

ZOOM MEETING JUNE 29, 2024

MAY 6 ZOOM MEETING

THE ACT OF HOMAGE

Kneeling: The vassal knelt before the lord to demonstrate humility and submission.

Hands: The vassal placed his hands between the lord's hands, symbolizing the personal and binding nature of their agreement. **Oath of Fealty:** The vassal swore an oath of loyalty and fidelity to the lord.

Kneeling— “And **all who will not bow to the decree** of national councils, and obey the national laws to exalt the sabbath instituted by the man of sin to disregard God's holy day, will feel, not the oppressive power of popery alone, but of the Protestant world, the image of the beast.” *Review and Herald*, March 9, 1911.

Hands— “**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*, volume 5, 451.

Fealty— ‘Fealty’ refers to a formal pledge of allegiance, loyalty, and service, typically **made by a vassal to a lord** in the context of the feudal system during medieval times. It involves the vassal promising **to serve and support the lord**, often in exchange for protection and the granting of land or other benefits. The term encompasses the following elements: **Loyalty:** A commitment to remain loyal to the lord, not betraying or acting against him. **Service:** A pledge to provide military or other forms of service to **the lord as needed**. **Allegiance:** A declaration of allegiance, acknowledging the lord's authority and supremacy.

Homage— The act of swearing **fealty** was a solemn and formal ceremony, often involving an **oath of fealty**, where the vassal would kneel before the lord and swear to uphold these commitments.

“The enforcement of Sundaykeeping on the part of Protestant churches is an enforcement of the worship of the papacy—of the beast. Those who, understanding the claims of the fourth commandment, choose to observe the false instead of the true Sabbath are thereby paying **homage** to that power by which alone it is commanded. **But in the very act of enforcing a religious duty by secular power, the churches would themselves form an image to the beast; hence the enforcement of Sundaykeeping in the United States would be an enforcement of the worship of the beast and his image.**” *The Great Controversy*, 448, 449.

“The lamblike horns and dragon voice of the symbol point to a striking contradiction between the professions and the practice of the nation thus represented. The ‘speaking’ of the nation is the action of its legislative and judicial authorities. By such action it will give the lie to those liberal and peaceful principles which it has put forth as

the foundation of its policy. The prediction that it will speak ‘as a dragon’ and exercise ‘all the power of the first beast’ plainly foretells a development of the spirit of intolerance and persecution that was manifested by the nations represented by the dragon and the leopardlike beast. And the statement that the beast with two horns ‘causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast’ indicates that the authority of this nation is to be exercised in enforcing some observance which shall be an act of homage to the papacy.” *The Great Controversy*, 440–442.

“**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*, volume 5, 451.

“As we approach the last crisis, it is of vital moment that harmony and unity exist among the Lord’s instrumentalities. The world is filled with storm and war and variance. **Yet under one head—the papal power**—the people will unite to oppose God in the person of His witnesses. This union is cemented by the great apostate. While he seeks to unite his agents in warring against the truth he will work to divide and scatter its advocates. Jealousy, evil surmising, evilspeaking, are instigated by him to produce discord and dissension.” *Testimonies*, volume 7, 182.

AND IN THOSE TIMES THERE SHALL MANY STAND UP AGAINST THE KING OF THE SOUTH: ALSO THE ROBBERS OF THY PEOPLE SHALL EXALT THEMSELVES TO ESTABLISH THE VISION; BUT THEY SHALL FALL. DANIEL 11:14.

PHILADELPHIAN MILLERITE ADVENTISTS

“Need I, then, tell my hearers that history tells us that Alexander conquered the then known world in about six years, and that he died 323 years B. C. at Babylon; that his kingdom was divided among his greatest generals, from which division arose four great kingdoms, Egypt in the south, Persia in the east, Syria in the north, and Macedonia in the west, which kingdoms lasted until conquered by the Romans? Between the years 190 and 30 B. C. nearly all these kingdoms became Roman provinces. From Daniel 11:5,13, inclusive, we have a prophecy of the two principal kingdoms out of these four—Egypt and Syria; and anyone who may have the curiosity to see the exact agreement between the prophecy and history, can read *Rollin’s Ancient History*, where he has not only given us the history, but applied this prophecy. And as I see no reason to disagree from him in his application of these texts, I shall, therefore, for brevity’s sake, pass over these texts, and examine the text, Dan 11:14, ‘And in those times there shall many stand up against the king of the south; also, the robbers of thy people shall exalt themselves to establish the vision; but they shall fall.’

“The king of the south, in this verse, without any doubt, means king of Egypt; but what the robbers of thy people means **remains yet a doubt perhaps to some.** That it cannot mean Antiochus, or any king of Syria, it is plain; for the angel had been talking about that nation for a number of verses previous, and now says, ‘**also** the robbers of thy people,’ etc.,

evidently implying some other nation. I will admit that Antiochus did perhaps rob the Jews; but how could this ‘establish the vision,’ as **Antiochus is not spoken of anywhere in the vision as performing any act of that kind**; for he belonged to what is called the Grecian kingdom in the vision. Again, ‘to establish the vision,’ must mean to make sure, complete, or fulfill the same.” William Miller, *Miller’s Works*, Lecture 6, 89.

“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.

“Then I saw in relation to the ‘daily’ (Daniel 8:12) that the word ‘sacrifice’ was supplied by man’s wisdom, and does not belong to the text, and that the Lord gave the correct view of it to those who gave the judgment hour cry. When union existed, before 1844, nearly all were united on the correct view of the ‘daily’; but in the confusion since 1844, other views have been embraced, and darkness and confusion have followed. Time has not been a test since 1844, and it will never again be a test.” *Early Writings*, 74, 75.

“164 Death of Antiochus Epiphanes, who of course did not stand up against the prince of princes, as he had been dead 164 years before the birth of the prince of princes.”

LAODICEAN ADVENTISTS

Uriah Smith and James White

POST 1989

Daniel 11:40–45; Revelation 13:3; 17:11

POST SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

The word of the Lord that came to Joel the son of Pethuel. Hear this, **ye old men**, and give ear, all ye inhabitants of the land. Hath this been in your days, or even in the days of your fathers? Tell ye your **children** of it, and *let* your children *tell* **their children**, and their children **another generation**. That which the **palmerworm** hath left hath the **locust** eaten; and that which the locust hath left hath the **cankerworm** eaten; and that which the cankerworm hath left hath the **caterpillar** eaten. **Awake**, ye drunkards, and weep; and howl, all ye drinkers of wine, because of the new wine, for it is cut off from your mouth. For a nation is come up upon my land, strong, and without number, whose teeth *are* the teeth of a lion, and he hath the cheek teeth of a great lion. Joel 1:1–6.

AND IN THOSE TIMES THERE SHALL MANY STAND UP AGAINST THE KING OF THE SOUTH: ALSO THE ROBBERS OF THY PEOPLE SHALL EXALT THEMSELVES TO ESTABLISH THE VISION; BUT THEY SHALL FALL. DANIEL 11:14.

POST JULY 2023

“Rome” or the “United States”

“In history and prophecy the Word of God portrays the long continued conflict between truth and error. That conflict is yet in progress. **Those things which have been, will be repeated. Old controversies will be revived, and new theories will be continually arising.** But God’s people, who in their belief and fulfillment of prophecy have acted a part in the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels’ messages, know where they stand.

They have an experience that is more precious than fine gold. They are to stand firm as a rock, holding **the beginning of their confidence steadfast unto the end.**" *Selected Messages*, book 2, 109.

"The enemy is seeking to divert the minds of our brethren and sisters from **the work of preparing a people to stand in these last days.** His sophistries are designed to lead minds away from the perils and duties of the hour. They estimate as nothing the light that Christ came from heaven to give to John for His people. They teach that the scenes just before us are not of sufficient importance to receive special attention. They make of no effect the truth of heavenly origin and **rob the people of God of their past experience,** giving them instead a false science.

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

"Let none seek to tear away the **foundations** of our faith—**the foundations that were laid at the beginning of our work** by prayerful study of the word and by revelation. Upon these foundations we have been building for the last fifty years. Men may suppose that they have found a new way and that **they can lay a stronger foundation** than that which has been laid. But this is a great deception. Other **foundation** can no man lay than that which has been laid.

"In the past many have undertaken the building of a new faith, the establishment of new principles. But how long did their building stand? It soon fell, for **it was not founded upon the Rock.**

"Did not the first disciples have to meet the sayings of men? Did they not have to listen to false theories, and then, having done all, to stand firm, saying: 'Other **foundation** can no man lay than that is laid'? 1 Corinthians 3:11.

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

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

"**Agitate, agitate, agitate.** The subjects which we present to the world must be to us a living reality. It is important that in defending the doctrines which we consider fundamental articles of faith we should never allow ourselves to employ arguments that are not wholly sound. These may avail to silence an opposer, but they do not honor the truth. We should

present sound arguments, that will not only silence our opponents, but **will bear the closest and most searching scrutiny**. With those who have educated themselves as debaters there is great danger that they will not handle the word of God with fairness. In meeting an opponent it should be our earnest effort to present subjects in such a manner as to awaken conviction in his mind, instead of seeking merely to give confidence to the believer.

“Whatever may be man’s intellectual advancement, let him not for a moment think that there is no need of thorough and continuous searching of the Scriptures for greater light. As a people we are called individually to be students of prophecy. We must watch with earnestness that we may discern any ray of light which God shall present to us. We are to catch the first gleamings of truth; and through prayerful study clearer light may be obtained, which can be brought before others.” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 708.

THE GLORIOUS LAND

The United States or the Seventh-day Adventists Church?

Let no man deceive you by any means: for *that day shall not come*, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth *will let*, until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: *Even him*, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness. 2 Thessalonians 2:3–12.

“I read on, and could find no other case in which it [the daily] was found, but in Daniel. I then [by the aid of a concordance] took those words which stood in connection with it, ‘take away;’ he shall take away the daily; ‘from the time the daily shall be taken away,’ etc. I read on, and thought I should find no light on the text; finally I came to 2 Thessalonians 2:7, 8. ‘For the mystery of iniquity doth already work; only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way, and then shall that wicked be revealed,’ etc. And when I had come to that text, O, how clear and glorious the truth appeared! There it is! That is the daily! Well, now, what does Paul mean by ‘he who now letteth,’ or hindereth? By ‘the man of sin,’ and the ‘wicked,’ Popery is meant. Well, what is it which hinders Popery from being revealed? Why, it is Paganism; well, then, ‘the daily’ must mean Paganism.’—William Miller, *Second Advent Manual*, page 66.” *Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*, January 6, 1853.

“September 23, 1850 the Lord showed me When union existed, before 1844, nearly all were united on the correct view of the ‘Daily;’ but **since 1844**, in the confusion, **other views have been embraced, and darkness and confusion has followed.**” *Early Writings*, 74.

“Revelation 18 points to the time when, as the result of rejecting the threefold warning of Revelation 14:6–12, the church will have fully reached the condition foretold by the second angel, and **the people of God still in Babylon will be called upon to separate from her communion**. This message is the last that will ever be given to the world; and it will accomplish its work. **When** those that ‘believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness’ 2 Thessalonians 2:12, **shall be left** to receive strong delusion and to believe a lie, **then** the light of truth will shine upon all whose hearts are open to receive it, and all **the children of the Lord that remain in Babylon** will heed the call: ‘**Come out of her, my people.**’ Revelation 18:4.” *Maranatha*, 173.

PRIVATE INTERPRETATION

We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake *as they were* moved by the Holy Ghost. 2 Peter 1:19–21.

ALPHA AND OMEGA

Daniel 11:1–15, verses 13–15.