

PREPARING TO STAND

Number 71 — June, 2013

“In this age, just prior to the second coming of Christ in the clouds of heaven, God calls for men who will prepare a people to stand in the great day of the Lord.” SW 3/21/1905

COVETOUSNESS

by Ellen White

(from: Early Writings, pages 267-269)

I saw that Satan bade his angels lay their snares especially for those who were looking for Christ's second appearing and keeping all the commandments of God. Satan told his angels that the churches were asleep. He would increase his power and lying wonders, and he could hold them. "But," he said, "the sect of Sabbathkeepers we hate; they are continually working against us, and taking from us our subjects, to keep the hated law of God. Go, make the possessors of lands and money drunk with cares. If you can make them place their affections upon these things, we shall have them yet. They may profess what they please, only make them care more for money than for the success of Christ's kingdom or the spread of the truths we hate. Present the world before them in the most attractive light, that they may love and idolize it. We must keep in our ranks all the means of which we can gain control. The more means the followers of Christ devote to His service, the more will they injure our kingdom by getting our subjects. As they appoint meetings in different places, we are in danger. Be very vigilant then. Cause disturbance and confusion if possible. Destroy love for one another. Discourage and dishearten their ministers; for we hate them. Present every plausible excuse to those who have means, lest they hand it out. Control the money matters if you can, and drive their ministers to want and distress. This will weaken their courage and zeal. Battle every inch of ground. Make covetousness and love of earthly treasures the ruling traits of their character. As long as these traits rule, salvation and grace stand back. Crowd every attraction around them, and they will be surely ours. And not only are we sure of them, but their hateful influence will not be exercised to lead others to heaven. When any shall attempt to give, put within them a grudging disposition, that it may be sparingly."

I saw that Satan carries out his plans well. As the servants of God appoint meetings, Satan with his angels is on the ground to hinder the work. He is constantly putting suggestions into the minds of God's people. He leads some in one way and some in another, always taking advantage of evil traits in the brethren and sisters, exciting and stirring up their natural besetments. If they are disposed to be selfish and covetous, Satan takes his stand by their side, and with all his power seeks to lead them

to indulge their besetting sins. The grace of God and the light of truth may melt away their covetous, selfish feelings for a little, but if they do not obtain entire victory, Satan comes in when they are not under a saving influence and withers every noble, generous principle, and they think that too much is required of them. They become weary of well-doing and forget the great sacrifice which Jesus made to redeem them from the power of Satan and from hopeless misery.

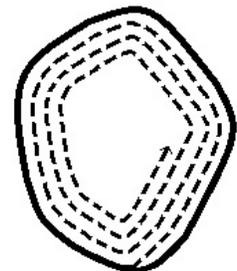
Satan took advantage of the covetous, selfish disposition of Judas and led him to murmur when Mary poured the costly ointment upon Jesus. Judas looked upon this as a great waste, and declared that the ointment might have been sold and given to the poor. He cared not for the poor, but considered the liberal offering to Jesus extravagant. Judas prized his Lord just enough to sell Him for a few pieces of silver. And I saw that there were some like Judas among those who profess to be waiting for their Lord. Satan controls them, but they know it not. God cannot approve of the least degree of covetousness or selfishness, and He abhors the prayers and exhortations of those who indulge these evil traits. As Satan sees that his time is short, he leads men on to be more and more selfish and covetous, and then exults as he sees them wrapped up in themselves, close, penurious, and selfish. If the eyes of such could be opened, they would see Satan in hellish triumph, exulting over them and laughing at the folly of those who accept his suggestions and enter his snares.

Satan and his angels mark all the mean and covetous acts of these persons and present them to Jesus and His holy angels, saying reproachfully, "These are Christ's followers! They are preparing to be translated!" Satan compares their course with passages of Scripture in which it is plainly rebuked and then taunts the heavenly angels, saying, "These are following Christ and His Word! These are the fruit of Christ's sacrifice and redemption!" Angels turn in disgust from the scene. God requires a constant doing on the part of His people; and when they become weary of well-doing, He becomes weary of them. I saw that He is greatly displeased with the least manifestation of selfishness on the part of His professed people, for whom Jesus spared not His own precious life. Every selfish, covetous person will fall out by the way. Like Judas, who sold his Lord, they will sell good principles and a noble, generous disposition for a little of earth's gain. All such will be sifted out from God's people. Those who want heaven must, with all the energy which they possess, be encouraging the principles of heaven. Instead of withering up with selfishness, their souls should be expanding with benevolence. Every opportunity should be improved in doing good to one another and thus cherishing the principles of heaven. Jesus was presented to me as the perfect pattern. His life was without selfish interest, but ever marked with disinterested benevolence.

CHEROKEE STYLE MOCCASIN PART 2 —STITCHING THEM UP

Cutting Lace

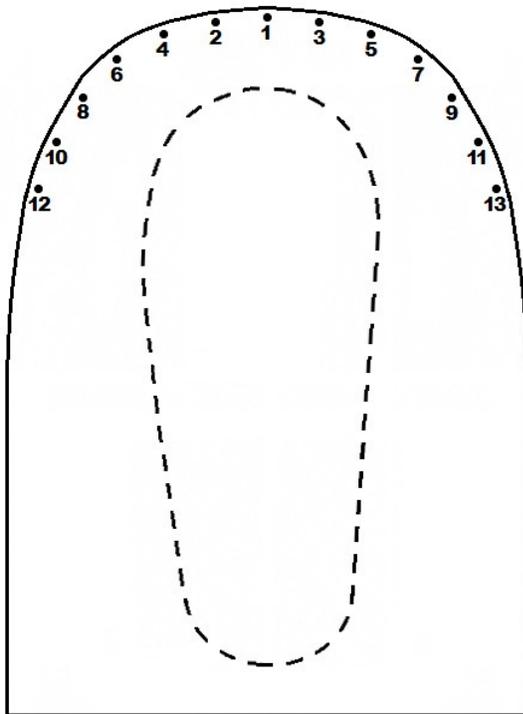
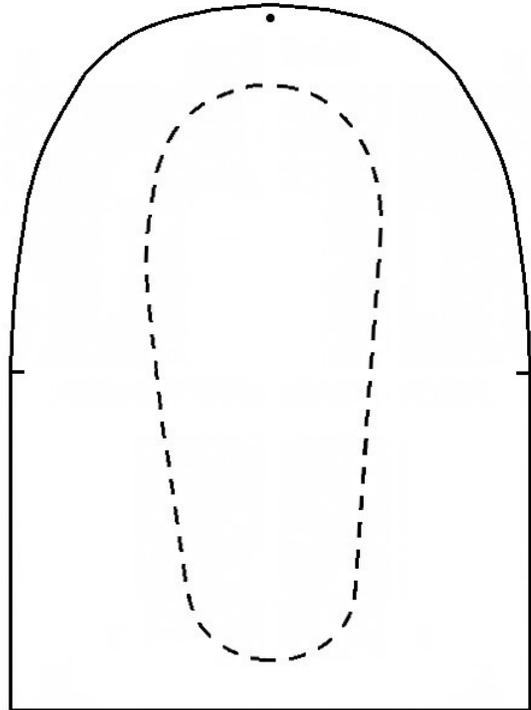
From some extra leather, cut four strips about 3/16 in / 4-5 mm wide and 8 to 10 inches / 20 to 25 cm long. These can be cut along an edge of a larger piece. Or, round the corners of a smaller scrap and cut the strips by making a spiral around the scrap. Cut one end of



each lade on a diagonal to make a point, and tie an overhand knot at the other end. If not using leather, cut four lengths of strong cordage 8 to 10 inches / 20 to 25 cm long. Tie overhand knots on one end of each of these pieces the cordage.

Stitching Up the Toe and Top

1. Fold the moccasin in half lengthwise to find the center of the toe. On the inside of the moccasin, make a mark about $\frac{1}{4}$ in / 5-7 mm from the edge at the center of the toe. Also, on each side of the moccasin, make marks in the middle of the edge corresponding to the crosswise-centerline of the pattern.



2. Make six marks out along the edge on both sides from the center mark at the toe. These marks should be about $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{7}{8}$ in / 20 to 22 mm apart, and the same $\frac{1}{4}$ in / 5-7 mm in from the edge. The traditional distance for these marks is the width of one's thumb or index finger, but people have different sized thumbs and fingers.

3. With an awl, or similar pointed object, make a hole at the first mark in the center of the toe. Insert the pointed end of the lacing strip or cordage through the hole, passing it from the *outside* of the moccasin to the inside of the moccasin. Pull it all the way through, so the knot at the end of the lace or cordage is tight up against outside of the moccasin.

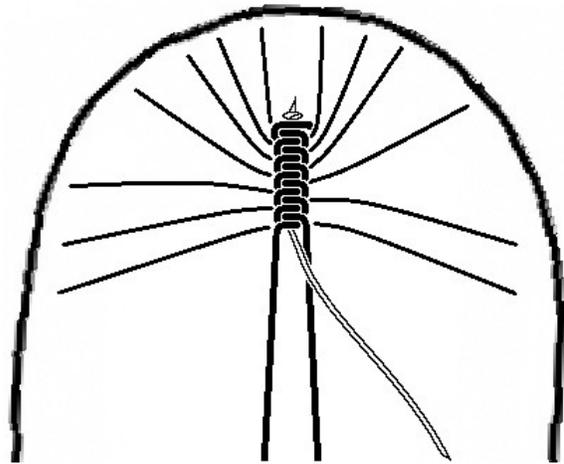
4. Next, make another hole at one of the marks immediately to one side or the other of the center. (In the illustration to the left, this second hole is made in the mark to the left of the center, but it really does not matter to which side you go first.) Pass the cordage through this second hole, again from the *outside* of the moccasin to the inside of the moccasin, the same as was done on the



first hole. Pull the lace or cord up tightly to create a gathered pucker between the two holes. The illustration shows the pattern of what the stitching from outside to inside will look like just before the lace is pulled completely tight on the second stitch. This outside-to-inside gathered puckered stitching is key, and somewhat unique, to this style of moccasin. Each stitch must be pulled up tightly so the outside of the last stitch ends up against the inside of the previous stitch. You should not be able to see any lacing in between the stitches. If you are able to see lacing, (as shown in the illustration), pull the lacing up tighter. If the leather or material the moccasin is being made from is too stiff, and can not be pulled up this tight, you may not be able to use it to make this style of moccasin. (However if this is the case, it is possible to make slits halfway between each of the hole marks, and lace up the resulting 'tabs' using this same pattern. The stitching of these tabs will give a toe somewhat similar to Irish brogues.)

5. Next make a hole at the first mark on the opposite side of the center. Insert the lace again from the *outside* of the moccasin to the inside of the moccasin, and pull it up tight.

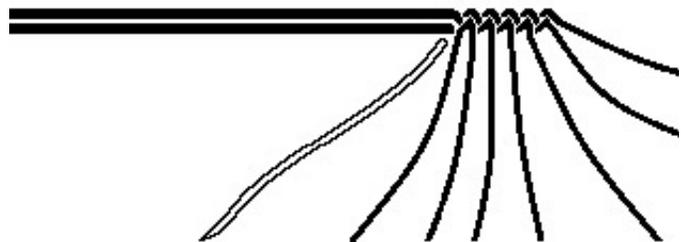
Continue stitching up the toe by making these sets of stitches, alternately taking one stitch from one side, and then another from the other side, working your way along the edge. Be sure each stitch is pulled up tight, and that you cannot see the lace in between any of the stitches. The toe should begin looking similar to the illustration to the right.

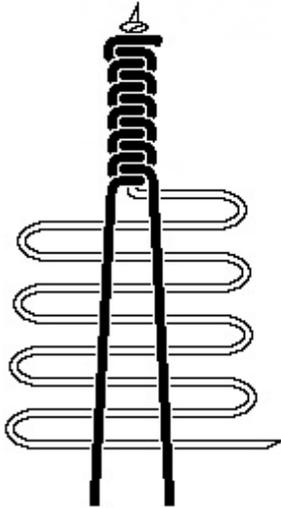


When you have finish five sets of these stitches, (there should still be one mark left on each side), try the toe on for size. This gathered puckered stitching should be running up the center of the toes. It needs to reach about to the back of the toes, or maybe just a little farther. Depending on the size of the foot, the puckered stitching may already reach to the back of the toes. If so, don't make that last set of puckered stitching. If not, go ahead and make the last set, and if necessary, mark and make an additional set, (or sets), of puckered stitches until they reach to the back of the toes.

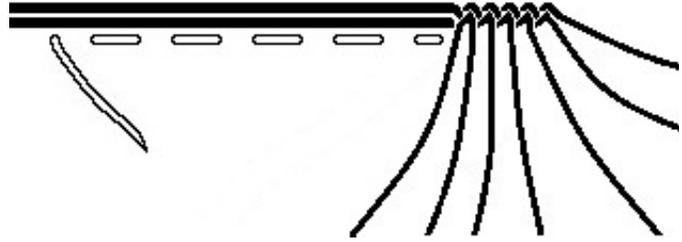


6. Once the puckered stitching reaches the back of the toes, make a hole on the opposite side close to the last puckered stitch. Pass the lacing through this hole from the *inside* of the moccasin to the *outside*. Place both sides of the moccasin together and pull the lacing tight. (See illustrations, top view to the left, and side view to the right.)





7. Finish the top of the moccasin by making 'running stitches' the rest of the way to the middle of the foot. Place both sides of the



moccasin together and make holes at the same point through both sides, every $\frac{3}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ in / 10 to 14 mm, (although you may have to poke the holes through one side at a time), the same $\frac{1}{4}$ in / 5-7 mm in from the edge. If the middle marks don't quite line up, you can make slight adjustments at each stitch to even things out so that when you reach the middle marks they will be fairly close to each other. For each stitch, pass the lacing through both sides,

always ending up on the outside of the moccasin. (See illustration of an expanded top view at the left, and a side view of finished stitches at the right.)

Continue making these running stitches until you reach the middle of the moccasin. The length of the stitches can be adjusted slightly so as to end up with a final stitch right at the middle marks. It does not matter which side of the moccasin you end up on. Try the moccasin on for size, making any necessary adjustments. When everything looks good, tie an overhand knot in the lace as close to the last stitching hole as possible to keep things from unraveling, and trim off the extra lacing.

Lacing Up the Heel

Put the moccasin on the foot and check to see if there is too much leather or material out past the heel. There will be running stitches coming up the heel, so allow the same $\frac{1}{4}$ in / 5-7 mm in from the edge for seam width, plus a bit more to be able to slip the moccasin on and off the foot. If necessary, cut off a strip of the extra leather/material across the heel. (This strip can possibly be used for lacing.)

There are several ways to stitch up the heel, but probably the easiest is to make it similar to what was done on the toes. Fold the moccasin in half to find and mark the center of the heel. This time make two marks on either side of this center mark for the gathered puckered stitches. Make a hole in the center and bring another lace through the leather/material from the outside to inside. Take two sets of gathered puckered stitches to form the rounded bottom of the heel. Try it on for size, and if necessary make another set of puckered stitches. Then, continue the rest of the way up the heel with running stitches as was done along the top of the foot. When finished, tie an overhand knot in the lace to keep things from unraveling, trim off the extra lace, and you're done!