

A FEW CHARACTERISTICS OF THE BINDING OFF

“To us, as God’s servants, has been entrusted **the third angel’s message, the binding-off message**, that is to prepare a people for the coming of our King. Time is short. The Lord desires that everything connected with His cause shall be brought into order. He desires that the solemn message of warning and of invitation shall be proclaimed as widely as His messengers can carry it. The means that shall come into the treasury, is to be used wisely in supporting the workers.” *Life Sketches*, 423.

THE THIRD ANGEL

“I then saw **the third angel**. Said my accompanying angel, ‘Fearful is his work. Awful is his mission. He is the angel that is **to select the wheat from the tares, and seal, or bind**, the wheat for **the heavenly garner**. These things should engross the whole mind, the whole attention.’” *Early Writings*, 119.

“I asked the angel if there were none left. He bade me look in an opposite direction, and I saw **a little company traveling a narrow pathway**. All seemed to be firmly united, **bound** together by the truth, in bundles, or companies. Said the angel, ‘The **third angel is binding, or sealing**, them in bundles for the heavenly garner.’” *Early Writings*, 88.

TARES BOUND FIRST

Matthew 13:30

WHEAT AND TARES

“The **tares and the wheat are to grow together until the harvest; and the harvest is the end of probationary time.**” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, 71.

“Both the parable of the tares and that of the net plainly teach that there is no time when all the wicked will turn to God. The wheat and the tares grow together until the **harvest**. The good and the bad fish are together drawn ashore for **a final separation**.

“Again, these parables teach that there is to be **no probation after the judgment**. When the work of the gospel is completed, there immediately follows the separation between the good and the evil, and **the destiny of each class is forever fixed.**” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, 121–123.

“Not one of us **will ever receive the seal of God** while our characters have one spot or stain upon them. It is left with us to remedy the defects in our characters, to cleanse the soul temple of every defilement. **Then the latter rain will fall upon us as the early rain fell upon the disciples on the Day of Pentecost.** . . .

“What are you doing, brethren, in the great work of preparation? Those who are uniting with the world are receiving the worldly mold and preparing for the mark of the beast. Those who are distrustful of self, who are humbling themselves before God and purifying their souls by obeying the truth these are receiving the heavenly mold and preparing for the seal of God in their foreheads. **When the decree goes forth and the stamp is impressed, their character will remain pure and spotless for eternity.**” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 214, 216.

TODAY

“Says the prophet: ‘Who may abide the day of His coming? and who shall stand when He appeareth? for **He is like a refiner’s fire, and like fullers’ soap**: and He shall sit as **a refiner and purifier of silver**: and He shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness.’ Malachi 3:2, 3. Those who are living upon the earth when the intercession of Christ shall cease in the sanctuary above are to stand in the sight of a holy God without a mediator. Their robes must be **spotless**, their characters must be purified from sin by the blood of sprinkling. Through the grace of God and their own diligent effort they must be conquerors in the battle with evil. **While the investigative judgment is going forward in heaven, while the sins of penitent believers are being removed from the sanctuary, there is to be a special work of purification, of putting away of sin, among God’s people upon earth. This work is more clearly presented in the messages of Revelation 14.**

“**When** this work shall have been accomplished, the followers of Christ will be ready for His appearing. ‘**Then** shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the Lord, as in the days of old, and as in former years.’ Malachi 3:4. **Then** the church which our Lord at His coming is to receive to Himself will be a ‘glorious church, not having **spot**, or wrinkle, or any such thing.’ Ephesians 5:27. Then she will look ‘forth as the morning, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners.’ Song of Solomon 6:10.” *The Great Controversy*, 427.

“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.

A SHUT DOOR MESSAGE

“For a time after the disappointment in 1844, I did hold, in common with the advent body, that the door of mercy was then forever closed to the world. This position was taken before my first vision was given me. It was the light given me of God that corrected our error, and enabled us to see the true position.

“I am still a believer in **the shut-door theory**, but not in the sense in which we at first employed the term or in which it is employed by my opponents.

“There was a shut door in **Noah’s** day. There was at that time a withdrawal of the Spirit of God from the sinful race that perished in the waters of the Flood. **God Himself gave the shut-door message to Noah**: ‘My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an **hundred and twenty years**’ (Genesis 6:3).

“There was a shut door in the days of **Abraham**. Mercy ceased to plead with the inhabitants of Sodom, and all but Lot, with his wife and two daughters, were consumed by the fire sent down from heaven.

“There was a shut door in **Christ’s** day. The Son of God declared to the unbelieving Jews of that generation, ‘Your house is left unto you desolate’ (Matthew 23:38).

“Looking down the stream of time to the last days, the same infinite power proclaimed through John: ‘These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth’ (Revelation 3:7).

“I was shown in vision, and I still believe, that there was **a shut door in 1844**. All **who saw the light of the first and second angels’ messages and rejected that light**, were left in darkness. And those who accepted it and received the Holy Spirit which attended the proclamation of the message from heaven, and who afterward renounced their faith and pronounced their experience a delusion, thereby rejected the Spirit of God, and it no longer pleaded with them.

“**Those who did not see the light, had not the guilt of its rejection**. It was only the class who had despised the light from heaven that the Spirit of God could not reach. And this class included, as I have stated, **both** those who refused to accept the message when it was presented to them, and also those who, having received it, afterward renounced their faith. These might have a form of godliness, and profess to be followers of Christ; but having no living connection with God, they would be taken captive by the delusions of Satan. These two classes are brought to view in the vision—those who declared the light which they had followed a delusion, and the wicked of the world who, having rejected the light, had been rejected of God. No reference is made to those who had not seen the light, and therefore were not guilty of its rejection.” *Selected Messages*, book 1, 62–63.

Malachi 3:6; Hebrews 13:8

A SHUT DOOR MESSAGE

“Men cannot with impunity reject **the warning** which God in mercy sends them. **A message** was sent from heaven to the world in Noah’s day, and **their salvation depended upon the manner in which they treated that message**. Because they rejected the warning, the Spirit of God was withdrawn from the sinful race, and they perished in the waters of the Flood. In the time of Abraham, mercy ceased to plead with the guilty inhabitants of Sodom, and all but Lot with his wife and two daughters were consumed by the fire sent down from heaven. So in the days of Christ. The Son of God declared to the unbelieving Jews of that generation: ‘Your house is left unto you desolate.’ Matthew 23:38. Looking down to the last days, the same Infinite Power declares, concerning those who ‘received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved’: ‘For this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: that they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.’ 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12. As **they reject the teachings of His word**, God withdraws His Spirit and leaves them to the **deceptions** which they love.” *The Great Controversy*, 430–431.

“One who sees beneath the surface, who reads the hearts of all men, says of **those who have had great light**: ‘They are not afflicted and astonished because of their moral and spiritual condition.’ Yea, they have chosen their own ways, and their soul delighteth in their abominations. **I also will choose their delusions**, and will bring their fears upon them; because when I called, none did answer; when I spake, they did not hear: but they did evil before Mine eyes, and chose that in which I delighted not.’ ‘**God shall send them strong delusion, that they**

should believe a lie,' because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved,' 'but had pleasure in unrighteousness.' Isaiah 66:3, 4; 2 Thessalonians 2:11, 10, 12.

“The heavenly Teacher inquired: ‘What stronger delusion can beguile the mind than the pretense that **you are building on the right foundation** and that God accepts your works, when in reality you are working out many things according to worldly policy and are sinning against Jehovah? Oh, it is a great deception, a fascinating delusion, that takes possession of minds when **men who have once known the truth**, mistake the form of godliness for the spirit and power thereof; when they suppose that they are rich and increased with goods and in need of nothing, while in reality they are in need of everything.’

“God has not changed toward His faithful servants who are keeping their garments spotless. **But many are crying, ‘Peace and safety,’ while sudden destruction is coming upon them.** Unless there is thorough repentance, unless men humble their hearts by confession and receive the truth as it is in Jesus, they will never enter heaven. When purification shall take place in our ranks, we shall no longer rest at ease, boasting of being rich and increased with goods, in need of nothing.

“Who can truthfully say: ‘Our gold is tried in the fire; our garments are **unspotted** by the world?’ I saw our Instructor pointing to the garments of so-called righteousness. Stripping them off, He laid bare the defilement beneath. Then He said to me: ‘Can you not see how they have pretentiously covered up their defilement and rottenness of character? **‘How is the faithful city become an harlot!’** My Father’s house is made a house of merchandise, a place whence the divine presence and glory have departed! For this cause there is weakness, and strength is lacking.’” *Testimonies*, volume 8, 249–250.

LITMUS TEST

“**Character is revealed by a crisis.** When the earnest voice proclaimed at **midnight**, ‘Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him,’ the sleeping virgins **roused** from their slumbers, and it was seen who had made preparation for the event. Both parties were taken unawares, but one was prepared for the emergency, and the other was found without preparation. **Character is revealed by circumstances. Emergencies** bring out the true metal of character. **Some sudden and unlooked-for calamity, bereavement, or crisis, some unexpected sickness or anguish, something that brings the soul face to face with death, will bring out the true inwardness of the character. It will be made manifest** whether or not there is any real faith in the promises of the word of God. **It will be made manifest** whether or not the soul is sustained by grace, whether there is oil in the vessel with the lamp.

“Testing times come to **all**. How do we conduct ourselves under the test and proving of God? **Do our lamps go out? or do we still keep them burning?** Are we prepared for every emergency by our connection with Him who is full of grace and truth? The five wise virgins could not impart their character to the five foolish virgins. Character must be formed by us as individuals.” *Review and Herald*, October 17, 1895.

THE 144,000

“In the destruction of the inhabitants of the old world by the flood is clearly represented the [fate] of all those who continue to transgress the law of God. Enoch’s translation to Heaven represents the commandment-keeping people of God who will be alive upon the earth when Christ shall come the second time, and who will be glorified in the sight of those who hated them because they would keep the commandments of God. These also will be translated to Heaven without seeing death, as Enoch and Elijah were.” *Review and Herald*, April 29, 1875.

“Be ambitious, for the Master’s glory, to cultivate every grace of character. In every phase of your character building you are to please God. This you may do; for Enoch pleased Him though living in a degenerate age. And **there are Enochs in this our day.**” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, 332.

LITMUS TEST

1. Old Paths
2. Visual
3. Judgment

“It does not seem possible to us now that any should have to **stand alone**; but **if God has ever spoken by me, the time will come** when we shall be brought before councils and before thousands for his name’s sake, and each one will have to give the reason of his faith. Then will come **the severest criticism upon every position that has been taken for the truth.** We need, then, to study the word of God, that we may know why we believe the doctrines we advocate. We must critically search the living oracles of Jehovah.” *Review and Herald*, December 18, 1888.

OUR EXAMPLE IN ALL THINGS

“The Saviour **contrasted His own manner of work with the methods of His accusers.** For months they had hunted Him, striving to entrap Him and bring Him before a secret tribunal, where they might obtain by perjury what it was impossible to gain by fair means. Now they were carrying out their purpose. **The midnight** seizure by a mob, the mockery and abuse before He was condemned, or even accused, was their manner of work, not His. **Their action was in violation of the law.** Their own rules declared that every man should be treated as **innocent until proved guilty.** By their own rules the priests stood condemned.” *The Desire of Ages*, 699.

“**The members of the church will individually be tested and proved.** They will be placed in circumstances where they will be forced to bear witness for the truth. Many will be called to speak before councils and in courts of justice, **perhaps separately and alone.** The experience which would have helped them in this emergency they have neglected to obtain, and their souls are burdened with remorse for wasted opportunities and neglected privileges.” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 463.

“Peter exhorts his brethren to ‘grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.’ Whenever the people of God are growing in grace, they will be constantly obtaining a clearer understanding of His word. They will discern new light and beauty in its sacred truths. This has been true in the history of the church in all ages, and thus it will continue to the end. But as real spiritual life declines, it has ever been the tendency to cease to advance in the knowledge of the truth. **Men rest satisfied with the light already received from God’s word and discourage any further investigation of the Scriptures.** They become conservative and **seek to avoid discussion.**

“The fact that there is no **controversy or agitation** among God’s people should not be regarded as conclusive evidence that they are holding fast to sound doctrine. There is reason to fear that they may not be clearly discriminating between truth and error. When no new questions are started by investigation of the Scriptures, when no difference of opinion arises which will set

men to searching the Bible for themselves to make sure that they have the truth, there will be many now, as in ancient times, who will hold to **tradition and worship they know not what.**

“I have been shown that many who profess to have a knowledge of present truth **know not what they believe**. They do not understand the evidences of their faith. They have no just appreciation of the work for the present time. **When the time of trial shall come, there are men now preaching to others who will find, upon examining the positions they hold, that there are many things for which they can give no satisfactory reason.** Until thus tested they knew not **their great ignorance**. And there are many in the church who take it for granted that they understand what they believe; but, until controversy arises, they do not know their own weakness. **When separated from those of like faith and compelled to stand singly and alone to explain their belief, they will be surprised to see how confused are their ideas of what they had accepted as truth. Certain it is** that there has been among us a departure from the living God and **a turning to men, putting human in place of divine wisdom.**

“God will arouse His people; if other means fail, heresies will come in among them, which will sift them, separating the chaff from the wheat. The Lord calls upon all who believe His word to awake out of sleep. Precious light has come, appropriate for this time. It is Bible truth, showing the perils that are right upon us. This light should lead us to a diligent study of the Scriptures and a most critical examination of the positions which we hold. God would have all the bearings and positions of truth thoroughly and perseveringly searched, with prayer and fasting. Believers are not to rest in suppositions and ill-defined ideas of what constitutes truth. Their faith must be firmly founded upon the word of God so that **when the testing time shall come and they are brought before councils to answer for their faith they may be able to give a reason for the hope that is in them, with meekness and fear.**

“Agitate, agitate, agitate. The subjects which we present to the world must be to us a living reality. It is important that in defending the doctrines which we consider fundamental articles of faith we should never allow ourselves to employ arguments that are not wholly sound. These may avail to silence an opposer, but they do not honor the truth. We should present sound arguments, that will not only silence our opponents, but will bear the closest and most searching scrutiny. **With those who have educated themselves as debaters there is great danger that they will not handle the word of God with fairness.** In meeting an opponent it should be our earnest effort to present subjects in such a manner as to awaken conviction in his mind, instead of seeking merely to give confidence to the believer.

“Whatever may be man’s intellectual advancement, let him not for a moment think that there is no need of thorough and continuous searching of the Scriptures for greater light. As a people **we are called individually** to be **students** of prophecy.

“When God’s people are at ease and satisfied with their present enlightenment, we may be sure that He will not favor them. It is His will that they should be ever moving forward to receive the increased and ever-increasing light which is shining for them. The present attitude of the church is not pleasing to God. There has come in a self-confidence that has led them to feel no necessity for more truth and greater light. We are living at a time when Satan is at work on the right hand and on the left, before and behind us; and yet as a people we are asleep. God wills that a voice shall be heard arousing His people to action.” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 707–708.

“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.

THE PATTERN OF CHRIST

PREPARATION (4BC—27AD)

“Christ was the anointed of God; yet his life was humble and without display. For **thirty years** of his life there is scarcely anything on record concerning him. His quiet, unostentatious life should be a lesson to parents, to guardians, to children, to youth, and even to manhood.” *Youth Instructor*, July 20, 1893.

POWER, TESTIMONY, DEATH

“‘And He shall confirm the covenant with many for one week.’ The ‘week’ here brought to view is the last one of the seventy; it is the last seven years of the period allotted especially to the Jews. During this time, extending from A.D. 27 to A.D. 34, Christ, **at first in person and afterward by His disciples**, extended the gospel invitation especially to the Jews. As the apostles went forth with the good tidings of the kingdom, the Saviour’s direction was: ‘Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not: but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.’ Matthew 10:5, 6.

“‘In the midst of the week He shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease.’ In A.D. 31, three and a half years after His baptism, our Lord was crucified.” *The Great Controversy*, 327.

RESURRECTION

“Thus the disciples preached the resurrection of Christ. Many among those who listened were waiting for this testimony, and when they heard it they believed. It brought to their minds the words that Christ had spoken, and they took their stand in the ranks of those who accepted the gospel. The seed that the Saviour had sown sprang up and bore fruit.” *Acts of the Apostles*, 60.

ASCENSION

“Christ’s ascension to heaven was the **signal** that His followers were to receive the promised blessing. For this they were to **wait** before they entered upon their work. When Christ passed within the heavenly gates, He was enthroned amidst the adoration of the angels. As soon as this ceremony was completed, the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples in rich currents, and Christ was indeed glorified, even with the glory which He had with the Father from all eternity. The Pentecostal outpouring was Heaven’s communication that the Redeemer’s inauguration was accomplished. According to His promise He had sent the Holy Spirit from heaven to His followers as a **token** that He had, as priest and king, received all authority in heaven and on earth, and was the Anointed One over His people.” *Acts of the Apostles*, 38.

END OF THE WORLD

“‘In the prophecy of Jerusalem’s destruction Christ said, ‘Because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.’ This prophecy will again be fulfilled. The abounding iniquity of that day finds its counterpart in this generation. So with the prediction in regard to the preaching of the gospel.” *The Desire of Ages*, 633.

SECOND COMING

“In the days of the early Christians, Christ came the second time. His first advent was at Bethlehem, when He came as an infant. His second advent was at the Isle of Patmos, when He revealed Himself in glory to John the Revelator, who ‘fell at His feet as dead’ when he saw Him.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 19, 4.

THE ANTICHRIST

508–538—PREPARATION/DANIEL 12:11–12

“The apostle Paul, in his second letter to the Thessalonians, foretold the great apostasy which would result in the establishment of the papal power. He declared that the day of Christ should not come, ‘except there come **a falling away first**, and that **man of sin be revealed**, the son of perdition; who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshiped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.’ And furthermore, the apostle warns his brethren that ‘**the mystery of iniquity doth already work.**’ 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4, 7. **Even at that early date he saw, creeping into the church, errors that would prepare the way for the development of the papacy.**” *The Great Controversy*, 49.

A FALLING AWAY

“It was apostasy that led the early church to seek the aid of the civil government, and this prepared the way for the development of the papacy—the beast. Said Paul: ‘There’ shall ‘come a falling away, . . . and that man of sin be revealed.’ 2 Thessalonians 2:3. **So apostasy in the church will prepare the way for the image to the beast.**” *The Great Controversy*, 443.

538—POWER

“In the sixth century the papacy had become firmly established. Its seat of power was fixed in the imperial city, and the bishop of Rome was declared to be the head over the entire church. **Paganism had given place to the papacy.** The dragon had given to the beast ‘his power, and his seat, and great authority.’ Revelation 13:2. And now began the 1260 years of papal oppression foretold in the prophecies of Daniel and the Revelation. Daniel 7:25; Revelation 13:5–7.” *The Great Controversy*, 55.

TESTIMONY FOR 3 AND A HALF PROPHETIC YEARS—DANIEL 7:25

DEATH AND RESURRECTION

“The influence of Rome in the countries that once acknowledged her dominion is still far from being destroyed. And **prophecy foretells a restoration** of her power. ‘**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.’ Verse 3. The infliction of the deadly wound points to the downfall of the papacy in **1798**. After this, says the prophet, ‘his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.’ Paul states plainly that the ‘man of sin’ will continue until the Second Advent. 2 Thessalonians 2:3-8. To the very close of time he will carry forward the work of deception. And the revelator declares, also referring to the papacy: ‘All that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life.’ Revelation 13:8. In both the Old and the New World, the papacy will receive homage in the honor paid to the Sunday institution, that rests solely upon the authority of the Roman Church.” *The Great Controversy*, 578.

ASCENSION

“As we approach the last crisis, it is of vital moment that harmony and unity exist among the Lord’s instrumentalities. The world is filled with storm and war and variance. **Yet under one head—the papal power**—the people will unite to oppose God in the person of His witnesses. This union is cemented by the great apostate.” *Testimonies*, volume 7, 182.

END OF THE WORLD & SECOND COMING OF CHRIST—DANIEL 11:40–12:3

THE 2520

THE FRENCH REVOLUTION AND THE FRACTAL OF THE DARK AGES REVELATION 11:3–18—THE WORD OF GOD

POWER: VERSES 3–6

TESTIMONY & DEATH: VERSES 7, 8

“When they shall have finished [are finishing] their testimony.’ The period when the two witnesses were to prophesy clothed in sackcloth ended in 1798. As they were approaching the termination of their work in obscurity, war was to be made upon them by the power represented as **‘the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit.’** In many of the nations of Europe the powers that ruled in Church and State had for centuries been controlled by Satan, through the medium of the papacy. But here is brought to view **a new manifestation of Satanic power.**” *The Great Controversy*, 268.

DEATH FOR THREE AND A HALF DAYS: VERSES 9, 10

RESURRECTION: VERSE 11

ASCENSION: VERSE 12

EARTHQUAKE, SAME HOUR: VERSE 13

SECOND COMING, TEMPLE OPENED: VERSES 14–19

“At the same time anarchy is seeking to sweep away all law, not only divine, but human. The centralizing of wealth and power; the vast combinations for the enriching of the few at the expense of the many; the combinations of the poorer classes for the defense of their interests and claims; the spirit of unrest, of riot and bloodshed; the world-wide dissemination of the same teachings that led to the French Revolution—**all are tending to involve the whole world in a struggle similar to that which convulsed France.**” *Education*, 227, 228.

MILLER’S RULES

“Those who are engaged in proclaiming the third angel’s message are searching the Scriptures upon the same plan that Father Miller adopted.” *Review and Herald*, November 25, 1884.

“Preachers and people have looked upon the book of Revelation as mysterious and of less importance than other portions of the Sacred Scriptures. But I saw that this book is indeed a revelation given for the especial benefit of those who should live in the last days, to guide them in ascertaining their true position and their duty. **God directed the mind of William Miller to the prophecies and gave him great light upon the book of Revelation.**” *Early Writings*, 231.

“The seven churches of Asia is **a history of the church of Christ in her seven forms, in all her windings and turnings, in all her prosperity and adversity, from the days of the apostles down to the end of the world.** The **seven seals** are a history of the transactions of the powers and kings of the earth over the church, and God’s protection of his people **during the same time.** The seven trumpets are a history of **seven peculiar and heavy judgments sent upon the earth, or Roman kingdom.** And the seven vials are the seven last plagues sent upon Papal Rome. Mixed with these are many other events, woven in like tributary streams, and filling up the grand river of prophecy, until the whole ends us in the ocean of eternity.

“This, to me, is the plan of John’s prophecy in the book of Revelation. And the man who wishes to understand this book, must have a thorough knowledge of other parts of the word of God. The figures and metaphors used in this prophecy, are not all explained in the same, but must be found in other prophets, and explained in other passages of Scripture. Therefore it is evident that God has designed the study of the whole, even to obtain a clear knowledge of any part.” William Miller, *Miller’s Lectures*, volume 2, lecture 12, 178.

INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL

“The seals are introduced to our notice in the 4th, 5th, and 6th chapters of Revelation. The scenes presented under these seals are brought to view in Revelation 6, and the first verse of Revelation 8. They evidently cover events with which the church is connected from the opening of this dispensation to the coming of Christ.

“While the seven churches present the internal history of the church, the seven seals bring to view the great events of its external history.” Uriah Smith, *The Biblical Institute*, 253.

THE SAME PERIOD OF TIME

“We have now traced the churches, the seals, and the beasts, or living beings, as far as they will compare as covering **the same periods of time.** The seals are seven in number, the beasts but four. And it may be well here to notice, that at the opening of the first, second, third and fourth seals the first, second, third and fourth beasts are heard to say ‘Come and see;’ but when the fifth, sixth and seventh seals are opened, there is no such voice heard. **Neither do the last three churches, and the last three seals, compare, as covering the same periods of time, as the first four churches, and the first four seals do.** But, as we have shown, the churches, seals and beasts do agree, as covering **the same periods of time** for the space of nearly 1800 years, till we come down to a little more than half a century of the present time.” James White, *Review and Herald*, February 12, 1857.

PERGAMOS & THYATIRA REVELATION 2:12–29

THE MYSTERY OF INIQUITY—2 THESSALONIANS 2:5–8

POWER (496) SEAT (330) & AUTHORITY (533)—REVELATION 13:2

A HOST WAS GIVEN HIM: 31, 508, 330, 496, 538–1260—DANIEL 8:11–12

THE DAILY TAKEN AWAY (508) (538): DANIEL 12:11

PLACE THE ABOMINATION: 496, 395–538, 508, 538—DANIEL 11:30–31

DANIEL 11:40–45

“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 ‘verses 30 through thirty-six quoted.’

“Scenes similar to those described in these words will take place.” *Manuscript Releases*, number 13, 394.

THE THIRD & FOURTH SEAL

Revelation 6:6–8

“The same spirit is seen today that is represented in Revelation 6:6–8. **History is to be repeated.** That which has been will be again.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 9, 7.

EPHESUS & SMYRNA

2 Timothy 3:12

“Many will be imprisoned, many will flee for their lives from cities and towns, and many will be martyrs for Christ’s sake in standing in defense of the truth.” *Selected Messages*, book 3, 397.

EPHESUS, PHILADELPHIA & LAODICEA

Early Writings, 258–260; *The Great Controversy*, 611

EPHESUS AND LAODICEA

“Judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off; for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter. Yea, truth faileth; and he that departeth from evil maketh himself a prey.’ Isaiah 59:14, 15. This was fulfilled in the life of Christ on earth. He was loyal to God’s commandments, setting aside the human traditions and requirements which had been exalted in their place. Because of this He was hated and persecuted. **This history is repeated.**” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, 170.

“The work of John the Baptist, and the work of those who in the last days go forth in the spirit and power of Elijah to arouse the people from their apathy, are in many respects the same. His work is a type of the work that must be done in this age. Christ is to come the second time to judge the world in righteousness. The messengers of God who bear the last message of warning to be given to the world, are to prepare the way for Christ’s Second Advent, as John prepared the way for his first advent. In this preparatory work, ‘every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain shall be made low; and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain’ for **history is to be repeated**, and once again ‘the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.’” *Southern Watchman*, March 21, 1905.

“Satan is working that **the history of the Jewish nation may be repeated in the experience of those who claim to believe present truth.**” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 111.

SARDIS, PHILADELPHIA & LAODICEA

“Oh, what a description! How many there are in this fearful condition. I earnestly entreat every minister to study diligently **the third chapter of Revelation**, for in it is portrayed **the condition of things existing in the last days**. Study carefully every verse in this chapter, for through these words Jesus is speaking to you.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 18, 193.

PIONEER UNDERSTANDING

“In all the land saith the Lord; TWO PARTS therein shall be cut off, and die; but the THIRD shall be left therein. God says he will bring the THIRD PART through the fire, and refine them. They shall call upon him, and he will hear them. He will say IT IS MY PEOPLE; and they shall say the LORD IS MY GOD.’ First part, SARDIS, the nominal church or Babylon. Second part, Laodicea, the nominal Adventist. Third part, Philadelphia, the only true church of God on earth, for they ask to be translated to the city of God. Revelation 3:12; Hebrews 12:22–24. In the name of Jesus, I exhort you again to flee from the Laodiceans, as from Sodom and Gomorrah. Their teachings are false and delusive; and lead to utter destruction. Death! DEATH!!* eternal DEATH!!! is on their track. Remember Lot’s wife.” Joseph Bates, *Review and Herald*, volume 1, November 1850.

STEPHEN HASKELL

“It should be remembered that, as the experience of **Ephesus, Smyrna, and Pergamos, will be repeated in the last church** before the second coming of Christ, so the history of **Thyatira** will have its counterpart in the last generation.” Stephen N. Haskell, *Story of the Seer of Patmos*, 69.

“He applied the test, but all pointed forward to the year 1843 as the time when the world must welcome its Saviour. **The condition of the people at the first advent of Christ was now repeated.**” Stephen N. Haskell, *Story of the Seer of Patmos*, 75.

“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.**” Stephen N. Haskell, *Story of the Seer of Patmos*, 75, 76.

“Upon this last church—the remnant,—shine **the accumulated rays of all past ages.**”
Stephen N. Haskell, *Story of the Seer of Patmos*, 69.

TRUMPETS; REVELATION TEN AND TWO-HORNED BEASTS

“When France publicly rejected God and set aside the Bible, wicked men and spirits of darkness exulted in their attainment of the object so long desired—a kingdom free from the restraints of the law of God. Because sentence against an evil work was not speedily executed, therefore the heart of the sons of men was ‘fully set in them to do evil.’ Ecclesiastes 8:11. But the transgression of a just and righteous law must inevitably result in misery and ruin. Though not visited at once with judgments, the wickedness of men was nevertheless surely working out their doom. Centuries of apostasy and crime had been treasuring up wrath against the day of retribution; and when their iniquity was full, the despisers of God learned too late that it is a fearful thing to have worn out the divine patience. The restraining Spirit of God, which imposes a check upon the cruel power of Satan, was in a great measure removed, and he whose only delight is the wretchedness of men was permitted to work his will. Those who had chosen the service of rebellion were left to reap its fruits until the land was filled with crimes too horrible for pen to trace. From devastated provinces and ruined cities a terrible cry was heard—a cry of bitterest anguish. **France was shaken as if by an earthquake. Religion, law, social order, the family, the state, and the church**—all were smitten down by the impious hand that had been lifted against the law of God. Truly spoke the wise man: ‘The wicked shall fall by his own wickedness.’ ‘Though a sinner do evil a hundred times, and his days be prolonged, yet surely I know that it shall be well with them that fear God, which fear before Him: but it shall not be well with the wicked.’ Proverbs 11:5; Ecclesiastes 8:12, 13. ‘They hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the Lord;’ ‘therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices.’ Proverbs 1:29, 31.

“God’s faithful witnesses, slain by the blasphemous power that ‘ascendeth out of the bottomless pit,’ were not long to remain silent. ‘After three days and a half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them.’ Revelation 11:11. **It was in 1793 that the decrees which abolished the Christian religion and set aside the Bible passed the French Assembly. Three years and a half later a resolution rescinding these decrees**, thus granting toleration to the Scriptures, was adopted by the same body. The world stood aghast at the enormity of guilt which had resulted from a rejection of the Sacred Oracles, and men recognized the necessity of faith in God and His word as the foundation of virtue and morality. Saith the Lord: ‘Whom hast thou reproached and blasphemed? and against whom hast thou exalted thy voice, and lifted up thine eyes on high? even against the Holy One of Israel,’ Isaiah 37:23. ‘Therefore, behold, I will cause them to know, **this once will I cause them to know My hand and My might**; and they shall know that My name is Jehovah.’ Jeremiah 16:21, A.R.V.

“Concerning the two witnesses the prophet declares further: ‘And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them.’ Revelation 11:12. Since France made war upon God’s two witnesses, they have been honored as never before. In 1804 the British and Foreign Bible Society was organized. This was followed by similar organizations, with numerous branches, upon the continent of Europe. In 1816 the American Bible Society was founded. When the British Society was formed, the Bible had been printed and circulated in fifty tongues. It has since been translated into many hundreds of languages and dialects. (See Appendix.)

“For **the fifty years preceding 1792**, little attention was given to the work of foreign missions. No new societies were formed, and there were but few churches that made any effort for the spread of Christianity in heathen lands. But toward the close of the eighteenth century a great change took place. Men became dissatisfied with the results of rationalism and realized the necessity of divine revelation and experimental religion. From this time the work of foreign missions attained an unprecedented growth. (See Appendix.)” *The Great Controversy*, 286, 287.

DECLARATION OF THE RIGHTS OF MAN: 26 AUGUST 1789

The Declaration was directly influenced by Thomas Jefferson working with General LaFayette, who introduced it.

1796—Napoleon begins Italian War

Three Years and the 2520—723BC to 1798

“With such teaching given at the very outset of life, when impulse is strongest, and the demand for self-restraint and purity is most urgent, where are the safeguards of virtue? what is to prevent the world from becoming a second Sodom? At the same time anarchy is seeking to sweep away all law, not only divine, but human. **The centralizing of wealth and power; the vast combinations for the enriching of the few at the expense of the many; the combinations of the poorer classes for the defense of their interests and claims; the spirit of unrest, of riot and bloodshed; the world-wide dissemination of the same teachings that led to the French Revolution**—all are tending to involve **the whole world in a struggle similar to that which convulsed France.**” *Education*, 227–228.

THE YEAR/DAY PRINCIPLE—NUMBERS 14:1–34

“These things . . . are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.’ 1 Corinthians 10:11. The warning comes sounding down along the line to our time:

“Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. But exhort one another daily, while it is called Today; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. For we are made partakers of Christ, **if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end**; while it is said, Today if ye will hear His voice, Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation.’ For some, when they had heard, did provoke: howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses.’ Hebrews 3:12–16.

“Cannot we who are living in the time of the end realize the importance of the apostle’s words: ‘Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God’? Verse 12.

“Upon us is shining the accumulated light of past ages. The record of Israel’s forgetfulness has been preserved for our enlightenment. In this age God has set His hand to gather unto Himself a people from every nation, kindred, and tongue. In the advent movement He has wrought for His heritage, even as He wrought for the Israelites in leading them from Egypt. In the great disappointment of 1844 the faith of His people was tested as was that of the Hebrews at the Red Sea. Had the Adventists in the early days still trusted to the guiding Hand that had been with them in their past experience, they would have seen of the salvation of God. If all who had labored unitedly in the work of 1844 had received the third angel’s message and proclaimed it in the power of the Holy Spirit, the Lord would have wrought mightily with their efforts. A flood of light would have been shed upon the world. Years ago the inhabitants of the earth would have been warned, the closing work would have been completed, and Christ would have come for the redemption of His people.” *Testimonies*, volume 8, 115.

Hebrews 3:7–4:11

“[Hebrews 4:9, 11 quoted.] **The rest here spoken of is the rest of grace**, obtained by following the prescription, Labor diligently. Those who learn of Jesus His meekness and lowliness find rest in the experience of practicing His lessons. It is not in indolence, in selfish ease and pleasure-seeking, that rest is obtained. Those who are unwilling to give the Lord faithful, earnest, loving service will not find spiritual rest in this life or in the life to come. Only from earnest labor comes peace and joy in the Holy Spirit—happiness on earth and glory hereafter.” *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, volume 7, 928.

“Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and **ask for the old paths**, where is the good way, and walk therein.’ Jeremiah 6:16.

“Let none seek to tear away the foundations of our faith—**the foundations that were laid at the beginning of our work** by prayerful study of the word and by revelation. Upon these foundations we have been building for the last fifty years. . . .

“So we are to hold **the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end**. Words of power have been sent by God and by Christ to this people, bringing them out from the world, point by point, into the clear light of present truth. With lips touched with holy fire, God’s servants have proclaimed the message. The divine utterance has set its **seal** to the genuineness of the truth proclaimed.” *Testimonies*, volume 8, 296–297.

BROKEN COVENANT

“The Lord declared that the children of the Hebrews should wander in the wilderness forty years, **reckoning from the time they left Egypt**, because of the rebellion of their parents, until their parents should all die. Thus should they bear and suffer the consequence of their iniquity **forty years**, according to **the number of days** they were searching the land, a day for a year. ‘And ye shall know my breach of promise.’ They should fully realize that it was the **punishment** for their idolatry, and rebellious murmurings, which had obliged the Lord to **change his purpose concerning them**. Caleb and Joshua were promised a reward in preference to all the host of Israel, because **the latter had forfeited all claim to God’s favor and protection.**” *Spirit of Prophecy*, volume 1, 294.

MANNA

Exodus 16:1, 35; Deuteronomy 2:13–16

VICTORY IN JERICHO

“Nevertheless, the foundation of God standeth sure. The Lord knoweth them that are His. The sanctified minister must have no guile in his mouth. He must be open as the day, free from every taint of evil. A sanctified ministry and press will be a power in flashing the light of truth on this untoward generation. Light, brethren, more light we need. **Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound an alarm in the holy mountain.** Gather the host of the Lord, with sanctified hearts, to hear what the Lord will say unto His people; for He has increased light for all who will hear. Let them be armed and equipped, and come up to the battle—to the help of the Lord against the mighty. God Himself will work for Israel. Every lying tongue will be silenced. Angels’ hands will overthrow the deceptive schemes that are being formed. The bulwarks of Satan will never triumph. **Victory will attend the third angel’s message. As the Captain of the Lord’s host tore down the walls of Jericho, so will the Lord’s commandment-keeping people triumph, and all opposing elements be defeated.** Let no soul complain of the servants of God who have come to them with a heaven-sent message. Do not any longer pick flaws in them, saying, ‘They are too positive; they talk too strongly.’ They may talk strongly; but is it not needed? God will make the ears of the hearers tingle if they will not heed His voice or His message. He will denounce those who resist the word of God.” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 409, 410.

EZEKIEL 4:6 AND JEREMIAH 17:21–27

“On one occasion, by command of the Lord, the prophet took his position at one of the principal entrances to the city and there urged the importance of keeping holy the Sabbath day. The inhabitants of Jerusalem were in danger of losing sight of the sanctity of the Sabbath, and they were solemnly warned against following their secular pursuits on that day. A blessing was promised on condition of obedience. **‘If ye diligently hearken unto Me,’ the Lord declared, and ‘hallow the Sabbath day**, to do no work therein; then shall there enter into the gates of this city kings and princes sitting upon the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, they, and their princes, the men of Judah, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: and **this city shall remain forever.**’ Jeremiah 17:24, 25.

“This promise of prosperity as the reward of allegiance was accompanied by a prophecy of the terrible judgments that would befall the city should its inhabitants prove disloyal to God and His law. **If the admonitions to obey the Lord God of their fathers and to hallow His Sabbath day were not heeded**, the city and its palaces would be **utterly destroyed by fire.**” *Prophets and Kings*, 411–412.

EZEKIEL & MILLERITE HISTORY

Midnight: Ezekiel 1:1–3 **first date**
Midnight Cry: Ezekiel 26:1, 2
First Disappointment: Ezekiel 29:17–21
Day of Atonement: Ezekiel 40:1–5 **last date**
Jubilee Cycle
Religious & Civil Calendars
Metonic Cycle
Year Day Principle outside of Daniel and Revelation

MARAH VISION

Ezekiel 1:1; Revelation 11:19; Ezekiel 3:23–27; 8:4

LEVITICUS 26

Verse 22—	Ezekiel 5:17
Verse 25—	Ezekiel 5:12
Verse 26—	Ezekiel 4:16, 5:16
Verse 29—	Ezekiel 5:10
Verse 30—	Ezekiel 6:3, 5
Verse 31—	Ezekiel 6:4
Verse 32—	Ezekiel 5:14, 15
Verse 33—	Ezekiel 5:14, 6:6

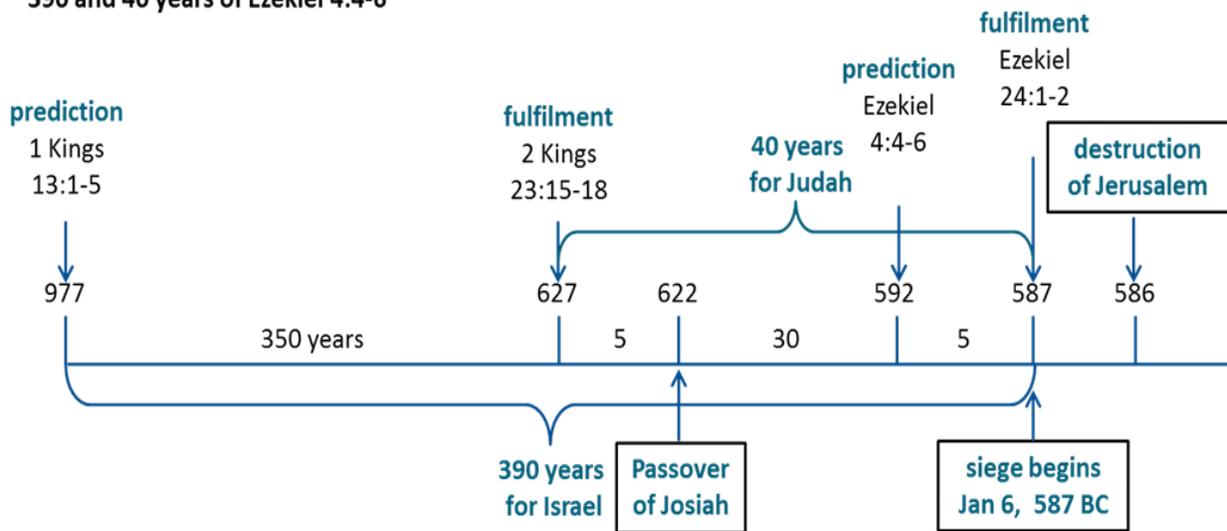
THE DESTRUCTIONS OF JERUSALEM

Leviticus 26:34–44; Deuteronomy 28:15–68; 2 Chronicles 36; Daniel 8:23–25; 9:26

AD 34

“Thus the Jewish leaders had built up ‘Zion with blood, and Jerusalem with iniquity.’ Micah 3:10. And yet, while they slew their Savior because He reprov'd their sins, such was their self-righteousness that they regarded themselves as God’s favored people and expected the Lord to deliver them from their enemies. ‘Therefore,’ continued the prophet, ‘shall Zion for your sake be plowed as a field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps, and the mountain of the house as the high places of the forest.’ Verse 12.

390 and 40 years of Ezekiel 4:4-6



“For forty years Jeremiah was to stand before the nation as a witness for truth and righteousness.” *Prophets and Kings*, 408.

“For nearly forty years after the doom of Jerusalem had been pronounced by Christ Himself, the Lord delayed His judgments upon the city and the nation. Wonderful was the long-suffering of God toward the rejectors of His gospel and the murderers of His Son. The parable of the unfruitful tree represented God’s dealings with the Jewish nation. The command had gone forth, ‘Cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground?’ (Luke 13:7) but divine mercy had spared it yet a little longer. There were still many among the Jews who were ignorant of the character and the work of Christ. And the children had not enjoyed the opportunities or received the light which their parents had spurned. Through the preaching of the apostles and their associates, God would cause light to shine upon them; they would be permitted to see how prophecy had been fulfilled, not only in the birth and life of Christ, but in His death and resurrection. The children were not condemned for the sins of the parents; but when, with a knowledge of all the light given to their parents, the children rejected the additional light granted to themselves, they became partakers of the parents’ sins, and filled up the measure of their iniquity. . . .

“All the predictions given by Christ concerning the destruction of Jerusalem were fulfilled to the letter. The Jews experienced the truth of His words of warning: ‘**With what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.**’ Matthew 7:2.

“Signs and wonders appeared, foreboding disaster and doom. In the midst of the night an unnatural light shone over the temple and the altar. Upon the clouds at sunset were pictured chariots and men of war gathering for battle. The priests ministering by night in the sanctuary were terrified by mysterious sounds; the earth trembled, and a multitude of voices were heard crying: ‘Let us depart hence.’ The great eastern gate, which was so heavy that it could hardly be shut by a score of men, and which was secured by immense bars of iron fastened deep in the pavement of solid stone, opened at midnight, without visible agency.—Milman, *The History of the Jews*, book 13.

“**For seven years** a man continued to go up and down the streets of Jerusalem, declaring the woes that were to come upon the city. By day and by night he chanted the wild dirge: ‘A voice from the east! a voice from the west! a voice from the four winds! a voice against Jerusalem and against the temple! a voice against the bridegrooms and the brides! a voice against the whole people!’—Ibid. This strange being was imprisoned and scourged, but no complaint escaped his lips. To insult and abuse he answered only: ‘Woe, woe to Jerusalem!’ ‘woe, woe to the inhabitants thereof!’ His warning cry ceased not until he was slain in the siege he had foretold.

“Not one Christian perished in the destruction of Jerusalem. Christ had given His disciples warning, and all who believed His words watched for the promised sign. ‘When ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies,’ said Jesus, ‘then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. Then let them which are in Judea flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out.’ Luke 21:20, 21. **After the Romans under Cestius** had surrounded the city, **they unexpectedly abandoned the siege** when everything seemed favorable for an immediate attack. The besieged, despairing of successful resistance, were on the point of surrender, when the Roman general withdrew his forces without the least apparent reason. But God’s merciful providence was directing events for the good of His own people. **The promised sign had been given to the waiting Christians**, and now an opportunity was offered for all who would, to obey the Savior’s warning. Events were so overruled that neither Jews nor Romans should hinder the flight of the Christians. Upon the retreat of Cestius, the Jews, sallying from Jerusalem, pursued after his retiring army; and while both forces were thus fully engaged, the Christians had an opportunity to leave the city. At this time the country also had been cleared of enemies who might have endeavored to intercept them. **At the time of the siege**, the Jews were assembled at Jerusalem to keep **the Feast of Tabernacles**, and thus the Christians throughout the land were able to make their escape unmolested. Without delay they fled to a place of safety—the city of Pella, in the land of Perea, beyond Jordan.

“The Jewish forces, pursuing after Cestius and his army, fell upon their rear with such fierceness as to threaten them with total destruction. It was with great difficulty that the Romans succeeded in making their retreat. The Jews escaped almost without loss, and with their spoils **returned in triumph to Jerusalem**. Yet this apparent success brought them only evil. It inspired them with that spirit of stubborn resistance to the Romans which speedily brought unutterable woe upon the doomed city.

“Terrible were the calamities that fell upon Jerusalem when the siege was resumed by **Titus**. The city was invested at **the time of the Passover**, when millions of Jews were assembled within its walls.” *The Great Controversy*, 27, 29–31.

A SIGN

Matthew 24:15–22 (holy place); Mark 13:14–20 (ought not); Luke 21:20, 24 (compassed with armies)

THE FINAL DESTRUCTION

“In his answer, Jesus did not take up separately the destruction of Jerusalem and the last great day of his coming. He mingled the description of these two events. When he spoke of the destruction of Jerusalem, his words referred **also** to the final destruction that will take place when **the Lord rises out of his place to punish the world for its iniquity**. The entire chapter in which are recorded Christ’s words regarding this, is a warning to all who shall live during the last scenes of this earth’s history.” *Review and Herald*, December 13, 1898.

“Never did this message apply with greater force than it applies today. More and more the world is setting at nought the claims of God. Men have become bold in transgression. The wickedness of the inhabitants of the world has almost filled up the measure of their iniquity. This earth has almost reached the place where God will permit the destroyer to work his will upon it. The substitution of the laws of men for the law of God, the exaltation, by merely human authority, of Sunday in place of the Bible Sabbath, is the last act in the drama. **When this substitution becomes universal, God will reveal Himself. He will arise in His majesty to shake terribly the earth. He will come out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the world for their iniquity**, and the earth shall disclose her blood and shall no more cover her slain.” *Testimonies*, volume 7, 141.

SIX MONTHS

Leviticus 23:34; 25:3

1260 DAYS

“It was during the Feast of Tabernacles, in the year 66 a. d., that **Cestius** Gallus came up to assault Jerusalem. (The dates are so precise that we can exactly assign the several transactions to their proper days in the Julian calendar.) . . .

“It was in the year 70, and at the Passover (13th April), when multitudes of Jews from all parts of the world were gathered into Jerusalem for the feast, and **precisely three and one half Jewish years from the Feast of Tabernacles at which Cestius came up, that Titus and the Roman armies arrived before Jerusalem**.—*Chronology of the Holy Scriptures*, Henry Browne, M. A., pp. 387, 388. London: John W. Parker, 1844.” *Handbook for Bible Students*, 291.

THE ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION: THE DREADED 'HOUR'

“Jesus declared to the listening disciples the judgments that were to fall upon apostate Israel, and especially the retributive vengeance that would come upon them for their rejection and crucifixion of the Messiah. Unmistakable signs would precede the awful climax. **The dreaded hour would come suddenly and swiftly.** And the Savior warned His followers: ‘When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) then let them which be in Judea flee into the mountains.’ Matthew 24:15, 16; Luke 21:20, 21. **When the idolatrous standards of the Romans should be set up in the holy ground,** which extended some furlongs outside the city walls, then the followers of Christ were to find safety in flight. When the warning sign should be seen, those who would escape must make no delay. Throughout the land of Judea, as well as in Jerusalem itself, **the signal for flight must be immediately obeyed.** He who chanced to be upon the housetop must not go down into his house, even to save his most valued treasures. Those who were working in the fields or vineyards must not take time to return for the outer garment laid aside while they should be toiling in the heat of the day. They must not hesitate a moment, lest they be involved in the general destruction.” *The Great Controversy*, 25.

AS SPOKEN BY DANIEL THE PROPHET

“Paul’s words were not to be misinterpreted. It was not to be taught that he, by special revelation, had warned the **Thessalonians** of the immediate coming of Christ. Such a position would cause confusion of faith; for disappointment often leads to unbelief. The apostle therefore cautioned the brethren to receive no such message as coming from him, and he proceeded to emphasize the fact that the papal power, **so clearly described by the prophet Daniel,** was yet **to rise and wage war against God’s people.** Until this power should have performed its deadly and blasphemous work, it would be in vain for the church to look for the coming of their Lord. ‘Remember ye not,’ Paul inquired, ‘that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?’” *Acts of the Apostles*, 265.

321, 508, 533 & 538

2 THESSALONIANS 2:3, 4; DANIEL 11:36

“But there is no union between the Prince of light and the prince of darkness, and there can be no union between their followers. When Christians consented to unite with those who were but half converted from paganism, they entered upon a path which led farther and farther from the truth. Satan exulted that he had succeeded in deceiving so large a number of the followers of Christ. He then brought his power to bear more fully upon these, and inspired them to persecute those who remained true to God. None understood so well how to oppose the true Christian faith as did those who had once been its defenders; and these apostate Christians, uniting with their half-pagan companions, directed their warfare against the most essential features of the doctrines of Christ.

“It required a desperate struggle for those who would be faithful to stand firm against the deceptions and abominations which were disguised in sacerdotal garments and **introduced into the church.** The Bible was not accepted as the standard of faith. The doctrine of religious freedom was termed heresy, and its upholders were hated and proscribed.

“After a long and severe conflict, **the faithful few decided to dissolve all union with the apostate church if she still refused to free herself from falsehood and idolatry. They saw that separation was an absolute necessity if they would obey the Word of God.** They dared not tolerate errors fatal to their own souls, and set an example which would imperil the faith of their children and children’s children. To secure peace and unity they were ready to make any concession consistent with fidelity to God; but they felt that even peace would be too dearly purchased at the sacrifice of principle. **If unity could be secured only by the compromise of truth and righteousness, then let there be difference, and even war.**

“Well would it be for the church and the world if the principles that actuated those steadfast souls were revived in the hearts of God’s professed people. There is an alarming indifference in regard to the doctrines which are the pillars of the Christian faith. The opinion is gaining ground, that, after all, these are not of vital importance. This degeneracy is strengthening the hands of the agents of Satan, so that false theories and fatal delusions which the faithful in ages past imperiled their lives to resist and expose, are now regarded with favor by thousands who claim to be followers of Christ.” *The Great Controversy*, 44, 45.

A SUNDAY LAW IN 538

Third Synod at Orleans, A. D. 538, Charles Joseph Hefele, *A History of the Councils of the Church*, 204–209.

TIMES OF THE GENTLES

Daniel 8:13, 14; Revelation 12:6, 14; 11:2, 3; Luke 21:20–24

THE ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION

“The time is not far distant, when, like the early disciples, we shall be forced to seek a refuge in desolate and solitary places. As **the siege of Jerusalem by the Roman armies was the signal for flight** to the Judean Christians, so the assumption of power on the part of our nation in **the decree enforcing the papal sabbath** will be a warning to us. It will then be time to leave the large cities, preparatory to leaving the smaller ones for retired homes in secluded places among the mountains.” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 464.

THE 1260 & THE 70

“**God’s church on earth was as verily in captivity during this long period of relentless persecution as were the children of Israel held captive in Babylon during the period of the exile.**” *Prophets and Kings*, 714.

CUT SHORT

“The persecution of the church did not continue throughout the entire period of the 1260 years. God in mercy to His people cut short the time of their fiery trial. **In foretelling the ‘great tribulation’ to befall the church**, the Savior said: ‘Except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect’s sake those days shall be shortened.’ Matthew 24:22. Through the influence of the Reformation the persecution was brought to an end prior to 1798.” *The Great Controversy*, 266.

1773

“These signs were witnessed before the opening of the nineteenth century. In fulfillment of this prophecy there occurred, in the year 1755, the most terrible earthquake that has ever been recorded. Though commonly known as the earthquake of Lisbon . . .

“Twenty-five years later appeared the next sign mentioned in the prophecy—the darkening of the sun and moon. What rendered this more striking was the fact that the time of its fulfillment had been definitely pointed out. In the Savior’s conversation with His disciples upon Olivet, after describing the long period of trial for the church,—the 1260 years of papal persecution, concerning which He had promised that the tribulation should be shortened,—He thus mentioned certain events to precede His coming, and fixed the time when the first of these should be witnessed: ‘In those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light.’ Mark 13:24. **The 1260 days, or years, terminated in 1798. A quarter of a century earlier**, persecution had almost wholly ceased. Following this persecution, according to the words of Christ, the sun was to be darkened. On the 19th of May, **1780**, this prophecy was fulfilled.” *The Great Controversy*, 304, 306.

SIEGES

THE TERRIBLE SIEGES

“For **forty years Jeremiah was to stand before the nation as a witness for truth and righteousness**. In a time of unparalleled apostasy he was to exemplify in life and character the worship of the only true God. During **the terrible sieges of Jerusalem** he was to be the **mouthpiece** of Jehovah. He was to **predict** the downfall of the house of David **and** the destruction of the beautiful temple built by Solomon. And when imprisoned because of his fearless utterances, he was still to **speak plainly against sin in high places**. Despised, hated, rejected of men, he was finally to witness the literal fulfillment of his own prophecies of impending doom, and share in the sorrow and woe that should follow the destruction of the fated city.” *Prophets and Kings*, 408.

“The first and second messages were given in 1843 and 1844, and we are now under the proclamation of the third; but all three of the messages are still to be proclaimed. It is just as essential now as ever before that they shall be repeated to those who are seeking for the truth. By **pen and voice** we are to sound the proclamation, **showing their order**, and **the application of the prophecies that bring us to the third angel’s message**. There cannot be a third without the first and second. These messages we are to give to the world in publications, in discourses, **showing in the line of prophetic history the things that have been and the things that will be**.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 104, 105.

THREE SIEGES

“Within a few short years the king of Babylon was to be used as the instrument of God’s wrath upon impenitent Judah. Again and again Jerusalem was to be invested and entered by the besieging armies of Nebuchadnezzar. Company after company—at first a few only, but later on thousands and tens of thousands—were to be taken captive to the land of Shinar, there to dwell in enforced exile. **Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin, Zedekiah**—all these Jewish kings were in turn to become vassals of the Babylonian ruler, and all in turn were to rebel. Severer and yet more severe chastisements were to be inflicted upon the rebellious nation, until **at last the entire land was to become a desolation, Jerusalem was to be laid waste and burned with fire, the temple that Solomon had built was to be destroyed**, and the kingdom of Judah was to fall, never again to occupy its former position among the nations of earth.” *Prophets and Kings*, 422.

JULY 27

“They had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name is . . . Destroyer.’ This character might in truth be imputed to the Arab caliphs, who directed the armies for so many years after the death of Mohammed; but it is especially applicable to **Othman**, the founder of the Ottoman Empire. This, **the first attempted centralization of government** was the outgrowth of the doctrines of Mohammed. ‘Othman,’ says the historian, ‘possessed, and perhaps surpassed, the ordinary virtues of a soldier; and the circumstances of time and place were propitious to his independence and success.’ The close of the thirteenth century was near. The Crusades had thrust Europe against the Turks in a most reckless manner. Constantinople had numerous emperors, but the Greek government grew weaker, and the time of its destruction was stealthily approaching. ‘It was on **July 27 a. d., 1299**,’ says Gibbon, ‘that Othman first invaded the territory of Nicomedia; and the singular accuracy of the date seems to disclose some foresight of the rapid and destructive growth of the monster.’ More than human foresight recorded this date with such definiteness. To the prophet on Patmos, it had been revealed that ‘their power was to hurt men five months.’

“Five prophetic months is the equivalent of one hundred and fifty literal years, one day meaning a year, and counting thirty days to the month. Since the exact day for the beginning of this power is given, the expiration of the five months may be reckoned to the day. It closed **July 27, 1449**. It is these dates which enable the student of the trumpets, to locate the events which take place under each trumpet. These dates are ‘nails in a sure place’ for both the first and the second woe. . . .

“The death of Amurath in 1451, and the succession of **Mohammed II**, a wily man full of ambition and restless of restraint, did not retard the conquest. Mohammed’s one design was to capture Constantinople. ‘Peace was on his lips but war was in his heart,’ and every energy was bent toward the accomplishment of this design. **At midnight he once started from his bed**, and demanded the immediate attendance of his prime vizier. The man came trembling, fearing the detection of some previous crime. He made his offering to the sultan, but was met with the words, ‘I ask a present far more valuable and important,—Constantinople.’ Mohammed II tested the loyalty of his soldiers, warned his ministers against the bribery of the Romans, studied the art of war and the use of firearms. **He engaged the services of a founder of cannon**, who promised weapons that could batter down the walls of the city. **In April, 1453**, the memorable siege was formed.” Stephen Haskell, *The Story of the Seer of Patmos*, 171–174.

FORTY DAY SIEGE

“But, although the four angels were thus loosed by the voluntary submission of the Greeks, yet another doom awaited the seat of empire. Amurath, the sultan to whom the submission of Deacozes was made, and by whose permission he reigned in Constantinople, soon after died, and was succeeded in the empire, in 1451, by Mahomet II, who set his heart on Constantinople, and determined to make it a prey. He accordingly made preparations for besieging and taking the city. The siege commenced on the **6th of April, 1453**, and **ended in the taking of the city, and death of the last of the Constantines, on the 16th day of May following**. And the eastern city of the Caesars became the seat of the Ottoman Empire.” Uriah Smith, *Review and Herald*, July 29, 1858.

490 YEARS—JULY 27, 1299 TO JULY 27, 1789: CONSTITUTION, FIRST PRESIDENT, STATE DEPARTMENT

PARALLEL EMPIRE

LAST SEVEN SOUTHERN KINGS

Manasseh: H4519—*causing to forget*.

Amon: H526—properly to *build up*; *architect*.

Josiah: H2977—*foundation*.

Jehoahaz: H3059—*Jehovah seized*.

Jehoiakim: H3079—*Jehovah will raises*; to *rise*.

Jehoiachin: H3078—*Jehovah will establish*; *erect*; hence (causatively) to *set up*, *tarry*.

Zedekiah: H6667—to *make right* (in a moral or forensic sense): **cleanse**.

LAST SEVEN NORTHERN KINGS

Jeroboam II: *a people*; *a tribe* (as those of Israel); figuratively a *flock*.

Zechariah: to *mark* (so as to be recognized), that is, to *remember*; bring (**call**). John 10:16.

Shallum: to *be completed*; end, finish, **restore**, **reward**. Isaiah 56:3–8.

Menahem: *comforter*. to *sigh*, *breathe* strongly; to *be sorry*, **repent**. Acts 3:19–23.

Pekahiah & Pekah: to *open* (the senses, especially the eyes). Revelation 14:8.

Hoshea: deliver, rescue, bring (having) salvation, get victory. Daniel 12:1.

FIRST NORTHERN KINGS

Jeroboam: Debate, hold a controversy; contend, the people, flock; associate, congregate, let the people be multiplied—root: to become many. Reigned 22 years

Nadab: liberal; root: to impel oneself, volunteer. Reigned 2 years

Baasha: root: to be evil; to stink, offensiveness, confusion by mixing; he who lays waste. Reigned 24 years

Elah: strength, oak, ram, a chief (politically); also a proper name: the everlasting God about 90 times, 43 times in Ezra and 46 times in Daniel. Reigned 2 years

Zimri: musical, strum musical strings, celebrated, song. Reigned seven days. Committed treason against Elah.

Omri: heaping, servant of the Lord, root: 1. to serve 2. Jehovah. Reigned six years in Tizrah (delightsomeness), bought and reigned in Samaria six years

Ahab: brother of father. 1 Kings 16:29–34

FIRST SOUTHERN KINGS

Saul

David

Solomon

Rehoboam——Jeroboam

Abijam

Asa

Jehoshaphat Joel 3:1–12

DANIEL'S FINAL VISION

THREE TOUCHES: DANIEL 10:19

Then there came again and touched [**third touch**] me *one* like the appearance [mareh] of a man, and he **strengthened**^{H2388} me, And said, O man greatly beloved, fear not: peace *be* unto thee, be **strong**,^{H2388} yea, be **strong**.^{H2388} And when he had spoken unto me, I was **strengthened**,^{H2388} and said, Let my lord speak; for thou hast **strengthened**^{H2388} me.

2388: fasten, sieze, **bind [five times]**

PARALLEL KINGDOMS: DANIEL 10:20-11:2

Then said he, Knowest thou wherefore I come unto thee? and **now [at this time]** will I return to fight [consume] with the prince of Persia: and **when** I am gone forth, lo, the prince of Grecia shall come.

But I will shew thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth: and *there is* none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your prince.

Also I in **the first year of Darius** the Mede, *even* I, stood to confirm and to strengthen him.

“Daniel’s prayer had been offered ‘**in the first year of Darius**’ (verse 1), the Median monarch whose general, Cyrus, had wrested from Babylonia the scepter of universal rule. The reign of Darius was honored of God. To him was sent the angel Gabriel, ‘to confirm and to strengthen him.’ Daniel 11:1. Upon his death, within about two years of the fall of Babylon, Cyrus succeeded to the throne, and **the beginning of his reign marked the completion of the seventy years** since the first company of Hebrews had been taken by Nebuchadnezzar from their Judean home to Babylon.” *Prophets and Kings*, 556.

In **the third year of Cyrus** king of Persia a thing was revealed unto Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar; and the thing *was* true, but the time appointed *was* long: and he understood the thing, and had understanding of the vision. Daniel 10:1.

And now will I shew thee the truth. Behold, there shall **stand up** [5975: Daniel 7:4; 8:22–25; 11:7, 14, 20, 21; 12:1] **yet** three kings in Persia; and the fourth shall be **far richer** than *they* all: and by his strength [**power**] through his riches [**wealth**] he shall **stir up [wake up] all against [with; seek a quarrel]** the realm of Grecia.

FORE SORE JUDGMENTS: NOAH, DANIEL & JOB

Ezekiel 14:12–23

And a mighty king shall **stand up**, that shall rule with great **dominion** [H4474: rule], and do according to his will. And **when he shall stand up**, his kingdom **shall be broken**, and shall be divided **toward the four winds** of heaven; and not to his posterity, nor according to his **dominion** [H4915: parallel empire] which he ruled: for his kingdom shall be plucked up, even for others beside those.

“The angel, after stating that he stood, in the first year of Darius, to confirm and strengthen him, turns his attention to the future. Three kings shall yet stand up in Persia. To stand

up means to reign; three kings were to reign in Persia, referring, doubtless, to the immediate successors of Cyrus.

“These were, (1) Cambyses, son of Cyrus; (2) Smerdis, an imposter; (3) Darius Hystaspes. . . .

“The facts stated in these verses plainly point to Alexander, and the division of his empire. (See on chapter 8:8.) Xerxes was the last Persian king who invaded Grecia; and the prophecy passes over the nine successors of Xerxes in the Persian Empire, and next introduces Alexander the Great.” Uriah Smith, *Daniel ad Revelation*, 247.

WAKE UP ALL

Joel 3:9–21

“The law of God, through the agency of Satan, is to be made void. In our land of boasted freedom religious liberty will come to an end. The contest will be decided over the Sabbath question, **which will agitate the whole world.**” *Evangelism*, 236.

TEN PLAGUES

SIGN

Exodus 7:8–13.

ONE—SEVEN DAYS

Exodus 7:14–25.

TWO—TRUTH VERSUS ERROR;

Exodus 8:1–15.

“Furthermore, **a large share of the periodicals and books** that, like **the frogs of Egypt**, are overspreading the land, are not merely commonplace, idle, and enervating, but unclean and degrading.” *Education*, 189, 190.

THREE—THE FINGER OF GOD; MIDNIGHT; COUNTERFEIT EXPOSED

Exodus 8:16–19.

FOUR (FIRST OF SEVEN LAST PLAGUES & FIRST OF THREE STEPS)—ISAAC; SIGN; COVENANT

Exodus 8:20–32.

FIVE—SEPARATION; APPOINTED TIME; TEN VIRGINS; VISUAL

Exodus 9:1–7.

SIX

Exodus 9:8–12.

SEVEN (FIRST OF FOUR SORE JUDGMENTS); TWO CLASSES SMITTEN OR NOT

Exodus 9:13–35; Ezekiel 14:12–23.

EIGHT (LOCUSTS-EAST WIND)

Exodus 10:1–20.

NINE—THREE DAYS OF DARKNESS

Exodus 10:21–29.

TEN—MIDNIGHT; PASSOVER

Exodus 11:1–10; Exodus 12:29–33; 40–51

DANIEL 11:14–22

POMPEY—CLINTON

“Although Egypt could not stand before Antiochus, the king of the north, Antiochus could not stand before the Romans, who now came against him. [2 Peter 2:19] No kingdoms were longer able to resist this rising power. Syria was conquered, and added to the Roman Empire, when Pompey, B.C.65, deprived Antiochus Asiaticus of his possessions, and reduced Syria to a Roman province.

“The same power was also to stand in the Holy Land, and consume it. Rome became connected with the people of God, the Jews, by alliance, **B.C.162**, from which date it holds a prominent place in the prophetic calendar. It did not, however, acquire jurisdiction over Judea by actual conquest till **B.C.63**; and then in the following manner.

“On Pompey’s return from his expedition against Mithridates, king of Pontus, two competitors, Hyrcanus and Aristobulus, were struggling for the crown of Judea. Their cause came before Pompey, who soon perceived the injustice of the claims of Aristobulus, but wished to defer decision in the matter till after his long-desired expedition into Arabia, promising then to return, and settle their affairs as should seem just and proper. Aristobulus, fathoming Pompey’s real sentiments, hastened back to Judea, armed his subjects, and prepared for a vigorous defense, determined, at all hazards, to keep the crown, which he foresaw would be adjudicated to another. Pompey closely followed the fugitive. As he approached Jerusalem, Aristobulus, beginning to repent of his course, came out to meet him, and endeavored to accommodate matters by promising entire submission and large sums of money. Pompey, accepting this offer, sent Gabinius, at the head of a detachment of soldiers, to receive the money. But when that lieutenant-general arrived at Jerusalem, he found the gates shut against him, and was told from the top of the walls that the city would not stand to the agreement.

“Pompey, not to be deceived in this way with impunity, put Aristobulus, whom he had retained with him, in irons, and immediately marched against Jerusalem with his whole army. The partisans of Aristobulus were for defending the place; those of Hyrcanus, for opening the gates. The latter being in the majority, and prevailing, Pompey was given free entrance into the city. Whereupon the adherents of Aristobulus retired to the mountain of the temple, as fully determined to defend that place as Pompey was to reduce it. **At the end of three months a breach was made in the wall sufficient for an assault, and the place was carried at the point of the sword. In the terrible slaughter that ensued, twelve thousand persons were slain.** It was an affecting sight, observes the historian, to see the priests, engaged at the time in divine service, with calm hand and steady purpose pursue their accustomed work, apparently unconscious of the wild tumult, though all around them their friends were given to the slaughter, and though often their own blood mingled with that of their sacrifices.

“Having put an end to the war, **Pompey demolished the walls of Jerusalem**, transferred several cities from the jurisdiction of Judea to that of Syria, and imposed tribute on the Jews. Thus for the first time was Jerusalem placed by conquest in the hands of that power which was to hold **the ‘glorious land’** in its iron grasp till it had utterly consumed it.” Uriah Smith, *Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation*, 258–260.

JULIUS CAESAR—BUSH II

AUGUSTUS—OBAMA

“VERSE 20. Then shall stand up in his estate **a raiser of taxes in the glory of the kingdom**: but within few days he shall be destroyed, neither in anger, nor in battle.

“Augustus Caesar succeeded his uncle, Julius, by whom he had been adopted as his successor. He publicly announced his adoption by his uncle, and took his name, to which he added that of Octavianus. **Combining with Mark Antony and Lepidus** to avenge the death of Caesar, they formed what is called **the triumvirate form of government**. Having subsequently firmly established himself in the empire, the senate conferred upon him the title of Augustus, and the other members of the triumvirate being now dead, he became **supreme ruler**.

“**He was emphatically a raiser of taxes**. Luke, in speaking of the events that transpired at the time when Christ was born, says: ‘And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be enrolled [for taxation].’ Luke2:1. That **taxing which embraced all the world** was an event worthy of notice; and the person who enforced it has certainly a claim to the title of ‘a raiser of taxes’ above every other competitor.

“The *St. Louis Globe Democrat*, as quoted in *Current Literature* for July, 1895, says: ‘Augustus Caesar was not the public benefactor he is represented. He was the most exacting tax collector the Roman world had up to that time ever seen.

“And he stood up ‘in **the glory of the kingdom**.’ Rome reached in his days **the pinnacle of its greatness and power**. The ‘Augustan Age’ is an expression everywhere used to denote the golden age of Roman history. Rome never saw a brighter hour. Peace was promoted, justice maintained, luxury curbed, discipline established, and learning encouraged. In his reign, the temple of Janus was for the third time shut since the foundation of Rome, signifying that all the world was at peace; and at this auspicious hour our Lord was born in Bethlehem of Judea. In a little less than eighteen years after the taxing brought to view, seeming but a ‘few days’ to the distant gaze of the prophet, Augustus died, not in anger nor in battle, but peacefully in his bed, at Nola, whither he had gone to seek repose and health, A.D. 14, in the seventy-sixth year of his age.

THE GLORY OF THE WHOLE EARTH

Daniel 11:40–41

“The unrivaled mercies and blessings of God have been showered upon our nation, it has been a land of liberty, and **the glory of the whole earth**. But instead of returning gratitude to God, instead of honoring God and his law, the professed Christians of America have become leavened with pride, covetousness, and self-sufficiency. . . .

“The time has come when judgment is fallen in the streets, and equity cannot enter, and he that departeth from evil maketh himself a prey. But the Lord’s arm is not shortened that it cannot save, and his ear is not heavy that it cannot hear. **The people of the United States have been a favored people**; but **when** they restrict religious liberty, surrender Protestantism, and give countenance to popery, the measure of their guilt will be full, and ‘national apostasy’ will be registered in the books of heaven. **The result of this apostasy will be national ruin**.

“The voices of those under the altar who have been slain for the word of God and the testimony of Jesus, **are still saying**, ‘It is time for thee, O Lord, to work: for they have made void thy law.’” *Review and Herald*, May 2, 1893.

THE GLORY DEFINED

“Many were driven across the ocean to America and here laid **the foundations of civil and religious liberty which have been the bulwark and glory of this country.**” *The Great Controversy*, 252.

TIBERIUS—45TH & LAST PRESIDENT

“VERSE 21. And in his estate shall stand up a vile [despised] person, to whom they shall not give the honor [glory] of the kingdom: but he shall come in peaceably, and obtain the kingdom [reign] by flatteries [treachery].

“Tiberius Caesar next appeared after Augustus Caesar on the Roman throne. He was raised to the consulate in his twenty-eighth year. It is recorded that as Augustus was about to nominate his successor, his wife, Livia, besought him to nominate Tiberius (her son by a former husband); but the emperor said, ‘**Your son is too vile to wear the purple of Rome;**’ and the nomination was given to Agrippa, a very virtuous and much-respected Roman citizen. But the prophecy had foreseen that a vile person should succeed Augustus. Agrippa died; and Augustus was again under the necessity of choosing a successor. Livia renewed her intercessions for Tiberius; and Augustus, weakened by age and sickness, was more easily flattered, and finally consented to nominate, as his colleague and successor, that ‘vile’ young man. But the citizens never gave him the love, respect, and ‘honor of the kingdom’ due to an upright and faithful sovereign.

“How clear a fulfilment is this of the prediction that they should not give him the honor of the kingdom. But he was to come in peaceably, and obtain the kingdom by flatteries. A paragraph from the *Encyclopedia Americana* shows how this was fulfilled:-

“During the remainder of the life of Augustus, he [Tiberius] behaved with great prudence and ability, concluding a war with the Germans in such a manner as to merit a triumph. After the defeat of Varus and his legions, he was sent to check the progress of the victorious Germans, and acted in that war with equal spirit and prudence. On the death of Augustus, he succeeded, **without opposition**, to the sovereignty of the empire: which, however, with his characteristic dissimulation, he affected to decline, until repeatedly solicited by the servile senate.

“**Dissimulation** on his part, flattery on the part of the **servile** senate, and **a possession of the kingdom without opposition**—such were the circumstances attending his accession to the throne, and such were the circumstances for which the prophecy called.

“The person brought to view in the text is called ‘a vile person.’ Was such the character sustained by Tiberius? Let another paragraph from the *Encyclopedia* answer:-

“Tacitus records the events of this reign, including the suspicious death of Germanicus, the detestable administration of Sejanus, the poisoning of Drusus, with all **the extraordinary mixture of tyranny with occasional wisdom and good sense which distinguished the conduct of Tiberius, until his infamous and dissolute retirement, A.D.26, to the isle of Capreae, in the bay of Naples, never to return to Rome.** On the death of Livia, A.D.29, the only restraint upon his actions and those of the detestable Sejanus, was removed, and the destruction of the widow and family of Germanicus followed. At length the infamous favorite extended his views to the empire itself, and Tiberius, informed of his machinations, prepared to encounter him with his favorite weapon, dissimulation. Although fully resolved upon his destruction, he accumulated honors upon him, declared him his partner in the consulate, and, after long playing with his credulity, and that of the senate, who thought him in greater favor than ever, he artfully prepared for his arrest. Sejanus fell deservedly and unpitied; but many innocent persons shared in his destruction, in consequence of the suspicion and cruelty of Tiberius, which now exceeded all limits. The remainder of the reign of this **tyrant** is little more than a disgusting narrative of servility on the one hand, and of despotic ferocity on the other. That he himself endured as much misery as he inflicted, is evident from the following commencement of one of his letters to the senate: “What I shall write to you, conscript fathers, or what I shall not write, or why I should write at all, may the gods and goddesses plague me more than I feel daily that they are doing, if I can tell.” “What mental torture,” observes Tacitus, in reference to this passage, “which could extort such a confession!”

“Seneca remarks of Tiberius that he **was never intoxicated but once in his life**; for he continued in a state of perpetual intoxication from the time he gave himself to drinking, to the last moment of his life.’

“**Tyranny, hypocrisy, debauchery, and uninterrupted intoxication**—if these traits and practices show a man to be vile, Tiberius exhibited that character in disgusting perfection.” Uriah Smith, *Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation*, 265–268.

Vile: Despised

DISSIMULATION, n. [L., to make like; like.] The act of dissembling; a hiding under a false appearance; a feigning; false pretension; hypocrisy. Dissimulation may be simply concealment of the opinions, sentiments or purpose; but it includes also the assuming of a false or counterfeit appearance which conceals the real opinions or purpose. Dissimulation among statesmen is sometimes regarded as a necessary vice, or as no vice at all. *Webster’s 1828 Dictionary*.

SEVEN THUNDERS

- I. Cyrus 536–530BC
Cambyes 529–522BC
Bardus (false Smerdis) 522BC
- II. Darius 521–486
(Xerxes the Great) 485–465BC
Artabanus 465BC
- III. Artaxerxes I (Longimanus) 464–424BC
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A RAISER OF TAXES

Ezra 4:11—15

“The Saviour **contrasted His own manner of work with the methods of His accusers.** For months they had hunted Him, striving to entrap Him and bring Him before a secret tribunal, where they might obtain by perjury what it was impossible to gain by fair means. Now they were carrying out their purpose. **The midnight** seizure by a mob, the mockery and abuse before He was condemned, or even accused, was their manner of work, not His. **Their action was in violation of the law.** Their own rules declared that every man should be treated as **innocent until proved guilty.** By their own rules the priests stood condemned.” *The Desire of Ages*, 699.

“The trial must be so conducted as to **unite the members of the Sanhedrin** against Christ. There were two charges which the priests desired to maintain. If Jesus could be proved a **blasphemer**, He would be condemned by the Jews. If convicted of **sedition**, it would secure His condemnation by the Romans. **The second charge Annas tried first to establish.** He questioned Jesus concerning His disciples and His doctrines, hoping the prisoner would say something that would give him material upon which to work. He thought to draw out some statement to prove that He was seeking to **establish a secret society**, with the purpose of **setting up a new kingdom.** Then the priests could deliver Him to the Romans as a disturber of the peace and a **creator of insurrection.**” *The Desire of Ages*, 699.

Isaiah 59:13–15

“Already the doctrine that men are released from obedience to God’s requirements has weakened the force of moral obligation and opened the floodgates of iniquity upon the world. Lawlessness, dissipation, and corruption are sweeping in upon us like an overwhelming tide. In the family, Satan is at work. His banner waves, even in professedly Christian households. There is envy, evil surmising, hypocrisy, estrangement, emulation, strife, betrayal of sacred trusts, indulgence of lust. The whole system of religious principles and doctrines, which should form the foundation and framework of social life, seems to be a tottering mass, ready to fall to ruin. The vilest of criminals, when thrown into prison for their offenses, are often made the recipients of gifts and attentions as if they had attained an enviable distinction. Great publicity is given to their character and crimes. The press publishes the revolting details of vice, thus initiating others into the practice of fraud, robbery, and murder; and Satan exults in the success of his hellish schemes. The infatuation of vice, the wanton taking of life, the terrible increase of intemperance and iniquity of every order and degree, should arouse all who fear God, to inquire what can be done to stay the tide of evil.

“**Courts of justice are corrupt.** Rulers are actuated by desire for gain and love of sensual pleasure. Intemperance has beclouded the faculties of many so that Satan has almost complete control of them. Jurists are perverted, bribed, deluded. Drunkenness and revelry, passion, envy, dishonesty of every sort, are represented among those who administer the laws. ‘Justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter.’ Isaiah 59:14.

“The iniquity and spiritual darkness that prevailed under the supremacy of Rome were the inevitable result of her suppression of the Scriptures; but where is to be found the cause of the widespread infidelity, the rejection of the law of God, and the consequent corruption, under the full blaze of gospel light in an age of religious freedom? Now that Satan can no longer keep the world under his control by withholding the Scriptures, he resorts to other means to accomplish the same object. To destroy faith in the Bible serves his purpose as well as to destroy the Bible itself. By introducing the belief that God’s law is not binding, he as effectually leads men to transgress as if they were wholly ignorant of its precepts. And now, as in former ages, he has worked through the church to further his designs. The religious organizations of the day have refused to listen to unpopular truths plainly brought to view in the Scriptures, and in combating them they have adopted interpretations and taken positions which have sown broadcast the seeds of skepticism. Clinging to the papal error of natural immortality and man’s consciousness in death, they have rejected **the only defense** against the delusions of spiritualism. The doctrine of eternal torment has led many to disbelieve the Bible. And as the claims of the fourth commandment are urged upon the people, it is found that the observance of the seventh-day Sabbath is enjoined; and as the only way to free themselves from a duty which they are unwilling to perform, many popular teachers declare that the law of God is no longer binding. Thus they cast away the law and the Sabbath together. As the work of Sabbath reform extends, this rejection of the divine law to avoid the claims of the fourth commandment will become well-nigh universal. The teachings of religious leaders have opened the door to infidelity, to spiritualism, and to contempt for God’s holy law; and upon these leaders rests a fearful responsibility for the iniquity that exists in the Christian world.” *The Great Controversy*, 585, 586.

GOD’S DEALING WITH MEN ARE EVER THE SAME

“The work of God in the earth presents, from age to age, a striking similarity in every great reformation or religious movement. **The principles of God’s dealing with men are ever the same.** The important movements of the present have their parallel in those of the past, and the experience of the church in former ages has lessons of great value for our own time.” *The Great Controversy*, 343.

“By some of our brethren many things have been spoken and written that are interpreted as expressing antagonism to government and law. It is a mistake thus to lay ourselves open to misunderstanding. It is not wise to find fault continually with what is done by the rulers of government. It is not our work to attack individuals or institutions. We should exercise great care **lest we be understood as putting ourselves in opposition to the civil authorities.** It is true that our warfare is aggressive, but our weapons are to be those found in a plain ‘Thus saith the Lord.’ Our work is to prepare a people to stand in the great day of God. We should not be turned aside to lines **that will encourage controversy or arouse antagonism** in those not of our faith.

“We should not work in a manner that will mark us out as seeming to **advocate treason.** We should weed out from our writings and utterances every expression that, taken by itself, could be so misrepresented as to make it **appear antagonistic to law and order.** Everything should be carefully considered, **lest we place ourselves on record as encouraging disloyalty to our country and its laws.** We are not required to defy authorities. There will come a time when, because of our advocacy of Bible truth, **we shall be treated as traitors;** but let not this time be hastened by unadvised movements that stir up animosity and strife.

“The time will come when unguarded expressions of a denunciatory character, that have been carelessly spoken or written by our brethren, **will be used by our enemies to condemn us**. These will not be used merely to condemn those who made the statements, but will be charged upon the whole body of Adventists. Our accusers will say that **on such and such a day one of our responsible men said thus and so against the administration of the laws of this government**. Many will be astonished to see how many things have been cherished and remembered that will give point to the arguments of our adversaries. Many will be surprised to hear their own words **strained into a meaning** that they did not intend them to have. Then let our workers be careful to speak guardedly at all times and under all circumstances. Let all beware lest by reckless expressions they bring on a time of trouble before the great crisis which is to try men’s souls.

“The less we make direct charges against authorities and powers, the greater work we shall be able to accomplish, both America and in foreign countries. Foreign nations will follow the example of the United States. Though she leads out, yet **the same crisis will come upon our people in all parts of the world.**” *Testimonies*, volume 6, 394, 395.

FALSE WITNESS—MIDNIGHT

“I saw the nominal church **and** nominal Adventists, **like Judas**, would betray us to the Catholics to obtain their influence to come against the truth. **The saints then will be an obscure people**, little known to the Catholics; but **the churches and nominal Adventists who know of our faith and customs** (for they hated us on account of the Sabbath, for they could not refute it) will betray the saints and report them to the Catholics as those who disregard the institutions of the people; that is, that they keep the Sabbath and disregard Sunday.” *Spalding & Magan*, 1.

A GRAND MOVEMENT—MIDNIGHT CRY

“The line of distinction between professed Christians and the ungodly is now hardly distinguishable. Church members love what the world loves and are ready to join with them, and Satan determines to unite them in **one body** and thus strengthen his cause by sweeping all into the ranks of spiritualism. Papists, who boast of miracles as a certain sign of the true church, will be readily deceived by this wonder-working power; and Protestants, having cast away the shield of truth, will also be deluded. **Papists, Protestants, and worldlings** will alike accept the form of godliness without the power, and they will see in this union **a grand movement for the conversion of the world** and the ushering in of the long-expected millennium.” *The Great Controversy*, 588.

THE DECREE—THE SUNDAY LAW

“By the decree of 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 MIDNIGHT CRY—AN ANGEL OF LIGHT

“So it will be in the great final conflict of the controversy between righteousness and sin. While new life and light and power are descending from on high upon the disciples of Christ, a new life is springing up from beneath, and energizing the agencies of Satan. Intensity is taking possession of every earthly element. With a subtlety gained through centuries of conflict, the prince of evil works under a disguise. **He appears clothed as an angel of light**, and multitudes are ‘giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.’ 1 Timothy 4:1.” *The Desire of Ages*, 257.

NOT ONLY

“When Jesus was on earth, Satan led the people to reject the Son of God, and to choose Barabbas, who in character represented Satan, the god of this world. The Lord Jesus Christ came to dispute the usurpation of Satan in the kingdoms of the world. The conflict is not yet ended; and as we draw near the close of time, the battle waxes more intense. 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.” *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, volume 5, 1105.

THE SUNDAY LAW—CHRIST

“As **the crowning act** in the great drama of deception, Satan himself will personate Christ. The church has long professed to look to the Savior’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 Great Controversy*, 624.

TWINS

“Then marriage and the Sabbath had their origin, **twin institutions** for the glory of God in the benefit of humanity.” *Adventists Home*, 340.

TRACE THE RECORD

“If the reader would understand the agencies to be employed in the soon-coming contest, **he has but to trace the record of the means which Rome employed for the same object in ages past**. If he would know how papists and Protestants united will deal with those who reject their dogmas, let him see the spirit which Rome manifested toward the Sabbath and its defenders.

“Royal edicts, general councils, and church ordinances **sustained by secular power**, were the steps by which the pagan festival attained its position of honor in the Christian world. **The first public measure enforcing Sunday observance was the law enacted by Constantine. [A. D. 321.]** This edict required townspeople to rest on ‘the venerable day of the sun,’ but permitted countrymen to continue their agricultural pursuits. Though virtually a heathen statute, it was enforced by the emperor after his nominal acceptance of Christianity.

“The royal mandate not proving a sufficient substitute for divine authority, Eusebius, a bishop who sought the favor of princes, and who was the special friend and flatterer of Constantine, advanced the claim that Christ had transferred the Sabbath to Sunday. Not a single testimony of the Scriptures was produced in proof of the new doctrine. Eusebius himself unwittingly acknowledges its falsity, and points to the real authors of the change. ‘All things,’ he says, ‘whatsoever that it was duty to do on the Sabbath, these we have transferred to the Lord’s day.’ But the Sunday argument, groundless as it was, served to embolden men in trampling upon the Sabbath of the Lord. **All who desired to be honored by the world accepted the popular festival.**

“**As the papacy became firmly established, the work of Sunday exaltation was continued.** For a time the people engaged in agricultural labor when not attending church, and the seventh day was still regarded as the Sabbath. But steadily a change was effected. Those in holy office were forbidden to pass judgment in any civil controversy on the Sunday. Soon after, all persons, of whatever rank, were commanded to refrain from common labor, on pain of a fine for freemen, and stripes in the case of servants. Later it was decreed, that rich men should be punished with the loss of half of their estates; and finally, that if still obstinate they should be made slaves. The lower classes were to suffer perpetual banishment.

“**Miracles also were called into requisition.** Among other wonders it was reported that as a husbandman who was about to plow his field on Sunday, cleaned his plow with an iron, the iron stuck fast in his hand, and for two years he carried it about with him, ‘to his exceeding great pain and shame.’

“Later, the pope gave directions that the parish priest should admonish the violators of Sunday, and wish them to go to church and say their prayers, lest they bring some **great calamity** on themselves and neighbors. An ecclesiastical council brought forward the argument, since so widely employed, even by Protestants, that because persons had been struck by lightning while laboring on Sunday, it must be the Sabbath. ‘It is apparent,’ said the prelates, ‘how high the displeasure of God was upon their neglect of this day.’ An appeal was then made that priests and ministers, kings and princes, and all faithful people, ‘use their utmost endeavors and care that the day be restored to its honor, and, for the credit of Christianity, more devoutly observed for time to come.’

“**The decrees of councils proving insufficient, the secular authorities were besought to issue an edict that would strike terror to the hearts of the people, and force them to refrain from labor on the Sunday.** At a synod held in Rome, all previous decisions were reaffirmed with greater force and solemnity. **They were also incorporated into the ecclesiastical law, and enforced by the civil authorities throughout nearly all Christendom.**” *The Great Controversy*, 573–575.

THE IMAGE TEST

“The Lord has shown me clearly that the image of the beast will be formed **before probation closes**; for it is to be **the great test for the people of God**, by which their eternal destiny will be decided.

“This is **the test that the people of God must have before they are sealed.** All who proved their loyalty to God by observing His law, and refusing to accept a spurious sabbath, will rank under the banner of the Lord God Jehovah, and will receive the seal of the living God. Those who yield the truth of heavenly origin and accept the Sunday sabbath, will receive the mark of the beast” *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, volume 7, 976.

“Those who would not receive the mark of the beast and his image **when the decree goes forth**, must **have decision now** to say, Nay, we will not regard the institution of the beast.” *Early Writings*, 68.

NATIONAL RUIN

“The people of the United States have been a favored people; but **when** they restrict religious liberty, surrender Protestantism, and give countenance to popery, the measure of their guilt will be full, and ‘national apostasy’ will be registered in the books of heaven. The result of this apostasy will be **national ruin**.” *Review and Herald*, May 2, 1893.

TYRANNY

“Our land is in jeopardy. The time is drawing on **when** its legislators shall so abjure the principles of Protestantism as to give countenance to Romish apostasy. The people for whom God has so marvelously wrought, strengthening them to throw off the galling yoke of popery, will by a national act give vigor to the corrupt faith of Rome, and thus **arouse the tyranny which only waits for a touch to start again into cruelty and despotism. With rapid steps are we already approaching this period**.” *The Spirit of Prophecy*, volume 4, 410.

MARTIAL LAW

DESPOT, n. An emperor, king or prince invested with absolute power, or ruling without any control from men, constitution or laws. Hence in a general sense, a tyrant.

DESPOTISM, n. 1. Absolute power; authority unlimited and uncontrolled by men, constitution or laws, and depending alone on the will of the prince.

THE RELIGIOUS RIGHT (*TESTIMONIES*, VOLUME 5, 712–718)

“A great **crisis** awaits the people of God. A great **crisis** awaits the world. The most momentous struggle of all the ages is before us. Events which for more than half a century we have, upon the authority of the prophetic Word, declared to be impending, are now taking place before our eyes. An amendment to the Constitution restricting liberty of conscience, has long been urged upon the legislators of the nation; and **the question of enforcing Sunday observance has become one of national importance**. Are we ready for the issue involved in the Sunday movement?

“Many who are working for Sunday enforcement have never understood the claims of the Bible Sabbath, and the false foundation on which the Sunday institution rests. And they are blinded to the results of Sunday legislation. They do not see that it would be a blow against religious liberty. But **any movement in favor of religious legislation is really an act of concession** to the Papacy, which for so many ages has steadily warred against liberty of conscience. Sunday owes its existence as a so-called Christian institution to the ‘mystery of iniquity;’ and its enforcement will be a virtual recognition of the principles which are the very corner-stone of Romanism. 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 the Papacy; **it will be giving life to the tyranny** which has long been eagerly watching its opportunity to spring again into active **despotism**.”

“As this struggle progresses, it may appear to human sight that Satan is triumphant and that truth is overborne with falsehood and error. In the country which has been an asylum for the conscience-oppressed servants of God and defenders of His truth, religious freedom may be placed in jeopardy, and the people over whom God has spread His shield, may meet suffering and trial. But God would have us recall His dealings with His people in the past, to save them from their enemies, and trust in Him. He has always chosen extremities, when there seemed no possible hope for deliverance from Satan’s workings, for the display of His power. Man’s necessity is God’s opportunity.

“While the Protestant world is making **concessions to Rome**, and danger is increasing on every hand, let us arouse to comprehend the situation, and to see the contest before us in its true bearings. Let the watchmen lift up the voice, and give with clearness the message which is present truth for this time. ‘For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle?’ Let **us show the people where we are in prophetic history**, and seek to arouse the spirit of true Protestantism, **awaking the world** to a sense of the value of the religious liberty they have so long enjoyed.” *Signs of the Times*, November 28, 1900.

PEACE AND SAFETY

“But there is **a day that God hath appointed** for the close of this world’s history. ‘This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.’ Prophecy is fast fulfilling. More, much more, should be said about these tremendously important subjects. **The day is at hand when the destiny of every soul will be fixed forever.** This **day of the Lord** hastens on apace. The false watchmen are raising the cry, ‘All is well’; but the day of God is rapidly approaching. Its footsteps are so muffled that it does not arouse the world from the deathlike slumber into which it has fallen. While the watchmen cry, ‘Peace and safety,’ ‘**sudden destruction cometh upon them,**’ ‘and they shall not escape’; ‘for as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth.’ It overtakes the pleasure-lover and the sinful man as a thief in the night. **When** all is apparently secure, and men retire to contented rest, then the prowling, stealthy, **midnight thief steals upon his prey.** **When** it is too late to prevent the evil, it is discovered that some door or window was not secured. ‘Be ye also ready: for in an such hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.’ People are now settling to rest, imagining themselves secure under the popular churches; but let all beware, lest there is a place left open for the enemy to gain an entrance. Great pains should be taken to keep this subject before the people. The solemn fact is to be kept not only before the people of the world, but before our own churches also, that **the day of the Lord will come suddenly, unexpectedly.** The fearful warning of the prophecy is addressed to every soul. Let no one feel that he is secure from the danger of being surprised. Let no one’s interpretation of prophecy rob you of **the conviction of the knowledge of events** which show that this great event is near at hand.” *Fundamentals of Christian Education*, 335.

GREAT CALAMITIES

“And then the great deceiver will persuade men that **those who serve God are causing these evils**. The class that have provoked the displeasure of Heaven will charge all their troubles upon those whose obedience to God’s commandments is a perpetual reproof to transgressors. It will be declared that men are offending God by the violation of the Sunday sabbath; that **this sin has brought calamities which will not cease until Sunday observance shall be strictly enforced**; and that those who present the claims of the fourth commandment, thus destroying reverence for Sunday, are troublers of the people, **preventing their restoration to divine favor and temporal prosperity**. Thus the accusation urged of old against the servant of God will be repeated and upon grounds equally well established: ‘And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel? And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father’s house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the Lord, and thou hast followed Baalim.’ 1 Kings 18:17, 18. As **the wrath of the people shall be excited by false charges**, they will pursue a course toward God’s ambassadors very similar to that which apostate Israel pursued toward Elijah.” *The Great Controversy*, 590.

CIVIL WAR

“In India, China, Russia, and the cities of America, **thousands of men and women are dying of starvation**. The monied men, because they have the power, control the market. They purchase at low rates all they can obtain, and then sell at greatly increased prices. This means starvation to the poorer classes, and **will result in a civil war**. There will be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation. ‘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, everyone that shall be found written in the book. . . . Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly, and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand.’” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 5, 305.

THE MARVELOUS WORKING OF SATAN

“**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.

FORTY-FIVE

Blessed *is* he that waiteth, and **cometh** to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days. Daniel 12:12.

H5060—A primitive root; properly **to touch**, that is, *lay the hand upon* (for any purpose; euphemistically, *to lie with* a woman); by implication to *reach* (figuratively to *arrive, acquire*).

Isaiah 30:18; Habakkuk 2:3.

SUNDAY LAW—LOUD CRY

“None are condemned until they have had the light and have seen the obligation of the fourth commandment. But **when the decree shall go forth enforcing the counterfeit sabbath, and the loud cry of ‘the third angel’** shall warn men against the worship of the beast and his image, the line will be clearly drawn between the false and the true. **Then** those who still continue in transgression will receive the mark of the beast.” *Signs of the Times*, November 8, 1899.

TIDINGS

But **tidings** out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many. Daniel 11:44.

DAVID’S ANOINTING’S

“The truth for this time, the third angel’s message, is to be proclaimed with a loud voice, **meaning with increasing power**, as we approach the great final test.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 9, 291.

“What was the result of the outpouring of the Spirit on the Day of Pentecost? **The glad tidings of a risen Saviour** were carried to the uttermost parts of the inhabited world.” *The Acts of the Apostles*, 48.

EAST AND NORTH

THE MESSAGE OF CHRIST’S RIGHTEOUSNESS—ISAIAH 41:2, 25–27; NUMBERS 2:3, 25

EAST

THE SEALING MESSAGE—REVELATION 7:2–3

THE MESSAGE OF THE SECOND COMING

“Soon there appears **in the east** a small black cloud, about half the size of a man’s hand. It is the cloud which surrounds the Saviour and which seems in the distance to be shrouded in darkness. The people of God know this to be the sign of the Son of man.” *The Great Controversy*, 640.

1 Kings 18:38–46

NORTH

“My husband had some ideas on some points, differing from the views taken by his brethren. I was shown that however true his views were, God did not call for him to put them in front before his brethren, and create differences of ideas. While he might hold these views, subordinate himself, if they were once made public other minds would seize upon them, and just because others believed differently would make these differences the whole burden of this message, and get up contention and variance.” *Paulson Collection*, 132.

“That Jesus rose up, and shut the door, and came to the Ancient of days, to receive his kingdom, at the 7th month, 1844, I fully believe. See Luke 13:25; Matthew 25:10; Daniel 7:13, 14. But the standing up of Michael, Daniel 12:1, appears to be another event, for another purpose. His rising up in 1844, was to shut the door, and come to his Father, to receive his kingdom, and power to reign; but Michael’s standing up, is to manifest his kingly power, which he already has, in the destruction of the wicked, and in the deliverance of his people. Michael is to stand up at the time that the last power in chapter 11, comes to his end, and none to help him. This power is the last that treads down the true church of God: and as the true church is still trodden down, and cast out by all Christendom, it follows that the last oppressive power has not ‘come to his end;’ and Michael has not stood up. This last power that treads down the saints is brought to view in Revelation 13:11–18. **His number is 666.** Much of his power, deception, wonders, miracles, and oppression, will doubtless be manifested during his last struggle under the ‘seven last plagues,’ about the time of his coming to his end. This is clearly shadowed forth by the magicians of Egypt, deceiving Pharaoh and his host, in performing most of the miracles, that Moses performed by the power of God. That was just before the deliverance of Israel from Egyptian bondage; and may we not expect to see as great a manifestation of the power of the Devil, just before the glorious deliverance of the saints? If Michael stood up in 1844, what power came ‘to his end, and none to help him,’ ‘AT THAT TIME’? The trouble that is to come at the time that Michael stands up, is not the trial, or trouble of the saints; but it is a trouble of the nations of the earth, caused by ‘seven last plagues.’ So when Jesus has finished his work of atonement, in the Holy of Holies, he will lay off his priestly attire, and put on his most kingly robes and crown, to ride forth, and manifest his kingly power, in ruling the nations, and dashing them in pieces.” James White, *Word to the Little Flock*, 8.

“Those who become confused in their understanding of the word, who fail to see the meaning of antichrist, will surely place themselves on the side of antichrist. There is no time now for us to assimilate with the world. Daniel is standing in his lot and in his place. The prophecies of Daniel and of John are to be understood. They interpret each other. They give to the world truths which everyone should understand. These prophecies are to be witness in the world. **By their fulfillment in these last days, they will explain themselves.**” *Kress Collection*, 105.

ISAIAH 14:13–14

“The scenes connected with the working of the man of sin are the last features plainly revealed in this earth’s history. The people now have a special message to give to the world, the third angel’s message.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 102.

JUDGMENT

Jeremiah 6:22; Ezekiel 29:18–21; Isaiah 10:5–6

FORTY TO FORTY-FIVE

“Let every one who is seeking to live a Christian life, remember that **the church militant is not the church triumphant**. Those who are carnally minded will be found in the church. They are to be pitied more than blamed. The church is not to be judged as sustaining these characters, though they be found within her borders. Should the church expel them, the very ones who found fault with their presence there, would blame the church for sending them adrift in the world; they would claim that they were treated unmercifully. It may be that in the church there are those who are cold, proud, haughty, and unchristian, but you need not associate with this class. There are many who are warm-hearted, who are self-denying, self-sacrificing, who would, were it required, lay down their lives to save souls. Jesus saw the bad and the good in church relationship, and said, ‘Let both grow together until the harvest.’ None are under the necessity of becoming tares because every plant in the field is not wheat. If the truth were known, these complainers make their accusations in order to quiet a convicted, condemning conscience. Their own course of action is not wholly commendable. Even those who are striving for the mastery over the enemy, have sometimes been wrong and done wrong. Evil prevails over good when we do not trust wholly in Christ, and abide in Him. Inconsistencies of character will then be manifested that would not be revealed if we preserved the faith that works by love and purifies the soul.” *Fundamentals of Christian Education*, 294.

Joshua 14:6–15; 1 Samuel 22:7–23

“He affirmed to his counselors that a conspiracy had been formed against him, and with the offer of rich gifts and positions of honor he bribed them to reveal who among his people had befriended David. **Doeg the Edomite turned informer**. Moved by ambition and avarice, and by hatred of the priest, who had reproved his sins, Doeg reported David’s visit to Ahimelech, representing the matter in such a light as to kindle Saul’s anger against the man of God. The words of that mischievous tongue, set on fire of hell, stirred up the worst passions in Saul’s heart. Maddened with rage, he declared that the whole family of the priest should **perish**. And the terrible **decree** was executed. Not only Ahimelech, but the members of his father’s house—‘four-score and five persons that did wear a linen ephod’—were slain at the king’s command, by the murderous hand of Doeg.

“‘And Nob, the city of the priests, smote he with the edge of the sword, both men and women, children and sucklings, and oxen, and asses, and sheep.’ This is what Saul could do under the control of Satan. When God had said that **the iniquity of the Amalekites** was full, and had commanded him to destroy them utterly, he thought himself too compassionate to execute the divine sentence, and he spared that which was devoted to destruction; but now, without a command from God, under the guidance of Satan, he could slay the priests of the Lord and bring ruin upon the inhabitants of Nob. Such is the perversity of the human heart that has refused the guidance of God.

“This deed filled **all Israel with horror**. It was the king whom they had chosen that had committed this outrage, and he had only done after **the manner of the kings of other nations** that feared not God. The ark was with them, but the priests of whom they had inquired were slain with the sword. What would come next?” *Patriarchs and Prophets*, 659.