

Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony Manifesto

(The following manifesto was drawn up at the commencement of the S. G.A.T. and first published in 1919. It has not been altered in any way during subsequent years).

The conveners of the Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony Meetings desire to make a clear statement of their position in relation to PROPHETIC TRUTH, in the spirit of love and humility, recognising that we only 'know in part.'

We adhere to the principle of receiving the Word of God, *in its literal sense*, except where obviously figurative, and in so receiving *Prophetic Truth*, emphasise the fact that this enhances, and does not diminish, experimental enjoyment of the Doctrine of Grace, also so learned.

We, therefore, affectionately lay before you the points on which our testimony is, and will be, united, and invite our readers prayerfully to consider these things, in subjection to the Word of God, and in dependence upon God the Holy Spirit.

1. We receive the doctrine of the FREE AND SOVEREIGN GRACE OF GOD, viz:

- (a) The Co-Eternity and Co-Equality of the Three Persons in the One Godhead.
- (b) The Full Verbal Inspiration of the Scriptures.
- (c) The Incarnation, Sinlessness, Atonement, Resurrection and Ascension of God the Son.
- (d) The Substitutional Obedience and Death of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- (e) The Election, Redemption, Regeneration, Justification, Imputation of Christ's Righteousness to, Sanctification, and Final Preservation of all the Saints.
- (f) The Total Depravity of all Mankind, and Entire Perversity from God of the Natural Will.
- (g) The Eternal Life of the Righteous, and Eternal Punishment of the Wicked.

2. The NEAR APPROACH of the RETURN of the LORD is our confident HOPE.

3. His RETURN we expect as PRE-MILLENNIAL, and following:

- (a) The Apostasy of Israel and Christendom.
- (b) The Ten Kingdom Confederacy.
- (c) The Revival of Babylon and Babylonianism.
- (d) The Reign of Antichrist.
- (e) The Great Tribulation.

4. The PURPOSES of the Lord's Coming we believe to include:

- (a) The Resurrection of all departed Saints, and the Glorification with them of the living Saints.
- (b) The Destruction of the Antichrist - the Man of Sin - the Lawless One.
- (c) The Conversion and Restoration of Israel.
- (d) The Gathering Out of His Kingdom of 'All things that offend.'
- (e) The Reign over the Earth, and Manifestation of the Kingdom in Righteousness - Satan being bound and the Earth's groan hushed.
- (f) The Judgment of the Great White Throne, at the End of the Millennial Kingdom.
- (g) The Creation of the New Heavens and New Earth after the Millennium.

5. The SIGNS which we Discern of His Near Approach are:

- (a) The rapidly increasing Apostasy of Christendom, with Lawlessness.
- (b) Worldwide Testimony of the Gospel, in order to complete the taking out from the Gentiles a People for His Name (Acts 15:14).
- (c) The Promotion of Federations, Unions, Leagues, and Alliances, both Ecclesiastical, Social, Commercial, Industrial, National, and International APART FROM God, His Christ and His Truth.
- (d) The Reorganisation of the Roman Empire, leading to the Ten Kingdoms.

(c) The Reopening of the East, especially of Palestine, Mesopotamia, and Egypt, with the Restoration of the Jews to Palestine as their 'National Home,' in their continued unbelief.

(f) The Fall of Absolute Monarchies, and Spread of Constitutional Government. The Rise of Democracy, with Social and Industrial Unrest.

6. SPIRITUAL APPREHENSION of these things, by the teaching of the Holy Spirit, we deem to be ESSENTIAL to a COMPLETE TESTIMONY OF TRUTH, which will lead to practical separation from worldly principles, policies, and pleasures, and to more loyal devotion to the Lord's service.