

ZOOM MEETING AUGUST 3

OLD CONTROVERSIES

“All that God has in prophetic history specified to be fulfilled in the past has been, and all that is yet to come in its order will be. Daniel, God’s prophet, stands in his place. John stands in his place. In the Revelation the Lion of the tribe of Judah has opened to the students of prophecy the book of Daniel, and thus is Daniel standing in his place. He bears his testimony, that which the Lord revealed to him in vision of the great and solemn events which we must know as we stand on the very threshold of their fulfillment.

“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.

“A transforming power attended the proclamation of the first and second angels’ messages, as it attends the message of the third angel. Lasting convictions were made upon human minds. The power of the Holy Spirit was manifested. There was diligent study of the Scriptures, point by point. Almost entire nights were devoted to earnest searching of the Word. We searched for the truth as for hidden treasures. The Lord revealed Himself to us. **Light was shed on the prophecies,** and we knew that we received divine instruction.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 109.

FIVE OLD CONTROVERSIES OF ROME

Daniel 11:14 the first,
the king of the north and Armageddon the first,
the daily,
the king of the north and Armageddon the last,
the insects of Joel,
Daniel 11:14 the last

“Each of the ancient prophets spoke less for their own time than for ours, so that their prophesying is in force for us.” *Selected Messages*, book 3, 338, 339.

THE FINAL TEST

“The Lord has shown me **clearly that the image of the beast will be formed before probation closes;** for it is to be **the great test for the people of God, by which their eternal destiny will be decided.** . . .

“This is **the test that the people of God must have before they are sealed.**” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 15, 15.

“But **what is the ‘image to the beast’? and how is it to be formed?** The image is made by the two-horned beast, and is an image **to the beast.** It is also called an image **of the beast.** Then **to learn what the image is like and how it is to be formed we must study the characteristics of the beast itself—the papacy.**

“When the early church became corrupted by departing from the simplicity of the gospel and accepting heathen rites and customs, she lost the Spirit and power of God; and **in order to control the consciences of the people, she sought the support of the secular power.** The result was the papacy, **a church that controlled the power of the state and employed it to further her own ends,** especially for the punishment of ‘heresy.’ In order for the United States to form an image of the beast, **the religious power must so control the civil government that the authority of the state will also be employed by the church to accomplish her own ends.**” *The Great Controversy*, 443.

“The ‘image to the beast’ **represents** that form of apostate Protestantism which will be developed **when the Protestant churches shall seek the aid of the civil power** for the enforcement of their dogmas. **The ‘mark of the beast’ still remains to be defined.**” *The Great Controversy*, 445.

“**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.

“**God has revealed what is to take place in the last days,** that His people may be prepared to stand against the tempest of opposition and wrath. Those who have been warned of the events before them are not to sit in calm expectation of the coming storm, comforting themselves that the Lord will shelter His faithful ones in the day of trouble. We are to be as men waiting for their Lord, not in idle expectancy, but in earnest work, with unwavering faith. It is no time now to allow our minds to be engrossed with things of minor importance. While men are sleeping, Satan is actively arranging matters so that the Lord’s people may not have mercy or justice. **The Sunday movement is now making its way in darkness.** The leaders are concealing the true issue, and many who unite in the movement do not themselves see whither the undercurrent is tending. Its professions are mild and apparently Christian, but **when it shall speak it will reveal the spirit of the dragon.**” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 453.

“Prophecy represents Protestantism as having lamb-like horns, but **speaking like a dragon.** Already we are beginning to hear **the voice of the dragon.** There is a satanic force propelling **the Sunday movement,** but it is concealed. Even the men who are engaged in the work, are themselves blinded to the results which will follow their movement. Let not the commandment-keeping people of God be silent at this time, as though we gracefully accepted the situation. There is the prospect before us, of waging a continuous war, at the risk of imprisonment, of losing property and even life itself, to defend the law of God, which is being made void by the laws of men. This Bible text will be quoted to us, ‘Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers.... The powers that be are ordained of God.’” *Review and Herald*, January 1, 1889.

“The ‘speaking’ of the nation is the action of its legislative and judicial authorities.” *The Great Controversy*, 442.

“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*, volume 6, 395.

And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and **he spake as a dragon**. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and **causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed**. And **he** doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by *the means of* those miracles which **he** had power to do in the sight of the beast; **saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live**. And **he** had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both **speak, and cause** that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. 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: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number *is* Six hundred threescore *and* six. Revelation 13:18.

NATIONAL RUIN

“A time is coming when the law of God is, **in a special sense**, to be made void in our land. The rulers of our nation will, by legislative enactments, enforce the Sunday law, and thus God’s people be brought into great peril. When our nation, in its legislative councils, shall enact laws **to bind the consciences of men in regard to their religious privileges, enforcing Sunday observance, and bringing oppressive power to bear against those who keep the seventh-day Sabbath**, the law of God will, to all intents and purposes, be made void in our land; and **national apostasy will be followed by national ruin.**” *Review and Herald*, December 18, 1888.

THE MARVELOUS WORKING OF SATAN

“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.

“Satan will work the miracles to deceive those who dwell upon the earth. Spiritualism will do its work by causing the dead to be personated. Those religious bodies who refuse to hear God’s messages of warning will be under strong deception, and will unite with the civil power to persecute the saints. The Protestant churches will unite with the papal power in persecuting the commandment-keeping people of God. This is that power which constitutes the great system of persecution which will exercise spiritual tyranny over the consciences of men.

“‘He had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.’ Though professing to be followers of the Lamb of God, men become imbued with the spirit of the dragon. They profess to be meek and humble but they speak and legislate with the spirit of Satan, showing by their actions that they are the opposite of what they profess to be. This lamb-like power **unites with the dragon** in making war upon those who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ. And **Satan unites with Protestants and papists, acting in consort with them as the god of this world**, dictating to men **as if they were the subjects of his kingdom**, to be **handled and governed and controlled** as he pleases.

“If men will not agree to trample underfoot the commandments of God, the spirit of the dragon is revealed. They are imprisoned, brought before councils, and fined. ‘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]. ‘He had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed’ [verse 15]. Thus **Satan** usurps the prerogatives of Jehovah. **The man of sin sits in the seat of God, proclaiming himself to be God, and acting above God.**” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 14, 162.

“The determination of **antichrist** to carry out **the rebellion he began in heaven** will continue to work in the children of disobedience.” *Testimonies*, volume 9, 230.

“To secure worldly gains and honors, the church was led to seek the favor and support of the great men of earth; and having thus rejected Christ, she was induced to yield allegiance to **the representative of Satan—the bishop of Rome.**” *The Great Controversy*, 50.

“**Through the pope of Rome the same work has been carried on here on earth as was carried on in the courts of heaven** before the expulsion of the prince of darkness. Satan sought to correct the law of God in heaven, and to supply an amendment of his own. He exalted his own judgment above that of his Creator, and placed his will above the will of Jehovah, and in this way virtually declared God to be fallible. The pope also takes the same course and, claiming infallibility for himself, seeks to adjust the law of God to meet his own ideas, thinking himself able to correct the mistakes he thinks he sees in the statutes and commands of the Lord of heaven and earth. He virtually says to the world, I will give you better laws than those of Jehovah. What an insult is this to the God of heaven!” *Signs of the Times*, November 19, 1894.

THE HEAD

For the head of Syria *is* Damascus, and the head of Damascus *is* Rezin; and within threescore and five years shall Ephraim be broken, that it be not a people. And the head of

Ephraim *is* Samaria, and the head of Samaria *is* Remaliah's son. If ye will not believe, surely ye shall not be established. Isaiah 7:8, 9.

“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.” *Testimonies*, volume 7, 182.

DANIEL: A STUDENT OF PROPHECY

In those days I Daniel was mourning three full weeks. I ate no pleasant bread, neither came flesh nor wine in my mouth, neither did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled. Daniel 10:1, 2.

“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.” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 708.

“Those who have been, and who still are, diligent **students of prophecy**, are to ‘prepare the way of the Lord, and to make his paths straight.’” *Review and Herald*, February 21, 1893.

“All that God has in prophetic history specified to be **fulfilled in the past has been**, and all that is yet to come **in its order will be**. Daniel, God's prophet, stands in his place. John stands in his place. In the Revelation the Lion of the tribe of Judah has opened to the **students of prophecy** the book of Daniel, and thus is Daniel standing in his place. He bears his testimony, that which the Lord revealed to him in vision of the great and solemn events **which we must know** as we stand on the very threshold of their fulfillment.

“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.**” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 109.

TYPE AND ANTITYPE

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.

But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness. Now these things were our **examples**, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. Neither be ye idolaters, as *were* some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand. Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents. 1 Corinthians 10:5–9.

“Each of the ancient prophets spoke less for their own time than for ours, so that their prophesying is in force for us. ‘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. ‘Not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into.’ 1 Peter 1:12. . . .

“The Bible has accumulated and bound up together its treasures **for this last generation**. All the great events and solemn transactions of Old Testament history **have been, and are, repeating** themselves in the church in these last days.” *Selected Messages*, book 3, 338, 339.

And I Daniel fainted, and was sick *certain* days; afterward I rose up, and did the king’s business; and I was astonished at the vision, **but none understood it**. Daniel 8:27.

“With a new and deeper earnestness, Miller continued the examination of the prophecies, whole nights as well as days being devoted to the study of what now appeared of such stupendous importance and all-absorbing interest. In the eighth chapter of Daniel he could find no clue to the starting point of the 2300 days; the angel **Gabriel, though commanded to make Daniel understand the vision, gave him only a partial explanation**. As the terrible persecution to befall the church was unfolded to the prophet’s vision, physical strength gave way. He could endure no more, and the angel left him for a time. Daniel ‘fainted, and was sick certain days.’ ‘And I was astonished at the vision,’ he says, ‘**but none understood it**.’

“**Yet God had bidden His messenger: ‘Make this man to understand the vision.’ That commission must be fulfilled**. In obedience to it, the angel, sometime afterward, returned to Daniel, saying: ‘**I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding;**’ ‘therefore understand the **matter**, and consider the **vision**.’ Daniel 8:27, 16; 9:22, 23, 25–27. There was one important point in the vision of chapter 8 which **had been left unexplained**, namely, that relating to time—**the period of the 2300 days**; therefore the angel, in resuming his explanation, dwells chiefly upon the subject of time.” *The Great Controversy*, 325.

In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a **thing** was revealed unto Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar; and the **thing** was true, but the time appointed was long; and he understood the **thing**, and had understanding of the **vision**. Daniel 10:1.

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 show *thee*; for thou *art* greatly beloved: therefore understand the **matter**, and consider the **vision**. Daniel 9:21–23.

JEREMIAH—THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY

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**. Daniel 9:2.

MOSES—THE BIBLE

Yea, all Israel have transgressed thy law, even by departing, that they might not obey thy voice; therefore **the curse is poured upon us, and the oath that is written in the law of Moses the servant of God**, because we have sinned against him. And he hath confirmed his words, which he spake against us, and against our judges that judged us, by bringing upon us a great evil: for under the whole heaven hath not been done as hath been done upon Jerusalem. As *it is* written in the law of Moses, all this evil is come upon us: yet made we not our prayer before the Lord our God, that we might turn from our iniquities, and understand thy truth. Daniel 9:11–13.

THE INTERPRETATION OF JUDGMENTS

“As **an interpreter of the meaning of the judgments beginning to fall upon Judah**, Jeremiah stood nobly in defense of the justice of God and of His merciful designs even in the severest chastisements. Untiringly the prophet labored. Desirous of reaching all classes, he extended the sphere of his influence beyond Jerusalem to the surrounding districts by frequent visits to various parts of the kingdom.

“In his **testimonies to the church**, Jeremiah constantly referred to the teachings of **the book of the law that had been so greatly honored and exalted during Josiah’s reign**. He emphasized anew the importance of maintaining a covenant relationship with the all-merciful and compassionate Being who upon the heights of Sinai had spoken the precepts of the Decalogue. **Jeremiah’s words of warning and entreaty reached every part of the kingdom**, and all had opportunity to know the will of God concerning the nation.

“The prophet made plain the fact that our heavenly Father allows His judgments to fall, ‘that the nations may know themselves to be but men.’ Psalm 9:20. ‘If ye walk contrary unto Me, and will not hearken unto Me,’ the Lord had forewarned His people, ‘I, even I, ... will scatter you among the heathen, and will draw out a sword after you: and your land shall be desolate, and your cities waste.’ Leviticus 26:21, 28, 33.” *Prophets and Kings*, 428, 429.

Daniel 9

But I will shew thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth: and *there is* none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your prince. Daniel 10:21.

Daniel 2

Then Daniel went to his house, and made the thing known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions: That they would desire mercies of the God of heaven concerning this secret; that Daniel and his fellows should not perish with the rest of the wise *men* of Babylon. Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven. Daniel 2:17–19.

Revelation 11

“The Holy Spirit has been given to us as an aid in the study of the word. Jesus promises, ‘The Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.’ Those who are under the training of the Holy Spirit will be able to teach the word intelligently. And when it is made the study book, with earnest supplication for the

Spirit's guidance, and a full surrender of the heart to be sanctified through the truth, it will accomplish all that Christ has promised." *Fundamentals of Christian Education*, 433.

Ezekiel 37

Again he said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus saith the Lord God unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live: And I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I *am* the Lord. So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone. Ezekiel 37:4–7.

Matthew 25

"The anointed ones standing by the Lord of the whole earth, have the position once given to Satan as covering cherub. By **the holy beings surrounding his throne**, the Lord keeps up **a constant communication** with the inhabitants of the earth. The golden oil represents the grace with which God keeps the lamps of believers supplied, that they shall not flicker and go out. Were it not that this holy oil is poured from heaven in **the messages of God's Spirit**, the agencies of evil would have entire control over men.

"God is dishonored when we do not receive **the communications** which he sends us. **Thus we refuse the golden oil** which he would pour into our souls **to be communicated to those in darkness**. When the call shall come, 'Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him,' those who have not received the holy oil, who have not cherished the grace of Christ in their hearts, will find, like the foolish virgins, that they are not ready to meet their Lord. They have not, in themselves, the power to obtain the oil, and their lives are wrecked. But if God's Holy Spirit is asked for, if we plead, as did Moses, 'Show me thy glory,' the love of God will be shed abroad in our hearts. **Through the golden pipes, the golden oil will be communicated to us**. 'Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts.' By receiving the bright beams of the Sun of Righteousness, God's children shine as lights in the world." *Review and Herald*, July 20, 1897.

Exeter Camp Meeting

"Jesus and all the heavenly host looked with sympathy and love upon those who had with sweet expectation longed to see Him whom their souls loved. Angels were hovering around them, to sustain them in the hour of their trial. **Those who had neglected to receive the heavenly message were left in darkness**, and God's anger was kindled against them, **because they would not receive the light which He had sent them from heaven**. Those faithful, disappointed ones, who could not understand why their Lord did not come, were not left in darkness. **Again they were led to their Bibles** to search the prophetic periods. **The hand of the Lord was removed from the figures, and the mistake was explained**. They saw that **the prophetic periods reached to 1844, and that the same evidence which they had presented to show that the prophetic periods closed in 1843, proved that they would terminate in 1844**. Light from the Word of God shone upon their position, and **they discovered a tarrying time**—'Though it [the vision] tarry, wait for it.' In their love for Christ's immediate coming, **they had overlooked the tarrying of the vision**, which was **calculated to manifest the true waiting ones**. Again they had a point of time. Yet I saw that

many of them could not rise above their severe disappointment to possess that degree of zeal and energy which had marked their faith in 1843.” *Early Writings*, 236.

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

THE LOOKING GLASS VISION

Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a certain man clothed in linen, whose loins *were* girded with fine gold of Uphaz: His body also *was* like the beryl, and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as lamps of fire, and his arms and his feet like in colour to polished brass, and the voice of his words like the voice of a multitude. And I Daniel alone saw the **vision**: for the men that were with me saw not the **vision**; but a great quaking fell upon them, so that they fled to hide themselves. Therefore I was left alone, and saw this great **vision**, and there remained no strength in me: for my comeliness was turned in me into corruption, and I retained no strength. Daniel 10:5–7.

NATURAL AND SPIRITUAL

“In Christ’s parable teaching the same principle is seen as in His own mission to the world. That we might become acquainted with His divine character and life, Christ took our nature and dwelt among us. Divinity was revealed in humanity; **the invisible glory in the visible human form**. Men could learn of the unknown through the known; **heavenly things were revealed through the earthly**; God was made manifest in the likeness of men. So it was in Christ’s teaching: **the unknown was illustrated by the known**; divine truths by earthly things with which the people were most familiar.

“The Scripture says, ‘All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables; ... that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open My mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world.’ Matthew 13:34, 35. **Natural things were the medium for the spiritual**; the things of nature and the life-experience of His hearers were connected with the truths of the written word. Leading thus from the natural to the spiritual kingdom, Christ’s parables are links in the chain of truth that unites man with God, and earth with heaven.” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, 17.

But we all, with open face beholding as in **a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even** as by the Spirit of the Lord. 2 Corinthians 3:18.

A DOER OF THE WORK

For if any be a hearer of the word, and **not a doer**, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face **in a glass**: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But **whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed**. James 1:23–25.

“**God’s law is the mirror** presenting a complete reflection of the man as he is, and holding up before him the correct likeness. **Some** will turn away and forget this picture,

while **others** will employ abusive epithets against the law, as though this would cure their defects of character. Still **others** who are condemned by the law will repent of their transgressions and, through faith in Christ's merits, **will perfect Christian character.**" *Fath and Works*, 31.

"Christ's life on earth is **a perfect reflection of the divine law**. In Him is life and hope and light. Behold Him, and **you will be changed into the same likeness, from character to character.**" *Signs of the Times*, May 10, 1910.

"Jesus says, 'I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.' All I can give either first or last is myself. If anyone has been laboring for anything else except **the Lord's glory**, he will be disappointed in receiving a reward. The reception of the penny by the laborers represents **the character** that God will give to those who follow him. We are to keep in view eternal realities, and our spiritual eyesight must be clear; **for those only who behold Christ will be changed into his image from glory to glory** as by the Spirit of the Lord. **All who are teachable, all who are humble, all who serve from love, are as mirrors that are being polished to reflect more perfectly the divine image.** Their souls are becoming purified, their ideas are becoming broader, and their characters are being transformed after the **divine similitude**. But those whose hearts are lifted up in pride, who are self-righteous, full of envy, jealousy, and evil surmising, are enfeebling their capacity for receiving from God that which will make them what he would have them to be. They are **clouding the mirror**, darkening the vision, marring the vessel, so that it contains less and less of God's blessing." *Review and Herald*, July 10, 1894.

"'When the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come.' Christ is waiting with longing desire for **the manifestation of Himself in His church. When the character of Christ shall be perfectly reproduced in His people, then He will come to claim them as His own.**" *Christ's Object Lessons* 69.

"It is the darkness of misapprehension of God that is enshrouding the world. Men are losing their knowledge of His character. It has been misunderstood and misinterpreted. **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." *Christ's Object Lessons*, 415.

THE ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION

66 AD—PAGAN ROME

And **when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies**, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. Then let them which are in Judaea **flee to the mountains**; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out; and let not them that are in the countries enter thereinto. For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. Luke 21:20–22.

“Not one Christian perished in the destruction of Jerusalem. Christ had given His disciples warning, and all who believed His words watched for the promised sign. . . . Without delay **they fled** to a place of safety—the city of Pella, in the land of Perea, beyond Jordan.” *The Great Controversy*, 30.

538—PAPAL ROME

When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, **stand in the holy place**, (whoso readeth, let him understand:). Matthew 24:15.

But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot *and* two months. And I will give *power* unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred *and* threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. Revelation 11:2, 3.

1888—THE UNITED STATES

But when ye shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, **standing where it ought not**, (let him that readeth understand,) then let them that be in Judaea **flee to the mountains**. Mark 13:14.

“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*, volume 6, 18.

THE SOON-COMING SUNDAY LAW—THE WORLD

“It is no time now for God’s people to be fixing their affections or laying up their treasure in the world. The time is not far distant, when, like the early disciples, we shall be forced to **seek a refuge in desolate and solitary places**. As **the siege of Jerusalem** by the Roman armies was **the signal** for flight to the Judean Christians, **so the assumption of power on the part of our nation in the decree enforcing the papal sabbath will be a warning to us. It will then be time to leave the large cities**, preparatory to leaving the smaller ones for retired homes in secluded places among the mountains.” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 464.

“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.

“As **the approach of the Roman armies** was a sign to the disciples of the impending destruction of Jerusalem, **so may this apostasy be a sign to us that the limit of God’s forbearance is reached**, that the measure of our nation’s iniquity is full, and that the angel of mercy is about to take her flight, never to return. **The people of God will then be plunged into those scenes of affliction and distress which prophets have described as the time of Jacob’s trouble.** The cries of the faithful, persecuted ones ascend to heaven. And as the blood of Abel cried from the ground, there are voices also crying to God from martyrs’ graves, from the sepulchers of the sea, from mountain caverns, from convent vaults: ‘How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost Thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?’” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 451.

We are now in the testing period of the image of the beast, and the first prophetic controversy in Adventism’s history is now being repeated. In July of 2023, Michael the archangel descended to awaken Ezekiel’s dead dry bones, who were lying slain in the street of that great city of Sodom and Egypt. In chapter eleven of Revelation, they are brought out of their sleep of death by the impartation of the Spirit. In chapter thirty-seven of Ezekiel the message of the four winds is identified as the message that is to turn the dead dry bones, which is identified as the whole house of Israel, into the Lord’s army. The prophet Daniel represents John’s two slain witnesses; Ezekiel’s valley of dead dry bones; the virgins in the parable. When the Millerites fulfilled the parable, they recognized that their experience was represented in the parable. The one hundred and forty-four thousand will also need to recognize that they had been in the tarrying time. Like Daniel In chapter nine, they will need to recognize that they have been scattered into the enemies’ land as represented by the seven times of Leviticus twenty-six, and also understand Nebuchadnezzar’s secret image of beasts.

In each of these lines a prophet test from God’s word is represented. The two witnesses dead in the street are filled with the Spirit as they are resurrected. Ezekiel’s dead bones needed to hear a prophetic message. Daniel had been studying the writings of Moses and Jeremiah when he was awakened to his scattered condition. In chapter two Daniel and the three worthies were metaphorically awakened to the fact that they had been placed under a death decree, when the prophetic light which had been hidden and then unsealed rescued Daniel and his three friends. The virgins of the parable are awakened by a “cry” at midnight. The Millerites were awakened when Christ removed His hand from the figures of the chart. In all six witnesses the prophetic message that awakens the dead or those sleeping. It then produces a testing process where two classes are manifested at the conclusion of the testing process.

Based upon these lines it is established that when the one hundred and forty-four thousand are awakened in the last days it is Ezekiel’s message of the four winds, and of Moses’ scattering of seven times in Leviticus twenty-six. It is the message of the resurrection that is brought by Michael the arch angel. It is the message of Nebuchadnezzar’s secret dream of the image of beasts. The virgins are tested based upon whether they have oil, which is identified as “the messages of God’s spirit.” The Millerites were awakened when they realized they were identified within God’s

prophetic word, and also when they saw the same evidence that first led them to predict 1843, actually predicted October 22, 1844. Based upon these lines it is established that when the one hundred and forty-four thousand are awakened in the last days, they will be awakened to a prophetic testing message which produces two classes of worshippers.

All of these lines find their perfect and final fulfillment in the period of prophetic testing represented by the formation of the image to and of the beast. That test is finished when probation closes upon the virgins at the Sunday law. Therefore, the image of the beast testing process, that is repeatedly represented as a test that manifests who has understood the message that was unsealed is represented by all these prophetic lines. In Daniel twelve the wise who understand the increase of knowledge navigate a three-step testing process represented as being made pure, white and tried. Those three steps are the steps of conviction brought by the Holy Spirit, represented a conviction of sin, righteousness and judgment. Those three steps are the courtyard, the holy place and the Most Holy Place. Those three steps are also represented in the three angels of Revelation fourteen, and also in the experience of Daniel and the three worthies in chapter one. There they first passed a dietary test, then a visual test and finally they passed the third test given by the king of the north—represented by Nebuchadnezzar.