



GREAT CONTROVERSY PROJECT NEWS

HOPE INTO EVERY HOME

November 10, 2011

The Solution to Pain and Suffering



The Great Controversy is a magnificent outline of the course of history and forecast of the future. It does present some difficulties to a reader

who may be surprised and unprepared to confront certain historical facts, but it is truly a book of hope and comfort.

The Great Controversy Project is, in reality, the “Great Hope Project.” The adaptations we have seen to the various editions will enable it to reach the varied peoples of the world with this hope in a contextually appropriate way.

In Health Ministry we appreciate that *The Great Controversy* speaks plainly about the causes of suffering and pain and also about the solution to these problems. It brings Jesus to the present and makes for a meaningful relationship with Him. We seek in Health Ministry to introduce people to Jesus, and this book will help us in our quest.

Allan Handysides | Director, General Conference Health Ministries

One Million in Texas

Thanks so much for keeping us up to date on this good news in relation to the Great Controversy Project. It has been a great inspiration. There is no doubt that this project comes from God!

My original plan was to distribute 100,000 copies of *The Great Controversy* in Texas. But after the directors’ meeting at the Review and Herald last September, I got very motivated and decided to distribute 1 million copies of the complete edition in my territory! I know it will not be easy, but we will achieve this by the grace of God. I have shared this vision with all my leaders, and they are highly motivated.

I encourage you to continue with this spirit that motivated us all. God bless you!

Esteban Griguol | Director, Texas Conference Publishing Department

Youth Prayer Conference Generates Interest in *The Great Controversy*

The Central California Conference held a Youth Prayer Conference October 21-23, 2011, with *The Great Controversy* as its theme. With around 350 youth in attendance, it was the larg-

est youth prayer conference we have ever had. These youth were on fire for God! They responded very positively to calls to change their lives, surrendering them to God completely.

I spoke with two girls who were sobbing at the close of one of the meetings. They shared that they had been cut to the heart by what was said, and that they wanted to know and share more. Both girls are Master of Business Administration students, and lead a small Bible study group together. They were inspired to pray about reading *The Great Controversy* in their small group.

At the beginning of the last meeting, an announcement was made that the remaining copies of *The Great Controversy* would be available at the end of the meeting on a first-come, first-served basis. That led to youth rushing forward and the books were gone immediately! They were really inspired by *The Great Controversy* theme and are eager to read the book. We included on our decision cards a spot to indicate “I want to accept the challenge to read/distribute *The Great Controversy*.” More than 180 attendees accepted the challenge!

There were 22 decisions for baptism and many more Bible study interests. One girl observed on her deci-

sion card, “I feel myself getting even further away from God than when I was baptized. . . . I hope *The Great Controversy* will help me find what I need.”

Bill Krick | Director, Literature Ministries, Central California Conference

Reading the Mysterious Book



I was a political activist during the dictatorship in the Philippines. I spent two and a half years in prison for my activism. At the time I was 24 years old, and had a 2-year-old daughter. When I got out of prison, I had to work to support my daughter.

I’m fond of reading books. A friend found a book at a bookstore that she wanted to buy, but there was no price on it. The clerk could not find a price, nor was it on their list of books. No one knew how the book had gotten there. They finally settled on a low price for the book, and she bought it. It was *The Great Controversy!*

My friend showed the book to me. Neither of us understood it; we were not Seventh-day Adventists. We read it simultaneously, trading it back and forth on weekends. Being a political activist, the theme of a controversy between good and evil struck a chord with me. The history also appealed to me; the way God’s people struggled to spread the gospel and the Scriptures held my attention. After *The Great Controversy* my friend and I found *The Desire of Ages*, and began going to the Bible.

I began observing the seventh-day Sabbath at home with my daugh-

ter. We had a small house with only two rooms. One was for me and my daughter, and the other I rented out to earn extra income. One day, as I was rereading *The Great Controversy*, my tenant saw me with it and asked how I had gotten it. She said, “It belongs to us.”

“So you’re a Sabbath-keeper? Why do you work on Saturday?” I asked.

“I’m a backslider,” she said.

I asked if she knew of any nearby churches, and she said there was one very close—just across the river. Then I asked if she would take me to that church some Sabbath when she didn’t have work. She agreed. That Friday afternoon she came home and said that she had no work the following day. She asked if I wanted to go to church that Sabbath, and of course I did.

That Sabbath was the first time I went to church. The people were smiling and very friendly. I listened through Sabbath School program and the sermon, and it made sense. After the service they invited me to stay for lunch, but I was too embarrassed and I left.

The following Sabbath I went back. This time I accepted the invitation to stay for lunch—and the afternoon Adventist Youth program, and the evening social! By this time I thought that this church was just too much—taking the whole day. But they were all happy. So I stayed and started getting to know them. In 1996 I became an Adventist, and it was the best thing that ever happened to me!

Zenaida Delica-Willison | Advisor for United Nations Development Programme, Thailand

Sixty Seconds of Hope: Terry Johnson

“He went singing on his way, his countenance lit up with joy and peace. His gaze was fixed upon Christ, and to him death had lost its terrors” (*The Great Controversy*, p. 114).

Click on the image below to hear how this statement gives Terry hope.



As promised, a sample Hope Channel ad is now available on the resources page of the Great Controversy Project at: <http://greatcontroversyproject.adventist.org>.

We are looking for audio versions of *The Great Controversy*. Please send files to Wilmar Hirle at: hirlew@gc.adventist.org.

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Please remember to visit: <http://greatcontroversyproject.adventist.org>