

Some Highlights of the Life of **Ellet Joseph Waggoner** (1855-1916) (www.APLib.org)

See "Ellet Joseph Waggoner, Prior to 1888," *Lest We Forget*, Vol. 8, No. 2, pp. 1-3, 6, 7 & "The Rise & Decline of Ellet Joseph Waggoner," No. 3, pp. 1-3, 6, 7

Date	Age	Event
1855/01/12	0	Born
1874-1878	19-23	Studied at Battle Creek College, University of Michigan Medical School at Ann Arbor, and Long Island College Hospital of Brooklyn, New York ¹
1879/03/30	24	Married Jessie F. Moser in Sigourney, Iowa ² (would have two daughters, Bessie, and Pearl)
1880	25	Moved to California; work at St. Helena Rural Health Retreat
1882	27	Had "the turning point in my life" at Healdsburg camp meeting

Suddenly a light shone about me, and the tent seemed illumined, as though the sun were shining; I saw Christ crucified for me, and to me was revealed for the first time in my life the fact that God loved me, and that Christ gave Himself for me personally. It was all for me. If I could describe my feelings, they would not be understood by those who have not had a similar experience, and to such no explanation is necessary. {1900 EJW, EVCO 5.1}

1883	28	Assistant Editor <i>Signs of the Times</i>
1884	29	Met A. T. Jones
1886	31	Wrote 33 articles in the <i>Signs of the Times</i> on Righteousness by Faith; GC officers voted against publishing contrary views; Butler distributed at GC Session his rebuttal of EJW: "The Law in the Book of Galatians"

[EGW taken in vision from Switzerland to GC Session; her guide:] stretched out his arms toward Dr. Waggoner, and to you, Elder Butler, and said in substance as follows: "Neither have all the light upon the law, neither position is perfect." {1888 93.2} Said my guide, "There is much light yet to shine forth from the law of God and the gospel of righteousness. This message, understood in its true character, and proclaimed in the Spirit, will lighten the earth with its glory." {1888 166.1}

1887	32	Wrote out a reply, "The Gospel in the Book of Galatians" (Feb. 10); EGW wrote him that he was mistaken in publicizing differences (Feb. 18); he did not publish his reply until December 1888; EGW wrote Butler: "You circulated your pamphlet; now it is only fair that Dr. Waggoner should have just as fair a chance as you have had." {1888 35.2}
1888	33	Published <i>Fathers of the Catholic Church, A Brief Examination of the "Falling Away" of the Church in the First Three Centuries</i> ; Minneapolis, Minnesota, General Conference: presented Righteousness by Faith

[EGW:] Dr. Waggoner has spoken to us in a straightforward manner. There is precious light in what he has said. {1888 163.2} Dr. Waggoner has opened to you precious light, not new, but old light which has been lost sight of by many minds, and is now shining forth in clear rays. {1888 174.3} Elder E. J. Waggoner had the privilege granted him of speaking plainly and presenting his views upon justification by faith and the righteousness of Christ in relation to the law. This was no new light, but it was old light placed where it should be in the third angel's message. {1888 211.2} The faith of Jesus has been overlooked and treated in an indifferent, careless manner. It has not occupied the prominent position in which it was revealed to John. Faith in Christ as the sinner's only hope has been largely left out, not only of the discourses given but of the religious experience of very many who claim to believe the third angel's message. At this meeting I bore testimony that the most precious light had been shining forth from the Scriptures in the presentation of the great subject of the righteousness of Christ connected with the law, which should be constantly kept before the sinner as his only hope of salvation. {1888 212.1} I have had the question asked, "What do you think of this light that these men are presenting? Why, I have been presenting it to you for the last 45 years--the matchless charms of Christ. This is what I have been trying to present before your minds. When Brother Waggoner brought out these ideas in Minneapolis, it was the first clear teaching on this subject from any human lips I had heard, excepting the conversations between myself and my husband.... And when another presented it, every fiber of my heart said, Amen. {1888 348.4}

1889	34	General Conference delegate at large; taught Bible, Church History, and Hebrew
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		at ministerial institute; published <i>Why We Oppose Religious Legislation</i> (24 pages)
1890	35	Published <i>Christ and His Righteousness</i> (96 pages)

[EGW to Bible School:] I believe without a doubt that God has given precious truth at the right time to Brother Jones and Brother Waggoner. Do I place them as infallible? Do I say that they will not make a statement or have an idea that cannot be questioned or that cannot be error? Do I say so? No, I do not say any such thing.... But I do say God has sent light, and do be careful how you treat it. {1888 565.2}

Since I made the statement last Sabbath that the view of the covenants as it had been taught by Brother Waggoner was truth, it seems that great relief has come to many minds. {1888 623.4}

1891	36	At General Conference Session, presented 16 Bible studies on the book of Romans; appointed editor of <i>The Present Truth</i> periodical in England
1892	37	EGW confirmed the Righteousness by Faith message is from God

[Many statements of EGW in 1892-1895 endorsing the message God gave him:] "message from God"; "fatal delusion" if reject it, even if he is "overthrown by the temptations of the enemy" {1888 1044.3}; "the message of God to the Laodicean church" {1888 1052.2}; "a most precious message"; "the message that God commanded to be given to the world." {1888 1336.2}; see also {1888 1814.4}

1893	38	Published <i>The Gospel in Creation</i> (176 pages)
1897	42	Presented 19 Bible studies at the GC Session
1898	43	Again presented Bible studies at the GC Session
1899	44	GC Session reveals he is influenced by pantheism
1900	45	Published <i>The Everlasting Covenant</i> (531 pgs.) and <i>The Glad Tidings</i> (265 pgs.)
1903	48	Kellogg credits Jones and Waggoner; EJW speaks of <i>The Living Temple</i> ; letters from EGW warning of his peril

[Preface to *The Living Temple*:] the author desires to acknowledge his indebtedness for many valuable suggestions and emendations to A. T. Jones and Dr. E. J. Waggoner

[January 14 EJW to WWP regarding *The Living Temple*:] I cannot detect anything radically wrong in it.³

[October 5:] Satan is working stealthily, untiringly, to effect your downfall through his specious temptations. He is determined to become your teacher, and you need now to place yourself where you can get strength to resist him. He hopes to lead you into the maze of spiritualism. He hopes to wean your affections from your wife, and to fix them upon another woman. He desires that you shall allow your mind to dwell upon this woman until through unholy affection she becomes your god. {TSB 199.3}

[October 9 to Magan and Sutherland:] I have had much confidence in Brother Waggoner, but I know that just now he is in special danger. He is in danger, as many others are, of accepting incorrect views of God, as set forth in the new book, "Living Temple". Take him into the school at Berrien Springs. My counsel regarding his work is that you help him to place his feet on solid ground, even the Rock of Ages. I believe that he will recover his former clearness and power. {SpM 328.2}

1904/08/01	49	EGW: Our Counsellor: ...You are confused. You are in the mist and fog. You have need of the heavenly anointing. {21MR 176.3; also to ATJ}
1905/04/09	50	EGW regarding him: Unless he is converted, he is not fitted to act any part in the ministry of the work. He is a decided transgressor of the seventh commandment. (Letter 121, 1906)
1905	50	Divorced from wife; disfellowshipped from church ⁴
1916	61	Died of a heart attack at the age of 61

Footnotes: 1. The years of his education have been the matter of some confusion. *Lest We Forget* reported his Battle Creek College years were 1876-1878, and he graduated from Bellevue Medical College in New York. However the biography by Woodrow Whidden, *E. J. Waggoner*, pp. 39, 40, gives evidence that his college work began at Battle Creek College 1874-1875. The late summer and fall of 1875 he was at the Medical School of University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. During 1876-1877 he took the classical course back at Battle Creek College. There is also documentation that he received his M.D. degree from the Long Island College Hospital of Brooklyn, New York, in 1878.

2. Woodrow Whidden, *E. J. Waggoner*, p. 44

3. Unpublished letter

4. Whidden, *E. J. Waggoner*, p. 317, 334