

GREAT CONTROVERSY PROJECT NEWS

HOPE INTO EVERY HOME

September 08, 2011

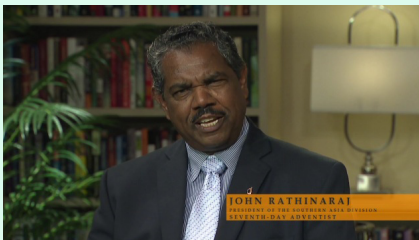
30-second Spot: John Rathinaraj

The book *The Great Controversy* is going to have a great impact in the Southern Asia Division (SUD), winning more souls for God through our members.

I am sure through this book many are going to accept Christ for His kingdom. May the good Lord bless this endeavor, which we intend to do very soon.

John Rathinaraj | SUD President

To watch it, click on the video clip below and type the password: **fliptv**.



Need help understanding the message of *The Great Controversy*?

A study guide is available at:
www.TheGreatHope.org

Interview with Mark Finley



*How are you reading *The Great Controversy*?*

My wife and I are reading *The Great Controversy* every single day. We read four pages a day. We each have our own copy of the book, and I read a page then she reads a page. We read a minimum of four pages a day, but sometimes on Friday night and Sabbath we'll read many more pages. Then we discuss what we have read. It is spiritually renewing for our lives, and we pray that every single Adventist family—every husband and wife, every family with their children—will read *The Great Controversy* out loud. It's one thing to read it silently to yourself, but if you have somebody to whom you can read it aloud, and share it, it will make an even more dramatic difference in your life.

Why would you recommend that other people read it?

The biggest single reason I recommend that other people read it is because *The Great Controversy* was inspired by God, and it's tailor-made for the age in which we are living. It will give you new hope, courage, and confidence; and your spiritual experi-

ence will be strengthened.

What do you think about the project?

If we can see millions of copies of *The Great Controversy* distributed around the world, it will make a powerful difference—not only in Adventist families, but for tens of thousands of people that are won for the kingdom.

Let me give you one story: I was in the Euro-Africa Division and I met the treasurer, Norbert Zens. I hadn't remembered meeting him before, and as we were talking together I asked how he became a Seventh-day Adventist.

He told me that back in the late 1980s his brother, who was a student in Munich, Germany, came to one of the evangelistic meetings I was preaching at the consular house. This brother attended the meetings, accepted Jesus, and was baptized.

The brother began talking about his new faith with his other two brothers. In the course of these discussions he gave his brother *The Great Controversy* for Christmas. His brother read it. And that book, along with the discussions he had with his brother, changed his heart and transformed his life.

I firmly believe that if our people give

The Great Controversy to acquaintances, friends, and other people whom they think might be spiritually interested, God can use *The Great Controversy* as the greatest soul-winning tool we have seen in many years.

Mark Finley | Assistant to the General Conference President

Dedication Ceremony

At this year's Annual Council, October 7 to 12, when all division administrators and union presidents from around the world will be here in the world headquarters, we will have a dedication ceremony for the Great Controversy Project.



During the ceremony, each division representative will be invited to come forward to place on a special altar sample books from all languages in which they are printed.

Please pray for this ceremony.

GCP Coordinators

More Frequently Asked Questions Answered

Ellen G. White wrote many books, why did you send this book of all her books?

This is the book for which Ellen G. White urged the greatest circulation. She wrote:

“*The Great Controversy* should be

very widely circulated. It contains the story of the past, the present, and the future. . . . I am more anxious to see a wide circulation for this book than for any others I have written; for in *The Great Controversy*, the last message of warning to the world is given more distinctly than in any of my other books.” – Letter 281, 1905

Why did you change the title from The Great Controversy to The Great Hope?

Our reason for the change is simple: We wish to make the book as appealing as possible to today's audience, and we have found no evidence that such a change is contrary to the inspiration of the book.

The understanding of the Ellen G. White Estate is that while the content itself is understood to have been inspired, there is no indication that the title of the book is the product of any direct inspiration. In fact, its title was changed with each of the four versions published in Ellen G. White's lifetime. In 1858 it was *Spiritual Gifts—The Great Controversy, Between Christ and His Angels, and Satan and His Angels*. The 1884 edition was titled, *The Spirit of Prophecy—The Great Controversy Between Christ and Satan From the Destruction of Jerusalem to the End of the Controversy*. The 1888 edition was called, *The Great Controversy Between Christ and Satan During the Christian Dispensation*. The 1911 edition reads, *The Great Controversy Between Christ and Satan—The Conflict of the Ages in the Christian Dispensation*.

Given the variability that Ellen G. White accepted, we do not believe

that changing the title is contrary to her inspiration. The title recommended by the General Conference is *The Great Hope: A Revealing Look at the Battle Between Good and Evil—and Who Wins*. We believe this title maintains the spirit of the various early titles while emphasizing the comfort to be found in knowing not only how the battle has waged, but how it ends.

A Thought from *The Great Controversy*

Parents, tender and affectionate as they were, loved their children too wisely to accustom them to self-indulgence. Before them was a life of trial and hardship, perhaps a martyr's death. They were educated from childhood to endure hardness, to submit to control, and yet to think and act for themselves. Very early they were taught to bear responsibilities, to be guarded in speech, and to understand the wisdom of silence. One indiscreet word let fall in the hearing of their enemies might imperil not only the life of the speaker, but the lives of hundreds of his brethren; for as wolves hunting their prey did the enemies of truth pursue those who dared to claim freedom of religious faith. (p. 67)

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<http://greatcontroversyproject.adventist.org>