

# Habakkuk's Two Tables #41

PART SIX: 1989

## REPEAT AND ENLARGE

Daniel 8:1–2

**FIRST: H8462**—in the sense of *opening; a commencement*; relatively *original* (adverbially *originally*):—begin (-ning), first (time).

Daniel 7:1–2

## TWO VISIONS

### THE CHAZON

Daniel **8:15**, 16–19, 26–27; 1–2

### THE MAREH

Daniel 8:26, 14, **16**

### THE TIME APPOINTED & THE TIME OF THE END

1798

So he came near where I stood: and when he came, I was afraid, and fell upon my face: but he said unto me, Understand, O son of man: for **at the time of the end shall be** the [**chazon**] vision. Daniel 8:17.

1844

And he said, Behold, I will make thee know what shall be in the last end of the indignation: for at the **time appointed** the end *shall be*. Daniel 8:19.

Isaiah 26:20–21; 30:27–33; Zephaniah 3:8; Revelation 14:9–11

Deuteronomy 29:25–29; Isaiah 10:5–6; Lamentations 2:1–9; Ezekiel 22:23–31; Daniel 11:36; Zechariah 1:12

He shall enter peaceably even upon the fattest places of the province; and he shall do *that* which his fathers have not done, nor his fathers' fathers; he shall scatter among them the prey, and spoil, and riches: *yea*, and he shall forecast his devices against the strong holds, even for a **time**. Daniel 11:24.

**TIME: H6256**—From **H5703**; *time*. **H5703**—From **H5710**; properly a (peremptory) *terminus*, that is, (by implication) *duration*, in the sense of *perpetuity* (substantially as a noun, either with or without a preposition).

## GOD'S HELPING HAND

“The Lord calls for workers to enter the canvassing field that the books containing the light of present truth may be circulated. The people in the world need to know that the signs of the times are fulfilling. Take to them the books that will enlighten them. *Daniel and Revelation, The Great Controversy, Patriarchs and Prophets, and The Desire of Ages* should now go to the world. The grand instruction contained in *Daniel and Revelation* has been eagerly perused by many in Australia. This book has been the means of bringing many precious souls to a knowledge of the truth. Everything that can be done should be done to circulate *Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation*. I know of no other book that can take the place of this one. **It is God's helping hand.**

“Those who have been long in the truth are asleep. They need to be sanctified by the Holy Spirit. The third angel's message is to be proclaimed with a loud voice. Tremendous issues are before us. We have no time to lose. God forbid that we should allow minor matters to eclipse the light which should be given to the world.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 21, 444.

“The usual manner in which nations had, before the days of Rome, entered upon valuable provinces and rich territory, was by war and conquest. Rome was now to do what had not been done by the fathers or the fathers' fathers; namely, receive these acquisitions through peaceful means. The custom, before unheard of, was now inaugurated, of kings' leaving by legacy their kingdoms to the Romans. Rome came into possession of large provinces in this manner.

“And those who thus came under the dominion of Rome derived no small advantage therefrom. They were treated with kindness and leniency. It was like having the prey and spoil distributed among them. They were protected from their enemies, and rested in peace and safety under the aegis of the Roman power.

“To the latter portion of this verse, Bishop Newton gives the idea of forecasting devices **from strongholds**, instead of against them. This the Romans did from the strong fortress of their seven-hilled city. ‘Even for a time;’ doubtless a prophetic time, 360 years. From what point are these years to be dated? Probably from the event brought to view in the following verse.

“‘VERSE 25. And he shall stir up his power and his courage against the king of the south with a great army; and the king of the south shall be stirred up to battle with a very great and mighty army; but he shall not stand: for they shall forecast devices against him.’

“By verses 23 and 24 we are brought down this side of the league between the Jews and the Romans, B.C. 161, to the time when Rome had acquired universal dominion. The verse now before us brings to view a vigorous campaign against the king of the south, Egypt, and the occurrence of a notable battle between great and mighty armies. Did such events as these transpire in the history of Rome about this time?—They did. This was the war between Egypt and Rome; and the battle was **the battle of Actium**. . . .

“The battle was fought September 2, **B.C.31**, at the mouth of the gulf of Ambracia, near the city of Actium. The world was the stake for which these stern warriors, **Antony and Caesar**, now played. The contest, long doubtful, was at length decided by the course which Cleopatra pursued; for she, frightened at the din of battle, took to flight when there was no danger, and drew after her the whole Egyptian fleet. Antony, beholding this movement, and lost to everything but his blind passion for her, precipitately followed, and yielded a victory to Caesar, which, had his Egyptian forces proved true to him, and had he proved true to his own manhood, he might have gained.

“This battle doubtless marks the commencement of the ‘**time**’ mentioned in verse 24. And as during this ‘time’ devices were to be forcast from the stronghold, or Rome, we should conclude that at the end of that period western supremacy would cease, or such a change take place in the empire that the city would no longer be considered the seat of government. From **B.C.31, a prophetic time, or 360 years, would bring us to A.D.330**. And it hence becomes a noteworthy fact that the seat of empire was removed from Rome to Constantinople by Constantine the Great in that very year. (See *Encyclopedia Americana*, art. Constantinople.) . . .

“‘VERSE 29. At the **time appointed** he shall return, and come toward the south; but it shall not be as the former, or as the latter.’

“The **time appointed** is probably **the prophetic time of verse 24**, which has been previously mentioned. It closed, as already shown, in **A.D.330**, at which time this power was to return and come again toward the south, but not as on the former occasion, when it went to Egypt, nor as the latter, when it went to Judea. Those were expeditions which resulted in conquest and glory. This one led to demoralization and ruin. **The removal of the seat of empire to Constantinople was the signal for the downfall of the empire**. Rome then lost its prestige. The western division was exposed to the incursions of foreign enemies. On the death of Constantine, the Roman empire was divided into three parts, between his three sons, Constantius, Constantine II, and Constans. Constantine II and Constans quarreled, and Constans, being victor, gained the supremacy of the whole West. He was soon slain by one of his commanders, who, in turn, was shortly after defeated by the surviving emperor, and in despair ended his own days, A.D.353. The barbarians of the North now began their incursions, and extended their conquests till the imperial power of the West expired in A.D.476.

“This was indeed different from the two former movements brought to view in the prophecy; and to this the fatal step of removing the seat of empire from Rome to Constantinople directly led.” Uriah Smith, *Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation*, 273, 275, 279–280.

#### THE TIME APPOINTED

And both these kings’ hearts *shall be* to do mischief, and they shall speak lies at one table; but it shall not prosper: for yet the **end shall be at the time appointed**. Then shall he return into his land with great riches; and his heart *shall be* against the holy covenant; and he shall do *exploits*, and return to his own land. At **the time appointed** he shall return, and come toward the south; but it shall not be as the former, or as the latter. Daniel 11:27–29.

**END: H7093**—Contracted from **H7112**; an **extremity**; adverbially (with prepositional prefix) *after*:— + after, **(utmost) border**, end, [in-] finite, X process.

**APPOINTED: H4150**—properly an *appointment*, that is, a fixed *time* or season.

#### THE TIME OF THE END

**TIME: H6256**—From **H5703**; *time*. **H5703**—From **H5710**; properly a (peremptory) *terminus*, that is, (by implication).

**END: H7093**—Contracted from **H7112**; an **extremity**; adverbially (with prepositional prefix) *after*:— + after, **(utmost) border**, end, [in-] finite, X process.

DANIEL 11:31

“Thus the Gothic horn, the last of the three, was plucked up before the little horn of Daniel 7. Nothing now stood in the way of the pope to prevent his exercising the power conferred upon him by Justinian five years before. The saints, times, and laws were now in his hands, not in purpose only, but in fact. And this must therefore be taken as the year [538] when this abomination was placed, or set up, and as the point from which to date the predicted 1260 years of its supremacy.” Uriah Smith, *Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation*, 289.

DANIEL 11:35

And *some* of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make *them* white, *even* to the **time of the end**: because *it is* yet for a **time appointed**.

**1260 YEARS**

Daniel 7:25; (11:33); 12:7, (11); Revelation 11:2, 3; 12:6, 14: 13:5

DANIEL 11:40

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.

**THE TIME OF THE END**

“But **at the time of the end**, says the prophet, ‘Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.’ Daniel 12:4. . . . **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.

Daniel 8:17; 11:35, 40; 12:4, 9

**WOUNDED TO DEATH?**

And I saw **one of his heads as it were wounded to death**; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. Revelation 13:3.

DANIEL 11:40

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.

## THE EVENTS CONNECTED WITH THE CLOSE OF PROBATION

“Before His crucifixion the Saviour explained to His disciples that He was to be put to death and to rise again from the tomb, and angels were present to impress His words on minds and hearts. But **the disciples were looking for temporal deliverance** from the Roman yoke, and they could not tolerate the thought that He in whom all their hopes centered should suffer an ignominious death. **The words which they needed to remember were banished from their minds;** and when the time of trial came, it found them **unprepared**. The death of Jesus as fully destroyed their hopes as if He had not forewarned them. So **in the prophecies the future is opened before us as plainly as it was opened to the disciples** by the words of Christ. **The events connected with the close of probation and the work of preparation for the time of trouble, are clearly presented.** But multitudes have no more understanding of these important truths than if they had never been revealed. Satan watches to catch away every impression that would make them wise unto salvation, and the time of trouble will find them unready.” *The Great Controversy*, 595.

“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.’ Daniel 12:1.

“When the third angel’s message closes, mercy no longer pleads for the guilty inhabitants of the earth. The people of God have accomplished their work. They have received ‘the latter rain,’ ‘the refreshing from the presence of the Lord,’ and they are prepared for the trying hour before them. Angels are hastening to and fro in heaven. An angel returning from the earth announces that his work is done; the final test has been brought upon the world, and all who have proved themselves loyal to the divine precepts have received ‘the seal of the living God.’ Then Jesus ceases His intercession in the sanctuary above. He lifts His hands and with a loud voice says, ‘It is done;’ and all the angelic host lay off their crowns as He makes the solemn announcement: ‘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 22:11. Every case has been decided for life or death.” *The Great Controversy*, 613.

## WARNINGS

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

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

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

#### MILLER & JOHN

“With trembling, **William Miller** began to unfold to the people the mysteries of the kingdom of God, carrying his hearers down through the prophecies to the second advent of Christ. With every effort he gained strength. As **John the Baptist** heralded the first advent of Jesus and prepared the way for His coming, so William Miller and those who joined with him proclaimed the second advent of the Son of God.” *Early Writings*, 229–230.

#### MILLER

“It was needful that men should be awakened to their danger; that they should be roused to prepare for **the solemn events connected with the close of probation.**” *The Great Controversy*, 310.

#### JOHN

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, **who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?** Matthew 3:7.

“Christ saw in Jerusalem **a symbol of the world hardened in unbelief and rebellion, and hastening on to meet the retributive judgments of God.** The woes of a fallen race, pressing upon His soul, forced from His lips that exceeding bitter cry. He saw the record of sin traced in human misery, tears, and blood; His heart was moved with infinite pity for the afflicted and suffering ones of earth; He yearned to relieve them all. But even His hand might not turn back the tide of human woe; few would seek their only Source of help. He was willing to pour out His soul unto death, to bring salvation within their reach; but few would come to Him that they might have life.

“The Majesty of heaven in tears! the Son of the infinite God troubled in spirit, bowed down with anguish! The scene filled all heaven with wonder. That scene reveals to us the exceeding sinfulness of sin; it shows how hard a task it is, even for Infinite Power, to save the guilty from the consequences of transgressing the law of God. **Jesus, looking down to the last generation, saw the world involved in a deception similar to that which caused the destruction of Jerusalem.** The great sin of the Jews was their rejection of Christ; the great sin of the Christian world would be their rejection of the law of God, the foundation of His government in heaven and earth. The precepts of Jehovah would be despised and set at nought. Millions in bondage to sin, slaves of Satan, doomed to suffer the second death, would refuse to listen to the words of truth in their day of visitation. Terrible blindness! strange infatuation!” *The Great Controversy*, 22.

#### THE JUDGMENT MESSAGE OF DANIEL

“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. As the disciples were mistaken in regard to **the kingdom to be set up** at the end of the seventy weeks, so Adventists were mistaken **in regard to the event** to take place at the expiration of the 2300 days. In both cases there was an acceptance of, or rather an adherence to, popular errors that blinded the mind to the truth. Both classes fulfilled the will of God in delivering the message which He desired to be given, and both, through their own misapprehension of their message, suffered disappointment.” *The Great Controversy*, 353.

“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 ‘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. And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do *exploits*. And they that understand among the people shall instruct many: yet they shall fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, *many* days. Now when they shall fall, they shall be holpen with a little help: but many shall cleave to them with flatteries. And *some* of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, *even* to the time of the end: because *it is* yet for a time appointed. And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done.’ **Daniel 11:30–36.**

**“Scenes similar to those described in these words will take place.** We see evidence that Satan is fast obtaining the control of human minds who have not the fear of God before them. Let all read and understand the prophecies of this book, for we are now entering upon the time of trouble spoken of:

“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. And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame *and* everlasting contempt. 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.’ Daniel 12:1–4.” *Manuscript Releases*, number 13, 394.