazakh, Kirghiz, Latvian, Lithuanian, Norwegian, Plihs, Portuguese, Russian, Slovak, Spanish, Swedish, Turkish, and Ukrainian. In addition, are the languages of northern Africa.

Sixth, **for the amount of money it costs just to pay the yearly operating expenses on the Maine station, 333 full-time foreign missionaries could be paid \$500 a month to work throughout Europe and north Africa.** They could be sponsored and sent out to preach, hold meetings, and train additional workers in Europe and north Africa!

Seventh, **for the amount of the payment on the loan, those workers could be provided with \$768,000 each year, to spend on literature, and rental of evangelistic halls.** For the full amount which Prophecy Countdown must have each year—\$3,204,000,—**534 full-time missionaries could be sent** to Europe, or wherever a committee, representing all the believers, decided to send them.

Eighth, the Loud Cry will not be given by a U.S. Government-permit station, which costs millions to

keep on the air! The Loud Cry will be given by thousands of voices. The laymen will give the Loud Cry!

Read this:

WHAT IS THE LOUD CRY?

The following insightful letter was sent by a concerned West Coast believer to several friends, early in 1994:

Dear Friends:

Many of you probably received a packet, in December of 1993 from Prophecy Countdown, Inc., concerning the shortwave radio station and its connection to the **Loud Cry**. You may have been thrilled by the events and circumstances surrounding this shortwave radio purchase, and it does make exciting reading.

In fact, this letter is not meant to attack the project nor the men involved. What concerns us and many others across the country is this: **What is the Loud Cry?** and **How is it given?** These questions are raised by certain statements made about the Loud Cry within the context of the shortwave radio purchase announcement. Allow me to show you what I mean:

Prophecy Countdown Packet Cover: "The time we have all been praying for has finally arrived, the Loud Cry to the World."

Page 3: "This moment should be remembered: because it may well be the beginning of the Loud Cry."

Page 9: "This is it, this is it. It's the beginning of the LOUD CRY!"

Page 15: "May God bless you as you prayerfully contemplate your part in the beginning of the Loud Cry."

These are the statements about the Loud Cry in connection with the purchase of this "massive project" (page 14). Now let's ask the obvious questions regarding the Loud Cry:

- 1 - How is the Loud Cry given?
- 2 - Who gives the Loud Cry?

Perhaps the only way to answer these questions is to go to the Spirit of Prophecy:

"The prophecies of the 18th chapter of Revelation will soon be fulfilled. During the proclamation of the Third Angel's message, 'another angel' is to 'come down from heaven, having great power,' and the earth is to be lighted with His 'glory.' The Spirit of the Lord will so graciously bless **consecrated** human instrumentalities that **men, women, and children will open their lips** in praise and thanksgiving filling the earth with the knowledge of God and with His unsurpassed glory, as the waters cover the sea."—*Review*, October 13, 1904.

Men, women, and children give the message. It

fills the whole earth.

"And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, 'Come out of her My people that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.'"—*Revelation 18:4*.

Men, women, and children give this message. It fills the whole earth. The message is: "Come out of HER My people."

"Hence the movement symbolized by the angel coming down from heaven lightening the earth with His glory, and crying with a strong voice announcing the sins of Babylon. In connection with the message, the call is heard, 'Come out of her My people.'"—*4 Spirit of Prophecy*, 422.

Men, women, and children give this message. "Come out of her, My people." They are part of a movement. It (the message) fills the whole earth.

"As the time comes for the Loud Cry to be given, the Lord will work through humble instrumentalities" (*ibid.*). **As the time comes to give the Loud Cry, how will the Lord work? through humble instrumentalities.**

However, Prophecy Countdown has said, "God will not use faithless, small-minded people to give the Loud Cry" (page 14). The suggestion is that these men are the faithful, and the great-minded men who will give the Loud Cry if you send them your money. And you cannot give the Loud Cry without them.

"Servants of God, with their faces lighted up and shining with holy consecration, hasten from place to place, proclaiming the warning from heaven. *By thousands of voices*, all over the earth, the message will be given."

Servants of God (thousands of men, women, and children) with - faces lighted up - giving the message ("Come out of her, My people") - hasten from place to place - as part of a movement.

By comparing the Spirit of Prophecy with the quotes from Prophecy Countdown, we see a stark contrast in the way the Loud Cry is portrayed. **One speaks of thousands of voices all over the world. The other speaks of a few ministries, broadcasting from the safety of their home base. One offers evidence of faces lighted up with God's glory, the other offers a voice on a shortwave radio. One puts everyone to work, the other puts everyone's money to work.**

"God works by simple means to separate and distinguish His children from the world; but some have so departed from the simplicity of the work and ways of God that they are above the work, not in it."—*1 Testimonies* 524.

The Loud Cry is not a single large project promoted by a few men. The history of Laodicea and the world teaches us that big projects are not the way God works. Laodicea demonstrated a se-

ries of large projects wreaked on the massive rock of man's ideas. Scripture compares God's kingdom to a mustard seed. ***This project cannot succeed in giving the Loud Cry, because it violates God's principles of kingdom building.***

"The striking feature of divine operation is the accomplishment of the greatest work that can be done in our world by very simple means."—*Evangelism*, 93.

God may indeed use this radio station, and I'm not here to tell you not to support it. But you need to be clear, that ***the Loud Cry will not come until ALL of us, called and led by the Holy Spirit, hasten from place to place, proclaiming the Third Angel's Message.***

"When the work goes forward under the direction of the angel who joins the third angel in the message to be given to the world, God will use ways and means by which it will be seen that He is taking the reins in His own hands. The workers will be surprised by the simple means that He will use."—*Testimonies to Ministers*, 300. See *Notebook Leaflets*, Elmshaven, 113.

"We call on all who wish to be part of the Loud Cry to repent of Laodicean ideas. Let us put our lives in order under God, and pray to be one of those "thousands of voices" giving the message. "God will work through the weakest human agent who is charged with His Spirit."—*Evangelism*, 558.

That was a solidly stated letter, was it not? The Spirit of Prophecy is calling us to move into personal contact with others, and personal, house-to-house, and individual evangelism. That is the will of God for us. Get literature, go out and visit door-to-door, help others, bake loaves of bread and share them, hold cooking schools, and hold studies in the homes.

It is a perversion to instead place all the missionary funds in the hands of one man. Here are additional statements on the work assigned us:

"If every church member were a living missionary, the gospel would speedily be proclaimed in all countries, to all peoples, nations, and tongues."—*9 Testimonies*, 32.

"There is danger in delay. That soul whom you might have found, that soul to whom you might have opened the Scriptures, passes beyond your reach. Satan has prepared some net for his feet, and tomorrow he may be working out the plans of the archenemy of God. Why delay one day? Why not go to work at once?"—*6 Testimonies*, 443.

"What shall I say to arouse the remnant people of God? I was shown that dreadful scenes are before us; Satan and his angels are bringing all their powers to bear upon God's people. He knows that if they sleep a little longer, he is sure of them, for

their destruction is certain."—*1 Testimonies*, 263.

"I was shown God's people waiting for some change to take place,—a compelling power to take hold of them. But they will be disappointed, for they are wrong. They must act; they must take hold of the work themselves, and earnestly cry to God for a true knowledge of the work themselves. The scenes which are passing before us are of sufficient magnitude to cause us to arouse, and urge the truth home to the hearts of all who will listen. The harvest of the earth is nearly ripe."—*1 Testimonies*, 261.

"If one half of the sermonizing were done, and double the amount of personal labor given to souls in their homes and in the congregations, a result would be seen that would be surprising."—*Evangelism*, 430.

"Let the house-to-house work begin. Become acquainted with the people and read to them the precious words of Christ. Lift up Jesus crucified among them . . . This is the time to present the reasons of our faith, with meekness and fear, not a slavish fear, but a cautious fear lest you should speak unadvisedly."—*Letter 18*, 1898.

"Go to the homes of those even who manifest no interest. While mercy's sweet voice invites the sinner, work with every energy of heart and brain, as did Paul, 'who ceased not to warn everyone night and day with tears.'"—*Review*, June 24, 1884.

"In the messages of the first and second angels, the work was done in this manner: Men and women were moved to search the Scriptures, and they called the attention of others to the truths revealed. It was personal labor for individuals and families that gave these messages their wonderful success."—*Evangelism*, 435.

"The Lord desires that the truth shall come close to the people, and this can be accomplished only by personal labor . . . Let God's workers teach the truth in families, drawing close to those for whom they labor. If they thus cooperate with God, He will clothe them with spiritual power. Christ will guide them in their work, entering the houses of the people with them, and giving them words to speak that will sink deep into the hearts of the listeners."—*Review*, December 29, 1904.

"Keep on the track of souls. Show tact and skill when visiting families. Pray with them and for them. Bear the truth to them in great tenderness and love, and returns will surely come . . . We must embrace every opportunity to put forth personal labor. The personal labor must be done, even if there has to be less preaching done."—*Letter 18*, 1893.

"By personal labor reach the people where they are. Become acquainted with them. This work cannot be done by proxy. Money loaned or given cannot accomplish it. Sermons from the pulpit cannot do it."—*Gospel Workers*, 188.