

Habakkuk's Two Tables #52

PART SIX: 1989

Daniel 11:14

“Need I, then, tell my hearers that history tells us that Alexander conquered the then known world in about six years, and that he died 323 years B. C. at Babylon; that his kingdom was divided among his greatest generals, from which division arose four great kingdoms, Egypt in the south, Persia in the east, Syria in the north, and Macedonia in the west, which kingdoms lasted until conquered by the Romans? Between the years 190 and 30 B. C. nearly all these kingdoms became Roman provinces. From Daniel 11:5, 13, inclusive, we have a prophecy of the two principal kingdoms out of these four—Egypt and Syria; and anyone who may have the curiosity to see the exact agreement between the prophecy and history, can read *Rollin's Ancient History*, where he has not only given us the history, but applied this prophecy. And as I see no reason to disagree from him in his application of these texts, I shall, therefore, for brevity's sake, pass over these texts, and examine the text, Daniel 11:14, ‘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.’ The king of the south, in this verse, without any doubt, means king of Egypt; but what the robbers of thy people means remains yet a doubt perhaps to some. That it cannot mean Antiochus, or any king of Syria, it is plain; for the angel had been talking about that nation for a number of verses previous, and now says, ‘also the robbers of thy people,’ etc., evidently implying some other nation.” William Miller, *William Miller's Works*, volume 2, 89.

Daniel 10:14

“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*, 280.

““VERSE 12. And the fourth angel wounded, 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.”

“We understand that this trumpet symbolizes the career of Odoacer, the barbarian monarch who was so intimately connected with the downfall of Western Rome. The symbols sun, moon, and stars—for they are undoubtedly here used as symbols—evidently denote the great luminaries of the Roman government,—its emperors, senators, and consuls. Bishop Newton remarks that the last emperor of Western Rome was Romulus, who in derision was called Augustulus, or the ‘diminutive Augustus.’ Western Rome fell A.D. 476. Still, however, though the Roman sun was extinguished, its subordinate luminaries shone faintly while the senate and consuls continued. But after many civil reverses and changes of political fortune, at length, A.D. 566, the whole form of the ancient government was subverted, and Rome itself was reduced from being the empress of the world to a poor dukedom tributary to the Exarch of Ravenna.” Uriah Smith, *Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation*, 487.

“**God has warned His people of the perils before them.** John beholds the things which will be in the last days, and he sees a people working counter to God. **Read Revelation 12:17; 14:10–13, and chapters 17 and 13.** John sees the company who have been deceived. He says, ‘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.**’” *Manuscript Release*, number 17, 18.

“The powers of Satan are mustering for battle. Stern conflicts are before us. Press together, my brethren and sisters, press together. Bind up with Christ. ‘Say ye not, A Confederacy; . . . neither fear ye their fear, nor be afraid. Sanctify the Lord of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. And he shall be for a sanctuary to his people; but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. And many among them shall stumble, and fall, and be broken, and be snared, and be taken.’

“I am instructed to say to those who know the truth, ‘Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples. And I will wait upon the Lord, that hideth his face from the house of Jacob, and I will look for him. Behold, I and the children whom the Lord hath given me are for signs and for wonders in Israel from the Lord of hosts, which dwelleth in Mount Zion. And when they shall say unto you, seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter; should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead? To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.’

“‘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,’—without the robe of Christ’s righteousness—‘and they see his shame.’

“Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God. The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.’

“These subjects are of the utmost importance. Urge our people to consider them carefully. When they do this, their minds will be so fully occupied with matters of eternal consequence that they will lose sight of the little differences that once annoyed them. **They will realize that prophecy is even now fulfilling.** If the minds of the people of God were not occupied with things of minor consequence, **they would see** that the signs of the times are fast fulfilling, and that **events** of the greatest consequence to them are taking place in the world and in the churches pointed out by the words, ‘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.’

“Let us cease the conversation that is so unprofitable, and spend our time learning lessons from the Word of God. Christ has told us that we are to be united in love. This is the lesson we are to learn. We are to close the door to all disparaging of one another and exalting of self.” *Bible Training School*, December 1, 1902.

REVELATION 16:12–13

JUDGES 6:3; 7:12

Midian: *strife*. Descendant of **Abraham** from Keturah. Amal: *trouble*. Descendant of Esau. The children of the east, (plural). Descendant of Ishmael associated with Balaam.

NEHEMIAH 2:19

Sanballat the Horonite: A **Moabite**. Tobiah the **Ammonite**. Geshem the Arabian: *born in the rainy season*. Descendant of Ishmael. Arabians are a family of tribes, (plural).

NUMBERS 22:4–5

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

JOHN 19:19–20

Hebrew: *one from the other side*, a descendant of **Shem**, (**Abraham’s lineage**)

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

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

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.

ESCAPE: 4422—to be smooth, i.e. (by impl.) to escape (as if by slipperiness); **to release** or **rescue**; to bring forth young, emit sparks: –deliver (self), escape, lay, leap out, let alone, let go, preserve, save.

“The law of God cannot be made void by the law of a nation. **When** the law is **trampled** in the dust, the sacredness of the commandments of God will be vindicated by those who are loyal to Him. We are to make no railing accusation against the nations, for this would close our way so that we could not set the light before the people. Every objection raised against the commandments of God will make a way for the advancement of truth and enable its advocates to present its value before men. **There is a beauty and force in the truth that nothing can make so apparent as opposition and persecution. When this is revealed, many will be converted** to the truth.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 12, 141–142.

“The work of the Holy Spirit is to convince the world of **sin**, of **righteousness** and of **judgment**. The **world can only be warned** by **seeing** those who believe the truth sanctified through the truth, acting upon high and holy principles, showing in a high, elevated sense, **the line of demarcation between those who keep the commandments of God, and those who trample them under their feet**. The sanctification of the Spirit signalizes the difference between **those who have the seal of God**, and those who keep a spurious rest-day. When the test comes, it will be clearly shown what the mark of the beast is. It is the keeping of Sunday. Those who after having heard the truth, continue to regard this day as holy, bear the signature of the man of sin, who thought to change times and laws.” *Bible Training School*, December 1, 1903.

Ezekiel 20:33–42; 28:25–26; 36:22–28; 38:14–23; Isaiah 4:1–4; 44:21–23; 45:25; 46:8–13

THE CLOSED DOOR

“More and more, as the days go by, it is becoming apparent that God’s judgments are in the world. In fire and flood and earthquake He is warning the inhabitants of this earth of His near approach. The time is nearing when the great crisis in the history of the world will have come, when every movement in the government of God will be watched with intense interest and inexpressible apprehension. **In quick succession** the judgments of God will follow one another—fire and flood and earthquake, with war and bloodshed.

“**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**.

“The mercy of God is shown in His long forbearance. He is holding back His judgments, waiting for the message of warning to be sounded to all. Oh, if our people would feel as they should the responsibility resting upon them to give the last message of mercy to the world, what a wonderful work would be done!” *Testimonies*, volume 9, 97.

INTO THE FOLD

“**Probationary time** will not continue much longer. Now God is withdrawing his restraining hand from the earth. Long has he been speaking to men and women through the agency of his Holy Spirit; but they have not heeded the call. Now he is speaking to his people, and to the world, by his judgments. The time of these judgments is a time of mercy for those who have not yet had 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. Large numbers will be admitted to the fold of safety who in these last days will hear the truth for the first time.” *Review and Herald*, November 22, 1906.

And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd. John 10:16.

OTHERS GATHERED—ISAIAH 56:8

THE OUTCASTS OF ISRAEL—ISAIAH 11:2

VACANCY

“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 places 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 become deficient in doing the ways and will of God, while those who have great light, have, through perversity of their own natural hearts, turned away from Christ because displeased with the requirements.

“But God will not be left without witness. The one-hour labourers will be brought in at the eleventh hour, and will consecrate 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. . . .

“Great is the work of the Lord. Men are choosing sides. Even **those supposed to be heathen** will choose the side of Christ, while those who become offended, as did the disciples, will go away and **walk** no more with Him. And **others will come in and occupy the place they have left vacant**. The time is very near when man shall have reached the prescribed limits. . . . The record of their works in the books of heaven is **‘Weighed in the balances, and found wanting.’**” *Testimonies to Southern Africa*, 50–51.

WE KNOW

“We know that unconsecrated Seventh-day Adventists, who have a knowledge of the truth, but who have linked themselves with worldlings will depart entirely from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits. The enemy will gladly hold out inducements to them, to lead them to carry on a warfare against the people of God. But those who are true and steadfast will have a strong and powerful defense in God.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 7, 186.

THE SABBATH

“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.” *A Word to the Little Flock*, 18–19.

THE LITTLE TIME OF TROUBLE

“1. On page 33 is given the following: ‘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. I saw that God had children who do not see and keep the Sabbath. They have not rejected the light upon 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 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.

WHEN/THEN

“**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.

LOTS DESCENDANTS IN SYMBOL

But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. **Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.** Luke 17:29–30.

“Servants of God, endowed with power from on high, with their faces lighted up, and shining with holy consecration, went forth to proclaim the message from heaven. Souls that were scattered all through **the religious bodies** answered to the call, and the precious were hurried out of the doomed churches, **as Lot was hurried out** of Sodom before her destruction.” *Early Writings*, 278–279.

2 CHRONICLES 20:20–23

Isaiah 11:10–16; Daniel 11:41