

What to Look for in a Country Property

Key Quotations:

1. *Country Living*, pages 9-10, (Letter 5, 1904; also on 2SM 141)

Again and again the Lord has instructed that our people are to take their families away from the cities, into the country, where they can raise their own provisions; for in the future the problem of buying and selling will be a very serious one. We should now begin to heed the instruction given us over and over again: Get out of the cities into rural districts, where the houses are not crowded closely together, and where you will be free from the interference of enemies.

2. *Country Living*, page 24, (Manuscript 50, 1903)

The time has come, when, as God opens the way, families should move out of the cities. The children should be taken into the country. The parents should get as suitable a place as their means will allow. Though the dwelling may be small, yet there should be land in connection with it, that may be cultivated.

3. *Ministry of Healing*, pages 365-366, (*Country Living*, page 14.)

An expensive dwelling, elaborate furnishings, display, luxury, and ease, do not furnish the conditions essential to a happy, useful life. Jesus came to this earth to accomplish the greatest work ever accomplished among men. He came as God's ambassador, to show us how to live so as to secure life's best results. What were the conditions chosen by the infinite Father for His Son? A secluded home in the Galilean hills; a household sustained by honest, self-respecting labor; a life of simplicity; daily conflict with difficulty and hardship; self-sacrifice, economy, and patient, gladsome service; the hour of study at His mother's side, with the open scroll of Scripture; the quiet of dawn or twilight in the green valley; the holy ministries of nature; the study of creation and providence; and the soul's communion with God, —these were the conditions and opportunities of the early life of Jesus.

4. *Evangelism*, page 78, (Manuscript 94, 1903)

When iniquity abounds in a nation, there is always to be heard some voice giving warning and instruction, as the voice of Lot was heard in Sodom. Yet Lot could have preserved his family from many evils had he not made his home in this wicked, polluted city. All that Lot and his family did in Sodom could have been done by them, even if they had lived in a place some distance away from the city. Enoch walked with God, and yet he did not live in the midst of any city polluted with every kind of violence and wickedness, as did Lot in Sodom.

5. *Great Controversy*, page 626

As the decree issued by the various rulers of Christendom against commandment keepers shall withdraw the protection of government and abandon them to those who desire their destruction, the people of God will flee from the cities and villages and associate together in companies, dwelling in the most desolate and solitary places. Many will find refuge in the strongholds of the mountains.

What to Look for:

- Some Distance Away from Any City/Town _____

- Access: *not* on a 'main road' (does it have a 'white or yellow line?'), what Kind or Road? what Condition is the Road in? any Gate(s)? _____

- Houses Not Close Together, (visibility/privacy/seclusion) _____

- Buildings: is the House 'adequate' for your needs? potential Building Site(s); Outbuildings _____

- Water Source: Spring, Well, Surface water; potential for an independent water source _____
- Septic/Sewer System _____

- Electricity, Propane/Natural Gas, Alternate Energy, Potential _____

- 'Lay of the Land:' Steepness, Rockiness, Erosion Issues _____

- Potential for Agriculture: Garden, Berry Patch, Grape Vineyard, Orchard, Grain Field; Fencing? Potential for Animals? _____

- Trees: for Firewood and 'Screening' _____

- Natural Setting/Surroundings (as opposed to being surrounded by 'corn fields' or 'clear cut' forests) _____
- Accessibility to Wilderness (for final flight) _____
