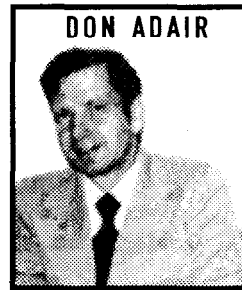


AUTHOR SELLS SHOP IN CALIFORNIA AND MOVES TO SO. CAR. IN 1972

CHAPTER 26

AUTHOR IS ELECTED AS THE BIBLE TEACHER AT THE SALEM REST HOME

After I learned when the next session was to be held in Salem, I decided to go full time in the Lord's work; and sold my electric motor shop and moved eastward to Salem. And Sis. Mueller also quit her job in Los Angeles, and came to the session to stay with Bro. Mueller ^(253:2), who was still printing SRod literature along with Bro. Edwin ^(251:3). At the Session I was elected as Bible teacher, while Bro. Sump Smith was again elected as Vice-President. And now I must remind you of my biographical narration. It is **1972**, I am **forty** years old, and I am living and working at the Salem Rest Home, as the Bible teacher. "But wait," you could be thinking: "You said earlier in this book ^(9:2) that after moving to So. Carolina, you would reveal the reason for the Waco burn out." Yes, that's true, but I did not say how soon after I moved there. There is other information and experiences you must know before its time to tell you. So read on and learn what happened that caused a split in the newly founded Association.



SALEM BRETHREN EXPOSED AS BELIEVERS IN SISTER HOUTEFF'S DOCTRINE

Early in **1973** when I was **forty-one** years old, we saw a split developing, because Bro. Sump Smith kept asking the Council to spend more money on the Rest Home and less on the printing. One day he said we did not need to print any more SRod literature, and he was closing down the print shop, which surprised the California brethren in Salem! Especially when a Davidian told Sis. Mueller that he could do that because the Smith family owned the land. So she went to the court house to investigate, and she learned that this property belonged to old and new Mt. Carmel; but when it was liquidated by Sis. Houteff ^(236:4), she sold the Salem Rest Home to the Smith family. But they did not transfer it to *The General Association Of Davidian Seventh-day Adventists*, as Bro. Smith agreed to do.

And when this information was given to the other California Davidians, we realized that though our move from California to the "east" in **1970** was correct, it was not to be at the Salem Rest Home for this reason: Bro. Houteff, we remembered, had told Bro. Nations that "one day Mt. Carmel would be at

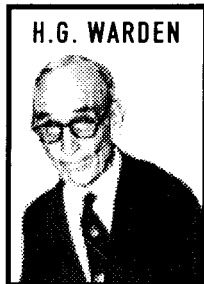
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Salem" (251:4), but he did not say at the Rest Home! Then we realized that the Mt. Carmel which Bro. Houteff spoke of must be in the Salem area, not at the Rest Home.

When we confronted Bro. Smith about this matter, he admitted that they still believed Sis. Houteff's teachings to go to the Protestants (223:2); and said that if Sis. Houteff re-accepted the SRod message, they would give the Salem Rest Home to her and elect her as the Vice-President! Later, someone called Bro. Reichmann about our problem, and he came from Vista, California to Salem with Bro. Warden and Bro. Howard (252:1). After they talked to me and others and Bro. Smith, then Bro. Reichmann asked him to resign, which he did after Bro. Warden was elected as the new Vice-President in June of 1973. Then all three of them returned to California; after which Bro. Warden came back in his car with his wife to live at Salem.

AUTHOR IS CAST OUT OF THE SALEM REST HOME

The next day, when Bro. Sump Smith told me to leave the Rest Home in Salem, I moved to its "School of the Prophets" building in Salem (Cheohee Valley). Some said he blamed me for leading others to oppose his closing the print shop. When the other council members saw that Bro. Smith was



replaced they resigned, and were replaced by California brethren living near or at the Rest Home, one of which was Sis. Mueller. These new council members with **Bro. Warden**, the new Vice-President (seven members), now having control of the Association's assets, bought the "School of the Prophets" building with the help of Bro. Glenn Green (177:0), and moved God's Headquarters there. And they took with them the So. Carolina charter—*The General Association Of Davidian Seventh-day Adventists*.

Later, they acquired another charter—*Mt. Carmel Center*. Thus, the Headquarters of God's Association, which was first moved to Salem from California in 1970, now continued at its other Salem location from 1973 to this very day—1997.

Soon after we moved there I received a letter with a check from the Texas courts, which surprised me, because I didn't know they were still in the process of liquidation—returning the tithe that Davidians had paid to old and new Mt. Carmel. I remembered that Sis. Houteff had disfellowshipped me (205:2), and I didn't expect anything. I gave the check to our Salem treasurer. But another surprise was developing, which we were not expecting—a secret rebellion of some California brethren.

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SECRET PLANS TO MOVE GOD'S HEADQUARTERS BACK TO CALIFORNIA

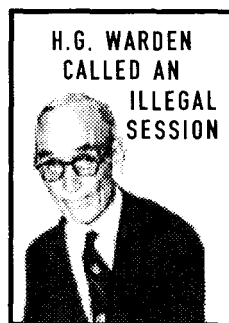
According to my biographical narration, it is **1973**, I am **forty-one** years old, and living at the new Salem Headquarters as Bible teacher, when the Treasurer notified the Council that some California Davidians stopped paying tithe. This caused them to become suspicious of their intentions, especially after Bro. Reichmann, their leader there, wrote them a letter demanding that they give all California Davidians the right to vote.

At the same time Bro. Warden ^(262.2) and the Salem Council voted for the next session to be held in **1974**; after which he told them that he was going to California with his wife to bring back his belongings to the Salem Headquarters. But we found out that he was not coming back, because he called for an illegal session (the basis of their **secret scheme**) to be held in **1973**; and we knew the reason why was because there were more brethren in California to vote than in Salem. Now we realized that Bro. Reichmann, Bro. Warden, Bro. Howard and my ex-wife Wanda and others, had conceived a **secret scheme** to move the Headquarters back into their hands in California; and we suspected that they were financing it by the tithes they no longer payed to Salem. Obviously they confidently expected their plans to work, because they were among the leaders who led out in bringing God's Headquarters to Salem in **1970** ^(249.4)!

What they did secretly was a clear violation of the Davidian laws, which Bro. Houteff put in *The Leviticus* tract to govern the Davidian Association. They tried to usurp the "**full...power**" ^(LDSDA 9:2) of the Executive Council in Salem, who only can appoint the "**time and place**" for the next Session:

"This Association shall hold regular sessions at such time and place as the **Executive Council** shall designate {not the time and place that Bro. Warden the Vice-President should say} by a notice in *The Symbolic Code*, the official organ of the organization, in two consecutive issues before the date of the opening of the session."—*Leviticus of DSDA*, pg. 7:3 --by VTH (boldings, braces added).

This violation was the foundation of their scheme—an illegal maneuver of the Vice-President, Bro. Warden, to call an unlawful session in **1973** in California, contrary to his own vote in a council meeting for the next session ^(263.2) to be held at Salem in **1974**!



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This reversal of their belief was exposed in the SRod when Elijah (V.T. Houteff) wrote about such Davidians who:

"...admit one great truth one day {Headquarters in So. Carolina—the **east**} and forgetting it the next day {Headquarters back in California—the **west**}."—1 *Timely Greetings*, No. 7, pg. 9:0--by VTH (boldings, braces added by author).

The Salem Council, of course, learned about Bro. Warden's illegal call for a session to be held in 1973 from one of the faithful members living in California. Obviously he called it because those who were part of their **secret scheme** knew that more members lived there to vote for them. The Salem Council knew something had to be done to expose their **secret scheme**; but how? They finally decided it could be done by sending three persons to visit the California Davidians: (1) A council member—Sis. Marilyn Mueller; (2) the printer—Bro. Craig Mueller; (3) and the Bible teacher—Bro. Don Adair.

We arrived in Riverside, California on Friday and went to the Davidian meeting the next day on Sabbath morning. This surprised Sis. Wanda and her third husband (Bro. Howard), and other leaders there. They probably guessed the purpose of our visit, but could not stop us (lest their **secret scheme** be exposed), because everyone was glad to see us (not guessing the reason for our surprise visit), and asked us to come to the front and speak. Sis. Mueller spoke briefly in behalf of the Council, Bro. Mueller spoke about the publishing of the SRod literature, and I was asked to give a Bible study. The study I gave was to show that God's Headquarters was not to be in the west (California), but in the east (So. Carolina). This is what I told them:

THE AUTHOR'S STUDY OF GOD'S HEADQUARTERS IN THE "MIDST" OF CARMEL

Most of the study which I told them has already been explained concerning the spiritual pastures of Carmel, Bashan, and Gilead (230:2). So I only need to add here the conclusion of the final thoughts I gave them from Micah:

"Feed thy people with thy rod, the flock of thine heritage, which dwell **solitarily** in the **wood**, in the **midst** of **Carmel**: Let them feed in Bashan and Gilead, as in the days of old."—Micah 7:14 (boldings added by author).

"Mt. Carmel Training Center was established in 1935, and is located six miles northwest of Waco, Texas {outside city limits}. Its 375 acres ...is...**solitarily** in the **woods**."—*Mt. Carmel Training Center*, pg. 5:1--by VTH (boldings added by author).

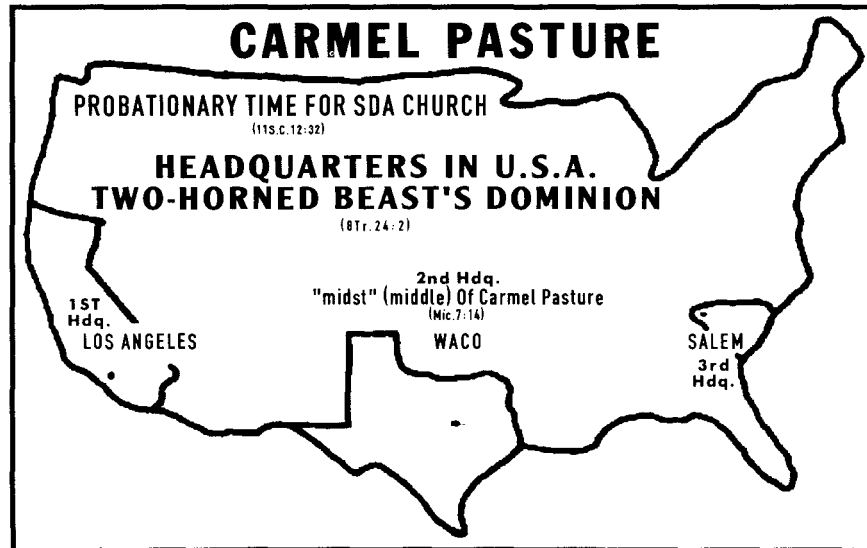
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"**Carmel**, Bashan, and Gilead are used as symbols of good spiritual pasture."—1 *SRod*, pg. 243:2--by VTH (bolds added).

"...Though **Carmel** has now plenty of pasture (present truth), when **probation closes** it shall be deserted ('**wither**')..."—11 *Symbolic Code*, No. 12, pg. 32:0--by VTH (boldings added).

I explained that "solitarily in the woods" is the literal Headquarters at old Mt. Carmel Center (19:1); but "Carmel" is a spiritual pasture of probationary time (265:2) for the SDA church (229:6). As for the word "**midst**" (264:6), I compared it to Christ being killed "in the **midst** of the week" (28:3), to show "**midst**" means **middle**. And, I said, when Bro. Houteff first started in California in 1929, three things began: (1) **SRod** message; (2) spiritual **Carmel** pasture; (3) first literal **Headquarters**.

Then in 1935 the Lord directed Bro. Houteff to move from California (247:3) to Waco, Texas (248:1), and set up His second Headquarters "solitarily in the woods" (264:6). He named it Mt. Carmel Center after the spiritual Carmel pasture (265:1). It was set up in the "**midst**" (264:6) or **middle** of the spiritual Carmel pasture; for there can be no middle without three parts: (1) Beginning in California; (2) "**midst**" (middle) in Texas, (3) ending in S. Carolina. These facts proved there had to be a third Headquarters in the east (So. Car.) after Sis. Houteff liquidated new Mt. Carmel Center in Texas (236:4); because the spiritual Carmel pasture of probationary time (233:1) for God's SDA church to "feed" (229:5) on the *SRod* message had not yet closed!



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HIS SON ASKED HIM, "WHOSE SIDE IS BRO. HOWARD ON?"

It was during my study that Bro. Howard, Sis. Wanda's husband, stood up and contested nearly every point of truth I was teaching. But most of the Davidians there didn't know about their **secret scheme** ^(263:2), and they could not understand the reasons for his actions; because they thought he and his wife were loyal to the Salem Association, and were as glad to see us there as they were. Finally, one little boy sitting behind his father leaned forward and whispered in his ear, after which the father stood up and asked for my permission to speak. He said that his son had asked him this question: "Whose side is Bro. Howard on?" This question, of course, was startling to everyone, and all eyes turned toward him with open ears to hear his explanation for such unusual behavior. But before he could say anything, Sis. Wanda pulled her husband down in his seat and he sat there in silence during the rest of the study; obviously because his arguments and odd behaviour would expose their true feelings toward the Salem Council, as well as their **secret scheme** to move the Salem Headquarters back to California into their hands. And I was free to continue the Bible study without any further interruptions. Afterwards I told them that every Davidian knows that there has to be another Headquarters after Sis. Houteff liquidated new Mt. Carmel ^(236:4); but it must be in Salem, So. Carolina, not in California or in Texas. And then I asked these three questions and answered them.

THREE QUESTIONS WITH THREE ANSWERS

(1) Now do you see why Bro. Houteff was selling off the excess property of old Mt. Carmel, and later (after his death) the "whole" property ^(177:2) was to be sold? Because there must be a third Headquarters at another location in the east.

(2) Now do you see why Bro. Houteff told Bro. Nations ^(250:2, 261:3) that one day Mt. Carmel would be at Salem? Because that place would be the location of the third Headquarters for the "storehouse" of present truth <sup>Mal. 3:10
(2TG30:18:2)</sup>.

(3) Now do you see why the second Headquarters at old Mt. Carmel was moved "eastward" from Waco, Texas to the third Headquarters at Salem, So. Car.? Because Bro. Houteff moved the first Headquarters "eastward" ^(248:1) from California to Waco.

In conclusion I said these facts prove the first Headquarters in California began the spiritual Carmel pasture; the second Headquarters in Texas was in the "midst" of this Carmel pasture; and the third Headquarters in Salem, So. Car. ends the spiritual Carmel pasture of probation for the SDA church.

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This study was well received by the Davidians who were not a part of the **secret scheme** (263.2). Then they asked me to give a study next Sabbath on Ezekiel's River, which I did; and it was also well received. That study, already explained (245.1), is not repeated here. I also explained the following statement:

MOSES LIVED 120 YEARS—1850-1890; 1890-1930; 1930-1970

"...the birth of Moses, the hope of ancient Israel, in 2433 A.M., coincides in **1850** A.D. with the birth of the First Testimony, the hope of modern Israel—addressed to the 144,000, the Israel of today {from the SDA church--42.3}.

"And Moses's attempt and failure {40 years later} to deliver Israel in 2473 A.M. coincides with the attempt and failure of the Seventh-day Adventist Religious Liberty Association, and their rejection of the message of Righteousness by Faith,—causing the Denomination in **1890** A.D., also to enter into a 40-year wilderness wanderment, so to speak.

"Finally, Moses' arrival in Egypt {40 years later} and his success in freeing the Hebrew host and restoring order and religious liberty in 2513 A.M., coincides with the arrival of *The Shepherd's Rod* in **1930** A.D., and with its endeavor to effect revival and reformation and to free Israel of today."—1 *Shepherd's Rod Tract*, pgs. 70, 71--by VTH (boldings, braces added).

But Moses lived another 40 years during the wilderness wandering, and died when he was 120 (Deut. 34:7). So we must add 40 years to **1930** when the SRod came, which ended in **1970** when God's Headquarters was moved to Salem, So. Carolina. This concluding fact led the California Davidians to accept the reason for God's third Headquarters being moved "eastward" (266.4).

Then on Sunday we had another meeting and Sis. Mueller showed them the council minutes where Bro. Warden had voted with the other council members to call the next Session in So. Carolina in **1974**, not in California at that present time—**1973**. She also showed them that it is illegal for a Vice-President to call a session as Bro. Warden did; and that only the Executive Council (263.4) has power to call a session. These facts, and my Bible studies, opened their eyes to the **secret scheme**, which strengthened their allegiance to the Headquarters at Salem.

AUTHOR STOPS TO VISIT THE OLD MT. CARMEL CENTER

Then we decided to return home by another route to Waco, Texas, because I wanted them to visit old Mt. Carmel Center. We saw that its property was owned by a business, which named

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it the *Vanguard School*. The one in charge let me take them around to see what it looked like on the inside, and to explain to them the purpose of the rooms. Afterwards we went over to the old Rest Home, and I was surprised to find that Bro. George Saether (19:2) was living there, who was quite elderly at that time. He said that he still remembered me, and we had a nice talk together. He also answered many questions for Sis. Marilyn and Bro. Craig; after which we left and returned home to the Salem Headquarters.

Later, we learned that when the ex-leaders in California saw that their secret scheme was exposed, they took what few sympathizers they had, and split off from the Salem Headquarters, and started another association in Yucaipa, California, with Sis. Wanda (252:1) as their leader, who was ordained by Bro. Warden as a minister before he died. They did this even though the SRod message plainly stated in 1935 that "beautiful southern California was no longer to remain the center of His work" (248:1).

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ELECTS SISTER THARA SMITH AS NEW VICE-PRESIDENT

Since Bro. Warden was a part of their **secret scheme**, he refused to return to Salem and continue to hold his position as Vice-President. For this reason the Executive Council asked Sis. C.T. Smith to accept the office of the Vice-President in this time of crises; which she did in Oct. 1973, even though she was elderly, yet still active.

Now I must remind you about my biographical narration. It is 1973, I am **forty-one** years old, still working at the Salem Headquarters as their Bible teacher. One day the Vice-President of the Executive Council asked me to write something for the Davidians to expose the errors of false prophets (190:0); and I wrote the *USURPER* articles. I also wrote other articles: (1) *Crossing The Red Sea*, (2) *The Three Days And Three Nights*, (3) *God's Headquarters—Why Salem?*, (4) *Ezekiel's River*, (5) *Feast Laws, Today?*, (6) *Carmel--A Spiritual Pasture*, (7) *Ten Kingdoms*, (8) *Interesting Facts*, and (9) *Study Outlines*. They also asked me to write an article to identify the visible king David in the kingdom, because Ben L. Roden had himself crowned as king David (197:2). And since I had to meet those Davidians who accepted his false coronation, it was necessary for me to prove to them that God had already "appointed" Bro. Houteff as the king David, which is briefly noted in the following chapter: