

# THE END FROM THE BEGINNING

## The Thing That Hath Been... Shall Be

- ❖ **The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be;** and that which is done [is] that which shall be done: and [there is] no new [thing] under the sun. Is there [any] thing whereof it may be said, See, this [is] new? it hath been already of old time, which was before us. *Ecclesiastes 1:9, 10.*

## God Requireth That Which Is Past

- ❖ That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and **God requireth that which is past.** *Ecclesiastes 3:15.*

## Ancient Ensamples

- ❖ Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and **they are written for our admonition**, upon whom the ends of the world are come. *1 Corinthians 10:11.*

## The End From The Beginning

- ❖ Remember the former things of old: for I [am] God, and [there is] none else; [I am] God, and [there is] none like me, **Declaring the end from the beginning**, and from ancient times [the things] that are not [yet] done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure: *Isaiah 46:9, 10.*

## Parallel Movements

“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.

**Parallel:** A line which throughout its whole extent is equidistant from another line; as parallels of latitude. Anything equal to or resembling another in all essential particulars. *Webster's 1828 Dictionary.*

## The Lines Of Prophecy

“**Historical events**, showing the direct fulfillment of prophecy, were set before the people, and the **prophecy was seen to be a figurative delineation of events** leading down to the close of this earth's **history**.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 102.

**Figurative**: Representing something else; representing by resemblance; typical. *Webster's 1828 Dictionary*.

**Delineation**: First draught of a thing; outline; representation of a form or figure by lines; sketch; design. *Ibid*.

“We must have a knowledge of the Scriptures, that we may trace down **the lines of prophecy**, and understand the specifications given by the prophets, and by Christ and the apostles; that we may not be ignorant; but be able to see that the day is approaching, **so that with increased zeal and effort, we may exhort one another to faithfulness, piety, and holiness.**” *Review & Herald*, July 31, 1888.

“Revelation is a sealed book, but it is also an opened book. It records marvelous events that are to take place in the last days of this earth's **history**. The teachings of this book are definite, not mystical and unintelligible. **In it the same line of prophecy is taken up as in Daniel**. Some prophecies God has repeated, thus showing that importance must be given to them. The Lord does not repeat things that are of no great consequence.” *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 9, 7-8.

## History And Prophecy Must Agree

“To know whether we have the true **historical event** for the **fulfillment of a prophecy**. If you find every word of the **prophecy** (after the figures are understood) is literally fulfilled, then you may know that your history is the true **event**. But if one word lacks a fulfillment, then you must look for another **event**, or wait its future development. **For God takes care that history and prophecy doth agree**, so that the true believing children of God may never be ashamed.” *William Miller's 13<sup>th</sup> Rule of Biblical Interpretation*.

“The **events of the future will be discerned by prophecy**, and will be understood.” *Review & Herald*, April 4, 1893.

“**The prophecies present a succession of events** leading down to the opening of the judgment.” *The Great Controversy*, 356.

“He (the Bible student) should understand the nature of the two principles that are contending for supremacy, and should learn to **trace their working through the records of history and prophecy**, to the great consummation.” *Education*, 190.

## Miller's Plan

"Those who are engaged in proclaiming the third angel's message are searching the Scriptures upon **the same plan that Father Miller adopted**. In the little book entitled "Views of the Prophecies and Prophetic Chronology," Father Miller gives the following simple but intelligent and important rules for Bible study and interpretation..." *Review & Herald*, November 25, 1884.

## Guided By Angel's

"Link after link of the chain of truth rewarded his (William Miller's) efforts, as step by step he traced down **the great lines of prophecy**. Angels of heaven were guiding his mind and opening the Scriptures to his understanding." *The Great Controversy*, 320.

## The Waymarks Of The Great Reform Movements

1. Time of the End
2. The First Message
3. The Second Message
4. The Third Message
  - Work
  - Backsliding or Vacillating
5. The Fourth Message

## The Characteristics Of The Waymarks

### Time Of The End

- Preceded by darkness or a "scattering" time
  - A prophecy is fulfilled
  - Historical events mark the arrival of the first message
  - Some understand the fulfillment (Run to & fro)
  - A prophetic passage is unsealed
  - The prophetic passage relates to the message or work of upcoming period
  - The unsealed truth initiates an escalating process of separation
  - A "gathering" time begins
- ❖ Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of **sin**, and of **righteousness**, and of **judgment**: *John 16:7, 8.*

### **The First Message**

- A fearful conviction of **sin**
- A reform message associated with a specific reformer
- Increase of knowledge is formalized into the message of the hour (present truth)
- The formalized message becomes a test
- Empowered after its arrival and formalization
- Empowered when a divine symbol descends
- The foundations are established
- World-wide impact

### **The Second Message**

- **Righteousness** is manifested
- Historical events mark the arrival of the second message
- Activities of the enemies (message or work opposed)
- Call out of Babylon
- A glorious manifestation of the power of god empowers the message
- Temple finished and cleansed
- A sealing takes place resulting in a separation
- The separation has eternal consequences local impact

### **The Third Message**

- Historical events mark the arrival of the third message
- A form of **judgment** takes place
- There is a shut door
- The “gathering” is accomplished
- Two classes are demonstrated
- A covenant is established
- Followed by a disappointment
- Associated with the number seven
- The people of God are given a particular work
- Followed by backsliding or vacillating

### **The Fourth Message**

- Repetition of the second message – “**righteousness**” once again manifested
- Preceded by a repetition of the “Fearful conviction of **sin**” as experienced in the First Message
- Followed by a repetition of “**judgment**” as experienced in the Third Message
- The work is finished
- Accomplished “even in troublous times”

## God's Unchangeable Nature

"The registered experiences of believers of former days is to be an encouragement to us living down near the close of time. **We may gather up the hereditary trust of light and knowledge and individual dealings of God with His people for centuries.** We have the benefit of their spiritual experiences which is of great value to us. **We have no new, strange path to tread, in which others have not had a similar experience... The Lord's ways are unchangeable.** He will do in our days as He has done in earlier days. They had less light in their day than we have in our day. With the Scriptures in our hand, and the example and blessing of those who were tempted and tried, we are nerved for the victory, expecting the same mercies from the same God as had the ancients." *The Ellen G. White 1888 Materials*, 490-491.

## I Change Not

- ❖ For I [am] the LORD, **I change not**; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed. *Malachi 3:6.*

## It Shall Be Forever

- ❖ I know that, **whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever**: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth [it], that [men] should fear before him. *Ecclesiastes 3:14.*

## No Variableness

- ❖ Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, **with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.** *James 1:17.*

## Always The Same

- ❖ Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. *Hebrews 13:8.*

"The Old and New Testaments are linked together by the golden clasp of God. We need to become familiar with the Old-Testament Scriptures. **The unchangeableness of God should be clearly seen; the similarity of his dealings with his people of the past dispensation and of the present, should be studied.** Under the inspiration of the Spirit of God, Solomon wrote, "That which hath been is now: and that which is to be hath already been; and God requireth that which is past." **In mercy God repeats his past dealings.** He has given us a record of his dealings in the past. This we need to study carefully; for **history is repeating itself.** We are more accountable than were those whose experience is recorded in the Old Testament; for their mistakes, and the results of those mistakes, have been chronicled for our benefit. The danger-signal has been lifted to keep us off forbidden ground, and we should be warned not to do as they did, lest a worse punishment come upon us. The blessings given to those of past generations who obeyed God are recorded that we may be encouraged to

walk circumspectly, in faith and obedience. The judgments brought against wrong-doers are **delineated** that we may fear and tremble before God. This Scripture biography is a great blessing. **This precious instruction, the experience of ages, is bequeathed to us.**" *Review & Herald*, April 20, 1897.

# THE BEGINNING OF ANCIENT ISRAEL

## Like Unto Me

- ❖ The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, **like unto me**; unto him ye shall hearken; According to all that thou desiredst of the LORD thy God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God, neither let me see this great fire any more, that I die not. And the LORD said unto me, They have well [spoken that] which they have spoken. **I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth**; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him. *Deuteronomy 18:15-18.*
- ❖ And he shall send **Jesus Christ**, which before was preached unto you: Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began. For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, **like unto me**; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you. *Acts 3:20-22.*

## The Time Of The End

- ❖ But when the time of the promise drew nigh, which God had sworn to Abraham, the people grew and multiplied in Egypt, Till another king arose, which knew not Joseph. The same dealt subtilly with our kindred, and evil entreated our fathers, so that they cast out their young children, to the end they might not live. In which time Moses was born, and was exceeding fair, and nourished up in his father's house three months: *Acts 7:17-20.*
- ❖ This **Moses** whom they refused, saying, Who made thee a ruler and a judge? the same did God send [to be] a ruler and **a deliverer** by the hand of the angel which appeared to him in the bush. *Acts 7:35.*

"Orders were issued to the women whose employment gave them opportunity for executing the command, to destroy the Hebrew male children at their birth. Satan was the mover in this matter. He knew that a deliverer was to be raised up among the Israelites; and by leading the king to destroy their children he hoped to defeat the divine purpose... While this decree was in full force a son was born to Amram and Jochebed, devout Israelites of the tribe of Levi. The babe was "a goodly child;" and **the parents, believing that the time of Israel's release was drawing near, and that God would raise up a deliverer for His people**, determined that their little one should not be sacrificed. Faith in God strengthened their hearts, "and they were not afraid of the king's commandment." Hebrews 11:23." *Patriarchs & Prophets, 242, 243.*

## Preceded By Darkness

“The Lord appeared to Abraham, and promised him that his seed should be like the stars of heaven for number. He also made known to him, **through the figure of the horror of great darkness which came upon him, the long, servile bondage of his descendants in Egypt.**” *Spirit of Prophecy*, vol. 1, 93.

“These events were to take place near the close of the period in which the witnesses testified in sackcloth. Through the medium of the papacy, Satan had long controlled the powers that ruled in Church and State. The fearful results were specially apparent in those countries that rejected the light of the Reformation. There was a state of moral debasement and corruption similar to the condition of Sodom just prior to its destruction, and to the idolatry and **spiritual darkness that prevailed in Egypt in the days of Moses.**” *Spirit of Prophecy*, vol.4, 190-191.

“In their bondage the Israelites had to some extent lost the knowledge of God's law, and they had departed from its precepts.” *Patriarchs & Prophets*, 258.

## Increase Of Knowledge

### Among The People

“While this decree was in full force a son was born to Amram and Jochebed, devout Israelites of the tribe of Levi. The babe was "a goodly child;" and the parents, **believing that the time of Israel's release was drawing near, and that God would raise up a deliverer for His people**, determined that their little one should not be sacrificed. Faith in God strengthened their hearts, "and they were not afraid of the king's commandment." Hebrews 11:23.” *Patriarchs & Prophets*, 242-243.

“The elders of Israel were **taught by angels** that the time for their deliverance was near, and that Moses was the man whom God would employ to accomplish this work.” *Patriarchs & Prophets*, 245.

### With Moses

“God had heard the mother's prayers; her faith had been rewarded. It was with deep gratitude that she entered upon her now safe and happy task. **She faithfully improved her opportunity to educate her child for God.** She felt confident that he had been preserved for some great work, and she knew that he must soon be given up to his royal mother, to be surrounded with influences that would tend to lead him away from God. All this rendered her more **diligent and careful in his instruction** than in that of her other children. **She endeavored to imbue his mind with the fear of God and the love of truth and justice**, and earnestly prayed that he might be preserved from every corrupting influence. **She showed him the folly and sin of idolatry, and early taught him to bow down and pray to the living God**, who alone could hear him and help him in every emergency.” *Patriarchs & Prophets*, 243-244.

“Moses was not prepared for his great work. **He had yet to learn the same lesson of faith that Abraham and Jacob had been taught--not to rely upon human strength or wisdom, but upon the power of**

**God for the fulfillment of His promises. And there were other lessons that, amid the solitude of the mountains, Moses was to receive. In the school of self-denial and hardship he was to learn patience, to temper his passions. Before he could govern wisely, he must be trained to obey.** His own heart must be fully in harmony with God **before he could teach the knowledge of His will to Israel.** By his own experience he must be prepared to exercise a fatherly care over all who needed his help.” *Patriarchs & Prophets*, 247.

### **A Prophetic Passage (Understanding) Is Unsealed**

- ❖ And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land [that is] not theirs, and shall serve them; **and they shall afflict them four hundred years;** *Genesis* 15:13.

“Angels instructed Moses also that Jehovah had chosen him to break the bondage of His people.” *Patriarchs & Prophets*, 245.

### **Passage Relates To The Message Or Work Of The Upcoming Period**

- ❖ And it came to pass **at the end of the four hundred and thirty years**, even the selfsame day it came to pass, that all the hosts of the LORD **went out from the land of Egypt.** *Exodus* 12:41.

### **A Gathering Time Begins**

“**When the children of Israel were gathered out from among the Egyptians**, the Lord said: “For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the first-born in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the Lord.”” *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 6, 194.

## **The First Message**

### **A Fearful Conviction Of Sin**

- ❖ Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for **sin is the transgression of the law.** *1 John* 3:4.

“In their bondage the Israelites had to some extent lost the knowledge of God's law, and **they had departed from its precepts.** The Sabbath had been generally disregarded, and the exactions of their taskmasters made its observance apparently impossible. **But Moses had shown his people that obedience to God was the first condition of deliverance; and the efforts made to restore the observance of the Sabbath had come to the notice of their oppressors.**” *Patriarchs & Prophets*, 258.

## **A Reform Message: Sabbath Reform**

- ❖ And afterward Moses and Aaron went in, and told Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Let my people go, that they may hold a feast unto me in the wilderness. And Pharaoh said, Who [is] the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go. And they said, The God of the Hebrews hath met with us: let us go, we pray thee, three days' journey into the desert, and sacrifice unto the LORD our God; lest he fall upon us with pestilence, or with the sword. And the king of Egypt said unto them, Wherefore do ye, Moses and Aaron, let the people from their works? get you unto your burdens. And Pharaoh said, Behold, the people of the land now [are] many, and **ye make them rest from their burdens.** *Exodus 5:1-5.*

**Rest** H7673: *shaw-bath*: A primitive root; to *repose*, that is, *desist* from exertion; used in many implied relations (causatively, figuratively or specifically): - (cause to, let, make to) cease, celebrate, cause (make) to fail, **keep (sabbath)**, suffer to be lacking, leave, put away (down), (make to) rest, rid, still, take away. *Strong's.*

## **The Message Is Formalized: Present Truth—"Let My People Go"**

- ❖ Then fled Moses at this saying, and was a stranger in the land of Madian, where he begat two sons. **And when forty years were expired, there appeared to him in the wilderness of mount Sina an angel of the Lord in a flame of fire in a bush.** When Moses saw [it], he wondered at the sight: and as he drew near to behold [it], the voice of the Lord came unto him, [Saying], I [am] the God of thy fathers, the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Then Moses trembled, and durst not behold. Then said the Lord to him, Put off thy shoes from thy feet: for the place where thou standest is holy ground. I have seen, I have seen the affliction of my people which is in Egypt, and I have heard their groaning, and am come down to deliver them. And now come, **I will send thee into Egypt.** *Acts 7:29-34 (See Exodus 3).*
- ❖ And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD, Israel [is] my son, [even] my firstborn: And I say unto thee, **Let my son go, that he may serve me:** and if thou refuse to let him go, behold, I will slay thy son, [even] thy firstborn. *Exodus 4:22, 23.*

"When **the message was brought him by Moses**, in the name of the Lord, Pharaoh proudly answered: "Who is Jehovah, that I should hearken unto His voice to let Israel go? I know not Jehovah, and moreover I will not let Israel go." *Exodus 5:2, A.R.V.*" *The Great Controversy*, 269.

## **Message Empowered When Divine Symbol Desended**

- ❖ And it came to pass by the way in the inn, that **the LORD met him**, and sought to kill him. Then Zipporah took a sharp stone, and cut off the foreskin of her son, and cast [it] at his feet, and said, Surely a bloody husband [art] thou to me. So he let him go: then she said, A bloody husband [thou art], because of the circumcision. *Exodus 4:24-26.*

“On the way from Midian, Moses received a startling and terrible warning of the Lord's displeasure. An angel appeared to him in a threatening manner, as if he would immediately destroy him. No explanation was given; but Moses remembered that he had disregarded one of God's requirements; yielding to the persuasion of his wife, he had neglected to perform the rite of circumcision upon their youngest son. He had failed to comply with the condition by which his child could be entitled to the blessings of God's covenant with Israel; and such a neglect on the part of their chosen leader could not but lessen the force of the divine precepts upon the people. Zipporah, fearing that her husband would be slain, performed the rite herself, and **the angel then permitted Moses to pursue his journey**. In his mission to Pharaoh, Moses was to be placed in a position of great peril; **his life could be preserved only through the protection of holy angels**. But while living in neglect of a known duty, he would not be secure; for he could not be shielded by the angels of God.” *Patriarchs & Prophets*, 255-256.

## Worldwide

- ❖ And all countries came into Egypt to Joseph for to buy [corn]; because that the famine was [so] sore in all lands. *Genesis* 41:57.

Moses was fitted to take pre-eminence among the great of the earth, to shine in the courts of its **most glorious kingdom**, and to sway the scepter of its power. His intellectual greatness distinguishes him above the great men of all ages. As historian, poet, philosopher, general of armies, and legislator, he stands without a peer. Yet **with the world before him**, he had the moral strength to refuse the flattering prospects of wealth and greatness and fame, "choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season." *Patriarchs & Prophets*, 245.

- ❖ I [am] the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the **land of Egypt**, out of the **house of bondage**. *Exodus* 20:2.
- ❖ Even so we, when we were children, were in **bondage** under the **elements of the world**: *Galatians* 4:3.
- ❖ And it was told the king of Egypt that the people fled: and the heart of Pharaoh and of his servants was turned against the people, and they said, Why have we done this, that **we have let Israel go from serving us?** *Exodus* 14:5.

## The Second Message

### Righteousness Is Manifested In God's Holy Law

- ❖ And what nation [is there so] great, that hath statutes and judgments [so] **righteous as all this law**, which I set before you this day? *Deuteronomy* 4:8.
- ❖ [And] when thy son asketh thee in time to come, saying, What [mean] the testimonies, and the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD our God hath commanded you? Then thou shalt say unto thy son, We were Pharaoh's bondmen in Egypt; and the LORD

brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand: And the LORD shewed signs and wonders, great and sore, upon Egypt, upon Pharaoh, and upon all his household, before our eyes: And he brought us out from thence, that he might bring us in, to give us the land which he swore unto our fathers. And the LORD commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as [it is] at this day. **And it shall be our righteousness**, if we observe to do all these commandments before the LORD our God, as he hath commanded us. *Deuteronomy 6:20-25.*

### **Activities Of The Enemies**

- ❖ And Pharaoh commanded the same day the taskmasters of the people, and their officers, saying, **Ye shall no more give the people straw to make brick**, as heretofore: let them go and gather straw for themselves. And the tale of the bricks, which they did make heretofore, ye shall lay upon them; ye shall not diminish [ought] thereof: **for they [be] idle; therefore they cry, saying, Let us go [and] sacrifice to our God. Let there more work be laid upon the men**, that they may labour therein; and let them not regard vain words. And the taskmasters of the people went out, and their officers, and they spake to the people, saying, Thus saith Pharaoh, I will not give you straw. *Exodus 5:6-10.*

“The king, thoroughly roused, suspected the Israelites of a design to revolt from his service. Disaffection was the result of idleness; he would see that no time was left them for dangerous scheming. **And he at once adopted measures to tighten their bonds and crush out their independent spirit.** The same day orders were issued that rendered their labor **still more cruel and oppressive.** The most common building material of that country was sun-dried brick; the walls of the finest edifices were made of this, and then faced with stone; and the manufacture of brick employed great numbers of the bondmen. Cut straw being intermixed with the clay, to hold it together, large quantities of straw were required for the work; the king now directed that no more straw be furnished; the laborers must find it for themselves, while the same amount of brick should be exacted.” *Patriarchs & Prophets, 258.*

### **A Glorious Manifestation Of The Power Of God**

- ❖ And they did so; for Aaron stretched out his hand with his rod, and smote the dust of the earth, and it became lice in man, and in beast; all the dust of the land became lice throughout all the land of Egypt. And the magicians did so with their enchantments to bring forth lice, but they could not: so there were lice upon man, and upon beast. Then the magicians said unto Pharaoh, **This is the finger of God:** and Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had said. *Exodus 8:17-19.*
- ❖ But if **I with the finger of God cast out devils**, no doubt the kingdom of God is come upon you. *Luke 11:20.*
- ❖ But if **I cast out devils by the Spirit of God**, then the kingdom of God is come unto you. *Matthew 12:28.*

**“It was the hand of God, and no human influence or power possessed by Moses and Aaron, that wrought the miracles which they showed before Pharaoh.** Those signs and wonders were designed to convince Pharaoh that the great "I AM" had sent Moses, and that it was the duty of the king to let Israel go, that they might serve the living God.” *Patriarchs & Prophets*, 264.

## The Third Message

### A Form Of Judgment Takes Place

- ❖ For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt **I will execute judgment:** I [am] the LORD. *Exodus* 12:12.

**“The judgment of which Egypt had first been warned, was to be the last visited.** God is long-suffering and plenteous in mercy. He has a tender care for the beings formed in His image. If the loss of their harvests and their flocks and herds had brought Egypt to repentance, the children would not have been smitten; but the nation had stubbornly resisted the divine command, and now the final blow was about to fall.” *Patriarchs & Prophets*, 273.

### A Shut Door

“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" (Gen. 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" (Matt. 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" (Rev. 3:7)." *Selected Messages*, book 1, 63.

- ❖ And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip [it] in the blood that [is] in the bason, and strike the lintel and the two side posts with the blood that [is] in the bason; and none of you shall go out at the door of his house until the morning. For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and **will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you.** *Exodus* 12:22-23.

## A Disappointment

“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.**” *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 8, 115-116.

- ❖ And when Pharaoh drew nigh, the children of Israel lifted up their eyes, and, behold, the Egyptians marched after them; and **they were sore afraid**: and the children of Israel cried out unto the LORD. And they said unto Moses, Because [there were] no graves in Egypt, hast thou taken us away to die in the wilderness? wherefore hast thou dealt thus with us, to carry us forth out of Egypt? [Is] not this the word that we did tell thee in Egypt, saying, **Let us alone, that we may serve the Egyptians? For it had been better for us to serve the Egyptians, than that we should die in the wilderness.** And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever. *Exodus* 14:10-13.

## The Number Seven

### Ten Plagues Of Egypt

1. Water to Blood
2. Frogs
3. Lice

The first three plagues were universal in the land of Egypt

- ❖ And I will sever in that day the land of Goshen, in which my people dwell, that no swarms [of flies] shall be there; to the end thou mayest know that I [am] the LORD in the midst of the earth. **And I will put a division between my people and thy people**: to morrow shall this sign be. *Exodus* 8:22, 23.

4. (1) Flies
5. (2) Murrain (Cattle disease)
6. (3) Boils
7. (4) Hail
8. (5) Locusts
9. (6) Darkness
10. **(7)** Death of Firstborn

The final seven plagues did **not** fall on the children of Israel, and were directed exclusively at the Egyptians. Therefore, the seventh plague for the Egyptians was that of the firstborn being slain.

## **The People Given A Work To Do: Sabbath Reform**

- ❖ And it came to pass, [that] on the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for one [man]: and all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses. And he said unto them, This [is that] which the LORD hath said, To morrow [is] the rest of the holy sabbath unto the LORD: bake [that] which ye will bake [to day], and seethe that ye will seethe; and that which remaineth over lay up for you to be kept until the morning. And they laid it up till the morning, as Moses bade: and it did not stink, neither was there any worm therein. And Moses said, Eat that to day; for to day [is] a sabbath unto the LORD: to day ye shall not find it in the field. Six days ye shall gather it; but on the seventh day, [which is] the sabbath, in it there shall be none. *Exodus 16:22-26.*

## **The Children Of Israel Backslid**

- ❖ And it came to pass, [that] there went out [some] of the people on the seventh day for to gather, and they found none. And the LORD said unto Moses, **How long refuse ye to keep my commandments and my laws?** See, for that the LORD hath given you the sabbath, therefore he giveth you on the sixth day the bread of two days; abide ye every man in his place, let no man go out of his place on the seventh day. *Exodus 16:27-29.*

## **The Fourth Message**

### **Repetition Of The Second Message: Righteousness (God's Power) Again Manifested**

“Thus **the children of Israel were denominated as a special people. By a most solemn covenant they were pledged to be true to God.** Then the people were bidden to prepare themselves to hear the law. On the morning of the third day the voice of God was heard. Speaking out of the thick darkness that enshrouded Him, as He stood upon the mount, surrounded by a retinue of angels, **the Lord made known His law.**” *Fundamentals of Christian Education*, 506.

“Never since man was created had there been witnessed such **a manifestation of divine power** as when the law was proclaimed from Sinai.” *Patriarchs & Prophets*, 340.

### **Preceded By A Repetition Of The First Message: A Fearful Conviction Of Sin Again Experienced**

- ❖ And the LORD said unto Moses, Go on before the people, and take with thee of the elders of Israel; and thy rod, wherewith thou smotest the river, take in thine hand, and go. Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite the rock, **and there shall come water out of it**, that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel. *Exodus 17:5, 6.*

“Moses smote the rock, but it was the Son of God who, veiled in the cloudy pillar, stood beside Moses, and caused the life-giving water to flow. Not only Moses and the elders, but all the congregation who stood at a distance, beheld the glory of the Lord; but had the cloud been removed, they would have been slain by the terrible brightness of Him who abode therein. In their

thirst the people had tempted God, saying, "Is the Lord among us, or not?"--"If God has brought us here, why does He not give us water as well as bread?" The unbelief thus manifested was criminal, and Moses feared that the judgments of God would rest upon them. And he called the name of the place Massah, "temptation," and Meribah, "chiding," as a memorial of their sin." *Patriarchs & Prophets*, 298.

"The smitten rock was a figure of Christ, and through this symbol the most precious spiritual truths are taught. As the life-giving waters flowed from the smitten rock, so from Christ, "smitten of God," "wounded for our transgressions," "bruised for our iniquities" (Isaiah 53:4, 5), **the stream of salvation flows for a lost race.**" *Patriarchs & Prophets*, 411.

- ❖ And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ. *1 Corinthians* 10:4.
- ❖ And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. *Revelation* 22:17.

#### **Followed By A Repetition Of The Third Message: Judgment Again Experienced**

- ❖ Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who [is] on the LORD'S side? [let him come] unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him. And he said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Put every man his sword by his side, [and] go in and out from gate to gate throughout the camp, and **slay every man his brother, and every man his companion, and every man his neighbour.** And the children of Levi did according to the word of Moses: and there fell of the people that day about three thousand men. *Exodus* 32:26-28.

"Those who performed this **terrible work of judgment** were acting by divine authority, executing the sentence of the King of heaven. Men are to beware how they, in their human blindness, judge and condemn their fellow men; but when God commands them to execute His sentence upon iniquity, He is to be obeyed. Those who performed this painful act, thus manifested their abhorrence of rebellion and idolatry, and consecrated themselves more fully to the service of the true God." *Patriarchs & Prophets*, 324.

# THE END OF ANCIENT ISRAEL

## The Time Of The End

### Immanuel

- ❖ Therefore **the Lord himself shall give you a sign**; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. *Isaiah 7:14.*
- ❖ And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. **Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet**, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, **God with us.** *Matthew 1:21-23.*

### A Prophecy Fulfilled

"His name shall be called Immanuel, . . . God with us." "The light of the knowledge of the glory of God" is seen "in the face of Jesus Christ." From the days of eternity the Lord Jesus Christ was one with the Father; He was "the image of God," the image of His greatness and majesty, "the outshining of His glory." It was to manifest this glory that He came to our world. **To this sin-darkened earth** He came to reveal the light of God's love,--to be "God with us." **Therefore it was prophesied of Him**, "His name shall be called Immanuel." *The Desire of Ages, 19.*

### Preceded By Darkness

"Before the days of Christ, men asked in vain, "What is truth?" **Darkness** covered the earth, and gross darkness the people. Even Judea was shrouded in gloom, although the voice of God spoke to them in His oracles. The truth of God had been silenced by the **superstition and traditions of its professed interpreters, and contention, jealousy, and prejudice** divided the professed children of God. Then was a Teacher sent from God, even Him who was the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Jesus presented to view the pure, rich truth of heaven to shine amid the **moral darkness** and gloom of earth. God had said, "Let there be spiritual light," and the light of the glory of God was revealed in the face of Jesus Christ." *Fundamentals of Christian Education, 238-239.*

**"At the time of Christ's first advent darkness had covered the earth, and gross darkness the people.** Truth looked down from heaven, and nowhere could discern the reflection of her image. **Spiritual darkness had settled down over the religious world, and this darkness was almost universal and complete.**" *Signs of the Times, May 17, 1905.*

- ❖ Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee. For, behold, **the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people:** but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. *Isaiah 60:1.*

## Running To And Fro

### The Magi

- ❖ Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for **we have seen his star** in the east, and are come to worship him. *Matthew 2:1, 2.*
- ❖ I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: **there shall come a Star out of Jacob**, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel, and shall smite the corners of Moab, and destroy all the children of Sheth. *Numbers 24:17.*

“The light of God is ever shining amid the darkness of heathenism. As these magi studied the starry heavens, and sought to fathom the mystery hidden in their bright paths, they beheld the glory of the Creator. **Seeking clearer knowledge, they turned to the Hebrew Scriptures.** In their own land were treasured prophetic writings that predicted the coming of a divine teacher. Balaam belonged to the magicians, though at one time a prophet of God; by the Holy Spirit he had foretold the prosperity of Israel and the appearing of the Messiah; and his prophecies had been handed down by tradition from century to century. But in the Old Testament the Saviour's advent was more clearly revealed. **The magi learned with joy that His coming was near, and that the whole world was to be filled with a knowledge of the glory of the Lord.**

“The wise men had seen a mysterious light in the heavens upon that night when the glory of God flooded the hills of Bethlehem. As the light faded, a luminous star appeared, and lingered in the sky. It was not a fixed star nor a planet, and the phenomenon excited the keenest interest. That star was a distant company of shining angels, but of this the wise men were ignorant. Yet they were impressed that the star was of special import to them. They consulted priests and philosophers, and searched the scrolls of the ancient records. The prophecy of Balaam had declared, "There shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Scepter shall rise out of Israel." Num. 24:17. Could this strange star have been sent as a harbinger of the Promised One? **The magi had welcomed the light of heaven-sent truth; now it was shed upon them in brighter rays.** Through dreams they were instructed to go in search of the newborn Prince.” *The Desire of Ages, 59-60.*

### Zacharias

- ❖ And there appeared unto him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. And when Zacharias saw [him], he was troubled, and fear fell upon him. But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John. And thou shalt have joy and gladness; and many shall rejoice at his birth. For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the

Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb. And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God. And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; **to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.** *Luke 1:11-17.*

"To the question of Zacharias, the angel said, "I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God; and am sent to speak unto thee, and to show thee these glad tidings." Five hundred years before, Gabriel had made known to Daniel the prophetic period which was to extend to the coming of Christ. **The knowledge that the end of this period was near had moved Zacharias to pray for the Messiah's advent.** Now the very messenger through whom the prophecy was given had come to announce its fulfillment." *The Desire of Ages*, 98.

### **Simeon & Anna**

- ❖ And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name [was] Simeon; and the same man [was] just and devout, **waiting for the consolation of Israel:** and the Holy Ghost was upon him. *Luke 2:25.*
- ❖ And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity; And she [was] a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served [God] with fastings and prayers night and day. And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, **and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem.** *Luke 2:36-38.*

"**The spirit of prophecy was upon this man of God,** and while Joseph and Mary stood by, wondering at his words, he blessed them, and said unto Mary, "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against; (yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also,) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." **Anna also, a prophetess, came in and confirmed Simeon's testimony concerning Christ.** As Simeon spoke, her face lighted up with the glory of God, and she poured out her heartfelt thanks that she had been permitted to behold Christ the Lord. **These humble worshipers had not studied the prophecies in vain.** But those who held positions as rulers and priests in Israel, though they too had before them the precious utterances of prophecy, were not walking in the way of the Lord, and their eyes were not open to behold the Light of life." *The Desire of Ages*, 55.

### **A Prophetic Passage Is Unsealed: 70 Weeks**

- ❖ In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans; In the first year of his reign **I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.** And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes: And I prayed unto the LORD my God, and made my confession, and said, O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them

that love him, and to them that keep his commandments; ... .. Yea, whiles I [was] speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation. And he informed [me], and talked with me, and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding. At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to shew [thee]; for thou [art] greatly beloved: therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision. **Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people** and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy. **Know therefore and understand, [that] from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince [shall be] seven weeks,** and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof [shall be] with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make [it] desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate. *Daniel 9:1-4; 21-27.*

“Daniel knew that the appointed time for Israel's captivity was nearly ended; but he did not feel that because God had promised to deliver them, they themselves had no part to act. With fasting and contrition he sought the Lord, confessing his own sins and the sins of the people... Through His chosen agencies God will graciously make known His purposes. Then the grand work of redemption will go forward. Men will learn of the reconciliation for iniquity and of the everlasting righteousness which the Messiah has brought in through His sacrifice. **The cross of Calvary is the great center. This truth acted upon will make Christ's sacrifice effectual. This is that which Gabriel revealed to Daniel in answer to fervent prayer.**” *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 4, 1172-1173.

### **The Time Had Been Fulfilled**

- ❖ Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel. *Mark 1:14.*

“The burden of Christ's preaching was, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent ye, and believe the gospel." Thus the gospel message, as given by the Saviour Himself, was based on the prophecies. **The "time" which He declared to be fulfilled was the period made known by the angel Gabriel to Daniel.**” *The Desire of Ages*, 232.

“**When Christ came to this earth**, the traditions that had been handed down from generation to generation, and the human interpretation of the Scriptures, hid from men the truth as it is in Jesus. The truth was buried beneath a mass of tradition. The spiritual import of the sacred volumes

was lost; for in their unbelief men locked the door of the heavenly treasure. Darkness covered the earth, and gross darkness the people. Truth looked down from heaven to earth; but nowhere was revealed the divine impress. A gloom like the pall of death overspread the earth. But the Lion of the tribe of Judah prevailed. **He opened the seal that closed the book of divine instruction.**" *Spalding & Magan Collection*, 58.

### **The Gathering**

- ❖ Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed? *Isaiah* 53:1.
- ❖ But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? *Romans* 10:16.
- ❖ I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and [with] fire: Whose fan [is] in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire. *Matthew* 3:11, 12.
- ❖ He that is not with me is against me; and **he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad.** *Matthew* 12:30.
- ❖ 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! *Matthew* 23:37.

### **The Time Of Their Visitation**

"If the leaders in Israel had received Christ, He would have honored them as His messengers to carry the gospel to the world. To them first was given the opportunity to become heralds of the kingdom and grace of God. **But Israel knew not the time of her visitation.** The jealousy and distrust of the Jewish leaders had ripened into open hatred, and the hearts of the people were turned away from Jesus.

"The Sanhedrin had rejected Christ's message and was bent upon His death; therefore Jesus departed from Jerusalem, from the priests, the temple, the religious leaders, the people who had been instructed in the law, and turned to another class to proclaim His message, and to gather out those who should carry the gospel to all nations." *The Desire of Ages*, 231-232.

### **The First Message**

#### **The Reformer**

"John the Baptist was a reformer. To him was committed a great work for the people of his time." *Christian Temperance & Bible Hygiene*, 38.

## Fearful Conviction Of Sin

- ❖ John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. *Mark 1:4.*

“It was long since Israel had had a prophet, long since such a **reformation** as was now in progress had been witnessed. **The demand for confession of sin seemed new and startling.** Many among the leaders would not go to hear John's appeals and denunciations, lest they should be led to disclose the secrets of their own lives. Yet his preaching was a direct announcement of the Messiah. **It was well known that the seventy weeks of Daniel's prophecy, covering the Messiah's advent, were nearly ended;** and all were eager to share in that era of national glory which was then expected. Such was the popular enthusiasm that the Sanhedrin would soon be forced either to **sanction or to reject John's work.**” *The Desire of Ages*, 133.

## The Message Is Formalized: Present Truth—Repent For The Kingdom Of Heaven Is At Hand

### John The Baptist

- ❖ In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, And saying, **Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.** *Matthew 3:1, 2.*

### Jesus Christ

- ❖ Now after that John was put in prison, **Jesus** came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, And saying, The time is fulfilled, and **the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.** *Mark 1:14, 15.*
- ❖ From that time **Jesus** began to preach, and to say, **Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.** *Matthew 4:17.*

### The Disciples

- ❖ **These twelve Jesus sent forth**, and commanded them, saying, 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. And as ye go, preach, saying, **The kingdom of heaven is at hand.** *Matthew 10:5-7.*

“The announcement which had been made by the disciples in the name of the Lord **was in every particular correct**, and the events to which it pointed were even then taking place. **"The time is fulfilled, the kingdom of God is at hand," had been their message.** At the expiration of "the time"--the sixty-nine weeks of Daniel 9, which were to extend to the Messiah, "the Anointed One"--Christ had received the anointing of the Spirit after His baptism by John in Jordan. And the "kingdom of God" which they had declared to be at hand was established by the death of Christ.” *The Great Controversy*, 346-347.

## The First Message Empowered

- ❖ “And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan. And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and **the Spirit like a dove descending upon him**: And there came a voice from heaven, [saying], Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. And immediately the Spirit driveth him into the wilderness. And he was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered unto him. Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, And saying, **The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.**” *Mark 1:9-15.*

“Upon coming up out of the water, Jesus bowed in prayer on the river bank. A new and important era was opening before Him. **He was now, upon a wider stage, entering on the conflict of His life.** Though He was the Prince of Peace, His coming must be as the unsheathing of a sword. The kingdom He had come to establish was the opposite of that which the Jews desired. He who was the foundation of the ritual and economy of Israel would be looked upon as its enemy and destroyer. He who had proclaimed the law upon Sinai would be condemned as a transgressor. He who had come to break the power of Satan would be denounced as Beelzebub. No one upon earth had understood Him, and during His ministry He must still walk alone. Throughout His life His mother and His brothers did not comprehend His mission. Even His disciples did not understand Him. He had dwelt in eternal light, as one with God, but His life on earth must be spent in solitude.

“The Saviour’s glance seems to penetrate heaven as He pours out His soul in prayer. Well He knows how sin has hardened the hearts of men, and how difficult it will be for them to discern His mission, and accept the gift of salvation. **He pleads with the Father for power** to overcome their unbelief, to break the fetters with which Satan has enthralled them, and in their behalf to conquer the destroyer. **He asks for the witness that God accepts humanity in the person of His Son...**

“Never before have the angels listened to such a prayer. They are eager to bear to their loved Commander a message of assurance and comfort. But no; the Father Himself will answer the petition of His Son. Direct from the throne issue the beams of His glory. **The heavens are opened, and upon the Saviour’s head descends a dovelike form of purest light,**--fit emblem of Him, the meek and lowly One.

“Of the vast throng at the Jordan, few except John discerned the heavenly vision. Yet the solemnity of the divine Presence rested upon the assembly. The people stood silently gazing upon Christ. His form was bathed in the light that ever surrounds the throne of God. His upturned face was glorified as they had never before seen the face of man. From the open heavens a voice was heard saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

“**These words of confirmation** were given to inspire faith in those who witnessed the scene, and **to strengthen the Saviour for His mission.** Notwithstanding that the sins of a guilty world were laid upon Christ, notwithstanding the humiliation of taking upon Himself our fallen nature, the voice from heaven declared Him to be the Son of the Eternal.” *The Desire of Ages*, 111-112.

## The Foundations Established

- ❖ For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 1 *Corinthians* 3:11.
- ❖ Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: *Matthew* 7:24.
- ❖ He must increase, but I [must] decrease. *John* 3:30.

“With the calling of John and Andrew and Simon, of Philip and Nathanael, began the foundation of the Christian church.” *Christian Service*, 118.

“John had been called to lead out as a reformer. Because of this, his disciples were in danger of fixing their attention upon him . . . and losing sight of the fact that he was only an instrument through which God had wrought. **But the work of John was not sufficient to lay the foundation of the Christian church.** When he had fulfilled his mission, another work was to be done, which his testimony could not accomplish. His disciples did not understand this. When they saw **Christ coming in to take the work**, they were jealous and dissatisfied.

“The work of God is not to bear the image and superscription of man. From time to time the Lord will bring in different agencies, through whom His purpose can best be accomplished. Happy are they who are willing for self to be humbled, saying with **John the Baptist, "He must increase, but I must decrease."**” *Conflict & Courage*, 275.

## Worldwide

- ❖ The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin **of the world.** *John* 1:29.

“**And the word that was spoken to Jesus at the Jordan, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased," embraces humanity.** God spoke to Jesus as our representative. With all our sins and weaknesses, we are not cast aside as worthless. "He hath made us accepted in the Beloved." Eph. 1:6. The glory that rested upon Christ is a pledge of the love of God for us. It tells us of the power of prayer,—how the human voice may reach the ear of God, and our petitions find acceptance in the courts of heaven. By sin, earth was cut off from heaven, and alienated from its communion; **but Jesus has connected it again with the sphere of glory.** His love has encircled man, and reached the highest heaven. The light which fell from the open portals upon the head of our Saviour will fall upon us as we pray for help to resist temptation. The voice which spoke to Jesus says to every believing soul, **This is My beloved child, in whom I am well pleased.**” *The Desire of Ages*, 113.

## The Second Message

### Righteousness Manifested

- ❖ Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and **to bring in everlasting righteousness**, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy. *Daniel 9:24.*
- ❖ And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer [it to be so] now: **for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness**. Then he suffered him. *Matthew 3:15.*
- ❖ As it is written, **There is none righteous**, no, not one: *Romans 3:10.*
- ❖ My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, **Jesus Christ the righteous**: *1 John 2:1.*

“In "fulfilling" all righteousness, Christ did not bring all righteousness to an end. **He fulfilled all the requirements of God in repentance, faith, and baptism, the steps of grace in genuine conversion.** He did this as an example, that we should follow in his steps. In his humanity, Christ filled up the measure of the law's requirements. And this he did as an example to us. He was the head of humanity, its substitute and surety. Human beings, by uniting their weakness to the strength of his divine nature, may become partakers of his character.” *Review & Herald*, November 15, 1898.

### Historical Event Marks The Arrival Of The Second Message: Christ's Public Ministry Begins

- ❖ **This beginning** of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him. *John 2:11.*

“Jesus did not begin His ministry by some great work before the Sanhedrin at Jerusalem. At a household gathering in a little Galilean village His power was put forth to add to the joy of a wedding feast... **Jesus began the work of reformation by coming into close sympathy with humanity.** While He showed the greatest reverence for the law of God, He rebuked the pretentious piety of the Pharisees, and tried to free the people from the senseless rules that bound them. He was seeking to break down the barriers which separated the different classes of society, **that He might bring men together as children of one family.** His attendance at the marriage feast was designed to be a step toward effecting this.” *The Desire of Ages*, 144 & 150.

### Activities Of The Enemies

- ❖ And one of them, [named] Caiaphas, being the high priest that same year, said unto them, Ye know nothing at all, Nor consider that it is expedient for us, that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not. And this spake he not of himself: but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus should die for that nation; And not for that nation only, but that also he should gather together in one the

children of God that were scattered abroad. **Then from that day forth they took counsel together for to put him to death.** *John 11:49-53.*

“At this council **Christ's enemies** had been deeply convicted. The Holy Spirit had impressed their minds. But Satan strove to gain control of them. He urged upon their notice the grievances they had suffered on account of Christ. How little He had honored their righteousness. He presented a righteousness far greater, which all who would be children of God must possess. Taking no notice of their forms and ceremonies, He had encouraged sinners to go directly to God as a merciful Father, and make known their wants. **Thus, in their opinion, He had set aside the priesthood...**

**“He had refused to acknowledge the theology of the rabbinical schools. He had exposed the evil practices of the priests, and had irreparably hurt their influence. He had injured the effect of their maxims and traditions, declaring that though they strictly enforced the ritual law, they made void the law of God.** All this Satan now brought to their minds... **Satan told them** that in order to maintain their authority, they must put Jesus to death. This counsel they followed...” *The Desire of Ages, 540-541.*

### **Call Out Of Babylon**

- ❖ Therefore is the name of it called **Babel**; because the LORD did there **confound** the language of all the earth: and from thence did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth. *Genesis 11:9.*
- ❖ And the Jews' passover was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem, And found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting: And when he had made a scourge of small cords, **he drove them all out of the temple**, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables; And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise. *John 2:13.*

“A great number of sacrifices were offered at the time of the Passover, and the sales at the temple were very large. **The consequent confusion** indicated a noisy cattle market rather than the sacred temple of God. There could be heard sharp bargaining, the lowing of cattle, the bleating of sheep, the cooing of doves, mingled with the chinking of coin and angry disputation. **So great was the confusion** that the worshipers were disturbed, and the words addressed to the Most High were drowned in the uproar that invaded the temple... Spiritual worship was fast disappearing. No link bound the priests and rulers to their God. **Christ's work was to establish an altogether different worship...**

**“The confusion is hushed.** The sound of traffic and bargaining has ceased. The silence becomes painful. A sense of awe overpowers the assembly. It is as if they were arraigned before the tribunal of God to answer for their deeds. Looking upon Christ, they behold divinity flash through the garb of humanity. The Majesty of heaven stands as the Judge will stand at the last day,—not now encircled with the glory that will then attend Him, but with the same power to read the soul. His eye sweeps over the multitude, taking in every individual. His form seems to rise above them in commanding dignity, and a divine light illuminates His countenance. He speaks, and His clear, ringing voice—the same that upon Mount Sinai proclaimed the law that priests and rulers

are transgressing--is heard echoing through the arches of the temple: **"Take these things hence; make not My Father's house an house of merchandise."** ...

"Soon the tumultuous throng with their merchandise are far removed from the temple of the Lord. The courts are free from unholy traffic, and a deep silence and solemnity settles upon **the scene of confusion**. The presence of the Lord, that of old sanctified the mount, has now made sacred the temple reared in His honor... **In the cleansing of the temple, Jesus was announcing His mission as the Messiah, and entering upon His work.**" *The Desire of Ages*, 155-161.

### **A Glorious Manifestation Of The Power Of God**

- ❖ Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass. And the disciples went, and did as Jesus commanded them, And brought the ass, and the colt, and put on them their clothes, and they set [him] thereon. And a very great multitude spread their garments in the way; others cut down branches from the trees, and strawed [them] in the way. And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the Son of David: **Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord**; Hosanna in the highest. And when he was come into Jerusalem, **all the city was moved**, saying, Who is this? And the multitude said, This is Jesus the prophet of Nazareth of Galilee. *Matthew* 21:5-11.
- ❖ Blessed [be] he that cometh in the name of the LORD: we have blessed you out of the house of the LORD. God [is] the LORD, which hath shewed us light: bind the sacrifice with cords, [even] unto the horns of the altar. *Psalms* 118:26, 27.

"Upon the occasion of Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the people who were assembled from all parts of the land to keep the feast, flocked to the Mount of Olives, and as they joined the throng that were escorting Jesus, **they caught the inspiration of the hour**, and helped to swell the shout, "Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord!"" *Spirit of Prophecy*, vol. 4, 250-251.

### **The Temple Cleansed Again**

- ❖ **And Jesus went into the temple of God**, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves, And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves. *Matthew* 21:12, 13.

"When Jesus began His public ministry, He cleansed the Temple from its sacrilegious profanation. **Among the last acts of His ministry was the second cleansing of the Temple.**" *Selected Messages*, book 2, 118.

## A Sealing Resulting In Eternal Consequences

- ❖ Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: **for him hath God the Father sealed.** *John 6:27.*
- ❖ Bind up the testimony, seal the law **among my disciples.** *Isaiah 8:16.*

“Just as soon as the people of God are sealed in their foreheads--it is not any seal or mark that can be seen, but **a settling into the truth, both intellectually and spiritually, so they cannot be moved**--just as soon as God's people are sealed and prepared for the shaking, it will come. Indeed, it has begun already; the judgments of God are now upon the land, to give us warning, that we may know what is coming (MS 173, 1902).” *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 4, 1161.

- ❖ And when he had called unto [him] his **twelve disciples**, he gave them power [against] unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease. Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; The first, Simon, who is called **Peter**, and Andrew his brother; James [the son] of Zebedee, and John his brother; Philip, and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the publican; James [the son] of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus; Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him. *Matthew 10:1-4.*
- ❖ Then saith Jesus unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, **I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad.** *Matthew 26:31.*
- ❖ But all this was done, that the scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled. **Then all the disciples forsook him, and fled.** *Matthew 26:56.*
- ❖ And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both **Peter**, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James [the son] of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas [the brother] of James. *Acts 1:13.*

“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.**” *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, 214.

## Local Application

- ❖ Now Caiaphas was he, which gave counsel to the Jews, that it was expedient that one man should die for the people. *John 18:14.*
- ❖ **Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people** and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to

bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy. *Daniel* 9:24.

- ❖ He came unto his own, and his own received him not. *John* 1:11.

"Then, said the angel, "He shall confirm the covenant with many for one week [seven years]." For seven years after the Saviour entered on His ministry, **the gospel was to be preached especially to the Jews**; for three and a half years by Christ Himself; and afterward by the apostles." *The Desire of Ages*, 233.

## The Third Message

### Historical Event Marks The Arrival Of The Third Message: Calvary

- ❖ Blessed [be] he that cometh in the name of the LORD: we have blessed you out of the house of the LORD. God [is] the LORD, which hath shewed us light: **bind the sacrifice with cords, [even] unto the horns of the altar.** *Psalms* 118:26, 27.

### Judgment

- ❖ **He was taken from prison and from judgment:** and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken. *Isaiah* 53:8.
- ❖ When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus forth, **and sat down in the judgment seat** in a place that is called the Pavement, but in the Hebrew, Gabbatha. And it was the preparation of the passover, and about the sixth hour: and he saith unto the Jews, Behold your King! But they cried out, Away with [him], away with [him], crucify him. Pilate saith unto them, Shall I crucify your King? The chief priests answered, We have no king but Caesar. **Then delivered he him therefore unto them to be crucified.** And they took Jesus, and led [him] away. *John* 19:13-16.

"Five hundred years before, the Lord had declared by the prophet Zechariah: "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: He is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass." Zechariah 9:9. Had the disciples realized that **Christ was going to judgment and to death**, they could not have fulfilled this prophecy." *The Great Controversy*, 405.

"Pilate delivered Jesus again to the soldiers, and amid the jeers and insults of the mob **He was hurried to the judgment hall of Herod...**

"Hardened as he was, Herod dared not ratify the condemnation of Christ. He wished to relieve himself of the terrible responsibility, and **he sent Jesus back to the Roman judgment hall.**" *The Desire of Ages*, 729 & 731.

- ❖ Now is **the judgment of this world:** now shall the prince of this world be cast out. And I, **if I be lifted up from the earth**, will draw all [men] unto me. *John* 12:31, 32.

## **A Shut Door**

“When Jesus at His ascension entered by His own blood into the heavenly sanctuary to shed upon His disciples the blessings of His mediation, the Jews were left in total darkness to continue their useless sacrifices and offerings. The ministration of types and shadows had ceased.

**That door by which men had formerly found access to God was no longer open.** The Jews had refused to seek Him in the only way whereby He could then be found, through the ministration in the sanctuary in heaven. Therefore they found no communion with God. **To them the door was shut.”**  
*The Great Controversy*, 430.

## **The Gathering Accomplished: Two Classes Demonstrated**

### **Those That Accepted Christ (Some Notable Examples)**

- 11 Disciples - *Matthew* 10:1; *Acts* 1:13
- The Women from Galilee - *Luke* 23:55, 56; 24:1-10
- The Centurion – *Matthew* 27:54
- Nicodemus & Joseph of Arimathea – *John* 19:38-40
- The Thief on the Cross – *Luke* 23:39-43
- Simon of Cyrene – *Luke* 23:26

### **Those That Rejected Christ (Some Notable Examples)**

- Judas – *Matthew* 27:3-5
- Chief Priests, Sanhedrin, Scribes, Pharisees, Elders, & High Priest – *John* 1:11; *Matthew* 26:3, 4
- Roman Soldiers – *Matthew* 27:27-31
- Pilate & Herod – *Mark* 15:15; *Luke* 23:11, 12

## **A Covenant Established**

- ❖ And **he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week:** and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make [it] desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate. *Daniel* 9:27.
- ❖ How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at **the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard [him];** *Hebrews* 2:3.

““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." *The Great Controversy*, 327.

## **A Disappointment**

"When the Son of man rode triumphantly into Jerusalem, they expected Him to be crowned king. The people flocked from all the region about, and cried, "Hosanna to the Son of David." Matthew 21:9. And when the priests and elders besought Jesus to still the multitude, He declared that if they should hold their peace, even the stones would cry out, for prophecy must be fulfilled. Yet in a few days these very disciples saw their beloved Master, who they believed would reign on David's throne, stretched upon the cruel cross above the mocking, taunting Pharisees. **Their high hopes were disappointed**, and the darkness of death closed about them." *Christian Experience and Teachings of Ellen G. White*, 56.

## **The Number Seven: Christ In The Grave On The Seventh Day**

- ❖ And, behold, [there was] a man named Joseph, a counsellor; [and he was] a good man, and a just: (The same had not consented to the counsel and deed of them;) [he was] of Arimathaea, a city of the Jews: who also himself waited for the kingdom of God. This [man] went unto Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. And he took it down, and wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a sepulchre that was hewn in stone, wherein never man before was laid. **And that day was the preparation, and the sabbath drew on.** And the women also, which came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulchre, and how his body was laid. And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment. Now upon the first [day] of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain [others] with them. And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre. And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus. *Luke 23:50-56; 24:1-3.*

**"Christ rested in the tomb on the Sabbath day**, and when holy beings of both Heaven and earth were astir on the morning of the first day of the week, he rose from the grave to renew his work of teaching his disciples." *Spirit of Prophecy*, vol. 3, 204.

"That was a never-to-be-forgotten Sabbath to **the sorrowing disciples**, and also to the priests, rulers, scribes, and people. At the setting of the sun on the evening of the preparation day the trumpets sounded, signifying that the Sabbath had begun. The Passover was observed as it had been for centuries, while He to whom it pointed had been slain by wicked hands, and lay in Joseph's tomb." **The Desire of Ages, 774.**

## **Disciples Given A Work To Do**

- ❖ And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. **Go ye therefore**, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the

Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, [even] unto the end of the world. Amen. *Matthew 28:18-20.*

“The gospel commission is the great missionary charter of Christ's kingdom. **The disciples were to work** earnestly for souls, giving to all the invitation of mercy. They were not to wait for the people to come to them; they were to go to the people with their message.” *Acts of the Apostles*, 28.

### **The Disciple Vacillated**

**Vacillatin:** A wavering; a moving one way and the other; a reeling or staggering. Fluctuation of mind; unsteadiness; change from one object to another. *Webster's 1828 Dictionary.*

- ❖ There were together Simon Peter, and Thomas called Didymus, and Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the [sons] of Zebedee, and two other of his disciples. Simon Peter saith unto them, **I go a fishing.** They say unto him, **We also go with thee.** They went forth, and entered into a ship immediately; and that night they caught nothing. *John 21:2, 3.*

“The evening was pleasant, and Peter, who still had much of his old love for boats and fishing, proposed that they should go out upon the sea and cast their nets. In this plan all were ready to join; they were in need of food and clothing, which the proceeds of a successful night's fishing would supply. So they went out in their boat, but they caught nothing. All night they toiled, without success. Through the weary hours they talked of their absent Lord, and recalled the wonderful events they had witnessed in His ministry beside the sea. **They questioned as to their own future, and grew sad at the prospect before them.**” *The Desire of Ages*, 810.

### **The Fourth Message**

#### **Repetition Of The Second Message: Righteousness (God's Power) Again Manifested**

- ❖ And when the day of **Pentecost was fully come**, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And **they were all filled with the Holy Ghost**, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. *Acts 2:1-4.*

“**The standard of righteousness is to be exalted.** The Spirit of God is moving upon men's hearts, and those who respond to its influence will become lights in the world. **Everywhere they are seen going forth to communicate to others the light they have received as they did after the descent of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost.** And as they let their light shine, they receive more and more of the Spirit's power. The earth is lighted with the glory of God.” *Review & Herald*, July 16, 1895.

### **Preceded By A Repetition Of The First Message: A Fearful Conviction Of Sin Again Experienced**

- ❖ Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey. And when they were come in, **they went up into an upper room**, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James [the son] of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas [the brother] of James. **These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication**, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren. Acts 1:12-14.

“Would it not be well for you to seek the Lord as the disciples sought Him **before the day of Pentecost**? After Christ's ascension, His disciples--men of varied talents and capabilities--assembled in an upper chamber **to pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit**. In this room "all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication." **They made thorough work of repentance by confessing their own sins**. Upon them was laid no burden to confess one another's sins. Settling all differences and alienations, they were of one accord, and prayed with unity of purpose for ten days, at the end of which time "they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."” *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 5, 368.

### **Followed By A Repetition Of The Third Message: Judgment Again Experienced**

- ❖ “But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and **Jesus standing on the right hand of God**, And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God. Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, And cast [him] out of the city, and stoned [him]: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul. **And they stoned Stephen**, calling upon [God], and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.” Acts 7:55-60.
- ❖ The LORD standeth up to plead, and standeth **to judge** the people. *Isaiah* 3:13.

“The seventy weeks, or 490 years, especially allotted to the Jews, ended, as we have seen, in A.D. 34. At that time, through the action of the Jewish Sanhedrin, the nation sealed its **rejection of the gospel by the martyrdom of Stephen and the persecution of the followers of Christ**.” *The Great Controversy*, 328.

- ❖ Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of **sin**, and of **righteousness**, and of **judgment**: *John* 16:7, 8.

### **The Work Is Accomplished In Troublous Times**

- ❖ And Saul was consenting unto his death. **And at that time there was a great persecution against the church** which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles. *Acts 8:1.*

# THE BEGINNING OF SPIRITUAL ISRAEL

## The Time Of The End

### The Unsealed Book

- ❖ But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, [even] to **the time of the end:** many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased... And I heard the man clothed in linen, which [was] upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and swore by him that liveth for ever that [it shall be] for **a time, times, and an half;** and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these [things] shall be finished. And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, what [shall be] the end of these [things]? And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for **the words [are] closed up and sealed till the time of the end.** *Daniel* 12:4, 7-9.
- ❖ And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there **a thousand two hundred [and] threescore days...** And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for **a time, and times, and half a time,** from the face of the serpent. *Revelation* 12:6, 14.

"The apostle Paul warned the church not to look for the coming of Christ in his day. "That day shall not come," he says, "except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed." 2 Thessalonians 2:3. Not till after the great apostasy, and the **long period of the reign of the "man of sin,"** can we look for the advent of our Lord. The "man of sin," which is also styled "the mystery of iniquity," "the son of perdition," and "that wicked," represents **the papacy,** which, as foretold in prophecy, was to maintain its supremacy for **1260 years. This period ended in 1798.** The coming of Christ could not take place before that time. Paul covers with his caution the whole of the Christian dispensation down to the year 1798. It is this side of that time that the message of Christ's second coming is to be proclaimed... **But since 1798 the book of Daniel has been unsealed, knowledge of the prophecies has increased, and many have proclaimed the solemn message of the judgment near.**" *The Great Controversy*, 356.

### A Prophecy Fulfilled

- ❖ And 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. *Revelation* 13:3.

"The forty and two months are the same as the "time and times and the dividing of time," three years and a half, or 1260 days, of Daniel 7-- the time during which the papal power was to oppress God's people. This period, as stated in preceding chapters, began with the supremacy of the papacy, A.D. 538, and terminated in 1798. **At that time the pope was made captive by the French**

**army, the papal power received its deadly wound, and the prediction was fulfilled,** "He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity."” *The Great Controversy*, 439.

“In 1798 French armies under General Louis Alexandre Berthier marched on Rome, which had been declared a republic by Roman revolutionaries in league with the French, and demanded that Pius renounce his temporal sovereignty. At his refusal the pope was taken prisoner and held first at Siena and ultimately at Valence, France, where he died.” *Encarta Encyclopedia*, 2002.

### **Preceded By Darkness**

“**The accession of the Roman Church to power marked the beginning of the Dark Ages.** As her power increased, **the darkness deepened.** Faith was transferred from Christ, the true foundation, to the pope of Rome.” *The Great Controversy*, 55.

### **Running To And Fro**

- ❖ But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, [even] to the time of the end: **many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.** *Daniel 12:4.*
- ❖ And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make [it] plain upon tables, **that he may run that readeth it.** For the vision [is] yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry. *Habakkuk 2:2, 3.*

“But since 1798 the book of Daniel has been unsealed, **knowledge of the prophecies has increased,** and many have proclaimed the solemn message of the judgment near... Like the great Reformation of the sixteenth century, the advent movement appeared in different countries of Christendom at the same time. In both Europe and America **men of faith and prayer were led to the study of the prophecies,** and, tracing down the inspired record, they saw convincing evidence that the end of all things was at hand. In different lands there were isolated bodies of Christians who, solely by the study of the Scriptures, arrived at the belief that the Saviour's advent was near... In 1821, three years after **Miller** had arrived at his exposition of the prophecies pointing to the time of the judgment, Dr. Joseph Wolff, "the missionary to the world," began to proclaim the Lord's soon coming.” *The Great Controversy*, 356-357.

### **A Prophetic Passage Unsealed: 2300 Days**

- ❖ And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed. *Daniel 8:14.*

“The scripture which above all others had been both **the foundation** and **the central pillar** of the advent faith was the declaration: "Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed." Daniel 8:14.” *The Great Controversy*, 409.

“The unsealing of the little book was the message in relation to time.” *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 7, 971.

## The Gathering Time

“September 23, the Lord showed me that **He had stretched out His hand the second time to recover the remnant of His people**, and that efforts must be redoubled **in this gathering time**. In the scattering, Israel was smitten and torn, but now in the gathering time God will heal and bind up His people. In the scattering, efforts made to spread the truth had but little effect, accomplished but little or nothing; but in the gathering, when God has set His hand to gather His people, efforts to spread the truth will have their designed effect. All should be united and zealous in the work. I saw that it was wrong for any to refer to the scattering for examples to govern us now in the gathering; for if God should do no more for us now than He did then, Israel would never be gathered. **I have seen that the 1843 chart was directed by the hand of the Lord, and that it should not be altered; that the figures were as He wanted them; that His hand was over and hid a mistake in some of the figures, so that none could see it, until His hand was removed.**” *Early Writings*, 74.

- ❖ And it shall come to pass **in that day**, [that] **the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people**, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth. The envy also of Ephraim shall depart, and the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off: **Ephraim shall not envy Judah**, and **Judah shall not vex Ephraim**. But they shall fly upon the shoulders of the Philistines toward the west; they shall spoil them of the east together: **they shall lay their hand upon Edom and Moab; and the children of Ammon shall obey them.** *Isaiah* 11:11-14.

## The First Message

- ❖ And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters. *Revelation* 14:6, 7.

## The Reformer

**Note:** “An American Reformer” – Title of chapter 18 in *Great Controversy*, devoted in its entirety to the life and ministry of William Miller.

“God called him to leave his farm, as He called **Elisha** to leave his oxen and the field of his labor to follow Elijah. With trembling, **William Miller began to unfold to the people the mysteries of the kingdom of God**, carrying his hearers down through the prophecies to the second advent of Christ.

With every effort he gained strength. As **John the Baptist** heralded the first advent of Jesus and prepared the way for His coming, so **William Miller and those who joined with him** proclaimed the second advent of the Son of God." *Early Writings*, 229.

### **Fearful Conviction Of Sin**

"Thousands were led to embrace the truth preached by **William Miller**, and servants of God were raised up in the spirit and power of **Elijah** to proclaim the message. Like **John**, the forerunner of Jesus, those who preached this solemn message felt compelled to lay the ax at the root of the tree, and **call upon men to bring forth fruits meet for repentance**. Their testimony was calculated to arouse and powerfully affect the churches and manifest their real character. And as the solemn warning to flee from the wrath to come was sounded, many who were united with the churches received the **healing message**; they saw their backslidings, and with bitter tears of repentance and deep agony of soul, humbled themselves before God. And as the Spirit of God rested upon them, they helped to sound the cry, "Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come."” *Early Writings*, 233.

### **The Message Is Formalized: Present Truth—The Hour Of His Judgment Is Come**

"**In 1833 Miller received a license to preach, from the Baptist Church**, of which he was a member. A large number of the ministers of his denomination also approved his work, and it was with their formal sanction that he continued his labors... In 1833, **two years after Miller began to present in public the evidences of Christ's soon coming**, the last of the signs appeared which were promised by the Saviour as tokens of His second advent." *The Great Controversy*, 332-333.

### **The First Message Empowered**

- ❖ And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men. *Revelation 9:15*.

"To know whether we have the true **historical event** for the **fulfillment of a prophecy**. If you find every word of the **prophecy** (after the figures are understood) is literally fulfilled, then you may know that your history is the true **event**. But if one word lacks a fulfillment, then you must look for another **event**, or wait its future development. **For God takes care that history and prophecy doth agree**, so that the true believing children of God may never be ashamed." *William Miller's 13<sup>th</sup> Rule of Bible Interpretation*.

### **391 Years & 15 Days**

An Hour = 24<sup>th</sup> part of a day (24/360) = 15

A Day = One Year

A Month = 30 Years

A Year = 360 Years

360 + 30 + 1 = 391 Years and 15 Days

July 27, 1299 + 150 Years = July 27, 1449 (See *Revelation* 9:10 for the 150 Years)

July 27, 1449 + 391 Years = July 27, 1840

July 27, 1840 + 15 Days = August 11, 1840

"In the year **1840** another remarkable fulfillment of prophecy excited widespread interest. Two years before, Josiah Litch, one of the leading ministers preaching the Second Advent, published an exposition of Revelation 9, predicting the fall of the Ottoman Empire. According to his calculations, this power was to be overthrown **"in A.D. 1840, sometime in the month of August;"** and only a few days previous to its accomplishment he wrote: **"...it will end on the 11th of August, 1840"**, when the Ottoman power in Constantinople may be expected to be broken. And this, I believe, will be found to be the case."--Josiah Litch, in *Signs of the Times, and Expositor of Prophecy*, Aug. 1, 1840.

"At the very time specified, Turkey, through her ambassadors, accepted the protection of the allied powers of Europe, and thus placed herself under the control of Christian nations. The event exactly fulfilled the prediction. **When it became known, multitudes were convinced of the correctness of the principles of prophetic interpretation adopted by Miller and his associates, and a wonderful impetus was given to the advent movement.** Men of learning and position united with Miller, both in preaching and in publishing his views, and from **1840 to 1844** the work rapidly extended." *The Great Controversy*, 334-335.

"John saw the mighty angel descend to earth, having in his hand a little book open. Not closed, not sealed, but open. **It was at the close of the second woe, in 1840, that this angel with the open book of Daniel, set one foot on the land and one on the sea...** A few years previous to 1840, men began the study of the prophecies of Daniel, and came to the conclusion that the two thousand three hundred days of the eighth chapter must end in 1844. Thinking that the cleansing of the sanctuary, spoken of in Daniel 8:14, referred to the cleansing of the earth at the advent of Christ, the second coming of the Saviour was, in **1840**, and onward, preached with **wonderful power** throughout the world... Said those who were proclaiming the second advent: "If the Turkish power ceases in 1840, that may be considered a sign that the correct interpretation has been placed upon the prophetic periods of Daniel, and we may look for the Lord in 1844... **It was at this time, 1840, that the voice of the mighty angel awoke the earth with the message, "Fear God, and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment is come."** This was a message from the Creator of the heavens and the earth, the sea and all living creatures. And he swore "that there should be time no longer." The close of the long prophetic period was near at hand..." *The Story of the Seer of Patmos*, 184-187.

### **The Foundations Are Established**

"Shortly after the fulfillment of some of the signs that the Saviour foretold would be seen before his second coming, there took place throughout the Christian world a great religious awakening. **Students of prophecy came to the conclusion that the time of the end was at hand.** In the book of Daniel they read: "Unto two thousand and three hundred days, then shall the sanctuary be cleansed." Thinking that the earth was the sanctuary, they understood that the cleansing foretold in Dan. 8:14 represented the purification of the earth by fire at the second coming of Christ. Searching the Scriptures for further light, and comparing this prophetic period with the records of historians, they learned that the twenty-three hundred days extended to the year 1844.

**“This was the foundation of the great advent movement of 1844.** The falling of the stars in 1833 gave added force to the proclamation of the message of a soon-coming Saviour. Through the labors of William Miller and many others in America, of seven hundred ministers in England, of Bengel and others in Germany, of Gaussen and his followers in France and Switzerland, of many ministers in Scandinavia, of a converted Jesuit in South America, and of Dr. Joseph Wolff in many Oriental and African countries, the advent message was carried to a large part of the habitable globe.” *The Southern Watchman*, January 24, 1905.

## **Worldwide**

“The advent movement of 1840-44 was a glorious manifestation of the power of God; the first angel's message was carried to **every missionary station in the world**, and in some countries there was the greatest religious interest which has been witnessed in any land since the Reformation of the sixteenth century; but these are to be exceeded by the mighty movement under the last warning of the third angel.” *The Great Controversy*, 611.

- ❖ And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow [was] upon his head, and his face [was] as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: And he had in his hand a little book open: and **he set his right foot upon the sea, and [his] left [foot] on the earth**, And cried with a loud voice, as [when] a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices. And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not. *Revelation 10:1-4*.

“The mighty angel who instructed John was no less a personage than Jesus Christ. Setting His right foot on the sea, and His left upon the dry land, shows the part which He is acting in the closing scenes of the great controversy with Satan. This **position denotes His supreme power and authority over the whole earth.**” *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 7, p. 971.

## **The Second Message**

- ❖ And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. *Revelation 14:8*.

## **Righteousness Manifested**

**“I saw the state of the different churches since the second angel proclaimed their fall.** They have been growing more and more corrupt; yet they bear the name of being Christ's followers. It is impossible to distinguish them from the world. Their ministers take their text from the Word, but preach smooth things. The natural heart feels no objection to this. It is only the spirit and power of the truth, and the salvation of Christ, that is hateful to the carnal heart. There is nothing in the popular ministry that stirs the wrath of Satan, makes the sinner tremble, or applies to the heart and

conscience the fearful realities of a judgment soon to come. Wicked men are generally pleased with a form without true godliness, and they will aid and support such a religion. **Said the angel, Nothing less than the whole armor of righteousness can overcome, and retain the victory over the powers of darkness.**" *Spiritual Gifts*, vol. 1, 189.

### **Historical Event Marks The Arrival Of The Second Message: Action Of The Enemies**

"In June, 1842, Mr. Miller gave his second course of lectures in Portland. I felt it a great privilege to attend these lectures, for I had fallen under discouragements and did not feel prepared to meet my Saviour. This second course created much more excitement in the city than the first. **With few exceptions the different denominations closed the doors of their churches against Mr. Miller.** Many discourses from the various pulpits sought to expose the alleged fanatical errors of the lecturer; but crowds of anxious listeners attended his meetings, while many were unable to enter the house." *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 1, 21.

### **Call Out Of Babylon**

- ❖ And there followed another angel, saying, **Babylon is fallen, is fallen**, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. *Revelation 14:8*.

"The churches that refused to receive the first angel's message, rejected light from Heaven... When the churches spurned the counsel of God by rejecting the Advent message, the Lord rejected them. The first angel was followed by a second, proclaiming, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication." [REV. 14:8] **This message was understood by Adventists to be an announcement of the moral fall of the churches in consequence of their rejection of the first message...** The term Babylon, derived from Babel, and signifying confusion, is applied in Scripture to the various forms of false or apostate religion. But the message announcing the fall of Babylon must apply to some religious body that was once pure, and has become corrupt. It cannot be the Romish Church which is here meant; for that church has been in a fallen condition for many centuries. But how appropriate the figure as applied to **the Protestant churches**, all professing to derive their doctrines from the Bible, yet divided into almost innumerable sects." *Spirit of Prophecy*, vol. 4, 230-233.

### **A Glorious Manifestation Of The Power Of God**

- ❖ And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. *Matthew 25:6*.

"**The midnight cry** was not so much carried by argument, though the Scripture proof was clear and conclusive. **There went with it an impelling power that moved the soul.** There was no doubt, no questioning. Upon the occasion of Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the people who were assembled from all parts of the land to keep the feast, flocked to the Mount of Olives, and as they joined the throng that were escorting Jesus, **they caught the inspiration of the hour**, and helped to

swell the shout, "Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord!" [MATT. 21:9.] **In like manner** did unbelievers who flocked to the Adventist meetings--some from curiosity, some merely to ridicule--feel the convincing power attending the message, "Behold, the Bridegroom cometh!" *Spirit of Prophecy*, vol. 4, 250-251.

### **A Sealing Resulting In Eternal Consequences**

"Just as soon as the people of God are sealed in their foreheads--it is not any seal or mark that can be seen, but **a settling into the truth, both intellectually and spiritually, so they cannot be moved...**" *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 4, 1161.

"With carefulness and trembling we approached the time [**The year 1843, Jewish time, was believed to reach from March 21, 1843, to March 21, 1844. Those who received the Advent faith looked for the coming of Christ during that year.**] when our Saviour was expected to appear...The disappointment of God's waiting people was great. The scoffers were triumphant and won the weak and cowardly to their ranks. Some who had appeared to possess true faith seemed to have been influenced only by fear; and now their courage returned with the passing of the time, and **they boldly united with the scoffers**, declaring they had never been duped to really believe the doctrine of Miller, who was a mad fanatic. **Others, naturally yielding or vacillating, quietly deserted the cause.** I thought, If Christ had surely come, what would have become of those weak and changing ones? They professed to love and long for the coming of Jesus; but when He failed to appear, they seemed greatly relieved, and went back to a state of carelessness and disregard of true religion." *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 1, 48 & 51.

"Jesus commissioned other angels to fly quickly to revive and strengthen the drooping faith of His people and prepare them to understand the message of the second angel and the important move which was soon to be made in heaven. I saw these angels receive great power and light from Jesus and fly quickly to earth to fulfill their commission to aid the second angel in his work. A great light shone upon the people of God as the angels cried, "Behold, the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet Him." **Then I saw these disappointed ones rise and in harmony with the second angel proclaim, "Behold, the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet Him."**" *Early Writings*, 248.

### **Local**

"The second angel's message of Revelation 14 was first preached in the summer of 1844, and **it then had a more direct application to the churches of the United States**, where the warning of the judgment had been most widely proclaimed and most generally rejected, and where the declension in the churches had been most rapid." *The Great Controversy*, 389.

### **The Third Message**

- ❖ And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive [his] mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the

cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. Here is the patience of the saints: here [are] they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus. And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed [are] the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them. *Revelation 14:9-13.*

### **Historical Event Marks The Arrival Of The Third Message**

“As the ministration of Jesus closed in the holy place, and He passed into the holiest, and stood before the ark containing the law of God, He sent another mighty angel with a **third message** to the world.” *Early Writings, 254.*

### **Judgment**

- ❖ I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment [was] white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne [was like] the fiery flame, [and] his wheels [as] burning fire. A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: **the judgment was set**, and the books were opened... I saw in the night visions, and, behold, **one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days**, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion [is] an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom [that] which shall not be destroyed. *Daniel 7:9, 10, 13, 14.*

“The coming of Christ as our high priest to the most holy place, for the cleansing of the sanctuary, brought to view in Daniel 8:14; the coming of the Son of man to the Ancient of Days, as presented in Daniel 7:13; and the coming of the Lord to His temple, foretold by Malachi, **are descriptions of the same event**; and this is also represented by the coming of the bridegroom to the marriage, described by Christ in the parable of the ten virgins, of Matthew 25.” *The Great Controversy, 426.*

### **A Shut Door**

- ❖ And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out. But the wise answered, saying, [Not so]; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves. And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and **the door was shut**. *Matthew 25:6-10.*

"I saw the commandments of God and shut door could not be separated. I saw the time for the commandments of God to shine out to His people was when the door was opening in the inner apartment of the heavenly sanctuary in 1844. **Then Jesus rose up and shut the door in the outer apartment and opened the door in the inner apartment and passed into the Most Holy Place**, and the faith of Israel now reaches within the second veil where Jesus now stands by the ark. I saw that Jesus had opened the door in the Most Holy Place and no man can shut it; and that since Jesus had opened the door in the Most Holy Place the commandments have been shining out and God has been testing His people on the holy Sabbath." *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 5, 94.

**"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, 63-64.

### **The Gathering Accomplished: Two Groups Demonstrated**

- ❖ Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were wise, and five [were] foolish. *Matthew 25:1-2.*

"In the summer and autumn of 1844 the proclamation, "Behold, the Bridegroom cometh," was given. **The two classes represented by the wise and foolish virgins were then developed**--one class who looked with joy to the Lord's appearing, and who had been diligently preparing to meet Him; another class that, influenced by fear and acting from impulse, had been satisfied with a theory of the truth, but were destitute of the grace of God." *The Great Controversy*, 426.

### **A Covenant Established**

"That which God purposed to do for the world through Israel, the chosen nation, He will finally accomplish through **His church on earth today**. He has "let out His vineyard unto other husbandmen," even to **His covenant-keeping people**, who faithfully "render Him the fruits in their seasons." Never has the Lord been without true representatives on this earth who have made His interests their own. These witnesses for God are numbered among the spiritual Israel, and to them will be fulfilled all the covenant promises made by Jehovah to His ancient people." *Prophets & Kings*, 712-713.

- ❖ Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and **keep my covenant**, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth [is] mine: And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These [are] the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel. *Exodus 19:5, 6.*
- ❖ For if that first [covenant] had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. **For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah:** Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. For this [is] the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and **their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.** *Hebrews 8:7-12.*

## **A Disappointment**

- ❖ And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, **my belly was bitter.** *Revelation 10:10.*

“The time of expectation passed, and Christ did not appear for the deliverance of His people. Those who with sincere faith and love had looked for their Saviour, experienced **a bitter disappointment.**” *The Great Controversy*, 374.

“Like the first disciples, William Miller and his associates did not, themselves, fully comprehend the import of the message which they bore. Errors that had been long established in the church prevented them from arriving at a correct interpretation of an important point in the prophecy. Therefore, though they proclaimed the message which God had committed to them to be given to the world, yet through a misapprehension of its meaning **they suffered disappointment.**” *The Great Controversy*, 351-352.

“As a people, we should be earnest students of prophecy; we should not rest until we become intelligent in regard to the subject of the sanctuary, which is brought out in the visions of Daniel and John. This subject sheds great light on our present position and work, and gives us unmistakable proof that God has led us in our past experience. **It explains our disappointment in 1844**, showing us that the sanctuary to be cleansed was not the earth, as we had supposed, but that **Christ then entered into the most holy apartment of the heavenly sanctuary**, and is there performing the closing work of His priestly office, in fulfillment of the words of the angel to the prophet Daniel, “Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.”” *Evangelism*, 222-223.

## **The Number Seven: The Seventh-day Sabbath**

- ❖ And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail. *Revelation 11:19.*

“After Jesus opened the door of the most holy, **the light of the Sabbath was seen**, and the people of God were tested, as the children of Israel were tested anciently, **to see if they would keep God's law**. I saw the third angel pointing upward, showing the disappointed ones the way to the holiest of the heavenly sanctuary. As they by faith enter the most holy, they find Jesus, and hope and joy spring up anew. I saw them looking back, reviewing the past, from the proclamation of the second advent of Jesus, down through their experience to the passing of the time in 1844. **They see their disappointment explained**, and joy and certainty again animate them. **The third angel has lighted up the past, the present, and the future**, and they know that God has indeed led them by His mysterious providence.” *Early Writings*, 254-255.

## **Millerites Given A Particular Work**

- ❖ And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings. *Revelation 10:11.*

“I cannot too strongly urge all our church members, all who are true missionaries, all who believe the third angel's message, all who turn away their feet from the Sabbath, to consider the message of the fifty-eighth chapter of Isaiah. **The work of beneficence enjoined in this chapter is the work that God requires His people to do at this time**. It is a work of His own appointment. We are not left in doubt as to where the message applies, and the time of its marked fulfillment, for we read: "They that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in." Verse 12. God's memorial, the seventh-day Sabbath, the sign of His work in creating the world, has been displaced by the man of sin. **God's people have a special work to do in repairing the breach that has been made in His law; and the nearer we approach the end, the more urgent this work becomes**. All who love God will show that they bear His sign by keeping His commandments. **They are the restorers of paths to dwell in**. The Lord says: "If thou turn away thy foot from the Sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on My holy day; and call the Sabbath a delight, . . . then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth." Verses 13, 14. Thus genuine medical missionary work is bound up inseparably with the keeping of God's commandments, of which the Sabbath is especially mentioned, since it is the great memorial of God's creative work. Its observance is bound up with the work of restoring the moral image of God in man. This is the ministry which God's people are to carry forward at this time. This ministry, rightly performed, will bring rich blessings to the church.” *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 6, 265-266.

“The fourth commandment has been trampled upon, therefore we are called upon to repair the breach in the law and plead for the desecrated Sabbath. The man of sin, who exalted himself above God, and thought to change times and laws, brought about the change of the Sabbath from the seventh to the first day of the week. **In doing this he made a breach in the law of God**. Just prior to

the great day of God, a message is sent forth to warn the people to come back to their allegiance to the law of God, which anti-christ has broken down... I was shown that the precious promises of **Isaiah 58:12-14** apply to those who labor for the restoration of the true Sabbath." *Christian Experience and Teachings of Ellen G. White*, 87.

### **Philadelphia Becomes Laodicea**

"Had Adventists, after the great disappointment in 1844, held fast their faith and followed on unitedly in the opening providence of God, receiving the message of the third angel and in the power of the Holy Spirit proclaiming it to the world, they would have seen the salvation of God, the Lord would have wrought mightily with their efforts, the work would have been completed, and **Christ would have come ere this to receive His people to their reward**. But in the period of doubt and uncertainty that followed the disappointment, many of the advent believers yielded their faith. . . . Thus the work was hindered, and the world was left in darkness. Had the whole Adventist body united upon the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, how widely different would have been our history!" *Evangelism*, 695.

- ❖ And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and [that] the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. *Revelation 3:14-18*.

"It has been supposed that the Philadelphia church reached to the end. This we must regard as a mistake, as the seven churches in Asia represent seven distinct periods of the true church, and the Philadelphia is the sixth, and not the last state. The true church cannot be in two conditions at the same time, **hence we are shut up to the faith that the Laodicean church represents the church of God at the present time**... But, dear brethren, how humbling to us as a people is the sad description of this church. And is not this dreadful description a most perfect picture of our present condition? It is; and it will be of no use to try to evade the force of this searching testimony to the Laodicean church. The Lord help us to receive it, and to profit by it. **What language could better describe our condition as a people, than this addressed to the Laodiceans?** "Neither hot nor cold," but "lukewarm." It will not do, brethren, to apply this to the nominal churches, they are to all intents and purposes, "cold." And the nominal Adventists are even lower than the churches, who justly look down upon them with horror for the infidel views, held by many of them, of no Sabbath, no family prayer, no Devil, no operation of the Holy Ghost, no pre-existence of the Son of God, and no resurrection of the unjust." *James S. White - Advent Review & Sabbath Herald*, October 16, 1856.

"God is leading out a people. He has a chosen people, a church on the earth, whom He has made the depositaries of His law. He has committed to them sacred trust and eternal truth to be given to the world. He would reprove and correct them. **The message to the Laodiceans is**

**applicable to Seventh-day Adventists** who have had great light and have not walked in the light. It is those who have made great profession, but have not kept in step with their Leader, that will be spewed out of His mouth unless they repent. The message to pronounce the Seventh-Day Adventist Church Babylon, and call the people of God out of her, does not come from any heavenly messenger, or any human agent inspired by the Spirit of God." *Selected Messages*, book 2, 66.

**"The Laodicean message applies to the people of God who profess to believe present truth.** The greater part are lukewarm professors, having a name but no zeal. God signified that He wanted men at the great heart of the work to correct the state of things existing there and to stand like faithful sentinels at their post of duty. He has given them light at every point, to instruct, encourage, and confirm them, as the case required. But notwithstanding all this, those who should be faithful and true, fervent in Christian zeal, of gracious temper, knowing and loving Jesus earnestly, are found aiding the enemy to weaken and discourage those whom God is using to build up the work. The term "lukewarm" is applicable to this class. They profess to love the truth, yet are deficient in Christian fervor and devotion. They dare not give up wholly and run the risk of the unbeliever, yet they are unwilling to die to self and follow out closely the principles of their faith." *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 4, 87.

## The Parable Of The 10 Virgins

**"The parable of the ten virgins of Matthew 25 also illustrates the experience of the Adventist people."** *The Great Controversy*, 393.

"I am often referred to the parable of the ten virgins, five of whom were wise, and five foolish. This parable **has been** and **will be** fulfilled **to the very letter**, for it has a special application to this time, and, like the third angel's message, **has been** fulfilled and **will continue to be present truth** till the close of time." *Review & Herald*, August 19, 1890.

"A special message has come to our world in the messages of **the first and second angels**. [Rev. 14:6-8, quoted.] Under the proclamation of these messages, the midnight cry was made, and the believers in the messages were compelled to go out from the churches because they preached the second appearing of Christ in the clouds of heaven. The whole world was to hear that message, "Behold, the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet Him." **Here is the parable of the ten virgins.**" *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 16, 267.

## The Seven Thunders

- ❖ And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow [was] upon his head, and his face [was] as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: **And he had in his hand a little book open:** and he set his right foot upon the sea, and [his] left [foot] on the earth, And cried with a loud voice, **as [when] a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices.** And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying

unto me, **Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered**, and write them not. *Revelation 10:1.*

- ❖ And he saith unto me, **Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book:** for the time is at hand. He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. *Revelation 22:10, 11.*

“After these seven thunders uttered their voices, the injunction comes to John as to Daniel in regard to the little book: “Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered.” These relate to **future events which will be disclosed in their order...** The special light given to John which was expressed in the seven thunders **was a delineation of events which would transpire under the first and second angels' messages.**” *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 7, 971.

“God has given the messages of Revelation 14 their place in the line of prophecy, and their work is not to cease till the close of this earth's history. **The first and second angel's messages are still truth for this time, and are to run parallel with this which follows.** The third angel proclaims his warning with a loud voice. “After these things,” said John, “I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power, and the earth was lightened with his glory.” In this illumination, the light of all the three messages is combined.” *The Ellen G. White 1888 Materials*, 804.

# THE END TIMES OF SPIRITUAL ISRAEL

## To Run Parallel

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## The Time Of The End

- ❖ And at **the time of the end** shall the king of the south push at him: and the **king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries**, and shall overflow and pass over. *Daniel 11:40.*

## The Events Connected With The Close Of Probation

“The events connected with the close of probation and the work of preparation for the time of trouble, are **clearly presented**. But multitudes have no more understanding of these important truths than if they had never been revealed.” *The Great Controversy*, 594.

- ❖ And he saith unto me, **Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book:** for the time is at hand. He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. *Revelation 22:10, 11.*

““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.” When this time of trouble comes, **every case is decided; there is no longer probation**, no longer mercy for the impenitent. The seal of the living God is upon His people...” *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, 212-213.

“When Christ stands up, and leaves the most holy place, then the time of trouble commences, **and the case of every soul is decided**, and there will be no atoning blood to cleanse from sin and pollution. **As Jesus leaves the most holy, he speaks in tones of decision and kingly authority: "He that is unjust, let him be unjust still; and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still; and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still; and he that is holy, let him be holy still.** And behold, I come

quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be." *Spirit of Prophecy*, vol. 1, 123.

### **1989—the Unsealing: The Time Of The End**

**“Communism is the one great internationally organized enemy which stands in the way of Papal political ascendancy.** When Communism's prestige, power and influence have diminished sufficiently so that it is no longer able to prevent her from reaching her goal, "many of the prophecies" will "be fulfilled in quick succession." ...

**“We are thus directed to the concluding verses of the prophecy of Daniel eleven for an understanding of those world-shaking events,** those troubles among the nations *leading to* and during that time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation. (See Daniel 12: 1)...

“Do world conditions indicate that the time for her to strike is near? The uprisings against Communistic domination in Roman Catholic countries Hungary, Poland, etc.- have revealed that the **Papal forces are preparing to strike back, and are willing to join forces even with Protestants for this purpose.** These incidents indicate not only a present struggle, but foreshadow future strife as these two forces become more and more locked in deadly conflict.

“Thus we may grasp an idea of the intensity and the scope of the present, tense situation. Two giants are at grips groping for a stranglehold on each other. **Their conflicting forces are the subjects of the closing verses of Daniel 11...** Should there be further uprisings in previously Papal-dominated countries against Communistic rule, it would then appear that the Papacy feels that the time has come to strike out against her worldwide foe, to weaken and later to overthrow. By her uprisings in this way she could influence the Protestant world to believe that she is indeed the bulwark against the dreaded Communistic regime. **In this way Protestants are led to sympathize with Roman Catholics, leading to a bond of fellowship between them in the political sphere...**

“From this remarkable prophecy we are able to understand the present uprisings in Roman Catholic countries against the Communists. We are also able to know that "many countries" (Daniel 11:40-41) will be dominated by Papal influence, and that "the land of Egypt shall not escape." Verse 42. That is, **"all the world will wonder after the beast."** *Excerpts from "Preparing for the Close of Probation"* by Louis F. Were - 1957.

“Within the last few decades, amid the rumblings and the ruins of two World Wars, the **United States of America** has emerged paramount and dynamic on the stage of global politics.

“From across the great land mass of Eurasia, **Russia---the bastion of Communism,** equally dynamic in its struggle to build up new political structure---is challengingly waiting for the tumbling of the old pattern of society, confident that time is on her side.

“At the same time, **the Catholic Church,** seemingly preoccupied only with its religious tasks, is feverishly engaged in a race **for the ultimate spiritual conquest of the world.**

“But whereas the exertions of the U.S.A. and of the U.S.S.R., are followed with growing apprehension, those of the Vatican are seldom scrutinized. **Yet not a single event of importance that has contributed to the present chaotic state of affairs has occurred without the Vatican taking an active part in it.**

“The Catholic population of the world----400 millions----(Now closer to 2 billion) is more numerous than that of the United States and Soviet Russia put together. When it is remembered that the concerted activities of this gigantic spiritual mass depend on the lips of a single man, the

apathy of non-Catholic American should swiftly turn to keenest attention. His interest, furthermore, should increase when he is made aware that **the United States is intimately involved in the attainment of both the immediate and the ultimate goals of the Vatican.**

“These goals are:

1. The annihilation of Communism and of Soviet Russia.— **Daniel 11:40**
2. The **spiritual conquest** of the U.S.A.— **Daniel 11: 41**
3. The ultimate Catholicization of the world.”— **Daniel 11: 42, 43**

—“*The Vatican in World Politics*” (*Preface to the American Edition*) by Avro Manhattan, 1949.

**Collapse of Communism**—The disintegration of Communist regimes in Eastern Europe and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) between **1989** and 1991. *Encarta Online Encyclopedia*, 2007.

### **Preceded By Darkness—Errors, Traditions, Etc.**

- ❖ For the LORD hath poured out upon you **the spirit of deep sleep**, and hath closed your eyes: the prophets and your rulers, the seers hath he covered. And **the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed**, which [men] deliver to one that is learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, **I cannot; for it is sealed**: And the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, **I am not learned**. Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near [me] with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught **by the precept of men**: *Isaiah 29:10-13*.

“At the time of Christ's first advent **darkness** had covered the earth, and gross darkness the people. Truth looked down from heaven, and nowhere could discern the reflection of her image. Spiritual darkness had settled down over the religious world, and this darkness was almost universal and complete. The scribes and Pharisees professed to explain the Scriptures, but **they explained them in accordance with their own ideas and traditions. Their customs and maxims became more and more exacting**. In its spiritual sense, the sacred Word became to the people as a sealed book, closed to their comprehension.” *Signs of the Times*, May 17, 1905.

“When Christ came to this earth, the **traditions that had been handed down from generation to generation**, and the **human interpretation of the Scriptures, hid from men the truth as it is in Jesus. The truth was buried beneath a mass of tradition**. The spiritual import of the sacred volumes was lost; for in their unbelief men locked the door of the heavenly treasure. Darkness covered the earth, and gross darkness the people. Truth looked down from heaven to earth; but nowhere was revealed the divine impress. A gloom like the pall of death overspread the earth... **But the Lion of the tribe of Judah prevailed. He opened the seal that closed the book of divine instruction.**” *Spalding & Magan Collection*, 58.

“The trials of the children of Israel, and their attitude just before the first coming of Christ, have been presented before me again and again **to illustrate the position of the people of God in their experience before the second coming of Christ.**” *Review & Herald*, February 18, 1890.

“Satan's snares are laid for us as verily as they were laid for the children of Israel just prior to their entrance into the land of Canaan. **We are repeating the history of that people.**” *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, 160.

### **Increase Of Knowledge: Running To And Fro**

“In the first angel's message men are called upon to worship God, our Creator, who made the world and all things that are therein. They have paid homage to an institution of the Papacy, making of no effect the law of Jehovah, but **there is to be an increase of knowledge on this subject.**” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 106.

### **The Gathering Time: 1798 To 1844—1844 To The Close Of Probation!**

“Israel was smitten and torn, but **now in the gathering time** God will heal and bind up His people. In the scattering, efforts made to spread the truth had but little effect, accomplished but little or nothing; but **in the gathering**, when God has set His hand to gather His people, **efforts to spread the truth will have their designed effect.** All should be united and zealous in the work. I saw that it was wrong for any to refer to the scattering for examples to govern us **now in the gathering**; for if God should do no more for us now than He did then, Israel would never be **gathered.**” *Early Writings*, 74.

## **The First Message**

### **September 11, 2001**

“We are living in **the time of the end...** On one occasion, when in **New York City**, I was in the night season called upon to behold **buildings rising story after story** toward heaven... The scene that next passed before me was an **alarm of fire.** Men looked at the lofty and supposedly fire-proof buildings and said: “They are perfectly safe.” **But these buildings were consumed as if made of pitch.** The fire engines could do nothing to stay the destruction. The firemen were unable to operate the engines... The world is stirred with the spirit of war. **The prophecy of the eleventh chapter of Daniel has nearly reached its complete fulfillment.** Soon the scenes of trouble spoken of in the prophecies will take place.” *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 9, 11-14.

### **Islam**

- ❖ And he will be a wild man; his hand [will be] against every man, and **every man's hand against him**; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren. *Genesis* 16:12.

## Three Woes

- ❖ And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, **Woe, woe, woe**, to the inhabitants of the earth by reason of **the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels**, which are yet to sound! *Revelation 8:13*.

“Everything that can be done should be done to circulate Thoughts on Daniel and Revelation. I know of no other book that can take the place of this one. **It is God's helping hand.**” *The Publishing Ministry*, 356.

“There is scarcely so uniform an agreement among interpreters concerning any other part of the Apocalypse as respecting the application of the fifth and sixth trumpets, or the first and second woes, to the Saracens and Turks. It is so obvious that it can scarcely be misunderstood. Instead of a verse or two designating each, the whole of the ninth chapter of the Revelation in equal portions, is occupied with a description of both. The Roman empire declined, as it arose, by conquest; but **the Saracens and the Turks were the instruments by which a false religion became the scourge of an apostate church**; and hence, instead of the fifth and sixth trumpets, like the former, being designated by that name alone, they are called woes.” *Daniel and the Revelation*, 493.

## Triple Application: 1 + 2 = 3

- **First Woe** (5<sup>TH</sup> Trumpet)—“Saracens” (Arabians) under Muhammad, Abu Bekr...
- **Second Woe** (6<sup>th</sup> Trumpet)—“Turks” under Othman
- **Third Woe** (7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet)—“Radical Islam” (Terrorists) under Al Qaeda – Bin Laden

## Fearful Conviction Of Sin: The Refreshing Message

“I heard those clothed with the armor speak forth the truth with great power. It had effect. Many had been bound; some wives by their husbands, and some children by their parents. The honest who had been prevented from hearing the truth now eagerly laid hold upon it. All fear of their relatives was gone, and the truth alone was exalted to them. They had been hungering and thirsting for truth; it was dearer and more precious than life. I asked what had made this great change. An angel answered, **“It is the latter rain, the refreshing from the presence of the Lord, the loud cry of the third angel.”**” *Early Writings*, 271.

- ❖ **Whom shall he teach knowledge?** and whom shall he make to **understand doctrine?** [them that are] weaned from the milk, [and] drawn from the breasts. For precept [must be] upon precept, precept upon precept; **line upon line, line upon line**; here a little, [and] there a little: For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. To whom he said, This [is] the rest [wherewith] ye may cause the weary to rest; and **this is the refreshing**: yet they would not hear. *Isaiah 28:9-12*.
- ❖ Repent ye therefore, and be converted, **that your sins may be blotted out**, when the **times of refreshing** shall come from the presence of the Lord; *Acts 3:19*.

## **The Message Is Formalized: Present Truth—in The Time Of The Latter Rain**

“There are many precious truths contained in the Word of God, but **it is "present truth" that the flock needs now**. I have seen the danger of the messengers running off from the important points of present truth, to dwell upon subjects that are not calculated to **unite the flock and sanctify the soul**. Satan will here take every possible advantage to injure the cause.” *Early Writings*, 63.

- ❖ Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for **it is time** to seek the LORD, till he come and **rain righteousness upon you**. *Hosea* 10:12.
- ❖ **Ask ye of the LORD rain in the time of the latter rain**; [so] the LORD shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain, to every one grass in the field. *Zechariah* 10:1.

## **Divine Symbol Descends**

“I have no specific time of which to speak when the outpouring of the Holy Spirit will take place--**when the mighty angel will come down from heaven, and unite with the third angel** in closing up the work for this world; my message is that our only safety is in being ready for the heavenly refreshing, having our lamps trimmed and burning.” *Selected Messages*, book 1, 192.

"How comes the word that I have declared that New York is to be swept away by a tidal wave? This I have never said. **I have said, as I looked at the great buildings going up there, story after story, 'What terrible scenes will take place when the Lord shall arise to shake terribly the earth! Then the words of Revelation 18:1-3 will be fulfilled.'** The whole of the eighteenth chapter of Revelation is a warning of what is coming on the earth. But I have no light in particular in regard to what is coming on New York, **only that I know that one day the great buildings there will be thrown down by the turning and overturning of God's power**. From the light given me, I know that destruction is in the world. **One word from the Lord, one touch of his mighty power, and these massive structures will fall**. Scenes will take place the fearfulness of which we can not imagine.” *Review & Herald*, July 5, 1906.

- ❖ And after these things **I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory**. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. *Revelation* 18:1-3.

## **The Message Becomes A Test**

“**The time of test is just upon us, for the loud cry of the third angel has already begun in the revelation of the righteousness of Christ, the sin-pardoning Redeemer**. This is the beginning of the light of the angel whose glory shall fill the whole earth. For it is the work of every one to whom the message of warning has come, to lift up Jesus, to **present Him to the world as revealed in types, as shadowed in symbols, as manifested in the revelations of the prophets, as unveiled in the lessons given to His disciples and in the wonderful miracles wrought for the sons of men**. Search the Scriptures; for they

are they that testify of Him... If you would stand through the time of trouble, you must know Christ, and appropriate the gift of His righteousness, which He imputes to the repentant sinner." *Selected Messages*, book 1, 363.

## **Worldwide**

- ❖ And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and **the earth** was lightened with his glory. *Revelation* 18:1.

"Hence the movement symbolized by the angel coming down from heaven, lightening the earth with his glory and crying mightily with a strong voice, announcing the sins of Babylon. In connection with his message the call is heard: "Come out of her, My people." These announcements, uniting with the third angel's message, constitute **the final warning to be given to the inhabitants of the earth.**" *The Great Controversy*, 604.

## **The Second Message**

- ❖ **He shall enter also into the glorious land**, and many [countries] shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, [even] Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon. He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape. But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians [shall be] at his steps. 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. And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him. *Daniel* 11:41-45.

"A time is coming when the law of God is, in a special sense, to be made void in our land [the United States]. The rulers of our nation will, by legislative enactments, **enforce the Sunday law**, and thus God's people will be brought into great peril." *Maranatha*, 179.

## **Righteousness Is Manifested**

"The Lord God of heaven will not send upon the world His judgments for disobedience and transgression until He has sent His watchmen to give the warning. He will not close up the period of probation until the message shall be more distinctly proclaimed. The law of God is to be magnified; its claims must be presented in their true, sacred character, that the people may be brought to decide for or against the truth. Yet the work will be cut short in righteousness. **The message of Christ's righteousness is to sound from one end of the earth to the other to prepare the way of the Lord. This is the glory of God, which closes the work of the third angel.**" *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 6, 19.

- ❖ Because of the savour of thy good ointments **thy name is as ointment poured forth**, therefore do the virgins love thee. *Song of Solomon* 1:3.

- ❖ In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and **this is his name whereby he shall be called**, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS. *Jeremiah 23:6*.

“Now is the time to entreat that souls shall not only hear the word of God, but without delay secure oil in their vessels with their lamps. That oil is the righteousness of Christ. **It represents character**, and character is not transferable. No man can secure it for another. Each must obtain for himself a character purified from every stain of sin.” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 233.

“**When the books of Daniel and Revelation are better understood**, believers will have an entirely different religious experience. They will be given such glimpses of the open gates of heaven that **heart and mind will be impressed with the character that all must develop** in order to realize the blessedness which is to be the reward of the pure in heart.” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 114.

### **Activities Of The Enemies**

- ❖ And the great city was divided into **three parts**, and the cities of the nations fell: and **great Babylon** came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath. *Revelation 16:19*.
- ❖ And I saw **three unclean spirits** like frogs [come] out of the mouth of the **dragon**, and out of the mouth of the **beast**, and out of the mouth of the **false prophet**. *Revelation 16:13*.

“Under the symbols of a **great red dragon, a leopard-like beast, and a beast with lamblike horns, the earthly governments** which would especially engage in trampling upon God's law and persecuting His people, were presented to John. The war is carried on till the close of time. The people of God, symbolized by a holy woman and her children, were represented as greatly in the minority. In the last days only a remnant still existed. Of these John speaks as they "which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ."” *Signs of the Times*, November 1, 1899.

“Through the two great errors, the immortality of the soul and Sunday sacredness, Satan will bring the people under his deceptions. While the former lays the foundation of spiritualism, the latter creates a bond of sympathy with Rome. **The Protestants of the United States will be foremost in stretching their hands across the gulf to grasp the hand of spiritualism; they will reach over the abyss to clasp hands with the Roman power**; and under the influence of this **threefold union**, this country will follow in the steps of Rome in trampling on the rights of conscience.” *The Great Controversy*, 588.

“By the decree enforcing the institution of the papacy in violation of the law of God, our nation will disconnect herself fully from righteousness. **When Protestantism shall stretch her hand across the gulf to grasp the hand of the Roman power, when she shall reach over the abyss to clasp hands with spiritualism**, when, under the influence of this **threefold union**, our country shall repudiate every principle of its Constitution as a Protestant and republican government, and shall make provision for the propagation of papal falsehoods and delusions, then we may know that the time has come for the marvelous working of Satan and that the end is near.” *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, 451.

"In vision I saw two armies in terrible conflict. One army was led by banners bearing the world's insignia; the other was led by the bloodstained banner of Prince Immanuel. **Standard after standard was left to trail in the dust as company after company from the Lord's army joined the foe** and tribe after tribe from the ranks of the enemy united with the commandment-keeping people of God. An angel flying in the midst of heaven put the standard of Immanuel into many hands, while a mighty general cried out with a loud voice:" *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 8, 41.

### **Call Out Of Babylon**

- ❖ And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, **Come out of her, my people**, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. *Revelation* 18:4.

"But God still has a people in Babylon; and before the visitation of his judgments, these faithful ones must be called out, that they "partake not of her sins, and receive not of her plagues."" *Spirit of Prophecy*, vol. 4, 422.

### **A Glorious Manifestation Of The Power Of God**

"My mind was carried **to the future**, when the signal will be given. "Behold, the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him."" *Review & Herald*, February 11, 1896.

"Angels were sent to aid the mighty angel from heaven, and I heard voices which seemed to sound everywhere, "Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities." **This message seemed to be an addition to the third message, joining it as the midnight cry joined the second angel's message in 1844.**" *Early Writings*, 277.

### **Sealing And Separation Takes Place: Eternal Consequences**

"Just as soon as the people of God are sealed in their foreheads,--it is not any seal or mark that can be seen, but a settling into the truth, both intellectually and spiritually, so they cannot be moved,--**just as soon as God's people are sealed and prepared for the shaking, it will come.** Indeed, it has begun already; the judgments of God are now upon the land, to give us warning, that we may know what is coming." *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 1, 250.

"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 for the Church*, vol. 5, 216.

## Local

"When our nation shall so abjure the principles of its government as to enact a **Sunday law, Protestantism will in this act join hands with popery**; it will be nothing else than giving life to the tyranny which has long been eagerly watching its opportunity to spring again into active despotism." *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, 711.

## First America Then The World

"As America, the land of religious liberty, shall unite with the papacy in forcing the conscience and compelling men to honor the false sabbath, the people of **every country** on the globe will be led to follow her example." *Testimonies for the Church*, vol.6, 18.

**"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 for the Church*, vol. 6, 395.

## The Third Message

- ❖ 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, every one that shall be found written in the book. *Daniel* 12:1.

## The Investigative Judgment Ends

"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." When this time of trouble comes, **every case is decided; there is no longer probation**, no longer mercy for the impenitent. The seal of the living God is upon His people..." *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, 212-213.

"The announcement, "The hour of His judgment is come," points to the closing work of Christ's ministration for the salvation of men. It heralds a truth which must be proclaimed until the Saviour's intercession shall cease and He shall return to the earth to take His people to Himself. **The work of judgment which began in 1844 must continue until the cases of all are decided, both of the living and the dead; hence it will extend to the close of human probation.**" *The Great Controversy*, 436-437.

## Shut Door

"The signs of Christ's coming are fast fulfilling. Satan sees that he has but a short time in which to work, and he has set his agencies to work to stir up the elements of the world, that men

may be deceived, deluded, and kept occupied and entranced until **the day of probation shall be ended and the door of mercy be forever shut.**" *Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students*, 414.

### **The Gathering Is Accomplished**

[Daniel 12:1 quoted] **"When the third angel's message closes, mercy no longer pleads for the guilty inhabitants of the earth.** The people of God have accomplished their work. They have received "the latter rain," "the refreshing from the presence of the Lord," and they are prepared for the trying hour before them. Angels are hastening to and fro in heaven. An angel returning from the earth announces that his work is done; the final test has been brought upon the world, and all who have proved themselves loyal to the divine precepts have received "the seal of the living God." **Then Jesus ceases His intercession in the sanctuary above.** He lifts His hands and with a loud voice says, "It is done;" and all the angelic host lay off their crowns as He makes the solemn announcement: "He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still." Revelation 22:11. Every case has been decided for life or death. **Christ has made the atonement for His people and blotted out their sins. The number of His subjects is made up;** "the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven," is about to be given to the heirs of salvation, and Jesus is to reign as King of kings and Lord of lords." *The Great Controversy*, 613-614.

### **Two Classes: Mark Or Seal**

- ❖ And I heard the number of them which were sealed: [and there were] sealed an hundred [and] forty [and] four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel. *Revelation 7:4.*
- ❖ And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty [and] four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads. *Revelation 14:1.*
- ❖ And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: *Revelation 13:16.*

"The Sabbath will be the great test of loyalty, for it is the point of truth especially controverted. When the final test shall be brought to bear upon men, then **the line of distinction will be drawn between those who serve God and those who serve Him not.** While the observance of the false sabbath in compliance with the law of the state, contrary to the fourth commandment, will be an avowal of allegiance to a power that is in opposition to God, the keeping of the true Sabbath, in obedience to God's law, is an evidence of loyalty to the Creator. **While one class, by accepting the sign of submission to earthly powers, receive the mark of the beast, the other choosing the token of allegiance to divine authority, receive the seal of God.**" *The Great Controversy*, 605.

"If the light of truth has been presented to you, revealing the Sabbath of the fourth commandment, and showing that there is no foundation in the Word of God for Sunday observance, and yet you still cling to the false sabbath, refusing to keep holy the Sabbath which God calls "My holy day," you receive the mark of the beast. When does this take place? **When you**

**obey the decree that commands you to cease from labor on Sunday and worship God, while you know that there is not a word in the Bible showing Sunday to be other than a common working day, you consent to receive the mark of the beast, and refuse the seal of God.”** *Evangelism*, 235.

### **The Covenant Of Peace: The Special Resurrection**

“It is at midnight that God manifests His power for the deliverance of His people. The sun appears, shining in its strength. Signs and wonders follow in quick succession. The wicked look with terror and amazement upon the scene, while the righteous behold with solemn joy the tokens of their deliverance. Everything in nature seems turned out of its course. The streams cease to flow. Dark, heavy clouds come up and clash against each other. In the midst of the angry heavens is one clear space of indescribable glory, whence comes the voice of God like the sound of many waters, saying: "It is done." Revelation 16:17. {GC 636.2}

“That voice shakes the heavens and the earth. There is a mighty earthquake, "such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great." Verses 17, 18... Graves are opened, and "many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth. . . awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt." Daniel 12:2. **All who have died in the faith of the third angel's message come forth from the tomb glorified, to hear God's covenant of peace with those who have kept His law.** "They also which pierced Him" (Revelation 1:7), those that mocked and derided Christ's dying agonies, and the most violent opposers of His truth and His people, are raised to behold Him in His glory and to see the honor placed upon the loyal and obedient.” *The Great Controversy*, 636-637.

### **Time Of Jacob's Trouble**

- ❖ Alas! for that day [is] great, so that none [is] like it: it [is] even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it. *Jeremiah* 30:7.

“Jacob's night of anguish, when he wrestled in prayer for deliverance from the hand of Esau (Genesis 32:24-30), **represents the experience of God's people in the time of trouble.**” *The Great Controversy*, 616.

“Those who exercise but little faith now, are in the greatest danger of falling under the power of satanic delusions and the decree to compel the conscience. **And even if they endure the test they will be plunged into deeper distress and anguish in the time of trouble, because they have never made it a habit to trust in God.** The lessons of faith which they have neglected they will be forced to learn under a terrible pressure of discouragement.” *Ibid.*, 622.

“I saw that the four angels would hold the four winds until Jesus' work was done in the sanctuary, and then will come the seven last plagues. These plagues enraged the wicked against the righteous; they thought that we had brought the judgments of God upon them, and that if they could rid the earth of us, the plagues would then be stayed. A decree went forth to slay the saints, which caused them to cry day and night for deliverance. **This was the time of Jacob's trouble.**” *Early Writings*, 36-37.

## The Number Seven: The Plagues

- ❖ And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God. *Revelation 15:1.*
- ❖ And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth. And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and [upon] them which worshipped his image. *Revelation 16:1, 2.*
- ❖ And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive [his] mark in his forehead, or in his hand, **The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation;** and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. *Revelation 14:9-11.*

“Then Jesus will step out from between the Father and man, and God will keep silence no longer, but **pour out His wrath on those who have rejected His truth.** I saw that the anger of the nations, the wrath of God, and the time to judge the dead were separate and distinct, one following the other, also that Michael had not stood up, and that the time of trouble, such as never was, had not yet commenced. The nations are now getting angry, but when our High Priest has finished His work in the sanctuary, He will stand up, put on the garments of vengeance, and **then the seven last plagues will be poured out...**” *Early Writings, 36.*

## The Fourth Message

### Repetition Of The Second Message: Righteousness Once Again Manifested

- ❖ And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud [one] sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. *Revelation 14:14.*
- ❖ Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they [also] which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen. *Revelation 1:7.*
- ❖ When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: *Matthew 25:31.*

“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. In solemn silence they gaze upon it as it draws nearer the earth, becoming lighter and more glorious, until it is a great

white cloud, its base a glory like consuming fire, and above it the rainbow of the covenant. **Jesus rides forth as a mighty conqueror.** Not now a "Man of Sorrows," to drink the bitter cup of shame and woe, He comes, victor in heaven and earth, to judge the living and the dead. **"Faithful and True," "in righteousness He doth judge and make war."** And "the armies which were in heaven" (Revelation 19:11, 14) follow Him. With anthems of celestial melody the holy angels, a vast, unnumbered throng, attend Him on His way. The firmament seems filled with radiant forms--"ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands." No human pen can portray the scene; no mortal mind is adequate to conceive its splendor. "His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of His praise. And His brightness was as the light." Habakkuk 3:3,4. **As the living cloud comes still nearer, every eye beholds the Prince of life.** No crown of thorns now mars that sacred head; but a diadem of glory rests on His holy brow. His countenance outshines the dazzling brightness of the noonday sun. "And He hath on His vesture and on His thigh a name written, King of kings, and Lord of lords." Revelation 19:16." *The Great Controversy*, 640-641.

### **Preceded By A Fearful Conviction Of Sin As Experienced In The First Message**

"Though God's people will be surrounded by enemies who are bent upon their destruction, **yet the anguish which they suffer is not a dread of persecution for the truth's sake; they fear that every sin has not been repented of, and that through some fault in themselves they will fail to realize the fulfillment of the Saviour's promise:** I "will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world." Revelation 3:10. If they could have the assurance of pardon they would not shrink from torture or death; but should they prove unworthy, and lose their lives because of their own defects of character, then God's holy name would be reproached." *The Great Controversy*, 619.

### **Followed By A Repetition Of Judgment As Experienced In The Third Message**

- ❖ And **when the thousand years are expired**, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom [is] as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet [are], and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever. And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is [the book] of life: and **the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books**, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: **and they were judged every man according to their works.** And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire. *Revelation 20:7-15.*

- ❖ And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, **Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon all**, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard [speeches] which ungodly sinners have spoken against him. *Jude* 1:14,15.
- ❖ **Let the saints be joyful in glory**: let them sing aloud upon their beds. [Let] the high [praises] of God [be] in their mouth, and a twoedged sword in their hand; To execute vengeance upon the heathen, [and] punishments upon the people; To bind their kings with chains, and their nobles with fetters of iron; **To execute upon them the judgment written: this honour have all his saints**. Praise ye the LORD. *Psalms* 149:5-9.

“**The whole wicked world stand arraigned at the bar of God** on the charge of high treason against the government of heaven. They have none to plead their cause; they are without excuse; and the sentence of eternal death is pronounced against them.” *The Great Controversy*, 668.

## **The Controversy Ended**

“**The great controversy is ended**. Sin and sinners are no more. The entire universe is clean. One pulse of harmony and gladness beats through the vast creation. From Him who created all, flow life and light and gladness, throughout the realms of illimitable space. From the minutest atom to the greatest world, all things, animate and inanimate, in their unshadowed beauty and perfect joy, declare that **God is love**.” *The Great Controversy*, 678.