

What to Look for

“By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went” (Hebrews 11:8).

“Not more surely is the place prepared for us in the heavenly mansions than is the special place designated on earth where we are to work for God.”—Christ’s Object Lessons, p. 327.

Suggested Readings: The Ministry of Healing, pp. 363–370. The Adventist Home, pp. 148–156.

Sunday February 22

1. HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS

a. The Lord will direct to homes that are in accordance with His principles of health and well-being. To what type of location will the Lord lead us and why? Matthew 7:24, 25.

Mat 7:24-25

[24] Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

[25] And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

“So far as possible, all buildings intended for human habitation should be placed on high, well-drained ground. This will ensure a dry site and prevent the danger of disease from dampness and miasma.”— The Ministry of Healing, p. 274.

b. Why are damp areas to be avoided? Matthew 7:26, 27.

Mat 7:26-27

[26] And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:

[27] And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

“The emanations from damp, moldy rooms and clothing are poisonous to the system.”—The Health Reformer, February 1, 1874.

“This matter [of good ventilation] is often too lightly regarded. Continuous ill-health, serious diseases, and many deaths result from the dampness and malaria of low-lying, ill-drained situations.”—The Ministry of Healing, p. 274.

“If we would have our homes the abiding place of health and happiness we must place them above the miasma and fog of the lowlands, and give free entrance to heaven’s life-giving agencies.”—Ibid., p. 275.

Monday February 23

2. PHYSICAL NEEDS

a. What special blessing from heaven should always be available?

Ecclesiastes 11:7.

Ecc 11:7

[7] Truly the light *is* sweet, and a pleasant *thing it is* for the eyes to behold the sun:

“In building, many make careful provision for their plants and flowers. The greenhouse or window devoted to their use is warm and sunny; for without warmth, air, and sunshine, plants would not live and flourish. If these conditions are necessary to the life of plants, how much more necessary are they for our own health and that of our families and guests!

“Dispense with heavy curtains, open the windows and the blinds, allow no vines, however beautiful, to shade the windows, and permit no trees to stand so near the house as to shut out the sunshine. The sunlight may fade the drapery and the carpets, and tarnish the picture frames; but it will bring a healthy glow to the cheeks of the children.”— The Ministry of Healing, p. 275.

b. What else is necessary for our homes and families, even though it is becoming harder to find? Song of Solomon 4:15.

Son 4:15

[15] A fountain of gardens, a well of living waters, and streams from Lebanon.

“[The camp] is a good location, half encircled with a swift-running stream of pure, soft water in a grove of cottonwood trees.”— Manuscript Releases, vol. 21, p. 198.

c. In light of the events ahead, what else should we consider about our water supply? Proverbs 5:15.

Pro 5:15

[15] Drink waters out of thine own cistern, and running waters out of thine own well.

“Our great anxiety about the place was the matter of an ample supply of water. . . . The water is soft and pure, and we are greatly rejoiced to know that there is an abundant supply. This well is a treasure more valuable than gold or silver or precious stones.”—The Review and Herald, March 16, 1905.

“Perfect cleanliness, plenty of sunlight, careful attention to sanitation in every detail of the home life, are essential to freedom from disease and to the cheerfulness and vigor of the inmates of the home.”—The Ministry of Healing, p. 276.

Tuesday February 24

3. BUILDING BLOCKS

a. What types of dwelling places are best in damp climates, and why?

“Brick and stone buildings are not the most desirable for a sanitarium, for they are generally cold and damp. . . . For health a wooden building is preferable to one of brick.”—Testimonies, vol. 7, pp. 83, 84.

b. What various considerations should be made in preparing a home?

“In the building of houses it is especially important to secure thorough ventilation and plenty of sunlight. Let there be a current of air and an abundance of light in every room in the house. Sleeping rooms should be so arranged as to have a free circulation of air day and night. No room is fit to be occupied as a sleeping room unless it can be thrown open daily to the air and sunshine. In most countries bedrooms need to be supplied with conveniences for heating, that they may be thoroughly warmed and dried in cold or wet weather.”— The Ministry of Healing, pp. 274, 275.

“Every room in the house should be thoroughly ventilated every day, and in damp weather should be warmed by fires.”—The Health Reformer, February 1, 1874.

c. Name one aspect of bondage that was described by those in Babylon under captivity. Lamentations 5:4. How did Sister White’s home freely

offer a comfortable contrast, even to promote health, for which she was grateful?

[Lam 5:4](#)

[4] We have drunken our water for money; our wood is sold unto us.

“I thought of our large and convenient house at Battle Creek, with its high and airy rooms, and asked myself the question, Would we not make more rapid progress toward health were we at our own home? I thought of the large reservoir of hot water upon our stove— ready for use at any time, and our immense cistern of soft water, and our filter in the cellar, our various bathing pans, and bathroom fitted up with a stove.”—The Review and Herald, February 27, 1866.

Wednesday February 25

4. SWEET SIMPLICITY

a. Why can the humble Christian be thankful, even if starting out in a small dwelling? Psalm 49:16–18; Proverbs 15:25.

[Psa 49:16-18](#)

[16] Be not thou afraid when one is made rich, when the glory of his house is increased;

[17] For when he dieth he shall carry nothing away: his glory shall not descend after him.

[18] Though while he lived he blessed his soul: and *men* will praise thee, when thou doest well to thyself.

[Pro 15:25](#)

[25] The LORD will destroy the house of the proud: but he will establish the border of the widow.

“Parents can secure small homes in the country, with land for cultivation where they can have orchards and where they can raise vegetables and small fruits to take the place of flesh meat, which is so corrupting to the life blood coursing through the veins. On such places the children will not be surrounded with the corrupting influences of city life. God will help His people to find such homes outside the cities.”—Medical Ministry, p. 310.

“All through the mountains there were little valleys where families might locate and have a few acres of land for garden or orchard.” — Manuscript Releases, vol. 1, p. 334.

b. What principles do we need to understand in all aspects of setting up our homes? Proverbs 15:16, 17; 24:3; 1 Timothy 6:8.

Pro 15:16-17

[16] Better *is* little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and trouble therewith.

[17] Better *is* a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith.

Pro 24:3

[3] Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established:

1Ti 6:8

[8] And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.

“Practice economy in your homes. By many, idols are cherished and worshiped. Put away your idols. Give up your selfish pleasures. Do not, I entreat you, absorb means in embellishing your houses, for t is God's money, and it will be required of you again.”—Testimonies, vol. 6, p. 450.

“Puritan plainness and simplicity should mark the dwellings and apparel of all who believe the solemn truths for this time. All means needlessly expended in dress or in the adorning of our houses is a waste of our Lord's money. It is defrauding the cause of God for the gratification of pride.”—Ibid., vol. 5, p. 189.

“Furnish your home with things plain and simple, things that will bear handling, that can be easily kept clean, and that can be replaced without great expense. By exercising taste, you can make a very simple home attractive and inviting, if love and contentment are there.”—The Ministry of Healing, p. 370.

“You are under obligation to God always to be patterns of propriety in your home. . . . Remember that in heaven there is no disorder, and that your home should be a heaven here below. Remember that in doing faithfully from day to day the little things to be done in the home, you are a laborer together with God, perfecting a Christian character.”—Child Guidance, p. 110.

Thursday February 26

5. THE EXTRAS

a. What else should we think of in viewing potential homes? Colossians 4:15.

Col 4:15

[15] Salute the brethren which are in Laodicea, and Nymphas, and the church which is in his house.

“If we had a suitable place for meeting we could invite the neighbors to come in. But our long, narrow dining room crowded as closely as if packed is not a very suitable place for worship. I am assigned a little space in the corner of the room, and am packed up close to the wall. Nevertheless the Lord Jesus is in the assembly.”—Testimonies to Ministers, p. 240.

b. Our planning should also include this vital part of our Christian experience. Romans 12:13.

Rom 12:13

[13] Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

“As the decree issued by the various rulers of Christendom against commandment keepers shall withdraw the protection of government and abandon them to those who desire their destruction, the people of God will flee from the cities and villages and associate together in companies, dwelling in the most desolate and solitary places.”—The Great Controversy, p. 626.

“If you have God’s presence and possess earnest, loving hearts, a humble home made bright with air and sunlight, and cheerful with the welcome of unselfish hospitality, will be to your family and to the weary traveler, a heaven below.”—Testimonies, vol. 2, p. 527.