

Habakkuk's Two Tables #46

PART SIX: 1989

THE SIDES OF THE NORTH

Isaiah 14:12–17; Psalm 48

“The determination of **antichrist** to carry out **the rebellion he began in heaven** will continue to work in the children of disobedience.” *Testimonies*, volume 9, 230.

“To secure worldly gains and honors, the church was led to seek the favor and support of the great men of earth; and having thus rejected Christ, she was induced to yield allegiance to **the representative of Satan—the bishop of Rome.**” *The Great Controversy*, 50.

“**Through the pope of Rome the same work has been carried on here on earth as was carried on in the courts of heaven** before the expulsion of the prince of darkness. Satan sought to correct the law of God in heaven, and to supply an amendment of his own. He exalted his own judgment above that of his Creator, and placed his will above the will of Jehovah, and in this way virtually declared God to be fallible. The pope also takes the same course and, claiming infallibility for himself, seeks to adjust the law of God to meet his own ideas, thinking himself able to correct the mistakes he thinks he sees in the statutes and commands of the Lord of heaven and earth. He virtually says to the world, I will give you better laws than those of Jehovah. What an insult is this to the God of heaven!” *Signs of the Times*, November 19, 1894.

“This compromise between paganism and Christianity resulted in the development of ‘the man of sin’ foretold in prophecy as opposing and exalting himself above God. **That gigantic system of false religion** is a masterpiece of Satan’s power—a **monument of his efforts to seat himself upon the throne to rule the earth according to his will.**” *The Great Controversy*, 50.

UNITES WITH THE DRAGON

“Satan will work the miracles to deceive those who dwell upon the earth. Spiritualism will do its work by causing the dead to be personated. Those religious bodies who refuse to hear God’s messages of warning will be under strong deception, and will unite with the civil power to persecute the saints. The Protestant churches will unite with the papal power in persecuting the commandment-keeping people of God. This is that power which constitutes the great system of persecution which will exercise spiritual tyranny over the consciences of men.

“‘He had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.’ Though professing to be followers of the Lamb of God, men become imbued with the spirit of the dragon. They profess to be meek and humble but they speak and legislate with the spirit of Satan, showing by their actions that they are the opposite of what they profess to be. This lamb-like power **unites with the dragon** in making war upon those who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ. And **Satan unites with Protestants and papists, acting in consort with them as the god of this world,**

dictating to men as if they were the subjects of his kingdom, to be handled and governed and controlled as he pleases.

“If men will not agree to trample underfoot the commandments of God, the spirit of the dragon is revealed. They are imprisoned, brought before councils, and fined. ‘He causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads’ [Revelation 13:16]. ‘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’ [verse 15]. Thus Satan usurps the prerogatives of Jehovah. **The man of sin sits in the seat of God, proclaiming himself to be God, and acting above God.**” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 14, 162.

“Fearful sights of a supernatural character will soon be revealed in the heavens, in token of the power of miracle-working demons. The spirits of devils will go forth to the kings of the earth and to the whole world, to fasten them in deception, and urge them on to unite with Satan in his last struggle against the government of heaven. By these agencies, rulers and subjects will be alike deceived. Persons will arise pretending to be Christ Himself, and claiming the title and worship which belong to the world’s Redeemer. They will perform wonderful miracles of healing and will profess to have revelations from heaven contradicting the testimony of the Scriptures.

“**As the crowning act in the great drama of deception, Satan himself will personate Christ.** The church has long professed to look to the Saviour’s advent as the consummation of her hopes. Now the great deceiver will make it appear that Christ has come. In different parts of the earth, Satan will manifest himself among men as a majestic being of dazzling brightness, resembling the description of the Son of God given by John in the Revelation. Revelation 1:13–15. **The glory that surrounds him is unsurpassed by anything that mortal eyes have yet beheld.** The shout of triumph rings out upon the air: ‘Christ has come! Christ has come!’ The people prostrate themselves in adoration before him, while he lifts up his hands and pronounces a blessing upon them, as Christ blessed His disciples when He was upon the earth. His voice is soft and subdued, yet full of melody. In gentle, compassionate tones he presents some of the same gracious, heavenly truths which the Saviour uttered; he heals the diseases of the people, and then, in his assumed character of Christ, **he claims to have changed the Sabbath to Sunday, and commands all to hallow the day which he has blessed.** He declares that those who persist in keeping holy the seventh day are blaspheming his name by refusing to listen to his angels sent to them with light and truth. This is the strong, almost overmastering delusion. Like the Samaritans who were deceived by Simon Magus, the multitudes, from the least to the greatest, give heed to these sorceries, saying: This is ‘the great power of God.’ Acts 8:10.

“But the people of God will not be misled. The teachings of this false christ are not in accordance with the Scriptures. His blessing is pronounced upon the worshipers of the beast and his image, the very class upon whom the Bible declares that God’s unmingled wrath shall be poured out.” *The Great Controversy*, 624–625.

“As the second appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ draws near, satanic agencies are moved from beneath. Satan will not only appear as a human being, but **he will personate Jesus Christ**; and the world that has rejected the truth will receive him as the Lord of lords and King of kings. He will exercise his power, and work upon the human imagination. He will corrupt both the minds and the bodies of men, and will work through the children of disobedience, fascinating and charming, as does a serpent. What a spectacle will the world be for heavenly intelligences! What a spectacle for God, the Creator of the world, to behold!” *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, volume 5, 1105.

PERSONATE: To represent by a fictitious or assumed character so as to pass for the person represented. *Webster's 1828 Dictionary*.

REVELATION 13:11–13

“Many endeavor to account for spiritual manifestations by attributing them wholly to fraud and sleight of hand on the part of the medium. But while it is true that the results of trickery have often been palmed off as genuine manifestations, there have been, also, marked exhibitions of supernatural power. The mysterious rapping with which modern spiritualism began was not the result of human trickery or cunning, but was the direct work of evil angels, who thus introduced one of the most successful of soul-destroying delusions. Many will be ensnared through the belief that spiritualism is a merely human imposture; when brought face to face with manifestations which they cannot but regard as supernatural, they will be deceived, and will be led to accept them as the great power of God.

“These persons overlook the testimony of the Scriptures concerning the wonders wrought by Satan and his agents. It was by **satanic aid that Pharaoh's magicians were enabled to counterfeit the work of God**. Paul testifies that before the second advent of Christ there will be similar manifestations of satanic power. The coming of the Lord is to be preceded by ‘the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness.’ 2 Thessalonians 2:9,10. And the apostle John, describing the miracle-working power that will be manifested in the last days, declares: ‘He doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, and deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do.’ Revelation 13:13, 14. No mere impostures are here foretold. Men are deceived by the miracles which **Satan's agents have power to do**, not which they pretend to do.” *The Great Controversy*, 553.

PENTECOST

“The work will be similar to that of the Day of Pentecost. . . .

“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.

“Servants of God, with their faces lighted up and shining with holy consecration, will hasten from place to place to proclaim the message from heaven. By thousands of voices, all over the earth, the warning will be given. Miracles will be wrought, the sick will be healed, and signs and wonders will follow the believers. **Satan also works, with lying wonders, even bringing down fire from heaven in the sight of men. Revelation 13:13.** Thus **the inhabitants of the earth** will be brought to take their stand.” *The Great Controversy*, 611–612.

WHEN

“**By the decree** enforcing the institution of the Papacy in violation of the law of God, **our nation will disconnect herself fully from righteousness.** **When** Protestantism shall stretch her hand across the gulf to grasp the hand of the Roman power, **when** she shall reach over the abyss to clasp hands with Spiritualism, **when**, under the influence of this threefold union, our country shall repudiate every principle of its Constitution as a Protestant and republican government, and shall make provision for the propagation of papal falsehoods and delusions, **then** we may know that **the time has come for the marvelous working of Satan and that the end is near.**” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 451.

“**The time is coming when Satan will work miracles right in your sight, claiming that he is Christ;** and if your feet are not firmly established upon the truth of God, then you will be led away from your foundation. The only safety for you is to search for truth as for hid treasures. Dig for the truth as you would for treasures in the earth, and present the word of God, the Bible, before your Heavenly Father and say, Enlighten me; teach me what is truth. . . . You should store the mind with the word of God; for you may be separated, and placed where you will not have the privilege of meeting with the children of God.

“None need be deceived. The law of God is as sacred as His throne, and by it every man who cometh into the world is to be judged. There is no other standard by which to test character. ‘If they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.’ Now, shall the case be decided according to the Word of God, or shall man’s pretensions be credited?

“Says Christ, ‘By their fruits ye shall know them.’ If those through whom cures are performed, are disposed, on account of these manifestations, to excuse their neglect of the law of God and continue in disobedience, though they have power to any and every extent, it does not follow that they have the great power of God. On the contrary, it is the miracle-working power of the great deceiver. He is a transgressor of the moral law, and employs every device that he can master to blind men to its true character. We are warned that in the last days he will work with signs and lying wonders. **And he will continue these wonders until the close of probation, that he may point to them as evidence that he is an angel of light and not of darkness.**

“Satan will work his miracles to deceive; he will set up his power as supreme. **The church may appear as about to fall, but it does not fall.** It remains, while the sinners in Zion will be sifted out—the chaff separated from the precious wheat. This is a terrible ordeal, but nevertheless it must take place. None but those who have been overcoming by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony will be found with the loyal and true, without spot or stain of sin, without guile in their mouths. . . . The remnant that purify their souls by obeying the truth gather strength from the trying process, exhibiting the beauty of holiness amid the surrounding apostasy.” *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, volume 7, 911.

NEVER AGAIN

“‘God’s people are rising,’ said the angel, ‘never to fall again.’ ‘Be careful,’ said the angel, ‘lest the branches be cut off and others are raised up in their stead.’” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 18, 11.

THE BATTLE OF ZION AND BABYLON (FIRST AND LAST)

Revelation 1:8; Daniel 1:1–2; Daniel 11:44–12:1

THE DAUGHTER OF ZION

Jeremiah 6:22–23; Micah 4 (verse 11); Psalm 48:1–8; 83:1–5

BETWEEN THE SEAS

Joel: 2:20

HE REMAINS AT NOB

Isaiah 10:24–27, 32–34

NOB: Mount Scopus, the northernmost summit of the Mount of Olives, about two miles northeast of Jerusalem.

THE ENTRY OF THE EAST GATE

Jeremiah 19

TOPHET: “to burn”, “fireplace”. Where Israel burned their children to Molech.

TOPHET IS ORDAINED OF OLD

Isaiah 30:31–33

ROUND ABOUT JERUSALEM

Joel 2:28–3:21

JEHOSHAPHAT: “Yaweh judges”. The Kidron valley, between Jerusalem and the mount of Olives.

MOUNT PERAZIM (1 CHRONICLES 14:9–17; 2 SAMUEL 5:17–20)

Isaiah 28:21–22

GIBEON: six miles northwest of Jerusalem.