

IN THE TIME OF HARVEST

The Everlasting Gospel in Prophecy

Throughout the entire history of this old world since the fall of man, the Everlasting Gospel has been inseparably linked with Prophecy. Those who are trying to present a Gospel Message that is not woven through and through with the Golden Thread of Prophecy, will find their preaching degenerate into sentimental foolishness. God Himself states His claim to Godhood is based on the fact that He alone can tell the End from the Beginning. Here we wish to echo the very first words that Jesus preached when He began His ministry: “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the Gospel!”

Coming to his End
#17 in Time of Harvest Series
Jamal Sankey

Just to recap we have been talking about Daniel 11:40-45; in verse 40 we saw how in 1798 the Papacy would receive a deadly wound from Atheistic France; then the Papacy would retaliate in 1989 against Atheistic Communism with the help of the United States of America represented as the horsemen, chariots and many ships. He would enter into the ‘countries’ of the Soviet Union and would overflow and pass over.

In verse 41 we see the Papacy would also enter into the ‘Glorious Land’, the United States of America, and that many individuals, not countries, would be overthrown—starting with Adventism at the Sunday Law and a progression of events until Michael stands up.

We saw that Edom, Moab and the chief of the children of Ammon would escape ‘out of his hand’; we saw that this represents those who are in Babylon who will come out by slipperiness—they were once in his hand but they slip out because of the message they have heard.

Verse 42 we saw that the Papacy stretches forth his hand—his power—the Sunday Law—upon the ‘countries’ and Egypt would not escape. Egypt, this Dragon power, we saw represents the United Nations of the world and when the Papacy enters into the United Nations, he shall have power, verse 43, over all the treasures and precious things and the Libyans and Ethiopians would be at his steps. We saw that these represent the affluent and third world countries—the rich and the poor, free and bond. These are the two classes of men, and the Bible shows that at the time that it enters into Egypt that Egypt would not escape.

This does not mean that only some in America would slip out and the rest are all lost—but that by this time, she is in power. There is no turning back.

Troublous Tidings

- Daniel 11:44 “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. 45 And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in (and) the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.
- 12:1 “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.”

We start our verses tonight by a ‘tiding’ or a message. The Bible shows that a message would come from the North and from the East. Now an understanding of what this message is, is described in the symbolism of the North and the East—so we need to find out what the North represents and what the East represents. Let’s look at the East first in the book of Ezekiel.

East and North

East:

- Ezekiel 43:1-4 “Afterward he brought me to the gate, even the gate that looketh toward the east: 2 And, behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east: and his voice was like a noise of many waters: and the earth shined with his glory. 3 And it was according to the appearance of the vision which I saw, even according to the vision that I saw when I came to destroy the city: and the visions were like the vision that I saw by the river Chebar; and I fell upon my face. 4 And the glory of the LORD came into the house by the way of the gate whose prospect is toward the east.”

Notice that the glory of the Lord was coming from the East.

- Matthew 2:2, 9; “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. 2:9 When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.”
- 24:27; “For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.”

The east is symbolic of the coming of Christ (first and second)

- Revelation 16:12 “And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared.”

There are many controversial theories about this verse, that the ‘kings of the east’ is China or some of the Oriental countries, but we are going to see that the King of the East here is Christ and His armies at the Second Coming. The East is symbolic of the Coming of Christ.

North:

These tidings, this message comes from the East and from the North.

- Jeremiah 1:13-16; “And the word of the LORD came unto me the second time, saying, What seest thou? And I said, I see a seething pot; and the face thereof is toward the north. 14 Then the LORD said unto me, Out of the north an evil shall break forth upon all the inhabitants of the land. 15 For, lo, I will call all the families of the kingdoms of the north, saith the LORD; and they shall come, and they shall set every one his throne at the entering of the gates of Jerusalem, and against all the walls thereof round about, and against all the cities of Judah. 16 And I will utter my judgments against them touching all their wickedness, who have forsaken me, and have burned incense unto other gods, and worshipped the works of their own hands.”

God called Babylon the kings of the north but Babylon was used to bring judgment upon God’s people. The north is symbolic of judgment. God said He would send judgments and these are represented as coming from the North.

- Jeremiah 25:1, 2, “The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the people of Judah in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, that was the first year of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon; 2 The which Jeremiah the prophet spake unto all the people of Judah, and to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying,”
- 25:9 “Behold, I will send and take all the families of the north, saith the LORD, and Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and will bring them against this land, and against the inhabitants thereof, and against all these nations round about, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, and an hissing, and perpetual desolations.”

The ‘families’ of the North would come and bring God’s judgments upon Jerusalem. North represents judgment while East represents Christ’s coming. The East is symbolic of the Coming of Christ; the North, of Judgment against an apostate people.

- Ezekiel 9:1, 2 “He cried also in mine ears with a loud voice, saying, Cause them that have charge over the city to draw near, even every man with his destroying weapon in his hand. 2 And, behold, six men came from the way of the higher gate, which lieth toward the north, and every man a slaughter weapon in his hand; and one man among them was clothed with linen, with a writer’s inkhorn by his side: and they went in, and stood beside the brasen altar.”

The North is symbolic of Judgment but along with that judgment there is a Sealing that takes place. We are still looking to see what the East and the North represent as this is very important to our discourse tonight.

Christ Himself

- Isaiah 41:1, 2, “Keep silence before me, O islands; and let the people renew their strength: let them come near; then let them speak: let us come near together to judgment. 2 Who raised up the righteous man from the east, called him to his foot,

gave the nations before him, and made him rule over kings? he gave them as the dust to his sword, and as driven stubble to his bow.”

- 41:25-27 “I have raised up one from the north, and he shall come: from the rising of the sun (east) shall he call upon my name: and he shall come upon princes as upon mortar, and as the potter treadeth clay. 26 Who hath declared from the beginning, that we may know? and beforetime, that we may say, He is righteous? yea, there is none that sheweth, yea, there is none that declareth, yea, there is none that heareth your words. 27 The first shall say to Zion, Behold, behold them: and I will give to Jerusalem one that bringeth good tidings.”

The man shown as coming from the North and from the rising of the sun is a righteous man and that man is Christ. This represents Christ as coming from the east and north and bringing good tidings of His righteousness. (The righteousness of Christ is a message that is connected with judgment) When East and North are combined it represents His Righteousness. Whatever these tidings are, they come from the East and the North, symbolizing Christ’s coming, judgment, the sealing and Christ’s righteousness. This is the message that troubles Babylon. I believe the Bible shows that the tidings from the East and North represent the Third Angel’s Message. The Third Angel’s Message is what troubles Babylon. Third Angel’s Message is the platform of Daniel 11:40-45. This is the message that strikes the blow to that image, and it is given by the people who have the experience of the third angel—this stone cut out of the mountain.

Many individuals don’t see Christ in Daniel 11, they wonder how all this has to do with the Gospel; they even believe that the Gospel has nothing to do with judgment; the Gospel is only good news. When Jesus was here He read these words from Isaiah in the synagogue:

- Luke 4:18, 19 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, 19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.”

He closed the book and then told the people:

- 4:21 “And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.”

Then they wanted to stone Jesus for this, because they understood what was connected with that message. This showed it represented Himself and the work he was to do and the message He was to bring. This is a message of good tidings. Now let us look at the original in Isaiah. We’ll see what the message was that the people desired to kill Him over. It is always the same when the message is presented, whether it is Jesus, or us at the end of the world—people want to kill you over the message. There is a specific message connected with these good tidings to some, that trouble others.

- Isaiah 61:1, 2; “The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the

brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; 2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;”

How can the understanding of the Day of the vengeance of our God comfort them that mourn? There is something about this third message that comforts them that have an experience in it; that comforts those who know the outcome of the message.

When Jesus proclaimed it in Luke, He emphasized the good tidings but in the 3rd angel's message there is a second part. To God's true children it is good tidings of great joy, but to the rebellious, it is the day of the vengeance of our God.

Now some, when we begin to proclaim these messages and lay down the prophetic lines, get hung up and say 'well I can't see Christ in it. I don't see it'. They begin to be troubled and they get all flustered about certain points. That is the same attitude the Papacy will have because he does not see Christ in it except as coming for judgment. If we don't understand this is the good tidings, the message of mercy for the world—we're actually told it is the last message of mercy. If we can't see that in these particular truths—what mind state do we have? We have the same mind state that the King of the North will have in the end. We need to focus and prioritize our lives and understand that we have to step fast!

As the Spirit of Prophecy says, there needs to be a rending of hearts and not garments—we need to put all the outside things away, quit playing church and get real! Tidings out the east and out of the north will trouble him—but it will give us the most wonderful message. It should give us the most wonderful feeling to know that Christ is about to come!

“At this time a message from God is to be proclaimed, a message illuminating in its influence and saving in its power. His character is to be made known. Into the darkness of the world is to be shed the light of His glory, the light of His goodness, mercy, and truth.

“This is the work outlined by the prophet Isaiah in the words, "O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God! Behold, the Lord God will come with strong hand, and His arm shall rule for Him; behold, His reward is with Him, and His work before Him." Isaiah 40:9,10.

“Those who wait for the Bridegroom's coming are to say to the people, "Behold your God." The last rays of merciful light, the last message of mercy to be given to the world, is a revelation of His character of love. The children of God are to manifest His glory. In their own life and character they are to reveal what the grace of God has done for them. {COL 415.5}

How can we see Jesus' Love in the third angel's message? If we can't see it—we really don't understand what happened on Calvary. If we don't understand

what Jesus desired to do on Calvary—that's why when we preach this message, it seems like is a fearful denunciation—we don't see Christ in it.

Brethren, don't you think Jesus wants to come? Don't you think Jesus is tired of seeing His people in the condition they are in? Don't you think He wants to save us from our sins? Don't you think He is tired of seeing people living like they do? This is the message that hastens His coming and it is nothing but love—because when we give the message, all this can be wrapped up and we can go home.

Those who are really searching out there, would see us having an experience in here, and the message given them, although it deals with God's vengeance upon those who do not come under the covenant relationship, It shows that those who give themselves to Christ are to be made like Him. It is the most beautiful message given to man, but it troubles those who have no understanding of it.

Turn to Daniel 5 for an example of this. Remember Belshazzar's feast? Remember in Daniel 1 how that Nebuchadnezzar when he conquered Jerusalem, took all the golden vessels out of the temple and brought them to Babylon and put them in the house of his gods. Now Belshazzar, his grandson, decides to bring these things out and put them into his idolatrous feast. They drink wine out of the vessels and he displays the candlesticks and other items in his banquet hall.

- Daniel 5:1 “Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before the thousand. 2 Belshazzar, while he tasted the wine, commanded to bring the golden and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple which was in Jerusalem; that the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, might drink therein. 3 Then they brought the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple of the house of God which was at Jerusalem; and the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, drank in them. 4 They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, and of stone. 5 In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaister of the wall of the king's palace: and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote. 6 Then the king's countenance was changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his loins were loosed, and his knees smote one against another.”

It wasn't the hand that frightened the king; it was the message on the wall. What gave light to the message on the wall? The Bible says it was written over against the candlestick. That seven-branched candlestick that Nebuchadnezzar grabbed out of the sanctuary; they brought all the articles of the sanctuary there and were partying around them. God chose the specific point where the candlestick was burning and He wrote on the wall where that candlestick was, the message MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN. The king saw this and began trembling. He understood what it said, he understood it said 2520, but did not understand what it meant.

Who gave the light to the message that troubled the king of Babylon? God chose a particular place over against the wall where the candlestick was burning.

It was the light from that candlestick that illuminated the message that he saw on the wall—and who is the candlestick? Revelation chapter 1 says it is you; Revelation 7 says the same. It is the church—the Bible says, ‘Ye are the light of the world’. The church is represented as the light of the world and so is Jesus the light of the world. He is to shine through you and me and if we don’t give the message in its clarity, there is no way that just as Babylon fell in Daniel 5, it will fall in the end. You see the tidings from the east and the north troubles the Papacy. What did it do to Belshazzar? It troubled him.

- Daniel 5:9 “Then was king Belshazzar greatly troubled, and his countenance was changed in him, and his lords were astonished.”

It is the same message- MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN—2520. We will go through what the 2520 is later in the series. There is a covenant, the 2520 represents a kingdom that is taken away and a kingdom restored. To Babylon, that message points to their coming to an end; but for God’s people, it shows that we are to be established by God again.

We have to give that message a certain sound—we have to give it a certain shimmer of light for Babylon to be troubled. Let’s go back to the message:

The Sealing and Latter Rain

We’ve seen that the East represents the Coming of Christ and also Christ and His righteousness and the North represents judgment and also good tidings of Christ’s righteousness. When we tie them together, that message of mercy is for the world but for a certain class it troubles them. Then it also represents the sealing and the latter rain.

- Revelation 7:1-4 “And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree.² And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, ³ Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. ⁴ 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.”

The sealing message comes from the East.

“I then saw the third angel. Said my accompanying angel, "Fearful is his work. Awful is his mission. He is the angel that is to select the wheat from the tares, and seal, or bind, the wheat for the heavenly garner. These things should engross the whole mind, the whole attention.” {EW 118}

Where are your thoughts during the day? What do we think about? Right now our whole thoughts, our whole attention should be on the Third Angel’s Message. If it is not on the Third Angel’s Message, let me tell you—if we don’t wake up in the morning and our first thoughts are about Jesus, and we fall on our

knees and give Jesus our heart and we have devotions with God, and we want to come into a covenant relation with God, and we want to do so because we know that we are in the time of the third angel—we know that we are in the time when He is going to be selecting the wheat from the tares. If we do not have this on our mind every day, we will not be a part of those that are placed in the heavenly garner.

That's why Satan keeps us busy! It was once told me that BUSY is an acronym meaning, Being Under Satan's Yoke. We get so busy! Busy here and busy there and we are never having our mind focused on Christ. And if it doesn't absorb the whole attention—the whole attraction—brethren, we are not on the right path!

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

Praise God that she saw that at the end there would be at least a few who would be firmly united. Not distracted and all the different factions in the church today. Firmly united—and can two walk together unless they be agreed? That means we'll all have the same understanding—we'll all be teaching the same thing. They were bound together by the TRUTH in bundles or companies.

What is the third angel's job? To seal, to bind, to separate and we're under that time period. When the sealing is taking place something else is being poured out. The sealing and the Latter Rain are connected with the outpouring of the Spirit of God and the glad tidings and likened unto Pentecost but with more power.

“What was the result of the outpouring of the Spirit on the Day of Pentecost? The glad tidings of a risen Saviour were carried to the uttermost parts of the inhabited world. As the disciples proclaimed the message of redeeming grace, hearts yielded to the power of this message. The church beheld converts flocking to her from all directions. Backsliders were reconverted. Sinners united with believers in seeking the pearl of great price. Some who had been the bitterest opponents of the gospel became its champions. The prophecy was fulfilled, "He that is feeble . . . shall be as David; and the house of David . . . as the angel of the Lord." Zechariah 12:8. Every Christian saw in his brother a revelation of divine love and benevolence. One interest prevailed; one subject of emulation swallowed up all others. The ambition of the believers was to reveal the likeness of Christ's character and to labor for the enlargement of His kingdom.” {AA 48}

When we have the experience of the Third Angel, and that attraction keeps our mind focused, one thing will prevail—one all absorbing thought—that is to bring others to Jesus, and the way we bring them to Jesus is not just through 'Steps to Christ'—that is a beautiful book and I read it every year—we need to do that every so often and get that relationship with Jesus. But it is not just handing someone a 'Steps to Christ'; in the work at the end of time—if you

are to hand out any book—given them Great Controversy. Great Controversy lets them know where they are living. It shows them the Third Angel's Message and it will give them an understanding of what they are coming in to.

Once they see it, and they see you living the message, then they'll say that this is the truth. The truth is not going to win them by argument. It is by the conviction that you have of this truth. They will see that you believe it with all your heart and you are living the message—this is truth—and they will come to it. The reason why people are not flocking to our churches right now is that we don't believe what we teach. If we believed it our churches would be full. And it wouldn't be full of all the foolishness going on today! It would be full of fervent believers. It is going to happen and it is going to happen soon!

But before that God is going to cleanse His church—and the message that is to do it comes from the East and the North—it troubles the Papacy and troubles all those who are on her side even though they say they are not.

We are told that the Latter Rain is the Refreshing from the prescience of the Lord and it is the Loud Cry of the Third Angel.

"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." {EW 271 }

The Third Angel's Message is a repetition of the First and Second, we'll go through it clearly in our next presentation. The Third Angel's Message, Daniel 40-45 is a repeat of the Millerite history of the First and Second Angel's messages 1840-1844. The very verses go along with the dates; 1840 is verse 40, 1841 is verse 41 and so on. That is not something that just happened, brethren; this is a repeat of this history. And if it is a repeat of this history and the Millerite history is the Third angel, and the Third Angel's Message is the Loud Cry, and the Loud Cry is the Latter Rain and the Third Angel's Message is Daniel 11:40-45 and you can prove it—then you can tell everybody with firm belief that Daniel 11:40-45 is the Third Angel's Message; Daniel 11:40-45 is the Loud cry; Daniel 11:40-45 is the Latter Rain; Daniel 11:40-45 is what's going to bind the wheat for the heavenly garner. This is not a message that is just interesting—this is THE message for the hour.

"I saw that the holy Sabbath is, and will be, the separating wall between the true Israel of God and unbelievers; and that the Sabbath is the great question to unite the hearts of God's dear, waiting saints. I saw that God had children who do not see and keep the Sabbath. They have not rejected the light upon it. And at the commencement of the time of trouble, we were filled with the Holy Ghost as we went forth and proclaimed the Sabbath more fully." EW 33

"This view was given in 1847 when there were but very few of the Advent brethren observing the Sabbath, and of these but few supposed that its observance was of sufficient importance to draw a line between the people of God and unbelievers. Now the fulfilment of that view is beginning to be seen. "The commencement of that time of trouble," here

mentioned does not refer to the time when the plagues shall begin to be poured out, but to a short period just before they are poured out, while Christ is in the sanctuary. At that time, while the work of salvation is closing, trouble will be coming on the earth, and the nations will be angry, yet held in check so as not to prevent the work of the third angel. At that time the "latter rain," or refreshing from the presence of the Lord, will come, to give power to the loud voice of the third angel, and prepare the saints to stand in the period when the seven last plagues shall be poured out." {EW 85}

The 'Little Time of Trouble' is what she is speaking of and during that time two classes are being made. When Michael stands up, it is done and the plagues are poured out; that is the Great Time of Trouble. Nobody gets a second chance then. That period is not too long in length—quick succession as it goes around the world and we are almost to the time.

- Daniel 11:44 "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."

The 'tidings out of the East and North' is the Third Angel's Message. It comes and it troubles the Papacy then it says 'therefore' or because of the Third Angel, he goes forth with fury to destroy.

- Daniel 11:45 "And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas [and] in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him."

When does this period happen when the Papacy goes with fury to destroy those who are giving the Third Angel's Message?

"Every individual in our world will be arrayed under one of two banners.

"The two armies will stand distinct and separate, and this distinction will be so marked that many who shall be convinced of truth will come on the side of God's commandment-keeping people. When this grand work is to take place in the battle, prior to the last closing conflict, many will be imprisoned, many will flee for their lives from cities and towns, and many will be martyrs for Christ's sake in standing in defense of the truth." {Mar 199}

In this time period just before Michael stands up a lot is going on; judgments are being poured out, martyrdom is taking place. Some people teach that Martyrs only happen when the world-wide death decree comes, no, it is happening all throughout the time of the Sunday Law. People will be sealing their testimony with their blood. We need to be in a state where we are ready and firmly fixed in Christ that whether we sleep in Jesus or whether we are translated doesn't matter to us.

“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.

“When He leaves the sanctuary, darkness covers the inhabitants of the earth. In that fearful time the righteous must live in the sight of a holy God without an intercessor. The restraint which has been upon the wicked is removed, and Satan has entire control of the finally impenitent. God's long-suffering has ended. The world has rejected His mercy, despised His love, and trampled upon His law. The wicked have passed the boundary of their probation; the Spirit of God, persistently resisted, has been at last withdrawn. Unsheltered by divine grace, they have no protection from the wicked one. Satan will then plunge the inhabitants of the earth into one great, final trouble. As the angels of God cease to hold in check the fierce winds of human passion, all the elements of strife will be let loose. The whole world will be involved in ruin more terrible than that which came upon Jerusalem of old.

“A single angel destroyed all the first-born of the Egyptians and filled the land with mourning. When David offended against God by numbering the people, one angel caused that terrible destruction by which his sin was punished. The same destructive power exercised by holy angels when God commands, will be exercised by evil angels when He permits. There are forces now ready, and only waiting the divine permission, to spread desolation everywhere.

“Those who honor the law of God have been accused of bringing judgments upon the world, and they will be regarded as the cause of the fearful convulsions of nature and the strife and bloodshed among men that are filling the earth with woe. The power attending the last warning has enraged the wicked; their anger is kindled against all who have received the message, and Satan will excite to still greater intensity the spirit of hatred and persecution.

“When God's presence was finally withdrawn from the Jewish nation, priests and people knew it not. Though under the control of Satan,

and swayed by the most horrible and malignant passions, they still regarded themselves as the chosen of God. The ministration in the temple continued; sacrifices were offered upon its polluted altars, and daily the divine blessing was invoked upon a people guilty of the blood of God's dear Son and seeking to slay His ministers and apostles. So when the irrevocable decision of the sanctuary has been pronounced and the destiny of the world has been forever fixed, the inhabitants of the earth will know it not. The forms of religion will be continued by a people from whom the Spirit of God has been finally withdrawn; and the satanic zeal with which the prince of evil will inspire them for the accomplishment of his malignant designs, will bear the semblance of zeal for God.

“As the Sabbath has become the special point of controversy throughout Christendom, and religious and secular authorities have combined to enforce the observance of the Sunday, the persistent refusal of a small minority to yield to the popular demand will make them objects of universal execration. It will be urged that the few who stand in opposition to an institution of the church and a law of the state ought not to be tolerated; that it is better for them to suffer than for whole nations to be thrown into confusion and lawlessness. The same argument many centuries ago was brought against Christ by the "rulers of the people." "It is expedient for us," said the wily Caiaphas, "that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not." John 11:50. This argument will appear conclusive; and a decree will finally be issued against those who hallow the Sabbath of the fourth commandment, denouncing them as deserving of the severest punishment and giving the people liberty, after a certain time, to put them to death. Romanism in the Old World and apostate Protestantism in the New will pursue a similar course toward those who honor all the divine precepts.

“The people of God will then be plunged into those scenes of affliction and distress described by the prophet as the time of Jacob's trouble. "Thus saith the Lord: We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace. . . . All faces are turned into paleness. 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 30:5-7.” {GC 613-616}

We are coming to a point in Time where the Loud Cry of the Third Angel goes to the world; the Papacy is enraged because of the message. They go forth with fury to utterly destroy and to make away many—but at that time:

- Daniel 12:1 “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.”

Men, women, and children, all the inhabitants of the world enraged against the few who honor God's Commandments. They will have a point in time where by law they can put them to death. By law everyone who keeps the Sabbath can be destroyed—but they'll be saved—because at this time Michael will stand up.

- Daniel 11:45; “And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in [and] the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.”

The understanding of verse 45 is the key in this whole ending of the discourse. It says he will plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas and the Glorious Holy Mountain. Verse 45 is the same as Revelation 16.

- Revelation 16:13-16 “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. 14 For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. 15 Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. 16 And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.”

The Battle of Armageddon

Armageddon means the Mount of Megiddo.

Literal Megiddo lies between the seas of the Mediterranean, Galilee, and Dead Sea, and Jerusalem (the Glorious Holy Mountain).

When he plants his tabernacles between the seas and the Glorious Holy Mountain, this is the Armageddon time period—the final battle.

Glorious Holy Mountain:

- Daniel 9:16, 20 O Lord, according to all thy righteousness, I beseech thee, let thine anger and thy fury be turned away from thy city Jerusalem, thy holy mountain: because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and thy people are become a reproach to all that are about us. 20 And whiles I was speaking, and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God for the holy mountain of my God;

But this is not literal Jerusalem at the end of the world. The Holy Mountain of God is the church; it is God’s people. In Daniel 11:41 you have the Glorious Land; in verse 45 you have the Glorious Holy Mountain. It is easy to prove from the Bible that the Glorious Holy Mountain is the church. But if Daniel was wanting to show a distinction; if he wanted you to understand that the Glorious Land was the church, then why would he use Glorious Holy Mountain in verse 45? He was showing a difference.

We know that the Glorious Land is the United States of America but the Glorious Holy Mountain is the church.

- Isaiah 2:2, 3; “And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD’S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. 3 And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.”

Glorious holy mountain = Jerusalem = Zion = house of the Lord = Holy hill = God's people. So the Papacy after hearing the message would be so enraged that he goes to destroy and make away many. The way he would do this is to plant his tabernacles—or his war tents in the original Hebrew, he would put his war tents between the 'seas and the Glorious Holy Mountain'.

In literal Jerusalem you have the Mediterranean Sea, the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea; you have the valley of Jezreel there between literal Jerusalem and the seas. So when the Bible says he would plant his war tents between the seas and the Glorious Holy Mountain, it is pointing you to one place in geography and that is the Valley of Jezreel and Megiddo and that is Armageddon.

This final battle is when Michael stands up, Michael comes. This final battle, brethren, is not found in literal Palestine area; it is not found in the literal Middle East. The whole world is involved—you can't fit the whole world in the valley of Jezreel—impossible. It is symbolic.

This is near Mount Carmel where the decision was made to either follow God or follow Baal. What was the deciding factor? Fire was coming from heaven, representing God's Holy Spirit. Brethren it is falling on God's people—those of us who give ourselves to Christ, who yield to God, are being prepared for that final battle. We are being prepared for the final decision and it is transpiring now because the Third Angel that binds the wheat for the heavenly garner must first bind the First Fruits. That is happening in the church first.

Once we are bound for heaven, God places His seal upon us and we are empowered by this message, we are empowered by the full rain of the Latter Rain, and we give the message to the world. This message enrages the Papacy, he hates it—so he comes between the seas and the church.

In the Bible what does 'seas' represent? Revelation 17:15; People, multitudes, nations, tongues. He tries to block the message; to come between God's people giving the last message of mercy and the seas representing the people of the world, to try and stop that message from reaching the people. The Bible shows clearly that he shall come to his end—how does he come to his end?

We looked at the principle of $1 + 2 = 3$. Babylon is fallen is fallen. Remember Belshazzar, when he was having his feast, the Kings of the East were drying up the Euphrates, and they made their way into Babylon and destroyed it. That king was Cyrus and he was a type of Jesus Christ. The name means solar flare or shining one; he was the king of the east that came in a destroyed Babylon. The destruction of Babylon led to the taking out of the people of God from Babylon. This was the first fall.

The river Euphrates was the support of literal Babylon. It literally sat on seas or waters. When it was dried up, she was captured.

The second fall was in 1798 with spiritual Babylon, the Papacy. How did it fall? The same thing was done in a spiritual way; those who supported the Papacy dried up. It was France who delivered the deadly wound to the Papacy and it was France, who had been the first to give its power to the Papacy in 456; that delivered the deadly wound in 1798. Babylon's support dried up!

The first history plus the second history equals the third; the support system of Babylon dries up; those who used to support Babylon don't accept her any more. The Bible says they hate the whore—they will eat her flesh and burn

her with fire. They are not literally going to gnaw on her, but it is showing that they find out that they were duped, the message was the TRUTH and it is too late for them. They didn't accept it because they were deceived and they hate the harlot.

- Revelation 16:12 “And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared.”

This is not literal Euphrates, this Euphrates at the end of the world are those that support Babylon. Cyrus is coming again to get His people out of Babylon! Cyrus in this instance is Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ and the armies of Heaven are the Kings of the East. Jesus comes from the East—He's coming to save His people.

Tidings from the East and the North—who gives the tidings? The 144,000; they are the death blow to Babylon. They are the 'stone' that smites the image. In Jeremiah 51 they are called God's Battle Axe.

- Jeremiah 51:19 “The portion of Jacob is not like them; for he is the former of all things: and Israel is the rod of his inheritance: the LORD of hosts is his name. 20 Thou art my battle axe and weapons of war: for with thee will I break in pieces the nations, and with thee will I destroy kingdoms;”

God is going to use a people to destroy Babylon at the end of the world and He does it through the messages that they proclaim. We are at a time where our understanding of the message is not a superficial thing. We are not living in a time when it is OK to not understand deeply the things at the end of the world. If we are to be used by God, we have to be able to wield the Axe. We have to be able to use the Sword and strike a death-blow against Babylon. We need to be used as expert marksmen, expert marksmanship takes practice. It takes time to hone his skill, and the time is shaping to be very, very soon where we're going to need to wield the sword—or lay it down.

We need to make a decision—and to stand on it and commit to it. We are so caught up in what others might think of us or what the Pastor is going to approve—that's where our mind is, as a people. If a Pastor walked through the door a lot of people would start shrinking down. It might sound strange, but this is where we are at—in reality our church is more Catholic than the Catholic Church! We are so caught up in pointing the finger at them but we have the same problem.

In 1 Corinthians chapters 1-3, we see this is the problem of the churches of the world. Some said, “I am of Paul”; some said, “Well, I like Apollos”; “I like Cephas”, “I am going to follow this man and that man”, and Paul had to say, “You carnal minded men, you babes in Christ—is Christ divided? Are you baptized into Paul? I may have planted a seed and Apollos may have watered it but it is God that gives the increase—it is God that does the work.”

We need to quit being so caught up in MEN! We are so worried about whether or not it is approved by the church. That is a sad thought, because do you know what happened to Jerusalem of old? John was speaking and they

came to the River Jordan and the spies were there too—just like here—they were there; and John was talking about them. They thought John was mean because he called them Vipers and they shrunk off after John said it.

But do you know what happened? Many were so worried about whether they could go back to the synagogue afterwards, that many of them didn't go into the Jordan with John, and because they didn't go into the Jordan with John—they rejected Jesus. And because they rejected Jesus and crucified Him, they did not receive the former rain of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. And because they didn't receive that—they had no understanding of what Jesus was doing for them in the heavenly sanctuary and they were cut off as a people.

That same story is happening right now and we are too blind to recognize that we are playing the part again. Do you realize that as you read the story of Jesus, perhaps to your children on Sabbath, that you are reading a manuscript of your life? Do you know that? As you read these things, you are reading what is actually going on in your life? You come to the place where it says it was because of the fear of the Jews that they didn't come to listen to the message and to give their all to the work.

Yes, we might have a few Nicodemuses, just a few—some of those men finally came in when it was too late and Christ was already crucified—but they came in at the end. We might have a few of those—but this is the Jordan—the time period when the message is going forth: 'Prepare ye the way of the Lord'.

What side are you going to be on?—you need to make a decision for Christ. And I am telling the truth right now—I see it all the time when an appeal is made and it comes to the point of really making a decision—we shrink back down. Why do we go against our own conviction? 'To him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not—to him it is sin.'

You need to study more deeply on this—you need to get into the Word of God and who cares who is teaching it! It doesn't matter if it is Paul, Apollos or Cephas—it is God that gives the increase!

We are past the Jordan now, Jesus has already been crucified and we are coming to the point where the nation is to be cut off again. Let us pray that God will impress our understanding that this might be the last call. We never know when we may be put to rest—and our decision will be sealed for eternity.

The time of our visitation is right now! Let not Jesus have to say of us that He would have gathered us under His wings as a hen gathers her chickens but we would not. Let us not give Jesus another reason for weeping over Jerusalem!