

Habakkuk's Two Tables #82

CONCLUSION

THE DAILY

PAN: noun (Greek mythology) **the Greek god** of fields, woods, shepherds, and flocks; represented as a man with goat's legs, horns, and ears; identified with Roman Sylvanus or Faunus
Synonyms: goat god. Topic: Greek mythology. Type of: Greek deity

PANTHEON: 1. temple for all the gods 2. a temple built by Agrippa in Rome in 27, and rebuilt in the 2d century by Hadrian: used since 609 as a Christian Church

PANTHEISM: the belief that all the forces in the universe are God. (noun) An example of pantheism is rejecting the idea that God has an individual personality. *YourDictionary* definition and usage example. Copyright © 2012 by LoveToKnow Corp. See pantheism in *Webster's New World College Dictionary* (noun) the doctrine that God is not a personality, but that all laws, forces, manifestations, etc. of the universe are God; the belief that God and the universe are one and the same; **the worship, or toleration of worship, of all gods of various cults**—Synonyms for pantheism: heathenism, polytheism, animism; see **paganism**.

“He, who walked among His churches, and who sought diligently for signs of life, searching among the seven stars,-the leaders of the churches,-found that, although Sardis claimed to have life, it was dead. Strange condition! So quietly had this life been lost, that, looking back upon the activity of the past, and priding itself upon what great things had been done by Protestantism, this church had allowed the very principles of the papacy to twine about it until its life was choked.

“There was a time in the history of Pergamos, when Christianity thought Paganism was dead; but in reality, the religion which was apparently vanquished, had conquered. Paganism baptized, stepped into the church. In the days of Sardis this history was repeated. Protestantism thought itself free from the principles of the Dark Ages; but the plant was sturdy and long lived, and although **Protestantism reared itself aloft like a mighty oak**, the rootlets of the papacy were planted with the oak, and soon the vine encircled the tree, and sapped its very life. **Protestantism reared the structure, and the papacy is supported by it.** ‘Be watchful,’ says the divine message to Sardis, ‘and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God.’ There was, at the time this message came, some life still in the oak, but unless haste was made to ‘strengthen the things which remain,’ death would follow.

“‘Remember, therefore, how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent.’ The truths already received were indeed life; but a church, as well as an individual, must make constant progress, or they will suffer spiritual death.” Steven Haskell, *The Story of the Seer of Patmos*, 75–56.

“As the churches refused to receive the first angel’s message, they rejected the light from heaven and fell from the favor of God. They trusted to their own strength, and by opposing the first message placed themselves where they could not see the light of the second angel’s message. But the beloved of God, who were oppressed, accepted the message, ‘Babylon is fallen,’ and left the churches.” *Early Writings*, 238.

“It was not the proclamation of the second advent that created fanaticism and division. These appeared in the summer of 1844, when Adventists were in a state of doubt and perplexity concerning their real position. The preaching of the first angel’s message and of the ‘midnight cry’ tended directly to repress fanaticism and dissension. Those who participated in these solemn movements were in harmony; their hearts were filled with love for one another, and for Jesus, whom they expected soon to see. The one faith, the one blessed hope, lifted them above the control of any human influence, and proved a shield against the assaults of Satan.” *The Great Controversy*, 398.

LESSON 38

EZEKIEL EIGHT

THE IMAGE OF JEALOUSY—EZEKIEL 8:1, 3–4

“Warnings have been given me that the publishing house upon the Pacific coast should not, in thought, word, or deed, depreciate the office at Battle Creek, neither should the publishing house at Battle Creek look with **envy** and **jealousy** upon the instrumentalities the Lord has established upon the Pacific Coast. Plans should be carefully considered in Battle Creek, that they may in no case militate against the work in Oakland. But **the image of jealousy** was long ago set up, and has provoked to **jealousy**, which has grieved the Spirit of God.” *Pamphlets 150*, 21.

THE SECRET CHAMBER—EZEKIEL 8:10–12

“As one of the signs of **Jerusalem’s destruction**, Christ had said, ‘Many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.’ False prophets did rise, deceiving the people, and leading great numbers into the desert. Magicians and sorcerers, claiming miraculous power, drew the people after them into the mountain solitudes. But **this prophecy was spoken also for the last days**. This sign is given as a sign of the Second Advent. Even now false christs and false prophets are showing signs and wonders to seduce His disciples. Do we not hear the cry, ‘Behold, He is in the desert’? Have not thousands gone forth into the desert, hoping to find Christ? And from thousands of gatherings where **men profess to hold communion with departed spirits** is not the call now heard, ‘Behold, **He is in the secret chambers**’? This is the very claim that spiritism puts forth. But what says Christ? ‘Believe it not. For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.’” *The Desire of Ages*, 631.

WEEPING FOR TAMMUZ—EZEKIEL 8:14

“The weeping ceremony was connected with **agricultural rites**. Corn deities were weeping deities, **they shed fertilizing tears**; and the sowers simulated the sorrow of divine mourners when they cast seed in the soil ‘to die’, so that it might spring up as corn. This ancient custom, like many others, contributed to the poetic imagery of the Bible. ‘They that sow in tears’, David sang, ‘shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.’ In Egypt the priestesses who acted the parts of Isis and Nephthys, mourned for the slain corn god Osiris.” *Myths of Babylonia and Assyria*, by Donald A. MacKenzie, [1915], page 83, at sacred-texts.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP—EZEKIEL 8:16

SELF-EXALTATION; SPIRITUALISM, A FALSE LATTER RAIN AND SUNDAY WORSHIP

1860

“Without church organization, without appointed responsible leaders, without a creed, the rather loose-knit church was growing more and more unwieldy. Ministers and laymen who had met in Battle Creek in late September, 1860, in response to an invitation signed by four leading brethren and couched in the form of an announcement, set about to form a legal organization to hold the assets and manage the affairs of the publishing work. Out of the meeting came plans for a publishing association—but it could not organize legally until the legislature of the State of Michigan had formulated laws under which they could incorporate. Organizing the publishing work called for the choice of the name Seventh-day Adventists. The action of choosing a name set the field buzzing with the cry that the church was going into Babylon.” Arthur White, *Ellen G. White Biography*, volume 1, 445.

“In 1860 death stepped over our threshold, and broke the youngest branch of our family tree. Little Herbert, born September 20, 1860, died December 14 of the same year.” *Testimonies*, volume 1, 103.

1863

“When on Friday, November 27, [1863] the parents reached Topsham, they found their three sons and Adelia waiting for them at the depot. They were all apparently in good health, except for Henry, who had a cold. But the next Tuesday, December 1, Henry was very ill with pneumonia. Years later Willie, his youngest brother, reconstructed the story:

‘During the absence of their parents, Henry and Edson, under the supervision of Brother Howland, were busily engaged in mounting the charts on cloth, ready for sale. They worked in a rented store building about a block from the Howland home. At length they had a respite for a few days while they were waiting for charts to be sent from Boston. . . . Returning from a long tramp by the river, he [Henry] thoughtlessly lay down and slept on a few damp cloths used in backing the paper charts. A chilly wind was blowing in from an open window. This indiscretion resulted in a severe cold.’” Arthur White, *Ellen G. White*, volume 2, 70.

1 Samuel 8:6–8

“The injustice of these judges caused much dissatisfaction, and a pretext was thus furnished for urging the change that had long been secretly desired. ‘All the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah, and said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.’ The cases of abuse among the people had not been referred to Samuel. Had the evil course of his sons been known to him, he would have removed them without delay; but this was not what the petitioners desired. Samuel saw that their real motive was discontent and pride, and that their demand was the result of a deliberate and determined purpose. No complaint had been made against Samuel. All acknowledged the integrity and wisdom of his administration; but the aged prophet looked upon the request as a censure upon himself, and a direct effort to set him aside. He did not, however, reveal his feelings; he uttered no reproach, but carried the matter to the Lord in prayer and sought counsel from Him alone.” *Patriarchs and Prophets*, 604.

1902

“Three nights before the *Review* office burned, I was in an agony that words cannot describe. I could not sleep. I walked the room, praying to God to have mercy upon His people. Then I seemed to be in the *Review* office with the men who have the management of the institution. I was trying to speak to them and thus to help them. One of authority arose and said, ‘You say, The temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord are we; therefore, we have authority to do this thing and that thing and the other thing. But the word of God forbids many of the things that you propose to do.’ At His first advent, Christ cleansed the Temple. Prior to His second advent He will again cleanse the temple. He was there cleansing the temple. Why? Because commercial work had been brought in, and God had been forgotten. With hurry here and hurry there and hurry somewhere else, there was no time to think of heaven. The principles of God’s law were presented, and I heard the question asked, ‘How much of the law have you obeyed?’ Then the word was spoken, ‘God will cleanse and purify His temple in His displeasure.’

“In the visions of the night I saw a sword of fire hung out over Battle Creek.

“Brethren, God is in earnest with us. I want to tell you that if after the warnings given in these burnings the leaders of our people go right on, just as they have done in the past, **exalting themselves**, God will take the bodies next. Just as surely as He lives, He will speak to them in language that they cannot fail to understand.

“**God is watching us to see if we will humble ourselves before Him as little children.** I speak these words now that we may come to Him in humility and contrition and find out what He requires of us.’ *Publishing Ministry*, 170–171.

THE LIVING TEMPLE

“In regard to the faith to be cherished and preserved in these last days, very little light is given in *The Living Temple*, and this light is so uncertain that it would not help God’s people at this stage of their work.

“In the visions of the night this matter was clearly presented to me, before a large number. One of authority was speaking, and he said, ‘If the suppositions and statements found in this book were essential, if these statements were pure provender, thoroughly winnowed from the chaff, there would be some decided mention of them in the revelation given by Christ to John to give to the churches. To John the Lord Jesus opened the subjects that he saw would be needed by his people in the last days. The instruction that he gave is found in the book of Revelation. Those who would be co-workers with our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ will show a deep interest in the truths found in the book of Revelation. With pen and voice they will strive to make plain the wonderful things that Christ came from heaven to reveal.’

“The first chapter of the book of Revelation was then read, with great solemnity.

“‘The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to show unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John: who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw. Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.’

“Our Instructor presented the solemn messages that have been given in their order in Revelation, and that are to occupy the first place in the minds of God’s people.

“All through the book, *The Living Temple*, passages of Scripture are used, but in many instances these passages are used in such a way that the right interpretation is not given to them. The message for this time is not, ‘The temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord are we.’ Whom does the Lord receive as vessels unto honor?—Those who co-operate with Christ; those who believe the truth, who live the truth, who proclaim the truth in all its bearings.” *Review and Herald*, October 22, 1903.

“These are not the words of Sister White, but the words of the Lord, and His messenger has given them to me to give to you. God calls upon you to no longer work at cross purposes with Him. Much instruction was given in regard to men claiming to be Christian when they are revealing the attributes of Satan, counteracting in spirit, word, and action the advancement of truth, and are surely **following the path where Satan is leading them**. In their hardness of heart they have grasped authority which in no way belongs to them, and which they should not exercise. Saith the great Teacher, ‘I will overturn, overturn, overturn.’ Men say in Battle Creek, ‘The temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord are we’ but they are using common fire. Their hearts are not softened and subdued by the grace of God.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 13, 222.

“The patience of God has an object, but you are defeating it. He is allowing a state of things to come that you would fain see counteracted by and by, but it will be too late. God commanded Elijah to anoint the cruel and deceitful Hazeel king over Syria, that he might be a scourge to idolatrous Israel. Who knows whether God will not give you up to **the deceptions you love**? Who knows but that the preachers who are faithful, firm, and true may be the last who shall offer the gospel of peace to our unthankful churches? It may be that the destroyers are already training under the hand of Satan and only wait the departure of a few more standard-bearers to take their places, and **with the voice of the false prophet cry**, ‘Peace, peace,’ when the Lord hath not spoken peace. **I seldom weep, but now I find my eyes blinded with tears; they are falling upon my paper as I write**. It may be that **erelong all prophesyings among us will be at an end**, and the voice which has stirred the people may no longer disturb their carnal slumbers.

“When God shall work His strange work on the earth, when holy hands bear the ark no longer, woe will be upon the people. Oh, that thou hadst known, even thou, in this thy day, the things that belong unto thy peace! Oh, that our people may, as did Nineveh, repent with all their might and believe with all their heart, that God may turn away His fierce anger from them.” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 77.

“Men in the highest positions need to realize that they are as dependent upon God as are the humblest of their brethren. The greater their light and the clearer their knowledge of the truth, the greater is their responsibility. If they are clothed with the righteousness of Christ, they will have a humble estimation of themselves. In the worship of God, and in confession of sin, they will be as the lowliest of his creatures, while at the same time they will take the lead and set the example in everything that is pure and noble. They will be despised by many for their piety, humility, and conscientiousness. They will be a by-word and a hissing to those who, while they profess godliness, are not connected with God. But they will be honored by heaven, and by men whose hearts have not been hardened by rejection of light.

“Brethren, I see your peril, and again I ask, Do you who err make any effort to correct the wrong? Souls may be stumbling along, walking in darkness, because you have not made straight

paths for your feet. If you are in positions of trust, I appeal the more earnestly to you, for your own souls' sake and for the sake of those who look to you as guides, repent before God for every mistake made, and confess your error.

“If you indulge stubbornness of heart, and **through pride and self-righteousness do not confess your faults, you will be left subject to Satan’s temptations.** If when the Lord reveals your errors you do not repent or make confession, his providence will bring you over the ground again and again. You will be left to make mistakes of a similar character, you will continue to lack wisdom, and will call sin righteousness, and righteousness sin. The multitude of deceptions that will prevail in these last days will encircle you, and **you will change leaders, and not know that you have done so.**” *Review and Herald*, December 16, 1890.

TURNING POINTS

“**There are lessons to be learned from the history of the past; and attention is called to these, that all may understand that God works on the same lines now that He ever has done.** His hand is seen in His work and among the nations now, just the same as it has been ever since the gospel was first proclaimed to Adam in Eden.

“There are periods which are **turning points in the history of nations and of the church.** In the providence of God, when **these different crises arrive, the light for that time is given.** If it is received, there is spiritual progress; if it is rejected, spiritual declension and shipwreck follow. **The Lord in His word has opened up the aggressive work of the gospel as it has been carried on in the past, and will be in the future, even to the closing conflict, when Satanic agencies will make their last wonderful movement.**” *Bible Echo*, August 26, 1895.

LESSON 23

JUDAS

“Christ’s discourse in the synagogue concerning the bread of life was **the turning point in the history of Judas.** He heard the words, ‘Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink His blood, ye have no life in you.’ **John 6:53.** He saw that Christ was offering spiritual rather than worldly good. He regarded himself as farsighted, and thought he could see that Jesus would have no honor, and that He could bestow no high position upon His followers. He determined not to unite himself so closely to Christ but that he could draw away. He would watch. And he did watch.

“From **that time** he expressed doubts that confused the disciples. He introduced controversies and misleading sentiments, repeating the arguments urged by the scribes and Pharisees against the claims of Christ. **All the little and large troubles and crosses, the difficulties and the apparent hindrances to the advancement of the gospel, Judas interpreted as evidences against its truthfulness.** He would introduce texts of Scripture that had no connection with the truths Christ was presenting. These texts, separated from their connection, perplexed the disciples, and increased the discouragement that was constantly pressing upon them. Yet all this was done by Judas in such a way as to make it appear that he was conscientious. And while the disciples were searching for evidence to confirm the words of the Great Teacher, Judas would lead them almost imperceptibly on another track. **Thus in a very religious, and apparently wise, way he was presenting matters in a different light from that in which Jesus had given them, and attaching to His words a meaning that He had not conveyed.** His suggestions were constantly exciting an ambitious desire for temporal preferment,

and thus turning the disciples from the important things they should have considered. The dissension as to **which of them should be greatest was generally excited by Judas.**" *The Desire of Ages*, 719.

FIRST TEST REJECTED

"The look that Jesus cast upon the selfish Judas convinced him that the Master had penetrated his hypocrisy, and read his base, contemptible character. This was a more direct reproof than Judas had before received. He was provoked by it, and thus **a door was opened** through which Satan entered to control his thoughts. Instead of repenting, he planned revenge. Stung by the knowledge of his sin, and provoked to madness because his guilt was known, **he rose from the table, and went to the palace of the high priest, where he found the council assembled.** He was imbued with the spirit of Satan, and acted like one bereft of reason. The reward promised for the betrayal of his Master was thirty pieces of silver; and for a far less sum than the box of ointment cost he sold the Savior.

"In spirit and practice many resemble Judas. As long as there is silence in regard to the plague-spot in their character, no open enmity is seen; but when they are reproved, bitterness fills their hearts." *Youth Instructor*, July 12, 1900.

SELF-EXALTATION

"Judas had a high opinion of his own executive ability. As a financier he thought himself greatly superior to his fellow disciples, and he had led them to regard him in the same light. He had gained their confidence, and had a strong influence over them. His professed sympathy for the poor deceived them, and his artful insinuation caused them to look distrustfully upon Mary's devotion. The murmur passed round the table, 'To what purpose is this waste? For this ointment might have been sold for much, and given to the poor.'" *The Desire of Ages*, 559.

THE SECOND TEST

"Before the Passover Judas had met **a second time** with the priests and scribes, and had **closed the contract to deliver Jesus into their hands.** . . . Judas was now offended at Christ's act in washing the feet of His disciples. If Jesus could so humble Himself, he thought, He could not be Israel's king. All hope of worldly honor in a temporal kingdom was destroyed. Judas was satisfied that there was nothing to be gained by following Christ. After seeing Him degrade Himself, as he thought, he was confirmed in his purpose to disown Him, and confess himself deceived. **He was possessed by a demon, and he resolved to complete the work he had agreed to do in betraying his Lord.**" *The Desire of Ages*, 645.

THE FINAL DECISION

"In surprise and confusion at the exposure of his purpose, **Judas** rose hastily to leave the room. 'Then said Jesus unto him, **That thou doest, do quickly.** . . . He then having received the sop went immediately out: and **it was night.**' Night it was to the traitor as he turned away from Christ into the outer darkness.

"Until **this step was taken, Judas had not passed beyond the possibility of repentance.** But when he left the presence of his Lord and his fellow disciples, **the final decision** had been made. **He had passed the boundary line.**

“Wonderful had been the long-suffering of Jesus in His dealing with this tempted soul. Nothing that could be done to save Judas had been left undone. **After he had twice covenanted to betray his Lord, Jesus still gave him opportunity for repentance.** By reading the secret purpose of the traitor’s heart, Christ gave to Judas **the final, convincing evidence of His divinity.** This was to the false disciple **the last call to repentance.** No appeal that the divine-human heart of Christ could make had been spared. The waves of mercy, beaten back by stubborn pride, returned in a stronger tide of subduing love. But although surprised and alarmed at the discovery of his guilt, **Judas** became only the more determined. From the sacramental supper he went out to complete the work of betrayal.

“In pronouncing the woe upon Judas, Christ also had a purpose of mercy toward His disciples. He thus gave them **the crowning evidence of His Messiahship.** ‘**I tell you before it come,**’ He said, ‘**that, when it is come to pass, ye may believe that I AM.**’ Had Jesus remained silent, in apparent ignorance of what was to come upon Him, the disciples might have thought that their Master had not **divine foresight,** and had been surprised and betrayed into the hands of the murderous mob. **A year before, Jesus had told the disciples that He had chosen twelve, and that one was a devil.** Now His words to Judas, showing that his treachery was fully known to his Master, would strengthen the faith of Christ’s true followers during His humiliation. And when Judas should have come to his dreadful end, they would remember the woe that Jesus had pronounced upon the betrayer.” *The Desire of Ages*, 653–655.

REVEALED IN HIS TIME

And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be **revealed in his time.** For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth *will let*, **until he be taken out of the way.** And then shall **that Wicked be revealed,** whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming. 2 Thessalonians 2:6–8.

THE MYSTERY OF INIQUITY DOTH ALREADY WORK

“But Judas had opened the door of his heart, the chambers of his mind, to the temptations of Satan. And the enemy sowed in his heart and mind **the seed which he communicated to his brethren.** The questioning doubts which were passed on to the minds of his brethren. This one man, professing to be a follower of Christ, while not bearing the precious fruit revealed in the life of Christ, would be **a channel of darkness to the other disciples in the time of test and trial that was soon to come,** and that was even then upon them. He presented so much accusation of his brethren that he was counterworking the lessons of Christ. This is why Jesus called **Judas a devil.**” *Review and Herald*, November 16, 1897.

A FALLING AWAY FIRST

“**In falling,** his body had been horribly mangled, and dogs were now devouring it. His remains were immediately buried out of sight; but there was less mockery among the throng, and many a pale face revealed the thoughts within. Retribution seemed already visiting those who were guilty of the blood of Jesus.” *The Desire of Ages*, 718–722.

THE MAN OF SIN REVEALED

“That people who chose Barabbas in the place of Christ were to feel the cruelty of Barabbas as long as time should last.” *The Desire of Ages*, 738.

“But **Judas did not walk in the light so graciously permitted to shine upon him.** By indulgence in sin he invited the temptations of Satan. His evil traits of character became predominant. He yielded his mind to the control of the powers of darkness, he became angry when his faults were reproved, and thus he was led to commit the fearful crime of betraying his Master. So do all who cherish evil under a profession of godliness hate those who disturb their peace by condemning their course of sin. When a favorable opportunity is presented, **they will, like Judas,** betray those who for their good have sought to reprove them.” *The Great Controversy*, 43.

SELF-EXALTATION; SPIRITUALISM, A FALLING AWAY AND A FALSE CHRIST

“The enemy of souls has sought to bring in the supposition that a great reformation was to take place among Seventh-day Adventists, and that this reformation would consist in giving up the doctrines which stand as the pillars of our faith, and engaging in a process of reorganization. Were this reformation to take place, what would result? The principles of truth that God in His wisdom has given to the remnant church, would be discarded. Our religion would be changed. The fundamental principles that have sustained the work for the last fifty years would be accounted as error. A new organization would be established. Books of a new order would be written. A system of intellectual philosophy would be introduced. The founders of this system would go into the cities, and do a wonderful work. The Sabbath of course, would be lightly regarded, as also the God who created it. **Nothing would be allowed to stand in the way of the new movement.** The leaders would teach that virtue is better than vice, but God being removed, they would place their dependence on human power, which, without God, is worthless. Their foundation would be built on the sand, and storm and tempest would sweep away the structure.

“**Who has authority to begin such a movement?** We have our Bibles. We have our experience, attested to by the miraculous working of the Holy Spirit. We have a truth that admits of no compromise. Shall we not repudiate everything that is not in harmony with this truth?” *Selected Messages*, book 1, 204–205.