

WEEKLY SERIES

The Great Controversy

Chapter XIV. - Joseph and his Brethren Episode 3

Here is an example to all generations who should live upon the earth. Although they may be exposed to temptations, yet they should ever realise that there is a defence at hand, and it will be their own fault if they are not preserved. God will be a present help, and his Spirit a shield. Although surrounded with the severest temptations, there is a source of strength to which they can apply and resist them. How fierce was the assault upon Joseph's morals. It came from one of influence, the most likely to lead astray. Yet how promptly and firmly was it resisted. He suffered for his virtue and integrity; for she who would lead him astray, revenged herself upon the virtue she could not subvert, and by her influence caused him to be cast into prison, by charging him with a foul wrong. Here Joseph suffered because he would not yield his integrity. He had placed his reation and interest in the hands of God. And although he was suffered to be afflicted for a time, to prepare him to fill an important position, yet God safely guarded that reation that was blackened by a wicked accuser, and afterward, in his own good time, caused it to shine. God made even the prison the way to his elevation. Virtue will in time bring its own reward. The shield which covered Joseph's heart, was the fear of God, which caused him to be faithful and just to his master, and true to God. He despised that ingratitude which would lead him to abuse his master's confidence, although his master might never learn the fact. The grace of God he called to his aid, and then fought with the tempter. He nobly says, "How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?" He came off conqueror.

Amid the snares to which all are exposed, they need strong and trustworthy defences on which to rely. Many, in this corrupt age, have so small a supply of the grace of God, that in many instances their defence is broken down by the first assault, and fierce temptations take them captives. The shield of grace can preserve all unconquered by the temptations of the enemy, though surrounded with the most corrupting influences. By firm principle and unwavering trust in God, their virtue and nobleness of character can shine; and, although surrounded with evil, no taint need be left upon their virtue and integrity. And if, like Joseph, they suffer calumny and false accusations, Providence will overrule all the enemy's devices for good, and God will, in his own time, exalt as much higher, as for awhile they were debased by wicked revenge.

The part which Joseph acted in connection with the scenes of the gloomy prison, was that which raised him finally to prosperity and honour. God designed that he should obtain an experience by temptations, adversity, and hardships, to prepare him to fill an exalted position.

While he was confined in prison, Pharaoh became offended with two of his officers, the chief baker and the chief butler, and they were in the prison where Joseph was bound. "And the captain of the guard charged Joseph with them, and he served them; and they continued a season in ward." Joseph made his life useful even while in prison. His exemplary conduct, humble deportment, and faithfulness, obtained for him the confidence of all in the prison, and those who were connected with it. He did not spend his time in mourning over the injustice of his accusers, which had deprived him of his liberty.

One morning, as Joseph brought food to the king's officers, he observed that they were looking very sad. He kindly inquired, "Wherefore look ye so sadly today? And they said unto him, We have dreamed a dream, and there is no interpreter of it. And Joseph said unto them, Do not interpretations belong to God? Tell me them, I pray you." Then the butler related to Joseph his dream, which he interpreted, that the butler would be restored to the king's favour, and deliver Pharaoh's cup into his hand as he had formerly done. The butler was satisfied with the interpretation, and his mind was at once relieved.

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ADVENTIST BOOK CENTRE

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 10am-2pm **Friday** 9am-12:30pm **Wednesday** 10am-7pm

Closed Weekends & Public Holidays | **Email:** abc.nz@adventist.org.nz | **Phone:** 0800 50 22 22

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East Auckland City
Email Distribution: 01st April 2026
Printed: 04th April 2026

"Reflecting God's Love, Advancing God's Kingdom"

Welcome

Welcome to the East Auckland City Seventh-day Adventist Church.
We pray that your time with us will be blessed as we worship together.

Tonight Prayer Meeting

Wednesday 01st April 2026 7:00pm

Speaker: Sister Rutendo Madzima

Topic: Chapter 8: Prevailing Prayer

Zoom ID: 836 3376 4709 ~ **Password:** eacsd

Next Week Prayer Meeting

Speaker: TBC

Sabbath

Divine Worship – 11:00am

Divine Service Speaker: Elder Fitu Ah-Young

Title: The Mystery of the Growing Seed | Mark 4:26–29

BIBLE VERSE OF THE WEEK

"As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love" (John 15:9, NKJV)

This Week

SUNSET	OFFERING	CLEANING
Start Time: 7:12pm Date: 03 rd April 2026	Sabbath School Offering GC for World Mission	Next Week Duty 1: Apr 05 ^h to Apr 10 th Sister Antoinette Bezuidenhout
End Time: 7:10pm Date: 04 th April 2026	Divine Service Offering Local Church	Duty 2: Apr 05 ^h to Apr 10 th Sister Antoinette Bezuidenhout

VISITORS

Welcome to our visitors and newcomers. Please let our greeters know that you are visiting today. We would like to officially welcome you, and we are so happy to have join us.

STAFF DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

S.T.A.F.F. Discipleship Training with Pr. Tehuiarii Leverd Tuesday 7pm on Zoom only. There will be no STAFF Training for Tuesday the 7th of April.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON PAYMENTS

If you have been blessed to receive a lesson and have not yet paid into our Sabbath School Pamphlet Fund, please make payments to this fund through eGiving, envelope or bank deposit. Reference Sabbath School Pamphlet fund for envelope or bank deposit. Or See Sister Nancy or Elder Ross D or Brother Madu

HOPE CHANNEL STUDY CENTRE LEADER

Part-time position | Applications close: 6th of April, 2026 | eMail application, including your CV and a brief statement outlining your interest in the role and your commitment to the mission of Hope Media, to ole@hopechannel.nz

BAPTISMAL SABBATH SCHOOL CLASS

Baptismal Sabbath School Class each Sabbath through to Sabbath, 12th of September for 2026 led by Pastor, Elder Fitu, Elder Jay and Elder John. We request your prayers and support as we work with new believers, young people and any church members preparing for baptism.

CLEANING ROSTER FOR 2nd QUARTER 2026

Cleaning the church is a ministry in itself. Please consider giving of your time to help keep our Lord's house clean. **These are the dates available for Q2. Apr (12-17), May (15-22), May (24-29), May (31-Jun5), Jun (7-12)** Please contact me on 0211449366. Or leave a message on Messenger

NOTICE FOR ADVENTURERS & PATHFINDERS

Next classes will be Sabbath 11th of April at 2:30pm-4:30pm and 12th of April at 9am-10:30am

EACSDA CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING

New date for EA Church Business Meeting on Sunday, 26th of April in person and on Zoom at 3.30pm to 5.30pm. All church members and church leadership supported by their church departments and teams are required to attend.

SNZ JUNIOR CAMP

DIVE IN | Junior Camp 2026 | April 7th -12th | Mt. Hutt Retreat | 10-12 year old. Registration will close at midnight on March 24th | <https://snz.bluevineyardevents.com/junior-camp-2026/>

TEEN CAMP

TEEN CAMP Start: April 7th End: April 10th | Tui Ridge Park, 260 Anderson Road, Rotorua, Bay of Plenty 3072
<https://www.tuiridgepark.co.nz/autumn-teen-camp/>

KIDS CAMP

Start: April 13th End: April 17th | Tui Ridge Park, 260 Anderson Road, Rotorua, Bay of Plenty 3072 |
<https://www.tuiridgepark.co.nz/autumn-kids-camp/>

PATHFINDERS OVERNIGHT CAMP

EA Pathfinders will join with the Waitakere Pathfinders to have an overnight camp on the 16th of April to the 19th of April. Meeting at: 43 Swanson Road at 10am. Location: is at 1159D State Highway 25, Te Kouma 3582. Admission: \$60 per person. RSVP to 0212369302 or waitakerpathfinders@gmail.com

Church Bank Account: 38-9010-0456352-00 **Phone Payment** 09 277 8529

e-giving: [https://egiving.org.nz/EastAuckland\(NthNZ\)](https://egiving.org.nz/EastAuckland(NthNZ))

Church Pastor: Pastor Tehui Leverd TehuiariiLeverd@adventist.org.nz 021 569 598

Head Elder: Fitu Ah-Young fahyoung@xtra.co.nz 021 818 214

If you require a home visit or phone visit please contact: Luke & Mili Muamua 0223095826 or 0226223634

Bulletin Editor: Leanne Manaro kaurilover@gmail.com 021 144 9366

UPCOMING CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. STAFF Training | There will be no STAFF Training Tuesday the 7th of April
2. Easter Weekend 3rd of April to 6th of April
3. Daylight Saving Ends April 5th | Wind your clocks back 1 hour at 2:30am
4. Teen Camp | April 7th to April 10th | Tui Ridge Park
5. SNZ Junior Camp | April 7th to April 12th | Mt Hutt Retreat
6. Church Combined Lunch | 11th April
7. Kids Camp | April 13th to April 17th | Tui Ridge Park
8. Pathfinder Overnight Camp | Friday April 16th to Sunday April 19th
9. EA Church Business Meeting | Sunday, 26th of April | 3.30pm – 5.30pm | In person and on Zoom
10. Women's Retreat | May 8th & May 9th | Silverstream Retreat, 3 Reynolds Bach Dr, Lower Hutt

Prayer Requests

“And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.” - Philippians 4:19 NKJV

- 🙏 We praise God for beautiful, reassuring Bible promises reminding us that the God we serve is great, He is Able, He is the Source. Even with fuel running out of supply, we can have peace for our Heavenly Father is the greatest supplier.
- 🙏 Praise God for answers to prayers this week, victory over besetting sins. For Christ atoning blood that has power to cleanse us from all our sins and is able to transform us from within out.
- 🙏 Let's uplift in prayer our precious East Auckland and Ponsonby youths heading to NZYC this Easter weekend. Pray for a revival true godliness among the youth people, a genuine zeal for the Lord and His work and transformation of character each youth is praying towards.
- 🙏 Remember in prayers our Leverd family as they spend time with family in Tahiti and as they begin their Revival campaign. We pray for a special outpouring of God's Holy Spirit upon the family, the people and the messages prepared to penetrate hearts and win them back to the fold.
- 🙏 Uplift in prayer our Church leadership team for Gods Holy Spirits anointing and unity. Pray for our elders and their families. All department leaders and plans for God to bless and equip through His provisions.
- 🙏 Pray for all church families, our mamas and papas. Our parents, single parents, children, teenagers and youths to have a growing relationship with Jesus and have Him in the homes, schools and day to day life.
- 🙏 Submit our Pastor Kris and sister Daphne into God's capable hands. For Gods Holy Spirit to heal and help in their journey of recovering. For His provision and we as a church to support in ways we can, especially with our prayers.
- 🙏 Pray for aunty Moira in hospital bed, for the Holy Spirits presence and healing as He wills. Pray for aunty's children and that her faith be a blessing for each of them.
- 🙏 As a church to watch and pray for our souls and souls of those God has placed in our keeping. That we become faithful stewards and faithful disciples for such a time as this.
- 🙏 Open your heart to God in deep repentance, only when you praise Him aright will you admit your need of God, of true repentance. Take time to talk with Him, be honest with God in your prayer closet. Lay all bitterness, pride, self-seeking ways, gluttony etc. on the altar of sacrifice and do not leave your closet until you receive from above.
- 🙏 Let's continue to watch and pray, focus and make time for our daily personal devotion time.

They will be included in our prayer list for the next 30 days.

If you have a prayer request please contact Sister Penny at pnakuta679@gmail.com