

# Habakkuk's Two Tables #53

PART SIX: 1989

## AMOS 3:7

### 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.

#### MOAB AND AMMON

“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

#### HANDS

“When our nation shall so abjure the principles of its government as to enact a Sunday law, Protestantism will in this act **join hands** with popery.” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 712.

“How the Roman Church can clear herself from the charge of idolatry we cannot see. . . . And this is the religion which Protestants are beginning to look upon with so much favor, and will eventually be united with Protestantism. This union will not, however, be effected by a change in Catholicism; for **Rome never changes**. She claims infallibility. It is Protestantism that will change. The adoption of liberal ideas on its part will bring it where it can **clasp the hand** of Catholicism.” *Review and Herald*, June 1, 1886.

“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.

## STEPS

“The Protestants of the United States will be foremost in **stretching their hands** across the gulf **to grasp the hand** of Spiritualism; they will reach over the abyss **to clasp hands** with the Roman power; and under the influence of this **threefold union**, **this country will follow in the steps** of Rome **in trampling** on the rights of conscience.” *The Great Controversy*, 588.

“In the movements now in progress in the United States to secure for the institutions and usages of the church the support of the state, Protestants are following **in the steps** of papists. Nay, more, they are opening the door for the Papacy to regain in Protestant America the supremacy which she has lost in the Old World.” *The Great Controversy*, 573.

Can two walk together, except they be agreed? Amos 3:3.

## THE CHRISTIAN THEATRE

“In the great conflict between faith and unbelief, **the whole Christian world** will be involved.” *Review and Herald*, February 7, 1893.

“Before the final visitation of God’s judgments upon the earth there will be among the people of the Lord such a revival of primitive godliness as has not been witnessed since apostolic times. The Spirit and power of God will be poured out upon His children. At that time many will separate themselves from **those churches** in which the love of the world has supplanted love for God and His Word. Many, both ministers and people, will gladly accept those great truths which God has caused to be proclaimed at this time to prepare a people for the Lord’s second coming. . . . Under a religious guise, Satan will seek to extend his influence over **the Christian world**.” *The Great Controversy*, 464.

“The **so-called Christian world** is to be the theater of great and decisive actions.” *Selected Messages*, book 3, 392.

“**All Christendom** will be divided into two great classes.” *The Great Controversy*, 450.

“As the Sabbath has become the special point of controversy **throughout Christendom**, and religious and secular authorities have combined to enforce the observance of the Sunday, the persistent refusal of a small minority to yield to the popular demand will make them objects of universal execration.” *The Great Controversy*, 615.