

PROPHECY SCHOOL DECEMBER 2008

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THE DRUNKARDS OF EPHRAIM

Woe to the crown of pride, to the drunkards of Ephraim, whose glorious beauty is a fading flower, which *are* on the head of the fat valleys of them that are overcome with wine! Isaiah 28:1.

THE SCORNFUL MEN THAT RULE JERUSALEM

Wherefore hear the word of the Lord, ye scornful men, that rule this people which is in Jerusalem. Isaiah 28:14.

THE CHURCH

“The class who do not feel grieved over their own spiritual declension, nor mourn over the sins of others, will be left without the seal of God. The Lord commissions His messengers, the men with slaughtering weapons in their hands: ‘Go ye after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity: slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; and begin at My sanctuary. Then they began at the ancient men which were before the house.’

“Here we see that **the church—the Lord’s sanctuary**—was the first to feel the stroke of the wrath of God. The ancient men, those to whom God had given great light and who had stood as guardians of the spiritual interests of the people, had betrayed their trust. **They had taken the position that we need not look for miracles and the marked manifestation of God’s power as in former days.** Times have changed. These words strengthen their unbelief, and they say: The Lord will not do good, neither will He do evil. He is too merciful to visit His people in judgment. Thus ‘Peace and safety’ is the cry from men who will never again lift up their voice like a trumpet to show God’s people their transgressions and the house of Jacob their sins. These dumb dogs that would not bark are the ones who feel the just vengeance of an offended God. Men, maidens, and little children all perish together.” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 211.

“**This sealing of the servants of God is the same that was shown to Ezekiel in vision.**” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 444–445.

JERUSALEM'S WOE

Woe to Ariel, to Ariel, the city *where* David dwelt! add ye year to year; let them kill sacrifices. Isaiah 29:1.

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* deliver to one that is learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I cannot; for it *is* sealed: And the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, **I am not learned**.

Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near *me* with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men: Therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvellous work among this people, *even* a marvellous 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? Isaiah 29:9–16.

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 LATTER RAIN

“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.

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.

THE SPECIAL WARNING

“**As Enoch, Noah, Abraham, and Moses each declared the truth for his time, so will Christ’s servants now give the special warning for their generation.**” *The Desire of Ages*, 634.

TEACHING 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.

THE TIME YE OUGHT TO BE TEACHERS

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 WISE: 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.

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.

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.

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 his 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.

LINE UPON PROPHETIC LINE

“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. ‘For if we sin willfully after that we have received the **knowledge** of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins.’ Here is a most solemn statement, and one which should often be presented to souls, to show them the danger of entering into sin after they have received a **knowledge** of the truth of God. We would warn men and women off this ground. All would do well to remember, when tempted to leave the straight path of right, that those who, having received a **knowledge** of the truth, apostatize, ‘sin willfully,’ transgress the law of God (‘for sin is the transgression of the law’),—for such there remaineth no more a sacrifice for sin. ‘Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry.’” *Review and Herald*, July 31, 1888.

THE SAME LINE

“**In it [Revelation] 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 8, 415.

SHOW THE LINE OF PROPHETIC HISTORY

“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.

WILLIAM MILLER

“With intense interest he studied the books of Daniel and the Revelation, employing the same principles of interpretation as in the other scriptures, and found, to his great joy, that the prophetic symbols could be understood. He saw that the prophecies, so far as they had been fulfilled, had been fulfilled literally; that all the various figures, metaphors, parables, similitudes, etc., were either explained in their immediate connection, or the terms in which they were expressed were defined in other scriptures, and when thus explained, were to be literally understood. ‘I was thus satisfied,’ he says, ‘that the Bible is a system of revealed truths, so clearly and simply given that the wayfaring man, though a fool, need not err therein.’—Bliss, page 70. Link after link of the chain of truth rewarded his efforts, as step by step he traced down **the great lines of prophecy**. Angels of heaven were guiding his mind and opening the Scriptures to his understanding.” *The Great Controversy*, 320.

THE SAME PLAN

“Those who are engaged in proclaiming the third angel’s message are searching the Scriptures upon the same plan that Father Miller adopted. In the little book entitled *Views of the Prophecies and Prophetic Chronology*, Father Miller gives the following simple but intelligent and important rules for Bible study and interpretation:

“1. Every word must have its proper bearing on the subject presented in the Bible; 2. All Scripture is necessary, and may be understood by diligent application and study; 3. Nothing revealed in Scripture can or will be hid from those who ask in faith, not wavering; 4. To understand doctrine, bring all the scriptures together on the subject you wish to know, then let every word have its proper influence; and if you can form your theory without a contradiction, you cannot be in error; 5. Scripture must be its own expositor, since it is a rule of itself. If I depend on a teacher to expound to me, and he should guess at its meaning, or desire to have it so on account of his sectarian creed, or to be thought wise, then his guessing, desire, creed, or wisdom is my rule, and not the Bible.’

“The above is a portion of these rules; and in our study of the Bible we shall all do well to heed the principles set forth.” *Review and Herald*, November 25, 1884.

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.

EVENTS FALL INTO LINE

“In the past the Lord God of ages revealed his secrets to his prophets. The Omniscient looked down the centuries, and predicted through his prophets the rise and fall of kingdoms, hundreds of years before the events foretold took place. The present and the future are equally clear to God, and he shows his servants what shall be. His voice echoes down the ages, telling man what is to take place. Kings and princes take their position at the appointed time. They think they are carrying out their own purposes, but in reality they are fulfilling the word God has given through his prophets. They act their part in carrying out God’s great plan. **Events fall into line**, fulfilling the word the Almighty has spoken.” *Review and Herald*, February 6, 1900.

REQUIRED TO KNOW

“One saying of the Saviour must not be made to destroy another. Though no man knoweth the day nor the hour of His coming, **we are instructed and required to know when it is near**. We are further taught that to disregard His warning, and refuse or neglect to know when His advent is near, will be as **fatal** for us as it was for those who lived in the days of Noah not to know when the flood was coming.” *The Great Controversy*, 371.

WILL BE DISCERNED

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

WE CAN KNOW

“Brethren and sisters, my faith is as strong as ever that the things of this world are about to close. It is stronger than when I saw you last. We can see the **waymarks** that are all along the way. When we are traveling along a road alone, and see a guide board; **if we can read** we know that we are at such a place; so it is if our minds are active and so consecrated to God that we can understand His workings, **we can know just where we are in this world’s history**. Things we spoke of 25 years ago are just working up. The powers of darkness are working with an intensity from within, but God has been working for us, and He will work for us that Christ shall not have died in vain, that we may have of the life that runs parallel with the life of Jehovah. It is this little, little atom of a world that is absorbing all our force.

“Is there not something that will have a reviving influence on [our] lives? Should we not study the Word of God, and when duty is made known, meet every objection to it with a ‘thus saith the Lord’? Should we not search out the truths that are clustered about the truths of God? We have no time to fold our hands, brethren; the Lord is soon coming, and we have heard the note of warning till we have consoled ourselves and a sleep has taken hold of us, of the life and the character. There is **nothing** about us to show the world that we have the most sacred truth that has ever been given to man.

“We want to know where we are in history.” *Sermons and Talks*, 48, 49.

WAYMARKS

PROPHETIC GUIDEPOSTS

“God speaks in his word, and fulfills this word in the world. We need now to seek to understand **the movements of God’s providence**. Said Paul, ‘Ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night nor of darkness.’ God’s people are not left to depend on man’s wisdom. **With prophetic guideposts God has marked out the way he wishes them to take**. These great **waymarks** show us that the path of obedience is the only path we can follow with certainty. Men break their word, and prove themselves untrustworthy, but God changes not. His word will abide the same forever.” *Review and Herald*, February 6, 1900.

MONUMENTS ALONG THE WAY

“Today Satan is seeking opportunities to tear down the **waymarks** of truth,—**the monuments that have been raised up along the way**; and we need the experience of the aged workers who have built their house upon the solid rock, who through evil report as well as good report have been steadfast to the truth.” *Gospel Workers*, 104.

CONSTANTLY SEARCHING

“Our faith in reference to the messages of the first, second, and third angels was correct. The great **waymarks** we have passed are immovable. Although the hosts of hell may try to tear them from their foundation, and triumph in the thought that they have succeeded, yet they do not succeed. These pillars of truth stand firm as the eternal hills, unmoved by all the efforts of men combined with those of Satan and his host. **We can learn much, and should be constantly searching the Scriptures to see if these things are so.**” *Evangelism*, 223.

THE TIMES IN WHICH WE LIVE

“We should study the great **waymarks** that **point out the times in which we are living.**” *Last Day Events*, 14.

GUARDED

“The great **waymarks** of truth, showing us our bearings in prophetic history, are to be carefully guarded, lest they be torn down, and replaced with theories that would bring confusion rather than genuine light.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 101–102.

PRESERVED

“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 testimony 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.” *Counsels to Writers and Editors*, 52.

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.

NOT A PIN MOVED

“At this time many efforts will be made to unsettle our faith in the sanctuary question; but we must not waver. **Not a pin is to be moved from the foundations of our faith.** Truth is still truth. Those who become uncertain will drift into erroneous theories, and will finally find themselves infidel in regard to the past evidence we have had of what is truth. The old **waymarks** must be preserved, that we lose not our bearings.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 1, 55.

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.

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

Ezra and Nehemiah
John the Baptist and Christ
The Millerites
Moses
Noah
Elijah

THE WAYMARKS OF A REFORM MOVEMENT

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

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.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE WAYMARKS

Preceded by darkness or a scattering

1. TIME OF THE END

Fulfillment of a prophecy

First message arrives

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 initiates an escalating testing process

A gathering is initiated

2. FIRST MESSAGE FORMALIZED— FEARFUL CONVICTION OF SIN

A reform message associated with a specific reformer

Testing message identified

Message empowered after it arrives and is formalized

Empowerment marked when a divine symbol descends

Foundation established

Worldwide impact in the prophetic geographical setting

3. SECOND MESSAGE—RIGHTEOUSNESS MANIFESTED

Second message arrives

Activities of the enemies of the message or work illustrated

Message empowered after it arrives and is formalized

A sealing illustrated

The temple is finished and cleansed

Separation with life or death consequences illustrated

Local in the prophetic geographical setting

4. THIRD MESSAGE— GENERAL JUDGMENT ILLUSTRATED

Third message arrives

A door closes

Gathering accomplished

Two groups demonstrated

A covenant established

Followed by a disappointment associated with the number seven

Third message empowered after it arrives and is formalized

5. A WORK

6. BACKSLIDING

7. FOURTH MESSAGE

Repetition of the second message with judgment on church

Work finished

Accomplished in troublous times

SEE APPENDIX NUMBER ONE

THE MILLERITES DARKNESS

“The history of God’s people during the ages of darkness that followed upon Rome’s supremacy is written in heaven, but they have little place in human records. Few traces of their existence can be found, except in the accusations of their persecutors. It was the policy of Rome to obliterate every trace of dissent from her doctrines or decrees. Everything heretical, whether persons or writings, she sought to destroy. Expressions of doubt, or questions as to the authority of papal dogmas, were enough to forfeit the life of rich or poor, high or low. Rome endeavored also to destroy every record of her cruelty toward dissenters. Papal councils decreed that books and writings containing such records should be committed to the flames. Before the invention of printing, books were few in number, and in a form not favorable for preservation; therefore there was little to prevent the Romanists from carrying out their purpose.” *The Great Controversy*, 61.

1: TIME OF THE END

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. And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words *are closed up and sealed till the time of the end*. Daniel 12:4, 9.

FULFILLMENT OF A PROPHECY

Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. And the ten horns out of this kingdom *are ten kings that shall arise*: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings. And he shall speak *great words* against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy *it* unto the end. Daniel 7:23–26.

A PROPHECY UNSEALED

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.

And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words *are closed up and sealed till the time of the end*. Daniel 12:4, 9.

“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.

THE FIRST ANGEL’S MESSAGE ARRIVES

“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.

AN INCREASE OF KNOWLEDGE—RUNNING TO AND FRO

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.

“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.

“No such message has ever been given in past ages. Paul, as we have seen, did not preach it; he pointed his brethren into the then far-distant future for the coming of the Lord. The Reformers did not proclaim it. Martin Luther placed the judgment about three hundred years in the future from his day. But **since 1798 the book of Daniel has been unsealed, knowledge of the prophecies has increased, and many have proclaimed the solemn message of the judgment near.**

“Like the great Reformation of the sixteenth century, **the advent movement appeared in different countries of Christendom at the same time.** In both Europe and America men of faith and prayer were led to the study of the prophecies, and, tracing down the inspired record, they saw convincing evidence that the end of all things was at hand. In different lands there were isolated bodies of Christians who, solely by the study of the Scriptures, arrived at the belief that the Saviour’s advent was near.” *The Great Controversy*, 356–257.

PURIFICATION PROCESS INITIATED

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. And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words *are* closed up and sealed till the time of the end. 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 12:9–10.

2: MESSAGE FORMALIZED

“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.

WILLIAM MILLER

“The instigator of all evil sought not only to counteract the effect of the advent message, but to destroy **the messenger** himself. **Miller** made a practical application of Scripture truth to the hearts of his hearers, reproving their sins and disturbing their self-satisfaction, and his plain and cutting words aroused their enmity. The opposition manifested by church members toward his message emboldened the baser classes to go to greater lengths; and enemies plotted to take his life as he should leave the place of meeting. But holy angels were in the throng, and one of these, in the form of a man, took the arm of this servant of the Lord and led him in safety from the angry mob. His work was not yet done, and Satan and his emissaries were disappointed in their purpose.” *The Great Controversy*, 336.

A MESSAGE OF REFORM

“Thousands were led to embrace the truth preached by William Miller, and servants of God were raised up in the spirit and power of Elijah to proclaim the message. Like John, the forerunner of Jesus, those who preached this solemn message felt compelled to lay the ax at the root of the tree, and call upon men to bring forth fruits meet for repentance. Their testimony was calculated to arouse and powerfully affect the churches and manifest their real character. And as the solemn warning to flee from the wrath to come was sounded, many who were united with the churches received the healing message; they saw their backslidings, and with bitter tears of repentance and deep agony of soul, humbled themselves before God. And as the Spirit of God rested upon them, they helped to sound the cry, ‘Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come.’” *Early Writings*, 233.

FIRST ANGEL’S MESSAGE EMPOWERED WHEN DIVINE SYMBOL DESCENDS

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.

WORLDWIDE

“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 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.

“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.

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 10:2.

THE MESSAGE OF TIME

“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 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.

“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 FOUNDATION AND PLATFORM ESTABLISHED

“Students of prophecy came to the conclusion that the time of the end was at hand. In the book of Daniel they read: ‘Unto two thousand and three hundred days, then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.’ Thinking that the earth was the sanctuary, they understood that the cleansing foretold in Daniel 8:14 represented the purification of the earth by fire at the second coming of Christ. Searching the Scriptures for further light, and comparing this prophetic period with the records of historians, they learned that the twenty-three hundred days extended to the year 1844.

“This was **the foundation** of the great advent movement of 1844. The falling of the stars in 1833 gave added force to the proclamation of the message of a soon-coming Saviour. Through **the labors of William Miller** and many others in America, of seven hundred ministers in England, of Bengel and others in Germany, of Gausson and his followers in France and Switzerland, of many ministers in Scandinavia, of a converted Jesuit in South America, and of Dr. Joseph Wolff in many Oriental and African countries, **the advent message was carried to a large part of the habitable globe.**” *The Southern Watchman*, January 24, 1905.

“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 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.” *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, Massachutes. 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.

3: THE SECOND ANGEL’S MESSAGE ARRIVES

“**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 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.

THE SECOND ANGEL’S MESSAGE EMPOWERED

“**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.

“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.

MANIFESTATION OF THE POWER OF GOD

“The midnight cry was not so much carried by argument, though the Scripture proof was clear and conclusive. There went with it an impelling power that moved the soul. There was no doubt, no questioning. Upon the occasion of Christ’s triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the people who were assembled from all parts of the land to keep the feast, flocked to the Mount of Olives, and as they joined the throng that were escorting Jesus, they caught the inspiration of the hour, and helped to swell the shout, ‘Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord!’ [Matthew 21:9.] In like manner did unbelievers who flocked to the Adventist meetings—some from curiosity, some merely to ridicule—feel the convincing power attending the message, ‘Behold, the Bridegroom cometh!’” *Spirit of Prophecy*, volume 4, 250–251.

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.

TEMPLE FINISHED

Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days? John 2:19, 20.

4: THIRD ANGEL'S MESSAGE ARRIVES

And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed. Daniel 8:14.

A GATHERING

“September 23, the Lord showed me that He had stretched out His hand the second time to recover the remnant of His people, and that efforts must be redoubled in this gathering time. In the scattering, Israel was smitten and torn, but now in the gathering time God will heal and bind up His people. In the scattering, efforts made to spread the truth had but little effect, accomplished but little or nothing; but in the gathering, when God has set His hand to gather His people, efforts to spread the truth will have their designed effect. All should be united and zealous in the work. I saw that it was wrong for any to refer to the scattering for examples to govern us now in the gathering; for if God should do no more for us now than He did then, Israel would never be gathered. 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.

DOOR CLOSES

And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth; I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name. Revelation 3:7-8.

And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut. Matthew 25:10.

A COVENANT ESTABLISHED

“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*, 426.

TWO GROUPS DEMONSTRATED

“I saw the Father rise from the throne, and in a flaming chariot go into the holy of holies within the veil, and sit down. Then Jesus rose up from the throne, and the **most of those who were bowed down arose with Him**. I did not see one ray of light pass from Jesus to **the careless multitude** after He arose, and they were left in perfect darkness. Those who arose when Jesus did, kept their eyes fixed on Him as He left the throne and led them out a little way. Then He raised His right arm, and we heard His lovely voice saying, ‘Wait here; I am going to My Father to receive the kingdom; keep your garments spotless, and in a little while I will return from the wedding and receive you to Myself.’ Then a cloudy chariot, with wheels like flaming fire, surrounded by angels, came to where Jesus was. He stepped into the chariot and was borne to the holiest, where the Father sat. There I beheld Jesus, a great High Priest, standing before the Father. On the hem of His garment was a bell and a pomegranate, a bell and a pomegranate. Those who rose up with Jesus would send up their faith to Him in the holiest, and pray, ‘My Father, give us Thy Spirit.’ Then Jesus would breathe upon them the Holy Ghost. In that breath was light, power, and much love, joy, and peace.

“I turned to look at the company who were still bowed before the throne; they did not know that Jesus had left it. Satan appeared to be by the throne, trying to carry on the work of God. I saw them look up to the throne, and pray, ‘Father, give us Thy Spirit.’ Satan would then breathe upon them an unholy influence; in it there was light and much power, but no sweet love, joy, and peace. Satan’s object was to keep them deceived and to draw back and deceive God’s children.” *Early Writings*, 55.

DISSAPOINTMENT

“Like the first disciples, William Miller and his associates did not, themselves, fully comprehend the import of the message which they bore. Errors that had been long established in the church prevented them from arriving at a correct interpretation of an important point in the prophecy. Therefore, though they proclaimed the message which God had committed to them to be given to the world, yet through a misapprehension of its meaning they suffered disappointment.” *The Great Controversy*. 351–352.

5. WORK

“**The work of Sabbath reform** to be accomplished in the last days is foretold in the prophecy of Isaiah: ‘Thus saith the Lord, Keep ye judgment, and do justice: for My salvation is near to come, and My righteousness to be revealed. Blessed is the man that doeth this, and the son of man that layeth hold on it; that keepeth the Sabbath from polluting it, and keepeth his hand from doing any evil.’ ‘The sons of the stranger, that join themselves to the Lord, to serve Him, and to love the name of the Lord, to be His servants, everyone that keepeth the Sabbath from polluting it, and taketh hold of My covenant; even them will I bring to My holy mountain, and make them joyful in My house of prayer.’ Isaiah 56:1, 2, 6, 7.

“These words apply in the Christian age, as shown by the context: ‘The Lord God which gathereth the outcasts of Israel saith, Yet will I gather others to him, beside those that are gathered unto him.’ Verse 8. Here is foreshadowed the gathering in of the Gentiles by the gospel. And upon those who then honor the Sabbath, a blessing is pronounced. Thus the obligation of the fourth commandment extends past the crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension of Christ, to the time when His servants should preach to all nations the message of glad tidings.” *The Great Controversy*. 451.

6. BACKSLIDING

And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Revelation 3:14–16.

7: FOURTH MESSAGE

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. Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double. Revelation 18:1–6.

REPEATS THE SECOND

- A. Sin:** the First Message———reform message
- B. Righteousness:** the Second Message——manifestation of the power of God
- C. Judgment:** the third message———Judgment

SIN, RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND JUDGMENT

Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged. John 16:7–11.

SWEET AS HONEY—1840

And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter. Revelation 10:10.

“The unsealing of the little book was the message in relation to time. . . .

“**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.

“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,** and in some countries there was the greatest religious interest which has been witnessed in any land since the Reformation of the sixteenth century; but these are to be exceeded by the mighty movement under the last warning of the third angel.

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

“**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*, 335.

“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.

HISTORY REPEATED

And the voice which I heard from heaven spake unto me again, and said, Go *and* take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel which standeth upon the sea and upon the earth. And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey. Revelation 10:8–9.

“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.” *Seventh-day Adventists Bible Commentary*, volume 7, 971.

EATING THE LITTLE BOOK

And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter. Revelation 10:10.

A BRAZEN WALL

Thy words were found, and **I did eat them**; and thy word was unto me **the joy and rejoicing of mine heart**: for I am called by thy name, O Lord God of hosts.

I sat not in the assembly of the mockers, nor rejoiced; I sat alone because of thy hand: for thou hast filled me with indignation. Why is my pain perpetual, and my wound incurable, *which* refuseth to be healed? wilt thou be altogether unto me as a liar, *and as waters that* fail? Therefore thus saith the Lord, If thou return, then will I bring thee again, *and* thou shalt stand before me: and if thou take forth the precious from the vile, **thou shalt be as my mouth**: let them return unto thee; but return not thou unto them. And **I will make thee unto this people a fenced brazen wall**: and **they shall fight against thee**, but **they shall not prevail against thee**: for I *am* with thee to save thee and to deliver thee, saith the Lord. Jeremiah 15:16-20.

A FOREHEAD HARDER THAN FLINT

And he said unto me, Son of man, stand upon thy feet, and I will speak unto thee. And **the spirit entered into me when he spake unto me**, and set me upon my feet, that I heard him that spake unto me. And he said unto me, Son of man, **I send thee to the children of Israel**, to a rebellious nation that hath rebelled against me: they and their fathers have transgressed against me, *even* unto this very day. For *they are* impudent children and stiffhearted. I do send thee unto them; and thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God. And they, **whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear**, (for they *are* a rebellious house,) yet shall know that there hath been a prophet among them. And thou, son of man, be not afraid of them, neither be afraid of their words, though briers and thorns *be* with thee, and thou dost dwell among scorpions: be not afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they *be* a rebellious house.

And thou shalt speak my words unto them, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear: for they *are* most rebellious. But thou, son of man, hear what I say unto thee; Be not thou rebellious like that rebellious house: **open thy mouth, and eat that I give thee**. And when I looked, behold, **an hand was sent unto me**; and, lo, a roll of a book **was therein**; **And he spread it before me**; and it **was written within and without**: and *there was* written therein lamentations, and mourning, and woe.

Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, eat that thou findest; eat this roll, and go speak unto the house of Israel. So I opened my mouth, and he caused me to eat that roll. And he said unto me, Son of man, cause thy belly to eat, and fill thy bowels with this roll that I give thee. Then did I eat *it*; and it was in my mouth as honey for sweetness.

And he said unto me, Son of man, go, get thee unto the house of Israel, and speak with my words unto them. For thou *art* not sent to a people of a strange speech and of an hard language, **but to the house of Israel**; Not to many people of a strange speech and of an hard language, whose words thou canst not understand. Surely, had I sent thee to them, they would have hearkened unto thee.

But the house of Israel will not hearken unto thee; for they will not hearken unto me: for all the house of Israel *are* impudent and hardhearted. Behold, I have made thy face strong against their faces, and thy forehead strong against their foreheads. As an adamant harder than flint have I made thy forehead: fear them not, neither be dismayed at their looks, though they *be* a rebellious house.

Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, all my words that I shall speak unto thee receive in thine heart, and hear with thine ears. And go, get thee to them of the captivity, unto the children of thy people, and speak unto them, and tell them, Thus saith the Lord God; whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear.

Then the spirit took me up, and I heard behind me a voice of a great rushing, *saying*, Blessed *be* the glory of the Lord from his place. *I heard* also the noise of the wings of the living creatures that touched one another, and the noise of the wheels over against them, and a noise of a great rushing. So the spirit lifted me up, and took me away, and I went in bitterness, in the heat of my spirit; but the hand of the Lord was strong upon me.

Then I came to them of the captivity at Telabib, that dwelt by the river of Chebar, and I sat where they sat, and remained there astonished among them seven days. And it came to pass at the end of seven days, that the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me. Ezekiel 2-3:17.

“I was pointed back to the proclamation of the first advent of Christ. John was sent in the spirit and power of Elijah to prepare the way of Jesus. Those who rejected the testimony of John were not benefited by the teachings of Jesus. Their opposition to the message that foretold His coming placed them where they could not readily receive the strongest evidence that He was the Messiah. Satan led on those who rejected the message of John to go still farther, to reject and crucify Christ. In doing this they placed themselves where they could not receive the blessing on the day of Pentecost, which would have taught them the way into the heavenly sanctuary. . . . **But the Jews were left in total darkness. . . .**

“All heaven watched with the deepest interest the reception of the first angel’s message. But many who professed to love Jesus, and who shed tears as they read the story of the cross, derided the good news of His coming. Instead of receiving the message with gladness, they declared it to be a delusion. They hated those who loved His appearing and shut them out of the churches. Those who rejected the first message could not be benefited by the second; neither were they benefited by the midnight cry, which was to prepare them to enter with Jesus by faith into the most holy place of the heavenly sanctuary. And by rejecting the two former messages, they have so darkened their understanding that they can see no light in the third angel’s message, which shows the way into the most holy place. I saw that as the Jews crucified Jesus, so the nominal churches had crucified these messages, and therefore they have no knowledge of the way into the most holy, and they cannot be benefited by the intercession of Jesus there. **Like the Jews, who offered their useless sacrifices, they offer up their useless prayers to the apartment which Jesus has left; and Satan, pleased with the deception, assumes a religious character, and leads the minds of these professed Christians to himself, working with his power, his signs and lying wonders, to fasten them in his snare.**” *Early Writings*, 259–261.

STRONG DELUSION

Let no man deceive you by any means: for *that day shall not come*, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. 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: *Even him*, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness. 2 Thessalonians 2:3–12.

THOSE WHO HAVE HAD GREAT LIGHT AND OPPORTUNITIES

“‘A new heart will I give you and a new spirit will I put within you.’ I believe with all my heart that the Spirit of God is being withdrawn from the world, and those who have had great light and opportunities and have not improved them, will be **the first to be left**. They have grieved away the Spirit of God. The present activity of Satan in working upon hearts, and upon churches and nations should startle every student of prophecy. The end is near. Let our churches arise.” *Selected Messages*, book 3, 154.

THE CONTEXT OF EARLY WRITINGS

“I saw a company who stood well guarded and firm, giving no countenance to those who would unsettle **the established faith of the body**. God looked upon them with approbation. I was shown **three steps—the first, second, and third angels’ messages**. Said my accompanying angel, ‘Woe to him who shall move a block or stir a pin of these messages. **The true understanding of these messages** is of vital importance. The destiny of souls hangs upon the manner in which they are received.’ I was again brought down through **these messages**, and saw how dearly the people of God had purchased their experience. It had been obtained through much suffering and severe conflict. God had led them along step by step, until He had placed them upon a solid, immovable **platform**. I saw individuals approach the **platform** and examine **the foundation**. Some with rejoicing immediately stepped upon it. Others commenced to find fault with the **foundation**. They wished improvements made, and then the **platform** would be more perfect, and the people much happier. Some stepped off the **platform** to examine it and declared it to be laid wrong. But I saw that nearly all stood firm upon the **platform** and exhorted those who had stepped off to cease their complaints; for God was the Master Builder, and they were fighting against Him. They recounted the wonderful work of God, which had led them to **the firm platform**, and in union raised their eyes to heaven and with a loud voice glorified God. This affected some of those who had complained and left the platform, and they with humble look again stepped upon it.” *Early Writings*, 259.

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.

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.

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.

A WATCHMAN

And it came to pass at the end of seven days, that the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Son of man, I have made thee a **watchman** unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them **warning** from me. Ezekiel 3:16–17.

THE DAY OF THY WATCHMEN

Woe is me! for I am as when they have gathered the summer fruits, as the grape gleanings of the vintage: *there is no cluster to eat: my soul desired the firstripe fruit.* The good man is perished out of the earth: and *there is none upright among men: they all lie in wait for blood; they hunt every man his brother with a net.* That they may do evil with both hands earnestly, the prince *asketh*, and the judge *asketh* for a reward; and the great *man*, he uttereth his mischievous desire: so they wrap it up. The best of them *is as a brier: the most upright is sharper than a thorn hedge: the day of thy watchmen and thy visitation cometh; now shall be their perplexity.* Trust ye not in a friend, put ye not confidence in a guide: keep the doors of thy mouth from her that lieth in thy bosom. For the son dishonoureth the father, the daughter riseth up against her mother, the daughter in law against her mother in law; a man's enemies *are* the men of his own house.

Therefore I will look unto the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation: my God will hear me. Rejoice not against me, O mine enemy: when I fall, I shall arise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord *shall be* a light unto me. **I will bear the indignation of the Lord,** because I have sinned against him, **until he plead my cause, and execute judgment for me:** he will bring me forth to the light, *and I shall behold his righteousness.* Then *she that is mine enemy shall see it, and shame shall cover her which said unto me, Where is the Lord thy God? mine eyes shall behold her: now shall she be trodden down as the mire of the streets.* *In the day that thy walls are to be built, in that day shall the decree be far removed.*

In that day *also* he shall come even to thee from Assyria, and *from* the fortified cities, and from the fortress even to the river, and from sea to sea, and *from* mountain to mountain. Notwithstanding the land shall be desolate because of them that dwell therein, for the fruit of their doings. Feed thy people with thy rod, the flock of thine heritage, which dwell solitarily *in* the wood, in the midst of Carmel: let them feed *in* Bashan and Gilead, as in the days of old. According to the days of thy coming out of the land of Egypt will I show unto him marvellous *things*. Micah 7:1-15.

THE WATCHMEN OF ZION

Son of man, speak to the children of thy people, and say unto them, When I bring the sword upon a land, if the people of the land take a man of their coasts, and set him for their **watchman**: If when he seeth the sword come upon the land, he blow the **trumpet**, and warn the people; Then whosoever heareth **the sound of the trumpet**, and taketh not **warning**; if the sword come, and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head. He heard the sound of the **trumpet**, and took not warning; his blood shall be upon him. But he that taketh warning shall deliver his soul. But if the **watchman** see the sword come, and blow not the **trumpet**, and the people be not **warned**; if the sword come, and take *any* person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the **watchman's** hand. So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a **watchman** unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me. Ezekiel 33:2-7.

TWO TYPES OF WATCHMEN

DUMB DOGS

His **watchmen** *are* blind: they are all **ignorant**, they *are* all **dumb dogs**, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber. Yea, *they are* greedy dogs *which* can never have enough, and they *are* **shepherds that cannot understand**: they all look to their own way, every one for his gain, from his quarter. Come ye, *say they*, I will fetch wine, and we will fill ourselves with strong drink; and to morrow shall be as this day, *and* much more abundant. Isaiah 56:10-12.

WATCHMEN UPON THE WALLS

I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, *which* shall never hold their peace day nor night: ye that make mention of the Lord, keep not silence. Isaiah 62:6.

THE VISION

[STRONGS, 2377: CHAZOWN—COMPLETE VISION]

Where *there is* no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he. Proverbs 29:18.

HABAKKUK

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. Habakkuk 2:1-3.

THE EFFECT OF EVERY VISION

And 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; **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 12:21–28.

DANIEL

Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days: for yet the **vision** *is* for *many* days. Daniel 10:14.

And in those times there shall many stand up against the king of the south: also the robbers of thy people shall exalt themselves **to establish the vision**; but they shall fall. Daniel 11:14.

MICAH

Thus saith the Lord concerning the prophets that make my people err, that bite with their teeth, and cry, Peace; and he that putteth not into their mouths, they even prepare war against him. Therefore night *shall be* unto you, that ye shall not have a **vision**; and it shall be dark unto you, that ye shall not divine; and the sun shall go down over the prophets, and the day shall be dark over them. Micah 3:5–6.

THE MODERN WATCHMEN THE OLD PATHS

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*, **Hearken to the sound of the trumpet**. But they said, **We will not hearken**.

Therefore hear, ye nations, and know, O congregation, what *is* among them. Hear, O earth: behold, I will bring evil upon this people, *even* the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not hearkened unto my words, nor to my law, but rejected it. To what purpose cometh there to me incense from Sheba, and the sweet cane from a far country? **your burnt offerings are not acceptable**, nor your sacrifices sweet unto me.

Therefore thus saith the Lord, Behold, I will lay stumblingblocks before this people, and the fathers and the sons together shall fall upon them; the neighbour and his friend shall perish.

Thus saith the Lord, Behold, **a people cometh from the north country**, and a great nation shall be raised from the sides of the earth. They shall lay hold on bow and spear; they *are* cruel, and have no mercy; their voice roareth like the sea; and they ride upon horses, set in array as men for war against thee, O **daughter of Zion**. Jeremiah 6:16–23.

ISAIAH 21: THE VISION OF THE WATCHMEN

THE BURDEN FROM THE DESERT

The burden of the desert of the sea. As whirlwinds in the south pass through; so it cometh from the desert, from a terrible land. A grievous vision is declared unto me; the treacherous dealer dealeth treacherously, and the spoiler spoileth. Go up, O Elam: besiege, O Media; all the sighing thereof have I made to cease. Therefore are my loins filled with pain: pangs have taken hold upon me, as the pangs of a woman that travaileth: I was bowed down at the hearing of it; I was dismayed at the seeing of it. My heart panted, fearfulness affrighted me: the night of my pleasure hath he turned into fear unto me. Prepare the table, watch in the watchtower, eat, drink: arise, ye princes, and anoint the shield. For thus hath the Lord said unto me, Go, set a watchman, let him declare what he seeth.

TWO HORSEMEN WITH CAMELS AND ASSES

And he saw a chariot with a couple of horsemen, a chariot of asses, and a chariot of camels; and he hearkened diligently with much heed: And he cried, A lion [he cried as a lion]:

My lord, I stand continually upon the watchtower in the daytime, and I am set in my ward whole nights: And, behold, here cometh a chariot of men, with a couple of horsemen.

And he answered and said, Babylon is fallen, is fallen; and all the graven images of her gods he hath broken unto the ground. O my threshing, and the corn of my floor: that which I have heard of the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, have I declared unto you.

The burden of Dumah. [Silence—a son of Ishmael, Genesis 24:15.] He calleth to me out of Seir, [Edom: hairy, intermarried with Ishmael, Genesis 28:9.] Watchman, what of the night? Watchman, what of the night? The watchman said, The morning cometh, and also the night: if ye will inquire, inquire ye: return, come.

THE CLOSE OF PROBATION

I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work. John 9:4.

“Letters have come to me asking me if I have any special light as to the time when probation will close; and I answer that I have only this message to bear, that it is now time to work while the day lasts, for the night cometh in which no man can work” *Selected Messages*, book 1, 192.

THE BURDEN UPON ARABIA

In the forest in Arabia shall ye lodge, O ye travelling companies of Dedanim. [Arabians-grandson of Abraham through Keturah] The inhabitants of the land of Tema [Descendent of Ishmael, Genesis 25:15.] brought water to him that was thirsty, they prevented with their bread him that fled. For they fled from the swords, from the drawn sword, and from the bent bow, and from the grievousness of war.

For thus hath the Lord said unto me, Within a year, according to the years of an hireling, and all the glory of Kedar [Son of Ishmael-Genesis 25:13.] shall fail: And the residue of the number of archers, the mighty men of the children of Kedar, shall be diminished: for the Lord God of Israel hath spoken it.

A CRISIS

“It is in a crisis that character is revealed. When the earnest voice proclaimed at midnight, ‘Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him,’ and the sleeping virgins were roused from their slumbers, it was seen who had made preparation for the event. Both parties were taken unawares; but one was prepared for the emergency, and the other was found without preparation. So now, a sudden and unlooked-for calamity, **something that brings the soul face to face with death**, will show whether there is any real faith in the promises of God. **It will show** whether the soul is sustained by grace. The great final test comes at the close of human probation, when it will be too late for the soul’s need to be supplied.” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, 412.

THE BURDEN OF THE VALLEY OF VISION

What aileth thee now, that thou art wholly gone up to the housetops? Thou that art full of stirs, a tumultuous city, a joyous city: thy slain *men are* not slain with the sword, nor dead in battle. All thy rulers are fled together, they are bound by the archers: all that are found in thee are bound together, *which* have fled from far.

Therefore said I, Look away from me: **I will weep bitterly**, labour not to comfort me, because of the spoiling of **the daughter of my people**. For *it is* a day of trouble, and of treading down, and of perplexity by the Lord God of hosts in **the valley of vision**, breaking down the walls, and of crying to the mountains.

“Who are standing in the counsel of God at this time? Is it those who virtually excuse wrongs among the professed people of God and who murmur in their hearts, if not openly, against those who would reprove sin? Is it those who take their stand against them and sympathize with those who commit wrong? No, indeed! Unless they repent, and leave the work of Satan in oppressing those who have the burden of the work and in holding up the hands of sinners in Zion, they will never receive the mark of God’s sealing approval. They will fall in the general destruction of the wicked, represented by the work of the five men bearing slaughter weapons. **Mark this point with care:** Those who receive the pure mark of truth, wrought in them by the power of the Holy Ghost, represented by a mark by the man in linen, **are those ‘that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done’ in the church.** Their love for purity and the honor and glory of God is such, and they have so clear a view of the exceeding sinfulness of sin, that they are represented as being in agony, **even sighing and crying.** Read the ninth chapter of Ezekiel.” *Testimonies*, volume 3, 267.

And Elam bare the quiver with chariots of men *and* horsemen, and Kir uncovered the shield. And it shall come to pass, *that* thy choicest valleys shall be full of chariots, and the horsemen shall set themselves in array at the gate.

And he discovered the covering of Judah, and thou didst look in that day to the armour of the house of the forest. Ye have seen also the breaches of the city of David, that they are many: and ye gathered together the waters of the lower pool. And ye have numbered the houses of Jerusalem, and the houses have ye broken down to fortify the wall. Ye made also a ditch between the two walls for the water of the old pool: **but ye have not looked unto the maker thereof, neither had respect unto him that fashioned it long ago.**

IN THAT DAY

And in that day did the Lord God of hosts call to weeping, and to mourning, and to baldness, and to girding with sackcloth: And behold joy and gladness, slaying oxen, and killing sheep, eating flesh, and drinking wine: let us eat and drink; for to morrow we shall die.

And it was revealed in mine ears by the Lord of hosts, Surely this iniquity shall not be purged [shall find no atonement] from you till ye die, saith the Lord God of hosts.

Thus saith the Lord God of hosts, Go, get thee unto **this treasurer, even unto Shebna, which is over the house, and say, What hast thou here? and whom hast thou here, that thou hast hewed thee out a sepulchre here, as he that heweth him out a sepulchre on high, and that graveth an habitation for himself in a rock? Behold, the Lord will carry thee away with a mighty captivity, and will surely cover thee. He will surely violently turn and toss thee like a ball into a large country: there shalt thou die, [So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Revelation 3:16.] and there the chariots of thy glory shall be the shame of thy lord's house.**

And I will drive thee from thy station, and from thy state shall he pull thee down.

“He will raise up **from among the common people** men and women to do His work, even as of old He called fishermen to be His disciples. There will soon be an awakening that will surprise many. Those who do not realize the necessity of what is to be done will be passed by, and the heavenly messengers will work with those who are called the common people, fitting them to carry the truth to many places. . . . In the last solemn work few great men will be engaged. . . . God will work a work in our day that but few anticipate. He will raise up and exalt among us **those who are taught rather by the unction of His Spirit** than by the outward training of scientific institutions. These facilities are not to be despised or condemned; they are ordained of God, but they can furnish only the exterior qualifications. God will manifest that He is not dependent on learned, self-important mortals. . . . **To souls that are earnestly seeking for light** and that accept with gladness every ray of divine illumination from His holy Word, to such alone light will be given. It is through these souls that God will reveal that light and power which will lighten the whole earth with His glory. . . . It is discipline of spirit, cleanness of heart and thought that is needed. This is of more value than brilliant talent, tact, or knowledge. An ordinary mind, trained to obey a ‘Thus saith the Lord,’ is better qualified for God’s work than are those who have capabilities but do not employ them rightly. . . . The laborers will be **qualified rather by the unction of His Spirit** than by the training of literary institutions. Men of faith and prayer will be constrained to go forth with holy zeal, declaring the words which God gives them.” *Last Day Events*, 204–205.

THE KEY OF THE HOUSE OF DAVID

And it shall come to pass **in that day**, that I will call my servant **Eliakim** the son of Hilkiah: And I will clothe him with thy robe, and strengthen him with thy girdle, and **I will commit thy government into his hand**: and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and to the house of Judah. And the key of the house of David will I lay upon his shoulder; so he shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open. And I will fasten him *as* a nail in a sure place; and he shall be for a glorious throne to his father's house. And they shall hang upon him all the glory of his father's house, the offspring and the issue, all vessels of small quantity, from the vessels of cups, even to all the vessels of flagons.

And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth; I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name. Revelation 3:7-8.

In that day, saith the Lord of hosts, shall **the nail that is fastened in the sure place be removed**, and be cut down, and fall; and **the burden that was upon it shall be cut off**: for the Lord hath spoken *it*. Isaiah 21 & 22.

Since the days of our fathers *have we been* in a great trespass unto this day; and for our iniquities have we, our kings, *and* our priests, been delivered into the hand of the kings of the lands, to the sword, to captivity, and to a spoil, and to confusion of face, as *it is* this day. And now for a little space grace hath been *showed* from the Lord our God, to leave us a remnant to escape, and **to give us a nail in his holy place**, that our God may lighten our eyes, and give us a little reviving in our bondage. For we *were* bondmen; yet our God hath not forsaken us in our bondage, but hath extended mercy unto us in the sight of the kings of Persia, to give us a reviving, to set up the house of our God, and **to repair the desolations thereof, and to give us a wall in Judah and in Jerusalem**. Ezra 9:7-9.

THE UNSEALING—1798

“But since 1798 the book of Daniel has been unsealed, knowledge of the prophecies has increased, and many have proclaimed the solemn message of the judgment near.” *The Great Controversy*, 356.

THE SACRED VOLUMES

“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.

THE LION OF THE TRIBE OF JUDAH

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.

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.

And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a **Lamb** as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth. And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne. Revelation 5:1-7.

MANY RUN TO AND FRO

“God has furnished us with the reason why so many do not understand the visions of all. Isaiah 29:10-12. ‘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 deliver to one that is learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee; and he saith, I cannot, for it is sealed. And the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee; and he saith, I cannot, for I am not learned.’

“Great light has been thrown of late upon the prophetic word. ‘It shall come to pass that at eventide it shall be light.’ Zechariah 14:7. ‘The vision is for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie.’ Habakuk 2:3. ‘In the latter days he shall consider it perfectly.’ Jeremiah 23:20; 30:24. What Daniel was commanded to seal up and close, (Daniel 12:4) is now, through the all-powerful mediation of **the Lion of the tribe of Judah**, revealed unto us. Revelation 5:5. Hence ‘many run to and fro, and knowledge is increased.’ Never, since the days of our Lord’s first advent, was the prophetic word so much studied; so many of the ambassadors of Christ engaged in this pursuit; or so much written on this subject. ‘The Revelation of Jesus Christ,’ contained in the Apocalypse, showing the coming of the Just One, with all his saints, to the destruction of the apostate nations, is now made so plain to the church, that none can, or, at least, ought to be ignorant of it. This, however, is a privilege belonging only to the faithful; for it is written that, ‘none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand.’ Daniel 12:10. So St. Paul speaks: ‘But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that the day should overtake you as a thief; ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day; we are not of the night, nor of darkness.’ 1 Thessalonians 4:4–5. Though ‘the true light now shineth,’ it enlighteneth only those who believe. Those who are paying a prayerful attention to these things, ‘have,’ like the Israelites of old, ‘light in their dwellings,’ whilst the rest of the world are sitting in darkness, even ‘darkness such as may be felt.’ **The opening, then, and unfolding of the prophetic word, is another convincing proof that we are arrived at the end of the age; the unsealing of prophecy, and the revelation of the ‘mystery of God,’ being reserved unto ‘the time of the end.’ Daniel 12:9; Revelation 10:7.**

“‘Many shall run to and fro.’ Says Dr. Clarke, ‘**Many shall endeavor to search out the sense; and knowledge shall be increased by these means.** This seems to be the meaning of this verse, though another has been put upon it, viz., “Many shall run to and fro preaching the gospel of Christ, and therefore religious knowledge and true wisdom shall be increased.” This is true in itself; but it is not the meaning of the prophet’s words.

“The most eminent modern Hebrew scholars all agree with Clarke, in giving this sense. Scott’s opinion seems to coincide with Clarke’s, though he gives both meanings in his notes; but manifestly gives preference to the one which expresses the idea of searching out the meaning of the prophecy.” James White, *Review and Herald*, November 1, 1853.

THE TWENTY-FOUR ELDERS AND PENTECOST

“QUESTION. Can you tell who the four and twenty elders are, spoken of in Revelation 4:10? I. B. H.

“ANSWER. These elders are brought to view in chapter 5, in a manner which, I think, throws some light on the question as to who they are. This chapter gives a record of the events that introduced the opening of the seven seals; and the part which these elders acted in those scenes, settles some important facts concerning them. By the seven seals, the same as by the seven trumpets, is undoubtedly brought to view a series of events, transpiring in consecutive order, and covering **the whole gospel dispensation.** The first of these seals, according to general interpretation, was opened, and the events brought to view under it, transpired, near **the commencement of this dispensation.**

“With this fact vividly in mind, that the opening of the first of these seals is far in the past, let it be noticed that it is before the opening of any of the seals that these elders are seen acting a part in heaven. When the challenge was issued through heaven and earth [verse 2], Who is worthy to open the book and to loose the seals thereof? and while John was weeping much because no one was found worthy to open and read the book [verse 4], one of the elders said unto him, ‘Weep not: behold the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.’ Again, when the Lamb had taken the book from the hand of Him that sat on the throne, previous to his opening the seals thereof, the elders break forth into a new song, saying, ‘Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof; for thou wast slain and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation.’ Verses 8–9. This testimony shows unmistakably that those elders were in heaven, personally acting their part **previous to the opening of any of the seals**. The expression, ‘Thou wast slain,’ locates the time of this song subsequent to the crucifixion of Christ; **it was sung therefore at some point between that event and the opening of the first seal**. The transaction which called forth this song of honor to the Lamb, was his taking the book preparatory to opening its seven seals. The events of these seals all transpire previous to the redemption of the church. The church therefore will never sing such a song as this. They will never ascribe honor to him because he is worthy to do (an expression which looks into the future) something which already had been done and finished more than eighteen centuries previous to that time. The conclusion is therefore unavoidable that these elders are not introduced here merely as representatives of other persons, representing the church, for instance, and singing the song which the redeemed will sing; but that they were literally and personally present in heaven, at the time when brought to view, that the song they sung, was called forth by their own personal feelings on that occasion, and that the facts they state were true of themselves individually and then. And what was one of the facts which they stated? It was this: ‘Thou hast redeemed us to God by thy blood.’ The twenty-four elders were therefore some who had been redeemed from the earth at that time.

“Thus far the conclusions arrived at seem to be necessary and scriptural. The twenty-four elders are persons who have at some time been redeemed from the earth. Perhaps this is a sufficient answer. But there are two other queries that may arise on this subject, which can be readily answered by at least plausible conjecture. 1. Where have we any intimation that any persons have ever been redeemed from the earth; and 2. If these are twenty-four persons who have been so redeemed how can they say that they were redeemed from every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation?

“In reference to the first of these queries it may be said that there is more than an intimation that a number of saints have already been redeemed. It is said that at the resurrection of Christ many of the saints that slept arose and came out of their graves. Matthew 27:50–53. And when he ascended up on high we are told that he led captivity captive, or as the margin reads, a multitude of captives. To identify the twenty-four elders with a portion of this company is the most natural and probable disposition of the matter.

“In reference to the second query, these persons may have been selected from different ages since the creation of the world, those most eminent in piety and the service of God being taken from each age. In this way they could be said to be redeemed out of every kindred, people, and nation. It may be proper to add that this exposition of the twenty-four elders is an individual opinion, for which the writer holds no one responsible but himself. James White, *Review and Herald*, November 26, 1861.

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.

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.

THE DARK AGES

“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.

AFTER THE DISAPPOINTMENT

“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.

THE SEVEN THUNDERS

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.

And he saith unto me, **Seal not** the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand. Revelation 22:10.

AN INCREASE OF KNOWLEDGE AND THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL

“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.**

“The message proclaimed by the angel flying in the midst of heaven is **the everlasting gospel**, the same gospel that was declared in Eden when God said to the serpent, ‘I will put **enmity** between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel’ (Genesis 3:15).” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 105-106.

THE SCATTERING
THE QUARREL OF MY COVENANT

And if ye will not yet for all this hearken unto me, then I will punish you **seven times** more for your sins. . . . And if ye walk contrary unto me, and will not hearken unto me; I will bring **seven times** more plagues upon you according to your sins. . . . Then will I also walk contrary unto you, and will punish you yet **seven times** for your sins.

And I will bring a sword upon you, that shall avenge the quarrel of *my* covenant: and when ye are gathered together within your cities, I will send the pestilence among you; and ye shall be delivered into the hand of the enemy. *And* when I have broken the staff of your bread, ten women shall bake your bread in one oven, and they shall deliver *you* your bread again by weight: and ye shall eat, and not be satisfied. And if ye will not for all this hearken unto me, but walk contrary unto me; Then I will walk contrary unto you also in fury; and I, even I, will chastise you **seven times** for your sins.

And ye shall eat the flesh of your sons, and the flesh of your daughters shall ye eat. And I will destroy your high places, and cut down your images, and cast your carcasses upon the carcasses of your idols, and my soul shall abhor you. And I will make your cities waste, and bring your sanctuaries unto desolation, and I will not smell the savour of your sweet odours. And I will bring the land into desolation: and your enemies which dwell therein shall be astonished at it. And **I will scatter you among the heathen**, and will draw out a sword after you: and your land shall be desolate, and your cities waste. Leviticus 26:18, 21, 24–33.

THE GATHERING

And it shall come to pass, when all these things are come upon thee, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before thee, and thou shalt call *them* to mind among all the nations, whither the Lord thy God hath driven thee, And shalt return unto the Lord thy God, and shalt obey his voice according to all that I command thee this day, thou and thy children, with all thine heart, and with all thy soul; That then the Lord thy God will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will return and **gather** thee from all the nations, whither the Lord thy God hath scattered thee. Dueteronomy 30:1–3.

“September 23, the Lord showed me that He had stretched out His hand the second time to recover the remnant of His people, and that efforts must be redoubled in this gathering time. In the scattering, Israel was smitten and torn, but now in the gathering time God will heal and bind up His people. In the scattering, efforts made to spread the truth had but little effect, accomplished but little or nothing; but in the gathering, when God has set His hand to gather His people, efforts to spread the truth will have their designed effect. All should be united and zealous in the work. I saw that it was wrong for any to refer to the scattering for examples to govern us now in the gathering; for if God should do no more for us now than He did then, Israel would never be gathered. 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.

AFTER 1844

“I saw that we must wake up, wake, and cry earnestly for the arm of the Lord to be revealed. It is fatal to sleep now. Time is almost finished. I saw that it was a shame for us to refer to the scattering for examples to govern us now in the gathering time; for if God does no more for us now than He did then, we shall never be gathered. In the scattering, Israel were torn and smitten, but now God will bind up and heal them.

“I saw that God had stretched out His hand the second time to recover the remnant of His people. **They are these who have been covered up in the ‘rubbish’ since 1844.** I saw that efforts to spread the truth should now be put forth, **such as in 1843 and 1844.** In the scattering, efforts to spread the truth had but little effect—accomplished but little or nothing—but now in the gathering time, when God has set His hand to gather His people, efforts to spread the truth will have their designed effect; and all should be zealous and united in the work. I saw that a paper was needed, and all should feel interested in it.

“I saw that the truth should be made plain upon tables, that the earth and the fullness thereof is the Lord’s, and that necessary means should not be spared to make it plain. I saw that the old chart was directed by the Lord, and that not a figure of it should be altered except by inspiration. I saw that the figures of the chart were as God would have them, and that His hand was over and hid a mistake in some of the figures, so that none should see it till His hand was removed.” *Spalding and Magan*, 1.

THE MISTAKE IN THE FIGURES

“Those faithful, disappointed ones, who could not understand why their Lord did not come, were not left in darkness. Again they were led to their Bibles to search the prophetic periods. **The hand of the Lord was removed from the figures, and the mistake was explained.** They saw that the prophetic periods reached to 1844, and that the same evidence which they had presented to show that the prophetic periods closed in 1843, proved that they would terminate in 1844. Light from the Word of God shone upon their position, and they discovered a tarrying time—‘Though it [the vision] tarry, wait for it.’ In their love for Christ’s immediate coming, they had overlooked the tarrying of the vision, which was calculated to manifest the true waiting ones. Again they had a point of time. Yet I saw that many of them could not rise above their severe disappointment to possess that degree of zeal and energy which had marked their faith in 1843.” *Early Writings*, 236.

THE GATHERING AND SCATTERING

“The design of the three great proclamations of this chapter, is, first, to give warning of coming judgments; secondly, to set the people of God upon their watch-tower; thirdly, to **gather** in one body the **scattered** saints; and, fourthly, to restore the commandments of God to his people, and to prepare them for deliverance in the time of trouble, and for translation into his kingdom.

“**Such is the work presented in Revelation 14.** It gives the world warning, and leaves them without excuse; it lights up the pathway of the saints; and yet, with its trial of patience it shakes off the heartless, and gives the men of the world, notwithstanding its warning, a chance to lull themselves into security, when the wrath of God hangs over their heads.” J. N. Andrews, *The Three Messages of Revelation Fourteen*, Introduction, page 5.

1844

“**Gather** my saints together unto me, those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice.’—Psalms 50:5. When did we do this as a people? Answer: **in 1844**, during a cry at midnight: how much was said about it then. What did we sacrifice then? why, all that we had: have we taken back any thing since that time?” Joseph Bates, *A Seal of the Living God Hundred and Forty-four Thousand, of the Servants of God Being Sealed*, 68.

THE SECOND TIME

“By a prophet the Lord brought Israel out of Egypt, and by a prophet was he preserved.’ Hosea 12:13.

“That was the first time He had set His hand to lead such an organized movement of people who were representing His commandments before the world. **Now, in 1844**, He was launching another organized movement. He had ‘set His hand again the second time,’ this time to gather ‘the remnant of His people’ from all ‘the four corners of the earth.’ Isaiah 11:11–12. Isaiah’s prophecy foretold a world-wide work.

“And this ‘remnant,’ as the prophet John was shown on Patmos, was not only to ‘keep the commandments of God,’ as ancient Israel did in the exodus movement, but was to ‘have the testimony of Jesus.’ Of this gift the angel said, ‘The testimony of Jesus is the Spirit of prophecy.’ Revelation 12:17; 19:10.” J. N. Loughborough, *Heavenly Visions*, 114.

THE SCATTERING OF ADVENTISM MILLER’S DREAM

“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.”

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.

THE DIRT BRUSH MAN

“Dear Brethren: The Lord gave me a view, January 26, 1850, which I will relate. I saw that some of the people of God are stupid and dormant and but half awake; they do not realize the time we are now living in, and that the man with the ‘dirt brush’ has entered, and that some are in danger of being swept away. I begged of Jesus to save them, to spare them a little longer, and let them see their awful danger, that they might get ready before it should be forever too late. The angel said, ‘Destruction is coming like a mighty whirlwind.’ I begged of the angel to pity and to save those who loved this world, who were attached to their possessions and were not willing to cut loose from them and sacrifice to speed the messengers on their way to feed the hungry sheep who were perishing for want of spiritual food.

“As I viewed poor souls dying for want of the present truth, and some who professed to believe the truth were letting them die by withholding the necessary means to carry forward the work of God, the sight was too painful, and I begged of the angel to remove it from me. I saw that when the cause of God called for some of their property, like the young man who came to Jesus (Matthew 19:16-22) they went away sorrowful, and that soon the overflowing scourge would pass over and sweep their possessions all away, and then it would be too late to sacrifice earthly goods, and lay up a treasure in heaven.” *Early Writings*, 49.

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.

THE PRECIOUS JEWELS OF TRUTH

“**The dust and rubbish of error have buried the precious jewels of truth**, but the Lord’s workers can uncover these treasures, so that thousands will look upon them with delight and awe. Angels of God will be beside the humble worker, giving grace and divine enlightenment, and thousands will be led to pray with David, ‘Open thou mine eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.’ Truths that have been for ages unseen and unheeded, will blaze forth from the illuminated pages of God’s holy word. The churches generally that have heard, refused, and trampled upon the truth, will do more wickedly; but **‘the wise,’ those who are honest, will understand**. The book is open, and the words of God reach the hearts of those who desire to know his will. At **the loud cry of the angel** from heaven who joins the third angel, thousands will **awake** from the stupor that has held the world for ages, and will see the beauty and value of the truth.” *Review and Herald*, December 15, 1885.

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**.” *Counsels on Sabbath School Work*, 47.

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.

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.

THE UNSEALING: 1989

1986—The prophetic pattern

1991—Daniel eleven

The king of the north and south

Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation

The glorious land

The Sunday law and the close of probation

The three enemies

The beast, dragon and false prophet

The United States and then the world

The parable of the ten virgins

Millerite history repeated

The progressive testing process

The daily

Sur and Rum; Mareh and Chazown; Miqdash and Quodesh; south and

Egypt; holy mountain and land

The 1843 chart

The 1290 and 1335

The pioneers

1996—The purification of the church

Gideon

The ten-fold confederacy

1997—The judgment of the living

Progressive events

1999—Rome's three obstacles

A triple application of prophecy

Revelation thirteen

The image of the beast

Revelation seventeen

September 11, 2001: the third woe

The seven thunders

Revelation ten

The 2,520

The foundations

The 1850 chart

The seven trumpets

Islam

The seventh seal

1986—THE PROPHETIC PATTERN

“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.

1991—DANIEL’S ELEVEN: PUBLISHED 1995

And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over.

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.

He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape.

But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians *shall be* at his steps.

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. And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.

And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation *even* to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. Daniel 11:40–12:1.

THE EVENTS CONNECTED WITH THE CLOSE OF PROBATION

“**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.

AN INCREASE OF KNOWLEDGE

“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.** . . .

“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 KING OF THE NORTH

“The scenes connected with the working of the man of sin are the last features revealed in this earth’s history. The people now have a special message to give to the world, the third angel’s message.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 17, 1.

THE KING OF THE SOUTH

DANIEL

“In the Revelation all the books of the Bible meet and end. Here is the complement of the book of Daniel. One is a prophecy; the other a revelation. The book that was sealed is not the Revelation, but that portion of the prophecy of Daniel relating to the last days. The angel commanded, ‘But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end.’ Daniel 12:4.” *Acts of the Apostles*, 585.

REVELATION

And their dead bodies *shall lie* in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified. Revelation 11:8.

THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY

“‘The great city’ in whose streets the witnesses are slain, and where their dead bodies lie, is ‘spiritually’ Egypt. . . . This is atheism, and the nation represented by Egypt would give voice to a similar denial of the claims of the living God and would manifest a like spirit of unbelief and defiance.” *The Great Controversy*, 269.

THE PIONEERS

“The king of the north and the king of the south are many times referred to in the remaining portion of this chapter. It therefore becomes essential to an understanding of the prophecy clearly to identify these powers. When Alexander’s empire was divided, the different portions lay toward the four winds of heaven, west, north, east, and south; these divisions of course to be reckoned from the standpoint of Palestine, the native land of the prophet. That division of the empire lying west of Palestine would thus constitute the kingdom of the west; that lying north, the kingdom of the north; that lying east, the kingdom of the east; and that lying south the kingdom of the south.” Uriah Smith, *Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation*, 249.

“Everything that can be done should be done to circulate *Thoughts on Daniel and Revelation*. I know of no other book that can take the place of this one. It is God’s helping hand.” *Publishing Ministry*, 356.

THE GLORIOUS LAND

“The unrivaled mercies and blessings of God have been showered upon our nation, it has been a land of liberty, and the glory of the whole earth.” *Review and Herald*, May 2, 1893.

“From the rise and fall of nations as made plain in the books of Daniel and the Revelation, we need to learn how worthless is mere outward and worldly glory.” *Prophets and Kings*, 548.

“The prophet Daniel described the kingdoms that would rise and fall.” *Bible Training School*, December 1, 1912.

THE SUNDAY LAW AND THE CLOSE OF PROBATION

“A time is coming when **the law of God is, in a special sense, to be made void in our land**. The rulers of our nation will, by legislative enactments, enforce the Sunday law, and thus God’s people be brought into great peril. When our nation, in its legislative councils, shall enact laws to bind the consciences of men in regard to their religious privileges, **enforcing Sunday observance**, and **bringing oppressive power to bear against those who keep the seventh-day Sabbath**, the law of God will, to all intents and purposes, be made void in our land; and national apostasy will be followed by national ruin.” *Review and Herald*, December 18, 1888.

“Here the discourse was broken in upon by questions from one who had kept the Sabbath a short time, but who had recently given it up. Rising in the congregation, he said, ‘This Sabbath question has been a great trouble to me during the last year, and now I would like to ask a question: Is the observance of the Sabbath necessary to my salvation? Answer, yes or no.’ I answered promptly, This is an important question, and demands something more full than yes or no. All will be judged according to the light that has shone upon them. If they have light upon the Sabbath, **they cannot be saved in rejecting that light**. But none will be held accountable for light which they have never received. I then quoted the words of Christ, ‘If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin; but now they have no cloak for their sin.’ It was with the greatest difficulty, however, that I made these remarks; for the questioner kept jumping to his feet, and interrupting me, and in the most excited manner and with the most violent gestures demanding that the answer be yes or no.” *Historical Sketches*, 234.

THE THREE ENEMIES

DANIEL 11:41

Edom: *red*. Descendant of **Esau**.

Moab: *from father*. Descendant of **Lot**.

The chief of the children of Ammon: *paternal uncle*. Descendants of **Lot**, (plural).

ISAIAH 11:14

Edom, Moab, children of Ammon, (plural).

NEHEMIAH 2:19

Sanballat the Horonite: *the moon-god; sin has given life*. A **Moabite**.

Tobiah the **Ammonite**: *Yahweh is good*.

Geshem the Arabian: *born in the rainy season*. Descendant of **Ishmael**.

Arabians are a family of tribes, (plural).

JUDGES 6:3; 7:12

Midian: *strife*. Descendant of **Abraham** from Keturah.

Amal: *trouble*. Descendant of Esau.

The children of the east, (plural). Associated with **Balaam**.

NUMBERS 22:4–5

Moab, Midian, Balaam of Pethor which is in the land of the children of his people, (plural).

REVELATION 16:12–13

Dragon: Spiritualism.

Beast: Catholicism.

False prophet: Apostate Protestantism, (multiple churches, plural).

JOHN 19:19–20

Hebrew: *one from the other side*, **Abraham, Shem**.

Greek: *sons of the Ionians*, **Japheth** (plural).

Latin: *Roman: I have exalted*, Babylon was founded by Nimrod, a descendant of **Ham**.

THE UNITED STATES AND THEN THE WORLD

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. He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape. Daniel 11:41–42.

“As America, the land of religious liberty, shall unite with the Papacy in forcing the conscience and compelling men to honor the false sabbath, **the people of every country on the globe will be led to follow her example.**” *Testimonies*, volume 6, 18.

“Foreign nations will **follow the example of the United States.**” *Testimonies*, volume 6, 395.

And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. . . . And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by *the means* of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. Revelation 13:11, 14–15.

“**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.

DANIEL 11:40 AND 1840

AN ANGEL DESCENDS

And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. Revelation 18:1.

DANIEL 11:41–42 AND 1841–42

UNITED STATES AND WORLD TESTED

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. Revelation 18:2.

DANIEL 11:43 AND 1843

TWO MARRIAGES

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 18:3.

DANIEL 11:44–45 AND 1844

JUGDMENT

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. Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double. Revelation 18:4–6.

THE DAILY

And *they that shall be* of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in. Isaiah 58:12

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*, Hearken to the sound of the trumpet. But they said, We will not hearken. Jeremiah 6:16-17.

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? Isaiah 29:16.

And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness. 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12.

THE TEN-FOLD CONFEDERACY

PSALM 83: TEN TRIBES

AHAB: NORTHERN TEN KINGDOMS

EZEKIEL 30: TEN CITIES OF EGYPT

DANIEL TWO: TEN TOES

REVELATION 17: TEN KINGS

TRIPLE APPLICATION OF PROHECY

THREE BABYLONS

THREE ROMES

THREE WOES

THREE ABOMINATIONS OF DESOLATIONS

REVELATION 18

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.

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.

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.

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.

BLEND INTO ONE

“Thus the **substance** of the second angel’s message is again given to the world by **that other angel who lightens the earth with his glory. These messages all blend in one**, to come before the people in the closing days of this earth’s history. All the world will be tested, and all that have been in the darkness of error in regard to the Sabbath of the fourth commandment will understand the last message of mercy that is to be given to men.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 116.

COMBINED

“The great message, **combining the first, second, and third angels’ messages**, is to be given to the world. This is to be the burden of our work.” *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, volume 7, 949.

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.

THE FIFTH SEAL AND REVELATION EIGHTEEN

“**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.

“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.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 20, 14.

IN THE FUTURE

“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, doest Thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? And white robes were given unto every one of them [They were pronounced pure and holy]; 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 6:9–11. **Here were scenes presented to John that were not in reality but that which would be in a period of time in the future.**

“Revelation 8:1–4, quoted.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 20, 197.

MARTYRS

“‘After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; and cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.’

“‘And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat; for the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters; and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.’

“What an example have the martyrs for Jesus left us in their lives of self-denial and sacrifice. They were faithful and true to principle. Although prisons, tortures, inquisitions, gibbets, and the stake threatened them, they counted not their lives dear unto themselves. Their love for the truth was here manifested. They chose to obey the truth at the expense of great suffering. The world was not worthy of these heroes of faith. They died for their faith. The pure gold was refined from all dross through trial and suffering. As these shall enter the portals of glory they will shout in triumph: We overcame by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of our testimony. We were faithful unto death, and now receive a crown of life. Shouts of triumph will come from lips that never triumphed before. Those who were too timid to praise God vocally were not too timid to die for their Lord. They struggled and fought the good fight of faith. They were steadfast to the end. They will unite their glad voices in the universal songs of triumph and victory, praising God that they were accounted worthy to receive the heavenly benediction ‘well done’ from the Master they loved, and for whom they suffered. His own right hand will place upon their brows crowns of immortal glory that fade not away.” *Review and Herald*, December 2, 1875.

THEN—IT IS TIME, FOR THEE, LORD TO WORK

“This subject is urging itself upon my mind. Consider it; for it is **a matter of vast importance**. With which of these two classes shall we identify our interest? **Read the fourth chapter of Malachi, and think about it seriously**. The day of God is right upon us. The world has converted the church. Both are in harmony, and are acting on a short-sighted policy. Protestants will work upon the rulers of the land to make laws to restore the lost ascendancy of the man of sin, who sits in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. Roman Catholic principles will be taken under the care and protection of the state. **This national apostasy will speedily be followed by national ruin**. The protest of Bible truth will be no longer tolerated by those who have not made the law of God their rule of life. **Then will the voice be heard from the graves of martyrs, represented by the souls that John saw slain for the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ which they held; then the prayer will ascend from every true child of God, ‘It is time for thee, Lord, to work: for they have made void thy law.’**” *Review and Herald*, June 15, 1897.

FULLY DISCONNECTED FROM RIGHTEOUSNESS

“By **the decree** enforcing the institution of the papacy in violation of the law of God, our nation will **disconnect herself fully from righteousness**.” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 451.

“**Through successive generations iniquity has increased**, until we are nearing the time when God shall say, **The cup of their iniquity is full**. In David’s day the contempt placed upon the law of God led him to exclaim, ‘**It is time for thee, Lord, to work: for they have made void thy law.**’ The disrespect shown to the law did not lessen its value in the sight of the psalmist. Instead, he saw all the more need of standing in its defense; and as he saw it trampled under unholy feet, he exclaimed: ‘Therefore I love thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold.’ In this age men have gone to great lengths in arrogance and in blasphemous denunciation of God’s law. They have accepted a false sabbath in the place of the day that God sanctified and gave to man as a memorial of creation. Their disobedience is great, and well may the prayer go forth from unfeigned lips, ‘It is time for thee, Lord, to work: for they have made void thy law.’ **The boundary line will soon be reached**. The crisis will soon come, and then God will interfere. When mercy’s limits are passed, God will work, and show that he is God. The Judge of all the earth will vindicate his honor, and punish the rebellious inhabitants of the earth.” *Review and Herald*, August 14, 1900.

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.

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.

MATTHEW 25

“Many who heard the first and second angels’ messages **thought they would live to see Christ coming in the clouds of heaven.** Had all who claimed to believe the truth acted their part **as wise virgins,** the message would ere this have been proclaimed to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. But five were wise and five were foolish. The truth should have been proclaimed by the ten virgins, but only five had made the provision essential to join that company who walked in the light that had come to them. The third angel’s message was needed. This proclamation was to be made. Many who went forth to meet the Bridegroom under the messages of the first and second angels, refused the third angel’s message, the last testing message to be given to the world.

“**A similar work will be accomplished** when that other angel, represented in Revelation 18, gives his message. **The first, second, and third angels’ messages will need to be repeated.** The call will be given to the church, Revelation 18:2–5 quoted.

“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.

REVELATION ELEVEN

“Let all who would understand the meaning of these things read the eleventh chapter of Revelation. Read every verse, and learn the things that are yet to take place in the cities. Read also the scenes portrayed in the eighteenth chapter of the same book.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 21, 91.

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.

ISLAM

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.

THE NUMBER TWELVE

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. See also Genesis 25:12–16.

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.

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.

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.**’”

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. Revelation 9:11.

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 FOR THE CHURCH, VOLUME 9, 11

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.”

THE THIRD WOE: THIRD GREAT JIHAD

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 FIRST WOE

ANTI-TYPICAL PERSIA

And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit. And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. Revelation 9:1-3.

“VERSE 1. And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit.

“For an exposition of this trumpet, we shall again draw from the writings of Mr. Keith. This writer truthfully says: ‘**There is scarcely so uniform an agreement among interpreters concerning any other part of the Apocalypse as respecting the application of the fifth and sixth trumpets, or the first and second woes, to the Saracens and Turks.** It is so obvious that it can scarcely be misunderstood. Instead of a verse or two designating each, the whole of the ninth chapter of the Revelation in equal portions, is occupied with a description of both.

“‘The Roman empire declined, as it arose, by conquest; but the Saracens and the Turks were the instruments by which a false religion became the scourge of an apostate church; and hence, instead of the fifth and sixth trumpets, like the former, being designated by that name alone, they are called woes.

“‘Constantinople was besieged, for the first time after the extinction of the Western empire, by Chosroes, the king of Persia.’

“‘A star fell from heaven unto the earth; and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit.’

“‘While the Persian monarch contemplated the wonders of his art and power, he received an epistle from an obscure citizen of Mecca, inviting him to acknowledge Mohammed as the apostle of God. He rejected the invitation, and tore the epistle. ‘It is thus,’ exclaimed the Arabian prophet, ‘that God will tear the kingdom, and reject the supplication of Chosroes.’ Placed on **the verge of these two empires** of the East, Mohammed observed with secret joy **the progress of mutual destruction**; and in the midst of the Persian triumphs he ventured to foretell, that, before many years should elapse, victory would again return to the banners of the Romans. ‘At the time when this prediction is said to have been delivered, no prophecy could be more distant from its accomplishment since the first twelve years of Heraclius announced the approaching dissolution of the empire.’

“‘It was not, like that designative of Attila, on a single spot that the star fell, but **UPON THE EARTH.**

“‘Chosroes subjugated the Roman possession in Asia and Africa. And ‘the Roman empire,’ at that period, ‘was reduced to the walls of Constantinople, with the remnant of Greece, Italy, and Africa, and some maritime cities, from Tyre to Trebizond, of the Asiatic coast. The experience of six years at length persuaded the Persian monarch to renounce the conquest of Constantinople, and to specify the annual tribute of the ransom of the Roman empire,—a thousand talents of gold, a thousand talents of silver, a thousand silk robes, a thousand horses, and a thousand virgins. Heraclius subscribed to these ignominious terms. But the time and space which he obtained to collect those treasures from the poverty of the East were industriously employed in the preparation of a bold and desperate attack.’

“‘The king of Persia despised the obscure Saracen, and derided the message of the pretended prophet of Mecca. Even the overthrow of the Roman empire would not have opened a door for Mohammedanism, or for the progress of the Saracenic armed propagators of an imposture, though the monarch of the Persians and chagan of the Avars (the successor of Attila) had divided between them the remains of the kingdoms of the Caesars. Chosroes himself fell. **The Persian and Roman monarchies exhausted each other’s strength.** And before a sword was put into the hands of the false prophet, it was smitten from the hands of those who would have checked his career and crushed his power.

“‘Since the days of Scipio and Hannibal, no bolder enterprise has been attempted than that which Heraclius achieved for the deliverance of the empire. He explored his perilous way through the Black Sea and the mountains of Armenia, penetrated into the heart of Persia, and recalled the armies of the great king to the defense of their bleeding country.’

“‘In **the battle of Nineveh**, which was fiercely fought from daybreak to the eleventh hour, twenty-eight standards, besides those which might be broken or torn, were taken from the Persians; the greatest part of their army was cut in pieces, and the victors, concealing their own loss, passed the night on the field. The cities and palaces of Assyria were opened for the first time to the Romans.’

“The Roman emperor was not strengthened by the conquests which he achieved; and a way was prepared at the same time, and by the same means, for the multitudes of Saracens from Arabia, like locusts from the same region, who, propagating in their course the dark and delusive Mohammedan creed, speedily overspread both the Persian and the Roman empire.” Uriah Smith, *Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation*, 495–497.

PARALLEL HISTORY

And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over. Daniel 11:40.

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.

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.

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 shouldst give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldst 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.

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.

THE FIRST ANGEL'S MESSAGE

“I was shown the interest which all heaven had taken in the work going on upon the earth. Jesus commissioned a mighty 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.” *Early Writings* 245.

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 LOOSED AND RESTRAINED

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.

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.

PARALLEL HISTORY ISLAM RESTRAINED

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. Revelation 9:4.

THE FOUR WINDS RESTRAINED

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

“**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.

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.

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 second woe is past; *and*, behold, the third woe cometh quickly. Revelation 11:14.

RECOGNIZING THE LATTER RAIN

SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

“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.

WE MUST RECOGNIZE THE MANIFESTATION OF THE POWER OF GOD

“Only those who are living up to the light they have will receive greater light. Unless we are daily advancing in the exemplification of the active Christian virtues, **we shall not recognize the manifestations of the Holy Spirit in the latter rain.** It may be falling on hearts all around us, but we shall not discern or receive it.” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 507.

ALL WHO WILL RECOGNIZE

“We must not wait for the latter rain. It is coming upon all who will **recognize** and appropriate the dew and showers of grace that fall upon us. When we gather up the fragments of light, when we appreciate the sure mercies of God, who loves to have us trust Him, then every promise will be fulfilled.

“For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth **before all the nations.** Isaiah 61:11.

“**The whole earth is to be filled with the glory of God.**” *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, volume 7, 984.

THE ADVENT MOVEMENT OF 1840–44

“**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 first angel’s message was carried to every missionary station in the world,** and in some countries there was the greatest religious interest which has been witnessed in any land since the Reformation of the sixteenth century; but these are to be exceeded by the mighty movement under the last warning of the third angel.

“**The work will be similar to that of the Day of Pentecost.** As the ‘former rain’ was given, in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at the opening of the gospel, to cause the upspringing of the precious seed, so the ‘latter rain’ will be given at its close for the ripening of the harvest. ‘Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord: His going forth is prepared as the morning; and He shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.’ Hosea 6:3. ‘Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God: for He hath given you the former rain moderately, and He will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain.’ Joel 2:23. ‘In the last days, saith God, I will pour out of My Spirit upon all flesh.’ ‘And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’ Acts 2:17, 21.

“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.

MESSAGES ARE THE LATTER RAIN

“To John were opened scenes of deep and thrilling interest in the experience of the church. He saw the position, dangers, conflicts, and final deliverance of the people of God. **He records the closing messages which are to ripen the harvest of the earth,** either as sheaves for the heavenly garner or as fagots for the fires of destruction. Subjects of vast importance were revealed to him, especially for the last church, that those who should turn from error to truth might be instructed concerning the perils and conflicts before them. None need be in darkness in regard to what is coming upon the earth.” *The Great Controversy*, 341.

GOD’S WORD

Give ear, O ye heavens, and I will speak; and hear, O earth, the words of my mouth. My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass. Dueteronomy 32:1, 2.

GOD IS DISHONORED

“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.” *Review and Herald*, July 20, 1897.

TRUTHS THAT HAVE BEEN BURIED UNDER A MASS OF RUBBISH

“I bore my testimony in the ministers’ meeting, and the Lord gave me a large measure of His Spirit. I entreated my brethren standing in positions of responsibility not to grieve the Spirit of God away from their hearts by their unwillingness to receive the testimonies that God has sent them in reproof and warning. I saw that they were dishonoring God by much talking. **Their hearts were not free from prejudice**. I said to them, Do not receive the word of any man, but **go to the Scriptures for yourselves**. Do not turn away from **the messages that God sends**, as you did at **Minneapolis**. Prayerfully consider every point, with hearts open to conviction. Receive every ray of light sent you. That which has been set before you deserves candid consideration. **Truths that have been buried under a mass of rubbish are to be revived, and reset in their original setting**.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 3, 415.

TRUTHS WILL BLAZE FORTH FROM GOD’S HOLY WORD

“**The dust and rubbish of error have buried the precious jewels of truth**, but the Lord’s workers can uncover these treasures, so that thousands will look upon them with delight and awe. Angels of God will be beside the humble worker, giving grace and divine enlightenment, and thousands will be led to pray with David, ‘Open thou mine eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.’ **Truths that have been for ages unseen and unheeded, will blaze forth from the illuminated pages of God’s holy word**. The churches generally that have heard, refused, and trampled upon the truth, will do more wickedly; but **‘the wise,’ those who are honest, will understand**. The book is open, and the words of God reach the hearts of those who desire to know his will. At the loud cry of the angel from heaven who joins the third angel, thousands will awake from the stupor that has held the world for ages, and will see the beauty and value of the truth.” *Review and Herald*, December 15, 1885.

PARABLES—THE PROPHETIC WORD

Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here *am* I; send me. And he said, Go, and **tell this people**, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not. Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed. Isaiah 6:8–10.

THE TIME OF CHRIST

“In the earlier part of His ministry, Christ had spoken to the people in words so plain that all His hearers might have grasped truths which would make them wise unto salvation. But in many hearts the truth had taken no root, and it had been quickly caught away. ‘Therefore **speak I to them in parables.**’ He said; ‘because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. . . . For this people’s heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed.’ Matthew 13:13–15.” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, 20.

THE TIME OF PAUL

“Further argument was useless. Paul closed with a solemn address, in which he applied to them the words of Isaiah, before quoted by Christ himself: ‘Well spake the Holy Ghost by Esaias the prophet unto our fathers, saying, Go unto this people and say, Hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive; for the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.’” *Sketches from the Life of Paul*, 278.

OUR TIME

“It is a fearful thing to have great light and blessing, to have many opportunities and privileges, and yet make no saving use of them. Those who do not make a saving use of their opportunities, will be condemned by the privileges God has granted to them; but those who walk in the light will have increased light. Those who have had the light of truth, and yet have failed to walk in the light, are under the same sentence of condemnation as were Chorazin and Bethsaida. Shall not these warnings be heeded? Shall not these admonitions have weight with us? In the near future it will be seen just who have been walking humbly with God, and who have been obeying his orders. Those who have been walking in the sparks of their own kindling will lie down in sorrow. It will be seen that they have made a terrible mistake. O let us awake! light is now shining; let the windows of the mind and heart be open to welcome the heaven-sent rays. Shall Jesus say of those who profess to obey the truth, and yet who fail to walk in its light, ‘In them is fulfilled **the prophecy of Esaias**, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: for this people’s heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them’?” *Christian Education*, 140.

THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Moreover the Lord spake again unto Ahaz, saying, Ask thee a sign of the Lord thy God; ask it either in the depth, or in the height above. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, neither will I tempt the Lord. And he said, Hear ye now, O house of David; *Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will ye weary my God also?* Isaiah 7:10–13.

THEY DESIRED A SIGN

Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying, Master, we would see a sign from thee. But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas: For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. Matthew 12:38–40.

The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came, and tempting desired him that he would show them a sign from heaven. He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, *It will be fair weather: for the sky is red.* And in the morning, *It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowering.* O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not *discern the signs of the times?* A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas. And he left them, and departed. Matthew 16:1–4.

THEY MISUNDERSTOOD THE SIGN

Then answered the Jews and said unto him, What sign showest thou unto us, seeing that thou doest these things? Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days? But he spake of the temple of his body. John 2:18–21.

THEY MISREPRESENT THE SIGN

And said, This fellow said, I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to build it in three days. Matthew 26:61.

OUR SIGN

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. Luke 21:29–30.

THE BUDDING TREES OF SPRING

“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.

THE CLOSING MESSAGES

“To John were opened scenes of deep and thrilling interest in the experience of the church. He saw the position, dangers, conflicts, and final deliverance of the people of God. **He records the closing messages which are to ripen the harvest of the earth**, either as sheaves for the heavenly garner or as fagots for the fires of destruction. Subjects of vast importance were revealed to him, especially for the last church, that those who should turn from error to truth might be instructed concerning the perils and conflicts before them. None need be in darkness in regard to what is coming upon the earth.” *The Great Controversy*, 341.

THE TIMES OF REFRESHING

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 28:1-13.

“Those who are in responsible positions are not to become converted to the self-indulgent, extravagant principles of the world, for they cannot afford it; and if they could, Christlike principles would not allow it. **Manifold teaching needs to be given.** ‘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.’ Thus the word of the Lord is patiently to be brought before the children and kept before them, by parents who believe the word of God. ‘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.’ **Why?—because they did not heed the word of the Lord that came unto them.**

“This means those who have not received instruction, but have cherished their own wisdom, and have chosen to work themselves according to their own ideas. The Lord gives these the test, that they shall either take their position to follow His counsel, or refuse and do according to their own ideas, and then the Lord will leave them to the sure result. In all our ways, in all our service to God, He speaks to us, ‘Give Me thine heart.’ It is the submissive, teachable spirit that God wants. That which gives to prayer its excellence is the fact that it is breathed from a loving, obedient heart.

“God requires certain things of His people; if they say, I will not give up my heart to do this thing, the Lord lets them go on in their supposed wise judgment without heavenly wisdom, until this scripture [Isaiah 28:13] is fulfilled. **You are not to say, I will follow the Lord’s guidance up to a certain point that is in harmony with my judgment, and then hold fast to your own ideas, refusing to be molded after the Lord’s similitude.** Let the question be asked, Is this the will of the Lord? not, Is this the opinion or judgment of-----?” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 419.

PENTECOST REPEATED

“It is with an earnest longing that I look forward to the time when the events of the day of **Pentecost** shall be repeated with even greater power than on that occasion. John says, ‘I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory.’ Then, as at the Pentecostal season, the people will hear the truth spoken to them, **every man in his own tongue**.

“God can breathe new life into every soul that sincerely desires to serve Him, and **can touch the lips with a live coal from off the altar**, and cause them to become eloquent with His praise. Thousands of voices will be imbued with the power to speak forth the wonderful truths of God’s Word. **The stammering tongue will be unloosed**, and the timid will be made strong to bear courageous testimony to the truth. May the Lord help His people to cleanse the soul temple from every defilement, and to maintain such a close connection with Him that they may be **partakers of the latter rain when it shall be poured out**.” *Review and Herald*, July 20, 1886.

“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.

WHO WILL RECOGNIZE HIS BLESSING WHEN IT COMES?

“The Lord calls for every talent of means and ability to be put to use. When the reproach of indolence and slothfulness shall have been wiped away from the church, the Spirit of the Lord will be graciously manifested; divine power will combine with human effort, the church will see the providential interpositions of the Lord God of hosts, the light of truth will be diffused, the knowledge of God and of Jesus Christ whom He hath sent. As in the apostles’ time, many souls will turn unto the Lord. The earth will be lightened with the glory of the angel from heaven.

“If the [people of the] world are to be convinced of sin as transgressors of God’s law, the agency must be the Holy Spirit working through human instrumentalities. The church needs now to shake off her death-like slumber, for the Lord is waiting to bless His people who will **recognize** His blessing when it comes, and diffuse it in clear, strong rays of light.

“**Then** will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean. . . . And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes’ [Ezekiel 36:25, 27]. If the wilderness of the church is to become as a fruitful field, and the fruitful field to be as a forest, it is through the Holy Spirit of God poured out upon His people.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 15, 308, 309.

SOMETHING DANGEROUS

“There is to be in the [Seventh-day Adventist] churches a wonderful manifestation of the power of God, but it will not move upon those who have not humbled themselves before the Lord, and opened the door of the heart by confession and repentance. In the manifestation of that power which lightens the earth with the glory of God, they will see only something which in their blindness they think **dangerous**, something which will arouse their fears, and they will brace themselves to resist it. Because the Lord does not work according to their ideas and expectations they will oppose the work. ‘Why,’ they say, ‘should we not know the Spirit of God, when we have been in the work so many years?’

“The third angel’s message **will not be comprehended**, the light which will lighten the earth with its glory will be called a false light, by those who refuse to walk in its advancing glory.” *Review and Herald*, December 23, 1890.

Comprehend: –verb (used with object) 1. to understand the nature or meaning of; grasp with the mind; perceive: He did not comprehend the significance of the ambassador’s remark. *Online Dictionary*.

Recognize: 1. to identify as something or someone previously seen, known, etc.: He had changed so much that one could scarcely recognize him.

2. to identify from knowledge of appearance or characteristics: I recognized him from the description. They recognized him as a fraud.

3. to perceive as existing or true; realize: to be the first to recognize a fact. *Online Dictionary*.

HOW ARE WE GOING TO KNOW?

“Now, brethren, God wants us to take our position with the man that carries the lantern; we want to take our position where the light is, and where God has given the trumpet a certain sound. We want to give the trumpet a certain sound. We have been in perplexity, and we have been in doubt, and the churches are ready to die. But now here we read: ‘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’ [Revelation 18:1, 2].

“Well now, how are we going to know anything about that message **if we are not in a position to recognize anything of the light of heaven when it comes to us?** And we will just as soon pick up the darkest deception when it comes to us from somebody that agrees with us, when we have not a particle of evidence that the Spirit of God has sent them. Christ said, ‘I come in the name of my Father, but ye will not receive me’ [see John 5:43]. Now, that is just the work that has been going on here ever since the meeting at Minneapolis. **Because God sends a message in his name that does not agree with your ideas, therefore [you conclude] it cannot be a message from God.**” *Sermons and Talks*, volume 1, 142.

OPPOSING THE WORK CONNECTED WITH THE LOUD CRY

“Unless those who can help in—are aroused to a sense of their duty, **they will not recognize the work of God when the loud cry of the third angel shall be heard.** When light goes forth to lighten the earth, instead of coming up to the help of the Lord, they will want to bind about His work to meet their narrow ideas. Let me tell you that the Lord will work in this last work in a manner very much out of the common order of things, and in a way that will be **contrary to any human planning.** There will be those among us who will always want to **control** the work of God, to **dictate** even what movements shall be made **when the work goes forward under the direction of the angel who joins the third angel in the message to be given to the world.** God will use ways and means by which it will be seen that He is taking the reins in His own hands. The workers will be surprised by the simple means that He will use to bring about and perfect His work of righteousness.” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 300.

AN UNWILLINGNESS TO YIELD UP PRECONCEIVED OPINIONS

“An unwillingness to yield up preconceived opinions, and to accept this truth, lay at the foundation of a large share of the opposition manifested at Minneapolis against the Lord’s message through Brethren Waggoner and Jones. By exciting that opposition Satan succeeded in shutting away from our people, in a great measure, **the special power of the Holy Spirit** that God longed to impart to them. The enemy prevented them from obtaining that efficiency which might have been theirs in carrying the truth to the world, as the apostles proclaimed it after the day of Pentecost. **The light that is to lighten the whole earth with its glory was resisted, and by the action of our own brethren has been in a great degree kept away from the world.**” *Selected Messages*, book 1, 235.

NOT!

“In searching the Scriptures you are **not** to endeavor to interpret their utterances so as to agree with your **preconceived ideas**, but come as a learner to understand **the foundation principles of the faith of Christ.**” *Counsels on Sabbath School Work*, 25.

WE MUST!

“Do you ask, What shall I do to be saved? **You must lay your preconceived opinions**, your hereditary and cultivated ideas, at the door of investigation. If you search the Scriptures to vindicate your own opinions, you will never reach the truth. Search in order to learn what the Lord says. If conviction comes as you search, if you see that your cherished opinions are not in harmony with the truth, do not misinterpret the truth in order to suit your own belief, but accept the light given. Open mind and heart that you may behold wondrous things out of God’s word.” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, 112.

THE HEART MUST BE OPEN

“Why is it that men do not believe upon sufficient evidence?—**Because they do not want to be convinced. They have no disposition to give up their own will for God’s will.** They are unwilling to acknowledge that they have cherished sinful unbelief in resisting the light that God has given them. They have been hunting for doubts, for pegs upon which to hang their unbelief. They have been ready to accept testimony which is weak and insufficient, testimony which God has not given them in his word, but which pleases them because it agrees with their ideas, and is in harmony with their disposition and will. These souls are in great peril. If they will bow their proud will, and put it on God’s side of the question; if they will with humble, contrite hearts seek for the light, believing that there is light for them, then they will see light, because the eye is single to discern the light which comes from God. They will acknowledge the evidence of divine authority. **Spiritual truths will shine forth from the divine page.** But the heart must be open for the reception of light, for Satan is ever ready to obscure the precious truth which would make them wise unto salvation. **If any do not receive it, it will forever remain a mystery of mysteries to them.**” *Review and Herald*, December 23, 1890.

THIS IS THE DANGER

“We are to pray for the impartation of the Spirit as the remedy for sin-sick souls. The church needs to be converted, and why should we not prostrate ourselves at the throne of grace, as representatives of the church, and from a broken heart and contrite spirit make earnest supplication that the Holy Spirit shall be poured out upon us from on high? Let us pray that when it shall be graciously bestowed our cold hearts may be revived, and we may have discernment to understand that it is from God, and receive it with joy. Some have treated the Spirit as an unwelcome guest, refusing to receive the rich gift, refusing to acknowledge it, turning from it, and condemning it as fanaticism.

“When the Holy Spirit works the human agent, it does not ask us in what way it shall operate. Often it moves in unexpected ways. Christ did not come as the Jews expected. He did not come in a manner to glorify them as a nation. His forerunner came to prepare the way for Him by calling upon the people to repent of their sins, and be converted, and be baptized. Christ’s message was, ‘The kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.’ **The Jews refused to receive Christ, because He did not come in accordance with their expectations.** The ideas of finite men were held as infallible, because hoary with age.

“**This is the danger to which the church is now exposed—that the inventions of finite men shall mark out the precise way for the Holy Spirit to come.** Though they would not care to acknowledge it, **some have already done this.** And because the Spirit is to come, not to praise men or to build up their erroneous theories, but to reprove the world of **sin**, and of **righteousness**, and of **judgment**, many turn away from it. They are not willing to be deprived of the garments of their own self-righteousness. They are not willing to exchange their own righteousness, which is unrighteousness, for **the righteousness of Christ, which is pure, unadulterated truth.** The Holy Spirit flatters no man, neither does it work according to the devising of any man. Finite, sinful men are not to work the Holy Spirit. When it shall come as a reprover, through any human agent whom God shall choose, it is man’s place to hear and obey its voice.” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 64, 65.

MORE TO FEAR FROM WITHIN

“We have far more to fear from within than from without. The hindrances to strength and success are far greater from the church itself than from the world. Unbelievers have a right to expect that those who profess to be keeping the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, will do more than any other class to promote and honor, by their consistent lives, by their godly example and their active influence, the cause which they represent. But how often have the professed advocates of the truth proved the greatest obstacle to its advancement! The unbelief indulged, the doubts expressed, the darkness cherished, encourage the presence of evil angels, and open the way for the accomplishment of Satan’s devices.” *Selected Messages*, book 1, 122.

SATANIC DOUBT

“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.

“In the place of those who have not been brought over the ground, who have not had an individual experience, when it was a positive necessity to know the truth as it was unfolding before them, in the place of these—tearing to pieces the building which has been erected on the interpretation of the prophets—let them in all meekness fall into line and **work in harmony with those whose voices are now silent in death**, and with the workers who are still living. Fall into line. Obey the orders of the Captain of your salvation, and bear witness of the light which the Lord has flashed upon the world in the message for these last days. Keep in step with your Leader.

“The dealings of God with His people should be often repeated. He has worked as a wonder-working God. He has baptized His chosen messengers with the Holy Spirit. The past history of the cause of God needs often to be brought before the people, young and old, that they may be familiar with it. How frequently were the waymarks set up by the Lord in His dealing with ancient Israel, lest they should forget the history of the past. Christ, their invisible Leader, commanded Moses to form these events into song, that the people of Israel might teach them to their children.

“It is the device of Satan to divert the mind from these things, and keep it employed with unprofitable conversation, that the Lord’s truth and **manifest power in dealing with His people should be regarded as a thing of the past and dropped out of their remembrance**. But we are exhorted to call to mind the former days, ‘after ye were illuminated, ye endured a great fight of afflictions’ (Hebrews 10:32).” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 9, 135.

THE TRUTH FOR THIS TIME

“If the truth for this time, if the signs that are thickening on every hand, that testify that the end of all things is at hand, are not-sufficient to arouse the sleeping energy of those who profess to know the truth, then **darkness proportionate to the light** which has been shining will overtake these souls. **There is not the semblance of an excuse for their indifference that they will be able to present to God in the great day of final reckoning.** There will be no reason to offer as to why they did not live and walk and work in the light of the sacred truth of the word of God, and thus reveal to a sin-darkened world, through their conduct, their sympathy, and their zeal, that the power and reality of the gospel could not be controverted.” *Review and Herald*, July 21, 1896.

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.

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 sware 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.

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 COVENANT

“Read and study the thirty-fourth chapter of Ezekiel. In it we are given most precious encouragement. ‘I will save my flock, and they shall be no more a prey,’ the Lord declares. ‘. . . And I will make with them a covenant of peace.’” *God’s Amazing Grace*, 138.

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.

THE COVENANT

“Graves are opened, and ‘many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth. . . awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.’ Daniel 12:2. All who have died in the faith of the third angel’s message come forth from the tomb glorified, to hear **God’s covenant of peace** with those who have kept His law. ‘They also which pierced Him’ (Revelation 1:7), those that mocked and derided Christ’s dying agonies, and the most violent opposers of His truth and His people, are raised to behold Him in His glory and to see the honor placed upon the loyal and obedient.” *The Great Controversy*, 637.

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.

SEVEN TRUMPETS

And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour. And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets. Revelation 8:1-2.

NATIONAL & CHURCH HISTORY

“The immediate effect of this apostasy, [Constantine’s Sunday law in 321.] which developed the papacy in the Roman Empire, was the complete ruin of the Roman Empire. **And, this consequence of the apostasy**, which is traced in the first three steps of the two lines of prophecy of the Seven Churches and the Seven Seals, is **sketched in the first four trumpets** of the line of prophecy of the Seven Trumpets. And here it is—in the Seven Trumpets—that national history enters, as an incident, in this book of Church history; as in the rise of the little horn amongst the ten, in the book of Daniel, there enters Church history, as an incident, in that book of national history. The Seven Trumpets aptly enter here, because **the trumpet is the symbol of war**; and it was by the universal war of the floods of barbarians from the north, that there was swept away that mass of corruption that was heaped upon the Roman Empire by its union with the apostate Church, in the making of the papacy.” A. T. Jones, *Ecclesiastical Empire*, 7.

THE COMPLICATED PLAY OF HUMAN EVENTS

“Upon the banks of the river Chebar, Ezekiel beheld a whirlwind seeming to come from the north, ‘a great cloud, and a fire infolding itself, and a brightness was about it, and out of the midst thereof as the color of amber.’ A number of wheels, intersecting one another, were moved by four living beings. High above all these ‘was the likeness of a throne, as the appearance of a sapphire stone: and upon the likeness of the throne was the likeness as the appearance of a man above upon it.’ ‘And there appeared in the cherubims the form of a man’s hand under their wings.’ Ezekiel 1:4, 26; 10:8. **The wheels were so complicated in arrangement that at first sight they appeared to be in confusion; but they moved in perfect harmony.** Heavenly beings, sustained and guided by the hand beneath the wings of the cherubim, were impelling these wheels; above them, upon the sapphire throne, was the Eternal One; and round about the throne a rainbow, the emblem of divine mercy.

“As the wheellike complications were under the guidance of the hand beneath the wings of the cherubim, so **the complicated play of human events** is under divine control. Amidst the strife and tumult of nations, He that sitteth above the cherubim still guides the affairs of the earth.

“The history of nations that one after another have occupied their allotted time and place, unconsciously witnessing to the truth of which they themselves knew not the meaning, speaks to us. To every nation and to every individual of today God has assigned a place in His great plan. Today men and nations are being measured by the plummet in the hand of Him who makes no mistake. All are by their own choice deciding their destiny, and God is overruling all for the accomplishment of His purposes.

“The history which the great I AM has marked out in His word, uniting link after link in the prophetic chain, from eternity in the past to eternity in the future, tells us where we are today in the procession of the ages, and what may be expected in the time to come. All that prophecy has foretold as coming to pass, until the present time, has been traced on the pages of history, and we may be assured that all which is yet to come will be fulfilled in its order.

“The final overthrow of all earthly dominions is plainly foretold in the word of truth.” *Education*, 178–179.

THE VISIONS OF JOHN, EZEKIEL AND ISAIAH

“But God’s servants are not to trust to themselves in this great emergency. **In the visions given to Isaiah, to Ezekiel, and to John we see how closely heaven is connected with the events taking place upon the earth** and how great is the care of God for those who are loyal to Him. The world is not without a ruler. The program of coming events is in the hands of the Lord. The Majesty of heaven has the destiny of nations, as well as the concerns of His church, in His own charge. . . .

“In Ezekiel’s vision God had His hand beneath the wings of the cherubim. This is to teach His servants that it is divine power that gives them success. He will work with them if they will put away iniquity and become pure in heart and life.

“The bright light going among the living creatures with the swiftness of lightning represents the speed with which this work will finally go forward to completion. He who slumbers not, who is continually at work for the accomplishment of His designs, can carry forward His great work harmoniously. That which appears to finite minds entangled and complicated, the Lord’s hand can keep in perfect order. He can devise ways and means to thwart the purposes of wicked men, and He will bring to confusion the counsels of them that plot mischief against His people.” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 754.

TRUMPET AFTER TRUMPET

“The battle of Armageddon will be fought. And that day must find none of us sleeping. Wide awake we must be, as wise virgins having oil in our vessels with our lamps. The power of the Holy Ghost must be upon us and the Captain of the Lord’s host will stand at the head of the angels of heaven to direct the battle. Solemn events before us are yet to transpire. **Trumpet after trumpet is to be sounded; vial after vial poured out one after another upon the inhabitants of the earth.**” *Selected Messages*, book 3, 426.

And when he had opened the seventh seal . . . I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets. Revelation 8:1–2.

THE EARTH

THE FIRST TRUMPET

The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up. Revelation 8:7.

THE FIRST PLAGUE

And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image. Revelation 16:2.

THE SEA BECOMES BLOOD

THE SECOND TRUMPET

And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the third part of the sea became blood. Revelation 8:8.

THE SECOND PLAGUE

And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the blood of a dead *man*; and every living soul died in the sea. Revelation 16:3.

THE WATERS

THE THIRD TRUMPET

And the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died; and the third part of the ships were destroyed. And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters; And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter. Revelation 8:9–11.

THE THIRD PLAGUE

And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and they became blood. Revelation 16:14.

THE SUN

THE FOURTH TRUMPET

And the fourth angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise. Revelation 8:12.

THE FOURTH PLAGUE

And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire. And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give him glory. Revelation 16:8–9.

DARKNESS

THE FIFTH TRUMPET

And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit. Revelation 9:1–2.

THE FIFTH PLAGUE

And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain, And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds. Revelation 16:10.

THE EUPHRATES

THE SIXTH TRUMPET

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.

THE SIXTH PLAGUE

And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared. And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs *come* out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, *which* go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon. Revelation 16:12–16.

AN EARTHQUAKE

THE SEVENTH TRUMPET

And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become *the kingdoms* of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.

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. And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail. Revelation 11:15–19.

THE SEVENTH PLAGUE

And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done. And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, *and* so great. Revelation 16:17–18.

REVELATION ELEVEN

“Would we know the result of making void the law of God? The experiment has been tried. Terrible were the scenes enacted in France when atheism became the controlling power.” *The Great Controversy*, 584.

“At the same time anarchy is seeking to sweep away all law, not only divine, but human. The centralizing of wealth and power; the vast combinations for the enriching of the few at the expense of the many; the combinations of the poorer classes for the defense of their interests and claims; the spirit of unrest, of riot and bloodshed; the world-wide dissemination of the same teachings that led to the French Revolution—all are tending to involve the whole world in a struggle similar to that which convulsed France.” *Education*, 228.

THE LATTER RAIN

And I will give *power* unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred *and* threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth. And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed. These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will. Revelation 11:3–6.

“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 SUNDAY LAW

And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit **shall make war against them**, and shall overcome them, and kill them. And their dead bodies *shall lie* in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified. And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves. And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth. Revelation 11:7–10.

“These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. **These shall make war with the Lamb**, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful’ (Revelation 17:13, 14).

“These have one mind.’ There will be a universal bond of union, one great harmony, a confederacy of Satan’s forces. ‘And shall give their power and strength unto the beast.’ **Thus is manifested the same arbitrary, oppressive power against religious liberty, freedom to worship God according to the dictates of conscience, as was manifested by the papacy, when in the past it persecuted those who dared to refuse to conform with the religious rites and ceremonies of Romanists.**” *Selected Messages*, book 3, 392.

THE SPECIAL RESURRECTION

And after three days and an half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them. Revelation 11:11.

THE SECOND COMING

And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them. Revelation 11:12.

THE SEVENTH PLAGUE

And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven. Revelation 11:13.

“That voice shakes the heavens and the earth. There is a **mighty earthquake**, ‘such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an **earthquake**, and so great.’ Verses 17, 18. The firmament appears to open and shut. The glory from the throne of God seems flashing through. The mountains shake like a reed in the wind, and ragged rocks are scattered on every side. There is a roar as of a coming tempest. The sea is lashed into fury. There is heard the shriek of a hurricane like the voice of demons upon a mission of destruction. The whole earth heaves and swells like the waves of the sea. Its surface is breaking up. Its very foundations seem to be giving way. Mountain chains are sinking. Inhabited islands disappear. The seaports that have become like Sodom for wickedness are swallowed up by the angry waters. Babylon the great has come in remembrance before God, ‘to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath.’ Great hailstones, every one ‘about the weight of a talent,’ are doing their work of destruction. Verses 19, 21. The proudest cities of the earth are laid low. The lordly palaces, upon which the world’s great men have lavished their wealth in order to glorify themselves, are crumbling to ruin before their eyes. Prison walls are rent asunder, and God’s people, who have been held in bondage for their faith, are set free.

“**Graves are opened**, and ‘many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth. . . awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.’ Daniel 12:2. All who have died in the faith of the third angel’s message come forth from the tomb glorified, to hear God’s covenant of peace with those who have kept His law. ‘They also which pierced Him’ (Revelation 1:7), those that mocked and derided Christ’s dying agonies, and the most violent opposers of His truth and His people, are raised to behold Him in His glory and to see the honor placed upon the loyal and obedient.” *The Great Controversy*, 637.

VOICES, THUNDER, LIGHTENING AND AN EARTHQUAKE

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 thunders, and lightnings, and an earthquake. Revelation 8:5.

SINAI

“The contrast of this morning’s scene with that of Sinai was marked. Then the millions of people gathered before the mountain whose lofty peaks seemed to reach to the very heavens. The **lightnings** flashed, and the groaning, muttering **thunders**, like supernatural voices filled the air, and **God’s voice** was heard in **trumpet**-like tones by all the congregation. Moses was commanded to come up and talk with God. He obeyed the mandate, and climbed far up the solitary heights, and God talked with him. On the morning of the third day a thick cloud began to cover the mountain, increasing in denseness every moment, while its billowy form surged violently. **The earth shook** and trembled as if convulsed, and the **thunder** peals were caught up in reverberations from peak to peak, far and near. The stately tread of the Lord Jehovah and of his Son was upon that mountain. At intervals, between the bursts of **the thunder were sounds as of a trumpet** swelling louder and louder till it rose above the war of the elements.” *Signs of the Times*, December 11, 1879.

1844: THE OPENING OF JUDGMENT

“The Kingdoms of this world are **soon to become the kingdoms of our Lord**. ‘The seventh angel sounded, and there were great **voices** in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ; and He shall reign forever and ever.’ There is to be a rapid and triumphant spread of the gospel. ‘And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in His temple the ark of His testament; and there were **lightnings**, and **voices**, and **thunderings**, and an **earthquake**, and great hail.’” *Battle Creek Letters*, 57.

WHEN GOD SPEAKS

“A crisis had arrived in the government of God. The earth was filled with transgression. The voices of those who had been sacrificed to human envy and hatred were crying beneath the altar for retribution. All heaven was prepared at the word of God to move to the help of his elect. One word from him, and the bolts of heaven would have fallen upon the earth, filling it with fire and flame. God had but to speak, and there would have been **thunderings** and **lightnings** and **earthquakes** and destruction.” *Review and Herald*, July 17, 1900.

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 title 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.