

## UNPUBLISHED – MOUNT OF OLIVET

“As Christ stood upon the mount of Olives and **looked upon the doomed city, He could not control His emotion. With weeping** He exclaimed, ‘**O Jerusalem, Jerusalem**, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!’ Christ’s tears on this occasion were shed for the impenitent of all time. **His sorrow** embraced the world. {Ms138-1899.37}

“As the Saviour looked down upon Jerusalem, **the scene of her destruction passed before Him**. He thought of the privileges which had been hers. To the Jewish people God had given heaven’s best gift. For three years Christ had been giving them the invitation to the gospel feast. Now, with pale and quivering lips He laments over Israel, the son of His care. With a strong and mighty arm He had brought them out of Egypt, leading them through the vast wilderness; and **sorrow filled His heart** as He said, ‘If thou hadst known, even thou at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace!’ {Ms138-1899.38}

Then He paused. Must **He pronounce the irrevocable sentence?** He hesitates. The sun is shining in its evening glory upon Jerusalem, lighting up the beauty of her temple. Christ knew that when that sun should go down behind the hills, Jerusalem’s day of mercy and reprieve would be forever ended. And **as the last rays of the setting sun were eclipsed by the mountains about the city, the words of doom** were spoken, ‘But now they are hid from thine eyes.’ In refusing to believe in Jesus the Jewish people **closed the door of hope** against themselves. {Ms138-1899.39}

“‘When therefore the Lord of the vineyard cometh,’ Christ asked, ‘**What will he do unto those husbandmen?**’ So carried away by the narrative were Christ’s hearers that they gave a decided testimony against themselves. ‘**He will utterly destroy those wicked men,**’ they said, ‘and will let out his vineyard unto other husbandmen, which shall render him the fruits in their season.’ ‘Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scripture, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner; this is the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes? Therefore I say unto you, **The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof.**’ {Ms138-1899.40}

“Christ would have averted the doom of the Jewish nation if the people had received Him. But envy and jealousy made them implacable. They determined that they would not receive Jesus of Nazareth as the Messiah. **They rejected the Light of the world**, and thenceforth their lives were surrounded with darkness as the **darkness of midnight. The doom foretold came upon the Jewish nation**. Their own fierce passions, uncontrolled, wrought their ruin. In their blind rage they destroyed one another. Their rebellious, stubborn pride brought upon them the wrath of their Roman conquerors. Jerusalem was destroyed, the temple laid in ruins, and its site plowed like a field. The children of Judah perished by the most horrible forms of death. Millions were sold, to serve as bondmen in heathen lands.” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, 295.

## SIGNS OF THE TIMES – MOUNT OF OLIVET

“The careless and the impenitent go on in their reckless course of disobedience, and harden themselves in rebellion against God; but they do not consider the value of the human soul. The world’s Redeemer was constantly seeking to lead men to a true appreciation of the value of the soul. He asked the question, ‘What shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole

world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?' A world sinks into insignificance in comparison with the soul. When **Christ wept** upon the mount of Olivet, **he beheld with prophetic eye**, not only the loss of one soul, but **the destruction of a nation**.

"The world's Redeemer had come from his royal courts, stepped down from his royal throne, had clothed his divinity with humanity, and for our sake had become poor, that we through his poverty might be made rich. In accepting Christ the sinful nations who were about to be destroyed might have accepted the riches of heaven, obtained an eternal weight of glory. Must his offering be in vain? In his mission on earth among men he had displayed the same power as he had displayed in delivering the nation from Egyptian bondage, in opening a path through the Red Sea, and in discomfiting the army of Pharaoh. He had revealed enough of his divinity to show them that he was the Son of God, and that he was able to deliver them from the Roman yoke, if it so pleased him, and to give them temporal triumph; but it was the fact that he did not exercise his power in bringing to them temporal benefits in the way they desired, that led the scribes and the Pharisees to reject the world's Redeemer. He bore a message denouncing every abomination in the land. He exposed their hypocrisies, and revealed the fact that their sanctity was only a cloak to iniquity.

"The untainted purity of his life, the faultless character of his words and works, was a bitter reproof to the self-righteous but unclean pretenders to religion. He rebuked their course in weaving human traditions and the maxims of men into the laws of God, so that men were confused in regard to the laws of God's government, and were led to make void his law through following human inventions. He said to them: 'This people honoreth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, . . . making the word of God of none effect through your tradition.' He charged the religious teachers with being ignorant both of the Scriptures and of the power of God.

"The Jews hated Christ because he bore a beautiful, spotless character. He could hate but one thing, and that was sin. This hatred of sin on his part provoked their bitterest hostility. If he had given license to their pride, had fostered their ambition, and passed over their evil passions, their injustice, their fraud, their robbery of the poor, they would have applauded Jesus. They would not have been displeased that he healed the sick, that he had compassion on the suffering, that he raised the dead; but they were displeased because he condemned their evil works, and put them to an open shame by exposing their evil motives. He rebuked their long prayers on the corners of the streets, and the wearing of their long robes for the purpose of making people think they were very pious, when at the same time they would devour with exactions widows' houses. They would not consent to reform and to be transformed in character; but they were determined by any possible means to get rid of Him who revealed their true character to the people, and paid no regard to their claims of superior sanctity. The fiercest and most inveterate enmity was put between Christ and these bigoted pretenders. The whole energy of the ranks of apostasy was called forth, and evil men conspired with evil angels for the destruction of the Champion of God and truth.

"On the mount of Olivet Christ took a retrospective view of the ages and centuries that had passed, and realized what would be the **crowning act in the nation's apostasy. In putting to death the Son of the Infinite God they would add the last figure to the sum of their guiltiness**. Can we wonder that the heart of Christ was filled with grief, and that while he wept in agonizing sobs, his form swayed as a tree before the tempest? He saw the retribution that would fall upon Jerusalem, and exclaimed: 'O **Jerusalem, Jerusalem**, thou that killest the prophets,

and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.’ ‘If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes. For the days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side, and shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and **they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation.**’

“The sheep gate was before Christ, and the path which led to the temple, and for centuries the victims had been conducted thither for sacrifice. The lambs that had been slain had been a representation of the great anti-typical sacrifice that in a few hours would be made for those who rejected his grace and compassion, the refusers of his offers of mercy. **The only-begotten Son of the Infinite God would be led through the sheep gate as a lamb to the slaughter, while through the priests and rulers and through the common people would be manifested Satanic attributes.** For a few moments the Son of God stands upon Mount Olivet, expressing the intense yearning of his soul that Jerusalem might repent in the last few moments before **the westering sun shall sink behind the hill. That day** the Jews as a nation would end their probation. Mercy, that had long been appointed as their guardian angel, had been insulted, despised, and rejected, and was already stepping down from the golden throne, ready to depart. But, O, that the rejecters of God's mercy, full of zeal to sustain themselves in their own way, might yet turn from their man-made inventions, repent, and seek reconciliation with God! The shadows of twilight are beginning to gather, and, O, that Jerusalem might know the things that belong unto her peace! But now the irrevocable sentence is spoken, because ‘she knew not the time of her visitation.’

“**Jesus hears the tramp of the besieging army. He sees the temple in ruins.** He sees famine and distress in the city. His **prophetic eye** sees Calvary, the hill upon which **he shall be lifted up**, planted with crosses as thick as the forest trees. He sees the very ones nailed thereon who clamored for his condemnation, and who cried out under their Satanic delusion, ‘His blood be on us and on our children.’ The retribution that has fallen upon them is most terrible; for they are left to the mercy of the leader they have chosen, and Satan and his confederacy of evil angels wreak their spite upon the human family.

“All this Jesus sees as the result of their refusal to accept his offers of mercy. Thus they have worked their own present and eternal ruin, and as a nation divorced themselves from God. He could say to the whole nation as he had said to Philip, ‘Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me?’ They had refused the messages of warning, of reproof, and mercy, that had been sent to them through the prophets, God's delegated servants, tho these messengers had been sent to save them from taking such steps as would prove their ruin. **At last God had sent his Son**, and they had said, ‘**This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance shall be ours.**’

“‘Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me?’ These words are applicable to very many in our own day. Many do not know him, tho he has been lifted up for us and crucified. They do not know him, tho a mighty angel from heaven parted the darkness from his track, and rolled back the stone from the door of the sepulcher, and Jesus, the Lord of light and glory, came forth from the rent sepulcher proclaiming himself the resurrection and the life.” *Sigs of the Times*, February 27, 1896.

## MOSES ON MOUNT PISGAH

“As angels presented to Moses a **panoramic view of the land of promise**, he could take in the whole scene, and appreciate with **almost divine clearness its magnificence**. It was as a second Eden, abounding in fruit trees of almost every variety, and very beautiful ornamental trees and flowers. There were goodly cities, with brooks and springs of water. There were fields of wheat and barley, and vineyards, and fig trees, and pomegranates, and oil olive, and honey. The Lord had said, Thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack anything in it.

“**Moses was shown future events**, especially those connected with the first advent of Jesus Christ. He was shown important, thrilling scenes in the life of Christ, and the very places where these scenes would be enacted. He saw his humble birth, and the angels proclaiming the glad tidings to the shepherds, ‘Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.’ Moses saw that Christ had exchanged his majesty and splendor for the manger of Bethlehem. He heard the joyful voices of the shining host of Heaven break forth in that divine song, ‘Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.’ He saw the Saviour of the world humbly walking through the streets of Bethlehem, divested of kingly honors, without pomp or grandeur. He saw the manner of his rejection by the proud and corrupt Jewish nation. They despised and rejected Him who had come to give them life. Here was their only star of hope. He saw the great agony of the Son of God in the garden of Gethsemane, and the betrayal of Jesus into the hands of a mob which was infuriated by Satan. He saw the cruel mockings and scourgings instigated by his own nation, and **their last crowning act of nailing him to the cross**; and Moses saw that, as he had lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, **so the Son of God was lifted up on the wooden cross**. He saw him bleeding and dying, that whosoever should believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

“Grief, amazement, indignation, and horror, were depicted on the countenance of Moses, as he viewed the hypocrisy and satanic hatred manifested by the Jewish nation against their Redeemer, the mighty angel who had gone before their fathers, and wrought so wonderfully for them in all their journeyings. He heard his agonizing cry, ‘**My God, my God**, why hast thou forsaken me?’ He saw him rise from the dead, and walk forth a triumphant conqueror, and ascend to his Father escorted by adoring angels. The gates of the city were opened by angels, who welcomed their divine Commander back with songs of glory and everlasting triumph. Moses' countenance changed, and shone with a holy radiance, as he viewed the glory and triumph of Christ. How small appeared all his hardships, trials, and sacrifices, when compared with those of the divine Son of God! He rejoiced that he had chosen to suffer affliction with the people of God, and in a small measure be a partaker with Christ of his sufferings.

“It was not the will of God that any one should go up with Moses to the top of Pisgah. There he stood, upon a high prominence upon Pisgah's top, in the presence of God and heavenly angels. After he had viewed Canaan to his satisfaction, he lay down, like a tired warrior, **to rest**. **Sleep came upon him, but it was the sleep of death**. Angels took his body and buried it in the valley. The Israelites could never find the place where he was buried. His secret burial was to prevent the people from sinning against the Lord by committing idolatry over his body.” *The Spirit of Prophecy*, volume 1, 339 – 341.

## CROWNING ACT – SATAN

“Fearful sights of a supernatural character will soon be revealed in the heavens, in token of the power of miracle-working demons. **The spirits of devils will go forth to the kings of the earth and to the whole world.** Rulers and subjects will be alike deceived. Persons will arise pretending to be Christ, and claiming the title and the worship which belong to the world's Redeemer. **They will perform wonderful miracles of healing, and will profess to have revelations from Heaven contradicting the testimony of the Scriptures.** {4SP 441.2}

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

“But the people of God will not be misled. The teachings of this false christ are not in accordance with the Scriptures. His blessing is pronounced upon the worshipers of the beast and his image,—the very class upon whom the Bible declares that God's unmingled wrath shall be poured out. And, furthermore, Satan is not permitted to counterfeit the manner of Christ's advent. The Scriptures teach that ‘as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be;’ [Matthew 24:27.] that he ‘cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him;’ [Revelation 1:7.] that he will ‘descend from Heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God;’ [1 Thessalonians 4:16.] that he will ‘come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him,’ [Matthew 25:31.] and will ‘send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect.’ [Matthew 24:31.] Those who have received the love of the truth will be shielded from the powerful delusion that takes the world captive. By the testimony of the Scriptures they will detect the deceiver in his disguise.

“To all, **the testing time will come. By the sifting of temptation, the genuine Christian will be revealed.** Are the people of God now so firmly established upon his word that they would not yield to the evidence of their senses? Would they, in such a **crisis**, cling to the Bible, and the Bible only? **Satan will, if possible, prevent them from obtaining a preparation to stand in that day.** He will so arrange affairs as to hedge up their way, entangle them with earthly treasures, cause them to carry a heavy, wearisome burden, that their hearts may be overcharged with the cares of this life, and **the day of trial** may come upon them **as a thief.**”  
*The Spirit of Prophecy, volume 1, 441 – 443.*

## SATAN AFTER THE 1000 YEARS

Revelation 20; 17:10 - 13

“At the close of the thousand years, **Christ again returns to the earth**. He is accompanied by the host of the redeemed and attended by a retinue of angels. As He descends in terrific majesty **He bids the wicked dead arise to receive their doom**. They come forth, a mighty host, numberless as the sands of the sea. What a contrast to those who were raised at the first resurrection! The righteous were clothed with immortal youth and beauty. The wicked bear the traces of disease and death.

“Every eye in that vast multitude is turned to behold the glory of the Son of God. With one voice the wicked hosts exclaim: ‘Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord!’ It is not love to Jesus that inspires this utterance. The force of truth urges the words from unwilling lips. As the wicked went into their graves, so they come forth with the same enmity to Christ and the same spirit of rebellion. They are to have no new probation in which to remedy the defects of their past lives. Nothing would be gained by this. A lifetime of transgression has not softened their hearts. A second probation, were it given them, would be occupied as was the first in evading the requirements of God and exciting rebellion against Him.

“Christ descends upon the Mount of Olives, whence, after His resurrection, He ascended, and where angels repeated the promise of His return. Says the prophet: ‘The Lord my God shall come, and all the saints with Thee.’ ‘And His feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof, . . . and there shall be a very great valley.’ ‘And the Lord shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one Lord, and His name one.’ Zechariah 14:5, 4, 9. As the New Jerusalem, in its dazzling splendor, comes down out of heaven, it rests upon the place purified and made ready to receive it, and Christ, with His people and the angels, enters the Holy City.

“**Now Satan prepares for a last mighty struggle for the supremacy**. While deprived of his power and cut off from his work of deception, the prince of evil was miserable and dejected; but as the wicked dead are raised and he sees the vast multitudes upon his side, his hopes revive, and he determines not to yield the great controversy. He will marshal all the armies of the lost under his banner and through them endeavor to execute his plans. The wicked are Satan's captives. In rejecting Christ they have accepted the rule of the rebel leader. They are ready to receive his suggestions and to do his bidding. Yet, true to his early cunning, **he does not acknowledge himself to be Satan. He claims to be the prince who is the rightful owner of the world and whose inheritance has been unlawfully wrested from him. He represents himself to his deluded subjects as a redeemer, assuring them that his power has brought them forth from their graves and that he is about to rescue them from the most cruel tyranny**. The presence of Christ having been removed, Satan works wonders to support his claims. He makes the weak strong and inspires all with his own spirit and energy. He proposes to lead them against the camp of the saints and to take possession of the City of God. With fiendish exultation he points to the unnumbered millions who have been raised from the dead and declares that as their leader he is well able to overthrow the city and regain his throne and his kingdom.” *The Great Controversy*, 662, 663.