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#1—THE BANNER OF THE THIRD ANGEL

“Prophecy has been fulfilling, line upon line. The more firmly we stand under **the banner of the third angel’s message**, the more clearly shall we understand the prophecy of Daniel; for the Revelation is the supplement of Daniel.

“The more fully we accept the light presented by the Holy Spirit through the consecrated servants of God, the deeper and surer, even as the eternal throne, will appear **the truths of ancient prophecy**; we shall be assured that men of God spake as they were moved upon by the Holy Ghost. Men must themselves be under the influence of the Holy Spirit in order to understand the Spirit’s utterances through the prophets. **These messages were given, not for those that uttered the prophecies, but for us who are living amid the scenes of their fulfillment.**” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 114.

LOCATED BY THE WORD OF INSPIRATION

“The proclamation of the first, second, and third angels’ messages has been **located** by the word of Inspiration. Not a peg or pin is to be removed. No human authority has any more right to change the **location** of these messages than to substitute the New Testament for the Old.” *Counsels to Writers and Editors*, 26–27.

THEIR ORDER

“The first and second messages were given in 1843 and 1844, and we are now under the proclamation of the third; but all three of the messages are still to be proclaimed. It is just as essential now as ever before that they shall be repeated to those who are seeking for the truth. By pen and voice we are to sound the proclamation, **showing their order**, and the application of the prophecies that bring us to the third angel’s message. There cannot be a third without the first and second. These messages we are to give to the world in publications, in discourses, **showing in the line** of prophetic history **the things that have been and the things that will be.**” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 104–105.

HISTORY WILL REPEAT

“Again and again I have been shown that the past experiences of God’s people are not to be counted as dead facts. We are not to treat the record of these experiences as we would treat a last year’s almanac. **The record is to be kept in mind, for history will repeat itself.**” *Publishing Ministry*, 175.

THE PRESENT PARALLELS THE PAST

“The work of God in the earth presents, from age to age, a striking similarity in every great reformation or religious movement. The principles of God’s dealing with men are ever the same. The important movements of the present have their parallel in those of the past, and the experience of the church in former ages has lessons of great value for our own time.” *The Great Controversy*, 343.

THE RECORDS OF HISTORY AND PROPHECY

“The Bible is its own expositor. **Scripture is to be compared with scripture.** The student should learn to view the word as a whole, and to see the relation of its parts. He should gain a knowledge of its grand central theme, of God’s original purpose for the world, of the rise of the great controversy, and of the work of redemption. He should understand the nature of the two principles that are contending for supremacy, and **should learn to trace their working through the records of history and prophecy,** to the great consummation.” *Education*, 191.

PROPHECY DEFINED

“Historical events, showing the direct fulfillment of prophecy, were set before the people, and the **prophecy was seen to be a figurative delineation of events leading down to the close of this earth’s history.**” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 101–102.

PROPHETIC LINES

“We must have a knowledge of the Scriptures, that we may trace down **the lines of prophecy**, and understand the specifications given by the prophets, and by Christ and the apostles; that we may not be ignorant; but be able to see that the day is approaching, so that with increased zeal and effort, we may exhort one another to faithfulness, piety, and holiness.” *Review and Herald*, July 31, 1888.

THE POINT OF REFERENCE

“In the Revelation all the books of the Bible meet and end.” *Acts of the Apostles*, 585.

THE SAME LINE OF PROPHECY

“Revelation is a sealed book, but it is also an opened book. It records marvelous events that are to take place in the last days of this earth’s history. The teachings of this book are definite, not mystical and unintelligible. In it **the same line of prophecy is taken up as in Daniel. Some prophecies God has repeated, thus showing that importance must be given to them. The Lord does not repeat things that are of no great consequence.**” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 9, 7–8.

LINE UPON LINE: THE REFRESHING

Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts.

For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:

For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing; yet they would not hear.

But the word of the Lord was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little; that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken. Isaiah 28:9–13.

THE REFRESHING

“The great work of the gospel is not to close with less manifestation of the power of God than marked its opening. The prophecies which were fulfilled in the outpouring of the former rain at the opening of the gospel **are again to be fulfilled** in the latter rain at its close. Here are ‘**the times of refreshing**’ to which the apostle Peter looked forward when he said: ‘Repent ye therefore, and be converted, **that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come** from the presence of the Lord; and He shall send Jesus.’ Acts 3:19–20.” *The Great Controversy*, 611–612.

“The **refreshing** or power of God comes only on those who have prepared themselves for it by doing the work which God bids them, namely, cleansing themselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, **perfecting holiness in the fear of God.**” *Counsels on Diet and Foods*, 33.

LINE UPON LINE: WEANED FROM THE MILK

Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. Isaiah 28:9.

MILK OR MEAT

For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.

For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. Therefore leaving **the principles of the doctrine of Christ**, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of **repentance** from dead works, and of **faith** toward God, Of the doctrine of **baptisms**, and of laying on of hands, and of **resurrection of the dead**, and of eternal **judgment**. Hebrews 5:12–6:2.

PRESENT TRUTH

“There are many precious truths contained in the Word of God, but it is ‘present truth’ that the flock needs now.” *Early Writings*, 63.

LINE UPON LINE: UNDERSTANDING KNOWLEDGE

Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. Isaiah 28:9.

For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. Hebrews 5:12.

THE TIME YE OUGHT TO BE TEACHERS

And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever. But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased. Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but **the wise shall understand**. Daniel 12:3, 4, 10.

THE WISE: TEACHERS

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children. Hosea 4:6.

THE WISE AND THE WICKED

And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever. But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased. Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand. Daniel 12:3, 4, 10.

FALSE TEACHERS

We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. 1 Peter 1:19–2:1.

ISAIAH 29: EVERY WORD WILL BE FULFILLED

“Stay yourselves, and wonder, cry ye out, and cry; they are drunken but not with wine; they stagger; but not with strong drink. For the Lord hath poured out upon you the spirit of deep sleep, and hath closed your eyes; the prophets and your rulers, the seers hath he covered. And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed, which men delivered to one that is learned saying, read this, I pray thee; and he saith, I am not learned.

“Wherefore the Lord saith, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouths, and with their lips do honor me, but have removed their hearts afar from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men; therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvelous work, and a wonder for the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid. Woe unto them that seek deep to hide their counsel from the Lord, and their works are in the dark, and they say, Who seeth us, and who knoweth us? Surely your turning of things upside down shall be esteemed as the potters clay; for shall the work say of him that made it, He made me not, or shall the thing framed say of him that framed it, He had no understanding?”

“Every word of this will be fulfilled. There are those who do not humble their hearts before God, and who will not walk uprightly. They hide their true purposes, and keep in fellowship with the fallen angel, who loveth and maketh a lie. The enemy puts spirit upon the men whom he can use to deceive those who are partially in the dark. Some are becoming imbued with the darkness that prevails, and are setting the truth aside for error. The day pointed out by prophecy is come. Jesus Christ is not understood.

“Jesus Christ is to them a fable. At this stage of the earth’s history, many act like drunken men. ‘Stay yourselves, and wonder; cry ye out, and cry; they are drunken, but not with wine; they stagger, but not with strong drink. For the Lord hath poured out upon you the spirit of deep sleep, and hath closed your eyes. The prophets and your rulers, the seers hath he covered.’ A spiritual drunkenness is upon many who suppose they are the people who shall be exalted. Their religious faith is just as is represented in this Scripture. Under its influence, they can not walk straight. They make crooked paths in their course of action. One and then another, they reel to and fro. They are looked upon by the Lord with great pity. The way of truth they have not known. They are scientific schemers, and those who could and should have helped, because of a clear spiritual eyesight, are themselves deceived, and are sustaining an evil work.

“The developments of these last days will soon become decided. When these spiritualistic deceptions are revealed to be what they really are,—the secret workings of evil spirits,—**those who have acted a part in them will become as men who have lost their minds.**

“Wherefore the Lord saith, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honor me, but have removed their hearts far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men therefore, behold I will proceed to do a marvelous work among this people, even a marvelous work and a wonder for the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid. Woe unto them that seek deep to hide their counsel from the Lord, and their works are in the dark, and they say, who seeth us, and who knoweth us? Surely your turning of things upside down shall be esteemed as the potter’s clay; for shall the work say of him that made it, He made me not? or shall the thing framed say of him that framed it. He had no understanding?”

“It is presented to me that in our experience we have been and are meeting this very condition of things. Men who have had great light and wonderful privileges have taken the word of leaders who think themselves wise, who have been greatly favored and blessed by the Lord, but who have taken themselves out of the hands of God and placed themselves in the ranks of the enemy. The world is to be flooded with specious fallacies. One human mind, accepting these fallacies, will work upon other human minds, who have been turning the precious evidence of God’s truth into a lie. These men will be deceived by fallen angels, **when they should have stood as faithful guardians**, watching for souls, as they that must give an account. They have laid down the weapons of their warfare, and have given heed to seducing spirits. They make of no effect the counsel of God and set aside his warnings and reproofs, and **are positively on Satan’s side**, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils.” *Battle Creek Letters*, 123–125.

THE THREE AND ONE COMBINATION

SIMPLE ILLUSTRATIONS

Noah and his three sons
Balaam's three blessings, followed by another
Three disciples and Christ on the Mount of Transfiguration
Three disciples and Christ in Gethsemane
Three Hebrews and Christ in the furnace
Gideon and his three troops
Abraham and the three heavenly visitors

COMPLEX ILLUSTRATIONS

The three decrees
The history of Christ
Elijah
Moses
Noah
The Millerites

THE WAYMARKS OF EVERY REFORMATORY MOVEMENT

1. Time of the End
2. First Message
3. Second Message
4. Third Message
5. A Work
6. Backsliding
7. Fourth Message

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE WAYMARKS

1. TIME OF THE END

Fulfillment of a prophecy
Men understand the fulfillment (running to and fro in God's word)
An unsealing of a prophetic passage
The prophetic passage relates to the message or the work of the upcoming period
The unsealed truth begins an escalating process of separation

2. FIRST MESSAGE

Preceded by darkness or a scattering
A gathering is initiated
Associated with a reformer or reform message
Fearful conviction of sin
Foundation established
Worldwide impact in the prophetic geographical setting
Testing process initiated

3. SECOND MESSAGE

- Local in the prophetic geographical setting
- Activities of the enemies of the message or work
- A call out of Babylon
- A specific manifestation of the power of God
- A glorification
- The temple is finished and cleansed
- A sealing
- Life or death decisions made

4. THIRD MESSAGE

- Judgment illustrated
- A door closes
- Gathering accomplished
- Two groups demonstrated
- A covenant established
- Followed by a disappointment
- The number seven

5. A WORK

6. BACKSLIDING

7. FOURTH MESSAGE

- Repetition of the second message
- Work finished
- Return to the old paths
- Accomplished in troublous times

#2—THE SEVEN THUNDERS

And cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices. Revelation 10:4.

THE EXPERIENCE OF ADVENTISM

“The parable of the ten virgins of Matthew 25 also illustrates **the experience of the Adventist people.**” *The Great Controversy*, 393.

TO THE VERY LETTER

“I am often referred to the parable of the ten virgins, five of whom were wise, and five foolish. This parable has been and will be fulfilled to the very letter, for it has a special application to this time, and, like the third angel’s message, has been fulfilled and will continue to be present truth till the close of time.” *Review and Herald*, August 19, 1890.

THE MIGHTY ANGEL

“The mighty angel who instructed John was no less a personage than Jesus Christ. Setting His right foot on the sea, and His left upon the dry land, shows the part which He is acting in the closing scenes of the great controversy with Satan. This position denotes His supreme power and authority over the whole earth. The controversy had waxed stronger and more determined from age to age, and will continue to do so, to the concluding scenes when the masterly working of the powers of darkness shall reach their height. Satan, united with evil men, will deceive the whole world and the churches who receive not the love of the truth. But the mighty angel demands attention. He cries with a loud voice. He is to show the power and authority of His voice to those who have united with Satan to oppose the truth.

“After these seven thunders uttered their voices, the injunction comes to John as to Daniel in regard to the little book: ‘Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered.’ These relate to future events which will be disclosed in their order. Daniel shall stand in his lot at the end of the days. John sees the little book unsealed. Then Daniel’s prophecies have their proper place in the first, second, and third angels’ messages to be given to the world. The unsealing of the little book was the message in relation to time.

“The books of Daniel and the Revelation are one. One is a prophecy, the other a revelation; one a book sealed, the other a book opened. John heard the mysteries which the thunders uttered, but he was commanded not to write them.

“The special light given to John which was expressed in the seven thunders was a delineation of events which would transpire under the first and second angels’ messages. It was not best for the people to know these things, for their faith must necessarily be tested. In the order of God most wonderful and advanced truths would be proclaimed. The first and second angels’ messages were to be proclaimed, but no further light was to be revealed before these messages had done their specific work. This is represented by the angel standing with one foot on the sea, proclaiming with a most solemn oath that time should be no longer.

“This time, which the angel declares with a solemn oath, is not the end of this world’s history, neither of probationary time, but of prophetic time, which should precede the advent of our Lord. That is, the people will not have another message upon definite time. After this period of time, reaching from 1842 to 1844, there can be no definite tracing of the prophetic time. The longest reckoning reaches to the autumn of 1844.

“The angel’s position, with one foot on the sea, the other on the land, signifies the wide extent of the proclamation of the message. It will cross the broad waters and be proclaimed in other countries, even to all the world. The comprehension of truth, the glad reception of the message, is represented in the eating of the little book. The truth in regard to the time of the advent of our Lord was a precious message to our souls.” *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, volume 7, 971.

Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk *therein*. Also I set watchmen over you, *saying*, Harken to the sound of the trumpet. But they said, We will not hearken. Jeremiah 6:16–17.

THE FOUNDATIONS & THE PIONEERS

“I am instructed to say to those who endeavor to tear down the **foundation** that has made us Seventh-day Adventists: We are God’s commandment keeping people. For the past fifty years every phase of heresy has been brought to bear upon us, to becloud our minds regarding the teaching of the Word—especially concerning the ministration of Christ in the heavenly sanctuary, and the message of heaven for these last days, as given by the angels of the fourteenth chapter of Revelation. Messages of every order and kind have been urged upon Seventh-day Adventists, to take the place of the truth which, point by point, has been sought out by prayerful study and testified to by the miracle-working power of the Lord. But the **waymarks** which have made us what we are, are to be preserved, and they will be preserved, as God has signified through His word and the testimonies of His Spirit. He calls upon us to hold firmly with the grip of faith, to the fundamental principles that are based upon unquestionable authority.

“God has placed in our hands a banner on which is inscribed the words ‘The commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.’ ‘Here are they that keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ,’ he declares. At all times and in all places we are to hold the banner firmly aloft. God’s denominated people are to take a firm stand under the banner of truth. The truths that we have been proclaiming for more than half a century have been contested again and again. Again and again the facts of faith have been disputed; but every time the Lord has established the truth by the working of His Holy Spirit. Those who have arisen to question and overthrow the principles of present truth, have been sternly rebuked.

“**The Lord would have us at this time bring in the testimony written by those who are now dead, to speak in behalf of heavenly things. The Holy Spirit has given instruction for us in these last days.** We are to repeat the testimonies that God has given His people, the testimonies that present clear conceptions of the truths of the sanctuary, and that show the relation of Christ to the truths of the sanctuary so clearly brought to view.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 4, 246, 247.

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTHS

“God has given me light regarding our periodicals. What is it?—He has said that **the dead are to speak**. How?—Their works shall follow them. We are to **repeat the words of the pioneers in our work**, who knew what it cost to search for the truth as for hidden treasure, and who labored to lay the foundation of our work.

“They moved forward step by step under the influence of the Spirit of God. One by one these pioneers are passing away. The word given me is, **Let that which these men have written in the past be reproduced**. . . .

“**Let the truths that are the foundation of our faith be kept before the people**. . . . We are now to understand what the pillars of our faith are,—the truths that have made us as a people what we are, leading us on step by step.” *Counsels to Writers and Editors*, 28–29.

NO NEW MESSAGE

“God is not giving us a new message. We are to proclaim the message that in **1843 and 1844** brought us out of the other churches.” *Review and Herald*, January 19, 1905.

THE MESSAGE THAT STIRRED THE PEOPLE

“God bids us give our time and strength to the work of preaching to the people the messages that stirred men and women in **1843 and 1844**.” *Manuscript Release*, Number 760.

STUDIED AND PROCLAIMED

“**The truths that we received in 1841, ‘42, ‘43, and ‘44 are now to be studied and proclaimed**. The messages of the first, second, and third angels will in the future be proclaimed with a loud voice. They will be given with earnest determination and in the power of the Spirit.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 15, 371.

THE FOUNDATION AND PLATFORM

“The warning has come: Nothing is to be allowed to come in that will disturb **the foundation of the faith upon which we have been building ever since the message came in 1842, 1843, and 1844**. I was in this message, and ever since I have been standing before the world, true to the light that God has given us. We do not propose to take our feet off **the platform** on which they were placed as day by day we sought the Lord with earnest prayer, seeking for light. Do you think that I could give up the light that God has given me? It is to be as the Rock of Ages. It has been guiding me ever since it was given.” *Review and Herald*, April 14, 1903.

THE LOUD CRY MESSAGE

“All the messages given from 1840–1844 are to be made forcible now, for there are many people who have lost their bearings. The messages are to go to all the churches.

“Christ said, ‘Blessed are your eyes, for they see; and your ears, for they hear. For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them’ [Matt. 13:16, 17]. **Blessed are the eyes which saw the things that were seen in 1843 and 1844.**

“The message was given. And there should be no delay in repeating the message, for the signs of the times are fulfilling; the closing work must be done. A great work will be done in a short time. **A message will soon be given by God’s appointment that will swell into a loud cry. Then Daniel will stand in his lot, to give his testimony.**” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 21, 437.

THE THIRD ANGEL’S MESSAGE

“Those who stand as teachers and leaders in our institutions are to be sound in the faith and in the principles of the third angel’s message. God wants His people to know that we have the message as He gave it to us in **1843 and 1844.**” *General Conference Bulletin*, April 1, 1903.

THE SEALING

“When Christ came to this earth, the **traditions** that had been **handed down from generation to generation**, and **the human interpretation of the Scriptures**, hid from men the truth as it is in Jesus. The truth was buried beneath a mass of **tradition**. The spiritual import of **the sacred volumes** was lost; for in their unbelief men locked the door of the heavenly treasure. Darkness covered the earth, and gross darkness the people. Truth looked down from heaven to earth; but nowhere was revealed the divine impress. A gloom like the pall of death overspread the earth.

“But the Lion of the tribe of Judah prevailed. He opened **the seal that closed the book of divine instruction**. The world was permitted to gaze upon pure, unadulterated truth. Truth itself descended to roll back the darkness and counteract error. A Teacher was sent from heaven with the light that was to light every man that comes into the world. There were men and women who were eagerly seeking for **knowledge, the sure word of prophecy**, and when it came, it was as a light shining in a dark place.” *Spalding Magan*, 58.

TRADITIONS, CUSTOMS & MAXIMS

“The scribes and **Pharisees** professed to explain the Scriptures, but they explained them in accordance with **their own ideas and traditions**. Their **customs** and **maxims** became more and more exacting. In its spiritual sense, the sacred Word became to the people as **a sealed book**, closed to their comprehension.” *Signs of the Times*, May 17, 1905.

TODAY

“When Christ came into the world to exemplify true religion, and to exalt the principles that should govern the hearts and actions of men, falsehood had taken so deep a hold upon those who had had so great light, that they no longer comprehended the light, and had no inclination to yield up tradition for truth. They rejected the heavenly Teacher, they crucified the Lord of glory, that they might retain their own customs and inventions. **The very same spirit is manifested in the world today.** Men are averse to investigating truth, lest their **traditions** should be disturbed, and a new order of things should be brought in. There is with humanity a constant liability to err, and men are naturally inclined to highly exalt human ideas and knowledge, while the divine and eternal is not discerned or appreciated.” *Counsels on Sabbath School Work*, 47.

THE RUBBISH OF HUMAN OPINION

“During the ages of apostasy, darkness covered the earth, and gross darkness the people; but the Reformation aroused the inhabitants of earth from their death-like slumber, and many turned away from their vanities and superstitions, from priests and penances, to serve the living God, to search in his holy word for truth as for hidden treasure. They began diligently to work the mine of truth, to clear away **the rubbish of human opinion that had buried up the precious jewels of light.**” *Review and Herald*, November 22, 1892.

SEAL UP THOSE THINGS

And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth, And cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices.

And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not. Revelation 10:1-4.

And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand. He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. Revelation 22:10-11.

#3—MILLER’S DREAM

“After these seven thunders uttered their voices, the injunction comes to John as to Daniel in regard to the little book: ‘Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered.’ These relate to future events which will be disclosed in their order.” *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, volume 7, 971.

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And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand. He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. Revelation 22:10-11.

“I dreamed that God, by an unseen hand, sent me a curiously wrought casket about **ten** inches long by **six square**, made of ebony and pearls curiously inlaid. To the casket there was **a key attached**. I immediately took the key and opened the casket, when, to my wonder and surprise, I found it filled with all sorts and sizes of jewels, diamonds, precious stones, and gold and silver coin of every dimension and value, beautifully arranged in their several places in the casket; and thus arranged they reflected a light and glory equaled only to the sun.

“I thought it was not my duty to enjoy this wonderful sight alone, although my heart was overjoyed at the brilliancy, beauty, and value of its contents. I therefore placed it on a center table in my room and gave out word that all who had a desire might come and see the most glorious and brilliant sight ever seen by man in this life.

“The people began to come in, at first few in number, but increasing to a crowd. When they first looked into the casket, they would wonder and shout for joy. But when the spectators increased, everyone would begin to trouble the jewels, taking them out of the casket and **scattering** them on the table. I began to think that the owner would require the casket and the jewels again at my hand; and if I suffered them to be **scattered**, I could never place them in their places in the casket again as before; and felt I should never be able to meet the accountability, for it would be immense. I then began to plead with the people not to handle them, nor to take them out of the casket; but the more I pleaded, the more they **scattered**; and now they seemed to **scatter** them all over the room, on the floor and on every piece of furniture in the room.

“I then saw that among the genuine jewels and coin they had **scattered** an innumerable quantity of spurious jewels and counterfeit coin. I was highly incensed at their base conduct and ingratitude and reproved and reproached them for it; but the more I reproved, the more they **scattered** the spurious jewels and false coin among the genuine.

“I then became vexed in my physical soul and began to use physical force to push them out of the room; but while I was pushing out one, three more would enter and bring in dirt and shavings and sand and all manner of rubbish, until they covered every one of the true jewels, diamonds, and coins, which were all excluded from sight. They also tore in pieces my casket and **scattered** it among the rubbish. I thought no man regarded my sorrow or my anger. I became wholly discouraged and disheartened, and sat down and wept.

“**While I was thus weeping** and mourning for my great loss and accountability, I remembered God, and earnestly prayed that He would send me help. Immediately the door opened, and a man entered the room, when the people all left it; and he, having a dirt brush in his hand, opened the windows, and began to brush the dirt and rubbish from the room.

“I cried to him to forbear, for there were some precious jewels scattered among the rubbish.

“He told me to ‘fear not,’ for he would ‘take care of them.’

“Then, while he brushed the dirt and rubbish, false jewels and counterfeit coin, all rose and went out of the window like a cloud, and the wind carried them away. In the bustle I closed my eyes for a moment; when I opened them, the rubbish was all gone. The precious jewels, the diamonds, the gold and silver coins, lay scattered in profusion all over the room.

“He then placed on the table a casket, **much larger and more beautiful** than the former, and gathered up the jewels, the diamonds, the coins, by the handful, and cast them into the casket, till not one was left, although some of the diamonds were not bigger than the point of a pin.

“He then called upon me to ‘come and see.’

“I looked into the casket, but my eyes were dazzled with the sight. They shone with ten times their former glory. I thought they had been scoured in the sand by the feet of those wicked persons who had scattered and trod them in the dust. They were arranged in beautiful order in the casket, every one in its place, without any visible pains of the man who cast them in. I **shouted** with very joy, and **that shout awoke me.**” *Early Writings*, 81–83.

CASKET, KEY & RUBBISH

“The ‘casket’ represents the great truths of the Bible, relative to the second advent of our Lord Jesus Christ which were given Brother Miller to publish to the world.

“The ‘key attached’ was his manner of interpreting the prophetic Word—Comparing scripture with scripture—the Bible its own interpreter. With this key Brother Miller opened the ‘casket,’ or the great truth of the advent to the world. . .

“The ‘dirt and shavings, sand and all manner of rubbish,’ represent the various and numerous errors that have been brought in among Second Advent believers, since the autumn of 1844.” James White, *The Present Truth*, May, 1850.

WEeping FOR THE BOOK

And **I wept much**, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon. And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof. Revelation 5:4, 5.

MILLER

“I became wholly discouraged and disheartened, and sat down and wept.”

THE LOUD CRY

“I looked into the casket, but my eyes were dazzled with the sight. They shone with ten times their former glory. . . . I shouted with very joy, and that shout awoke me.”

ANCIENT ISRAEL

“Christ is the originator of all truth. By the work of the enemy the precious gems of truth had been torn from their setting and placed in, a frame-work of error. Christ came to replace **the jewels of truth** in their rightful position. **He rescued them from the rubbish of error, gave them a new power, and bade them stand fast forever.** He could use these truths with perfect freedom; for He was their author. **He had cast them into the minds of each generation;** and when He came to the world, He vitalized and re-arranged the truth which Satan had robbed of life. Clothing them with more than their original freshness and power, He gave them to the world for the benefit of future generations.” *Signs of the Times*, May 1, 1901.

A SIMILAR WORK

“In the time of the Saviour, the Jews had so covered over **the precious jewels of truth with the rubbish of tradition and fable**, that it was impossible to distinguish the true from the false. The Saviour came to clear away the rubbish of superstition and long-cherished errors, and to set the jewels of God’s word in the frame-work of truth. What would the Saviour do if he should come to us now as he did to the Jews? **He would have to do a similar work in clearing away the rubbish of tradition and ceremony.** The Jews were greatly disturbed when he did this work. They had lost sight of the original truth of God, but Christ brought it again to view. **It is our work to free the precious truths of God from superstition and error.** What a work is committed to us in the gospel! An angel’s pen could not portray **all the glory of the revealed plan of redemption.** The Bible tells how Christ bore our sins, and carried our sorrows. Here is revealed how mercy and truth have met together at the cross of Calvary, how righteousness and peace have kissed each other, how the righteousness of Christ may be imparted to fallen man. There infinite wisdom, infinite justice, infinite mercy, and infinite love were displayed. Depths, heights, lengths, and breadths of love and wisdom, all passing knowledge, are made known in the plan of salvation.” *Review and Herald*, June 4, 1889.

THE MILLERITES

“The great disappointment in 1844 was a trying ordeal. They had not the light that would have enabled them to discern the reason of their disappointment. Some gave up the Faith; others held to their past experience but became bewildered in regard to their position after 1844. They were exposed to temptation and received various errors as Bible truth. But I was shown that the Lord would, in His providence, clear away **the rubbish of error and reveal to them the jewels of truth.**” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 20, 378.

TODAY

“Mighty truths have been buried beneath the sophistry of error, but **they will be found** by the diligent searcher. As he finds and opens the treasure house of the precious jewels of truth, it is no robbery; for all who appreciate these jewels may possess them, and then they too have a treasure house to open to others. He who imparts does not deprive himself of the treasure; for as he examines it that he may present it in such a way as to attract others, he finds new treasures.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 1, 40.

CHRIST IS READY TO SWEEP AWAY

“The Scriptures are given for our benefit that we may have instruction in righteousness. Precious rays of light have been obscured by the clouds of error, but **Christ is ready to sweep away the mists of error and superstition**, and to reveal to us the brightness of the Father’s glory, so that we shall say as did the disciples, ‘Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way?’” *Publishing Ministry*, 68.

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

“To hold yourselves aloof from an investigation of truth is not the way to carry out the Saviour’s injunction to ‘search the Scriptures.’ **Is it digging for hidden treasures to call the results of some one’s labor a mass of rubbish, and make no critical examination to see whether or not there are precious jewels of truth in the collection of thought which you condemn?** Will those who have almost everything to learn keep themselves away from every meeting where there is an opportunity to investigate the messages that come to the people, simply because they imagine the views held by the teachers of the truth may be out of harmony with what they have conceived as truth? Thus it was that the Jews did in the days of Christ, and we are warned not to do as they did, and be led to choose darkness rather than light, because there was in them an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God. No one of those who imagine that they know it all is too old or too intelligent to learn from the humblest of the messengers of the living God.” *Counsels on Sabbath School Work*, 29.

DANIEL 11

“The events connected with the close of probation and the work of preparation for the time of trouble, are clearly presented. But multitudes have no more understanding of these important truths than if they had never been revealed. Satan watches to catch away every impression that would make them wise unto salvation, and the time of trouble will find them unready.” *The Great Controversy*, 594.

“The events of the future will be discerned by prophecy, and will be understood.” *Review and Herald*, April 4, 1893.

#4—MILLERITE HISTORY

1798: TIME OF THE END

“The prophecies present a succession of events leading down to the opening of the judgment. This is especially true of the book of Daniel. But that part of his prophecy which related to the last days, Daniel was bidden to close up and seal ‘to the **time of the end.**’ Not till we reach this time could a message concerning the judgment be proclaimed, based on the fulfillment of these prophecies. But at the **time of the end**, says the prophet, ‘many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.’ Daniel 12:4.

“The apostle Paul warned the church not to look for the coming of Christ in his day. ‘That day shall not come,’ he says, ‘except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed.’ 2 Thessalonians 2:3. Not till after the great apostasy, and the long period of the reign of the ‘man of sin,’ can we look for the advent of our Lord. The ‘man of sin,’ which is also styled ‘the mystery of iniquity,’ ‘the son of perdition,’ and ‘that wicked,’ represents the papacy, which, as foretold in prophecy, was to maintain its supremacy for 1260 years. **This period ended in 1798.** The coming of Christ could not take place before that time. Paul covers with his caution the whole of the Christian dispensation down to the year **1798.** It is this side of that time that the message of Christ’s second coming is to be proclaimed.” *The great Controversy*, 356.

“Daniel has been standing in his **lot since the seal was removed** and the light of truth has been shining upon his visions. He stands in his **lot**, bearing the testimony which was to be understood at **the end of the days.**” *Sermons and Talks*, volume 1, 225–226.

1833: WILLIAM MILLER RECEIVES HIS CREDENTIALS TO PREACH

“In 1833, two years after Miller began to present in public the evidences of Christ’s soon coming, the last of the signs appeared which were promised by the Saviour as tokens of His second advent. Said Jesus: ‘The stars shall fall from heaven.’ Matthew 24:29. And John in the Revelation declared, as he beheld in vision the scenes that should herald the day of God: ‘The stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.’ Revelation 6:13. This prophecy received a striking and impressive fulfillment in the great meteoric shower of November 13, 1833.” *The Great Controversy*, 333.

AUGUST 11, 1840: FIRST ANGEL’S MESSAGE EMPOWERED

“Daniel stood in his **lot** to bear his testimony which was sealed until the time of the end, **when** the first angel’s message **should be proclaimed to our world.**” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 115.

“The advent movement of 1840–44 was a glorious manifestation of the power of God; **the first angel’s message was carried to every missionary station in the world.**” *The Great Controversy*, 611.

“Any question that Satan can arouse in the mind to create doubt in regard to the grand history of the past travels of the people of God will please his satanic majesty and is an offense to God. The tidings of the Lord’s soon coming in power and great glory to our world is truth, and **in 1840 many voices were raised in its proclamation.**” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 9, 134.

“The unsealing of the little book was the message in relation to time.” *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, volume 7, 971.

“**In the year 1840** another remarkable fulfillment of prophecy excited widespread interest. two years before, Josiah Litch, one of the leading ministers preaching the second advent, published an exposition of **Revelation 9**, predicting the fall of the Ottoman Empire. According to his calculations, this power was to be overthrown . . . **on the 11th of August, 1840**, when the Ottoman power in Constantinople may be expected to be broken. And this, I believe, will be found to be the case.’

“At the very time specified, Turkey, through her ambassadors, accepted the protection of the allied powers of Europe, and thus placed herself under the control of Christian nations. **The event exactly fulfilled the prediction.** When it became known, multitudes were convinced of the correctness of the principles of prophetic interpretation adopted by Miller and his associates, and a wonderful impetus was given to the advent movement. Men of learning and position united with Miller, both in preaching and in publishing his views, and **from 1840 to 1844 the work rapidly extended.**” *The Great Controversy*, 334–335.

“The angel’s position, with one foot on the sea, the other on the land, **signifies the wide extent of the proclamation of the message.** It will cross the broad waters and be proclaimed in other countries, even **to all the world.**” *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, volume 7, 971.

“The message of Revelation 14, proclaiming that the hour of God’s judgment is come, is given in the time of the end; and the angel of Revelation 10 is represented as having one foot on the sea and one foot on the land, showing that **the message will be carried to distant lands, the ocean will be crossed, and the islands of the sea will hear the proclamation of the last message of warning to our world.**” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 108.

THE SECOND ANGEL’S MESSAGE

“**In June, 1842**, Mr. Miller gave his second course of lectures at the Casco Street church in Portland [Maine]. . . . With few exceptions, **the different denominations closed the doors of their churches** against Mr. Miller.” *Testimonies*, volume 1, 21.

THE TARRYING TIME: THE FIRST DISAPPOINTMENT

“As early as 1842 the direction given in this prophecy to ‘write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it,’ had suggested to Charles Fitch the preparation of a prophetic chart to illustrate the visions of Daniel and the Revelation. The publication of this chart was regarded as a fulfillment of the command given by Habakkuk. No one, however, then noticed that an apparent delay in the accomplishment of the vision—a tarrying time—is presented in the same prophecy. After the disappointment, this scripture appeared very significant: ‘The vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry. . . . The just shall live by his faith.’

“A portion of Ezekiel’s prophecy also was a source of strength and comfort to believers: ‘The word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Son of man, what is that proverb that ye have in the land of Israel, saying, The days are prolonged, and every vision faileth? Tell them therefore, Thus saith the Lord God. . . . The days are at hand, and the effect of every vision. . . . I will speak, and the word that I shall speak shall come to pass; it shall be no more prolonged.’ ‘They of the house of Israel say, The vision that he seeth is for many days to come, and he prophesieth of the times that are far off. Therefore say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; There shall none of My words be prolonged any more, but the word which I have spoken shall be done.’ Ezekiel 12:21–25, 27, 28.” *The Great Controversy*, 392.

THE 1843 CHART

“I have seen that the 1843 chart was directed by the hand of the Lord, and that it should not be altered; that the figures were as He wanted them; that His hand was over and hid a mistake in some of the figures, so that none could see it, until His hand was removed.

“Then I saw in relation to the ‘daily’ (Daniel 8:12) that the word ‘sacrifice’ was supplied by man’s wisdom, and does not belong to the text, and that the Lord gave the correct view of it to those who gave the judgment hour cry. When union existed, before 1844, nearly all were united on the correct view of the ‘daily’; but in the confusion since 1844, other views have been embraced, and darkness and confusion have followed. Time has not been a test since 1844, and it will never again be a test.” *Early Writings*, 74–75.

“It was the united testimony of Second Advent lecturers and papers, when standing on ‘the original faith,’ that the publication of the chart was a fulfillment of Habakkuk 2:2, 3. If the chart was a subject of prophecy (and **those who deny it leave the original faith**), then it follows that B.C. 457 was the year from which to date the 2300 days. It was necessary that 1843 should be the first published time in order that ‘the vision’ should ‘tarry,’ or that there should be a tarrying time, in which the virgin band was to slumber and sleep on the great subject of time, just before they were to be aroused by the Midnight Cry.” *Second Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*, Volume I, Number 2, James White.

WRITE THE VISION, AND MAKE IT PLAIN

I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved. And the Lord answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry. Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith. Habakkuk 2:1-4.

THE EFFECT OF EVERY VISION

Son of man, what is that proverb that ye have in the land of Israel, saying, The days are prolonged, and every vision faileth?

Tell them therefore, Thus saith the Lord God; I will make this proverb to cease, and they shall no more use it as a proverb in Israel; but say unto them, The days are at hand, and the effect of every vision.

For there shall be no more any vain vision nor flattering divination within the house of Israel. For I am the Lord: I will speak, and the word that I shall speak shall come to pass; it shall be no more prolonged: for in your days, O rebellious house, will I say the word, and will perform it, saith the Lord God.

Again the word of the Lord came to me, saying, Son of man, behold, they of the house of Israel say, The vision that he seeth is for many days to come, and he prophesieth of the times that are far off. Therefore say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; There shall none of my words be prolonged any more, but the word which I have spoken shall be done, saith the Lord God. Ezekiel 12:22-28.

“In May, 1842, a General Conference was convened in Boston, Massachusetts. At the opening of this meeting, Brethren Charles Fitch and Apollos Hale, of Haverhill, presented the pictorial prophecies of Daniel and John, which they had painted on cloth, with the prophetic numbers, showing their fulfillment. Brother Fitch in explaining from his chart before the Conference, said, while examining these prophecies, he had thought if he could get out something of the kind as here presented it would simplify the subject and make it easier for him to present to an audience. **Here was more light in our pathway.** These brethren had been doing what the Lord had shown Habakkuk in his vision 2,468 years before, saying, ‘Write the vision and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time.’ Habakkuk 2:2.

“After some discussion on the subject, it was voted unanimously to have **three hundred** similar to this one lithographed, which was soon accomplished. They were called ‘the ‘43 charts.’ This was a very important Conference.” *The Autobiography of Joseph Bates*, 263.

“Now our history shows that there were hundreds teaching from the same chronological charts that William Miller was, all of one stamp. Then it was the oneness of the message all on one theme, the coming of the Lord Jesus at a certain time, 1844.” Joseph Bates, *Early SDA Pamphlets*, 17.

THE SECOND ANGEL'S MESSAGE PROCLAIMED

“The first and **second messages were given in 1843 and 1844**, and we are now under the proclamation of the third; but all three of the messages are still to be proclaimed. It is just as essential now as ever before that they shall be repeated to those who are seeking for the truth. By pen and voice we are to sound the proclamation, showing their order, and the application of the prophecies that bring us to the third angel's message. There cannot be a third without the first and second. These messages we are to give to the world in publications, in discourses, showing in the line of prophetic history the things that have been and the things that will be.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 104.

SECOND ANGEL'S MESSAGE FULFILLED IN THE UNITED STATES

“The second angel's message of Revelation 14 was **first preached in the summer of 1844**, and it then had **a more direct application to the churches of the United States**, where the warning of the judgment had been most widely proclaimed and most generally rejected, and where the declension in the churches had been most rapid.” *The Great Controversy*, 389.

THE MIDNIGHT CRY

“In the summer of 1844, midway between the time when it had been first thought that the 2300 days would end, and the autumn of the same year, to which it was afterward found that they extended, **the message was proclaimed in the very words of Scripture: ‘Behold, the Bridegroom cometh!’** *The Great Controversy*, 398.

OUTPOURING OF THE SPIRIT

“**Like a tidal wave the movement swept over the land.** From city to city, from village to village, and into remote country places it went, until the waiting people of God were fully aroused. Fanaticism disappeared before this proclamation like early frost before the rising sun. Believers saw their doubt and perplexity removed, and hope and courage animated their hearts. The work was free from those extremes which are ever manifested when there is human excitement without the controlling influence of the word and Spirit of God. **It was similar in character to those seasons of humiliation and returning unto the Lord which among ancient Israel followed messages of reproof from His servants. It bore the characteristics that mark the work of God in every age.** There was little ecstatic joy, but rather deep searching of heart, confession of sin, and forsaking of the world. A preparation to meet the Lord was the burden of agonizing spirits. There was persevering prayer and unreserved consecration to God.” *The Great Controversy*, 400, 401.

THE CLOSE OF THE SECOND ANGEL'S MESSAGE

“Near the close of the second angel’s message, I saw a great light from heaven shining upon the people of God. The rays of this light seemed bright as the sun. And I heard the voices of angels crying, ‘Behold, the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet Him!’

“This was **the midnight cry**, which was to give power to the second angel’s **message**. Angels were sent from heaven **to arouse** the discouraged saints and prepare them for the great work before them. The most talented men were not the first to receive this **message**. Angels were sent to the humble, devoted ones, and constrained them to raise the cry, ‘Behold, the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet Him!’” *Early Writings*, 238.

#5—REVELATION 18

SPECIAL LIGHT

“I stated that I was a stockholder and I could not let the resolution pass, that **there was to be special light for God’s people as they neared the closing scenes of this earth’ history.** Another angel was to come from heaven with a **message**, and the whole earth was to be lightened with his glory. **It would be impossible for us to state just how this additional light would come. It might come in a very unexpected manner, in a way that would not agree with the ideas that many have conceived. It is not at all unlikely, or contrary to the ways and works of God, to send light to His people in unexpected ways.**” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 13, 334.

THE JUDGMENT OF BABYLON

“Her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities. . . . In the cup which she hath filled fill to her double. How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her: for she saith in her heart, I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow. Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her. And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, . . . saying, Alas, alas that great city Babylon, that mighty city! for in one hour is thy judgment come.’ Revelation 18:5–10.

“‘The merchants of the earth,’ that have ‘waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies,’ ‘shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing, and saying, Alas, alas that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls! For in one hour so great riches is come to nought.’ Revelation 18:11, 3, 15–17.

“Such are the judgments that fall upon Babylon in the day of the visitation of God’s wrath. She has filled up the measure of her iniquity; her time has come; she is ripe for destruction.” *The Great Controversy*, 653.

“The events connected with the close of probation and the work of preparation for the time of trouble, are clearly presented. But multitudes have no more understanding of these important truths than if they had never been revealed.” *The Great Controversy*, 594.

A LOUD VOICE—INCREASING POWER

“The truth for this time, the third angel’s message, is to be proclaimed with a loud voice, **meaning with increasing power**, as we approach the great final test. . . . The present truth for this time comprises the messages, the third angel’s message **succeeding the first and the second.** The presentation of this message with all it embraces is our work. We stand as the remnant people in these last days to promulgate the truth and swell the cry of the third angel’s wonderful distinct message, giving the trumpet a certain sound. **Eternal truth, which we have adhered to from the beginning, is to be maintained in all its increasing importance to the close of probation.** The trumpet is to give no uncertain sound. . . .

“This message is to come to the churches. We are to consider the best plans for accomplishing this. . . . **Faith, eternal faith in the past and in the present truth**, is to be talked, is to be prayed, is to be presented with pen and voice.

“The third angel’s message in its clear, definite terms is to be made the prominent warning. All that it comprehends is to be made intelligible to the reasoning minds of today.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 9, 291.

THE BEGINNING

“The time of test is just upon us, for the loud cry of the third angel has already begun in the revelation of the righteousness of Christ, the sin-pardoning Redeemer. **This is the beginning of the light of the angel whose glory shall fill the whole earth.** For it is the work of every one to whom the message of warning has come, to lift up Jesus, to present Him to the world as revealed in types, as shadowed in symbols, as manifested in the revelations of the prophets, as unveiled in the lessons given to His disciples and in the wonderful miracles wrought for the sons of men. Search the Scriptures; for they are they that testify of Him.” *Selected Messages*, book 1, 362.

ANGELS

REVELATION FOURTEEN

“The third angel is represented as flying in the midst of heaven, symbolizing the work of those who proclaim the **first, second, and third** angel’s messages; all are linked together.” *Selected Messages*, book 3, 405.

REVELATION EIGHTEEN

“‘Another angel’ is to come down from heaven. **This angel represents the giving of the loud cry**, which is to come from those who are preparing to cry mightily, with a strong voice, ‘Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird’ (Revelation 18:1, 2).” *Selected Messages*, book 3, 412.

“John saw ‘Another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the whole earth was lightened with his glory.’ Revelation 18:1. **That work is the voice of the people of God proclaiming a message of warning to the world.**” *The 1888 Materials*, 926.

MILLERITE HISTORY REPEATED

REVELATION TEN

“The special light given to John which was expressed in the seven thunders was a delineation of **events** which would transpire under the first and second angels’ messages.” *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, volume 7, 971.

“After these seven thunders uttered their voices, the injunction comes to John as to Daniel in regard to the little book: ‘Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered.’ These relate to **future events** which will be disclosed in their order.” Ibid.

MATTHEW TWENTY-FIVE

“The parable of the ten virgins of Matthew 25 also illustrates the experience of the Adventist people.” *The Great Controversy*, 393.

“When the third angel’s message is preached as it should be, power attends its proclamation, and it becomes an abiding influence. It must be attended with divine power, or it will accomplish nothing. I am often referred to the parable of the ten virgins, five of whom were wise, and five foolish. This **parable has been and will be fulfilled to the very letter**, for it has a special application to this time, and, like the third angel’s message, has been fulfilled and will continue to be present truth till the close of time.” *Review and Herald*, August 19, 1890.

REVELATION FOURTEEN

“**The whole earth is to be lightened with the glory of the Lord.** The pure in heart shall see God. It is those who are following the Lamb whithersoever He goeth that will receive power from that angel that came down from heaven ‘having great power.’ **The first message is to be repeated proclaiming the second advent of Christ to our world. The second angels’ message is to be repeated,** ‘Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies’ [Revelation 18:2, 3].” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 16, 40.

And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.

And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities. Revelation 18:1–5.

PARALLEL

“God has given the messages of Revelation 14 their place in the line of prophecy, and their work is not to cease till the close of this earth’s history. The first and second angel’s messages are still truth for this time, and **are to run parallel with this which follows.** The third angel proclaims his warning with a loud voice. ‘After these things,’ said John, ‘I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power, and the earth was lightened with his glory.’ In this illumination, **the light of all the three messages is combined.**” *The 1888 Materials*, 804.

THE MIDNIGHT CRY JOINED THE SECOND MESSAGE

“I was shown the interest which all heaven had taken in the work going on upon the earth. Jesus commissioned a **mighty angel [THE FIRST ANGEL] to descend** and warn the inhabitants of the earth to prepare for His second appearing. As the angel left the presence of Jesus in heaven, an exceedingly bright and glorious light went before him. I was told that his mission was **to lighten the earth with his glory** and warn man of the coming wrath of God. Multitudes received the light. . . .

“**Another mighty angel [THE SECOND ANGEL]** was commissioned to descend to earth. Jesus placed in his hand a writing, and as he came to the earth, he cried, ‘Babylon is fallen, is fallen.’ . . .

“As the people of God united in the cry of the second angel, the heavenly host marked with the deepest interest the effect of the message. . . .

“Jesus commissioned **other angels [THE MIDNIGHT CRY/PLURAL]** to fly quickly to revive and strengthen the drooping faith of His people and prepare them to understand the message of the second angel and the important move which was soon to be made in heaven. I saw these angels receive great power and light from Jesus and fly quickly to earth to fulfill their commission to aid the second angel in his work. A great light shone upon the people of God as **the angels cried**, ‘Behold, the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet Him.’” *Early Writings*, 245–248.

UNITES WITH THIRD ANGEL

“I saw angels hurrying to and fro in heaven, descending to the earth, and again ascending to heaven, preparing for the fulfillment of some important event. Then I saw **another mighty angel [SINGULAR]** commissioned to descend to the earth, to **unite his voice with the third angel, [SINGULAR]** and give power and force to his message. Great power and glory were imparted to the angel, and as he descended, the earth was lightened with his glory. The light which attended this angel **[SINGULAR]** penetrated everywhere, as he **[SINGULAR]** cried mightily, with a strong voice, ‘Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.’ The message of the fall of Babylon, as given by the second angel, **[SINGULAR]** is **repeated**, with the additional mention of the corruptions which have been entering the churches since 1844. The work of this angel **[SINGULAR]** comes in at the right time to join in the last great work of the third angel’s message as it swells to a loud cry. And the people of God are thus prepared to stand in the hour of temptation, which they are soon to meet. I saw a great light resting upon them, and they united to fearlessly proclaim the third angel’s message.

“**Angels [PLURAL]** were sent to aid the **mighty angel from heaven**, and I heard voices **[PLURAL]** which seemed to sound everywhere, ‘**Come out of her**, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.’ This message seemed to be an addition to the third message, **joining it as the midnight cry [PLURAL] joined the second angel’s [SINGULAR] message in 1844**. The glory of God rested upon the patient, waiting saints, and they fearlessly gave the last solemn warning, proclaiming the fall of Babylon and calling upon God’s people to come out of her that they might escape her fearful doom.” *Early Writings*, 277.

WHEN THE DECREE GOES FORTH

“None are condemned until they have had the light and have seen the obligation of the fourth commandment. But **when the decree shall go forth enforcing the counterfeit sabbath**, and **the loud cry of ‘the third angel’** shall warn men against the worship of the beast and his image, the line will be clearly drawn between the false and the true. **Then** those who still continue in transgression will receive the mark of the beast.” *Signs of the Times*, November 8, 1899.

COME OUT OF HER

And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. Revelation 18:4.

REVELATION 18:4

“Revelation 18 points to the time when, as the result of rejecting the threefold warning of Revelation 14:6-12, the church will have fully reached the condition foretold by the second angel, and **the people of God still in Babylon will be called upon to separate from her communion**. This message is the last that will ever be given to the world; and it will accomplish its work. **When those that ‘believed not the truth**, but had pleasure in unrighteousness’ 2 Thessalonians 2:12, shall be left to receive strong delusion and to believe a lie, **then** the light of truth will shine upon all whose hearts are open to receive it, and all **the children of the Lord that remain in Babylon** will heed the call: **‘Come out of her, my people.’** Revelation 18:4. *Maranatha*, 173.

THE TEMPLE CLEANSED

“The prophet says, ‘I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils’ (Revelation 18:1, 2). **This is the same message that was given by the second angel. . . .**

“When Jesus began His public ministry, He cleansed the Temple from its sacrilegious profanation. Among the last acts of His ministry was the second cleansing of the Temple. So in the last work for the warning of the world, two distinct calls are made to the churches. The second angel’s message is, ‘Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication’ (Revelation 14:8). And in the loud cry of the third angel’s message a voice is heard from heaven saying, **‘Come out of her**, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities’ (Revelation 18:4, 5).” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 118.

THE DOOR WILL BE SHUT

“Take each verse of this chapter, and read it carefully, especially the last two: ‘And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee: for thy merchants were the great men of the earth; for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived. And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth.’

“The parable of the ten virgins was given by Christ Himself, and every specification should be carefully studied. **A time will come when the door will be shut.** We are represented either by the wise or the foolish virgins. We cannot now distinguish, nor have we authority to say, who are wise and who foolish. There are those who hold the truth in unrighteousness, and these appear outwardly like the wise.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 16, 270.

SHUT DOOR

“**When** those who have had abundance of light throw off the restraint which the Word of God imposes, and make void his law, others will come in to fill their place, and take their crown.” *Review and Herald*, June 15, 1897.

MANY WITH WHOM THE SPIRIT OF GOD IS STRIVING

“Oh, that the people might know the time of their visitation! There are many who have not yet heard the testing truth for this time. There are many with whom the Spirit of God is striving. **The time of God’s destructive judgments is the time of mercy for those who have had no opportunity to learn what is truth.** Tenderly will the Lord look upon them. His heart of mercy is touched; His hand is still stretched out to save, **while the door is closed to those who would not enter.**” *Testimonies*, volume 9, 97.

THE ONE-HOUR LABOURERS

“There are diligent students of the word of prophecy in all parts of the world, who are obtaining light and still greater light from searching the Scriptures. This is true of all nations, of all tribes, and all peoples. These will come from the grossest error, and **will take the place of those who have had opportunities and privileges and have not prized them.** These have worked out their own salvation with fear and trembling lest they shall become deficient in doing the ways and will of God, while those who have had great light, have, through the perversity of their own natural hearts, turned away from Christ because displeased with His requirements. But God will not be left without witness. The **one-hour labourers** will be brought in at **the eleventh hour**, and will consecrate their ability and all their entrusted means to advance the work. These will receive the reward for their faithfulness, because they are true to principle and shun not their duty to declare the whole counsel of God. **When** those who have had abundance of light throw off the restraint which the Word of God imposes, and make void His law, **others will come in to fill their place, and take their crown.**” *Testimonies to Southern Africa*, 50.

GOD'S CHOSEN

“I saw that the holy Sabbath is, and will be, the separating wall between the true Israel of God and unbelievers; and that the Sabbath is the great question, to unite the hearts of God’s dear waiting saints. And if one believed, and kept the Sabbath, and received the blessing attending it, and then gave it up, and broke the holy commandment, **they would shut the gates of the Holy City against themselves**, as sure as there was a God that rules in heaven above. I saw that God had children, who do not see and keep the Sabbath. They had not rejected the light on it. And at the commencement of the time of trouble, we were filled with the Holy Ghost as we went forth and proclaimed the Sabbath more fully. This enraged the church, and nominal Adventists, as they could not refute the Sabbath truth. And at this time, God’s chosen, all saw clearly that we had the truth, and they came out and endured the persecution with us. And I saw the sword, famine, pestilence, and great confusion in the land. The wicked thought that we had brought the judgments down on them. They rose up and took counsel to rid the earth of us, thinking that then the evil would be stayed.” *Broadside* 3, April 7, 1847; *A Word to the Little Flock*, 18.

THEN THE WORDS OF REVELATION 18:1–3 WILL BE FULFILLED

“Now comes the word that I have declared that New York is to be swept away by a tidal wave. This I have never said. I have said, as I looked at the great buildings going up there, story after story: ‘What terrible scenes will take place when the Lord shall arise to shake terribly the earth! Then the words of Revelation 18:1–3 will be fulfilled.’ The whole of the eighteenth chapter of Revelation is a warning of what is coming on the earth. But I have no light in particular in regard to what is coming on New York, only I know that one day the great buildings there will be thrown down by the turning and overturning of God’s power. From the light given me, I know that destruction is in the world. One word from the Lord, one touch of His mighty power, and these massive structures will fall. Scenes will take place the fearfulness of which we cannot imagine.” *Review and Herald*, July 5, 1906.

#6— THE THREE WOES

THE FIRST WOE: FIRST GREAT JIHAD

Islam: Arabia—Mohamed

THE KEY: Empowered after war between East and West: Daniel 11:40.

Mode of warfare: strike suddenly and unexpectedly

Focus of warfare: the armies of Rome

Directed by their tails:

The ancient and honourable, he is the head; and the prophet that teacheth lies, he is the tail. Isaiah 9:15.

Providential force that tormented (**HURTS**) the armies of down Rome

THE FIFTH TRUMPET:

And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads.

HISTORY

From Mohamed to July 27, 1299 **and then** until July 27, 1449

THE SECOND WOE: SECOND GREAT JIHAD

Islam: Turkey—Othman

Mode of warfare: strike suddenly and unexpectedly **with explosives**

Focus of warfare: the armies of Rome

Directed by their heads and tails:

The ancient and honourable, he is the head; and the prophet that teacheth lies, he is the tail. Isaiah 9:15.

Providential force that brought down (**KILLS**) Imperial (pagan) Rome

THE SIXTH TRUMPET:

Revelation 10, 1840 through 1844

HISTORY

From July 27, 1449 through October 22, 1844

EXCERPT FROM WILLIAM FOY'S SECOND VISION ON FEBRUARY 4, 1842

“Near the place through which we passed I beheld a mighty angel clothed in pure white raiment, having a crown of brightness on his head. He appeared to be gazing through the bar, and his eyes like lamps of fire, were fixed with steadfastness upon the earth. He stood with his right foot placed before him, as though walking; and his object appeared to be, to reach the earth. But three steps remained for him to take. Against his breast, and across his left hand, was as it were, a trumpet of pure silver; and a great and terrible voice came from the midst of the boundless place, saying, ‘**The sixth angel hath not yet done sounding.**’”

THE THIRD WOE: THIRD GREAT JIHAD

9:11

And they had a king over them, *which* is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath *his* name Apollyon.

Islam: Worldwide—Bin Laden

Mode of warfare: strike suddenly and unexpectedly with explosives

Focus of warfare: the armies of Rome—the USA

Directed by their heads and tails

The ancient and honourable, he is the head; and the prophet that teacheth lies, he is the tail. Isaiah 9:15.

Providential force that torments (**FIRST HURTS**) the army of Rome and then brings down (**KILLS**) modern Rome: the dragon, the beast and the false prophet.

THE SEVENTH TRUMPET:

The Investigative Judgment

HISTORY

From October 22, 1844 until the return of Christ

THE GREAT BUILDINGS THERE WILL BE THROWN DOWN

“Now comes the word that I have declared that New York is to be swept away by a tidal wave. This I have never said. I have said, as I looked at the great buildings going up there, story after story: ‘What terrible scenes will take place when the Lord shall arise to shake terribly the earth! **Then** the words of Revelation 18:1–3 will be fulfilled.’ The whole of the eighteenth chapter of Revelation is a warning of what is coming on the earth. But I have no light in particular in regard to what is coming on New York, only I know that one day the great buildings there will be thrown down by the turning and overturning of God’s power. From the light given me, I know that destruction is in the world. One word from the Lord, one touch of His mighty power, and these massive structures will fall. Scenes will take place the fearfulness of which we cannot imagine.” *Review and Herald*, July 5, 1906.

TESTIMONIES 9-11

FOR THE COMING OF THE KING

Yet a little while, and He that shall come will come, and will not tarry. Hebrews 10:37.

THE LAST CRISIS

“We are living in **the time of the end**. The fast-fulfilling signs of the times declare that the coming of Christ is near at hand. The days in which we live are solemn and important. The Spirit of God is gradually but surely being withdrawn from the earth. Plagues and judgments are already falling upon the despisers of the grace of God. The calamities by land and sea, the unsettled state of society, the alarms of war, are portentous. They forecast approaching events of the greatest magnitude.

“The agencies of evil are combining their forces and consolidating. They are strengthening for the last great crisis. Great changes are soon to take place in our world, and the final movements will be rapid ones.

“The condition of things in the world shows that troublous times are right upon us. The daily papers are full of indications of a terrible conflict in the near future. Bold robberies are of frequent occurrence. Strikes are common. Thefts and murders are committed on every hand. Men possessed of demons are taking the lives of men, women, and little children. Men have become infatuated with vice, and every species of evil prevails.

“The enemy has succeeded in perverting justice and in filling men’s hearts with the desire for selfish gain.

“Justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter.’ Isaiah 59:14. In the great cities there are multitudes living in poverty and wretchedness, well-nigh destitute of food, shelter, and clothing; while in the same cities are those who have more than heart could wish, who live luxuriously, spending their money on richly furnished houses, on personal adornment, or worse still, upon the gratification of sensual appetites, upon liquor, tobacco, and other things that destroy the powers of the brain, unbalance the mind, and debase the soul. The cries of starving humanity are coming up before God, while by every species of oppression and extortion men are piling up colossal fortunes.

“On one occasion, when in New York City, I was in the night season called upon to behold buildings rising story after story toward heaven. These buildings were warranted to be fireproof, and they were erected to glorify the owners and builders. Higher and still higher these buildings rose, and in them the most costly material was used. Those to whom these buildings belonged were not asking themselves: ‘How can we best glorify God?’ The Lord was not in their thoughts.

“I thought: ‘Oh, that those who are thus investing their means could see their course as God sees it! They are piling up magnificent buildings, but how foolish in the sight of the Ruler of the universe is their planning and devising. They are not studying with all the powers of heart and mind how they may glorify God. They have lost sight of this, the first duty of man.’

“As these lofty buildings went up, the owners rejoiced with ambitious pride that they had money to use in gratifying self and provoking the envy of their neighbors. Much of the money that they thus invested had been obtained through exaction, through grinding down the poor. They forgot that in heaven an account of every business transaction is kept; every unjust deal, every fraudulent act, is there recorded. The time is coming when in their fraud and insolence men will reach a point that the Lord will not permit them to pass, and they will learn that there is a limit to the forbearance of Jehovah.

“The scene that next passed before me was an alarm of fire. Men looked at the lofty and supposedly fire-proof buildings and said: ‘They are perfectly safe.’ But these buildings were consumed as if made of pitch. The fire engines could do nothing to stay the destruction. The firemen were unable to operate the engines.

“I am instructed that when the Lord’s time comes, should no change have taken place in the hearts of proud, ambitious human beings, men will find that the hand that had been strong to save will be strong to destroy. No earthly power can stay the hand of God. No material can be used in the erection of buildings that will preserve them from destruction when God’s appointed time comes to send retribution on men for their disregard of His law and for their selfish ambition.

“There are not many, even among educators and statesmen, who comprehend the causes that underlie the present state of society. Those who hold the reins of government are not able to solve the problem of moral corruption, poverty, pauperism, and increasing crime. They are struggling in vain to place business operations on a more secure basis. If men would give more heed to the teaching of God’s word, they would find a solution of the problems that perplex them.

“The Scriptures describe the condition of the world just before Christ’s second coming. Of the men who by robbery and extortion are amassing great riches, it is written: ‘Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days. Behold, the hire of the laborers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth. Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter. Ye have condemned and killed the just; and he doth not resist you.’ James 5:3-6.

“But who reads the warnings given by the fast-fulfilling signs of the times? What impression is made upon worldlings? What change is seen in their attitude? No more than was seen in the attitude of the inhabitants of the Noachian world. Absorbed in worldly business and pleasure, the antediluvians ‘knew not until the Flood came, and took them all away.’ Matthew 24:39. They had heaven-sent warnings, but they refused to listen. And today the world, utterly regardless of the warning voice of God, is hurrying on to eternal ruin.

“The world is stirred with the spirit of war. The prophecy of the eleventh chapter of Daniel has nearly reached its complete fulfillment. Soon the scenes of trouble spoken of in the prophecies will take place.

“Behold, the Lord maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof. . . . Because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate. . . . The mirth of tabrets ceaseth, the noise of them that rejoice endeth, the joy of the harp ceaseth.” Isaiah 24:1-8.

“Alas for the day! for the day of the Lord is at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come. . . . The seed is rotten under their clods, the garners are laid desolate, the barns are broken down, for the corn is withered. How do the beasts groan! the herds of cattle are perplexed, because they have no pasture; yea, the flocks of sheep are made desolate.’ ‘The vine is dried up, and the fig tree languisheth; the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple tree, even all the trees of the field, are withered: because joy is withered away from the sons of men.’ Joel 1:15-18, 12.

“I am pained at my very heart; . . . I cannot hold my peace, because thou has heard, O my soul, the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war. Destruction upon destruction is cried; for the whole land is spoiled.’ Jeremiah 4:19, 20.

“I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light. I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down.’ Verses 23-26.

“Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob’s trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.’ Jeremiah 30:7.

“Not all in this world have taken sides with the enemy against God. Not all have become disloyal. There are a faithful few who are true to God; for John writes: ‘Here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.’ Revelation 14:12. Soon the battle will be waged fiercely between those who serve God and those who serve Him not. Soon everything that can be shaken will be shaken, that those things that cannot be shaken may remain.

“Satan is a diligent Bible student. He knows that his time is short, and he seeks at every point to counterwork the work of the Lord upon this earth. It is impossible to give any idea of the experience of the people of God who shall be alive upon the earth when celestial glory and a repetition of the persecutions of the past are blended. They will walk in the light proceeding from the throne of God. By means of the angels there will be constant communication between heaven and earth. And Satan, surrounded by evil angels, and claiming to be God, will work miracles of all kinds, to deceive, if possible, the very elect. God’s people will not find their safety in working miracles, for Satan will counterfeit the miracles that will be wrought. God’s tried and tested people will find their power in the sign spoken of in Exodus 31:12-18. They are to take their stand on the living word: ‘It is written.’ This is the only foundation upon which they can stand securely. Those who have broken their covenant with God will in that day be without God and without hope.

“The worshipers of God will be especially distinguished by their regard for the fourth commandment, since this is the sign of God’s creative power and the witness to His claim upon man’s reverence and homage. The wicked will be distinguished by their efforts to tear down the Creator’s memorial and to exalt the institution of Rome. In the issue of the conflict all Christendom will be divided into two great classes, those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, and those who worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark. Although church and state will unite their power to compel all, ‘both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond,’ to receive the mark of the beast, yet the people of God will not receive it. Revelation 13:16. The prophet of Patmos beholds ‘them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God,’ and singing the song of Moses and the Lamb. Revelation 15:2.

“Fearful tests and trials await the people of God. The spirit of war is stirring the nations from one end of the earth to the other. But in the midst of the time of trouble that is coming,—a time of trouble such as has not been since there was a nation, God’s chosen people will stand unmoved. Satan and his host cannot destroy them, for angels that excel in strength will protect them.

“God’s word to His people is: ‘Come out from among them, and be ye separate, . . . and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be My sons and daughters.’ ‘Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.’ 2 Corinthians 6:17, 18; 1 Peter 2:9. God’s people are to be distinguished as a people who serve Him fully, wholeheartedly, taking no honor to themselves, and remembering that by a most solemn covenant they have bound themselves to serve the Lord and Him only.

“‘The Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily My Sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the Lord that doth sanctify you. Ye shall keep the Sabbath therefore; for it is holy unto you: everyone that defileth it shall surely be put to death: for whosoever doeth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people. Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the Sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord: whosoever doeth any work in the Sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant. It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day He rested, and was refreshed.’ Exodus 31:12-17.

“Do not these words point us out as God’s denominated people? and do they not declare to us that so long as time shall last, we are to cherish the sacred, denominational distinction placed upon us? The children of Israel were to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations ‘for a perpetual covenant.’ The Sabbath has lost none of its meaning. It is still the sign between God and His people, and it will be so forever.” *Testimonies*, volume 9, 11–18.

#7—ISLAM & ISHMAEL

THE ANCIENT PEOPLE

Thus saith the Lord the King of Israel, and his redeemer the Lord of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God. And who, as I, shall call, and shall declare it, and set it in order for me, since **I appointed the ancient people?** and the things that are coming, and shall come, let them show unto them. Fear ye not, neither be afraid: have not I told thee from that time, and have declared it? **ye are even my witnesses.** Is there a God beside me? yea, there is no God; I know not any. Isaiah 44:6–8.

PATRIARCHAL BLESSING: END-TIME PROPHECY

And Jacob called unto his sons, and said, Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you that which shall befall you in the last days. All these are the twelve tribes of Israel: and this is it that their father spake unto them, and blessed them; every one according to his blessing he blessed them. Genesis 49:1, 28.

“At the last all the sons of Jacob were gathered about his dying bed. And Jacob called unto his sons, and said, ‘Gather yourselves together, and hear, ye sons of Jacob; and hearken unto Israel your father,’ ‘that I may tell you that which shall befall you in the last days.’ Often and anxiously he had thought of their future, and had endeavored to picture to himself the history of the different tribes. Now as his children waited to receive his last blessing the Spirit of Inspiration rested upon him, and before him in prophetic vision **the future of his descendants was unfolded.** One after another the names of his sons were mentioned, the character of each was described, and **the future history of the tribes was briefly foretold.**” *Patriarchs and Prophets*, 235.

ISHMAEL’S PROPHECY

And he will be a wild man; his hand *will be* against every man, and every man’s hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren. Genesis 16:12.

Wild: the wild Arabian ass

A BLESSING AND A CURSE

BALAAM: NUMBERS 22

Then there passed by Midianites merchantmen; and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites for twenty *pieces* of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt. Genesis 37:28.

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, Matthew 2:1.

HIS HAND AGAINST EVERY MAN

And he will be a wild man; his hand *will be* against every man, and every man’s hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren. Genesis 16:12.

THE ANGERING OF THE NATIONS

And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth. Revelation 11:18.

NOW GETTING ANGRY

“I saw that the anger of the nations, the wrath of God, and the time to judge the dead were **separate and distinct, one following the other**, also that Michael had not stood up, and that the time of trouble, such as never was, had not yet commenced. **The nations are now getting angry**, but when our High Priest has finished His work in the sanctuary, He will stand up, put on the garments of vengeance, and then the seven last plagues will be poured out.

“I saw that the four angels would hold the four winds until Jesus’ work was done in the sanctuary, and then will come the seven last plagues.” *Early Writings*, 36.

TROUBLOUS TIMES

Know therefore and understand, *that* from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince *shall be* seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: **the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.** Daniel 9:25.

DISTRESS OF NATIONS

And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and **upon the earth** distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring. Luke 21:25.

PARALLEL HISTORY

“God has given the messages of Revelation 14 their place in the line of prophecy, and their work is not to cease till the close of this earth’s history. The first and second angel’s messages are still truth for this time, and **are to run parallel with this which follows.** The third angel proclaims his warning with a loud voice. ‘After these things,’ said John, ‘I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power, and the earth was lightened with his glory.’ In this illumination, **the light of all the three messages is combined.**” *The 1888 Materials*, 804.

DESCENDING POWER

And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow *was* upon his head, and his face *was* as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and *his* left *foot* on the earth. Revelation 10:1, 2.

DESCENDING POWER

And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. Revelation 18:1-3.

FOUR ANGELS

Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men. Revelation 9:14-15.

ISLAM RESTRAINED: AUGUST 11, 1840

“At the very time specified, Turkey, through her ambassadors, accepted the protection of the allied powers of Europe, and thus placed herself under the control of Christian nations. The event exactly fulfilled the prediction. When it became known, multitudes were convinced of the correctness of the principles of prophetic interpretation adopted by Miller and his associates, and a wonderful impetus was given to the Advent movement. Men of learning and position united with Miller, both in preaching and publishing his views, and from 1840 to 1844 the work rapidly extended.” *The Great Controversy*, 334.

FOUR ANGELS

And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. Revelation 7:1-3.

THE FOUR WINDS RESTRAINED

“**Angels** are holding the four winds, represented as **an angry horse** seeking to break loose, and rush over the face of the whole earth, bearing **destruction and death** in its path.” *Selected Messages*, book 3, 409.

ISLAM IS THE ANGRY HORSE

And the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle. . . . the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle. . . . The number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them. And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions. Revelation 9:7, 9, 16, 17.

And he will be a wild man; his hand will be against every man, and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren. Genesis 16:12.

Wild: H6501—From **H6500** in the secondary sense of *running* wild; the *onager*: - wild (ass).

Behold, *as wild asses* in the desert, go they forth to their work; rising betimes for a prey: the wilderness *yieldeth* food for them *and* for *their* children. Job 24:5.

A wild ass used to the wilderness, *that* snuffeth up the wind at her pleasure; in her occasion who can turn her away? all they that seek her will not weary themselves; in her month they shall find her. Jeremiah 2:24.

DIRECTED BY THE HAND OF THE LORD

“I have seen that the 1843 chart was directed by the hand of the Lord, and that it should not be altered; that the figures were as He wanted them; that His hand was over and hid a mistake in some of the figures, so that none could see it, until His hand was removed.” *Early Writings*, 74–75.

DESIGNED FOR GOD’S PEOPLE

“I saw that **God was in the publishment of the chart by Brother Nichols**. I saw that there was **a prophecy of this chart in the Bible**, and if this chart is designed for God’s people, if it [is] sufficient for one it is for another, and if one needed a new chart painted on a larger scale, all need it just as much.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 13, 359.

FOUR WINDS RESTRAINED

“This view was given in 1847 when there were but very few of the Advent brethren observing the Sabbath, and of these but few supposed that its observance was of sufficient importance to draw a line between the people of God and unbelievers. Now the fulfillment of that view is beginning to be seen. ‘The commencement of that time of trouble,’ here mentioned does not refer to the time when the plagues shall begin to be poured out, but to **a short period just before they are poured out, while Christ is in the sanctuary**. At that time, while the work of salvation is closing, **trouble** will be coming on the earth, and **the nations will be angry, yet held in check so as not to prevent the work of the third angel**. At **that time** the ‘latter rain,’ or refreshing from the presence of the Lord, will come, to give power to the loud voice of the third angel, and prepare the saints to stand in the period when the seven last plagues shall be poured out.” *Early Writings*, 85.

HELD IN CHECK

“This being the period for the fulfillment of the words of the prophet, ‘And the nations were angry,’ we may reasonably expect that not only the nations of Europe will make great preparations for war, and even advance to battle; but that our own nation, and **all the nations of the earth, may become unsettled and angry**. But **at the same time** the four angels **will hold the four winds** in check, so that the great slaughter will be prevented, till the servants of God shall be sealed.” James White, *Review and Herald*, March 7, 1854.

AT THAT TIME

“At that time, while the work of salvation is closing, **trouble** will be coming on the earth, and **the nations will be angry, yet held in check so as not to prevent the work of the third angel.** At **that time** the ‘**latter rain,**’ or refreshing from the presence of the Lord, will come, to give power to the loud voice of the third angel, and prepare the saints to stand in the period when the seven last plagues shall be poured out.” *Early Writings*, 85.

THE GREAT BUILDINGS THERE WILL BE THROWN DOWN

“Now comes the word that I have declared that New York is to be swept away by a tidal wave. This I have never said. I have said, as I looked at the great buildings going up there, story after story: ‘What terrible scenes will take place when the Lord shall arise to shake terribly the earth! **Then** the words of Revelation 18:1–3 will be fulfilled.’ The whole of the eighteenth chapter of Revelation is a warning of what is coming on the earth. But I have no light in particular in regard to what is coming on New York, only I know that one day the great buildings there will be thrown down by the turning and overturning of God’s power. From the light given me, I know that destruction is in the world. One word from the Lord, one touch of His mighty power, and these massive structures will fall. Scenes will take place the fearfulness of which we cannot imagine.” *Review and Herald*, July 5, 1906.

THE FOUR WINDS

And after these things I saw **four angels** standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. And I saw **another angel ascending from the east**, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the **four angels**, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. Revelation 7:1–3.

STRIFE & WAR

“Soon the four winds of heaven will be loosed, and **in every part of the globe there will be dissension, strife, war, bloodshed.**” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 18, 177.

“**Winds are a symbol of strife.** The four winds of heaven striving upon the great sea represent the terrible scenes of conquest and revolution by which kingdoms have attained to power.” *The Great Controversy*, 439.

THE FOUR WINDS WILL STIR UP THE NATIONS

“Four mighty angels are still holding the four winds of the earth. Terrible destruction is forbidden to come in full. The accidents by land and by sea; the loss of life, steadily increasing, by storm, by tempest, by railroad disaster, by conflagration; the terrible floods, the earthquakes, and **the winds will be the stirring up of the nations to one deadly combat**, while the angels hold the four winds, forbidding the terrible power of Satan to be exercised in its fury until the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads.” *Review and Herald*, June 7, 1887.

THE CHILDREN OF THE EAST

And Abraham gave all that he had unto Isaac. But unto the sons of the concubines, which Abraham had, Abraham gave gifts, and sent them away from Isaac his son, while he yet lived, eastward, unto the east country. Genesis 25:5–6.

These *are* the sons of Ishmael, and these *are* their names, by their towns, and by their castles; twelve princes according to their nations. And these *are* the years of the life of Ishmael, an hundred and thirty and seven years: and he gave up the ghost and died; and was gathered unto his people. And they dwelt from Havilah unto Shur, that *is* before Egypt, as thou goest toward Assyria: *and* he died in the presence of all his brethren. Genesis 25:16–18.

Havilah: H2341—the name of **two or three eastern regions**.

Shur H7793—a region of the **desert**.

And the Lord put a word in Balaam's mouth, and said, Return unto Balak, and thus thou shalt speak. And he returned unto him, and, lo, he stood by his burnt sacrifice, he, and all the princes of Moab. And he took up his parable, and said, Balak the king of Moab hath brought me from Aram, out of the mountains of the east, *saying*, Come, curse me Jacob, and come, defy Israel. How shall I curse, whom God hath not cursed? or how shall I defy, *whom* the Lord hath not defied? For from the top of the rocks I see him, and from the hills I behold him: lo, the people shall dwell alone, and shall not be reckoned among the nations. Who can count the dust of Jacob, and the number of the fourth *part* of Israel? Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his! And Balak said unto Balaam, What hast thou done unto me? I took thee to curse mine enemies, and, behold, thou hast blessed *them* altogether. Numbers 23:5–11.

GENESIS 5

Adam: man

Seth: appointed.

Enos: wretched.

Mortal, frail, feeble. *Strong's*.

Cainan: lamenting.

Fixed, a nest. *Strong's*.

Mahalaleel: blessed of God.

Praise or strength of God. *Strong's*.

Jared: will come or descend.

Enoch: teaching.

Train. *Strong's*.

Methuselah: His death will bring.

Lamech: weary.

Noah: rest.

Man was appointed mortal, frail and wretched, fixed in this world and lamenting his condition. But the blessed of God promised to descend and teaching that His death would bring to the weary rest.

REVELATION 7

Juda: Let God be praised. Celebrated.

Reuban: Behold a son.

Gad: Good fortune.

To press or crowd together. *Strong's*.

Aser: Happy.

To be honest. *Strong's*.

Nephtalim: My wrestling.

Manassess: Making to forget.

Simeon: Answering of prayer.

Hearing. *Strong's*.

Levi: Joined.

To unite. *Strong's*.

Issachar: A reward.

Zabulon: Exalted or habitation.

Joseph: To add.

Benjamin:..Son of my right hand.

God will be celebrated and praised by the 144,000 as they behold the Son and press together in honesty. They will wrestle with God and God will forget their sins in answer to their prayers, and they will come into unity and receive the reward of the Holy Spirit living within their habitation while exalting Christ as they are added to the redeemed and sit down with Christ at God's right hand.

Now these *are* the generations of Ishmael, Abraham's son, whom Hagar the Egyptian, Sarah's handmaid, bare unto Abraham: And these *are* the names of the sons of Ishmael, by their names, according to their generations: the firstborn of Ishmael, Nebajoth; and Kedar, and Adbeel, and Mibsam, And Mishma, and Dumah, and Massa, Hadar, and Tema, Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah: These *are* the sons of Ishmael, and these *are* their names, by their towns, and by their castles; twelve princes according to their nations.

And these *are* the years of the life of Ishmael, an hundred and thirty and seven years: and he gave up the ghost and died; and was gathered unto his people. And they dwelt from Havilah unto Shur, that is before Egypt, as thou goest toward Assyria: *and* he died in the presence of all his brethren. Genesis 25:12-18.

1. Nebajoth: H5032—Feminine plural from [H5107](#); *fruitfulnesses*; *Nebajoth*, a son of Ishmael, and the country settled by him: - Nebaioth, Nebajoth.

H5107: A primitive root; to *germinate*, that is, (figuratively) to (causatively *make*) *flourish*; also (of words), to *utter*: - bring forth (fruit), make cheerful, increase. An Arabian tribe. *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Dictionary*, 757.

And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation. Genesis 17:20.

And the angel of the Lord said unto her, I will multiply thy seed exceedingly, that it shall not be numbered for multitude. Genesis 16:10.

2. Kedar: H6938—From [H6937](#); *dusky* (of the skin or the tent); *Kedar*, a son of Ishmael; also (collectively) *bedawin* (as his descendants or representatives): - Kedar.

H6937: A primitive root; to *be ashy*, that is, *dark* colored; by implication to *mourn* (in sackcloth or sordid garments): - be black (-ish), be (make) dark (-en), X heavily, (cause to) mourn.

An Arabian tribe. Famous warriors, Isaiah 21:16, 17. *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Dictionary*, 620.

3. Adbeel: H110—Probably from [H109](#) (in the sense of *chastisement*) and [H410](#); *disciplined of God*; *Adbeel*, a son of Ishmael: - Adbeel.

H109: *aw-dab'*—A primitive root; to *languish*: - grieve.

H410: el—Shortened from [H352](#); *strength*; as adjective *mighty*; especially the *Almighty* (but used also of any *deity*): - God (god), X goodly, X great, idol, might (-y one), power, strong. Compare names in “-el.”

An Arabian tribe. *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Dictionary*, 17.

4. Mibsam: H4017—From the same as [H1314](#); *fragrant*; *Mibsam*, the name of an Ishmaelite and of an Israelite: - Mibsam.

H1314: From the same as [H1313](#); *fragrance*; by implication *spicery*; also the *balsam* plant: - smell, spice, sweet (odour).

H1313: From an unused root meaning to *be fragrant*; (compare [H5561](#)) the *balsam* plant: - spice.

An Arabian tribe. *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Dictionary*, 712.

5. Mishma: H4927—The same as [H4926](#); *Mishma*, the name of a son of Ishmael, and of an Israelite: - Mishma.

H4926: From [H8085](#); a *report*: - hearing.

H8085: A primitive root; to *hear* intelligently (often with implication of attention, obedience, etc.; causatively to *tell*, etc.): - X attentively, call (gather) together, X carefully, X certainly, consent, consider, be content, declare, X diligently, discern, give ear, (cause to, let, make to) hear (-ken, tell), X indeed, listen, make (a) noise, (be) obedient, obey, perceive, (make a) proclaim (-ation), publish, regard, report, shew (forth), (make a) sound, X surely, tell, understand, whosoever [heareth], witness.

An Arabian tribe. *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Dictionary*, 724.

6. Dumah: H1746—The same as [H1745](#); *Dumah*, a tribe and region of Arabia: - Dumah.

H1745: From an unused root meaning to *be dumb* (compare [H1820](#)); *silence*; figuratively *death*: - silence.

H1820: A primitive root; to *be dumb* or *silent*; hence to *fail* or *perish*; transitively to *destroy*: - cease, be cut down (off), destroy, be brought to silence, be undone, X utterly.

An Arabian tribe. *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Dictionary*, 280.

7. Massa: H4854—The same as [H4853](#); *burden*; *Massa*, a son of Ishmael: - Massa.

H4853: From [H5375](#); a *burden*; specifically *tribute*, or (abstractly) *portage*; figuratively an *utterance*, chiefly a *doom*, especially *singing*; mental, *desire*: - burden, carry away, prophecy, X they set, song, tribute.

An Arabian tribe, KJV translators rendered it “prophecy,” a meaning which *massa* has in the sense of prophecy being a pronouncement or an oracle. *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Dictionary*, 691.

8. Hadar: H2316—Another form for [H2315](#); *chamber*; *Chadar*, an Ishmaelite: - Hadar.

H2315: From [H2314](#); an *apartment* (usually literally): - ([bed] inner) chamber, innermost (-ward) part, parlour, + south, X within.

H2314: A primitive root; properly to *inclose* (as a room), that is, (by analogy) to *beset* (as in a siege): - enter a privy chamber.
Sharp or pointed. *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Dictionary*, 429.

9. Tema: H8485—Probably of foreign derivation; *Tema*, a son of Ishmael, and the region settled by him: - Tema.

A locality in Arabia. *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Dictionary*, 1068.

10. Jetur: H3195—Probably from the same as [H2905](#); *encircled* (that is, inclosed); *Jetur*, a son of Ishmael: - Jetur.

H2905: From an unused root meaning to *range* in a regular manner; a *row*; hence a *wall*: - row.

An ancestor of an Ishmaelite tribe. *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Dictionary*, 575.

11. Naphish: H5305—From [H5314](#); *refreshed*; *Naphish*, a son of Ishmael, and his posterity: - Naphish.

H5314: A primitive root; to *breathe*; passively, to *be breathed* upon, that is, (figuratively) *refreshed* (as if by a current of air): - (be) refresh selves (-ed).

Wealth. *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Dictionary*, 753.

12. Kedemah: H6929—From [H6923](#); *precedence*; *Kedemah*, a son of Ishmael: - Kedemah.

H6923: A primitive root; to *project* (one self), that is, *precede*; hence to *anticipate*, *hasten*, *meet* (usually for help): - come (go, [flee]) before, + disappoint, meet, prevent.

Toward the east. The children of the east. *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Dictionary*, 620.

Ishmael will be fruitful and his descendants will become a great nation of people who have a dark skin. The Lord will use them to discipline His chosen people, and they shall produce the incense necessary for God's sanctuary. They will witness for God and be a subject of a prophecy of death. They will enclose the papacy as they encircle Europe, and they will mark the arrival of the refreshing and be identified as the children of the east.

THE WILD ASS

And he will be a **wild** man; his hand *will be* against every man, and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren. Genesis 16:12.

THE WILDERNESS AND DESERT

And the angel of the Lord found her by a fountain of water in the **wilderness**, by the fountain in the way to **Shur**. Genesis 16:7.

Wilderness: H4057—From **H1696** in the sense of *driving*; a *pasture* (that is, open field, whither cattle are driven); by implication a *desert*; also *speech* (including its organs): - desert, south, speech, wilderness.

Desert: H4057—From **H1696** in the sense of *driving*; a *pasture* (that is, open field, whither cattle are driven); by implication a *desert*; also *speech* (including its organs): - desert, south, speech, wilderness.

Shur: H7793—a region of the desert.

And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and took bread, and a bottle of water, and gave *it* unto Hagar, putting *it* on her shoulder, and the child, and sent her away: and she departed, and wandered in the **wilderness** of Beersheba. Genesis 21:14.

And God was with the lad; and he grew, and dwelt in the **wilderness**, and became an archer. And he dwelt in the **wilderness** of Paran: and his mother took him a wife out of the land of Egypt. Genesis 21:21.

And the **wild asses** did stand in the high places, they snuffed up the **wind** like dragons; their eyes did fail, because *there was* no grass. Jeremiah 14:6.

THE WIND

Wind: H7307—From **H7306**; *wind*; by resemblance *breath*, that is, a sensible (or even violent) exhalation; figuratively *life*, *anger*, *unsubstantiality*; by extension a *region* of the sky; by resemblance *spirit*, but only of a rational being (including its expression and functions): - air, anger, blast, breath, X cool, courage, mind, X quarter, X side, spirit ([ual]), tempest, X vain, ([whirl-]) wind (-y).

H7306: A primitive root; properly to *blow*, that is, *breathe*; only (literally) to *smell* or (by implication *perceive* (figuratively to *anticipate*, *enjoy*): - accept, smell, X touch, make of quick understanding.

REVIVAL & REFRESHING

“A revival of true godliness among us is the greatest and most urgent of all our needs. To seek this should be our first work.” *Selected Messages*, book 1, 121.

“When we as a people understand what this book means to us, there will be seen among us a great revival. We do not understand fully the lessons that it teaches, notwithstanding the injunction given us to search and study it.” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 113.

EZEKIEL'S DRY BONES

Then said he unto me, Prophesy unto the wind, prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord God; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live. So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army. Ezekiel 37:9-10.

REVIVAL

“The dry bones need to be breathed upon by the Holy Spirit of God, that they may come into action, as by a **resurrection from the dead.**” *Bible Training School*, December 1, 1903.

ADVENTISM

“I lay down my pen and lift up my soul in prayer, that the Lord would breathe upon his backslidden people, which are as dry bones, that they may live.” *General Conference Bulletin*, February 4, 1893.

“But not only does this simile of the dry bones apply to the world, but also to **those who have been blessed with great light**; for they also are like the skeletons of the valley. They have the form of men, the framework of the body; but they have not spiritual life. But the parable does not leave the dry bones merely knit together into the forms of men; for it is not enough that there is symmetry of limb and feature. The breath of life must vivify the bodies, that they may stand upright, and spring into activity. These bones represent the house of Israel, the church of God, and the hope of the church is the vivifying influence of the Holy Spirit. The Lord must breathe upon the dry bones, that they may live.

“The Spirit of God, with its vivifying power, must be in every human agent, that every spiritual muscle and sinew may be in exercise. Without the Holy Spirit, without the breath of God, there is torpidity of conscience, loss of spiritual life. Many who are without spiritual life have their names on the church records, but they are not written in the Lamb's book of life. They may be joined to the church, but they are not united to the Lord. They may be diligent in the performance of a certain set of duties, and may be regarded as living men; but many are among those who ‘have a name that thou livest, and art dead.’ Unless there is genuine conversion of the soul to God; unless the vital breath of God quickens the soul to spiritual life; unless the professors of truth are actuated by heaven-born principle, they are not born of the incorruptible seed which liveth and abideth forever. Unless they trust in the righteousness of Christ as their only security; unless they copy his character, labor in his spirit, they are naked, they have not on the robe of his righteousness. The dead are often made to pass for the living; for those who are working out what they term salvation after their own ideas, have not God working in them to will and to do of his good pleasure.

“This class is well represented by the valley of dry bones Ezekiel saw in vision. **Those who have had committed to them the treasures of truth**, and yet who are dead

in trespasses and sin, need to be created anew in Christ Jesus. There is so little real vitality in the church at the present time, that it takes constant labor to give men the appearance of life to the professed people of God. When the converting power of God comes upon the people, it will be made manifest by activity. They will become workers, and will esteem the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of the world. They will have respect unto the crown of life, the immortal inheritance. They will not be dependent upon their ministers for their life and experience, but will realize that Christ is the Chief Shepherd of the flock. They will not think that their ministers are appointed of God to do their work for them. They will understand that they must work out their own salvation with fear and trembling, knowing that it is God that worketh in them to will and to do of his good pleasure.” *Review and Herald*, January 17, 1893.

“In the hearts of many, God has a work to do, if they will allow him. They need **a complete transformation of character**. This is their only hope. Some now in the work will have to pass through the furnace of affliction before they will see the need of having all dross burned away from the religious experience.

“The church must and will shine forth ‘fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners.’ God’s servants must, by laboring together with Christ, roll away the curse that has made the church so lukewarm. ‘Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints,’ writes the great apostle to the Gentiles, ‘is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; and to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: to the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, according to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord.’

“When these words are believed and lived, the church will have a heaven below to go to heaven in.

“These words were spoken by our Instructor: ‘Some are reckless, insensible of the results of sin, heedless of warning. Soon the handwriting on the wall, now unintelligible to them, will be read. But it will then be too late for them to repent. Like Belshazzar, they seem unable to see their peril. **A straight testimony** must be borne to our churches and institutions, to arouse the sleeping ones.’

“When the word of the Lord is believed and obeyed, steady advancement will be made. Let us now see our great need. **The Lord cannot use us until he breathes life into the dry bones**. I heard the words spoken: ‘Without the deep moving of the Spirit of God upon the heart, without its life-giving influence, truth becomes a dead letter.’” *Review and Herald*, November 18, 1902.

PROPHECY

“When the hand of the Lord was upon the prophet Ezekiel in the vision of the valley of dry bones, he was commanded to **prophecy** to the wind; and in answer to his word, life was restored to the slain, and they stood up before him, an exceeding great army. This figure was presented before the prophet to show him that no work of restoration can be too hard for God to do, and none who trust in him need ever say, as Israel had said, ‘Our hope is lost.’” *Signs of the Times*, July 26, 1883.

A PROPHETIC MESSAGE

“What power must we have from God that icy hearts, having only a legal religion, should see the better things provided for them—Christ and His righteousness! **A life-giving message was needed to give life to the dry bones.**” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 12, 205.

THE LATTER RAIN MESSAGE

“This church in Battle Creek is like **the valley of dry bones**. They need to be stirred with some power to give them life. Why we have had to work and pray and work even to have **Brother Jones** obtain a hearing in Battle Creek, and many of our leading men were provoked after they heard him talk to think that there were those in responsible positions who would close the door to light and to knowledge, keeping out just what they needed. But I have not time to write more.” *The 1888 Materials*, 189.

Then said he unto me, Prophesy unto **the wind**, prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord God; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live. So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army. Ezekiel 37:9–10.

“The Lord is full of resources. He has no lack of facilities. It is because of our lack of faith, our earthliness, our cheap talk, our unbelief, manifested in our conversation, that dark shadows gather about us. Christ is not revealed in word or character as the One altogether lovely, and the chiefest among ten thousand. When the soul is content to lift itself up unto vanity, the Spirit of the Lord can do little for it. Our shortsighted vision beholds the shadow, but cannot see the glory beyond. **Angels are holding the four winds, represented as an angry horse seeking to break loose and rush over the face of the whole earth, bearing destruction and death in its path.**

“Shall we sleep on the very verge of the eternal world? Shall we be dull and cold and dead? **Oh, that we might have in our churches the Spirit and breath of God breathed into His people**, that they might stand upon their feet and live. We need to see that the way is narrow, and the gate strait. But as we pass through the strait gate, its wideness is without limit.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 20, 217.

THE EAST AND THE NORTH

But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many. Daniel 11:44.

NORTH

“**The scenes connected with the working of the man of sin are the last features plainly revealed in this earth’s history.** The people now have a **special message to give to the world, the third angel’s message.** Those who, in their experience, have passed over the ground, and acted a part in the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels’ messages, are not so liable to be led into false paths as are those who have not had an experimental knowledge of the people of God.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 102.

THE EVENTS CONNECTED WITH THE CLOSE OF PROBATION

“Before His crucifixion the Saviour explained to His disciples that He was to be put to death and to rise again from the tomb, and angels were present to impress His words on minds and hearts. But **the disciples were looking for temporal deliverance from the Roman yoke**, and they could not tolerate the thought that He in whom all their hopes centered should suffer an ignominious death. The words which they needed to remember were banished from their minds; and when the time of trial came, it found them unprepared. The death of Jesus as fully destroyed their hopes as if He had not forewarned them. So **in the prophecies the future is opened before us as plainly as it was opened to the disciples by the words of Christ. The events connected with the close of probation and the work of preparation for the time of trouble, are clearly presented. But multitudes have no more understanding of these important truths than if they had never been revealed. Satan watches to catch away every impression that would make them wise unto salvation, and the time of trouble will find them unready.**

“When God sends to men **warnings so important** that they are represented as proclaimed by holy angels flying in the midst of heaven, He requires every person endowed with reasoning powers to **heed the message**. The fearful judgments denounced against the worship of the beast and his image (Revelation 14:9–11), **should lead all to a diligent study of the prophecies to learn what the mark of the beast is, and how they are to avoid receiving it.** But **the masses of the people turn away their ears from hearing the truth and are turned unto fables.** The apostle Paul declared, looking down to the last days: ‘The time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine.’ 2 Timothy 4:3. **That time has fully come.** The multitudes do not want Bible truth, because it interferes with the desires of the sinful, world-loving heart; and Satan supplies the deceptions which they love.

“But God will have a people upon the earth to maintain the Bible, and the Bible only, as the standard of all doctrines and the basis of all reforms. The opinions of learned men, the deductions of science, the creeds or decisions of ecclesiastical councils, as numerous and discordant as are the churches which they represent, the voice of the majority—not one nor all of these should be regarded as evidence for or against any point of religious faith. Before accepting any doctrine or precept, we should demand a plain ‘Thus saith the Lord’ in its support.

“Satan is constantly endeavoring to attract attention to man in the place of God. **He leads the people to look to bishops, to pastors, to professors of theology, as their guides, instead of searching the Scriptures to learn their duty for themselves. Then, by controlling the minds of these leaders, he can influence the multitudes according to his will.**” *The Great Controversy*, 594–595.

THAT PORTION OF DANIEL WHICH RELATED TO THE LAST DAYS

“The book that was sealed was not the book of Revelation, but **that portion of the prophecy of Daniel which related to the last days.** The Scripture says, ‘But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased’ (Daniel 12:4). When the book was opened, the proclamation was made, ‘Time shall be no longer.’ (See Revelation 10:6.) The book of Daniel is now unsealed, and the revelation made by Christ to John is to come to all the inhabitants of the earth. **By the increase of knowledge a people is to be prepared to stand in the latter days.**

““And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters’ (Revelation 14:6, 7).

“This message, if heeded, will call the attention of every nation and kindred and tongue and people to a close examination of the Word, and to the true light in regard to the power that has changed the seventh-day Sabbath to a spurious sabbath. The only true God has been forsaken, His law has been discarded, His sacred Sabbath institution has been trampled in the dust by the man of sin. The fourth commandment, so plain and explicit, has been ignored. The Sabbath memorial, declaring who the living God is, the Creator of the heavens and the earth, has been torn down, and a spurious sabbath has been given to the world in its place. Thus a breach has been made in the law of God. A false sabbath could not be a true standard.

“In the first angel’s message men are called upon to worship God, our Creator, who made the world and all things that are therein. They have paid homage to an institution of the Papacy, making of no effect the law of Jehovah, but **there is to be an increase of knowledge on this subject.**” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 106.

THE THIRD ANGEL’S MESSAGE

But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many. Daniel 11:44.

“Placing the Bible in their hands, he continued: ‘You have little knowledge of this book. You know not the Scriptures nor the power of God, nor do you understand the deep importance of the message to be borne to a perishing world. The time past has shown that both teachers and students know very little in regard to the awful truths which are living issues for this time. **Should the third angel’s message be proclaimed in all lines to many who stand as educators, it would not be understood by them.** Had you the knowledge which comes from God, your whole being would proclaim the truth of the living God to a world dead in trespasses and sins. But books and papers that contain little of present truth are exalted, and men are becoming too wise to follow a ‘Thus saith the Lord.’” *Testimonies*, volume 6, 165.

“This is the work God has given to every teacher. As educators you have not that knowledge that comes from God. Had you this knowledge, your whole being would proclaim the truth of the living God to a world dead in trespasses and sins. **You know not the message God has given for this time.** You are as **blind men leading the blind.** Students leave the school with a false education, which it takes them years to unlearn. The past has shown that both teachers and students know very little in regard to the message which should be proclaimed at this time. **Should the third angel’s message be proclaimed in all its lines to many who profess to be educated, it would not be understood by them.** Human theories and wisdom are exalted, and men are becoming too wise to follow a plain ‘Thus saith the Lord.’” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 13, 267.

“**The peculiar work of the third angel has not been seen in its importance.** God meant that his people should be far in advance of what they are today. But now, when the time has come for them to spring into action, they have the getting ready to do. When Satan made his advances, it was high time for the watchmen on the walls of Zion to arouse and counteract his efforts to obtain the advantage. It is not in the order of God that light has been kept from our people,—the very present truth which they needed for this time. **Not all of our ministers who are giving the third angel’s message, really understand what constitutes that message.** The National Reform movement has been regarded by some as of so little importance that they have not thought it necessary to give much attention to it, and have even felt that in so doing, they would be giving time to questions distinct from the third angel’s message. May the Lord forgive our brethren for thus interpreting the very message for this time. The third angel’s message comprehends more than many suppose. **What interpretation do they give to the passage which says an angel descended from heaven, and the earth was lightened with his glory?** This is not a time when we can be excused for inactivity. If this work, which was so essential, had been taken up by our ministers, there would be today a far different state of things in all our churches.” *Review and Herald*, December 11, 1888.

#8—LUKE 21

WHAT SIGN?

And as some spake of the temple, how it was adorned with goodly stones and gifts, he said, *As for these things which ye behold, the days will come, in the which there shall not be left one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down. And they asked him, saying, Master, but when shall these things be? and what sign will there be when these things shall come to pass? Luke 21:5–7.*

TWO GREAT CRISIS'

“Christ’s words had been spoken in the hearing of a large number of people; but when He was alone, Peter, John, James, and Andrew came to Him as He sat upon the Mount of Olives. ‘Tell us,’ they said, ‘when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of Thy coming, and of the end of the world?’ Jesus did not answer His disciples by taking up separately the destruction of Jerusalem and the great day of His coming. He mingled the description of these two events. Had He opened to His disciples future events as He beheld them, they would have been unable to endure the sight. **In mercy to them He blended the description of the two great crises**, leaving the disciples to study out the meaning for themselves. When He referred to the destruction of Jerusalem, His prophetic words reached beyond that event to the final conflagration in that day when the Lord shall rise out of His place to punish the world for their iniquity, when the earth shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain. This entire discourse was given, not for the disciples only, but for those who should live in the last scenes of this earth’s history.: *The Desire of Ages*, 628.

THE TIMES OF THE GENTILES

And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. Then let them which are in Judaea flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out; and let not them that are in the countries enter thereinto. For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. But woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck, in those days! for there shall be great distress in the land, and wrath upon this people. And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled. Luke 21:20–24.

JERUSALEM

“**The city of Jerusalem is no longer a sacred place.** The curse of God is upon it because of the rejection and crucifixion of Christ.” *Review and Herald*, July 30, 1901.

“We should be gathering up every ray of divine light, **not looking to old Jerusalem** where Christ was once, but **to the New Jerusalem where He is now.**” *The Paulson Collection*, 138–139.

THE 2,520

1844

And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. Daniel 9:26.

1798

And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months. Revelation 11:1-2.

SIGNS

And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.

And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh. Luke 21:25-28.

AD70—THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM

PARALLEL PASSAGES

For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened. Matthew 24:21-22.

And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled. Luke 21:24.

538-1798—THOSE DAYS

MAY 19, 1780—THE SUN AND THE MOON

“Twenty-five years later appeared the next sign mentioned in the prophecy--the darkening of the sun and moon. What rendered this more striking was the fact that the time of its fulfillment had been definitely pointed out. In the Saviour's conversation with His disciples upon Olivet, after describing the long period of trial for the church,—the 1260 years of papal persecution, concerning which He had promised that the tribulation should be shortened,—He thus mentioned certain events to precede His coming, and fixed the time when the first of these should be witnessed: ‘In those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light.’ Mark 13:24. The 1260 days, or years, terminated in 1798. A quarter of a century earlier, persecution had almost wholly ceased. Following this persecution, according to the words of Christ, the sun was to be darkened. On the 19th of May, 1780, this prophecy was fulfilled.” *The Great Controversy*, 306.

THE STARS—NOVEMBER 13, 1833

“In 1833, two years after Miller began to present in public the evidences of Christ’s soon coming, the last of the signs appeared which were promised by the Saviour as tokens of his second advent. Said Jesus, ‘The stars shall fall from heaven.’ [Matthew 24:29.] And John in the Revelation declared, as he beheld in vision the scenes that herald the day of God: ‘The stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig-tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.’ [Revelation 6:13.] This prophecy received a striking and impressive fulfillment in the great meteoric shower of November 13, 1833.” *The Great Controversy*, 332.

“The signs in the sun, moon, and stars have been fulfilled.” *Review and Herald*, November 22, 1906.

DISTRESS OF NATIONS—1838 THROUGH AUGUST 11, 1840

“As the prophetic period of this trumpet commenced by the voluntary surrender of power into the hands of the Turks by the Christian emperor of the East, so we might justly conclude that its termination would be marked by the voluntary surrender of that power by the Turkish Sultan back again into the hands of the Christians. **In 1838 Turkey became involved in war with Egypt.** The Egyptians bid fair to overthrow the Turkish power. **To prevent this, the four great powers of Europe, England, Russia, Austria, and Prussia, interfered to sustain the Turkish government.** Turkey accepted their intervention. A conference was held in London at which an ultimatum was drawn up to be presented to Mehemet Ali, the Pacha of Egypt. It is evident that when this ultimatum should be placed in the hands of Mehemet, the destiny of the Ottoman Empire would be virtually lodged in the hands of the Christian powers of Europe. This ultimatum was placed in the hands of Mehemet on the 11th day of August 1840! and on that very day the Sultan addressed a note to the ambassadors of the four powers, inquiring what should be done in case Mehemet refused to comply with the terms which they had proposed. The answer was that he need not alarm himself about any contingency that might arise; for they had made provision for that. The prophetic period ended, and on that very day the control of Mohammedan affairs passed into the hands of Christians, just as the control of Christian affairs had passed into the hands of the Mohammedans 391 years and 15 days before. Thus the second woe ended, and the sixth trumpet ceased its sounding.” Uriah Smith, *Synopsis of Present Truth*, 218.

THE SHAKING OF THE ANGRY NATIONS

“I saw that **the powers of earth are now being shaken** and that **events come in order.** War, and rumors of war, sword, famine, and pestilence are first to shake the powers of earth, **then** the voice of God will shake the sun, moon, and stars, and this earth also. I saw that **the shaking of the powers in Europe** is not, as some teach, the shaking of the powers of heaven, but it is **the shaking of the angry nations.**” *Early Writings*, 41.

DISTRESS AND ANGERING: SYNONYMOUS

MILLERITE SIGNS

“At the close of the great papal persecution, Christ declared, the sun should be darkened, and the moon should not give her light. Next, the stars should fall from heaven. And He says, ‘Learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: so likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that He is near, even at the doors.’ Matthew 24:32, 33, margin.

“**Christ has given signs of His coming.** He declares that we may know when He is near, even at the doors. He says of those who see these signs, ‘This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.’ **These signs have appeared.** Now we know of a surety that the Lord’s coming is at hand. ‘Heaven and earth shall pass away,’ He says, ‘but My words shall not pass away.’” *The Desire of Ages*, 632.

THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM

“The scenes that were transacted at the destruction of Jerusalem **will be repeated** at the great and terrible day of the Lord, but in a more fearful manner.

“**A world is represented in the destruction of Jerusalem,** and the warning given then comes sounding down along the line to our time: ‘And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring.’ **Yes, the sea shall pass its borders, and destruction will be in its track. It will engulf the ships that sail upon its broad waters; and with the burden of their living freight, these will be hurled into eternity.**

“There will be calamities by land and by sea, ‘men’s hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth; for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.’ In just the same manner that he ascended, will he come the second time to our world. ‘And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.’” *Review and Herald*, December 7, 1897.

A MESSAGE OF WOE FROM THE FOUR WINDS

“**Signs and wonders appeared,** foreboding disaster and doom. In the midst of the night an unnatural light shone over the temple and the altar. Upon the clouds at sunset **were pictured chariots and men of war gathering for battle. . . .**

“For seven years a man continued to go up and down the streets of Jerusalem, declaring **the woes** that were to come upon the city. By day and by night he chanted the wild dirge: ‘A voice from the east! a voice from the west! **a voice from the four winds!** a voice against Jerusalem and against the temple! a voice against the bridegrooms and the brides! a voice against the whole people!’—Ibid. This strange being was imprisoned and scourged, but no complaint escaped his lips. To insult and abuse he answered only: ‘**Woe, woe** to Jerusalem!’ ‘**woe, woe** to the inhabitants thereof!’ His warning cry ceased not until he was slain in the siege he had foretold.” *The Great Controversy*, 29, 30.

CHRIST'S PARABLE

And he spake to them a parable; Behold the fig tree, and all the trees; When they now shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand. So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand. Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled. Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away. Luke 21:29–33.

THE TREES

“**Mark the cursing of the fig tree**, representing **the Jewish nation, covered with leaves of profession**, but no fruit to be found thereon. The curse is pronounced upon the fig tree, which represents the moral, thinking, living agent, cursed of God, living as were the Jews for forty years after this event, yet dead. **Mark, the other trees, representing the Gentiles**, were not covered. **They were leafless**, making no pretension to having a knowledge of God. Their **time of fruit-leaving** was not yet.” *Special Testimonies for Ministers and Workers*, number 7, 59–61.

And he spake to them a parable; Behold the fig tree, and all the trees; When they now shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves that **summer is now nigh at hand**. So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand. Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled. Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away. Luke 21:29–33.

NIGH AT HAND

THE SUMMER

The harvest is past, the **summer** is ended, and we are not saved. Jeremiah 8:20.

THE HARVEST

The enemy that sowed them is the devil; **the harvest is the end of the world**; and the reapers are the angels. Matthew 13:39.

THE BUDDING TREES OF SPRING

And he spake to them a parable; Behold the fig tree, and all the trees; **When they now shoot forth**, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand. So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand. Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled. Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away. Luke 21:29–33.

THE SIGNS OF HIS ADVENT

“Christ had bidden His people **watch for the signs of His advent** and rejoice as they should behold the tokens of their coming King. ‘When these things begin to come to pass,’ He said, ‘then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.’ **He pointed His followers to the budding trees of spring**, and said: ‘When they now shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand. So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand.’ Luke 21:28, 30, 31.” *The Great Controversy*, 308.

THIS GENERATION

And he spake to them a parable; Behold the fig tree, and all the trees; When they now shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand. So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand. Verily I say unto you, **This generation shall not pass away**, till all be fulfilled. Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away. Luke 21:29–33.

A CHOSEN GENERATION

To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed. But ye are a **chosen generation**, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: **Which in time past were not a people**, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy. Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul; Having your conversation honest among the **Gentiles**: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation. 1 Peter 2:4–12.

ADVENTISM SHALL NOT PASS

THE SON OF MAN COMING IN A CLOUD

And then shall they see **the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory**. And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh. Luke 21:27–28.

OCTOBER 22, 1844: DANIEL 7:13

“And, behold, **one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven**, and came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him. And there was given Him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve Him: His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away.’ Daniel 7:13, 14. The coming of Christ here described is not His second coming to the earth. He comes to the Ancient of Days in heaven to receive dominion and glory and a kingdom, which will be given Him at the close of His work as a mediator. It is this coming, and not His second advent to the earth, that was foretold in prophecy to take place at the termination of the 2300 days in 1844. **Attended by heavenly angels**, our great High Priest enters the holy of holies and there appears in the presence of God to engage in the last acts of His ministration in behalf of man—to perform the work of investigative judgment and to make an atonement for all who are shown to be entitled to its benefits.” *The Great Controversy*, 479.

DANIEL 7:13

I saw in the night visions, and, behold, *one* like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.

THE SAME EVENT: THE MARRIAGE

“The coming of Christ as our high priest to the most holy place, for the cleansing of the sanctuary, brought to view in Daniel 8:14; the coming of the Son of man to the Ancient of Days, as presented in **Daniel 7:13**; and the coming of the Lord to His temple, foretold by Malachi, are descriptions of the same event; and this is also represented by the coming of **the bridegroom to the marriage**, described by Christ in the parable of the ten virgins, of Matthew 25.” *The Great Controversy*, 427.

THE COMING OF THE BRIDEGROOM TO THE MARRIAGE

THE BLESSING OF 1843

Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days. Daniel 12:12.

BLESSED ARE THEY

And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God. Revelation 19:9.

THIS GENERATION

Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled. Luke 21:32.

THE 1843 CHART

I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved. And the Lord answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make *it* plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. For the **vision** is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry. Behold, his soul *which* is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith. Habakkuk 2:1–4.

THE EFFECT OF EVERY VISION

Son of man, what is that proverb *that* ye have in the land of Israel, saying, The days are prolonged, and every vision faileth?

Tell them therefore, Thus saith the Lord God; I will make this proverb to cease, and they shall no more use it as a proverb in Israel; but say unto them, **The days are at hand, and the effect of every vision.**

For there shall be no more any vain vision nor flattering divination within the house of Israel. For I *am* the Lord: I will speak, and the word that I shall speak shall come to pass; **it shall be no more prolonged**: for in your days, O rebellious house, will I say the word, and will perform it, saith the Lord God.

Again the word of the Lord came to me, saying, Son of man, behold, *they* of the house of Israel say, The vision that he seeth *is* for many days *to come*, and he prophesieth of the times *that are* far off. Therefore say unto them,

Thus saith the Lord God; There shall none of my words be prolonged any more, but the word which I have spoken shall be done, saith the Lord God. Ezekiel 12:22–28.

#9—THE SEVEN STARS

THE GOSPEL OF REVELATION

“As we near the close of this world’s history, **the prophecies relating to the last days especially demand our study.** The last book of the New Testament is full of truth that we need to understand. Satan has blinded the minds of many, so that they have been glad of any excuse for not making the Revelation their study.

“The book of Revelation, in connection with the book of Daniel, **demand**s close study. Let every God-fearing teacher consider how most clearly to comprehend and present **the Gospel that our Saviour came in person to make known to His servant John,**—‘The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto Him, to show unto His servants things which must shortly come to pass.’ None should become discouraged in their study of Revelation because of its apparently mystical symbols. ‘If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not.’ ‘Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein; for the time is at hand.’ We are to proclaim to the world **the great and solemn truths contained in the book of Revelation.** Into the very designs and principles of the church of God **these truths are to enter.** There should be **a closer and more diligent study of this book,** a more **earnest presentation of the truths it contains,** truths which concern all who are living in these last days. **All who are preparing to meet their Lord should make this book the subject of earnest study and prayer.** It is just what its name signifies,—**a revelation of the most important events that are to take place in the last days of this earth’s history.** John, because of his faithful trust in the word of God, and the testimony of Christ, was banished to the Isle of Patmos. But his banishment did not separate him from Christ. The Lord visited His faithful servant in his banishment, and gave him instruction regarding what was to come upon the world.

“**This instruction is of the greatest importance to us;** for we are living in the last days of this earth’s history. Soon we shall enter upon the fulfilment of **the events** which Christ showed John were to take place. As **the messengers of the Lord present these solemn truths,** they must realize that they are handling subjects of eternal interest, and they should seek for the baptism of the Holy Spirit, that they may speak, not their own words, but the words given them by God.

“**The book of Revelation must be opened to the people.** Many have been taught that it is a sealed book, but it is sealed to those only who reject truth and light. **The truths that it contains must be proclaimed,** that people may have **an opportunity to prepare for the events which are so soon to take place.** The Third Angel’s Message must be presented as the only hope for the salvation of a perishing world.

“The perils of the last days are upon us, and in our work **we are to warn the people of the danger they are in.** Let not **the solemn scenes that prophecy has revealed are soon to take place be left untouched.** We are God’s messengers, and we have no time to lose. Those who would be co-workers with our Lord Jesus Christ will show a deep interest in the truths found in this book. With pen and voice they will strive to make plain the wonderful things that Christ came from heaven to reveal.” *Signs of the Times*, July 4, 1906.

“The names of the seven churches are symbolic of the church in **different periods** of the Christian Era. The number 7 indicates completeness, and is symbolic of the fact that the messages extend to the end of time, while the symbols used reveal the condition of the church at different periods in the history of the world.

“Christ is spoken of as walking in the midst of the golden candlesticks. Thus is symbolized **His relation to the churches**. He is in constant communication with His people. He knows their true state. He observes their order, their piety, their devotion. Although He is high priest and mediator in the sanctuary above, yet He is represented as walking up and down in the midst of His churches on the earth. With untiring wakefulness and unremitting vigilance, He watches to see whether the light of any of His sentinels is burning dim or going out. If the candlesticks were left to mere human care, the flickering flame would languish and die; but He is the true watchman in the Lord’s house, the true warden of the temple courts. His continued care and sustaining grace are the source of life and light.

“Christ is represented as holding the seven stars in His right hand. This assures us that no church faithful to its trust need fear coming to nought, for not a star that has the protection of Omnipotence can be plucked out of the hand of Christ.

“‘These things saith He that holdeth the seven stars in His right hand.’ Revelation 2:1. These words are spoken to the teachers in the church—those entrusted by God with weighty responsibilities. The sweet influences that are to be abundant in the church are bound up with God’s ministers, who are to reveal the love of Christ. The stars of heaven are under His control. He fills them with light. He guides and directs their movements. If He did not do this, they would become fallen stars. So with His ministers. They are but instruments in His hands, and all the good they accomplish is done through His power. Through them His light is to shine forth. The Saviour is to be their efficiency. If they will look to Him as He looked to the Father they will be enabled to do His work. As they make God their dependence, He will give them His brightness to reflect to the world.” *Acts of the Apostles*, 585–586.

SEVEN STARS & CANDLESTICKS

The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches. Verse 20.

MILLER'S RULES

“Those who are engaged in proclaiming the third angel’s message are searching the Scriptures upon the same plan that Father Miller adopted.” *Review and Herald*, November 25, 1884.

“The seven churches of Asia is a history of the church of Christ in her seven forms, in all her windings and turnings, in all her prosperity and adversity, from the days of the apostles down to the end of the world. The seven seals are a history of the transactions of the powers and kings of the earth over the church, and God’s protection of his people during the same time. The seven trumpets are a history of seven peculiar and heavy judgments sent upon the earth, or Roman kingdom. And the seven vials are the seven last plagues sent upon Papal Rome. Mixed with these are many other events, woven in like tributary streams, and filling up the grand river of prophecy, until the whole ends us in the ocean of eternity.

“This, to me, is the plan of John’s prophecy in the book of Revelation. And the man who wishes to understand this book, must have a thorough knowledge of other parts of the word of God. The figures and metaphors used in this prophecy, are not all explained in the same, but must be found in other prophets, and explained in other passages of Scripture. Therefore it is evident that God has designed the study of the whole, even to obtain a clear knowledge of any part.” William Miller, *Miller’s Lectures*, volume 2, lecture 12, 178.

“The seals are introduced to our notice in the 4th, 5th, and 6th chapters of Revelation. The scenes presented under these seals are brought to view in Revelation 6, and the first verse of Revelation 8. They evidently cover events with which the church is connected from the opening of this dispensation to the coming of Christ.

“While the seven churches present the internal history of the church, the seven seals bring to view the great events of its external history.” Uriah Smith, *The Biblical Institute*, 253.

“We have now traced the churches, the seals, and the beasts, or living beings, as far as they will compare as covering **the same periods of time**. The seals are seven in number, the beasts but four. And it may be well here to notice, that at the opening of the first, second, third and fourth seals the first, second, third and fourth beasts are heard to say ‘Come and see;’ but when the fifth, sixth and seventh seals are opened, there is no such voice heard. **Neither do the last three churches, and the last three seals, compare, as covering the same periods of time, as the first four churches, and the first four seals do.** But, as we have shown, the churches, seals and beasts do agree, as covering the same periods of time for the space of nearly 1800 years, till we come down to a little more than half a century of the present time.” James White, *Review and Herald*, February 12, 1857.

PERGAMOS & THYATIRA REVELATION 2:12–29

HE WHO NOW LETTETH & THAT WICKED

Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only **he who now letteth will let**, until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming. 2 Thessalonians 2:5–8.

POWER SEAT & AUTHORITY

And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as *the feet* of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. Revelation 13:2.

A HOST WAS GIVEN HIM

Yea, he magnified *himself* even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily *sacrifice* was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down. And an host was given *him* against the daily *sacrifice* by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practiced, and prospered. Daniel 8:11, 12.

THE DAILY TAKEN AWAY

And from the time *that* the daily *sacrifice* shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, *there shall be* a thousand two hundred and ninety days. Daniel 12:11.

THEY PLACE THE ABIMINATION THAT MAKETH DESOLATE

For the ships of Chittim shall come against him: therefore he shall be grieved, and return, and have indignation against the holy covenant: so shall he do; he shall even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant. And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily *sacrifice*, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate. Daniel 11:30–31.

“We have no time to lose. Troublous times are before us. The world is stirred with the spirit of war. Soon the scenes of trouble spoken of in the prophecies will take place. The prophecy in **the eleventh of Daniel** has nearly reached its complete fulfillment. **Much of the history that has taken place in fulfillment of this prophecy will be repeated.**

“In the thirtieth verse a power is spoken of that ‘verses 30 through thirty-six quoted.

“**Scenes similar to those described in these words will take place.**” *Manuscript Releases*, number 13, 394.

THE THIRD & FOURTH SEAL

And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine. And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see. And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth. Revelation 6:6–8.

“And I saw in the right hand of Him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals. And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof? And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon” (Revelation 5:1–3).

“There in His open hand lay the book, the roll of the history of God’s providences, the prophetic history of nations and the church. Herein was contained the divine utterances, His authority, His commandments, His laws, the whole symbolic counsel of the Eternal, and the history of all ruling powers in the nations. In symbolic language was contained in that roll the influence of every nation, tongue, and people from the beginning of earth’s history to its close.

“This roll was written within and without. John says: [Revelation 5:4, 5, 8–14; 6:8–11; Revelation 8:1–4; quoted.]

“The same spirit is seen today that is represented in Revelation 6:6–8. History is to be repeated. That which has been will be again.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 9, 7.

EPHESUS & SMYNA

Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. 2 Timothy 3:12.

“Many will be imprisoned, many will flee for their lives from cities and towns, and many will be martyrs for Christ’s sake in standing in defense of the truth.” *Selected Messages*, book 3, 397.

EPHESUS & PHILADELPHIA

Early Writings, 259–261.

EPHESUS AND LAODICEA

“Judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off; for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter. Yea, truth faileth; and he that departeth from evil maketh himself a prey.’ Isaiah 59:14, 15. This was fulfilled in the life of Christ on earth. He was loyal to God’s commandments, setting aside the human traditions and requirements which had been exalted in their place. Because of this He was hated and persecuted. **This history is repeated.**” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, 170.

“The work of John the Baptist, and the work of those who in the last days go forth in the spirit and power of Elijah to arouse the people from their apathy, are in many respects the same. His work is a type of the work that must be done in this age. Christ is to come the second time to judge the world in righteousness. The messengers of God who bear the last message of warning to be given to the world, are to prepare the way for Christ’s second advent, as John prepared the way for his first advent. In this preparatory work, ‘every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain shall be made low; and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain’ for **history is to be repeated**, and once again ‘the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.’

“**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. Just such a work as that which John did, is to be carried on in these last days. The Lord is giving messages to his people, through the instruments he has chosen, and he would have all heed the admonitions and warnings he sends. The message preceding the public ministry of Christ was, Repent, publicans and sinners; repent, Pharisees and Sadducees; ‘for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ Our message is not to be one of peace and safety. As a people who believe in Christ’s soon appearing, we have a definite message to bear,—‘Prepare to meet thy God.’

“Our message must be as direct as was that of John. He rebuked kings for their iniquity. Notwithstanding the peril his life was in, he never allowed truth to languish on his lips. Our work in this age must be as faithfully done.” *Southern Watchman*, March 21, 1905.

“Satan is working that **the history of the Jewish nation may be repeated in the experience of those who claim to believe present truth**. The Jews had the Old Testament Scriptures, and supposed themselves conversant with them. But they made a woeful mistake. The prophecies that refer to the glorious second appearing of Christ in the clouds of heaven they regarded as referring to His first coming. **Because He did not come according to their expectations, they turned away from Him**. Satan knew just how to take these men in his net, and deceive and destroy them.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 111.

SARDIS, PHILADELPHIA & LAODICEA

“Oh, what a description! How many there are in this fearful condition. **I earnestly entreat every minister to study diligently the third chapter of Revelation, for in it is portrayed the condition of things existing in the last days**. Study carefully every verse in this chapter, for through these words Jesus is speaking to you.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 18, 193.

“In all the land saith the Lord; TWO PARTS therein shall be cut off, and die; but the THIRD shall be left therein. God says he will bring the THIRD PART through the fire, and refine them. They shall call upon him, and he will hear them. He will say IT IS MY PEOPLE; and they shall say the LORD IS MY GOD.’ First part, SARDIS, the nominal church or Babylon. Second part, Laodicea, the nominal Adventist. Third part, Philadelphia, the only true church of God on earth, for they ask to be translated to the city of God. Revelation 3:12; Hebrews 12:22–24. In the name of Jesus, I exhort you again to flee from the Laodiceans, as from Sodom and Gomorrah. Their teachings are false and delusive; and lead to utter destruction. Death! DEATH!!* eternal DEATH!!! is on their track. Remember Lot’s wife.” Joseph Bates, *Review and Herald*, volume 1, November 1850.

“Sardis not only represents ‘those escaping’ or ‘that which remains’ after the great apostasy and terrible persecutions of the Middle Ages, but some authorities believe that the word *ardis* means ‘remnant’ of ‘an escaped few,’ and therefore represent Protestantism after what was vital in it had evaporated so that there are only a few faithful ones remaining. There would be a ‘remnant’ who would continue the work of reform even after the Reformation had waned and Protestantism in general was dead. There would be ‘a few names,’ or ‘a few souls’ (*Moffatt*), in Sardis who had ‘not defiled their garments.’” Taylor Bunch, *The Seven Epistles of Christ*, 186.

He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many *countries* shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, *even* Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon. Daniel 11:41.

HASKELL

“It should be remembered that, as the experience of **Ephesus, Smyrna, and Pergamos, will be repeated in the last church** before the second coming of Christ, so the history of **Thyatira** will have its counterpart in the last generation.” Stephen N. Haskell, *Story of the Seer of Patmos*, 69.

“He applied the test, but all pointed forward to the year 1843 as the time when the world must welcome its Saviour. **The condition of the people at the first advent of Christ was now repeated.**” Stephen N. Haskell, *Story of the Seer of Patmos*, 75.

“There was a time in the history of **Pergamos**, when Christianity thought Paganism was dead; but in reality, the religion which was apparently vanquished, had conquered. Paganism baptized, stepped into the church. **In the days of Sardis this history was repeated.**” Stephen N. Haskell, *Story of the Seer of Patmos*, 75, 76.

“Upon this last church—the remnant,—shine **the accumulated rays of all past ages.**” Stephen N. Haskell, *Story of the Seer of Patmos*, 69.

NOTHING ELSE

“The solemn messages that have been given in their order in the Revelation are to occupy **the first place in the minds of God’s people. Nothing else is to be allowed to engross our attention.**

“Precious time is rapidly passing, and there is danger that many will be robbed of the time which should be given to the proclamation of the messages that God has sent to a fallen world. Satan is pleased to see the diversion of minds that should be engaged in a study of the **truths** which have to do with eternal realities.

“The testimony of Christ, a testimony of the most solemn character, is to be borne to the world. All through the book of Revelation there are the most precious, elevating promises, and there are also warnings of the most fearfully solemn import. Will not those who profess to have a knowledge of the truth read the testimony given to John by Christ? Here is no guesswork, no scientific deception. Here are the truths that concern our present and future welfare. What is the chaff to the wheat?” *Testimonies*, volume 8, 301–302.

#10—ZECHARIAH

THE SEVEN CHURCHES

John saw the churches as they **then existed**, and as he wrote concerning them **he was identifying what would be hereafter**.

There are a few prophetic arguments that uphold the application of applying the history represented by the seven churches to the history of ancient Israel. The first prophetic argument is that ancient Israel is a type of modern Israel, and therefore it is acceptable to apply ancient Israel with modern Israel in a type/antitype relationship. Sister White does this often.

“The trials of the children of Israel, and their attitude just before the first coming of Christ, **illustrate the position of the people of God** in their experience before the second coming of Christ.

“Satan’s snares are laid for us as verily as they were laid for the children of Israel just prior to their entrance into the land of Canaan. **We are repeating the history of that people**.

“**Their history should be a solemn warning to us**. We need never expect that when the Lord has light for his people, Satan will stand calmly by and make no effort to prevent them from receiving it. Let us beware that we do not refuse the light God sends, because it does not come in a way to please us. . . . If there are any who do not see and accept the light themselves, let them not stand in the way of others.

“I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live; that thou mayest love the Lord thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him; for he is thy life, and the length of thy days; that thou mayest dwell in the land which the Lord sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.’

“**This song was not historical but prophetic**. While it recounted the wonderful dealings of God with his people in the past, **it also foreshadowed the great events of the future**, the final victory of the faithful when Christ shall come the second time in power and glory.

“The apostle Paul plainly states that **the experience of the Israelites in their travels has been recorded for the benefit of those living in this age of the world, those upon whom the ends of the world are come**. We do not consider that our dangers are any less than those of the Hebrews, but greater.” *Healthful Living*, 280–281.

Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter. Revelation 1:19.

THYATIRA

“Today the church of God is free to carry forward to completion the divine plan for the salvation of a lost race. For many centuries God’s people suffered a restriction of their liberties. The preaching of the gospel in its purity was prohibited, and the severest of penalties were visited upon those who dared disobey the mandates of men. As a consequence, the Lord’s great moral vineyard was almost wholly unoccupied. The people were deprived of the light of God’s word. The darkness of error and superstition threatened to blot out a knowledge of true religion. **God’s church on earth was as verily in captivity during this long period of relentless persecution as were the children of Israel held captive in Babylon during the period of the exile.**” *Prophets and Kings*, 714.

ALL THE GREAT EVENTS

“**The Bible has accumulated and bound up together its treasures for this last generation. All the great events and solemn transactions of Old Testament history have been, and are, repeating themselves in the church in these last days.**” *Selected Messages*, book 3, 338–339.

THE PROPHECY OF THYATIRA

And the Lord hath sent unto you all his servants the prophets, rising early and sending *them*; but ye have not hearkened, nor inclined your ear to hear. They said, Turn ye again now every one from his evil way, and from the evil of your doings, and dwell in the land that the Lord hath given unto you and to your fathers for ever and ever: And go not after other gods to serve them, and to worship them, and provoke me not to anger with the works of your hands; and I will do you no hurt. Yet ye have not hearkened unto me, saith the Lord; that ye might provoke me to anger with the works of your hands to your own hurt. Therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts; Because ye have not heard my words,

Behold, I will send and take all the families of the north, saith the Lord, and Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and will bring them against this land, and against the inhabitants thereof, and against all these nations round about, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, and an hissing, and perpetual desolations. Moreover I will take from them the voice of mirth, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstones, and the light of the candle. And this whole land shall be a desolation, *and* an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years. And it shall come to pass, when seventy years are accomplished, *that* I will punish the king of Babylon, and that nation, saith the Lord, for their iniquity, and the land of the Chaldeans, and will make it perpetual desolations. Jeremiah 25:4–12.

THE TIME OF THE END

In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans; In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem. Daniel 9:1–2.

IF MY PEOPLE SHALL

If I shut up heaven that there be no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people;

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. Now mine eyes shall be open, and mine ears attent unto the prayer *that is made* in this place.

For now have I chosen and sanctified this house, that my name may be there for ever: and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually. 2 Chronicles 7:13-16.

TURN UNTO ME

In the eighth month, in the second year of Darius, came the word of the Lord unto Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet, saying, The Lord hath been sore displeased with your fathers. Therefore say thou unto them, Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Turn ye unto me, saith the Lord of hosts, and I will turn unto you, saith the Lord of hosts.

Be ye not as your fathers, unto whom the former prophets have cried, saying, Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Turn ye now from your evil ways, and *from* your evil doings: but they did not hear, nor hearken unto me, saith the Lord. Your fathers, where *are* they? and the prophets, do they live for ever? But my words and my statutes, which I commanded my servants the prophets, did they not take hold of your fathers? and they returned and said, Like as the Lord of hosts thought to do unto us, according to our ways, and according to our doings, so hath he dealt with us. Zechariah 1:1-6.

WALKING TO AND FRO

Upon the four and twentieth day of the eleventh month, which *is* the month Sebat, in the second year of Darius, came the word of the Lord unto Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet, saying,

I saw by night, and behold a man riding upon a **red horse**, and he stood among the myrtle trees that *were* in the bottom; and behind him *were there* red horses, speckled, and white.

Then said I, O my lord, **what *are* these?** And the angel that talked with me said unto me, **I will show thee what these *be*.** And the man that stood among the myrtle trees answered and said, **These *are they*** whom the Lord hath sent to walk to and fro **through the earth.** Zechariah 1:7-10.

THE EARTH IS AT REST

And they answered the angel of the Lord that stood among the myrtle trees, and said, We have walked to and fro through the earth, and, behold, all **the earth sitteth still, and is at rest.** Zechariah 1:11.

THE LORD WILL CHOOSE ISRAEL

For the Lord will have mercy on Jacob, and will yet choose Israel, and set them in their own land: and the strangers shall be joined with them, and they shall cleave to the house of Jacob. And the people shall take them, and bring them to their place: and the house of Israel shall possess them in the land of the Lord for servants and handmaids: and they shall take them captives, whose captives they were; and they shall rule over their oppressors.

And it shall come to pass in the day that the Lord shall give thee rest from thy sorrow, and from thy fear, and from the hard bondage wherein thou wast made to serve. That thou shalt take up this proverb against the king of Babylon, and say, How hath the oppressor ceased! the golden city ceased! The Lord hath broken the staff of the wicked, and the sceptre of the rulers. He who smote the people in wrath with a continual stroke, he that ruled the nations in anger, is persecuted, and none hindereth.

The whole earth is at rest, and is quiet: they break forth into singing. Isaiah 14:1-7.

PARALLEL LINES: REPEAT AND ENLARGE

“While the seven churches present the internal history of the church, the seven seals bring to view the great events of its external history.” Uriah Smith, *The Biblical Institute*, 253.

And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer.

And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see. And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword.

And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine.

And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see. And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.

And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held: And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled. Revelation 6:1-11.

“And when he had opened the fifth seal . . . [Revelation 6:9–11]. Here were scenes presented to John that were not in reality but that which would be in a period of time in the future.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 20, 197.

“When the fifth seal was opened, John the Revelator in vision saw beneath the altar the company that were slain for the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. After this came the scenes described in the eighteenth of Revelation, when those who are faithful and true are called out from Babylon. Revelation 18:1–5 quoted.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 20, 14.

“We have now traced the churches, the seals, and the beasts, or living beings, as far as they will compare as covering **the same periods of time**. The seals are seven in number, the beasts but four. And it may be well here to notice, that at the opening of the first, second, third and fourth seals the first, second, third and fourth beasts are heard to say ‘Come and see;’ but when the fifth, sixth and seventh seals are opened, there is no such voice heard. **Neither do the last three churches, and the last three seals, compare, as covering the same periods of time, as the first four churches, and the first four seals do.** But, as we have shown, the churches, seals and beasts do agree, as covering the same periods of time for the space of nearly 1800 years, till we come down to a little more than half a century of the present time.” James White, *Review and Herald*, February 12, 1857.

HOW LONG?

Then the angel of the Lord answered and said, O Lord of hosts, **how long** wilt thou not have mercy on Jerusalem and on the cities of Judah, against which thou hast had indignation these threescore and ten years? Zechariah 1:12.

And the Lord answered the angel that talked with me *with good words and comfortable words*. So the angel that communed with me said unto me, Cry thou, saying, Thus saith the Lord of hosts; I am jealous for Jerusalem and for Zion with a great jealousy. And I am very sore displeased with the heathen *that are* at ease: for I was but a little displeased, and they helped forward the affliction. Therefore thus saith the Lord; I am returned to Jerusalem with mercies: **my house shall be built in it**, saith the Lord of hosts, and a **line shall be stretched forth upon Jerusalem**. Cry yet, saying, Thus saith the Lord of hosts; My cities through prosperity shall yet be spread abroad; and **the Lord shall yet comfort Zion, and shall yet choose Jerusalem**. Zechariah 1:13-17.

THE FOUR SCATTERING HORNS

Then lifted I up mine eyes, and saw, and behold four horns. And I said unto the angel that talked with me, What *be* these? And he answered me, These *are* the horns which have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem. Zechariah 1:19-20.

Israel is a scattered sheep; the lions have driven *him* away: **first the king of Assyria** hath devoured him; and **last this Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon** hath broken his bones. Therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will punish the king of Babylon and his land, as I have punished the king of Assyria. Jeremiah 50:17-18.

THE LORD RESTORING HIS PEOPLE

“Zechariah then saw the powers that had ‘scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem,’ symbolized by four horns. Immediately afterward he saw four carpenters, representing the agencies used by the Lord in restoring His people and the house of His worship. See verses 18–21.

“‘I lifted up mine eyes again,’ Zechariah said, ‘and looked, and behold a man with a measuring line in his hand. Then said I, Whither goest thou? And he said unto me, To measure Jerusalem, to see what is the breadth thereof, and what is the length thereof. And, behold, the angel that talked with me went forth, and another angel went out to meet him, and said unto him, Run, speak to this young man, saying, Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls for the multitude of men and cattle therein: for I, saith the Lord, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her.’ Zechariah 2:1–5.

“God had commanded that Jerusalem be rebuilt; the vision of **the measuring of the city was an assurance that He would give comfort and strength to His afflicted ones**, and fulfill to them the promises of His everlasting covenant. His protecting care, He declared, would be like ‘a wall of fire round about;’ and **through them His glory would be revealed to all the sons of men**. That which He was accomplishing for His people was to be known in all the earth. ‘Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion: for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee.’ Isaiah 12:6.” *Prophets and Kings*, 580–581.

THE SCATTERING OF THE HOLY PEOPLE

And I heard the man clothed in linen, which *was* upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and swore by him that liveth for ever that *it shall be* for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these *things* shall be finished. Daniel 12:7.

FOUR CARPENTERS

And the Lord showed me four carpenters. Then said I, What come these to do? And he spake, saying, These *are* the horns which have scattered Judah, so that no man did lift up his head: but these are come to fray them, to cast out the horns of the Gentiles, which lifted up *their* horn over the land of Judah to scatter it. Zechariah 1:20–21.

THREE DECREES

“In the seventh chapter of Ezra the decree is found. Verses 12–26. In its completest form it was issued by Artaxerxes, king of Persia, 457 B.C. But in Ezra 6:14 the house of the Lord at Jerusalem is said to have been built ‘according to the commandment [‘decree,’ margin] of Cyrus, and Darius, and Artaxerxes king of Persia.’ These three kings, in originating, reaffirming, and completing the decree, brought it to the perfection required by the prophecy to mark the beginning of the 2300 years. Taking 457 B.C., the time when the decree was completed, as the date of the commandment, every specification of the prophecy concerning the seventy weeks was seen to have been fulfilled.” *The Great Controversy*, 326.

THE FOURTH DECREE

“His request to the king had been so favorably received that Nehemiah was encouraged to ask for still further assistance. To give dignity and authority to his mission, as well as to provide protection on the journey, he asked for and secured a military escort. **He obtained royal letters** to the governors of the provinces beyond the Euphrates, the territory through which he must pass on his way to Judea; and he obtained, also, a letter to the keeper of the king’s forest in the mountains of Lebanon, directing him to furnish such timber as would be needed. That there might be no occasion for complaint that he had exceeded his commission, Nehemiah was careful to have the authority and privileges accorded him, clearly defined.” *Prophets and Kings*, 633.

MEASURING JERUSALEM

I lifted up mine eyes again, and looked, and behold a man with a measuring line in his hand. Then said I, Whither goest thou? And he said unto me, To measure Jerusalem, to see what is the breadth thereof, and what is the length thereof.

And, behold, the angel that talked with me went forth, and another angel went out to meet him, And said unto him, Run, speak to this young man, saying, Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls for the multitude of men and cattle therein: For I, saith the Lord, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her.

Ho, ho, *come forth*, and flee from the land of the north, saith the Lord: for I have spread you abroad as the four winds of the heaven, saith the Lord. Deliver thyself, O Zion, that dwellest *with* the daughter of Babylon.

For thus saith the Lord of hosts; After the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye. For, behold, I will shake mine hand upon them, and they shall be a spoil to their servants: and ye shall know that the Lord of hosts hath sent me.

Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion: for, lo, I come, and I will dwell in the midst of thee, saith the Lord. And many nations shall be joined to the Lord in that day, and shall be my people: and I will dwell in the midst of thee, and thou shalt know that the Lord of hosts hath sent me unto thee.

And the Lord shall inherit Judah his portion in the holy land, and shall choose Jerusalem again. Be silent, O all flesh, before the Lord: for he is raised up out of his holy habitation. Zechariah 2:1-13.

1844: LEAVE OFF THE COURTYARD

And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty *and* two months. Revelation 11:1-2.

CHOOSING JERUSALEM

“Thou wouldst not want him to step out if thou knewest thy situation. That desire is to disenthroned those kings, but that could not be, for **kings must reign till Christ begins to reign.**

“I saw in Europe just as things were moving to accomplish their desires, there would seemingly be a slackening up once or twice: thus the hearts of the wicked would be relieved and hardened; but the work will not settle down, only seem to, for the minds of kings and rulers were intent on overthrowing each other, and the minds of the people to get the ascendancy.

“I saw that all things are intensely looking and stretching their thoughts on the impending crisis before them. **The sins of Israel must go to judgment beforehand.** Every sin must be confessed at the sanctuary, then the work will move. It must be done now. The remnant in the time of trouble will cry, My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken me?

“The latter rain is coming on those that are pure—all then will receive it as formerly.

“**When the four angels let go, Christ will set up His kingdom.** None receive the latter rain but those who are doing all they can. Christ would help us. All could be overcomers by the grace of God, through the blood of Jesus. All heaven is interested in the work. Angels are interested.” *Spalding and Magan, 2–3.*

ZECHARIAH THREE

“Zechariah’s vision of Joshua and the Angel applies with peculiar force to the experience of God’s people in the closing scenes of the great day of atonement.” *Prophets and Kings, 588.*

THE MILLERITES AND THE 144,000

And the angel that talked with me came again, and waked me, as a man that is wakened out of his sleep, And said unto me,

What seest thou?

And I said, I have looked, and behold a candlestick all of gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and his seven lamps thereon, and seven pipes to the seven lamps, which *are* upon the top thereof:

And two olive trees by it, one upon the right *side* of the bowl, and the other upon the left *side* thereof.

So I answered and spake to the angel that talked with me, saying, What *are* these, my lord?

Then the angel that talked with me answered and said unto me, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my lord. Zechariah 4:1–5.

TWO OLIVE TREES: THE WORD OF THE LORD

Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the Lord unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts. Who *art* thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel *thou shalt become* a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone *thereof with* shoutings, *crying*, Grace, grace unto it. Zechariah 4:6–7.

THE DAY OF SMALL THINGS

Moreover the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, The hands of Zerubbabel have laid **the foundation** of this house; his hands shall also **finish** it; and thou shalt know that the Lord of hosts hath sent me unto you.

For who hath despised the day of small things? for they **shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet** in the hand of Zerubbabel *with* those seven; they *are* the eyes of the Lord, which run to and fro through the whole earth. Zechariah 4:8–10.

ZERUBBAABEL

And again the word of the Lord came unto Haggai in the four and twentieth *day* of the month, saying, Speak to Zerubbabel, governor of Judah, saying, I will shake the heavens and the earth;

And I will overthrow the throne of kingdoms, and I will destroy the strength of the kingdoms of the heathen; and I will overthrow the chariots, and those that ride in them; and the horses and their riders shall come down, every one by the sword of his brother.

In that day, saith the Lord of hosts, will I take thee, O Zerubbabel, my servant, the son of Shealtiel, saith the Lord, and will make thee as a **signet**: for I have chosen thee, saith the Lord of hosts. Haggai 2:20–23.

SIGNET: SEAL

“Kings must reign till Christ begins to reign. . . .

“When the four angels let go, Christ will set up His kingdom. None receive the latter rain but those who are doing all they can.” *Spalding and Magan, 2–3.*

THE TWO ANOINTED ONES

Then answered I, and said unto him, What *are* these two olive trees upon the right *side* of the candlestick and upon the left *side* thereof?

And I answered again, and said unto him, What *be* these two olive branches which through the two golden pipes empty the golden *oil* out of themselves?

And he answered me and said, Knowest thou not what these *be*?

And I said, No, my lord.

Then said he, These *are* **the two anointed ones**, that stand by the Lord of the whole earth. Zechariah 4:11–14.

REPEAT AND ENLARGE

And two olive trees by it, one upon the right *side* of the bowl, and the other upon the left *side* thereof. So I answered and spake to the angel that talked with me, saying, **What are these**, my lord? Then the angel that talked with me answered and said unto me, **Knowest thou not what these be?** And I said, No, my lord. Zechariah 4:1–5.

Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the Lord unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts. Who *art* thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel *thou shalt become* a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone *thereof with* shoutings, *crying*, Grace, grace unto it. Zechariah 4:6–7.

“From the two olive trees the golden oil was emptied through the golden pipes into the bowl of the candlestick, and thence into the golden lamps that gave light to the sanctuary. So from the holy ones that stand in God’s presence His Spirit is imparted to the human instrumentalities who are consecrated to His service. The mission of the two anointed ones is to communicate to God’s people that heavenly grace which alone can make His word a lamp to the feet and a light to the path. ‘Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.’ Zechariah 4:6.” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, 408.

GOD’S CHILDREN SHINE AS LIGHTS

“The anointed ones standing by the Lord of the whole earth, have the position once given to Satan as covering cherub. By the holy beings surrounding his throne, the Lord keeps up a **constant communication** with the inhabitants of the earth. The golden oil represents the grace with which God keeps the lamps of believers supplied, that they shall not flicker and go out. Were it not that this holy oil is poured from heaven in the messages of God’s Spirit, the agencies of evil would have entire control over men.

“God is dishonored when we do not receive the communications which he sends us. Thus we refuse the golden oil which he would pour into our souls to be communicated to those in darkness. When the call shall come, ‘Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him,’ those who have not received the holy oil, who have not cherished the grace of Christ in their hearts, will find, like the foolish virgins, that they are not ready to meet their Lord. They have not, in themselves, the power to obtain the oil, and their lives are wrecked. But if God’s Holy Spirit is asked for, if we plead, as did Moses, ‘Show me thy glory,’ the love of God will be shed abroad in our hearts. Through the golden pipes, the golden oil will be communicated to us. ‘Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts.’ By receiving the bright beams of the Sun of Righteousness, **God’s children shine as lights** in the world.” *Review and Herald*, July 20, 1897.

“These empty themselves into the golden bowls, which represent the hearts of the living messengers of God, who bear **the word of the Lord to the people in warnings and entreaties**. The **word itself must be as represented, the golden oil, emptied from the two olive trees that stand by the Lord of the whole earth. This is the baptism by the Holy Spirit with fire**. This will open the soul of unbelievers to conviction. The wants of the soul can be met only by the working of the Holy Spirit of God. Man can of himself do nothing to satisfy the longings and meet the aspirations of the heart.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 16, 297.

THE LAW OF GOD

Then I turned, and lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a flying roll.

And he said unto me, What seest thou? And I answered, I see a flying roll; the length thereof is twenty cubits, and the breadth thereof ten cubits. Then said he unto me, This is the curse that goeth forth over the face of the whole earth: for every one that stealeth shall be cut off *as* on this side according to it; and every one that sweareth shall be cut off *as* on that side according to it. I will bring it forth, saith the Lord of hosts, and it shall enter into the house of the thief, and into the house of him that sweareth falsely by my name: and it shall remain in the midst of his house, and shall consume it with the timber thereof and the stones thereof. Zechariah 5:1-4.

THE DEADLY WOUND HEALED

Then the angel that talked with me went forth, and said unto me, Lift up now thine eyes, and see what is this that goeth forth.

And I said, What is it? And he said, This is an ephah that goeth forth. He said moreover, This is **their resemblance through all the earth**.

And, behold, there was lifted up a talent of lead: and this is a woman that sitteth in the midst of the ephah. And he said, This is wickedness. And he cast it into the midst of the ephah; and he cast the weight of lead upon the mouth thereof.

Then lifted I up mine eyes, and looked, and, behold, there came out **two women**, and **the wind was in their wings**; for they had wings like the wings of a stork: and **they lifted up the ephah between the earth and the heaven**. Then said I to the angel that talked with me, Whither do these bear the ephah?

And he said unto me, To build it **an house in the land of Shinar**: and it shall be established, and set there upon her own base. Zechariah 5:5-11.

THE NORTH COUNTRY

And I turned, and lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and, behold, there came **four chariots** out from between two mountains; and the mountains *were* mountains of brass.

In the first chariot *were* red horses; and in the second chariot black horses; And in the third chariot white horses; and in the fourth chariot grisled and bay horses.

Then I answered and said unto the angel that talked with me, What *are* these, my lord? And the angel answered and said unto me, These *are* the four spirits of the heavens, which go forth from standing before the Lord of all the earth.

The black horses which *are* therein go forth into the north country; and the white go forth after them; and the grisled go forth toward the south country. And the bay went forth, and sought to go that they might walk to and fro through the earth: and he said, Get you hence, walk to and fro through the earth. So they walked to and fro through the earth.

Then cried he upon me, and spake unto me, saying, Behold, these that go toward the north country have **quieted my spirit in the north country**. Zechariah 6:1-8.

Behold, I will send and take all the families of the **north**, saith the Lord, and Nebuchadrezzar the king of **Babylon**, my servant, and will bring them against this land, and against the inhabitants thereof, and against all these nations round about, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, and an hissing, and perpetual desolations. Jeremiah 25:9.

For, lo, I will raise and cause to come up against Babylon an assembly of great nations from the north country: and they shall set themselves in array against her; from thence she shall be taken: their arrows *shall be* as of a mighty expert man; none shall return in vain. Jeremiah 50:9.

#11—THE SEVENTH SEAL

“The fifth chapter of Revelation needs to be closely studied. It is of great importance to those who shall act a part in the work of God for these last days. There are some who are deceived. They do not realize what is coming on the earth.” *Testimonies*, volume 9, 267.

Silence in Heaven

And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour. Revelation 8:1.

When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory. Matthew 25:31.

“The series of seven seals is here resumed and concluded. The sixth chapter closed with the events of the sixth seal, and the eighth commences with the opening of the seventh seal; hence the seventh chapter stands parenthetically between the sixth and seventh seals, from which it appears that the sealing work of that chapter belongs to the sixth seal.

“Silence in Heaven. Concerning the cause of this silence, only conjecture can be offered,—a conjecture, however, which is supported by the events of the sixth seal. That seal does not bring us to the second advent, although it embraces events that transpire in close connection therewith. It introduces the fearful commotions of the elements, described as the rolling of the heavens together as a scroll, caused by the voice of God, the breaking up of the surface of the earth, and the confession on the part of the wicked that the great day of God’s wrath is come. They are doubtless in momentary expectation of seeing the King appear in, to them, unendurable glory. But the seal stops just short of that event. The personal appearing of Christ must therefore be allotted to the next seal. But when the Lord appears, he comes with all the holy angels with him. Matthew 25:31. And when all the heavenly harpers leave the courts above to come down with their divine Lord, as he descends to gather the fruit of his redeeming work, will there not be silence in heaven?

“The length of this period of silence, if we consider it prophetic time, would be about seven days.” Uriah Smith, *Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation*, 476.

“We all entered the cloud together, and were **seven days ascending to the sea of glass**, when Jesus brought the crowns, and with His own right hand placed them on our heads. He gave us harps of gold and palms of victory.” *Early Writings*, 16.

THE CROSS: EPHESUS

“But God suffered with His Son. Angels beheld the Saviour’s agony. They saw their Lord enclosed by legions of satanic forces, His nature weighed down with a shuddering, mysterious dread. **There was silence in heaven.** No harp was touched. Could mortals have viewed the amazement of the angelic host as in **silent** grief they watched the Father separating His beams of light, love, and glory from His beloved Son, they would better understand how offensive in His sight is sin.” *The Desire of Ages*, 693.

THE COVENANT

“Jesus, the world’s Redeemer, possessed heaven’s activity, heaven’s ambition. He longed to extend His kingdom to all parts of the world. He endured the agony of the cross to accomplish this work, cheered by the prospect of a universal triumph. In dying for the sinful race, He destroyed him who had the power of death. **The blood of the cross sealed the irrevocable covenant** which ensures to our Redeemer the heathen for His inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for His possession.” *Signs of the Times*, June 21, 1899.

THE DAY OF ATONEMENT: PHILADELPHIA

“In the sanctuary of the wilderness tabernacle and of the temple that were the earthly symbols of God’s dwelling place, one apartment was sacred to His presence. The veil inwrought with cherubim at its entrance was not to be lifted by any hand save one. To lift that veil, and intrude unbidden into the sacred mystery of the most holy place, was death. For above the mercy seat dwelt the glory of the Holiest—glory upon which no man might look and live. On the one day of the year appointed for ministry in the most holy place, the high priest with trembling entered God’s presence, while clouds of incense veiled the glory from his sight. **Throughout the courts of the temple every sound was hushed. No priests ministered at the altars. The host of worshipers, bowed in silent awe, offered their petitions for God’s mercy.**” *The Ministry of Healing*, 437.

THE SECOND COMING: LAODICEA

“Before His presence ‘all faces are turned into paleness;’ upon the rejecters of God’s mercy falls the terror of eternal despair. ‘The heart melteth, and the knees smite together, . . . and the faces of them all gather blackness.’ Jeremiah 30:6; Nahum 2:10. The righteous cry with trembling: ‘Who shall be able to stand?’ **The angels’ song is hushed, and there is a period of awful silence.** Then the voice of Jesus is heard, saying: ‘My grace is sufficient for you.’ The faces of the righteous are lighted up, and joy fills every heart. And the angels strike a note higher and sing again as they draw still nearer to the earth.” *The Great Controversy*, 641.

INCENSE, PRAYER, FIRE, AND THE GOLDEN ALTAR

And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer *it* with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. And the smoke of the incense, *which came* with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand.

And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast *it* into the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake. Revelation 8:3–5.

INCENSE

“The incense, ascending with the prayers of Israel, represents the merits and intercession of Christ, His perfect righteousness, which through faith is imputed to His people, and which can alone make the worship of sinful beings acceptable to God. Before the veil of the most holy place was an altar of perpetual intercession, before the holy, an altar of continual atonement. By blood and by incense God was to be approached—symbols pointing to the great Mediator, through whom sinners may approach Jehovah, and through whom alone mercy and salvation can be granted to the repentant, believing soul.” *Patriarchs and Prophets*, 353.

PRAYER

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14.

Ask ye of the Lord rain in the time of the latter rain; so the Lord shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain, to every one grass in the field. Zechariah 10:1.

“A revival of true godliness among us is the greatest and most urgent of all our needs. To seek this should be our first work. There must be earnest effort to obtain the blessing of the Lord, not because God is not willing to bestow His blessing upon us, but because we are unprepared to receive it. Our heavenly Father is more willing to give His Holy Spirit to them that ask Him, than are earthly parents to give good gifts to their children. But it is our work, by confession, humiliation, repentance, and earnest prayer, to fulfill the conditions upon which God has promised to grant us His blessing. **A revival need be expected only in answer to prayer.**” *Selected Messages*, book 1, 121.

FIRE

“It was a sin in the ancient economy to offer a sacrifice upon the wrong altar, or to allow incense to be kindled from a strange fire. We are in danger of commingling the sacred and the common. The holy fire from God is to be used with our offerings. The true altar is Christ, and **the true fire is the Holy Spirit**. The Holy Spirit is to inspire, to teach, to lead, and to guide men, and make them safe counselors. If we turn aside from God's chosen ones, we are in danger of inquiring from strange gods, and of offering upon a strange altar.” *Ye Shall Receive Power*, 178.

For our God is a consuming fire. Hebrews 12:29.

PURIFICATION OR WRATH

“The **live coal is symbolical of purification**. If it touches the lips, no impure word will fall from them. The live coal also symbolizes the potency of the efforts of the servants of the Lord.” *Review and Herald*, October 16, 1888.

“I indeed baptize you in water unto repentance, said John; ‘but He that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: He shall baptize you with **the Holy Ghost and with fire**.’ Matthew 3:11, R. V., margin. The prophet Isaiah had declared that the Lord would cleanse His people from their iniquities ‘by the spirit of judgment, and by the spirit of burning.’ The word of the Lord to Israel was, ‘I will turn My hand upon thee, and purely purge away thy dross, and take away all thy tin.’ Isaiah 4:4; 1:25. To sin, wherever found, ‘our God is a consuming fire.’ Hebrews 12:29. In all who submit to His power the Spirit of God will consume sin. But if men cling to sin, they become identified with it. Then the glory of God, which destroys sin, must destroy them. Jacob, after his night of wrestling with the Angel, exclaimed, ‘I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.’ Genesis 32:30.

“Jacob had been guilty of a great sin in his conduct toward Esau; but he had repented. His transgression had been forgiven, and his sin purged; therefore he could endure the revelation of God’s presence. But wherever men came before God while willfully cherishing evil, they were destroyed. At the second advent of Christ the wicked shall be consumed ‘with the Spirit of His mouth,’ and destroyed ‘with the brightness of His coming.’ 2 Thessalonians 2:8. **The light of the glory of God, which imparts life to the righteous, will slay the wicked.**” *The Desire of Ages*, 107.

Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but *rather* give place unto wrath: for it is written, *Vengeance is mine*; I will repay, saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. Romans 12:19, 20.

THE ALTAR

“**The true altar is Christ**, and the true fire is the Holy Spirit.” *Ye Shall Receive Power*, 178.

THE ALTAR ILLUMINATED

“Yet the fact that God has revealed His will to men through His word, has not rendered needless the continued presence and guiding of the Holy Spirit. On the contrary, **the Spirit was promised by our Saviour, to open the word to His servants, to illuminate and apply its teachings**. And since it was the Spirit of God that inspired the Bible, it is impossible that the teaching of the Spirit should ever be contrary to that of the word.” *Introduction to The Great Controversy*, 7.

“**God’s Spirit has illuminated every page of Holy Writ**, but there are those upon whom it makes little impression, because it is imperfectly understood. When the shaking comes, by the introduction of false theories, these surface readers, anchored nowhere, are like shifting sand. They slide into any position to suit the tenor of their feelings of bitterness.” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 112.

EMPOWERMENT BASED UPON DANIEL

PERGAMOS & THYATIRA: REVELATION 8:6–12

And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred *and* threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. Revelation 11:3.

“Paul’s words were not to be misinterpreted. It was not to be taught that he, by special revelation, had warned the Thessalonians of the immediate coming of Christ. Such a position would cause confusion of faith; for disappointment often leads to unbelief. The apostle therefore cautioned the brethren to receive no such message as coming from him, and he proceeded to emphasize the fact that the papal power, **so clearly described by the prophet Daniel**, was yet to rise and wage war against God’s people. Until this power should have performed its deadly and blasphemous work, it would be in vain for the church to look for the coming of their Lord. ‘Remember ye not,’ Paul inquired, ‘that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?’” *Acts of the Apostles*. 265.

And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty *and* two months. Revelation 11:1–2.

EPHESUS: PENTECOST

“Those who proclaimed this warning gave the right message at the right time. But as the early disciples declared, ‘The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand,’ **based on the prophecy of Daniel 9**, while they failed to perceive that the death of the Messiah was foretold in the same scripture, so Miller and his associates preached the message based on Daniel 8:14 and Revelation 14:7, and failed to see that there were still other messages brought to view in Revelation 14, which were also to be given before the advent of the Lord.” *The Great Controversy*, 352.

PHILADELPHIA: 1840–1844

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LAODICEA: REVELATION 18:1–3

“Let us give more time to the study of the Bible. We do not understand the word as we should. The book of Revelation opens with an injunction to us to understand the instruction that it contains. ‘Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy,’ God declares, ‘and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.’ **When we as a people understand what this book means to us, there will be seen among us a great revival.** We do not understand fully the lessons that it teaches, notwithstanding the injunction given us to search and study it.

“In the past teachers have declared Daniel and the Revelation to be sealed books, and the people have turned from them. The veil whose apparent mystery has kept many from lifting it, God’s own hand has withdrawn from these portions of His word. The very name ‘Revelation’ contradicts the statement that it is a sealed book. ‘Revelation’ means that something of importance is revealed. The truths of this book are addressed to those living in these last days. We are standing with the veil removed in the holy place of sacred things. We are not to stand without. We are to enter, not with careless, irreverent thoughts, not with impetuous footsteps, but with reverence and godly fear. We are nearing the time when the prophecies of the book of Revelation are to be fulfilled. . . .

“When the books of Daniel and Revelation are better understood, believers will have an entirely different religious experience. They will be given such glimpses of the open gates of heaven that heart and mind will be impressed with the character that all must develop in order to realize the blessedness which is to be the reward of the pure in heart.” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 113–114.

#12—OPENING OF THE SEVENTH SEAL

1798

“It was the Lion of the tribe of Judah who unsealed the book and gave to John the revelation of what should be in these last days. Daniel stood in his lot to bear his testimony, which was sealed until **the time of the end, when the first angel’s message should be proclaimed to our world.** These matters are of infinite importance in these last days, but while ‘many shall be purified, and made white, and tried,’ ‘the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand.’” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 18, 15.

1844

“The book that was sealed was not the book of Revelation, but that portion of the prophecy of Daniel which related to the last days. The Scripture says, ‘But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased (Daniel 12:4). **When the book was opened, the proclamation was made, ‘Time shall be no longer.’ (See Revelation 10:6.)** The book of Daniel is now unsealed, and the revelation made by Christ to John is to come to all the inhabitants of the earth. By the increase of knowledge a people is to be prepared to stand in the latter days.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 105.

THE SEVEN THUNDERS SEALED

And cried with a loud voice, as *when* a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices. And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not. Revelation 10:3–4.

THE SEVEN THUNDERS UNSEALED

And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand.

He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. Revelation 22:10–11.

FUTURE EVENTS WHICH WILL BE DISCLOSED

“After these seven thunders uttered their voices, **the injunction comes to John as to Daniel** in regard to the little book: ‘Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered.’ These relate to **future events which will be disclosed in their order.** Daniel shall stand in his lot at the end of the days. John sees the little book unsealed. Then Daniel’s prophecies have their proper place in the first, second, and third angels’ messages to be given to the world. The unsealing of the little book was the message in relation to time.

“The books of Daniel and the Revelation are one. One is a prophecy, the other a revelation; one a book sealed, the other a book opened. John heard the mysteries which the thunders uttered, but he was commanded not to write them.

EVENTS OF THE FIRST AND SECOND ANGELS' MESSAGES

“The special light given to John which was expressed in the seven thunders was a **delineation of events which would transpire under the first and second angels' messages.** It was not best for the people to know these things, for their faith must necessarily be tested. In the order of God most wonderful and advanced truths would be proclaimed. The first and second angels' messages were to be proclaimed, but no further light was to be revealed before these messages had done their specific work. This is represented by the angel standing with one foot on the sea, proclaiming with a most solemn oath that time should be no longer.” *The Seventh-day Adventists Bible Commentary*, volume 7, 971.

THE ANCIENT PEOPLE

Thus saith the Lord the King of Israel, and his redeemer the Lord of hosts; I *am* the first, and I *am* the last; and beside me *there is* no God. And who, as I, shall call, and shall declare it, and set it in order for me, since I appointed the ancient people? and the things that are coming, and shall come, let them show unto them. Isaiah 44:6-7.

ANCIENT ISRAEL

“The trials of the children of Israel, and their attitude just before the first coming of Christ, **illustrate the position of the people of God** in their experience before the second coming of Christ.

“Satan’s snares are laid for us as verily as they were laid for the children of Israel just prior to their entrance into the land of Canaan. **We are repeating the history of that people.**

“**Their history should be a solemn warning to us.** We need never expect that when the Lord has light for his people, Satan will stand calmly by and make no effort to prevent them from receiving it. Let us beware that we do not refuse the light God sends, because it does not come in a way to please us. . . . If there are any who do not see and accept the light themselves, let them not stand in the way of others.

“I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live; that thou mayest love the Lord thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him; for he is thy life, and the length of thy days; that thou mayest dwell in the land which the Lord sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.’

“**This song was not historical but prophetic.** While it recounted the wonderful dealings of God with his people in the past, **it also foreshadowed the great events of the future**, the final victory of the faithful when Christ shall come the second time in power and glory.

“The apostle Paul plainly states that **the experience of the Israelites in their travels has been recorded for the benefit of those living in this age of the world, those upon whom the ends of the world are come.** We do not consider that our dangers are any less than those of the Hebrews, but greater.” *Healthful Living*, 280-281.

THE THREE COMINGS OF CHRIST

“The **angel who unites** in the proclamation of the third angel’s message is to lighten the whole earth with his glory. A work of world-wide extent and unwonted power is here foretold. **The advent movement of 1840–44** was a glorious manifestation of the power of God . . .

“The work will be similar to that of **the Day of Pentecost.**” *The Great Controversy*, 611.

CONFIRMING THE COVENANT

And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make *it* desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate. Daniel 9:27.

HIS MISSION: THE CLEANSING OF THE TEMPLE

“In the cleansing of the temple, Jesus was **announcing His mission** as the Messiah, and entering upon His work. That temple, erected for the abode of the divine Presence, was designed to be an object lesson for Israel and for the world. From eternal ages it was God’s purpose that every created being, from the bright and holy seraph to man, should be a temple for the indwelling of the Creator. Because of sin, humanity ceased to be a temple for God. Darkened and defiled by evil, the heart of man no longer revealed the glory of the Divine One. But by the incarnation of the Son of God, the purpose of Heaven is fulfilled. God dwells in humanity, and through saving grace the heart of man becomes again His temple. God designed that the temple at Jerusalem should be a continual witness to the high destiny open to every soul. But the Jews had not understood the significance of the building they regarded with so much pride. They did not yield themselves as holy temples for the Divine Spirit. The courts of the temple at Jerusalem, filled with the tumult of unholy traffic, represented all too truly the temple of the heart, defiled by the presence of sensual passion and unholy thoughts. In cleansing the temple from the world’s buyers and sellers, **Jesus announced His mission to cleanse the heart from the defilement of sin**,—from the earthly desires, the selfish lusts, the evil habits, that corrupt the soul. ‘The Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to His temple, even **the Messenger of the covenant**, whom ye delight in: behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of hosts. But who may abide the day of His coming? and who shall stand when He appeareth? for He is like a refiner’s fire, and like fullers’ soap: and He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and He shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver.’ Malachi 3:1–3.” *The Desire of Ages*, 161.

HIS THREE PROPHETIC COMINGS

“When Jesus began His public ministry, **He cleansed the Temple** from its sacrilegious profanation. Among the last acts of His ministry was **the second cleansing** of the Temple. So in the last work for the warning of the world, two distinct calls are made to the churches. The second angel’s message is, ‘Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication’ (Revelation 14:8). And in the loud cry of the third angel’s message a voice is heard from heaven saying, ‘Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities’ (Revelation 18:4, 5).” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 118.

“Christ had come, not to the earth, as they expected, but, as foreshadowed in the type, to the most holy place of the temple of God in heaven. He is represented by the prophet Daniel as coming at this time to the Ancient of Days: ‘I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came’—not to the earth, but—‘to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him.’ Daniel 7:13.

“**This coming is foretold also by the prophet Malachi:** ‘The Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of hosts.’ Malachi 3:1. The coming of the Lord to His temple was sudden, unexpected, to His people. They were not looking for Him there. They expected Him to come to earth, ‘in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel.’ 2 Thessalonians 1:8.

“But the people were not yet ready to meet their Lord. There was still a work of preparation to be accomplished for them. Light was to be given, directing their minds to the temple of God in heaven; and as they should by faith follow their High Priest in His ministration there, new duties would be revealed. Another message of warning and instruction was to be given to the church.

“Says the prophet: ‘Who may abide the day of His coming? and who shall stand when He appeareth? for He is like a refiner’s fire, and like fullers’ soap: and He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and He shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness.’ Malachi 3:2, 3. Those who are living upon the earth when the intercession of Christ shall cease in the sanctuary above are to stand in the sight of a holy God without a mediator. Their robes must be spotless, their characters must be purified from sin by the blood of sprinkling. Through the grace of God and their own diligent effort they must be conquerors in the battle with evil. While the investigative judgment is going forward in heaven, while the sins of penitent believers are being removed from the sanctuary, there is to be **a special work of purification, of putting away of sin, among God’s people** upon earth. This work is more clearly presented in the messages of Revelation 14.

“**When** this work shall have been accomplished, the followers of Christ will be ready for His appearing. ‘Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the Lord, as in the days of old, and as in former years.’ Malachi 3:4. Then the church which our Lord at His coming is to receive to Himself will be a ‘glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing.’ Ephesians 5:27. Then she will look ‘forth as the morning, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners.’ Song of Solomon 6:10.” *The Great Controversy*, 424–425.

THE 144,000

“John saw a Lamb on Mount Zion, and with Him **144,000** having His Father’s name written in their foreheads. They bore the signet of heaven. **They reflected the image of God.** They were full of the light and the glory of the Holy One. If we would have the image and superscription of God upon us, we must separate ourselves from all iniquity. We must forsake every evil way, and then we must trust our cases in the hands of Christ. While we are working out our own salvation with fear and trembling, God will work in us to will and to do of His own good pleasure.” *Review and Herald*, March 19, 1889.

RECREATION

“The Lord invites his people to become workers together with him in rebuilding and reshaping character according to the true standard of moral rectitude. Through faith in Christ we are to be recreated in his image.” *Review and Herald*, December 3, 1895.

CREATIVE POWER

“The creative energy that called the worlds into existence is in the word of God. This word imparts power; it begets life. Every command is a promise; accepted by the will, received into the soul, it brings with it the life of the Infinite One. It transforms the nature and re-creates the soul in the image of God.” *Education*, 126.

“The value of the Sabbath as a means of education is beyond estimate. Whatever of ours God claims from us, He returns again, enriched, transfigured, with His own glory. The tithe that He claimed from Israel was devoted to preserving among men, in its glorious beauty, the pattern of His temple in the heavens, the token of His presence on the earth. So the portion of our time which He claims is given again to us, bearing His name and seal. ‘It is a sign,’ He says, ‘between Me and you; . . . that ye may know that I am the Lord;’ because ‘in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.’ Exodus 31:13; 20:11. The Sabbath is a sign of creative and redeeming power; it points to God as the source of life and knowledge; it recalls man’s primeval glory, and thus witnesses to God’s purpose to re-create us in His own image.” *Education*, 250.

THE REST AND THE REFRESHING

Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord: whosoever doeth *any* work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, *for* a perpetual covenant. It is a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever: for *in* six days the Lord made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day **he rested, and was refreshed.** Exodus 31: 15–17.

SEVEN DAYS

“God gave the Sabbath to his people to be a continual sign of his love and mercy and of their obedience. **As he rested on this day and was refreshed, so he desired his people to rest and be refreshed.** It was to be a constant reminder to them that they were included in his covenant of grace. Throughout your generations, he said, the Sabbath is to be my sign, my pledge, to you that I am **the Lord that doth sanctify you**, that I have chosen you and set you apart as my peculiar people. And as you keep the Sabbath holy, you will bear testimony to the nations of the earth that you are my chosen people.” *Review and Herald*, October 28, 1902.

“The Sabbath was God’s sign between Him and His people, and evidence of His kindness, mercy, and love, a token by which His people are distinguished from all false religionists of the world. And God has pledged Himself that He will bless them in their obedience, showing Himself that He is their God, and has taken them into covenant relation with Himself, and that He will fulfill His promise to all that are obedient. Not upon the first day, but upon the seventh day, God rested and **was refreshed**—satisfied with **His work of Creation**. Then the morning stars sang together, and **all the sons of God shouted for joy**, and now man’s observance of the Lord’s day of rest will again cause joy among the angels of heaven. The time in which we live is a time when the church militant will realize the oppressive power of persecution, because they keep the Sabbath of Creation, which God has sanctified and blessed.

“The observance of the Sabbath is a line of demarcation between him that serveth God and him that serveth Him not. **It is God’s great memorial of the fact that in six days He created the heavens and the earth and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed.** It is His memorial to preserve among the nations a clear, definite, unmistakable knowledge of the only true God, an evidence that He is a God above all gods. For this reason He set apart the day on which He rested after creating the world, a day in which no common work should be done. God has given men six days in the week in which to labor and do all their work; the one day wherein He rested after creating the world and all things that are therein was to be His own holy day, when men should worship Him, the Creator of the heavens and the earth. This portion of time is especially set apart for rest and for worship, that men may look upon the heavens and the earth, and honor, worship, praise, and exalt the God who created all things by Jesus Christ.

“By observing the Sabbath day wherein God rested, the knowledge of God would be preserved. It is a ‘sign between Me and you that ye may know that I am the Lord that doth sanctify you.’ Those who keep the Sabbath holy as the Lord has specified, reveal that they are His peculiar people, and that He who made the heavens and the earth is their God.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 5, 84–85.

SEVEN MILLENIUMS

But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 2 Peter 3:8.

“During the thousand years between the first and the second resurrection, the judgment of the wicked takes place. Daniel declares that when the Ancient of days came, ‘judgment was given to the saints of the Most High.’ At this time the righteous reign as kings and priests unto God. John in the Revelation says, ‘I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them.’ ‘They shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.’ It is at this time that, as foretold by Paul, ‘the saints shall judge the world.’ In union with Christ they judge the wicked, comparing their acts with the statute book, the Bible, and deciding every case according to the deeds done in the body. Satan also and evil angels are judged by Christ and his people.

“At the close of the thousand years the second resurrection will take place. Then the wicked will be raised from the dead, and appear before God for the execution of ‘the judgment written.’ Thus the Revelator, after describing the resurrection of the righteous, says, ‘The rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished.’”
Southern Watchmen, March 14, 1905.

AFFLICTION SHALL NOT RISE UP THE SECOND TIME

“But it was not merely to accomplish the redemption of man that Christ came to the earth to suffer and to die. He came to ‘magnify the law’ and to ‘make it honorable.’ **Not alone that the inhabitants of this world might regard the law as it should be regarded; but it was to demonstrate to all the worlds of the universe that God’s law is unchangeable.** Could its claims have been set aside, then the Son of God need not have yielded up His life to atone for its transgression. The death of Christ proves it immutable. And the sacrifice to which infinite love impelled the Father and the Son, that sinners might be redeemed, **demonstrates to all the universe**—what nothing less than this plan of atonement could have sufficed to do—that justice and mercy are the foundation of the law and government of God. {GC 503.1}

“In the final execution of the judgment it will be seen that no cause for sin exists. When the Judge of all the earth shall demand of Satan, ‘Why hast thou rebelled against Me, and robbed Me of the subjects of My kingdom?’ the originator of evil can render no excuse. Every mouth will be stopped, and all the hosts of rebellion will be speechless.

“The cross of Calvary, while it declares the law immutable, proclaims to the universe that the wages of sin is death. In the Saviour’s expiring cry, ‘It is finished,’ the death knell of Satan was rung. The great controversy which had been so long in progress was then decided, and the final eradication of evil was made certain. The Son of God passed through the portals of the tomb, that ‘through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil.’ Hebrews 2:14. Lucifer’s desire for self-exaltation had led him to say: ‘I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: . . . I will be like the Most High.’ God declares: ‘I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth, . . . and never shalt thou be any more.’ Isaiah 14:13, 14; Ezekiel 28:18, 19. When ‘the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven;. . . all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.’ Malachi 4:1.

“The whole universe will have become witnesses to the nature and results of sin. And its utter extermination, which in the beginning would have brought fear to angels and dishonor to God, will now vindicate His love and establish His honor before the universe of beings who delight to do His will, and in whose heart is His law. Never will evil again be manifest. Says the word of God: ‘Affliction shall not rise up the second time.’ Nahum 1:9. The law of God, which Satan has reproached as the yoke of bondage, will be honored as the law of liberty. **A tested and proved creation will never again be turned from allegiance to Him** whose character has been fully manifested before them as fathomless love and infinite wisdom.” *The Great Controversy*, 503–504.

“The inhabitants of all worlds will be convinced of the justice of the law in the overthrow of rebellion and the eradication of sin. When man, beguiled by Satan’s power, disobeyed the divine law, God could not, even to save the lost race, change that law. God is love, and to change the law would be to deny Himself, to overthrow those principles with which are bound up the good of the universe. **The working out of the plan of salvation reveals not only to men but to angels, the character of God, and through the ages of eternity the malignant character of sin will be understood by the cost to the Father and the Son of the redemption of a rebel race.** In Christ, **the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world, all worlds will behold the marks of the curse, and angels as well as men will ascribe honour and glory to the Redeemer through whom they are all made secure from apostasy.** The efficiency of the cross guards the redeemed race from the danger of a second fall. The life and death of Christ effectually unveils the deceptions of Satan, and refutes his claims. The sacrifice of Christ for a fallen world draws not only men, but angels unto Him bonds of indissoluble union. Through the plan of salvation the justice and mercy of God are fully vindicated, and to all eternity rebellion will never again arise, affliction never again touch the universe of God.” *Messenger*, June 7, 1893.

What do ye imagine against the Lord? he will make an utter end: affliction shall not rise up the second time. Nahum 1:9.

And *one* shall say unto him, What *are* these wounds in thine hands? Then he shall answer, *Those* with which I was wounded *in* the house of my friends. Zechariah 13:6.

“Those whom Christ commends in the judgment may have known little of theology, but they have cherished His principles. Through the influence of the divine Spirit they have been a blessing to those about them. Even among the heathen are those who have cherished the spirit of kindness; before the words of life had fallen upon their ears, they have befriended the missionaries, even ministering to them at the peril of their own lives. **Among the heathen are those who worship God ignorantly, those to whom the light is never brought by human instrumentality, yet they will not perish.** Though ignorant of the written law of God, they have heard His voice speaking to them in nature, and have done the things that the law required. Their works are evidence that the Holy Spirit has touched their hearts, and they are recognized as the children of God.” *The Desire of Ages*, 638.