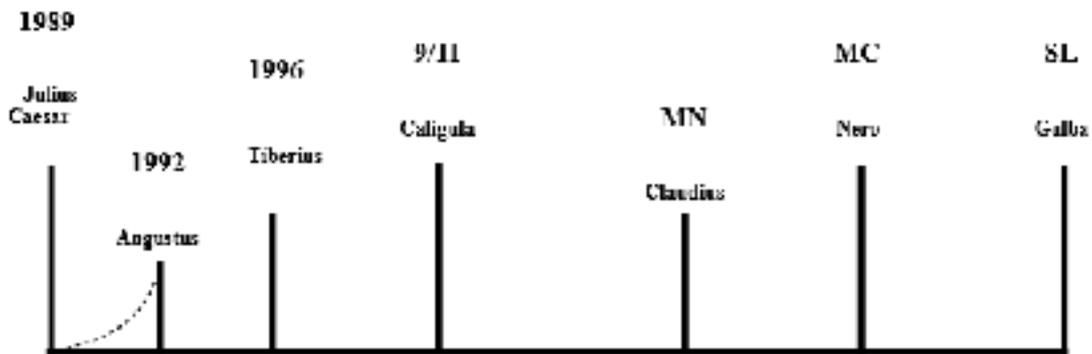


Tidings Out of the East

The First Seven Caesars of Rome — Agabus' Prediction



Julius Caesar - 1989 Collapse of the Soviet Union

- Dan 11:40.
- Last dictator of the Roman Republic and the first in the Julio-Claudian dynasty.

It was the year 44 b. c. when the plans of Julius Caesar were cut short by his untimely death. **Republicanism was so far gone that the government fell into the hands of the strongest men**, those who had military support. {1901 SNH, SDP 213.1}

- Death of the republic under Julius Caesar typifies the USA coming under Rome in 1989.

Augustus Caesar - 1992 Increase of Knowledge

- Luke 2:1-11 Christ birth.
- Matthew 2:1 Wise men.

Tiberius Caesar - 1996 Formalization

- Luke 3:1-10 - John the Baptist.
- Reform/shut door message formalized.

John the Baptist was a reformer. To him was committed a great work for the people of his time. And in preparation for that work, all his habits were carefully regulated, even from his birth. The angel Gabriel was sent from heaven to instruct the parents of John in the principles of health reform. He “shall drink neither wine nor strong drink,” said the heavenly messenger; “and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost.” [Luke 1:15.] {CTBH 38.4}

Caligula - 911

According to [Cassius Dio](#), a financial crisis emerged in AD 39. [\[43\] Suetonius](#) places the beginning of this crisis in 38. [\[44\]](#) Caligula's political payments for support, generosity and extravagance had exhausted the state's treasury. Ancient historians state that Caligula began falsely accusing, fining and even killing individuals for the purpose of seizing their estates...[\[45\]](#)

A brief famine of unknown extent occurred, perhaps caused by this financial crisis, but Suetonius claims it resulted from Caligula's seizure of public carriages;[\[45\]](#) according to Seneca, grain imports were disturbed because Caligula repurposed grain boats for a pontoon bridge. - Wikipedia

- Famine and Financial Crisis in Caligula's time.
- The East Wind brings Famine and Financial crises.
- Exodus 10:13-15 - East wind brings locusts.
- Genesis 41:27, 47:13-21 - East wind and famine.
- Isaiah 23:1, Psalm 48:7, Isaiah 27:8 - Ships of Tarshish broken by the East wind.
- Ships- Financial system Psalms 107:23, Revelation 18:19
- Revelation 8:8 - Genseric 911

Claudius - Midnight

“Soon after his arrival at Corinth, Paul found “a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla.” These were “of the same craft” with himself. **Banished by the decree of Claudius, which commanded all Jews to leave Rome, Aquila and Priscilla had come to Corinth, where they established a business as manufacturers of tents.** Paul made inquiry concerning them, and learning that they feared God and were seeking to avoid the contaminating influences with which they were surrounded, “he abode with them, and wrought.... And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks.” Acts 18:2-4.” - {Acts of the Apostles, pg.349.2}

“**After the ascension of Christ**, the apostles went everywhere preaching the Word. They bore witness to Christ's work as a teacher and healer. Their testimony in Jerusalem, in Rome, and in other places was positive and powerful. **The Jews, who refused to receive the truth**, could but acknowledge that a powerful influence attended Christ's followers, because the Holy Spirit accompanied them. This created greater opposition; but notwithstanding the opposition, twenty years after the crucifixion of Christ there was a live, earnest church in Rome. This church was strong and zealous, and the Lord worked for it. **The envy and rage of the Jews against the Christians knew no bounds**, and the unbelieving residents were constantly **stirred up**. They made complaints that the **Christian Jews were disorderly, and dangerous to the public good**. Constantly they were setting in motion something that would **stir up strife**. **This caused the Christians to be banished from Rome**. Among those banished, were **Aquila and Priscilla**, who went to Corinth, and there established a business as manufacturers of tents. When Paul came to Corinth, he solicited work from Aquila.” - {Review and Herald, March 6, 1900, par. 6} Ascension of Christ - Acts 1:3-10

- Deportation and immigration issues at Midnight.
- Jews (Adventists) will instigate the deportation of the Priests.

Immigration issues in prophecy

- Dark ages.

The history of the dark ages is full of the edicts of emperors and princes, and of the decrees of popes, bishops, and councils, all directed to the one object of establishing the sacredness of Sunday. Miracles, prodigies, and judgments, were not wanting with which to confirm these edicts and decrees. **Banishment**, confiscation of goods, stripes, slavery, the loss of one hand, and then of the other, and the like, were the penalties by which Sunday observance was, by these edicts, forced upon the people. One of these miracles is thus given in Francis West's "Historical and Practical Discourse on the Lord's day." He says: {Sermons on the Sabbath and the Law 151.2}

At what time the Sabbath became the subject of attention in America, we cannot definitely say. The intolerance of the first settlers of New England was unfavorable to the Sabbath. The poor Christian who may have been **banished to this country for its observance could find no refuge among the *Pilgrim Fathers***. The laws of Rhode Island were more tolerant than those of some other States, and observers of the Sabbath first made their appearance at Newport in 1671. The cause of the Sabbath has gradually gained ground in this country from that period; but it has found much to oppose its progress, even in Rhode Island. It was in opposition to the general practice of Christians, on which account an odium was put upon it, and those who have kept the Sabbath have been reproached with Judaizing, and classed with Jews. Besides this, they have ever been subjected to great inconvenience in their occupations, especially in cities and towns. {Refutation of the Claims of Sunday-Keeping to Divine Authority 36.2}

BAN'ISHMENT, *noun* The act of a prince or government, compelling a citizen to leave his country, either for a limited time or forever, as for some crime.

2. A voluntary forsaking of one's country upon oath, called abjuration. [This practice has now ceased in G.Britain.]

3. The state of being banished; exile.

4. The act of driving away or dispelling; as the *banishment* of care from the mind. - Noah Webster's 1828 English Dictionary

- John banished to Patmos where he had Mareh vision.
- Emigres during the French Revolution 1791

"November 9, 1791 The Legislative Assembly issues a decree ordering the émigrés to return to France. Those who won't return by January 1, 1792, will be suspected of conspiracy against France for which the only answer is the death penalty." - {https://emersonkent.com/history/timelines/french_revolution_timeline_1791}

CONSPIRACY, *n.* [L. See Conspire.] 1. **A combination** of men for an evil purpose; an agreement between two or more persons, to commit some crime in concert; particularly, **a combination to commit treason, or excite sedition or insurrection against the government of a state**; a plot; as a conspiracy against the life of a king; a conspiracy against the government. More than forty had made this conspiracy. Acts 23:13. 2. In law, an agreement between two or more persons, falsely and maliciously to indict, or procure to be indicted, an innocent person of felony. 3. A concurrence; a general tendency of two or more causes to one event. Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary of American English

Satan will arouse indignation against the minority who **refuse to accept popular customs and traditions**. Men of position and reputation will join with the **lawless and the vile** to take counsel against the people of God. **Wealth, genius, education, will COMBINE to cover them with contempt.** Persecuting rulers, ministers, and church members will

CONSPIRE against them. With voice and pen, by boasts, threats, and ridicule, they will seek to overthrow their faith. **By false representations and angry appeals**, men will **STIR UP** the passions of the people. Not having a "Thus saith the Scriptures" to bring against the advocates of the Bible Sabbath, they will resort to **oppressive enactments** to supply the lack. To **secure popularity and patronage**, legislators will yield to the demand for **Sunday laws**. But those who fear God, cannot accept an institution that violates a precept of the Decalogue. On this battlefield will be fought the last great conflict in the controversy between truth and error. And we are not left in doubt as to the issue. Today, as in the days of **Esther and Mordecai**, the Lord will vindicate His truth and His people. {PK 605.3}

Sedition at Midnight

The Saviour contrasted His own manner of work with the methods of His accusers. For months they had hunted Him, striving to entrap Him and bring Him before a secret tribunal, where they might obtain by perjury what it was impossible to gain by fair means. Now they were carrying out their purpose. **The midnight seizure by a mob**, the mockery and abuse before He was condemned, or even accused, was their manner of work, not His. Their action was in violation of the law. Their own rules declared that every man should be treated as innocent until proved guilty. By their own rules the priests stood condemned. {DA 699.2}

There were two charges which the priests desired to maintain. If Jesus could be proved a blasphemer, He would be condemned by the Jews. If convicted of **sedition**, it would secure His condemnation by the Romans. The second charge Annas tried first to establish. He questioned Jesus concerning His disciples and His doctrines, hoping the prisoner would say something that would give him material upon which to work. He thought to draw out some statement to prove that He was seeking to establish a secret society, with the purpose of setting up a new kingdom. Then the priests could deliver Him to the Romans as a disturber of the peace and a creator of insurrection. {DA 698.3}

Prediction Before Midnight

Acts 11:27-30 KJV

[27] And in these days came prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch. [28] **And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the Spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar.** [29] Then the disciples, **every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea:** [30] Which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

Agabus

02285. bgx Chagab, khaw-gawb' Search for 02285 in KJV the same as 2284; **locust**;
Chagab, one of the Nethinim:--Hagab.
See Hebrew 02284 (chagab)

- Prediction regarding a worldwide economic crisis at Midnight. This crisis will bear a relation to the activities of Islam.

"In India, China, Russia, and the cities of America, thousands of men and women are dying of starvation. **The monied men, because they have the power, control the market.** They purchase at low rates all they can obtain, and then sell at greatly increased prices. **This means starvation to the poorer classes,** and will result in a civil war. There will be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation. "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, everyone that shall be found written in the book.... 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.”—Manuscript 114, 1899. (General manuscript, untitled, typed August 13, 1899.)” - {Manuscript Releases, vol.5, pg.305.4 }

- Centralization of wealth at Midnight is brought to view in Dan 11:23-29.
- Acts 11:29 identifies that the Jews responded to the prediction by making physical preparation for it.

“The time is fast coming when the controlling power of the labor unions will be very oppressive. **Again and again the Lord has instructed that our people are to take their families away from the cities, into the country, where they can raise their own provisions; for in the future the problem of buying and selling will be a very serious one.** We should now begin to heed the instruction given us over and over again: Get out of the cities into rural districts, where the houses are not crowded !9 closely together, and where you will be free from the interference of enemies.—Letter 5, 1904.” {Country Living, pg.9.5}

Acts 21:8-11 KJV

[8] And the next day we that were of Paul's company departed, and came unto **Caesarea**: and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, which was one of the seven; and abode with him.

[9] And the same man had four daughters, virgins, which did prophesy. [10] And as we **tarried there many days**, there came down from Judaea a certain prophet, named Agabus. [11] And when he was come unto us, he took Paul's **girdle**, and **bound** his own hands and feet, and said, Thus saith the Holy Ghost, **So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.**

- Caesarea is Caesarea Philippi.
 - o Caesarea - “Caesar” - “Emperor” - “Dictator.”
 - o Philippi - “Fond of horses” - Islam.
- “Girdle” - righteousness (Isa 11:5).
- “Bound” - binding off.
- Agabus gives a prediction about the priests being bound off in their righteous characters. This comes in connection with the Jews (SDA) delivering them into the hands of the civil authorities (persecution).

“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, pg.228.2}

Nero - Midnight Cry

- Nero in 66AD
- Matthew 24:15-18
- Nero burnt down the city of Rome.

From the viewpoint of human judgment, Paul's condemnation before such a judge was certain. But the apostle felt that so long as he was loyal to God, he had nothing to fear. The One who in the past had been his protector could shield him still from the malice of the Jews and from the power of Caesar. {AA 486.2}

And God did shield His servant. At Paul's examination the charges against him were not sustained, and, contrary to the general expectation, and with a regard for justice wholly at variance with his character, Nero declared the prisoner guiltless. Paul's bonds were removed; he was again a free man. {AA 486.3}

Had his trial been longer deferred, or had he from any cause been detained in Rome until the following year, he would doubtless have perished in the persecution which then took place. During Paul's imprisonment the converts to Christianity had become so numerous as to attract the attention and arouse the enmity of the authorities. The anger of the emperor was especially excited by the conversion of members of his own household, and he soon found a pretext to make the Christians the objects of his merciless cruelty. {AA 487.1}

About this time a **terrible fire occurred in Rome by which nearly one half of the city was burned.** Nero himself, it was rumored, had caused the flames to be kindled, but to avert suspicion he made a pretense of great generosity by assisting the homeless and destitute. He was, however, accused of the crime. The people were excited and enraged, and in order to clear himself, and also to rid the city of a class whom he feared and hated, **Nero turned the accusation upon the Christians. His device succeeded, and thousands of the followers of Christ--men, women, and children--were cruelly put to death.** {AA 487.2}

- The city was the empire's sanctuary of strength (Dan 11:31).

The power of the empire was committed to the carrying on of the work before mentioned. "And they shall pollute the **sanctuary of strength,**" or **Rome.** If this applies to the barbarians, it was literally fulfilled; for Rome was sacked by the Goths, and Vandals, and the imperial power of the West ceased through the conquest of Rome by Odoacer. Or if it refers to those rulers of the empire who were working in behalf of the papacy against the pagan and all other opposing religions, it would signify the removal of the seat of empire from Rome to Constantinople, which contributed its measure of influence to the downfall of Rome. The passage would then be parallel to Daniel 8:11 and Revelation 13:2. {DAR 254.4}

- America's sanctuary of strength is the U.S. constitution. The constitution is "burnt" when it is abrogated at the MC.

"And he had two horns like a lamb." The lamblike horns indicate youth, innocence, and gentleness, fitly representing the character of the United States when presented to the prophet as "coming up" in 1798. Among the Christian exiles who first fled to America and sought an asylum from royal oppression and priestly intolerance were many who determined to establish a government upon the broad foundation of civil and religious liberty. Their views found place in the Declaration of Independence, which sets forth the great truth that "all men are created equal" and endowed with the inalienable right to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." **And the Constitution guarantees to the people the right of self-government, providing that representatives elected by the popular vote shall enact and administer the laws. Freedom of religious faith was also granted, every man being permitted to worship God according to the dictates of his conscience. Republicanism and Protestantism became the fundamental principles of the nation. These principles are the secret of its power and prosperity.** The oppressed

and downtrodden throughout Christendom have turned to this land with interest and hope. Millions have sought its shores, and the United States has risen to a place among the most powerful nations of the earth. {GC 441.1}

- The burning of Rome paved the way for Nero to falsely accuse the Christians and persecute them. The same will take place following the abrogation of the U.S. constitution at the Midnight Cry.
- Priests persecuted at Midnight and Adventists persecuted at the Midnight Cry (Matt 7:1-2, Isa 33:1).

Reign of Four Emperors - SL

- 70AD; SL.
- Against Greece - Daniel 11:2-4.
- Four winds - Political Strife.

Not long after this, **Nero sailed on his infamous expedition to Greece**, where he disgraced himself and his kingdom by contemptible and debasing frivolity. Returning to Rome with great pomp, he surrounded himself with his courtiers and engaged in scenes of revolting debauchery. In the midst of this revelry a voice of tumult in the streets was heard. **A messenger dispatched to learn the cause, returned with the appalling news that Galba**, at the head of an army, was marching rapidly upon Rome, that insurrection had already broken out in the city, and that the streets were filled with an enraged mob, which, threatening death to the emperor and all his supporters, was rapidly approaching the palace.” - {Acts of the Apostles, pg.496.2, 3}

The Year of the Four Emperors was a year in the history of the Roman Empire, AD 69, in which four emperors ruled in succession: **Galba, Otho, Vitellius, and Vespasian**. The suicide of emperor Nero, in 68, was followed by a brief period of **civil war, the first Roman civil war since Mark Antony's death in 30 BC**. Between June of 68 and December of 69, Rome witnessed the successive rise and fall of Galba, Otho, and Vitellius until the final accession of Vespasian, first of the Imperial Flavian dynasty, in July 69. The social, military and political upheavals of the period had Empire-wide repercussions, which included the outbreak of the Batavian rebellion. - Wikipedia

- Civil War is marked at the SL as a civil war took place in the year of four emperors.
- Civil war also marked at the Midnight Cry as Daniel 11:23-29 locates the death of Mark Antony at the Midnight Cry.
- Vespasian ruled from 69 - 79 AD. He was the emperor whose son (Titus) destroyed Jerusalem in 70 AD.