

# Habakkuk's Two Tables #38

PART FIVE: 1863

## PROOF TEXTING (LINE UPON LINE)

### THE FOURTH GENERATION

Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear *the guilty*; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth *generation*. Exodus 34:7; 20:5–6; Numbers 14:17–18; Deuteronomy 5:9–10.

### PROBATIONARY TIME

Genesis 15:12–16

“And he called to the man clothed with linen, which had the writer's inkhorn by his side; and the Lord said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof. And to the others he said in mine hearing, Go ye after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity: slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; and begin at My sanctuary. Then they began at the ancient men which were before the house.’

“Jesus is about to leave the mercy seat of the heavenly sanctuary to put on garments of vengeance and pour out His wrath in judgments upon those who have not responded to the light God has given them. ‘Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.’ Instead of being softened by the patience and long forbearance that the Lord has exercised toward them, those who fear not God and love not the truth strengthen their hearts in their evil course. But **there are limits even to the forbearance of God**, and many are exceeding these boundaries. They have overrun the limits of grace, and therefore God must interfere and vindicate His own honor.

“Of the Amorites the Lord said: ‘**In the fourth generation** they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full.’ Although this nation was conspicuous because of its idolatry and corruption, it had not yet filled up the cup of its iniquity, and God would not give command for its utter destruction. The people were to see the divine power manifested in a marked manner, that they might be left without excuse. The compassionate Creator was willing to bear with their iniquity until the fourth generation. Then, if no change was seen for the better, His judgments were to fall upon them.

“With unerring accuracy **the Infinite One still keeps an account with all nations**. While His mercy is tendered with calls to repentance, this account will remain open; but when the figures reach a certain amount which God has fixed, the ministry of His wrath commences. The account is closed. Divine patience ceases. There is no more pleading of mercy in their behalf.

“The prophet, looking down the ages, had this time presented before his vision. The nations of this age have been the recipients of unprecedented mercies. The choicest of heaven's blessings have been given them, but increased pride, covetousness, idolatry, contempt of God, and base ingratitude are written against them. They are fast closing up their account with God.

“But **that which causes me to tremble** is the fact that **those who have had the greatest light and privileges have become contaminated by the prevailing iniquity**. Influenced by the unrighteous around them, many, even of those who profess the truth, have grown cold and are borne down by the strong current of evil. The universal scorn thrown upon true piety and holiness leads those who do not connect closely with God to lose their reverence for His law. If they were following the light and obeying the truth from the heart, this holy law would seem even more precious to them when thus despised and set aside. As the disrespect for God’s law becomes more manifest, the line of demarcation between its observers and the world becomes more distinct. Love for the divine precepts increases with one class according as contempt for them increases with another class.

“The crisis is fast approaching. The rapidly swelling figures show that **the time for God’s visitation has about come**. Although loath to punish, nevertheless He will punish, and that speedily. **Those who walk in the light will see signs of the approaching peril**; but they are not to sit in quiet, unconcerned expectancy of the ruin, comforting themselves with the belief that God will shelter His people in the day of visitation. Far from it. They should realize that it is their duty to labor diligently to save others, looking with strong faith to God for help. ‘The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.’

“The leaven of godliness has not entirely lost its power. At the time when the danger and depression of the church are greatest, the little company who are standing in the light will be sighing and crying for the abominations that are done in the land. But more especially will their prayers arise **in behalf of the church because its members are doing after the manner of the world**.

“The earnest prayers of this faithful few will not be in vain. When the Lord comes forth as an **avenger**, He will also come as a **protector** of all those who have preserved the faith in its purity and kept themselves unspotted from the world. It is at this time that God has promised to avenge His own elect which cry day and night unto Him, though He bear long with them.

“The command is: ‘Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof.’ These sighing, crying ones had been holding forth the words of life; they had reproved, counseled, and entreated. Some who had been dishonoring God repented and humbled their hearts before Him. But the glory of the Lord had departed from Israel; although many still continued the forms of religion, His power and presence were lacking.” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 207–210.

## EZEKIEL EIGHT

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

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

“Lucifer was envious and jealous of Jesus Christ. Yet when all the angels bowed to Jesus to acknowledge His supremacy and high authority and rightful rule, he bowed with them; but his heart was filled with envy and hatred.” *Story of Redemption*, 14.

### THE SECRET CHAMBER—EZEKIEL 8:10–12

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

### WEeping FOR TAMMUZ—EZEKIEL 8:14

### SUNDAY WORSHIP—EZEKIEL 8:16

SELF-EXALTATION; SPIRITUALISM, A FALSE CHRIST AND SUNDAY WORSHIP  
THE DAILY; PANTHEISM; *THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST* AND THE SUNDAY LAW

## JOEL

Joel 1:1–4; 2:25

## JOB

JOB: **H347**—From **H340**; *hated* (that is, *persecuted*); *Job*, the patriarch famous for his patience. **H340**—to *hate* (as one of an opposite tribe or party); hence to be *hostile*:—be an enemy.

### THE UPRIGHT MAN

Job 1:1–2; Job 42:10–17

## JEHU

## NO SO UPRIGHT

2 Kings 10:28–30

“There are men at the heart of the work who do not realize their responsibilities. They do not realize how many there are who are in positions of trust who have not a correct knowledge of God, whom to know aright is life eternal. They know not what it means to sanctify the Lord God in their hearts. They do not know what it means to make God their fear and their dread. Had they known this, they would now be humble men, fearing God, the living God. But **like Jehu**, they have been driving furiously forward, to assume burdens which they cannot carry. It is because men know so little of true godliness, because they have so little genuine experience in the building up, little by little, of the work and cause of God, that they make long strides without God to lead the way.” *The 1888 Materials*, 1630.

“Morning after morning I awake at 2 a.m., and often at 12 p.m. [midnight]. During the night season has been presented before me the unfaithfulness of men who have occupied positions of responsibility at the great heart of the work. The councils at this great center, if kept pure and uncorrupted, would have been as the voice of God; but men have worked upon principles that are condemned by the word of God, and they have not heard nor obeyed the voice of God. **Like Jehu**, they have driven furiously in a course to uproot the confidence of God’s people in men who are true to the Master’s cause. They have sought to establish their own authority, while betraying the cause of God. While making decisions, and devising and planning, they have tried to make their oppressive human orders as the voice of God to His people.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 17, 209.

“There are many whose religion consists in activities. They want to be engaged in, and have the credit of doing, some great work while the little graces that go to make up a lovely Christian character are entirely overlooked. The busy, bustling service, which gives the impression that one is doing some wonderful work, is not acceptable to God. It is **a Jehu spirit**, which says, ‘Come, see my zeal for the Lord.’ It is gratifying to self; it feeds a self-complacent feeling; but all the while the soul may be defiled with the plague-spot of unsubdued, uncontrolled selfishness.” *Signs of the Times*, November 20, 1884.

2 Kings 15:11–12

### THE DAYS OF UZZIAH, JOTHAM AND AHAZ

#### THREE ANGELS

Isaiah 7:1

#### (UZZIAH) THE FIRST ANGEL ARRIVES

2 Chronicles 26:3

#### (UZZIAH) THE FIRST ANGEL IS EMPOWERED

Isaiah 6:1

“As they [the angels] see the future, **when the whole earth shall be filled with His glory**, the triumphant song of praise is echoed from one to another in melodious chant, ‘**Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of Hosts.**’ They are fully satisfied to glorify God; and in His presence, beneath His smile of approbation, they wish for nothing more. In bearing His image, in doing His service and worshiping Him, their highest ambition is fully reached.” *Review and Herald*, December 22, 1896.

#### **(JOTHAM) THE SECOND ANGEL**

2 Chronicles 27:1

#### **JOTHAM AND THE IMAGE OF THE BEAST TEST**

Now the rest of the acts of Jotham, and all that he did, *are* they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? **In those days the Lord began to send against Judah Rezin the king of Syria, and Pekah the son of Remaliah.** 2 Kings 25:36–37.

#### **(AHAZ) THE THIRD ANGEL—DOOR CLOSES; WORSHIP THE KING OF THE NORTH**

“The Lord brought Judah low’ because of continued transgression. In this time of chastisement Ahaz, instead of repenting, trespassed ‘yet more against the Lord: . . . for he sacrificed unto the gods of Damascus.’ ‘Because the gods of the kings of Syria help them,’ he said, ‘**therefore will I sacrifice to them, that they may help me.**’ 2 Chronicles 28:19, 22, 23.

“As the apostate king neared the end of his reign, **he caused the doors of the temple to be closed.** The sacred services were interrupted. No longer were the candlesticks kept burning before the altar. No longer were offerings made for the sins of the people. No longer did sweet incense ascend on high at the time of the morning and the evening sacrifice. Deserting the courts of the house of God and locking fast its doors, **the inhabitants of the godless city boldly set up altars for the worship of heathen deities on the street corners throughout Jerusalem. Heathenism had seemingly triumphed; the powers of darkness had well-nigh prevailed.**

“But in Judah there dwelt some who maintained their allegiance to Jehovah, steadfastly refusing to be led into idolatry. It was to these that Isaiah and Micah and their associates looked in hope as they surveyed the ruin wrought during the last years of Ahaz. Their sanctuary was closed, but the faithful ones were assured: ‘God is with us.’ ‘Sanctify the Lord of hosts Himself; and let Him be your fear, and let Him be your dread. And He shall be for a sanctuary.’ Isaiah 8:10, 13, 14.” *Prophets and Kings*, 330.

#### **A NEW CHURCH (34AD)**

#### **A PROPHECY SEALED UP—DANIEL 9:24**

**SEAL: H2856**—A primitive root; to *close* up; especially to *seal*. Same as Daniel 12:4.

#### **A SCATTERING BEGINS**

“The one week—seven years—ended in A. D. 34. Then by the stoning of Stephen the Jews finally **sealed their rejection of the gospel; the disciples who were scattered**

abroad by persecution ‘went everywhere preaching the word’ (Acts 8:4); and shortly after, Saul the persecutor was converted, and became Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles.” *The Desire of Ages*, 233.

“Closely following the death of Stephen, and **the consequent scattering** of the believers throughout Palestine, Samaria was greatly stirred.” *Spirit of Prophecy*, volume 3, 301.

**MAY 1863, THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH WAS LEGALLY ORGANIZED**

ANCIENT ISRAEL BEGINS THE SCATTERING OF LEVITICUS 26 & MODERN ISRAEL BEGINS THE SCATTERING OF MILLER’S DREAM