

THE FOURTH GENERATION

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## The Fourth Generation: Part One

### ISAIAH'S TESTIMONY

#### OUR EXPERIENCE—ISAIAH 6–8

“The vision given to Isaiah represents the condition of God’s people in the last days. They are privileged to see by faith the work that is going forward in the heavenly sanctuary. ‘And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament.’ As they look by faith into the holy of holies, and see the work of Christ in the heavenly sanctuary, they perceive that they are a people of unclean lips,—a people whose lips have often spoken vanity, and whose talents have not been sanctified and employed to the glory of God. Well may they despair as they contrast their own weakness and unworthiness with the purity and loveliness of the glorious character of Christ. But if they, like Isaiah, will receive the impression the Lord designs shall be made upon the heart, if they will humble their souls before God, there is hope for them. The bow of promise is above the throne, and the work done for Isaiah will be performed in them. God will respond to the petitions coming from the contrite heart.” *Review and Herald*, December 22, 1896.

Isaiah 1:1–9

#### LAODICEA—REVELATION 3:14–22

“The message to the church of the Laodiceans is a startling denunciation, and is **applicable to the people of God at the present time**. . . .

“The Lord here shows us that the message to be borne to His people by ministers whom He has called to warn the people **is not a peace-and-safety message**. It is not merely theoretical, but practical in every particular. The people of God are **represented** in the message to the Laodiceans as in a position of carnal security. They are at ease, believing themselves to be in an **exalted condition** of spiritual attainments. ‘Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked.’

“**What greater deception can come upon human minds than a confidence that they are right when they are all wrong!** The message of the True Witness finds the people of God in a sad deception, yet honest in that deception. They know not that their condition is deplorable in the sight of God. While those addressed are flattering themselves that they are in an exalted spiritual condition, the message of the True Witness breaks their security by **the startling denunciation** of their true condition of spiritual blindness, poverty, and wretchedness. The testimony, **so cutting and severe**, cannot be a mistake, for it is the True Witness who speaks, and His testimony must be correct.” *Testimonies*, volume 3, 252.

APOSTASY, n. [Gr. a defection, to depart.] 1. An abandonment of what one has professed; a total desertion, or departure from one’s faith or religion.

OMEGA, n. The name of the last letter of the Greek alphabet, as Alpha, A, is the first. Hence in Scripture, Alpha and Omega denotes the first and last, the beginning and the ending.

“Isaiah had denounced the sin of others; but **now he sees himself exposed to the same condemnation he had pronounced upon them**. He had been satisfied with a cold, lifeless ceremony in his worship of God. He had not known this until the vision was given him of the Lord. How little now appeared his wisdom and talents as he looked upon the sacredness and majesty of the sanctuary. How unworthy he was! how unfitted for sacred service! His view of himself might be expressed in the language of the apostle Paul, ‘O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?’

“But relief was sent to Isaiah in his distress. He says: ‘Then flew one of the seraphim unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar: and he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged.’

“In the previous chapter Isaiah had pronounced a woe upon the people who had separated themselves from God: ‘Woe unto them that draw iniquity with cords of vanity, and sin as it were with a cart rope.’ Men may seek to strengthen their forces by confederating together, making, as they suppose, strong societies to carry out the plans they have formed. They may lift up their souls in pride and self-sufficiency; but the One mighty in counsel does not plan with them. **Their unbelief in his purposes and work, and their confidence in man will not permit them to receive the messages he sends.** They say: ‘Let him make speed, and hasten his work, that we may see it: and let the counsel of the Holy One of Israel draw nigh and come, that we may know it!’ But God says: ‘Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight! Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink: which justify the wicked for reward, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him.’

“**The class here represented**, in order to exalt their own opinions, employ a reasoning which is not authorized by the word of God. They walk in the sparks of their own kindling. By their specious reasoning, **they confuse the distinction that God desires to have drawn between good and evil.** The sacred is brought down on a level with common things. Avarice and selfishness are called by false names; they are called prudence. Their rising up in independence and rebellion, their revenge and stubbornness, in their eyes are proofs of dignity, evidences of a noble mind. They act as though ignorance of divine things were not dangerous and even fatal to the soul; and they prefer their own reasoning to divine revelation, their own plans and human wisdom to the admonitions and commands of God. The piety and conscientiousness of others are called, fanaticism, and those who practice truth and holiness are watched and criticized. They deride those who teach and believe the mystery of godliness, ‘Christ in you the hope of glory.’ The principles underlying these things are not discerned by them; and they go on in wrongdoing, leaving the bars open for Satan to find ready access to the soul.” *Review and Herald*, December 22, 1896.

## PURIFICATION

Isaiah 6:6–7

“The live coal is symbolical of purification. If it touches the lips, no impure word will fall from them. The live coal also symbolizes the potency of the efforts of the servants of the Lord.” *Review and Herald*, October 16, 1888.

## SEND ME

Isaiah 6:8–10

“Not one of the angels could have become surety for the human race: their life is God’s; they could not surrender it. The angels all wear the yoke of obedience. They are the appointed messengers of Him who is the commander of all heaven. But Christ is equal with God, infinite and omnipotent. He could pay the ransom for man’s freedom. He is the eternal, self-existing Son, on whom no yoke had come; and when God asked, ‘Whom shall I send?’ he could reply, ‘Here am I; send me.’ He could pledge himself to become man’s surety; for he could say that which the highest angel could not say,—I have power over my own life, ‘power to lay it down, and . . . power to take it again.’” *The Youth’s Instructor*, June 21, 1900.

“Every soul that names the name of Christ should be under service. All should say, ‘Here am I; send me.’ The lips that are willing to speak, though unclean, will be touched with the living coal, and purified. They will be enabled to speak words that will burn their way to the soul. The time will come when men will be called to give an account for the souls to whom they should have communicated light, but who have not received it. Those who have thus failed in their duty, who have been given light, but who have not cherished it, so that they have none to impart, are classed in the books of heaven with those that are at enmity with God, not subject to his will or under his guidance.” *Review and Herald*, August 17, 1897.

## THE COMMISSION

Isaiah 6:9–10; Jeremiah 15:16–21; Ezekiel 2:1–3:9

## HOW LONG?

Isaiah 6:11–13; Psalm 74:1–10; 79:5–10; Zechariah 1:12; Revelation 6:9–11

“And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held: and they cried with a loud voice, saying, **How long**, O Lord, Holy and true, doest Thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? And white robes were given unto every one of them [They were pronounced pure and holy]; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled’ [Revelation 6:9–11]. Here were scenes presented to John that were not in reality but that which would be in a period of time in the future.

“And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.’ [Revelation 8:1–4.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 20, 197.

## THE EVIL CONFEDERACY

Isaiah 8:9–20

“The powers of Satan are mustering for battle. Stern conflicts are before us. Press together, my brethren and sisters, press together. Bind up with Christ. ‘Say ye not, A Confederacy; . . . neither fear ye their fear, nor be afraid. Sanctify the Lord of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. And he shall be for a sanctuary to his people; but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. And many among them shall stumble, and fall, and be broken, and be snared, and be taken.’

“I am instructed to say to those who know the truth, ‘Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples. And I will wait upon the Lord, that hideth his face from the house of Jacob, and I will look for him. Behold, I and the children whom the Lord hath given me are for signs and for wonders in Israel from the Lord of hosts, which dwelleth in Mount Zion. And when they shall say unto you, seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter; should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead? To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.’

“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. 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. Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked,’—without the robe of Christ’s righteousness—’and they see his shame.’

“Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God. The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.’

“These subjects are of the utmost importance. Urge our people to consider them carefully. When they do this, their minds will be so fully occupied with matters of eternal consequence that they will lose sight of the little differences that once annoyed them. They will realize that prophecy is even now fulfilling. If the minds of the people of God were not occupied with things of minor consequence, they would see that the signs of the times are fast fulfilling, and that events of the greatest consequence to them are taking place in the world and in the churches pointed out by the words, ‘Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.’” *Bible Training School*, December 1, 1902.

## HEART AND MIND

### THE MAREH VISION: HEART—EXPERIENCE

Daniel 10:4–8

“True holiness and humility are inseparable. The nearer the soul comes to God, the more completely is it humbled and subdued. When Job heard the voice of the Lord out of the whirlwind, he exclaimed, ‘I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes.’ It was when Isaiah saw the glory of the Lord and heard the cherubim crying, ‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts,’ that he cried out, ‘Woe is me, for I am undone!’ Daniel, when visited by the holy messenger, says, ‘My comeliness was turned in me to corruption.’ Paul, after he was caught up into the third Heaven and heard things that it was not lawful for a man to utter, speaks of himself as ‘less than the least of all saints.’ It was the beloved John, that leaned on Jesus’ breast, and beheld his glory, who fell as one dead before the angel. The more closely and continuously we behold our Saviour, the less shall we see to approve in ourselves.” *Review and Herald*, December 20, 1881.

### THE CHAZON VISION: MIND—KNOWLEDGE

Daniel 10:14; Proverbs 29:18; Hosea 4:6

### INTELLECTUAL AND SPIRITUAL

“There is a spirit of desperation, of war and bloodshed, and that spirit will increase until the very close of time. Just as soon as the people of God are sealed in their foreheads—it is not any seal or mark that can be seen, but a settling into the truth, both intellectually and spiritually, so they cannot be moved—just as soon as God’s people are sealed and prepared for the shaking, it will come. Indeed, it has begun already. The judgments of God are now upon the land, to give us warning, that we may know what is coming.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 10, 252.

### CHARACTER

“You should keep off from Satan’s enchanted ground and not allow your minds to be swayed from allegiance to God. Through Christ you may and should be happy and should acquire habits of self-control. Even your thoughts must be brought into subjection to the will of God and your feelings under the control of reason and religion. Your imagination was not given you to be allowed to run riot and have its own way without any effort at restraint or discipline. If the thoughts are wrong the feelings will be wrong, and **the thoughts and feelings combined make up the moral character**. When you decide that as Christians you are not required to restrain your thoughts and feelings you are brought under the influence of evil angels and invite their presence and their control. If you yield to your impressions and allow your thoughts to run in a channel of suspicion, doubt, and repining you will be among the most unhappy of mortals, and your lives will prove a failure.” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 310.

### THE PROGRAM OF COMING EVENTS

“In the visions given to Isaiah, to Ezekiel, and to John we see how closely heaven is connected with **the events taking place upon the earth** and how great is the care of God for those who are loyal to Him. The world is not without a ruler. **The program of coming events** is in the hands of the Lord. The Majesty of heaven has the destiny of nations, as well as the concerns of His church, in His own charge.” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 753.

### CONFUSION

“The sixth chapter of Isaiah has a deep and important lesson for every one of God’s workmen. Study it with humility and earnest prayer. **The first and second chapters of Ezekiel** should also be carefully studied. The wheels within wheels represented in this symbol was confusion to the finite eye. But a hand of infinite wisdom was revealed amid the wheels. Perfect order is brought out of the confusion. Every wheel works in its right place, in perfect harmony with every other part of the machinery.” *Christian Leadership*, 27.

## THE COMPLICATED PLAY OF HUMAN EVENTS

“Upon the banks of the river Chebar, Ezekiel beheld a whirlwind seeming to come from the north, ‘a great cloud, and a fire infolding itself, and a brightness was about it, and out of the midst thereof as the color of amber.’ A number of wheels, intersecting one another, were moved by four living beings. High above all these ‘was the likeness of a throne, as the appearance of a sapphire stone: and upon the likeness of the throne was the likeness as the appearance of a man above upon it.’ ‘And there appeared in the cherubims the form of a man’s hand under their wings.’ Ezekiel 1:4, 26; 10:8. The wheels were so complicated in arrangement that **at first sight they appeared to be in confusion**; but they moved in perfect harmony. Heavenly beings, sustained and guided by the hand beneath the wings of the cherubim, were impelling these wheels; above them, upon the sapphire throne, was the Eternal One; and round about the throne a rainbow, the emblem of divine mercy.

“As the wheellike complications were under the guidance of the hand beneath the wings of the cherubim, so **the complicated play of human events** is under divine control. Amidst the strife and tumult of nations, He that sitteth above the cherubim still guides the affairs of the earth.” *Education*, 178.

## THE MANIFESTATION OF GOD’S POWER

“Isaiah had a wonderful view of God’s glory. **He saw the manifestation of God’s power**, and after beholding His majesty, a message came to him to go and do a certain work. He felt wholly unworthy for the work. What made him esteem himself unworthy? Did he think himself unworthy before he had a view of God’s glory?—No; he imagined himself in a righteous state before God; but when the glory of the Lord of hosts was revealed to him, when he beheld the inexpressible majesty of God, he said, ‘I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts. Then flew one of the seraphim unto me, having a living coal in his hands, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar, and he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged.’ **This is the work that as individuals we need to have done for us.** We want the living coal from off the altar placed upon our lips. We want to hear the word spoken, ‘Thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged’” *Review and Herald*, June 4, 1889.

## JOEL’S THREE GLORIOUS MANIFESTATIONS OF THE POWER OF GOD

“The angel who unites in the proclamation of the third angel’s message is to lighten the whole earth with his glory. A **work** of world-wide extent and unwonted power is here foretold. The advent movement of 1840-44 was **a glorious manifestation of the power of God**; the first angel’s message was carried to every missionary station in the world, and in some countries there was the greatest religious interest which has been witnessed in any land since the Reformation of the sixteenth century; but these are to be exceeded by the mighty movement under the last warning of the third angel.

“The **work** will be similar to that of the Day of Pentecost. As the ‘former rain’ was given, in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at the opening of the gospel, to cause the upspringing of the precious seed, so the ‘latter rain’ will be given at its close for the ripening of the harvest. ‘Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord: His going forth is prepared as the morning; and He shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.’ Hosea 6:3. ‘Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God: for He hath given you the former rain moderately, and He will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain.’ Joel 2:23. ‘In the last days, saith God, I will pour out of My Spirit upon all flesh.’ ‘And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’ Acts 2:17, 21.” *The Great Controversy*, 611.

“We must not wait for the latter rain. It is coming upon all who will **recognize** and appropriate the dew and showers of grace that fall upon us. When we gather up the fragments of light, when we appreciate the sure mercies of God, who loves to have us trust Him, then every promise will be fulfilled. [Isaiah 61:11 quoted.] The whole earth is to be filled with the glory of God.” *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, volume 7, 984.

RECOGNIZE: 1. To recollect or recover the knowledge of, either with an avowal of that knowledge or not. We recognize a person at a distance, when we recollect that we have seen him before, or that we have formerly known him. We recognize his features or his voice. *Webster's 1828 Dictionary*.

## RECOGNIZE

“Unless those who can help in—are aroused to a sense of their duty, **they will not recognize the work of God when the loud cry of the third angel shall be heard.** When light goes forth to lighten the earth, instead of coming up to the help of the Lord, they will want to bind about His work to meet their narrow ideas. Let me tell you that the Lord will work in this last work in a manner very much out of the common order of things, and in a way that will be contrary to any human planning. There will be those among us who will always want to control the work of God, to dictate even what movements shall be made when the work goes forward under the direction of the angel who joins the third angel in the message to be given to the world. God will use ways and means by which it will be seen that He is taking the reins in His own hands. The workers will be surprised by the simple means that He will use to bring about and perfect His work of righteousness.” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 300.

“Now, brethren, God wants us to take our position with the man that carries the lantern; we want to take our position where the light is, and where God has given the trumpet a certain sound. **We want to give the trumpet a certain sound.** We have been in perplexity, and we have been in doubt, and the churches are ready to die. But now here we read: ‘And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird’ [Revelation 18:1–2].

“Well now, how are we going to know anything about that message **if we are not in a position to recognize anything of the light of heaven when it comes to us?** And we will just as soon pick up the darkest deception when it comes to us from somebody that agrees with us, when we have not a particle of evidence that the Spirit of God has sent them. Christ said, ‘I come in the name of my Father, but ye will not receive me’ [see John 5:43]. Now, that is just the work that has been going on here ever since the meeting at Minneapolis. Because God sends a message in his name that does not agree with your ideas, therefore [you conclude] it cannot be a message from God.” *Sermons and Talks*, volume 1, 142.

“Only those who are living up to the light they have will receive greater light. Unless we are daily advancing in the exemplification of the active Christian virtues, **we shall not recognize the manifestations of the Holy Spirit in the latter rain.** It may be falling on hearts all around us, but we shall not discern or receive it.” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 507.

## THE 2520

Isaiah 7:8–9

## Extra Thoughts on Part One

“There is a great work to be done for this time, and we do not half realize what the Lord is willing to do for his people. We talk about the first angel’s message, and the second angel’s message, and we think we have some understanding of the third angel’s message; but we should not be satisfied with our present knowledge. Our petitions, mingled with faith and contrition, should go up to God, for an understanding of the mysteries that God would make known to his saints. We should have a realization that unless taught by the Holy Spirit, we shall not rightly comprehend the Bible; for it is a sealed book even to the learned, who are wise in their own conceit. Jesus meant just what he said when he directed his disciples to ‘search the Scriptures.’ Searching means to compare scripture with scripture, and spiritual things with spiritual. We should not be satisfied with a superficial knowledge. We should search for the hidden treasure concealed beneath the surface, as the merchant-man seeks for goodly pearls. Light, great light, will reward the diligent searcher for truth.

“There are many who have not taxed their mental powers, and who have no experience in putting to the stretch their utmost ability to find out what is truth. It is not possible that the Holy Spirit shall fall upon you unless you feel your need, and are more desirous for its descent than you now are. You should realize that you are living upon the very borders of the eternal world, that Christ is coming very soon, and that all heaven is interested in the work that is in progress in fitting up a people for his coming. If ever there was a people that needed to heed the counsel of the True Witness to the Laodicean church to be zealous and to repent before God, it is the people who have had opened up before them the stupendous truths for this time, and who have not lived up to their high privileges and responsibilities. We have lost much in not living up to the light of the solemn truths which we profess to believe.

“Isaiah had a wonderful view of God’s glory. He saw the manifestation of God’s power, and after beholding his majesty, a message came to him to go and do a certain work. He felt wholly unworthy for the work. What made him esteem himself unworthy? Did he think himself unworthy before he had a view of God’s glory?—No; he imagined himself in a righteous state before God; but when the glory of the Lord of hosts was revealed to him, when he beheld the inexpressible majesty of God, he said, ‘I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts. Then flew one of the seraphim unto me, having a living coal in his hands, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar, and he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged.’ This is the work that as individuals we need to have done for us. We want the living coal from off the altar placed upon our lips. We want to hear the word spoken, ‘Thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged.’

“If you are content to think and to preach in one narrow channel, you will not advance in understanding, nor know the depth and grandeur of the truth. If you desire to understand the mysteries of God, you must search the Scriptures. There is nothing that will develop the intellect like wrestling with the great problems of truth revealed in God’s word. You may keep your mind in constant meditation and prayer, even when your hands are busy. The truth of God is a treasure that is of more value than everything else in the world. Its priceless value is illustrated by the parable of Christ, concerning the man who found a treasure in a field, and he went and bought that field, that he might plow every part of it, and search out all the treasure that it contained. The blessed Bible, the field that contains the treasure, the garden of God, is open to you. Search the Scriptures; dig in the mines of truth until the precious jewels that have been hidden there for ages shall be brought out, and you can present them to the people.

“In the time of the Saviour, the Jews had so covered over the precious jewels of truth with the rubbish of tradition and fable, that it was impossible to distinguish the true from the false. The Saviour came to clear away the rubbish of superstition and long-cherished errors, and to set the jewels of God's word in the frame-work of truth. What would the Saviour do if he should come to us now as he did to the Jews? He would have to do a similar work in clearing away the rubbish of tradition and ceremony. The Jews were greatly disturbed when he did this work. They had lost sight of the original truth of God, but Christ brought it again to view. It is our work to free the precious truths of God from superstition and error. What a work is committed to us in the gospel! An angel's pen could not portray all the glory of the revealed plan of redemption. The Bible tells how Christ bore our sins, and carried our sorrows. Here is revealed how mercy and truth have met together at the cross of Calvary, how righteousness and peace have kissed each other, how the righteousness of Christ may be imparted to fallen man. There infinite wisdom, infinite justice, infinite mercy, and infinite love were displayed. Depths, heights, lengths, and breadths of love and wisdom, all passing knowledge, are made known in the plan of salvation.” *Review and Herald*, June 4, 1889.

## The Fourth Generation: Part Two

### THE FIRST AND THE LAST

Revelation 9:14–15	391 years 15 days
Revelation 11:2	1260 years
Daniel 8:14	2300 years
Leviticus 26:28–34	2520 years

#### ISAIAH 7—742BC

“The decree against Judah, was the same as against Israel. **They must be scattered among all nations.** It could not be revoked, notwithstanding their repentance and partial reformation. Jeremiah 15:4—“And I will cause them to be removed into all kingdoms of the earth, because of **Manasseh**, the son of Hezekiah, king of Judah, for that which he did in Jerusalem,”—tells us of the same thing, that Judah as well as Israel must be made captives. Israel began to be carried away in the days of Hoshea, 722 B. C., and from that time to 1798 after Christ, is exactly 2520 years, or the seven prophetic years. How remarkable, that when the seven years ended, God began to deliver his church from her bondage, which for ages had been made subject to the kings of the earth. In 1798 the church came out of the wilderness, and began to be delivered from her captivity. But the completion of her slavery to the kingdoms of the earth, is reserved for another period. Beginning B. C., 677 years, seven prophetic years, or 2520 common years, would end in A. D. 1843.

“Therefore, beginning at the captivity of Manasseh and the final dispersion of the ten tribes of Israel, where God has fixed the time for the dispersion of the people of God and the scattering of the holy people, until the year 1843, will be the end of the seven years, when the acceptable year of the LORD will commence; and, in my humble opinion, the children of God will be delivered from all the evils enumerated by Moses in Leviticus 26., and Jeremiah 15; from war or the sword, from pestilence and famine, from captivity and spoil, from death and corruption; and all will be comforted, and all tears be wiped from off all faces; sighs and sorrows shall cease forever, and there shall be no more curse, for the throne of the Lamb shall be there, and he shall dwell with them, and be their God, and they shall be his people. This will take place in the acceptable year of the Lord, the antitypical year of release.” William Miller (1842), *A Lecture on the Typical Sabbaths and the Great Jubilee*, 18.

#### THE BEGINNING: 724–722—SAMARIA BESIEGED (THREE YEARS)

“About two years later, ‘in **the seventh year of Hoshea**,’ ‘Shalmaneser king of Assyria came up against Samaria, and besieged it. And at the end of three years they took it: even in the sixth year of Hezekiah, that is **the ninth year of Hoshea** king of Israel, Samaria was taken. And the king of Assyria did carry away Israel unto Assyria, and put them in Halah and in Habor by the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes: because they obeyed not the voice of the Lord their God, but transgressed his covenant, and all that Moses the servant of the Lord commanded.’ 2 Kings 18:9–12.

“**The destruction that came upon the northern kingdom was directly from God himself.** The Assyrians were merely the instruments that he used to carry out his purpose. Through Isaiah, who began to prophesy before the fall of Samaria, the Lord referred to the Assyrian hosts as the ‘rod of mine anger.’ ‘The staff in their hand,’ he said, ‘**is mine indignation.**’ Isaiah 10:5.” *Review and Herald*, February 12, 1914.

#### THE END: 1797–1798—THE DEADLY WOUND (THREE YEARS)

**1797**

“In the years 1796, **1797**, French dominion being established by Bonaparte's victories in Northern Italy, . . . the French armies [urged] their march onward to the Papal Capital. . . . The aged Pope himself, now left mere nominal master of some few remaining shreds of the Patrimony of Peter, experienced soon after in person the bitterness of the prevailing anti-papal spirit.” Edwardson Christian, *Facts of Faith*, 57.

**1798**

“When, in 1797, Pope Pius VI fell grievously ill, Napoleon gave orders that in the event of his death no successor should be elected to his office, and that the Papacy should be discontinued.

“But the Pope recovered. The peace was soon broken; Berthier entered Rome on the 10th February, 1798, and proclaimed a republic. The aged Pontiff refused to violate his oath by recognizing it, and was hurried from prison to prison in France. . . . ‘No wonder that half Europe thought Napoleon’s veto would be obeyed, and that with the Pope the Papacy was dead.’” Edwardson Christian, *Facts of Faith*, 59.

1799

“Thus ‘those days’ are the twelve hundred and sixty years of papal supremacy, which began in A.D. 538, at the rooting up of the last of the ‘three’ kingdoms mentioned in Daniel 7:8, 20, 24, and ended in A.D. 1798, when the papal government was abolished in Rome, when a Roman republic was again declared there, and ‘the old foundations of the capital were made again to resound with the cries, if not the spirit, of freedom; and the venerable ensign, S.P.Q.R., after the lapse of fourteen hundred years, again floated in the winds,’ and when the pope was made a prisoner and was carried into captivity in France, where he died at Valence, August 29, 1799.” A. T. Jones, *Signs of the Times*, October 24, 1900.

### THE FIRST: MANASSEH—677

2 Chronicles 33:11

“Faithfully the prophets continued their warnings and their exhortations; fearlessly they spoke to Manasseh and to his people; but the messages were scorned; backsliding Judah would not heed. **As an earnest of what would befall the people** should they continue impenitent, the Lord permitted their king to be captured by a band of Assyrian soldiers, who ‘bound him with fetters, and carried him to Babylon,’ their temporary capital. This affliction brought the king to his senses; ‘he besought the Lord his God, and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers, and prayed unto Him: and He was entreated of him, and heard his supplication, and brought him again to Jerusalem into his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the Lord He was God.’ 2 Chronicles 33:11–13. But this repentance, remarkable though it was, came too late to save the kingdom from the corrupting influence of years of idolatrous practices. Many had stumbled and fallen, never again to rise.” *Prophets and Kings*, 382.

EARNEST, n. ern’est. 1. **First fruits**; that which is in advance, and gives promise of something to come. Early fruit may be an earnest of fruit to follow. The first success in arms may be an earnest of future success. The christian’s peace of mind in this life is an earnest of future peace and happiness. Hence earnest or earnest-money is a first payment or deposit giving promise or assurance of full payment. Hence the practice of giving an earnest to ratify a bargain.

**This sense of the word is primary, denoting that which goes before, or in advance.** Thus the earnest of the spirit is given to saints, as a pledge or assurance of their future enjoyment of God’s presence and favor. *Webster’s 1828 Dictionary*.

### A SECOND WITNESS

“I have seen that the 1843 chart was directed by the hand of the Lord, and that it should not be altered; that the figures were as He wanted them; that His hand was over and hid **a mistake in some of the figures**, so that none could see it, until His hand was removed.” *Early Writings*, 74.

“I saw the people of God joyful in expectation, looking for their Lord. But God designed to prove them. His hand covered **a mistake** in the reckoning of the prophetic periods. Those who were looking for their Lord did not discover this **mistake**, and the most learned men who opposed the time also failed to see it. God designed that His people should meet with a disappointment. The time passed, and those who had looked with joyful expectation for their Saviour were sad and disheartened, while those who had not loved the appearing of Jesus, but embraced the message through fear, were pleased that He did not come at the time of expectation. Their profession had not affected the heart and purified the life. The passing of the time was well calculated to reveal such hearts. They were the first to turn and ridicule the sorrowful, disappointed ones who really loved the appearing of their Saviour. I saw the wisdom of God in proving His people and giving them a searching test to discover those who would shrink and turn back in the hour of trial.

“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*, 235–236.

#### **677: SUBJECTION**

“Thus saith the Lord God; Remove the diadem, and take off the crown: . . . exalt him that is low, and abase him that is high. I will overturn, overturn, overturn, it: and it shall be no more, until He come whose right it is; and I will give it Him.’ Ezekiel 21:26, 27.

“The crown removed from Israel passed successively to the kingdoms of Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome. God says, ‘It shall be no more, until He come whose right it is; and I will give it Him.’” *Education*, 179.

#### **606/605**

“Foremost among those who were rapidly leading the nation to ruin was **Zedekiah** their king. Forsaking utterly the counsels of the Lord as given through the prophets, forgetting the debt of gratitude he owed Nebuchadnezzar, violating his solemn oath of allegiance taken in the name of the Lord God of Israel, Judah’s king rebelled against the prophets, against his benefactor, and against his God. In the vanity of his own wisdom he turned for help to the ancient enemy of Israel’s prosperity, ‘sending his ambassadors into Egypt, that they might give him horses and much people.’

“‘Shall he prosper?’ the Lord inquired concerning the one who had thus basely betrayed every sacred trust; ‘shall he escape that doeth such things? or shall he break the covenant, and be delivered? As I live, saith the Lord God, surely in the place where the king dwelleth that made him king, whose oath he despised, and whose covenant he brake, even with him in the midst of Babylon he shall die. Neither shall Pharaoh with his mighty army and great company make for him in the war: . . . seeing he despised the oath by breaking the covenant, when, lo, he had given his hand, and hath done all these things, he shall not escape. Ezekiel 17:15–18.

“To the ‘profane wicked prince’ had come the day of final reckoning. ‘Remove the diadem,’ the Lord decreed, ‘and take off the crown.’ Not until Christ Himself should set up His kingdom was Judah again to be permitted to have a king. ‘I will overturn, overturn, overturn, it,’ was the divine edict concerning the throne of the house of David; ‘and it shall be no more, until He come whose right it is; and I will give it Him.’ Ezekiel 21:25–27.” *Prophets and Kings*, 451.

#### **THE LAST: 1844**

“The Bible declares that before the coming of the Lord, Satan will work ‘with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness;’ and they that ‘received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved,’ will be left to receive ‘strong delusion, that they should believe a lie.’ 2 Thessalonians 2:9-11. Not until this condition shall be reached, and the union of the church with the world shall be fully accomplished throughout Christendom, will the fall of Babylon be complete. **The change is a progressive one, and the perfect fulfillment of Revelation 14:8 is yet future.**” *The Great Controversy*, 389.

## THE COMMISSION

Isaiah 7:10–16; Matthew 13:14–15  
Revelation 10:8–10

“The comprehension of truth, the glad reception of the message, is represented in the eating of the little book.” *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, volume 7, 971.

## EVIL CONFEDERACY

Psalm 22:16; Acts 4:25–28

“Worcester Conference. --This Conference was well attended, and exerted an important influence on the public mind. The meetings were held in the Town hall, and were, most of the time, full; some of the time 2000 people were judged to be present. The morning discussions were seasons of deep interest and of considerable excitement. Some opposition from **Methodist, Baptist, Universalist, Roman Catholics**, etc. added interest to the Conference, and furnished occasion to meet many objections which are usually presented, and others, which are rather novel. A revival attended the lectures, and when it closed many were seeking the forgiveness of sins. We were informed Monday morning that some of the Roman Catholics were under deep awakening, and enquiring what they should do to be saved.” Joshua Himes, *Signs of the Times*, April 6, 1842.

Revelation 16

## AN UNSEALING

Daniel 9:24

Seal—cha<sup>h</sup>tham: A primitive root; to *close up*; especially to *seal*: - make an end, mark, seal (up), stop. Same as Daniel 12:4.

## 1863: CIVIL WAR

Isaiah 7:1–7

## THE SCATTERING OF ADVENTISM

### MILLER’S DREAM

“I dreamed that God, by an unseen hand, sent me a curiously wrought casket about **ten** inches long by **six square**, made of ebony and pearls curiously inlaid. To the casket there was **a key attached**. I immediately took the key and opened the casket, when, to my wonder and surprise, I found it filled with all sorts and sizes of jewels, diamonds, precious stones, and gold and silver coin of every dimension and value, beautifully arranged in their several places in the casket; and thus arranged they reflected a light and glory equaled only to the sun.

“I thought it was not my duty to enjoy this wonderful sight alone, although my heart was overjoyed at the brilliancy, beauty, and value of its contents. I therefore placed it on a center table in my room and gave out word that all who had a desire might come and see the most glorious and brilliant sight ever seen by man in this life.

“The people began to come in, at first few in number, but increasing to a crowd. When they first looked into the casket, they would wonder and shout for joy. But when the spectators increased, everyone would begin to trouble the jewels, taking them out of the casket and **scattering** them on the table. I began to think that the owner would require the casket and the jewels again at my hand; and if I suffered them to be **scattered**, I could never place them in their places in the casket again as before; and felt I should never be able to meet the accountability, for it would be immense. I then began to plead with the people not to handle them, nor to take them out of the casket; but the more I pleaded, the more they **scattered**; and now they seemed to **scatter** them all over the room, on the floor and on every piece of furniture in the room.

“I then saw that among the genuine jewels and coin they had **scattered** an innumerable quantity of spurious jewels and counterfeit coin. I was highly incensed at their base conduct and ingratitude and reproved and reproached them for it; but the more I reproved, the more they **scattered** the spurious jewels and false coin among the genuine.

“I then became vexed in my physical soul and began to use physical force to push them out of the room; but while I was pushing out one, three more would enter and bring in dirt and shavings and sand and all manner of rubbish, until they covered every one of the true jewels, diamonds, and coins, which were all excluded from sight. They also tore in pieces my casket and **scattered** it among the **rubbish**. I thought no man regarded my sorrow or my anger. I became wholly discouraged and disheartened, and sat down and wept.

“**While I was thus weeping** and mourning for my great loss and accountability, I remembered God, and earnestly prayed that He would send me help. Immediately the door opened, and a man entered the room, when the people all left it; and he, having a dirt brush in his hand, opened the windows, and began to brush the dirt and rubbish from the room.

“I cried to him to forbear, for there were some precious jewels scattered among the rubbish.

“He told me to ‘fear not,’ for he would ‘take care of them.’

“Then, while he brushed the dirt and rubbish, false jewels and counterfeit coin, all rose and went out of the window like a cloud, and the wind carried them away. In the bustle I closed my eyes for a moment; when I opened them, the rubbish was all gone. The precious jewels, the diamonds, the gold and silver coins, lay scattered in profusion all over the room.

“He then placed on the table a casket, **much larger and more beautiful** than the former, and gathered up the jewels, the diamonds, the coins, by the handful, and cast them into the casket, till not one was left, although some of the diamonds were not bigger than the point of a pin.

“He then called upon me to ‘come and see.’

“I looked into the casket, but my eyes were dazzled with the sight. They shone with ten times their former glory. I thought they had been scoured in the sand by the feet of those wicked persons who had scattered and trod them in the dust. They were arranged in beautiful order in the casket, every one in its place, without any visible pains of the man who cast them in. I **shouted** with very joy, and **that shout awoke me.**” *Early Writings*, 81–83.

## **CASKET, KEY & RUBBISH**

“The ‘casket’ represents the great truths of the Bible, relative to the second advent of our Lord Jesus Christ which were given Brother Miller to publish to the world.

“The ‘key attached’ was his manner of interpreting the prophetic Word—Comparing scripture with scripture—the Bible its own interpreter. With this key Brother Miller opened the ‘casket,’ or the great truth of the advent to the world. . .

“The ‘dirt and shavings, sand and all manner of rubbish,’ represent the various and numerous errors that have been brought in among Second Advent believers, since the autumn of 1844.” James White, *The Present Truth*, May, 1850.

## **WEeping FOR THE BOOK**

Revelation 5:4–5

## **MILLER**

“I became wholly discouraged and disheartened, and sat down and wept.”

“Great light has been thrown of late upon the prophetic word. ‘It shall come to pass that at eventide it shall be light.’ Zechariah 14:7. ‘The vision is for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie.’ Habakuk 2:3. ‘In the latter days he shall consider it perfectly.’ Jeremiah 23:20; 30:24. What Daniel was commanded to seal up and close, (Daniel 12:4) is now, through the all-powerful mediation of **the Lion of the tribe of Judah**, revealed unto us. Revelation 5:5. Hence ‘many run to and fro, and knowledge is increased.’ Never, since the days of our Lord’s first advent, was the prophetic word so much studied; so many of the ambassadors of Christ engaged in this pursuit; or so much written on this subject. ‘The Revelation of Jesus Christ,’ contained in the Apocalypse, showing the coming of the Just One, with all his saints, to the destruction of the apostate nations, is now made so plain to the church, that none can, or, at least, ought to be ignorant of it. This, however, is a privilege belonging only to the faithful; for it is written that, ‘none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand.’ Daniel 12:10. So St. Paul speaks: ‘But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that the day should overtake you as a thief; ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day; we are not of the night, nor of darkness.’ 1 Thessalonians 4:4–5. Though ‘the true light now shineth,’ it enlighteneth only those who believe. Those who are paying a prayerful attention to these things, ‘have,’ like the Israelites of old, ‘light in their dwellings,’ whilst the rest of the world are sitting in darkness, even ‘darkness such as may be felt.’ **The opening, then, and unfolding of the prophetic word, is another convincing proof that we are arrived at the end of the age; the unsealing of prophecy, and the revelation of the ‘mystery of God,’ being reserved unto ‘the time of the end.’ Daniel 12:9; Revelation 10:7.**

“‘Many shall run to and fro.’ Says Dr. Clarke, ‘**Many shall endeavor to search out the sense; and knowledge shall be increased by these means.**’ This seems to be the meaning of this verse, though another has been put upon it, viz., ‘Many shall run to and fro preaching the gospel of Christ, and therefore religious knowledge and true wisdom shall be increased.’ This is true in itself; but it is not the meaning of the prophet’s words.

“The most eminent modern Hebrew scholars all agree with Clarke, in giving this sense. Scott’s opinion seems to coincide with Clarke’s, though he gives both meanings in his notes; but manifestly gives preference to the one which expresses the idea of searching out the meaning of the prophecy.” James White, *Review and Herald*, November 1, 1853.

#### COME AND SEE

Revelation 6:1, 3, 5, 7

#### CHRIST IS READY TO SWEEP AWAY

“The Scriptures are given for our benefit that we may have instruction in righteousness. Precious rays of light have been obscured by the clouds of error, but **Christ is ready to sweep away the mists of error and superstition**, and to reveal to us the brightness of the Father’s glory, **so that we shall say as did the disciples**, ‘Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way?’” *Publishing Ministry*, 68.

#### THE PRECIOUS JEWELS OF TRUTH

“**The dust and rubbish of error have buried the precious jewels of truth**, but the Lord’s workers can uncover these treasures, so that thousands will look upon them with delight and awe. Angels of God will be beside the humble worker, giving grace and divine enlightenment, and thousands will be led to pray with David, ‘Open thou mine eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.’ Truths that have been for ages unseen and unheeded, will blaze forth from the illuminated pages of God’s holy word. The churches generally that have heard, refused, and trampled upon the truth, will do more wickedly; but **‘the wise,’ those who are honest, will understand.** The book is open, and the words of God reach the hearts of those who desire to know his will. At **the loud cry of the angel** from heaven who joins the third angel, thousands will **awake** from the stupor that has held the world for ages, and will see the beauty and value of the truth.” *Review and Herald*, December 15, 1885.

## TODAY

“Mighty truths have been buried beneath the sophistry of error, but **they will be found** by the diligent searcher. As he finds and opens **the treasure house of the precious jewels of truth**, it is no robbery; for all who appreciate these **jewels** may possess them, and then they too have a treasure house to open to others. He who imparts does not deprive himself of the treasure; for as he examines it that he may present it in such a way as to attract others, he finds new treasures.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 1, 40.

## A SIMILAR WORK

“In the time of the Saviour, the Jews had so covered over **the precious jewels of truth with the rubbish of tradition and fable**, that it was impossible to distinguish the true from the false. **The Saviour came to clear away the rubbish of superstition and long-cherished errors**, and to set **the jewels of God’s word in the frame-work of truth**. What would the Saviour do if he should come to us now as he did to the Jews? **He would have to do a similar work in clearing away the rubbish of tradition and ceremony**. The Jews were greatly disturbed when he did this work. They had lost sight of the original truth of God, but Christ brought it again to view. **It is our work to free the precious truths of God from superstition and error.**” *Review and Herald*, June 4, 1889.

## SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

“To hold yourselves aloof from an investigation of truth is not the way to carry out the Saviour’s injunction to ‘search the Scriptures.’ **Is it digging for hidden treasures to call the results of some one’s labor a mass of rubbish, and make no critical examination to see whether or not there are precious jewels of truth in the collection of thought which you condemn?** Will those who have almost everything to learn keep themselves away from every meeting where there is an opportunity to investigate the messages that come to the people, simply because they imagine the views held by the teachers of the truth may be out of harmony with what they have conceived as truth? **Thus it was that the Jews did in the days of Christ**, and we are warned not to do as they did, and be led to choose darkness rather than light, because there was in them an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God. No one of those who imagine that they know it all is too old or too intelligent to learn from the humblest of the messengers of the living God.” *Counsels on Sabbath School Work*, 29.

## THE DIRT BRUSH MAN: CLEANSING THE FLOOR

“Dear Brethren: The Lord gave me a view, January 26, 1850, which I will relate. I saw that some of the people of God are stupid and dormant and but half awake; they do not realize the time we are now living in, and that **the man with the ‘dirt brush’ has entered**, and that some are in danger of being swept away. I begged of Jesus to save them, to spare them a little longer, and let them see their awful danger, that they might get ready before it should be forever too late. The angel said, ‘Destruction is coming like a mighty whirlwind.’ I begged of the angel to pity and to save those who loved this world, who were attached to their possessions and were not willing to cut loose from them and sacrifice to speed the messengers on their way to feed the hungry sheep who were perishing for want of spiritual food.

“As I viewed poor souls dying for want of the present truth, and some who professed to believe the truth were letting them die by withholding the necessary means to carry forward the work of God, the sight was too painful, and I begged of the angel to remove it from me. I saw that when the cause of God called for some of their property, like the young man who came to Jesus (Matthew 19:16–22) they went away sorrowful, and that soon the overflowing scourge would pass over and sweep their possessions all away, and then it would be too late to sacrifice earthly goods, and lay up a treasure in heaven.” *Early Writings*, 49.

## PURGING THE FLOOR

“Like the Saviour’s disciples, John the Baptist did not understand the nature of Christ’s kingdom. He expected Jesus to take the throne of David; and as time passed, and the Saviour made no claim to kingly authority, John became perplexed and troubled. He had declared to the people that in order for the way to be prepared before the Lord, the prophecy of Isaiah must be fulfilled; the mountains and hills must be brought low, the crooked made straight, and the rough places plain. He had looked for the high places of human pride and power to be cast down. He had pointed to the Messiah as the One whose fan was in His hand, and who would thoroughly purge His floor, who would gather the wheat into His garner, and burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire. Like the prophet Elijah, in whose spirit and power he had come to Israel, he looked for the Lord to reveal Himself as a God that answereth by fire.” *The Desire of Ages*, 215.

## GENERATION OF VIPERS

“Many of the Pharisees and Sadducees came to the baptism of John, and addressing these, he said, ‘O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance: and think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. And now also the ax is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: whose fan is in his hand, and he will throughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire’ (Matthew 3:7-12).

“The voice of John was **lifted up like a trumpet**. His commission was, ‘Shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins’ (Isaiah 58:1). He had obtained no human scholarship. God and nature had been his teachers. But one was needed to prepare the way before Christ who was bold enough to make his voice heard like the prophets of old, summoning the degenerate nation to repentance.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 148.

“If all that appears to be divine life were such in reality; if all who profess to present the truth to the world were preaching for the truth and not against it, and if they were men of God guided by His Spirit,—then might we see something cheering amid the prevailing moral darkness. But the spirit of antichrist is prevailing to such an extent as never before. Well may we exclaim: ‘Help, Lord; for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men.’ **I know that many think far too favorably of the present time**. These ease-loving souls will be engulfed in the general ruin. Yet we do not despair. We have been inclined to think that where there are no faithful ministers there can be no true Christians, but this is not the case. **God has promised that where the shepherds are not true He will take charge of the flock Himself. God has never made the flock wholly dependent upon human instrumentalities**. But the days of purification of the church are hastening on apace. God will have a people pure and true. In **the mighty sifting** soon to take place we shall be better able to measure the strength of Israel. The signs reveal that the time is near when the Lord will manifest that His fan is in His hand, and **He will thoroughly purge His floor**.” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 79.

“Those who laud and flatter the minister, while they neglect the works of righteousness, give unmistakable evidence that they are converted to the minister and not to God. We inquire: ‘**Who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?**’ Was it the voice of the Holy Spirit or merely the voice of man which you heard in the message sent from God? The fruit borne will testify to the character of the tree.

“No outward forms can make us clean; no ordinance, administered by the saintliest of men, can take the place of the baptism of the Holy Ghost. The Spirit of God must do its work upon the heart. All who have not experienced its regenerating power are **chaff** among the wheat. Our Lord has His fan in His hand, and **He will thoroughly purge His floor**. In the coming day He will discern ‘**between him that serveth God and him that serveth Him not**.’

“The spirit of Christ will be revealed in all who are born of God. Strife and contention cannot arise among those who are controlled by His Spirit. ‘Be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the Lord.’ **The church will rarely take a higher stand than is taken by her ministers.** We need a converted ministry and a converted people. Shepherds who watch for souls as they that must give account will lead the flock on in paths of peace and holiness. Their success in this work will be in proportion to their own growth in grace and knowledge of the truth. When the teachers are sanctified, soul, body, and spirit, they can impress upon the people the importance of such sanctification.” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 227.

#### **HE WILL CLEANSE HIS TEMPLE**

“Page after page might be written in regard to these things. **Whole conferences are becoming leavened with the same perverted principles.** ‘For the rich men thereof are full of violence, and the inhabitants thereof have spoken lies, and their tongue is deceitful in their mouth.’ **The Lord will work to purify His church.** I tell you in truth, the Lord is about to turn and overturn in the institutions called by His name.

“Just how soon **this refining process** will begin I cannot say, but it will not be long deferred. **He whose fan is in His hand will cleanse His temple of its moral defilement.** He will thoroughly purge His floor. God has a controversy with all who practice the least injustice; for in so doing they reject the authority of God and imperil their interest in the atonement, the redemption which Christ has undertaken for every son and daughter of Adam. Will it pay to take a course abhorrent to God? Will it pay to put upon your censers strange fire to offer before God, and say it makes no difference?” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 372–373.

#### **WORDS OF TRUTH**

“By the public rebuke of their unbelief these disciples were still further alienated from Jesus. They were greatly displeased, and wishing to wound the Saviour and gratify the malice of the Pharisees, they turned their backs upon Him, and left Him with disdain. They had made their choice,—had taken the form without the spirit, the husk without the kernel. **Their decision was never afterward reversed; for they walked no more with Jesus.** {DA 392.1}

“‘Whose fan is in His hand, and He will throughly purge His floor, and gather His wheat into the garner.’ Matthew 3:12. **This was one of the times of purging. By the words of truth, the chaff was being separated from the wheat.** Because they were too vain and self-righteous to receive reproof, too world-loving to accept a life of humility, many turned away from Jesus. **Many are still doing the same thing. Souls are tested today as were those disciples in the synagogue at Capernaum.** When truth is brought home to the heart, they see that their lives are not in accordance with the will of God. They see the need of an entire change in themselves; but they are not willing to take up the self-denying work. Therefore they are angry when their sins are discovered. They go away offended, even as the disciples left Jesus, murmuring, ‘This is an hard saying; who can hear it?’” *The Desire of Ages*, 392.

#### **WHAT DID HE SAY?**

John 6:43–59

“Jesus told them plainly, ‘There are some of you that believe not;’ adding, ‘Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto Me, except it were given unto him of My Father.’ He wished them to understand that if they were not drawn to Him it was because their hearts were not open to the Holy Spirit. ‘The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.’ 1 Corinthians 2:14. It is by faith that the soul beholds the glory of Jesus. This glory is hidden, until, through the Holy Spirit, faith is kindled in the soul.” *The Desire of Ages*, 391.

Matthew 13:36–43



## The Fourth Generation: Part Three

### JOEL

#### THE FOURTH GENERATION: JOEL 1:1–5

Exodus 20:5; Exodus 34:7; Numbers 14:18; Deuteronomy 5:9; Genesis 15:16

#### FOUR INSECTS: JOEL 1:1–5

Ezekiel 8

#### REVERSE: JOEL 2:23–3:2

“One thing it is certain is soon to be realized,—the great apostasy, which is developing and increasing and waxing stronger, and **will continue to do so until the Lord shall descend from heaven with a shout**. We are to hold fast the first principles of our denominated faith, and go forward from strength to increased faith. Ever we are to keep the faith that that has been substantiated by the Holy Spirit of God from the earlier events of our experience, until the present time. We need now larger breadth, and deeper, more earnest, unwavering faith in the leadings of the Holy Spirit. If we needed the manifest proof of the Holy Spirit’s power to confirm truth in the beginning after the passing of the time, we need today all the evidence in the confirmation of the truth, when souls are departing from the faith and giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils. There must not be any languishing of soul now.” *New York Indicator*, February 7, 1906.

Acts 3:19–21

#### THE MIDNIGHT CRY

Joel 1:5

#### TO THIS CLASS

“But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: for **these are not drunken**, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day. But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel.’ **Read the history**. The Lord was at work in His own way; but **had there been such a manifestation among us, upon whom the ends of the world are come**, would not some have mocked, as on that occasion? **Those who did not come under the influence of the Holy Spirit knew it not**. To this class **the disciples seemed like drunken men**.” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 66.

#### NEW WINE CUT OFF

Joel 1:5

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

“There is a world lying in wickedness, in deception and delusion, in the very shadow of death,—asleep, asleep. Who are feeling travail of soul to awaken them? What voice can reach them? **My mind was carried to the future**, when the signal will be given. ‘Behold, the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.’ But some will have delayed to obtain the oil for replenishing their lamps, and too late they will find that **character**, which is represented by the oil, is not transferable.” *Review and Herald*, February 11, 1896.

#### THE DRUNKARDS OF EPHRAIM

Joel 1:5; 1 Corinthians 14:32–33; Isaiah 28:1

#### NEW WINE

Matthew 9:16–17; Luke 5:37–39

## NEW DOCTRINE

“The teaching of Christ, though it was represented by **the new wine, was not a new doctrine**, but the revelation of that which had been taught from the beginning. But to the Pharisees the truth of God had lost its original significance and beauty. To them Christ’s teaching was new in almost every respect, and **it was unrecognized and unacknowledged.**” *Desire of Ages*, 279.

“**In every age there is a new development of truth**, a message of God to the people of that generation. The old truths are all essential; new truth is not independent of the old, but an unfolding of it. It is only as the old truths are understood that we can comprehend the new. When Christ desired to open to His disciples the truth of His resurrection, He began ‘at Moses and all the prophets’ and ‘expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning Himself.’ Luke 24:27. But it is the light which shines in the fresh unfolding of truth that glorifies the old. **He who rejects or neglects the new does not really possess the old.** For him it loses its vital power and becomes but a lifeless form.

“There are those who profess to believe and to teach the truths of the Old Testament, while they reject the New. But in refusing to receive the teachings of Christ, they show that they do not believe that which patriarchs and prophets have spoken. ‘Had ye believed Moses,’ Christ said, ‘ye would have believed Me; for he wrote of Me.’ John 5:46. Hence there is no real power in their teaching of even the Old Testament.

“Many who claim to believe and to teach the gospel are in a similar error. They set aside the Old Testament Scriptures, of which Christ declared, ‘They are they which testify of Me.’ John 5:39. In rejecting the Old, they virtually reject the New; for both are parts of an inseparable whole. No man can rightly present the law of God without the gospel, or the gospel without the law. The law is the gospel embodied, and the gospel is the law unfolded. The law is the root, the gospel is the fragrant blossom and fruit which it bears.” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, 127–128.

OMEGA, n. The name of the last letter of the Greek alphabet, as Alpha, A, is the first. Hence in Scripture, Alpha and Omega denotes the first and last, the beginning and the ending.

## 2 THESSALONIANS 2:1–12

“One who sees beneath the surface, who reads the hearts of all men, says of those who have had great light: ‘They are not afflicted and astonished because of their moral and spiritual condition.’ ‘Yea, they have chosen their own ways, and their soul delighteth in their abominations. I also will choose their delusions, and will bring their fears upon them; because when I called, none did answer; when I spake, they did not hear: but they did evil before Mine eyes, and chose that in which I delighted not.’ ‘God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie,’ ‘because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved,’ ‘but had pleasure in unrighteousness.’ Isaiah 66:3, 4; 2 Thessalonians 2:11, 10, 12.

“The heavenly Teacher inquired: ‘What stronger delusion can beguile the mind than the pretense that you are **building on the right foundation** and that God accepts your works, when in reality you are working out many things according to worldly policy and are sinning against Jehovah? Oh, it is a great deception, a fascinating delusion, that takes possession of minds when **men who have once known the truth, mistake the form of godliness for the spirit and power thereof; when they suppose that they are rich and increased with goods and in need of nothing, while in reality they are in need of everything.**’

“God has not changed toward His faithful servants who are keeping their garments spotless. But many are crying, ‘Peace and safety,’ while sudden destruction is coming upon them. Unless there is thorough repentance, unless men humble their hearts by confession and receive the truth as it is in Jesus, they will never enter heaven. When purification shall take place in our ranks, we shall no longer rest at ease, boasting of being rich and increased with goods, in need of nothing.

“Who can truthfully say: ‘Our gold is tried in the fire; our garments are unspotted by the world’? I saw our Instructor pointing to the garments of so-called righteousness. Stripping them off, He laid bare the defilement beneath. Then He said to me: ‘Can you not see how they have pretentiously covered up their defilement and rottenness of character? “How is the faithful city become an harlot!” My Father’s house is made a house of merchandise, a place whence the divine presence and glory have departed! For this cause there is weakness, and strength is lacking.’

“Unless the church, which is now being leavened with her own backsliding, shall repent and be converted, she will eat of the fruit of her own doing, until she shall abhor herself. When she resists the evil and chooses the good, when she seeks God with all humility and reaches her high calling in Christ, standing on the platform of eternal truth and by faith laying hold upon the attainments prepared for her, she will be healed. She will appear in her God-given simplicity and purity, separate from earthly entanglements, showing that the truth has made her free indeed. Then her members will indeed be the chosen of God, His representatives.” *Testimonies*, volume 8, 249–250.

## **I WILL CHOOSE THEIR DELUSIONS**

Isaiah 66:1–13

### **PLANT YOUR FEET ON THE PLATFORM**

“Those who follow their own mind and walk in their own way will form crooked characters. Vain doctrines and subtle sentiments will be introduced with plausible presentations, to deceive, if possible, the very elect. Are church-members building upon the Rock? The storm is coming, the storm that will try every man’s faith, of what sort it is. Believers must now be firmly rooted in Christ, or else they will be led astray by some phase of error. Let your faith be substantiated by the Word of God. Grasp firmly the living testimony of truth. Have faith in Christ as a personal Saviour. He has been and ever will be our Rock of Ages. The testimony of the Spirit of God is true. Change not your faith for any phase of doctrine, however pleasing it may appear, that will seduce the soul.

“The fallacies of Satan are now being multiplied, and those who swerve from the path of truth will lose their bearings. Having nothing to which to anchor, they will drift from **one delusion to another**, blown about by the winds of strange doctrines. Satan has come down with great power. Many will be deceived by his miracles. Those who accept his science will be among those to whom Christ addresses the words: ‘These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead. Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God. Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent.’

“I entreat every one to be clear and firm regarding the certain truths that we have heard and received and advocated. The statements of God’s Word are plain. **Plant your feet firmly on the platform of eternal truth.** Reject every phase of error, even though it be covered with a semblance of reality, which denies the personality of God and of Christ.” *Review and Herald*, August 31, 1905.

“I saw a company who stood well guarded and firm, giving no countenance to **those who would unsettle the established faith of the body**. God looked upon them with approbation. I was shown three steps—the first, second, and third angels’ messages. Said my accompanying angel, ‘**Woe** to him who shall move a block or stir a pin of these messages. The true understanding of these messages is of vital importance. The destiny of souls hangs upon the manner in which they are received.’ I was again brought down through these messages, and saw how dearly the people of God had purchased their experience. It had been obtained through much suffering and severe conflict. God had led them along step by step, until He had placed them upon a solid, immovable platform. **I saw individuals approach the platform and examine the foundation**. Some with rejoicing immediately stepped upon it. **Others commenced to find fault with the foundation**. They wished improvements made, and then the platform would be more perfect, and the people much happier. **Some stepped off the platform to examine it and declared it to be laid wrong**. But I saw that nearly all stood firm upon the platform and exhorted those who had stepped off to cease their complaints; for God was the Master Builder, and **they were fighting against Him**. They recounted the wonderful work of God, which had led them to the firm platform, and in union raised their eyes to heaven and with a loud voice glorified God. This affected some of those who had complained and left the platform, and they with humble look again stepped upon it.” *Early Writings*, 259.

### REST FOR YOUR SOULS

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**, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, **We will not walk therein**. Also I set watchmen over you, *saying*, Harken to the sound of the trumpet. But they said, **We will not hearken**. Jeremiah 6:16–17.

“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 of little value 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 more than fifty years. Men may suppose that they have found a new way, 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 is laid.’ [1 Corinthians 3:11.] In the past, many have undertaken to build a new faith, to establish 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’? So we are to hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end.” *Testimonies*, volume 8, 296–297.

“The warning has come: Nothing is to be allowed to come in that will disturb **the foundation of the faith upon which we have been building ever since the message came in 1842, 1843, and 1844**. I was in this message, and ever since I have been standing before the world, true to the light that God has given us. We do not propose to take our feet off **the platform** on which they were placed as day by day we sought the Lord with earnest prayer, seeking for light. Do you think that I could give up the light that God has given me? It is to be as the Rock of Ages. It has been guiding me ever since it was given.” *Review and Herald*, April 14, 1903.

### JOEL 1:5–20; 2:12–17

Sanctify ye a fast, call a solemn assembly, gather the elders *and* all the inhabitants of the land *into* the house of the Lord your God, and cry unto the Lord. Joel 1:4.

“True confession is always of a specific character, and acknowledges particular sins. They may be of such a nature as to be brought before God only; they may be wrongs that should be confessed to individuals who have suffered injury through them; or they may be of a public character, and should then be as publicly confessed. But all confession should be definite and to the point, acknowledging the very sins of which you are guilty.” *Steps to Christ*, 38.

Daniel 9:1–18; Nehemiah 1:4–11

#### CAUSE TO EFFECT

“We should know for ourselves what constitutes Christianity, what is truth, what is the faith that we have received, **what are the Bible rules**—the rules given us from the highest authority. There are many who believe without a reason on which to base their faith, without sufficient evidence as to the truth of the matter. If an idea is presented that harmonizes with their own preconceived opinions, they are all ready to accept it. **They do not reason from cause to effect**, their faith has no genuine foundation, and in the time of trial they will find that **they have built upon the sand**.

“He who rests satisfied with his own present imperfect knowledge of the Scriptures, thinking this sufficient for his salvation, is resting in a fatal deception. There are many who are not thoroughly furnished with Scriptural arguments, that they may be able to discern error, and condemn all the tradition and superstition that has been palmed off as truth. Satan has introduced his own ideas into the worship of God, that he might corrupt the simplicity of the gospel of Christ. **A large number who claim to believe the present truth, know not what constitutes the faith that was once delivered to the saints—Christ in you the hope of glory. They think they are defending the old landmarks, but they are lukewarm and indifferent.** They know not what it is to weave into their experience and to possess the real virtue of love and faith. They are not close Bible students, but are lazy and inattentive. When differences of opinion arise upon the passages of Scripture, these who have not studied to a purpose and are not decided as to what they believe, fall away from the truth. We ought to impress upon all the necessity of inquiring diligently into divine truth, that they may know that they do know what is truth. Some claim much knowledge, and feel satisfied with their condition, when they have no more zeal for the work, no more ardent love for God, and for souls for whom Christ died, than if they had never known God. They do not read the Bible [in order] to appropriate the marrow and fatness to their own souls. They do not feel that it is **the voice of God speaking to them**. But, if we would understand the way of salvation, if we would see the beams of the Sun of righteousness, we must study the Scriptures for a purpose, for the promises and prophecies of the Bible shed clear beams of glory upon the divine plan of redemption, which grand truths are not clearly comprehended.” *The 1888 Materials*, 403.

“The evils arising from centering so many responsibilities in Battle Creek have not been few. The dangers are many because of the unconsecrated elements that **wait only until a change of circumstances shall encourage them to put all their influence on the side of wrong**. If all those connected with our institutions were only devoted and spiritually minded, relying upon God more than upon themselves, there would be far greater prosperity than we have hitherto seen. But while there is such decided lack of humble trust and entire dependence upon God, we cannot be sure of anything. Our great need today is for men who are baptized with the Holy Spirit of God—men who walk with God as did Enoch. We do not want men who are so narrow in their outlook that they will circumscribe the work instead of enlarging it, or who follow the motto: ‘Religion is religion; **business is business**.’ We need men who are farseeing, who can take in the situation and **reason from cause to effect**.” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 555.

#### WHY

Jeremiah 2:8; Jeremiah 10:21–22; Jeremiah 12:10

#### BLIND DRUNKS

Isaiah 56:10–12

## WOE

Jeremiah 23:1–4; Ezekiel 34:1–10; Jeremiah 50:6

## IN ONE DAY

Isaiah 9:14–16; Matthew 15:13–14

## WHEN

Zechariah 10:1–3

“The light given me has been very forcible that many would go out from us, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils. The Lord desires that every soul who claims to believe the truth shall have an intelligent knowledge of what is truth. False prophets will arise and will deceive many. Everything is to be shaken that can be shaken. Then does it not become every one to understand the reasons of our faith? In place of having so many sermons, there should be a more close searching of the Word of God, opening the Scriptures text by text, and searching for the strong evidences that sustain the fundamental doctrines that have brought us where we now are, upon the platform of eternal truth. . . .

“When men turn away from the waymarks the Lord has established, that we may understand our position as marked out in prophecy, they are going, they know not whither. . . .

“**I question whether genuine rebellion is ever curable.** Study in *Patriarchs and Prophets* the rebellion of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram. This rebellion was extended, including more than two men. It was led by two hundred and fifty princes of the congregation, men of renown. **Call rebellion by its right name, and apostasy by its right name,** and then consider that the experience of the ancient people of God with all its objectionable features was faithfully chronicled to pass into history. The Scripture declares, ‘These things . . . are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come’ (1 Corinthians 10:11). And if men and women who have the knowledge of the truth are so far separated from their great Leader, that they will take the great leader of apostasy, and name him Christ our Righteousness, it is because they have not sunk that shaft deep into the mines of truth. They are not able to distinguish the precious ore from the base material.

“Read the cautions so abundantly given in the Word of God in regard to false prophets that will come in with their heresies, and, if possible, **will deceive the very elect.** With these warnings, **why is it that the church do not distinguish the false from the genuine?** The church thus misled need to humble themselves before God, and sincerely repent, because they were so easily led astray. They could not distinguish the voice of the true Shepherd from that of a stranger.

“Let them review this chapter in their experience. For more than half a century God has been giving His people light through the testimonies of His Spirit. After all this time is it left for two men and their wives to undeceive the whole church of believers, declaring Mrs. White a fraud and a deceiver? ‘By their fruits ye shall know them’ (Matthew 7:20).

“I do not feel that any evidence presented to these men will have the least effect upon them. In McCullagh’s case, no new evidence can be given as to the truthfulness of the mission and work the Lord has given His servant to do. **He has had the light.** This apostasy has been permitted, **that it may be faithfully written out in the true light,** that the church at Adelaide may be helped to plant their feet upon the Rock of Ages and not on shifting sand. And this experience is to be a warning to others. Those who could ignore all the evidences God had given them in the recent camp meeting, and change that blessing into a curse, should tremble for the safety of their own souls. Their candlestick will be removed out of its place unless they repent. The Lord has been insulted. The standard of truth of the first, second, and third angels’ messages has been left to trail in the dust. **If the watchmen are left to mislead the people in this fashion, God will hold some souls responsible for a lack of keen discernment to discover what kind of provender was being given to His flock.**

“The **Lord has permitted** this matter to develop as it has done, **in order to show** how easily His people will be misled when **they depend upon the words of men** instead of searching the Scriptures for themselves, as did the noble Bereans, to see if these things are so. Should the fair words of men, one of whom has had no real experience with us as a people, be so readily accepted? How can our people, with their Bibles in their hands, accept that which, if they would only consider, they must know is error and falsehood?

“The **Lord has permitted** this thing to be, that warning may be given that just such things will take place. **Rebellion and apostasy are in the very air we breathe.** We shall be affected by it unless we by faith hang our helpless souls upon Christ. If men are so easily misled, how will they stand when Satan shall personate Christ, and work miracles? Who will be unmoved by his misrepresentations—professing to be Christ, when it is only Satan assuming the person of Christ, and apparently working the works of Christ? What will hold God’s people from giving their allegiance to false christs? ‘Go not ye after them’ (See Luke 21:8).

“The doctrines must be plainly understood. The men accepted to teach the truth must be anchored; then their vessel will hold against storm and tempest, because the anchor holds them firmly. The deceptions will increase and **we are to call rebellion by its right name.** We are to stand with the whole armor on. My brethren, you are not meeting men only, but principalities and powers. We wrestle not against flesh and blood. (Let Ephesians 6:10–18 be read carefully and impressively before the church.) These men are voicing **the words of the dragon.** We have to meet the satanic agencies who went to make war with the saints. ‘The dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ’ (Revelation 12:17). These men who have apostatized leave the true and faithful people of God, and fraternize with those who represent Barabbas. ‘By their fruits ye shall know them’ (Matthew 7:20).

“I write this because many in the church at Adelaide are represented to me as seeing men like trees walking. They must have another and a deeper experience before they can discern the snares spread to take them in the net of the deceiver. There must be no halfway work done now. The Lord calls for staunch, decided, whole-souled men and women to stand in the gap and make up the hedge. ‘And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in. If thou turn away thy foot from the Sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honourable; and shalt honour Him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: Then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it’ (Isaiah 58:12–14).” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 9, 359.

**FIRST GENERATION—1844 THROUGH 1884**

**SECOND GENERATION—1888 THROUGH 1930S**

**THIRD GENERATION—1930 S THROUGH 1989**

**THE FINAL GENERATION—1989 THROUGH THE SUNDAY LAW**

**FIRST GENERATION—1844 THROUGH 1884: THE OPEN VISION**

**SECOND GENERATION—1888 THROUGH 1930S: THE SINFUL GENERATION**

**THIRD GENERATION—1930 S THROUGH 1989: THE NEW ORDER**

**THE FINAL GENERATION—1989 THROUGH THE SUNDAY LAW: THE FLOOR PURGED**

## Thoughts in Advance of Part Four

### REJECTION OF THE BIBLE

“In your councils, how little experience many of you have in humbling the heart before God! How little you know of striving in prayer that you may enter in at the strait gate! The question of highest importance to you is, ‘Do I have an experimental knowledge of God? Am I ready to believe what he tells me, to do what he bids, instead of following my own judgment? Am I drawing nearer to God?’ The Scripture says, ‘The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them because they are spiritually discerned.’ If your hearts are not fully surrendered to God, if you do not submit your will to his, you will devise and plan without the guidance of Him who is mighty in counsel. Some have manifested a spirit of Pharisaic prejudice and criticism. As soon as this is indulged, the holy angels depart from you; for they cannot administer to sin. You possess in a large degree **the same spirit that was revealed in the Conference at Minneapolis**. The deception that was upon minds there **still exists**. Some have not been willing to see and acknowledge their errors, and their blindness of mind remains.

“You who have been educating yourselves and others in a spirit of criticism and accusing, remember that you are imitating the example of Satan. **When it suits your purpose, you treat the *Testimonies* as if you believed them, quoting from them to strengthen any statement you wish to have prevail. But how is it when light is given to correct your errors? Do you then accept the light? When the *Testimonies* speak contrary to your ideas, you treat them very lightly.**

“It does not become any one to drop a word of doubt here and there that shall work like poison in other minds, shaking their confidence in the messages which God has given, which have aided in laying the foundation of this work, and have attended it to the present day, in reproofs, warnings, corrections, and encouragements. To all who have stood in the way of the *Testimonies*, I would say, God has given a message to his people, and his voice will be heard, whether you hear or forbear. Your opposition has not injured me; but you must give an account to the God of heaven, who has sent these warnings and instructions to keep his people in the right way. You will have to answer to him for your blindness, for being a stumbling-block in the way of sinners.

“‘To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.’ Even the work of the Holy Spirit upon the heart is to be tested by the word of God. The Spirit which inspired the Scriptures, always leads to the Scriptures.

“‘Because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.’ The True Witness says of the church, after enumerating many virtues, ‘I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.’ The prevailing idolatry and iniquity have had a paralyzing, deadening influence upon piety and godliness. There is distrust, selfishness, and suspicion. A few hold fast their profession of faith. Others have been leaving the simplicity of the faith, and as the result they are now treading on the border-land of skepticism. They are spiritually beclouded; and thus many are holding serious errors. **Some sit in judgment on the Scriptures, declaring that this or that passage is not inspired, because it does not strike their minds favorably.** They cannot harmonize it with their ideas of philosophy and science, ‘falsely so called.’ Others for different reasons question portions of the word of God. Thus many walk blindly where the enemy prepares the way. Now, it is not the province of any man to pronounce sentence upon the Scriptures, to judge or condemn any portion of God’s word. When one presumes to do this, Satan will create an atmosphere for him to breathe which will dwarf spiritual growth.

“When a man feels so very wise that he dares to dissect God’s word, his wisdom is, with God, counted foolishness. When he knows more, he will feel that he has everything to learn. And his very first lesson is to become teachable. ‘Learn of me,’ says the Great Teacher; ‘for I am meek and lowly in heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls.’” *General Conference Daily Bulletin*, April 13, 1891.

## REJECTION OF THE *SPIRIT OF PROPHECY*

“I want you to look over the past since that meeting in Minneapolis and then consider whether you are in the line of duty to maintain a silence and the same position as you did at that meeting, Is God glorified with this position? Does it bring to you any strength or hope? You have had evidence as much as you will ever have, that **the Lord gave me the burden of message for His people while they were assembled at Minneapolis.** You have evidence that the Lord was with me at Potterville, but you make no change in your feelings or your attitude, and just as surely as you stand where you did while you were at Minneapolis no additional light will come to you. **You will be accounted as one who will not open their eyes that they may see and their ears that they may hear. Darkness will just as surely come upon you as you stand in the position you did at Minneapolis.** I have no evidence that you, Brother Howard Miller, Brother Rubert have made the least acknowledgments that you were wrong in your views and feelings in regard to myself, W.C.W., A.T. Jones or Brother E. J. Waggoner. **If God has ever spoken by me I speak to you now decidedly that you were deceived. You came to that meeting deceived.** You had wrong ideas of your brethren and you worked and our ministering brethren worked under a false impression. You had an opportunity to test the spirits at that meeting. If you had not been blinded you could have seen and understood that the spirit brought to that meeting was not the spirit of Christ. The different views in regard to the law in Galatians need not have produced any such exhibitions. I have not the slightest burden upon that subject. God has not inspired all this intense feeling over that subject. I have not a particle of burden on that subject. My only trouble is the position of those ministers who were at that conference who manifested so little of the spirit of Christ and possessed more largely the spirit which controlled the scribes and Pharisees which planned the betrayal and acted a prominent part in the trial of Christ, in false statements, in accusing of Christ and making Him appear before the people in the worst possible light.

“Repeating these statements, they acted upon the human minds and hearts, stirring up the worst elements of the character of the natural heart, unsanctified by the truth. When I sensed at the conference the condition of things I knew God would not illuminate the minds thus inflamed by what the spirit of the enemy, for it was nothing else. God’s truth needed no such a spirit to stand in its defense. I knew that there were men there who were proclaiming the truth who were unworthy and whose hearts were vessels of dishonor.

“I had messages of reproof for some but the spirit that prevailed which was not of Christ but of the enemy made of no effect my words. **Christ was wounded in the house of His friends.** It was not by me! Not by me, that **Christ was dishonored!** It was by my brethren who had no just cause for thus **making of none effect my labors** at that meeting. I was about to leave the meeting for Kansas for I could not see that my remaining would do any good. Brother Kilgore urged me to speak Sabbath. I said, ‘No, I will not be guilty of wasting my words and strength further for a people who are filled with prejudice and evil surmisings, who withstand my labors and whom I cannot convince of truth. I will speak in the afternoon to the Scandinavians because they desire it so much.’

“That night the angel of the Lord stood by my bed and said to me many things which I will not attempt to write here, but I was commanded to stand at my post of duty; that **there was a spirit coming in taking possession of the churches,** that if permitted would separate them from God **as verily as the churches who refused light that God sent them in messages of warning and of light that they might advance in regard to His second coming to our world.**

“I have been shown that the people of God are not fully enlightened in regard to the many devices of the relentless foe whom they will have to encounter. Those who should be well experienced are, in a large measure, ignorant of the workings of Satan and he is taking them unawares. There is a great, grand charge to be made by a united front against the enemy and Satan has great victories because there is a difference in views in our ranks upon some points of Scripture not (of) a vital character. Men who claim to believe the truth, I have been shown, will develop their true standing before God. My guide said, ‘Follow me.’ I was then taken to the different houses where our people made their homes. I heard the conversation, the remarks, made in reference to myself; the testimonies borne at that meeting were commented upon. W.C.W. was talked of and presented in a most ridiculous light. I could define the speakers by their voices.

“A. T. Jones was commented upon in like manner, so was E. J. Waggoner, Said my guide, ‘Where is the earnest prayer, the seeking of God with humble heart for light?’ I was listening in the different rooms to the sarcastic remarks, unchristian comments, the excitable, exaggerated statements made all because that there was a difference in the views of the law in Galatians. O consistency, hast thou departed from the midst of Seventh-day Adventists? After listening some time to the free, unchristlike words, then my work was appointed me.

“I was told this spirit had been gathering strength for years and the leavening influence was at work and **spiritual life was going out of the churches**. In their gatherings for meeting there was lightness, trifling, jesting, joking,—a spirit that God frowns upon. I was promised that if I stood faithfully at my post of duty the Lord would sustain me to do the work given me of God. His everlasting arms would be beneath me, but I must bear the message the Lord gave me **whether men would hear or forbear**. I have tried to do this. I sent word that I would speak Sabbath forenoon and I did speak and I did not leave the meeting until my work was ended. I bore my testimony in Battle Creek but **there was not one of my brethren who had the moral courage to stand by my side and take back or confess that they had pursued a wrong course and misjudged their brethren and misjudged me.**” *The 1888 Materials*, 295–296.

## The Fourth Generation: Part Four

### 1863: CEASES TO BE A MOVEMENT

“The angel who unites in the proclamation of the third angel’s message is to lighten the whole earth with his glory. A work of world-wide extent and unwonted power is here foretold. **The advent movement of 1840-44** was a glorious manifestation of the power of God; the first angel’s message was carried to every missionary station in the world, and in some countries there was the greatest religious interest which has been witnessed in any land since the Reformation of the sixteenth century; but **these are to be exceeded by the mighty movement under the last warning of the third angel.**” *The Great Controversy*, 611.

Revelation 1:8, 11; 21:6; 22:13

### A FUTURE MOVEMENT

“I appeal to those who for many years have known the truth. It is time to wake up the watchmen. I have expended my strength in giving the message that the Lord has given me. The burden of our cities has rested so heavily upon me that it has sometimes seemed that I should die. The work in the cities is the essential work for this time, and is now to be taken hold of in faith. When the cities are worked as God would have them, the result will be the setting in operation of **a mighty movement**, such as we have not yet witnessed. May the Lord give wisdom to our brethren, that they may know how to carry forward the work in harmony with his will. With mighty power the cry is to be sounded in our large centers of population, ‘Behold, the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.’” *Review and Herald*, November 17, 1910.

“The work of God in the earth presents, from age to age, a striking similarity in every great reformation or religious movement. The principles of God’s dealing with men are ever the same. The important movements of the present have their parallel in those of the past, and the experience of the church in former ages has lessons of great value for our own time.” *The Great Controversy*, 343.

“But Satan was not idle. He now attempted what he has attempted in every other reformatory movement—to deceive and destroy the people **by palming off upon them a counterfeit in place of the true work**. As there were false christs in the first century of the Christian church, so there arose false prophets in the sixteenth century.” *The Great Controversy*, 186.

“In visions of the night, representations passed before me of a great reformatory movement among God’s people. Many were praising God. The sick were healed, and other miracles were wrought. A spirit of intercession was seen, even as was manifested before the great Day of Pentecost. Hundreds and thousands were seen visiting families and opening before them the word of God. Hearts were convicted by the power of the Holy Spirit, and a spirit of genuine conversion was manifest. On every side doors were thrown open to the proclamation of the truth. The world seemed to be lightened with the heavenly influence. Great blessings were received by the true and humble people of God. I heard voices of thanksgiving and praise, and there seemed to be a reformation such as we witnessed in 1844.” *Testimonies*, volume 9, 126.

### A COUNTERFEIT MOVEMENT

“In a vision of the night I was shown distinctly that these sentiments have been looked upon by some as the grand truths that are to be brought in and made prominent at the present time. I was shown a **platform**, braced by solid timbers—the truths of the Word of God. Someone high in responsibility in the medical work was directing this man and that man to loosen the timbers supporting this platform. Then I heard a voice saying, ‘Where are the watchmen that ought to be standing on the walls of Zion? Are they asleep? This foundation was built by the Master Worker, and will stand storm and tempest. Will they permit this man to present doctrines that deny the past experience of the people of God? The time has come to take decided action.’

“The enemy of souls has sought to bring in the supposition that **a great reformation was to take place among Seventh-day Adventists**, and that this reformation would consist in giving up **the doctrines which stand as the pillars of our faith, and engaging in a process of reorganization**. Were this reformation to take place, what would result? The principles of truth that God in His wisdom has given to the remnant church, would be discarded. Our religion would be changed. The fundamental principles that have sustained the work for the last fifty years would be accounted as error. **A new organization would be established. Books of a new order would be written. A system of intellectual philosophy would be introduced. The founders of this system would go into the cities, and do a wonderful work. The Sabbath of course, would be lightly regarded, as also the God who created it. Nothing would be allowed to stand in the way of the new movement. The leaders would teach that virtue is better than vice, but God being removed, they would place their dependence on human power, which, without God, is worthless. Their foundation would be built on the sand, and storm and tempest would sweep away the structure.**

“Who has authority to begin such a movement? We have our Bibles. We have our experience, attested to by the miraculous working of the Holy Spirit. We have a truth that admits of no compromise. Shall we not repudiate everything that is not in harmony with this truth?” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 204–205.

#### **BEFORE THE TRUE**

“The enemy of souls desires to hinder this work; and **before the time for such a movement shall come, he will endeavor to prevent it by introducing a counterfeit**. In those churches which he can bring under his deceptive power he will make it appear that God’s special blessing is poured out; there will be manifest what is thought to be great religious interest. Multitudes will exult that God is working marvelously for them, when the work is that of another spirit. Under a religious guise, Satan will seek to extend his influence over the Christian world.” *The Great Controversy*, 464.

#### **1844 THROUGH 1884—PORTLAND TO PORTLAND**

“On one occasion Elders White and Andrews, and myself, were awakened at midnight, and called to come and pray for Sister White. She had fainted, and all efforts to revive her were unavailing. We had a season of prayer, and she seemed to revive and was taken off in vision. Some of our opponents say, ‘Yes, that is always the way, she is always sick and faints away before she has one of her visions.’ But this is not true. The first one I saw her have was at the close of a meeting, when she was well enough to take a long journey. Her last open vision was in 1884, on the camp ground at Portland, Oregon. She has visions at the present time, but they are not open visions in a public assembly. It is a heavenly place to be in, where there is an open vision, as some of those here who have seen her at such times, can testify.” J. N. Loughborough, *General Conference Daily7 Bulletin*, January 29, 1893.

#### **1884**

*Review and Herald*, January through June 1884, George Butler—ten articles

Degrees of Inspiration, based on the degree a person is inspired

He suggested the books of Moses and the words of Christ were the highest degree

The writings of the prophets and apostles, with some of the Psalms

Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs and Job last

Romans 15:24; 1 Corinthians 1:16; 4:19; 7:7–40; 16:5–9; 2 Corinthians 11:21; Philippians 2:19, 23; 2

Timothy 4:9 “could hardly be inspired.”

Endorsed by Battle Creek Church and College

#### **WHY**

Spring 1883, Uriah Smith had concluded Sister White’s visions were inspired, her testimonies were not

“February 12, 1889. As you have asked in your letter if I had anything for you I think it best now to send you this letter, hoping that it will have no bad effect upon you.

“You seem to be surprised that I look at matters in the light that I do. You speak of the resolution that you thought ought to have passed at the General Conference. What did that resolution comprehend? It virtually said that **nothing should be taught in the college but that which had been taught during the past year.** Now my dear brother, I would not wound your feelings, I would not grieve your soul or discourage you; but I must lay some things open before you. I told the conference that had been shown me in the past in reference to resolutions which covered the same ground. **I stated that many things had been taught in the college that was as seed sown in minds and would yield a harvest which would not be pleasant to reap. I stated that I had light in reference to this matter.**

“**Both in the Battle Creek tabernacle and in the college the subject of inspiration has been taught, and finite men have taken it upon themselves to say that some things in the Scriptures were inspired and some were not. I was shown that the Lord did not inspire the articles on inspiration published in the Review, neither did He approve their endorsement before our youth in the college.** When men venture to criticize the word of God they venture on sacred, holy ground and had better fear and tremble and hide their wisdom as foolishness. God sets no man to pronounce judgment on His Word selecting some things as inspired and discrediting others as uninspired. **The testimonies have been treated in the same way; but God is not in this.**

“Infidel arguments have been brought into the college for the purpose of instructing our youth how to argue against infidelity. The seeds of infidelity may not at once be developed yet they will manifest their existence when temptation arises. I have been shown that doubts will enter the heart, arguments in favor of infidelity will fasten in the mind that will finally lead to skepticism as a result of this course.” *The 1888 Materials*, 238.

#### **1888: SPIRIT OF PROPHECY REJECTED**

“As I saw that the hearts with which I longed to be in harmony **were padlocked by prejudice and unbelief**, I thought best for me to leave them. My purpose was to go from Minneapolis the first of the week. Brother Kilgore came with a request that I should speak the next day, but I said, ‘No, my brother, I can say nothing that many of my ministering brethren consider to be of any value to them. I must not work and exhaust my strength needlessly. I must go away and see what the Lord has for me to do elsewhere, for I know I have a message to bear to His people.’” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 12, 205.

“**An unwillingness to yield up preconceived opinions**, and to accept this truth, lay at the foundation of a large share of the opposition manifested at Minneapolis against the Lord’s message through Brethren [E.J.] Waggoner and [A.T.] Jones. By exciting that opposition Satan succeeded in shutting away from our people, in a great measure, the special power of the Holy Spirit that God longed to impart to them. The enemy prevented them from obtaining that efficiency which might have been theirs in carrying the truth to the world, as the apostles proclaimed it after the day of Pentecost. The light that is to lighten the whole earth with its glory was resisted, and by **the action of our own brethren** has been in a great degree kept away from the world.” *Selected Messages*, book 3, 235.

“My brother, how can I hope to labor in harmony with you when Minneapolis with its experiences is so plainly before me? My ministering brethren came to that conference with **a spirit that was not the Spirit of God.** They were **under a deception in regard to me.** If the Spirit of God had impressed and controlled their hearts they would not have taken a position so wide of the mark **in judging me, my position and work.** After plainly stating my position I said that as long as my brethren thought that I was influenced in my judgment and work by W.C. White, A. T. Jones, or Dr. Waggoner, they need not send for me to attend their camp-meetings or conferences for I could do them no good if I did come.

“There can be no harmony in our work when our brethren are so completely blinded that they cannot recognize the Spirit of God, as it worked through me at Minneapolis. But although I plainly stated that which the Lord had been pleased to show me which led me to oppose the resolution, your hand went up for its adoption. Did you think that Sister White would stand against you all in that conference if she did not have most decided reasons for so doing? You thought that your own judgment was superior to the light that God had given me. Would it be consistent for me to unite with you while you are of the same mind as at Minneapolis? Have I any reason to believe that you would not manifest the same spirit under favorable circumstances that you did then. To my brother, I cannot sanction the spirit that prevailed at Minneapolis, neither can I have confidence that those who were actuated by that spirit are walking in the light.” *The 1888 Materials*, 240.

#### **KORAH, DATHAN & ABIRAM—THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY**

“**Never before** have I seen among our people such firm self-complacency and unwillingness to accept and acknowledge light as was manifested at Minneapolis. I have been shown that not one of the company who cherished the spirit manifested at that meeting would again have clear light to discern the preciousness of the truth sent them from heaven until they humbled their pride and confessed that they were not actuated by the Spirit of God, but that their minds and hearts were filled with prejudice. The Lord desired to come near to them, to bless them and heal them of their backslidings, but they would not hearken. They were actuated by **the same spirit that inspired Korah, Dathan, and Abiram**. Those men of Israel were determined to resist all evidence that would prove them to be wrong, and they went on and on in their course of disaffection until many were drawn away to unite with them.

“Who were these? Not the weak, not the ignorant, not the unenlightened. In that rebellion there were two hundred and fifty princes famous in the congregation, men of renown. What was their testimony? ‘all the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the Lord is among them: wherefore then lift ye up yourselves above the congregation of the Lord?’ [Numbers 16:3]. When Korah and his companions perished under the judgment of God, the people whom they had deceived saw not the hand of the Lord in this miracle. The whole congregation the next morning charged Moses and Aaron, ‘Ye have killed the people of the Lord’ [verse 41], and the plague was upon the congregation, and more than fourteen thousand perished.

“When I purposed to leave Minneapolis, the angel of the Lord stood by me and said: ‘Not so; God has a work for you to do in this place. **The people are acting over the rebellion of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram. I have placed you in your proper position, which those who are not in the light will not acknowledge; they will not heed your testimony; but I will be with you;** My grace and power shall sustain you. It is not you they are despising, but the messengers and the message I send to My people. **They have shown contempt for the word of the Lord.** Satan has blinded their eyes and perverted their judgment; and unless every soul shall repent of this their sin, this unsanctified independence that is doing insult to the Spirit of God, they will walk in darkness. I will remove the candlestick out of his place except they repent and be converted, that I should heal them. They have obscured their spiritual eyesight. They would not that God would manifest His Spirit and His power; for they have a spirit of mockery and disgust at My word. Lightness, trifling, jesting, and joking are daily practiced. They have not set their hearts to seek Me. They walk in the sparks of their own kindling, and unless they repent they shall lie down in sorrow. Thus saith the Lord: Stand at your post of duty; for I am with thee, and will not leave thee nor forsake thee.’ These words from God I have not dared to disregard.

“Light has been shining in Battle Creek in clear, bright rays; but who of those that acted a part in the meeting at Minneapolis have come to the light and received the rich treasures of truth which the Lord sent them from heaven? Who have kept step and step with the Leader, Jesus Christ? Who have made full confession of their mistaken zeal, their blindness, their jealousies and evil surmisings, their defiance of truth? Not one; and because of their long neglect to acknowledge the light, it has left them far behind; they have not been growing in grace and in the knowledge of Christ Jesus our Lord. They have failed to receive the needed grace which they might have had, and which would have made them strong men in religious experience.

“The position taken at Minneapolis was apparently an insurmountable barrier which in a great degree shut them in with doubters, questioners, with the rejecters of truth and the power of God. When another crisis comes, those who have so long resisted evidence piled upon evidence will again be tested upon the points where they failed so manifestly, and it will be hard for them to receive that which is from God and refuse that which is from the powers of darkness. Therefore their only safe course is to walk in humility, making straight paths for their feet, lest the lame be turned out of the way. It makes every difference whom we company with, whether it is with men who walk with God and who believe and trust Him, or with men who follow their own supposed wisdom, walking in the sparks of their own kindling.

“The time and care and labor required to counteract the influence of those who have worked against the truth has been a terrible loss; for we might have been years ahead in spiritual knowledge; and many, many souls might have been added to the church if those who ought to have walked in the light had followed on to know the Lord, that they might know His going forth is prepared as the morning. But when so much labor has to be expended right in the church to counteract the influence of workers who have stood as a granite wall against the truth God sends to His people, the world is left in comparative darkness.

“God meant that the watchmen should arise and with united voices send forth a decided message, giving the trumpet a certain sound, that the people might all spring to their post of duty and act their part in the great work. Then the strong, clear light of **that other angel who comes down from heaven having great power, would have filled the earth with his glory.** We are years behind; and those who stood in blindness and hindered the advancement of the very message that God meant should go forth from the Minneapolis meeting as a lamp that burneth, have need to humble their hearts before God and see and understand how the work has been hindered by their blindness of mind and hardness of heart.” *The 1888 Materials*, 1067–1070.

#### CHRIST CRUCIFIED—THE WORD

“I shall never, I think, **be called to stand under the direction of the Holy Spirit as I stood at Minneapolis.** The presence of Jesus was with me. All assembled in that meeting had an opportunity to place themselves on the side of truth by receiving the Holy Spirit, which was sent by God in such a rich current of love and mercy. But in the rooms occupied by some of our people, were heard ridicule, criticism, jeering, laughter. The manifestations of the Holy Spirit were attributed to fanaticism. Who searched the Holy Scriptures, as did the noble Bereans, to see if the things they heard were so? Who prayed for divine guidance? The scenes which took place at this meeting made the God of heaven ashamed to call those who took part in them, his brethren. All this the Heavenly Watcher noticed, and it is written in the book of God’s remembrance.

“The Lord will blot out the transgression of those who, since that time, have repented with a sincere repentance; but every time the same spirit wakens in the soul, the deeds done on that occasion are endorsed, and the doers of them are made responsible to God, and must answer for them at his judgment throne. **The same spirit that actuated the rejecters of Christ, rankles in their hearts, and had they lived in the days of Christ, they would have acted toward him in a manner similar to that of the godless and unbelieving Jews.**

“God’s servants have no tame testimony to bear at this time, whether men will hear or whether they will forbear. He who rejects the light and evidence God has been liberally bestowing upon us, rejects Christ; and for him there is no other Saviour.” *The 1888 Materials*, 1566.

“On many occasions the Holy Spirit did work; but **those who resisted the Spirit of God at Minneapolis were waiting for a chance to travel over the same ground again, because their spirit was the same.** Afterward, when they had evidence heaped upon evidence, some were convicted; but those who were not softened and subdued by the Holy Spirit’s working, put their own interpretation upon every manifestation of the grace of God, and they have lost much. They declared in their heart and soul and words that **this manifestation of the Holy Spirit was fanaticism and delusion.** They stood like a rock; the waves of mercy were flowing upon and around them, but were beaten back by their hard and wicked hearts, which resisted the Holy Spirit’s working. Had this been received, it would have made them wise unto salvation,—holier men, prepared to do the work of God with sanctified ability. **But all the universe of heaven witnessed the disgraceful treatment of Jesus Christ, represented by the Holy Spirit. Had Christ been before them, they would have treated him in a manner similar to that in which the Jews treated Christ. . . .**

“The very same spirit has been manifested in Battle Creek. Those who opened the door of their hearts to temptation at Minneapolis, and carried the same spirit home with them, will realize, if not now, in the near future, that they resisted the Holy Spirit of God, and did despite to the Spirit of grace. Will they repent? or will they harden their hearts, and resist evidence?” *The 1888 Materials*, 1479–1481.

#### EXILED DOWN UNDER

“When the work, newly started in Australia, was in need of help, our brethren in America desired me to visit this field. They urged that as one whom the Lord was especially teaching, I could help the work here as others could not. **I felt no inclination to go and had no light that it was my duty.** The journey was a dread to me. I desired to remain at home and complete my work on the life of Christ and other writings. But as the matter was introduced, and the responsible men of the conference expressed their conviction that I, in company with others, should visit this field, I decided to act in accordance with their light.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 2, 150.

#### A SINFUL GENERATION: 1888 TO 1930S

Whosoever therefore shall be **ashamed of me and of my words** in this **adulterous and sinful generation**; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels. Mark 8:38.

Psalm 78:1–8; Judges 2:10

#### KINGLY POWER 1901

“We may have to remain here in this world because of insubordination many more years, as did the children of Israel; but for Christ’s sake, His people should not add sin to sin by charging God with the consequence of their own wrong course of action. Now, have men who claim to believe the Word of God learned their lesson that obedience is better than sacrifice? ‘He hath shewed thee (this rebellious people), O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?’ [Micah 6:8].

“Now the Lord will not be pleased with those men whom He hath appointed to do a certain work [if they] take on many lines of work and carry them until they become so wearisome that it breaks their strength. You, nor any other agency, cannot heal the hurt that has come to God’s people by neglect to lift up His standard and occupy new territory. The churches should now be acting in their strength, with capabilities, talents, and means, carrying the work, reaching higher and broader in capacity to stand before the world in the power of invincible truth.

“But if all now would only see and confess and repent of their own course of action in departing from the truth of God and **following human devising**, then the Lord would pardon. **Warnings have been coming, but they have been unheeded, but a few who may now seek to bridge the gulf that stands so offensively before God must make haste slowly, else the standard bearers will fail, and who will take their place?**” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 20, 313.

#### APOSTASY

Ballenger 1905—Sanctuary  
Conradi 1901—the Daily  
Kellogg 1897 began, published 1903—Pantheism  
Jones  
Waggoner

## NOT OFTEN

“Here is a lesson for ministers and others who are laboring for the salvation of souls. Those who believe that we have the truth, that God has made us the depositaries of his law, should manifest the same earnestness and zeal that characterized Nehemiah. If ministers are inactive and irresolute, destitute of godly zeal, what can be expected of those to whom they minister? In some instances they may rise above the moral level of their teachers, **but not often**. But when ministers broaden their plans, and show that they are in earnest, the people will respond to their efforts; and disunited, dispirited workers will become united, strong, hopeful, and eager.” *Review and Herald*, March 18, 1884.

## ONE EXAMPLE: THE DAILY

### 1910

“I have been waiting for the time when there should be an investigation of the doctrines that Brother Daniells and others have been advocating. When is this to be?

“If Elder Daniells thinks that some of the interpretations of Scripture that have been held in the past are not correct, our brethren should listen to his reasons, and give candid consideration to his views. All should examine closely their own standing, and by a thorough knowledge of the principles of our faith, **be prepared to vindicate the truth**.

“We must not be inconsistent in this matter. God requires clean hearts, pure minds, and an intelligent belief in the truth. ‘Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.’ At present there is not that unity that should exist among our brethren, and the Lord says, ‘Come together.’ This should be done as soon as possible, for we have no time to lose.

“Is not the present a favorable time for you and others of our ministering brethren in this conference to meet with Elder Daniells for a thorough examination of the points of faith regarding which there are different views?

“[Isaiah 11:1–16; 12:1–6, quoted.]

“I am directed to write these Scriptures for the consideration of those who shall assemble for the purpose of blending together under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. ‘Bind up the testimony, seal the law among My disciples.’ A special work now rests upon us of solemnly investigating these matters, and in the name of the Lord to unify.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 20, 223.

## SATAN’S WILES

“And I was shown from the first that the Lord had given neither Elders Daniells nor Prescott the **burden of this work**. Should Satan’s wiles be brought in, should this “Daily” be such a great matter as to be brought in to confuse minds and hinder the advancement of the work at this important period of time? **It should not, whatever may be**. This **subject should not be introduced**, for the spirit that would be brought in would be forbidding, and Lucifer is watching every movement. Satanic agencies would commence his work and there would be confusion brought into our ranks. You have no call to hunt up the difference of opinion that is not a testing question; but **your silence is eloquence**. I have **the matter all plainly before me**. If the devil could **involve any one of our own people on these subjects, as he has proposed to do, Satan’s cause would triumph**. Now the work without delay is to be taken up and not a [difference] of opinion expressed.” *Manuscript Release*, volume 20, 18.

## A FALSE WITNESS

“Brethren at Fresno, there is with Elder Daniels a human influence combined with a mesmeric power. It is this that has led him to speak of congregations as bodies that he can manipulate. Why is it that the man cannot understand health reform?—It is because his appetites and practices are condemned by it. He cannot harmonize his practices with the light God has given on this subject in his word and through the testimonies. He cannot, then, of course, have an intelligent, practical knowledge of health reform.

“Will Elder Daniels please make his statements, telling wherein Sister White contradicts her own teachings? **I know that he stated that I drank tea, and invited him to drink it, saying it was good for him. Not only myself, but the members of my family, know this to be an untruth.** What other things he has stated I cannot determine.” *Pamphlets*, number 28, 17.

#### PROPHETIC SILENCE

“The great apostle had many visions. The Lord showed him many things that it is not lawful for a man to utter. **Why could he not tell the believers what he had seen? Because they would have made a misapplication of the great truths presented.** They would not have been able to comprehend these truths. And yet all that was shown to Paul molded the messages that God gave him to bear to the churches.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 2, 189.

“I find myself frequently placed where I dare give neither assent nor dissent to propositions that are submitted to me, for there is danger that any words I may speak shall be reported as something that the Lord has given me. **It is not always safe for me to express my own judgment, for sometimes when someone wishes to carry out his own purpose,** he will regard any favorable word I may speak as special light from the Lord. I shall be cautious in all my movements.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 2, 150.

“It seems impossible for me to be understood by those who have had the light but have not walked in it. What I might say in private conversations would be so repeated as to make it mean exactly opposite to what it would have meant had the hearers been sanctified in mind and spirit. I am afraid to speak even to my friends, for afterwards I hear, Sister White said this, or Sister White said that. My words are so wrested and misinterpreted that I am coming to the conclusion that the Lord desires me to keep out of large assemblies and refuse private interviews. **What I say is reported in such a perverted light that it is new and strange to me. It is mixed with words spoken by men to sustain their own theories.**” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 2, 152.

### THIRD GENERATION—1930’S THROUGH 1989

#### FOURTH GENERATION MEN

George Knight, considers his small book, *The Apocalyptic Vision and the Neutering of Adventism*, “to be the most important of his career.”

According to Knight’s study on the apocalyptic visions, the little book in Revelation 10 refers to the 1260-day prophecy and it was the 1260 year prophecy that was sealed up in Daniel 12:4. Knight concludes the 1260 day prophecy was little book which was opened in Revelation 10. Revelation 10 is then identifying 1798, not 1840.

Knight’s see no textual support for the investigative judgment in 1844, only for the date. He further claims that Daniel seven identifies the little horn and the saints are judged at the same time. This is a direct denial of the *Spirit of Prophecy*.

He rejects that the book of Hebrews relates to Adventism. He states on page 75, “Let me repeat my main points as I sum up. First, we create problems in sanctuary theology by placing undue emphasis on sanctuary geography. Second, we are heading in the wrong direction when we read Hebrews as if it were either propounding Adventist theology or arguing against it. Hebrews has its own agenda. Third, it is wrong-headed to project chronology into Hebrews 9. Most of Adventism’s difficulty with its sanctuary theology center on those three areas.”

In his book, *Reading Ellen White: How to Understand and Apply Her Writings*, on page 110 Knight states, “In summary, it appears that Mrs. White’s use of the term infallibility has to do with the Bible being completely trustworthy as a guide to salvation. She does not mix that idea with the concept that the Bible or her writings are free from all possible errors of a factual nature.” On page 111 he states, “The writings of God’s prophets are infallible as a guide to salvation, but they are not inerrant or without error.” And on page 116 he states, “Not only do we need to avoid using Ellen White to ‘prove’ the details of history, but the same caution must be expressed in the realm of the details of science.”

## KNIGHT'S MENTOR

In the preface to his book, *The Struggle for the Prophetic Heritage*, Gilbert M. Valentine states on page 14 of George Knight, "I need to also express my sincere appreciation to George Knight, friend and esteemed mentor, who first introduced me to the delights of the study of the Seventh-day Adventists theological development and who still enjoys the excitement of discoveries of his former students. George's suggestions for improving the manuscript have been very helpful. Of course, the mistakes and shortcomings and possible misreadings are entirely the responsibility of the author."

"What occurred in fact during the important decade of the 1930s over the issue of Mrs. White's spiritual legacy, in **organizational behavior terms**, was a quiet but protracted power struggle at the upper echelons of the organization. This power struggle between two sources of influence, formal and informal, was finally resolved by the General Conference, through the adoption of formal agreements and operating guidelines, **which extended its authority and its exercise of control to include the operation of the Ellen White Estate**. Legal independence was provided for so as to ensure consistency as far as possible with the deed of trust created by Ellen White. Nevertheless, the conflict was resolved by embracing the resources *within* the structures of the church organization **rather than it being permitted to perpetuate itself as an independent power base external to the organization as kind of para-church entity as originally envisaged by the text of Ellen White's will.**" Page 25.

## THE NEED FOR HISTORICAL DISTANCE

"In **organizational behavior terms** it meant that General Conference leadership would not be able to control a vitally important source of information and influence, which would thus make it difficult to maintain **control** of the "system of theology." **If the management of the resource were ever to become opposed to General Conference leadership, as might at least be possible, their leadership role would be undermined.**

"Resolution of the problem was too difficult for either Daniells or Spicer, both of whom were too close in their personal relationship to W. C. White to take any strong initiatives. Furthermore, while White in no sense had the spiritual gift of his mother, his intimate association with her work meant that he had inherited something of the charismatic and revered leadership side of her role in the minds of many in the church. Daniells in particular may have in any attempt to resolve tension because some of the more sensitive material in the vault dealt with him personally. But **the greater problem was the need for historical distance.**" Page 42.

## THE COLUMBIAN UNION REBELS

"Closest to home however, was the problem posed by the strained relationship between the local Columbian Union Conference and the General Conference. This sector of the church administration right in the backyard of the General Conference, so to speak, consisted of a number of small but highly politicized conservative conferences. Ever since the General Conference of 1922 the union leadership and other outspoken pastor within the union had developed a high level of animosity toward the General Conference over **doctrinal and administrative issues**. These issues were exasperated during the 1930s as it became clear that the denomination could not afford to continue financing the burden of over-governed small territories. A number of conferences within the Columbia Union with their very small geographical areas and small membership bases were just the kind of conferences that it was felt could and should be combined in the interests of economic and administrative efficiency.

"As the full weight of the economic slump was felt in 1930, the Autumn Council of 1931, which met at Omaha, Nebraska, recommended that the 12 union conferences be reduced to 48. The savings to be gained from this plan were estimated to be US \$225,000, enough to fund the appropriation for one entire overseas division. These attempts to reduce administrative overheads by reducing the number of conferences, however, met with vigorous opposition and shrill underground campaign of slander, vilification and charges of apostasy against General Conference leadership that made things very difficult and uncomfortable for Watson and his team. The Columbia Union rebels saw no room for compromise. For Washburn and his compatriots it was it was war to the hilt. Such changes were to be resisted at all costs and it seems by any means." Page 38—39.

### 1915—GOODS PROSCRIBED

“That night I dreamed that I was in Battle Creek looking out from the side glass at the door and saw a company marching up to the house, two and two. They looked stern and determined. **I knew them well** and turned to open the parlor door to receive them, but thought I would look again. The scene was changed. The company now presented the appearance of a Catholic procession. One bore in his hand **a cross**, another **a reed**. And as they approached, the one carrying a reed made a circle around the house, saying three times: ‘This house is proscribed. The **goods** must be confiscated. **They have spoken against our holy order.**’ Terror seized me, and I ran through the house, out of the north door, and found myself in the midst of a company, **some of whom I knew, but I dared not speak a word to them for fear of being betrayed.** I tried to seek a retired spot where I might weep and pray without meeting eager, inquisitive eyes wherever I turned. I repeated frequently: ‘If I could only understand this! If they will tell me what I have said or what I have done!’

“I wept and prayed much as I saw our goods confiscated. I tried to read sympathy or pity for me in the looks of those around me, and marked the countenances of several whom I thought would speak to me and comfort me if they did not fear that they would be observed by others. I made one attempt to escape from the crowd, but seeing that I was watched, I concealed my intentions. I commenced weeping aloud, and saying: ‘If they would only tell me what I have done or what I have said!’ My husband, who was sleeping in a bed in the same room, heard me weeping aloud and awoke me. My pillow was wet with tears, and a sad depression of spirits was upon me.” *Testimonies*, volume 1, 576–578.

### BOOKS OF A NEW ORDER (THEY HAVE SPOKEN AGAINST OUR HOLY ORDER)

“The enemy of souls has sought to bring in the supposition that **a great reformation was to take place among Seventh-day Adventists**, and that this reformation would consist in giving up **the doctrines which stand as the pillars of our faith, and engaging in a process of reorganization.** Were this reformation to take place, what would result? The principles of truth that God in His wisdom has given to the remnant church, would be discarded. Our religion would be changed. The fundamental principles that have sustained the work for the last fifty years would be accounted as error. **A new organization would be established. Books of a new order would be written. A system of intellectual philosophy would be introduced. The founders of this system would go into the cities, and do a wonderful work. The Sabbath of course, would be lightly regarded, as also the God who created it. Nothing would be allowed to stand in the way of the new movement. The leaders would teach that virtue is better than vice, but God being removed, they would place their dependence on human power, which, without God, is worthless. Their foundation would be built on the sand, and storm and tempest would sweep away the structure.**” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 204–205.

**Extra Evidence for Part Four**  
**MANUSCRIPT RELEASES VOLUME TWENTY**

“At this stage of our experience we are not to have our minds drawn away from the special light given [us] to consider at the important gathering of our conference. And there was Brother Daniells, **whose mind the enemy was working**; and **your mind and Elder Prescott's mind were being worked by the angels that were expelled from heaven**. Satan's work was to divert your minds that jots and tittles should be brought in which the Lord did not inspire you to bring in. They were not essential. But this meant much to the cause of truth. And the ideas of your minds, if you could be drawn away to jots or tittles, is **a work of Satan's devising**. To **correct little things in the books written**, you suppose would be doing a great work. But I am charged, **Silence is eloquence**.

“I am to say, Stop your picking flaws. If this purpose of the devil could only be carried out, then [it] appears to you [that] your work would be considered as most wonderful in conception. It was the enemy's plan to get all the supposed objectionable features where all classes of minds did not agree.

“And what then? **The very work that pleases the devil would come to pass**. There would be a representation given to the outsiders not of our faith just what would suit them, that would develop traits of character which would **cause great confusion** and occupy the golden moments which should be used zealously to bring the great message before the people. The presentations upon any subject we have worked upon could not all harmonize, and the results would be to confuse the minds of believers and unbelievers. This is **the very thing that Satan had planned that should take place**—anything that could be magnified as a disagreement.

“Read Ezekiel, chapter 28. Now, here is a grand work, where strange spirits can figure. But the Lord has a work to [be] done to save perishing souls; and the places which Satan, disguised, could fill in, **bringing confusion into our ranks**, he will do to perfection, and all those little differences will become enlarged, prominent.

“And **I was shown from the first that the Lord had given neither Elders Daniells nor Prescott the burden of this work**. Should **Satan's wiles** be brought in, should this “Daily” be such a great matter as to be brought in to confuse minds and hinder the advancement of the work at this important period of time? **It should not, whatever may be**. This **subject should not be introduced**, for the spirit that would be brought in would be forbidding, and Lucifer is watching every movement. Satanic agencies would commence his work and there would be confusion brought into our ranks. You have no call to hunt up the difference of opinion that is not a testing question; but **your silence is eloquence**. I have **the matter all plainly before me**. If the devil could **involve any one of our own people on these subjects, as he has proposed to do, Satan's cause would triumph**. Now the work without delay is to be taken up and not a [difference] of opinion expressed.

“Satan would inspire those men who have gone out from us to unite with evil angels and retard our work on unimportant questions, and what rejoicing [there] would be in the camp of the enemy. Press together, press together. Let every difference be buried. Our work now is to devote all our physical and brain-nerve power to put these differences out of the way, and all harmonize. If Satan could with his great unsanctified wisdom be permitted to get the least hold, [he would rejoice].

“Now, **when I saw how you were working, my mind took in the whole situation and the results if you should go forward and give the parties that have left us the least chance to bring confusion into our ranks**. Your lack of wisdom would be just what Satan would have it. **Your loud proclamation was not under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit**. I was instructed to say to you that your **picking flaws in the writings** of men that have been led of God is not inspired of God. And if this is the wisdom that Elder Daniells would give to the people, by **no means give him an official position**, for he **cannot reason from cause to effect**. **Your silence on this subject is your wisdom**. Now, everything like **picking flaws in the publications** of men who are not alive is not the work God has given any of you to do. For if these men—Elders Daniells and Prescott—had followed the directions given in working the cities, there would have been many, very many, convinced of the truth and converted, able men that [now] are in positions where they never will be reached.

“All the world is to be regarded as one great family. And when you have such a fountain of knowledge to draw from, why have you left the world to perish for years with the testimonies given by our Lord Jesus Christ? True religion teaches us to regard every man and woman as a person to whom we can do good.

“This has been in print many years: ‘A Balanced Mind,’ testimony to Elder Andrews. The mind may be cultivated to become a power to know when to speak and what burdens to take up and to bear, for Christ is your teacher. And I feared greatly for you [when I saw you] **exalting your wisdom and pursuing a course to bring in differences of opinion**. The Lord calls for wise **men who can hold their peace when it [is] wisdom for them to do so**. If you would be a whole man, you need sanctification through Jesus Christ. Now there is a work just started, and let wisdom be seen in every minister, in every president of [a] conference. But here was a work for you to take hold of years ago where you were needed to lift your voice for this very work. Christ gave all His people special directions what they shall do and the things they shall not do. And there is a little time left us to work out the righteousness of the Lord. You can understand the way of the Lord. **I saw your purpose of carrying things after your own devising** after you were placed as president. You had thought you would do wonderful things, which would be a work God had not placed in your hands to do. Now, your work is not to oppress but to release every necessity possible if the Lord has accepted you to serve. But you have very early given evidence that **wisdom and sanctified judgment have not been manifested** by you. **You blazed out matters that would not be received unless the Lord should give light**.

“**I have been instructed that such hasty movements should not have [been] made [such] as selecting you as president of the conference even another year**. But the Lord forbids any more such hasty transactions until the matter is brought before the Lord in prayer; and as you have had the message come to you that the work of the Lord resting upon the president is a most solemn responsibility, **you had no moral right to blaze out as you did upon the subject of the ‘Daily’ and suppose your influence would decide the question**. There was Elder Haskell, who has carried the heavy responsibilities, and there is Elder Irwin and several men I might mention who have the heavy responsibilities.

“Where was your respect for the men of age? What authority could you exercise without taking all the responsible men to weigh the matter? But **let us now investigate the matter**. We must now reconsider whether it is the Lord’s judgment, in the face of the work that has been neglected, of showing your zeal to carry the work even another year. If you should carry the work another year with the help that shall unite with you, **there should be a change take place in you and Elder Prescott**. And humble your own hearts before God. The Lord will have to see in you a showing of a different experience, for **if ever men needed to be reconverted at this present [time], it [is] Elder Daniells and Elder Prescott**.

“Seven men should be chosen that are men of wisdom and through the working of the grace of God [give] evidence [of] a reconversion. For any men who are **so blinded that they cannot reason from cause to effect**, that they would ignore the men who have borne the responsibilities of the work and these presidents of conferences, [that] men [who] carry the work for over two years should be disregarded and such an impulsive consequence take place that men would neglect the very work kept before them for years—work the cities—and no, or but very little, attention [be] given to the old men for counsel, but **proclaim the things they choose to give the people**, bears its own testimony of the unsafety of the men to be entrusted with such a grand and wonderful work.

“Christ is not dead. He will never suffer His work to be carried on in this strange way. **Let the books alone. If any change is essential**, God will have the harmony in that change consistent, but when a message has been entrusted to men with the large responsibilities involved, [God] demands faithfulness that will work by love and purify the soul. **Elders Daniells and Prescott both need reconversion. A strange work has come in, and it is not in harmony with the work Christ came to our world to do; and all who are truly converted will work the works of Christ**.

“We are every one [to] work out the work which shall glorify the Father. We have **come to the crisis**—either to conform to the character of Jesus Christ right in this preparatory time or not attempt [it]. Elder Daniells, [you are not] to feel at liberty to let your voice be heard on high as you have done under similar circumstances. **And understand, the president of a conference is not a ruler**. He works in connection with the wise men who occupy the position as presidents whom God has accepted. He has **not liberty to meddle with the writings in printed books from the pens that God has accepted**. They are no longer to bear sway unless they show less of the ruling, dominating power. **The crisis has come**, for God will be dishonored.

“How does the Lord look upon the unworked cities? Christ is in heaven. Now its acknowledgment is to be, ‘There is no kingly rule. And now is the crisis of this world. Now I am the Power to save or to destroy. Now is the time when the destiny of all is in My hands. I have given My life to save the world. And “I, if I be lifted up,” the saving grace I shall impart will prove that all who will be fashioned after the divine similitude and will be one with Me shall work as I work with My power of redeeming grace.’ Whoever will, [let him] take hold with his brethren to do the work given them to do when in responsible places under the counsel the Lord gives, and seek most earnestly to work in complete harmony with Him who so loved the world He gave His life a full sacrifice for the saving of the world. I speak to our ministers, that as they enter upon the work in our cities let there be a calm sacredness attending the ministry of the Word. We cannot make the proper impression upon the minds of the people if we . . . [Lower third of this page left blank.]

“I copy from my Diary. The truth as it is in Jesus—talk it, pray it, believe every word in its simplicity. What would you gain if mistakes are brought before the men who have departed from the faith and given heed to seducing spirits, men who were not long ago with us in the faith? Will you stand on the devil’s side? Give your attention to the unworked fields. A world-wide work is before us. I was given representations of John Kellogg.

“A very attractive personage was representing the ideas of the specious arguments that he was presenting, **sentiments different from the genuine Bible truth. And those who are hungry and thirsting after something new were advancing ideas [so specious] that Elder Prescott was in great danger.** Elder Daniells was in great danger [of] becoming **wrapped in a delusion** that if these sentiments could be spoken everywhere it would be as a new world.

“Yes, it would, but while their minds were thus absorbed I was shown that Brother Daniells and Brother Prescott were weaving into their experience sentiments of a spiritual[istic] appearance and drawing our people to beautiful sentiments that would deceive, if possible, the very elect. I have to trace with my pen [the fact] that these brethren would see defects **in their delusive ideas that would place the truth in an uncertainty;** and [yet] they [would] stand out as [if they had] great spiritual discernment. Now I am to tell them [that] **when I was shown this matter, when Elder Daniells was lifting up his voice like a trumpet in advocating his ideas of the ‘Daily,’ the after results were presented. Our people were becoming confused. I saw the result,** and then there were given me cautions that if Elder Daniells without respect to the outcome should thus be impressed and let himself believe he was under the inspiration of God, skepticism would be sown among our ranks everywhere, and we should be where Satan would carry his messages. Set unbelief and skepticism would be sown in human minds, and strangecrops of evil would take the place of truth.—Ms 67, 1910, 1–8. *Manuscript Release*, volume 20, 17–22.

#### COMMENT:

This manuscript was written in 1910, at the point in history where A. G. Daniells claims he had an interview with Sister White concerning the “daily”, though there is no evidence at The Ellen White Estate that documents an actual meeting on that subject, with Daniells, during that history. He makes this claim in 1931, (sixteen years after Sister White was laid to rest) that he had this interview, and Sister White then informed him she had no light on the subject of the “daily.” He also claims he set before her the chart, which he references as the chart commented upon in *Early Writings* page 74, but in so doing he states he showed her the sanctuary on the chart. There is no sanctuary upon the 1843 chart.

### THE TRINITY

BY J.S. WASHBURN (ALL EMPHASIS IN THE ORIGINAL)

The doctrine of the Trinity is regarded as the supreme test of orthodoxy by the Roman Catholic Church. Many of the councils of that church during its development were almost entirely given over to the discussion of the Trinity, the Arian and the Trinitarian controversy.

“Was Christ of the same substance of the Father, or of like substance?” Very naturally the nature of the personality of God was the center, the core, the key of the teachings of Roman theology, Satan’s crowning masterpiece of Apostate Counterfeit Christianity.

The leading doctrines of the Roman papacy were taken directly from heathenism, -the sign of the cross, Holy water, monks, nuns, the celibacy of the priesthood, the Sunday Sabbath, etc., etc. So this Catholic doctrine of the Trinity comes from heathenism. In India we have Brahma, Shive, Vishnu, vengeful, unforgiving trinity.

Where in Heathenism or in Romanism is the Divine mediator between God and man? "There is one God and one mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus." I Tim. 2:5. There is none in heathenism; and in the Roman church, as Christ is a very physical part of God, the deity, it becomes necessary to invent a multitude of human mediators, the Virgin Mary, Peter, Andrew, etc. and a multitude of manufactured saints, a band of immortal souls of dead men and women. Jesus has become so fully and literally a component part of the great severe judge who delights in eternal torment, according to the Roman teaching of the Trinity, that they must find or manufacture a multitude of human spiritualistic mediators. THIS REMOVING OF JESUS FROM HIS TRUE RELATIONSHIP TO GOD AND MAN, TAKES HIM SO FAR FROM US THAT HE BECOMES AN INFLICTOR OF EVERLASTING TORMENT AND NO LONGER OUR LOVING SAVIOUR.

The doctrine of the Trinity is a cruel heathen monstrosity, removing Jesus from his true position of Divine Saviour and Mediator. It is true we cannot measure or define divinity. It is beyond our finite understanding, yet on this subject of the personality of God the Bible is very simple and plain. The Father, the Ancient of Days, is from eternity. Jesus was begotten of the Father. Jesus speaking through the Psalmist says:

The Lord (Jehovah) hath said unto me, Thou art [art] my son, this day have I begotten thee. Psalm 2:7.

Again in Proverbs eight (where Jesus is spoken of under the title of Wisdom, See I Corinthians 1:24), we read: The Lord (Jehovah) possessed me in the beginning of his way. Verse 22. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth. Verse 24.

The Son says he was brought forth, begotten, born of his Father (Jehovah). He calls his father "Jehovah." In Psalm 110:1, The Lord said unto my Lord, sit thou on my right hand, etc. Literal Hebrew, "Jehovah said unto Adoni," Jehovah (the Father) said to Adoni (the son). Psalm 110:4, The Lord (Jehovah) hath sworn and will not repent, Thou art a priest forever after the order of Melchisedec. Who is this priest of the order of Melchisedec? It is Jesus. See Hebrews 7:21, 22; Mark 19:35, 36.

In these scriptures Jesus himself says the Father's name is Jehovah, his own name Adoni. Put in Exodus 23:31, the Lord said he would send his Angel before his people, literally his Messenger, and said, "My name is in Him," so God placed His name in His son. So on earth the name of every father is in his son. It is therefore permissible to say that the son may be spoken of as Jehovah, but primarily, fundamentally, the Son said his Father's name is Jehovah.

On the 14th of October 1939, Elder W. W. Prescott preached a sermon in the Takoma Park Church on the subject, *The Coming One*. From a copy printed by the speaker, I quote the following from pages 1 and 2.

"In the Old Testament we find the name Jehovah or Lord about 7,000 times, and in the New Testament, we find the name Jesus about 1,000 times and the name Lord more than 700 times. Now the Jehovah or Lord of the Old Testament has been manifested as Jesus the Lord in the New Testament therefore this ONE PERSON, Jehovah-Jesus, is mentioned by name about 8,750 times."

This is one of the most astounding perversions of the original language of the Bible ever written, and coming from a man of education it seems almost inexcusable. The coining of the double name "Jehovah-Jesus" is certainly original with Elder Prescott, for I fail to find it in the Bible or in the writings of the *Spirit of Prophecy*. As shown from the Hebrew of Psalm 2:7, Psalms 110:1, 4 and Prov. 8:22, we have shown that Jesus says his Father's name is Jehovah, and in the Hebrew of Psalms 110:1, the name of the Son is Adoni.

It is true that the Father says in Exodus 23:21, that his name is in the Son. This is true of every son on earth. His father's name is in the son, but the son and father are TWO PERSONS NOT "ONE PERSON," as Elder Prescott incorrectly states in his sermon.

For many years my father was a leading minister in the Iowa Conference. In 1884 I began my work as a minister in that conference. My father was Elder Washburn. Then upon my ordination I became Elder Washburn also. But we were TWO PERSONS NOT "ONE PERSON." Now would it be fair or true to say that in writing up a history of the Iowa Conference every mention of Elder Washburn applied to myself? Emphatically NO!!! It would be utterly false, as is the statement that every time in the Bible where the word "Jehovah" or "Lord" appeared it meant Jesus and that Jesus and the father were "ONE PERSON." Several thousand times it applies to the Father and not to the Son.

The statement of the sermon is a tremendous misrepresentation of the truth of the Divine separate personality of the Father and the Son. THE FATHER AND THE SON ARE NOT “ONE PERSON” BUT TWO PERSONS AS DISTINCT AS THE TWO PERSONS OF MY FATHER AND MYSELF.

Jesus, who illustrated and explained heavenly things by earthly things, in his parables, had made it plain that the Father and the Son are NOT “ONE PERSON” as Elder Prescott teaches, thus following the Roman doctrine of the Trinity.

In John 17:21, 22, That they (his disciples) all may be one as thou father art in me and I in Thee that they also may be one in us . . . that they may be one even as we are one. Jesus knew, and we know, the disciples were NOT ONE PERSON; and that represented the unity of the Father and the son. They could not from Christ’s own word be “one person.”

Read this glorious statement from the *Spirit of Prophecy*, explaining John 17:21, 22, the text just quoted, *Testimonies*, volume 8, page 269: “Wonderful statement. The unity that exists between Christ and His disciples does not destroy the personality of either. They are one in purpose, in mind, in character, but NOT IN PERSON. IT IS THUS THAT GOD AND CHRIST ARE ONE.”

Elder Prescott squarely contradicts the words of Jesus in the Bible and words of the Holy *Spirit of Prophecy* when he states that they are “one person.” Satan has taken some heathen conception of a three-headed monstrosity, and with deliberate intention to cast contempt upon divinity, has woven it into Romanism as our glorious God, an impossible, absurd invention. This monstrous doctrine transplanted from heathenism into the Roman Papal Church is seeking to intrude its evil presence into the teachings of the Third Angel’s Message.

On page 8 of the printed sermon by Elder Prescott is this statement:

“We cannot regard the three persons of the Godhead as separable beings, each one dwelling in and confined to a visible body the same as three human beings. “There are three persons in the Godhead but they are so mysteriously and indissolubly related to each other that the presence of each one is equivalent to the presence of the others.” This is the doctrine of the Trinity as expressed in the statement already quoted from the sermon, page 1, that the three, Father, Son and Holy Ghost are “ONE PERSON.” He states that they are NOT distinct separate persons but “One Person” and “that the presence of each one is equivalent to the presence of the others.”

Christ himself teaches in John 17:21, 22 that the three persons of the Godhead are three “separable beings.” For the disciples were “separable beings,” and Christ compares the unity of the Father and the Son with the unity of the disciples united in perfect unity of heart. Thus this statement of Elder Prescott’s is absolutely contrary to John 17:21, 22, and I Corinthians 1:10.

If the teaching of this sermon of Elder Prescott be true, then of course as the three, in the doctrine of the Trinity, are one person, when Christ was conceived and born of the Virgin Mary, the Father was conceived and born of the Virgin Mary; when Christ hung on the cross dying, the Father hung on the cross dying; when Christ lay in Joseph’s new tomb the Father lay in Joseph’s new tomb; if the person of Christ died the person of the Father which is counted one person, also died; either the Father and the Holy Ghost died when Jesus died, or Jesus did not die.

If Jesus was actually dead from Friday afternoon to Sunday morning the Father and the Holy Ghost were also dead from Friday afternoon to Sunday morning, if Prescott’s sermon is correct. But Professor Prescott is very logical. Which horn of this dilemma does he take?

I quote from a letter written to me by Elder J. F. Anderson, former pastor of Takoma Park Church, dated January 16, 1940, 112 St. Louis Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas:

“In answer to your question as to my conversation with Elder Prescott, it was after I had spoken on the vicarious sacrifice of Christ, that he called me and wanted to talk with me about it. He tried to convince me that Christ DID NOT DIE AS THE SON OF GOD, as I had preached. And when he could not convince me, he said, ‘I do not appreciate your leaving me without a Christ for three days and nights.’ “And remember, Elder Washburn, this statement was made after he had taken the position that the Son of God did not die but only the Son of Man.”

Other teachers of the Trinity say that the death of Christ was not vicarious but only his sufferings. But the wages of sin is DEATH not suffering. Christ's sufferings alone could not pay the penalty. The Son of God must DIE to pay the penalty of the broken law. For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and (by a sacrifice for sin) (margin) condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us. Romans 8:3, 4. The Son of God died that the law of God might live in us.

If Christ did not die, we never could keep the law. Either Christ must die or the law dies in us. That the law might live in us the Son of God died. But the Trinity makes the death of Christ impossible, as Professor Prescott seems to teach, therefore the Roman Trinity destroys the law. No wonder that the Papacy changes and destroys the law of God, and substitutes tradition and human works.

As stated in the letter from Elder Anderson, we have the logical bold denial of the death of Christ, the very foundation of the Gospel—"the son of God did not die," only the son of man, only a human atonement. This is the only logical position any man can take who believes the heathen Roman doctrine of the Trinity, which is a twin sister of eternal torment and as true and logical as purgatory and the Sunday Sabbath. No wonder that the Roman papacy is the original teacher of both doctrines of the Trinity and eternal torment. Very logically the Roman Church must have many human mediators but also many human works to earn salvation or by purgatory, or the mass, or by the torments of self-inflicted punishment to gain Heaven.

Because Christ being a part of the one person of the "Trinity" could not die unless the Father and Holy Ghost all died with Him, according to this false doctrine of the Trinity, if we accept the Catholic Trinity, we must accept that which goes with it, human mediators and human works, for according to Elder Prescott, the Son of God did not die; he resented the idea that the Son of God was dead "three days and nights." The Christ of Professor Prescott was not dead but alive from Friday afternoon to Sunday morning. IF THIS IS SO, THEN OUR DEBT HAS NOT BEEN PAID, AND WE ARE ALL LOST. This is the logic of Elder Prescott's adoption of the Roman doctrine of the Trinity.

The Bible teaches that the Son of God died, as the Son of God. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son: much more being reconciled we shall be saved by his life. Romans 5:10. See also Colossians 1:13-22, 1 Thessalonians 1:10. The words "Son of God" and "Christ" are synonyms Matthew 16:16. And again and again the scriptures state that Christ died for our sins, the foundation principle of the Gospel.

Nothing is clearer in the scripture than the truth that the Son of God died for us and we have a Divine and not simply a human atonement. Those who believe that the Son of God did not die quote an unpublished statement of Sister White. "Deity did not sink and die, that would have been impossible." This is all very clear if we believe the Bible statement of death as found in Job 34:12, 14, 15: Yea surely God will not do wickedly . . . If he (God) set his heart upon man, if he (God) gathers unto himself His Spirit and His breath (God's spirit and God's breath) all flesh shall perish together, and man shall turn again to dust.

WITH GOD IS THE FOUNTAIN OF LIFE. Psalm 36:9.

All life, angelic, human, animal, vegetable, comes from God and is simply loaned for a time to God's creatures. It was God's life before the creature received it. It is God's life while they have it and if God takes back to Himself His own life, the creature goes back where he was before he received the life of God. But that life is not a separate person. It is the life of God, taken back by the Lord to himself where it was, before being given to the creature. It is true that we are partakers of the Divine nature, if we are Christians. But that does not mean that we are conscious personalities in death. God takes back his life and we are dead. And SO WAS CHRIST.

When Christ was begotten of the Father, He received the life of God, His father. When Jesus died on the cross, he said, "Father into thy hands I commend my spirit," (or life) and the life of God was given back to the Father, and for a time, three days and nights, that life was with the Father from whence it had come. In the resurrection that life of God is restored to the one who died. Ps. 104:30. But between his death on Friday afternoon, till Sunday morning, the Son of God was dead.

HE Poured OUT HIS SOUL UNTO DEATH. Isaiah 53:12.

Read this clear statement from the *Spirit of Prophecy*, volume 3, page 203: “When he closed his eyes in death upon the cross, the soul of Jesus did not go at once to Heaven . . . ALL THAT COMPRISED THE LIFE AND INTELLIGENCE OF JESUS REMAINED WITH HIS BODY IN THE SEPULCHRE. AND WHEN HE CAME FORTH IT WAS AS A WHOLE BEING. HE DID NOT HAVE TO SUMMON HIS SPIRIT FROM HEAVEN.”

This squarely contradicts the teaching of Elder Prescott. Truly as the scripture says, “We have been reconciled to God by the death of His Son.” The Son of God died for fallen man. We have a Divine atonement, all sufficient. That papal doctrine of the Trinity destroys the Gospel and leaves us without hope, for it compelled its defender, Elder Prescott, to deny that great scripture truth, that the Son of God died for the sins of the world. Any doctrine that leads a man to deny that the Son of God died must be an evil doctrine, an anti-Christian doctrine, not from God but from Satan.

The distinct separate personality of the Father and the Son are absolutely essential to the plan of salvation. It was essential, an absolute necessity that while Christ was dead, the Father should live upholding all things and bringing Jesus from the tomb. Christ is the one, only, mediator between God, the Father and man. If the Father and the Son are “one person,” then Christ is a mediator between Himself and man. Christ was made in the express image of His Father’s person. The Father has a person. The Son has another, a distinct, a separate person.

I beheld till the thrones were cast down and the Ancient of Days did sit whose garment was white as snow and the hair of his head like the pure wool. His throne was like the fiery flame and his wheels as burning fire. Daniel 7:9.

I saw in the night visions, and beheld one like the Son of man came with the clouds of Heaven and came to the Ancient of Days and they brought him near before him. Verse 13.

Here are two persons, distinct and separate in their personality. The scriptures are as clear on this point as on any subject of Bible truth.

Because the heathen believed in some gods who had one body with more than one head and because the Roman Church adopted that heathen idea, eternal torment, the worship of dead men, the sign of the cross, and also the Trinity, direct from heathenism, is the doctrine of the Trinity any more sacred than eternal torment, the Sunday Sabbath, purgatory, or any other Pagan papal doctrine? CERTAINLY NOT! And the fact that Christ is not the mediator in the Roman church demonstrates that the Trinity destroys the truth that Christ is the one, the only mediator.

The so-called Christian church, the Papacy, that originated the doctrine of the Trinity, does not recognize him as the only mediator but substitutes a multitude of ghosts of dead men and women as mediators. If you hold the Trinity doctrine, in reality, Christ is no longer your mediator.

The Trinity doctrine like its author, Satan, is a destroyer; a bungling absurd irreverent caricature, a blasphemous burlesque on the glorious free unity of heart and purpose and perfect almighty love and creative life of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Many times in the New Testament we read of Christ praying to God. If the three persons of the so-called Trinity were always together, always inseparable, 3 persons in 1 person, a very personal part one of another and as Elder Prescott teaches that Christ was always Jehovah the father, WHY SHOULD CHRIST PRAY? AND WAS HE NOT REALLY PRAYING TO HIMSELF?

When Jesus said, “I can of myself do nothing,” John 5:30, was he a personal part of the “one person” of the Trinity? He recognized a person above himself, a separate personality when he said, “MY FATHER IS GREATER THAN I,” John 14:28, he surely looked up to a person greater than Himself. While he was NOT “one person” with the Father, as the scripture and Spirit of Prophecy have stated, yet he was in absolute harmony with His Father, and rendered to Him perfect obedience, an example to every angel and every creature in the universe. And when sin is over forever and “when all things shall be subdued unto Him, then shall the Son also be subject unto Him, that God may be all in all.” 1 Corinthians 15:28. These and many other scriptures make the doctrine of the Trinity impossible.

When Jesus came to this world as a human being, he took the same risk that every man faces, the “risk of failure and eternal loss.” It was possible for Jesus to fail, to fall into sin and to be lost. I quote one of the most beautiful, pathetic statements found in the *Spirit of Prophecy. Desire of Ages*, page 49: “Into the world where Satan claimed dominion God permitted His Son to come, a helpless babe subject to humanity. He permitted Him to meet life’s peril in common with every human soul, to fight the battle as every child must fight it at the risk of failure and eternal loss.”

“The heart of the human father yearns over his son. He looks into the face of his little child, and trembles at the thought of life’s peril. He longs to shield his dear one from Satan’s power, to hold him back from temptation and conflict. To meet a bitterer conflict and a more fearful risk, God gave His only begotten son, that the path of life might be made sure for our little ones.”

“Herein is love. Wonder O heavens! And be astonished O earth.”

If Christ, as was possible, had suffered “failure and eternal loss,” if the Trinity doctrine that Christ was “one person” with the Father is true, then the Father would also have been lost, and the universe annihilated. This whole beautiful passage indicates as separate a personality for the Heavenly Father and His Son, as of any earthly father and son.

The whole Trinity doctrine is utterly foreign to all the Bible and the teachings of the *Spirit of Prophecy*. Revelation gives not the slightest hint of it. This monstrous heathen conception finds no place in all the free universe of our Blessed Heavenly Father and His Son, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

The three distinct, separate persons of the Godhead were present at the baptism of Jesus, who, when coming out of the water, heard the Father’s voice proclaiming, “This is my beloved son,” and the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus in the form of a dove, in divine benediction. The Father, the first person of the three, spoke from Heaven of his son, the second person, and the Holy Spirit, the third person of the three, confirmed the word of the Father that Jesus was the beloved Son of God. Here are the three distinct persons that the Spirit of Prophecy calls the “Heavenly trio.” *Series B*, No. 7, page 62.

On page 8 of Professor Prescott’s sermon, he says that the Spirit of God and the Spirit of Christ and Christ are “equivalent Expressions,” that is, that Christ is the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit is Christ. So the logic of Professor Prescott’s teaching is that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are “one person,” the Holy Spirit is Christ and the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are “one person.” When therefore he emphasizes the expression, “the Person of Christ,” he must mean that the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit are one person, “the person of Christ.”

The Catholic teaching of the Trinity (3 persons in 1 person) is a monumental falsehood, and a fountain of deadly evil.

God has given a distinct, a separate personality to every being in the universe, angelic and human, an independent, a distinct individuality and personality and desires that we should preserve that individuality and personality distinct and separate from that of every other being. Thus there is given to everyone the right of choice, freedom, liberty; and how glorious are the privileges of liberty, to choose the will of God and thus be in perfect oneness, unity with all who love and obey God, the fountain of life and liberty.

SO GOD CREATED MAN IN HIS OWN IMAGE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD CREATED HE THEM.  
Genesis 1:27.

If God was a trinity, (3 in 1 person), man created in his image was a trinity. But he is not. God has given to every person in the universe a separate distinct person and a will, a personality of his own. Into that separate sacred personality even God does not intrude. He gives every person the liberty to make his own choice.

In the garden of Gethsemane Jesus prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me, nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt. Matthew 26:39. Here the will of Jesus was that the cup of agony and death should pass from him. But he surrendered freely his own will to His Father’s will.

THIS WAS THE UNITY OF FREEDOM, OF LIBERTY.

The Father has one person with his own Divine will. The Son was a distinct separate person with an individual will of His own. The Son was free to make his personal choice and freely he chose the will of His Father rather than his own will.

HERE BETWEEN THE GLORIOUS FATHER AND HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON AND ALSO THE HOLY SPIRIT IS PERFECT DIVINE LIBERTY AN EXAMPLE TO ALL HIS CREATURES, TO HIS CHURCH.

The liberty God desired His people to enjoy is enjoyed in glorious heavenly perfection by the “three living persons of the Heavenly trio, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.” *Series B*, No. 7, page 62.

WHERE THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS THERE IS LIBERTY. 2 Corinthians 3:17.

There is liberty in Heaven where the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are. God made us free and leaves us free to all eternity on earth and in Heaven, and the glory of righteousness is that without a shade of compulsion we freely choose to do the will of our glorious God. But in the Catholic Church, Roman or Greek, where the Trinity had been borrowed from Satan’s pagan religion, there is no liberty, only bondage and tyranny, cruelty, darkness, death.

Where the Trinity is the central doctrine, one man supreme, the Pope, tyrannizes over the bishops; the bishops over the priests; and the priests over the people. This is the natural, the logical fruit of their central, key doctrine, the Trinity. No one can deny this fact that where the Trinity is made the supreme test, there is tyranny, cruelty, torture, death. And when finally in desperation men rise up and destroy the Catholic Church, whether Roman or Greek, the pendulum swings and there is tyranny, destruction, infidelity, despotism, ruin. This was seen in the French revolution where the streets of Paris ran with blood, and in the terrible revolution in Spain and in the fearful upheaval in Russia where infidelity, force, murder, darkness, are reigning supreme worse than in the darkest heathen lands. Men trained under the Catholic trinity principle, when they revolt, set up another government on the same principle, despotism, tyranny.

The heathen doctrines of the Trinity, supreme in the Catholic Church, Roman and Greek, blots out the light of God given liberty, fills the world with darkness and blood, either when it is logically enforced as the only religion, or, when men filled with the same spirit, revolt and take revenge in the same way that they have suffered, and set up another government on the same principle, despotism, dictatorship.

No one living can deny that where the Trinity was the supreme doctrine there has come horrible bondage, destruction, ruin; liberty utterly lost. Look at Italy, Spain, Russia; Hitler an Austrian Catholic, Stalin studied for the priesthood, Franco in Spain, Mussolini in Italy. The world is in torment from action and reaction of the blasphemous doctrine of the Trinity. The fruit of the Trinity is only evil, only cruel, despotic, the opposite of the glorious personal liberty in Heaven of the Father and the Holy Spirit, of the Son of God and of His children, on earth, the sons of God.

The Catholic heathen doctrine of the Sunday Sabbath is just as sacred as the Catholic pagan doctrine of the Trinity and no more so. Elder Prescott has as much authority to advocate the Sunday as the Sabbath as to teach that the Father and Son are “one person,” “Jehovah-Jesus.” If he believes the words of Christ that the disciples are to be ONE as Christ and the Father are ONE, he can never again say they are “one person.” And if he will believe the following on page 422 of *Ministry of Healing*: “They are one in purpose, in mind, in character, but not in PERSON. IT IS THUS THAT GOD AND CHRIST ARE ONE,” he will never again borrow the central doctrine of Romanism to teach to Seventh-day Adventists.

Seventh-day Adventists claim to take the word of God as supreme authority and to have “come out of Babylon,” to have renounced forever the vain traditions of Rome. If we should go back to the immortality of the soul, purgatory, eternal torment and the Sunday Sabbath, would that be anything less than apostasy? If, however, we leap over all these minor, secondary doctrines and accept and teach the very central root, doctrine of Romanism, the Trinity, and teach that the son of God did not die, even though our words seem to be spiritual, is this anything else or anything less than apostasy? and the very Omega of apostasy?

Thank God for the *Spirit of Prophecy*! In the printed copy of Elder Prescott's sermon, I note that he quotes profusely from the teachings of Sunday-keeping ministers of other churches; from the *I am of Christ*, Samuel H. Giesy, from Peter Payne, Thomas Dehany Barnard, James M. Campbell and H. Grattan Guinness, in his sermon he quotes 1205 words, while he only quotes from the *Spirit of Prophecy* 75 words; 16 words from outside popular preachers to 1 word from the blessed light God has given to this people by His Holy Spirit. If he would read the writings of the *Spirit of Prophecy* more and the teachings of popular Sunday-keeping ministers less, if he would in simple faith take the teachings of the Testimony of Jesus, he would not make the mistake of teaching the heathen doctrine of the Trinity or bringing in any other arguments to overthrow the established settled faith of the people who believe the great closing message.

A little more than 40 years ago I was working with Elder Prescott in England. Beginning there and almost constantly since then he has been teaching "new light,"(?) constantly criticizing the original message of which Sister White says in *Early Writings*, "Woe unto him that shall move a block or stir a pin of these messages." page 258.

Even before he came to England he made a great campaign for the so-called Testimonies of Anna Rice, who claimed the gift of Prophecy. In a tremendous testimony from Australia, Sister White unmasked the dangerous teaching of these false prophecies and reproved those who had pushed these teachings on our people.

Elder Prescott has often told me how greatly he appreciated being associated with Dr. Waggoner and learning his wonderful "new light." For some time they lived in the same house. When Dr. Waggoner began teaching Pantheism (God in everything), Elder Prescott followed as a pupil follows his teacher. Then at conferences, etc., they both visited Dr. Kellogg in Battle Creek and worked in harmony with him. After a few years, when Elder Prescott had become the editor of the *Review*, Elder W. C. White said to me, "Professor Prescott has as truly taught Pantheism as Dr. Kellogg has taught it, and yet made no acknowledgment of his wrong teaching." With the hope that Elder Prescott would make this matter right, I requested that he make an acknowledgment in the *Review* of his mistake, as wide as his wrong teachings had been made. But my kindly suggestion was indignantly and emphatically refused. If he had been willing to acknowledge this wrong, he might have been kept from many strange teachings later on, contrary to our great message.

When Elder Prescott and Dr. Waggoner were in England, Elder Conradi was at the head of all the work in Europe and they were often together and Elder Prescott learned some of the Conradi theology. In the summer of 1931 L. R. Conradi wrote a letter to the editor of the *Review* finding fault with The Great Controversy. He asserted that Sister White had made quotations from history that were false. He further says in the same letter, "I well remember when the LIGHT OF THE NEW DAILY came to my mind some forty years ago. I was again and again met with Sister White's statement to the contrary. . . . But this settlement of the Daily was but the first step to the second one." Thus L. R. Conradi with the Daily as his first step in the Light (?), he took the second, and third steps, etc., etc., into the "light" (?) of final and complete apostasy. HE, CONRADI, THE ORIGINATOR OF THE new view of the DAILY, IN OUR TIME, LEFT HIS EXAMPLE AS A WARNING. At the head of the way, THE DAILY (NEW VIEW), AND AT THE END OF THE WAY A COMPLETE AND UTTER DENIAL OF THE LAST MESSAGE. This is the logic of the NEW VIEW OF THE DAILY, because it denies the *Spirit of Prophecy* as Conradi himself states.

I have a letter in the handwriting of Dr. E. J. Waggoner, dated November 22, 1909, in which he discusses the DAILY at length. He says: "I knew the view that Prescott held in London, and which Conradi teaches in his German book on Daniel and do NOT see how anybody who has regard to the scriptures can hold any other view, I mean anyone who regards the scriptures as above all other books and sufficient in themselves. *Early Writings* most clearly and decidedly declares for the OLD VIEW." Thus Dr. Waggoner sets the Bible squarely against the *Spirit of Prophecy* and with a covert sneer at the *Testimonies* declares for the NEW view of the Daily and identifies the teachings of Conradi and his own (Dr. Waggoner's view with Prescott's view).

CONRADI ORIGINATED THIS MODERN IDEA AND LED PROFESSOR PRESCOTT INTO THE LIGHT(?). CONRADI AND WAGGONER BOTH APOSTASIZED AND DIED OUTSIDE THE MESSAGE. BUT PROFESSOR PRESCOTT STILL PERPETUATES THE CONRADI-WAGGONER APOSTATE DOCTRINE.

When we were working together in England, I noticed that Professor Prescott used the American Revised translation of the Bible. I asked why he did not use the Authorized Version. He said, "I will show you why I use the A. R. V." Then he turned to Daniel 8th chapter and showed me that the Revised Version was much more favorable to his new view of the 'Daily,' than the Authorized Version, and he has used the Revised ever since; and that is WHY he uses it. It suits the Conradi-Waggoner view of the Daily. In England, Professor Prescott said to me, "If I can only get these new views taught in America, I will change the whole face of our work." And this he has evidently been trying to do for the last 40 years.

Shortly before the close of the last century he returned to the U. S. and a few years later he became editor of the *Review and Herald*. After a time he started a series of articles on Daniel to bring out this NEW VIEW OF THE DAILY. Sister White told him he was making a mountain out of a molehill. And she requested him NOT TO PUSH THIS VIEW in the *Review*. So he was cut down there and soon after started the *Protestant Magazine*, a regular anti-Catholic paper, in which he taught the NEW VIEW and moved nearly all the prophetic dates of the prophecies.

An edition of the book, *Bible Readings for the Home Circle*, REVISED BY W. A. COLCORD, WHO HAD ACCEPTED THE CONRADI-WAGGONER-PRESCOTT IDEA, and, (as he told me proudly that he was ASSISTED IN THIS REVISION BY D. M. CANRIGHT, who as nearly all our people know APOSTASIZED years before helping Colcord revise *Bible Readings for the Home Circle*) had in it several pages of the NEW VIEW OF THE DAILY with a 5-year sliding scale, moving nearly all the dates of our prophetic frame work. We thank God that the *Review and Herald* cut out this absurd sliding scale a few years ago and that *Bible Readings* now teaches the original message.

The *Protestant Magazine* was published a few years and as Professor Prescott even held meetings with the Orangemen, who are politically anti-Catholic, and there was danger that this anti-Catholic organ might bring premature persecution (see *Testimonies*, volume 9, page 243) the *Protestant* was brought to a sudden inglorious end.

At the General Conference in 1909, I had my last talk with Sister White, in the house for years owned by Dr. Kress. Just before the conversation closed, Sister White shook her head very sadly and said, "They are all tied up here in Washington and there MUST BE A GREAT CHANGE." One of the first changes Sister White requested was that Professor Prescott should no longer be editor of the *Review and Herald* and President of its association, but should do work in the cities. Her son, J. E. White, told me it was NOT that Professor Prescott was such a good city worker but that it was necessary to get him where his influence would not destroy the faith and confidence of the readers of the *Review and Herald*.

In a letter written to Elder Daniels by Elder George B. Starr, June 21, 1930, he states that Sister White said to him, "I have my commission from the Lord to see that he (Professor W. W. Prescott) DISCONNECTS from the *Review and Herald*." "Why," she said, "Brother Starr, if that man remains on the *Review* he will LEAD THIS WHOLE DENOMINATION ASTRAY."

In a personal talk with Professor Prescott at Knoxville, Tennessee; he said to me, "I have had to revise my belief of the *Spirit of Prophecy*. I have found that *The Great Controversy* is full of mistakes." In a personal letter to me, he said that *The Great Controversy* "had to be revised to be in harmony with the FACTS." His profound researches among the writings of UNINSPIRED MEN gave him the AUTHORITY and ABILITY to prove that the INSPIRED PROPHET OF GOD was mistaken. Evidently he does not belong to those who believe the Testimony of Jesus, the *Spirit of Prophecy*. See Revelation 12:17. No wonder that Sister White said if he remained as editor of the *Review* he would lead the whole denomination ASTRAY. The years that have gone by have confirmed that statement.

Professor Prescott in his sermons and articles uses the American Revised Version without any indication, as other writers use the Authorized Version. Is this fair or honorable? All English-speaking writers use the Authorized without any marks of identification, a universal understanding, and if the Revised or any other version is used they indicate what version by initial letters, R. V. for Revised Version, A. R. V. for American Revised Version, etc. One who was not acquainted with the versions, in reading the articles of Professor Prescott, might think Adventists had a different Bible of their own. I protest that this is not fair or honorable. If a writer uses the A. R. V. or any other version he must indicate the version. We have seen that the reason why Professor Prescott uses the A. R. V. IS BECAUSE IT TEACHES THE APOSTATE CONRADI'S DOCTRINE OF THE DAILY.

This message was settled, sealed by the *Spirit of Prophecy* before the Revised Version was translated from two Catholic Manuscripts, the Vaticanus and the Sinaiticus. The Revised has many Catholic errors in it.

The Authorized version is translated from manuscripts kept by the Waldenses. "In a most wonderful manner it was preserved UNCORRUPTED through all the ages of darkness," *The Great Controversy*, page 69. "The Church in the wilderness and not the proud hierarchy enthroned in the world's great capital, was the true church of Christ, the guardian of the treasury of truth, which God has committed to the people to be given to the world." *The Great Controversy*, page 64.

So the manuscripts kept by the Waldenses and translated into the Bible of Luther, in German, and into the Authorized Version in 1611, in English, is the "truth, uncorrupted, unadulterated."

Sister White quotes, as anyone is at liberty to quote, the Revised and other versions where it is clearer and more modern English. However, she uses almost entirely the Authorized edition, but always indicates when the Revised or any other version is quoted.

But there are many falsehoods and blunders in the Revised Version, translated from Catholic Manuscripts: "without my flesh shall I see God." Job 19:26 teaches the Catholic Immortality of the soul. The Catholic Purgatory is directly taught in the Revised Version, of 2 Peter 2:9. The Revised Version translates Revelation 22:14, "Blessed are they that wash their robes," instead of "do His commandments," which must please those who oppose the Sabbath truth. The R. V. in Matthew 14:30 omits the word "boisterous" and gives us this crude absurdity, "When Peter saw the wind, he was afraid." No wonder! In the margin of the R. V., Revelation 13:18, instead of the number of the beast being 666, the margin of the R. V. gives 616. Does Elder Prescott believe the number of the beast is 666 or 616? The glorious close of the Lord's prayer in the R. V., Matt. 6:13, is omitted. "For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen." Yet those words are quoted by Sister White in the *Mount of Blessing*. She thus seals the Authorized Version as the true word of God. In Revelation 8:7, the R. V. says "a third part of the earth (instead of "trees" in Authorized) was burned up." Who believes this Revised Version, impossible untruth! The whole text Acts 8:37 is omitted in the R. V., yet that text is quoted in full in Volume 8 of the *Testimonies* and thus sealed as the word of God by the Holy Spirit.

THE REVISED VERSION IS NOT THE TRUE COMPLETE WORD OF GOD, FIRST, BECAUSE IT IS NOT ALL THERE AND SECOND, BECAUSE IT IS NOT ALL THERE STRAIGHT.

Does Professor Prescott, who uses the A. R. V. as the only authoritative word of God, believe in the immortal soul? Job 19:26 R. V., in purgatory, 2 Peter 2:9 R. V.? Does he believe that "do his commandments" in the Authorized Version is a wrong translation? Does he believe that Peter "saw the wind" Matthew 14:30 A. R. V.? Does he believe that 616 is the number of the beast? Margin, A. R. V., Revelation 13:18. Does he believe that "For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, Amen," should be cut out of the Lord's prayer? A. R. V. Matthew 6:13. Does he believe that a third part of the earth was burned up? , (a physical and historical falsehood)! Revelation 8:7, A. R. V. Does he believe that Acts 8:37 should be cut out of the Bible and that Sister White was wrong in quoting it? If he believes ALL THESE THINGS, he should continue using the A. R. V. as the complete authoritative Word of God. If not, he should use the grand old Protestant Authorized Version, that was accepted as the supreme foundation of this message long before the Revised Version was translated.

Professor Prescott believes that the R. V. teaches his NEW VIEW OF THE DAILY. It also teaches that Peter saw the wind. One is as true as the other.

The *Spirit of Prophecy* tells us that the word of God was preserved “uncorrupted” by the Waldenses. *The Great Controversy*, 69. “The church in the wilderness and not the proud hierarchy enthroned in the world’s capital, (Rome) was the true church of Christ, the guardian of the treasures of truth which God had committed to his people to be given to the world.” *The Great Controversy*, 64. These were the manuscripts of the Received text translated into the Bible of Luther in German and translated into English in 1611 as the Authorized Version, while the Revised Version was translated mainly from the “Vaticanus” manuscript preserved in the Vatican in Rome, and the “Sinaitacus” kept in a Catholic convent, Which is the true Word of God???

When the Holy Spirit through God’s appointed prophet endorses the Manuscripts of the Waldenses as “uncorrupted and unadulterated” then they ARE THE “BEST ATTESTED MANUSCRIPTS” and NOT the “Sinaitacus” and the “Vaticanus” kept by the Roman Church, from which the R. V. was translated. On this authority, the Testimony of the Holy Spirit, we may rest as final and decisive. To a Seventh-day Adventist, there is no appeal from this authority. On this rock, brethren, we may all build for eternity, and the “gates of Hell shall not prevail against it.”

In the *Ministry* of March 1939, appeared an article by Professor Prescott, based on quotations from Catholic writers which states that the position of Adventist on the number of the beast is not correct, that is, that the Latin words “Vicarius Filii Dei” in which the number 666 is found is not the true title of the Pope. There is abundance of evidence on this point which Professor Prescott had not seen, and yet he takes the position that his own researches are final, that he had seen all that was to be seen, and that the pioneers of this movement were all wrong and his judgment against them was correct and final. There is a logical result of his setting up his authority for many years to overthrow the established faith of the body on one point after another, or as, Sister White said, to “lead this whole denomination astray.”

In the Revised Version of Revelation 13:18, the margin gives 616 as the number of the beast instead of 666. Does Professor Prescott believe that 616 is the number of the beast? He takes away the established faith of the Body and gives us nothing solid or certain in its place. Is Professor Prescott a builder or a destroyer? Does he confirm the faith of the people of God? or has he been for more than 40 years a bank of clouds and darkness? He followed the false prophecies of Anna Rice. He accepted the Pantheistic doctrine of Dr. Waggoner and Dr. Kellogg and held them for years. He accepted the Conradi-Waggoner doctrine of the NEW VIEW OF THE DAILY and both the founder and teacher of that doctrine apostatized completely and died outside the fold. He perpetuated their theology that moved nearly all the dates of our prophetic framework.

Following the Conradi theology, he discarded the Authorized Version and took the American Revised Version as authority, based on Catholic Manuscripts because it was more nearly in harmony with the Conradi version of the Daily. When the Lord Himself through His prophet, removed Professor Prescott from the editorship of the *Review and Herald*, because he was “leading the whole denomination astray” and his anti-Catholic magazine came to a sudden inglorious end, he did not obey the request of the prophet that he work in the cities but remained in Washington to do “literary work.” Then, with Conradi, he taught that the principal book given us by the Lord, *The Great Controversy* was full of mistakes (that the prophet of God was mistaken) and that his wisdom is superior to that of the prophet.

He teaches that we are wrong on the number of the beast and now embraces the pagan papal doctrine of the Trinity that the Father and the Son are “one person,” “Jehovah-Jesus,” when Jesus in John 17:21, 22 and the *Spirit of Prophecy* directly state that they are “NOT one person,” and then he follows this Catholic doctrine of the Trinity to its logical end, affirming that the Son of God did not die, thus absolutely contradicting the Word of God and forever destroying our hope, a fitting climax to his developing program of “changing the whole face of our work” and the faith of this people, a program followed by him as many years as Israel wandered in the wilderness.

Professor Prescott is a courteous, cultured, educated gentleman. Personally I regard him very highly. But his teachings are thus the more dangerous and destructive. He has not strengthened the confidence of our people but has paralyzed the faith of many. I do not say that he has followed ALL the teachings of Conradi and Waggoner, but a number of them he has perpetuated, and when they with A. T. Jones, Fletcher and many others have given up the faith, he has continued to teach their destructive theories. We thank God that a number of our leading brethren have seen the terrible danger of his ruinous teaching. However kindly or beautiful or apparently profound his sermons or articles may be, when a man has arrived at the place where he teaches the heathen Catholic doctrine of the Trinity, and denies that the Son of God died for us, is he a true Seventh-day Adventist? Is he even a true preacher of the Gospel? And when many regard him as a great teacher and accept his unscriptural theories, absolutely contrary to the *Spirit of Prophecy*, it is time that the watchmen should sound a note of warning.

The Lord is calling on all his army of faithful workers to stand firm, unshaken, as the great enemy of God has marshaled the myriads of fallen angels and wicked men for the last terrific battle of the great controversy. He has told us to encourage one another, to strengthen the weak hands and confirm the feeble knees. And here is as educated, cultured man, with great ability, who might have been a safe wise leader, a rock of strength to God's people, and yet for 40 years he has taught one new discovery (?) after another of the mistakes and false (?) teachings of our pioneers and even dared to criticize the Messenger of God. Has God called him or any other man in such a time as this to weaken the hands of our valiant army of workers and to publish our "false (?)" teaching before our enemies? Is this the work of God or is it the work of the destroyer?

The *Spirit of Prophecy* in *Series B*, No. 7, p. 57, says: "One thing is soon to be realized, the great apostasy, which is developing and increasing and waxing stronger and will continue to do so until the Lord will descend from Heaven with a shout. We are to hold fast the first principles of our denominated faith, and go forward from strength to increased faith. Ever we are to keep the faith that has been substantiated by the Holy Spirit of God from the earlier events of our experience until the present time . . . If we needed the manifest proof of the Holy Spirit's power to confirm truth in the beginning; after the passing of the time, we need today all the evidence in the confirmation of the truth when souls are departing from the faith and giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils?"

The false teaching of the personality of God making him simply an essence and not a personality was the "Alpha of Apostasy." Another phase of false doctrine on the personality of God, might become the "Omega of deadly apostasy," *Series B*, No. 2, page 16. "Few see the meaning of the present apostasy, but the Lord has lifted the curtain and has shown me its meaning and the result that it will have if allowed to continue. We must now lift our voices in warning ." *Series B*, number 7, page 37.

The apostasy in the days of Dr. Kellogg was in regard to the personality of God. Then He was regarded as an ESSENCE pervading all nature. Being checked by the powerful Testimony of the Prophet of God, it is bound to come back later in a modified form. The *Spirit of Prophecy* has plainly indicated this. "THE RESULTS OF THIS INSIDIOUS DEVISING WILL BREAK OUT AGAIN AND AGAIN," and it HAS BROKEN OUT AGAIN, and is still on the personality of God. Now Professor Prescott, once associated with Dr. Kellogg, takes up the subject of the personality of God again, but this time, asserts the Father and the Son are "one person," and that the Son of God could not die, Satan's teaching through heathenism and the Papacy, of the doctrine of the Trinity, leading us back to Papal theology and darkness, and absolute destruction of all our hope that springs from the death of the Son of God. TO KNOW GOD ARIGHT IS LIFE EVERLASTING. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. John 17:3. A false conception or false knowledge of God is eternal death.

Books that contain God's special message are counted full of mistakes, or thrown entirely out of publication. The Lord, through His prophet, has named the three books most needed today. Largely through the teachings of Professor Prescott, one of these is criticized as being full of mistakes, and one has been thrown out of publication. If God has ever spoken to this people the following words are the eternal truth of God.

“*Patriarchs and Prophets, Daniel and the Revelation and The Great Controversy* are needed now as never before . . . the very books most needed.” Mrs. E. G. White in *Review and Herald*, February 16, 1905. “*Daniel and the Revelation, The Great Controversy and Patriarchs and Prophets* would make their way. They contain the very message the people must have, the special light God has given his people. The angels of God prepare the way for these books in the hearts of the people. . . . Of all the books that have come [forth] from the press those mentioned have been of the greatest consequence in the past and are at the present time.” *Special Testimonies in regard to Royalties*. [Now known as *Special Instruction Regarding Royalties*.]

One word of God is worth infinitely more than ten thousand words of men. “Heaven and earth shall pass away but my word shall not pass away.”

“The past fifty years have not dimmed one jot or principle of our faith as we received the great and wonderful evidences that were made certain to us, in 1844 after the passing of the time ... NOT A WORD IS CHANGED OR DENIED. That which the Holy Spirit testified to as Truth after the passing of the time in our great disappointment is the SOLID FOUNDATION OF TRUTH.” *Series B*, number 7, pages 57 and 58.

Teachers of the doctrine of the Trinity often use figures of speech to explain its mysteries that cannot be understood. The *Spirit of Prophecy* has clearly stated the falsehood and danger of some of these illustrations. We quote from *Series B*, No. 7, P. 62: “Such representations as the following are made, ‘the Father is the light invisible; the son is the light embodied. The spirit is the light shed abroad: . . . another representation: The Father is like the invisible vapor, the son is like the leaden cloud; the spirit is rain fallen and working in refreshing power.’

“All these spiritualistic representations are simply nothingness. They are imperfect, untrue. The Father cannot be described by the things of earth. The Father is all the fullness of the Godhead bodily and is invisible to mortal sight. The Son is all the fullness of the Godhead manifested . . . The Comforter that Christ promised to send after he ascended to Heaven, is the Spirit in all the fullness of the Godhead making manifest the power of Divine grace to all who receive and believe in Christ as a personal Saviour. There are 3 living persons of the Heavenly Trio, in the name of these three great powers—the Father, the Son and the Holy spirit—those who receive Christ by living faith are baptized.”

One of the mightiest proofs of the Divine inspiration of Sister White is that she saw clearly through the dangerous false teachings on the personality of God and warned the people of God in this power statement. “THERE ARE THREE LIVING PERSONS” NOT “ONE PERSON.” “The more simple the education of our workers, the less connection they have with the men whom God is NOT leading, the more will be accomplished. Work will be done in the simplicity of true Godliness, and the old, old times will be back when under the Holy Spirit’s guidance, thousands were converted in a day.” *Series B*, number 7, page 63.

“For if when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the DEATH OF HIS SON, much more being reconciled we shall be saved by His life.” See *Ministry of Healing*, page 422.

“The Unity that exists between Christ and His disciples does not destroy the personality of either. They are one in purpose, in mind, in character, BUT NOT IN PERSON. IT IS THUS THAT GOD AND CHRIST ARE ONE.”

## APPENDIX

In 1933 there was published by Fleming H. Revell Co. a volume by W. W. Prescott, entitled *The Spade and the Bible*. In the chapter, “Light on New Testament Words,” an effort was made to prove that “Vicarius Filii Dei” was not the title of the Pope and that the Mark of the Beast contains “his name or the number of his name,” in other words that “the mark” is the name of the beast. That is to say that the number 666 is the Mark of the Beast. On page 448 of *The Great Controversy* are found the words, “What then is the change of the Sabbath but the sign or mark of the authority of the church . . . the mark of the beast.”

At least three times the Spirit of the Lord has spoken emphasizing the fact that the mark of the beast is Sunday. Why then this confusing statement by Professor Prescott that the mark of the beast is the name, the number of the beast? “To the law and the testimony, if they speak not according to this word it is because there is no light in them.”

In the same chapter, Professor Prescott throws doubt on “Vicarius Filii Dei.” It is argued in the *Ministry* [Magazine of the SDA Church] that the title of the pope is “Vicar of Christ” not Vicar of the Son of God. But is not this simply a play upon words? For is not Christ the Son of God? Matthew 16:16. But the very words, “Vicarius Filii Dei” are given as the title of the pope in the *Donation of Constantine*, a document reputedly found on the tomb of St. Peter in the 8th century, now admitted by Roman Catholics to be spurious but nevertheless made use of by the popes when they were climbing into power. But while they repudiate the document they still cling tenaciously to the title, “Vicar of the Son of God,” or “Vicar of Christ.”

We quote from the *Donation of Constantine* by Coleman as given in Gratian’s Decretum, “Blessed Petrus in Terris, Vicarius Filii Dei.” From the Treatise of Lorenzo Valla on the Donation of Constantine P. 12. See also Ferraris *Ecclesiastical Dictionary* issued by Etypographia Polyglotta, S. C. de Propaganda Fide, Rome, in 1890, under the Title *Papa* on page 43.

The *Donation of Constantine* using the Exact title “Vicarius Filii Dei” was referred to by many popes as authority for the assumption that, as a Roman Catholic priest in conversation with me asserted, the Pope is Christ on earth; “Vicarius Filii Dei.” These popes used this forged edict of Constantine to prove their divine authority; Leo IX, Urban II, Euginius III, Innocent III, Gregory IX, Innocent IV, Nicolas III, Boniface VIII and John XXII. There is much more, yea an overflowing abundance of authority to prove that Uriah Smith was right when he taught that “Vicarius Filii Dei,” the real and comprehensive title of the Pope contained the number of the beast 666, and when the Holy Spirit through His prophet endorsed the book, *Daniel and the Revelation* and classes it with *The Great Controversy*, how can Professor Prescott or any Adventist minister or any real student of history presume to throw doubt and confusion and darkness on the Mark of the beast or the number of his name? When God speaks, true history must, and always does, respond with a unanimous “Amen.”

#### THE DEATH OF THE SON OF GOD

The great central truth of the Bible and of all Revelation is the death of the Son of God. Around that solemn, glorious fact is clustered the whole Bible and all of Divine revelation. Take away the death of the Son of God for sinners and the whole Bible crumbles and our hope is perished for all eternity.

A human atonement is no atonement; even the death of a good man, a perfect man, is powerless to save. If Jesus died as a man only, if the very Son of God did not die for us, we are lost; sunk in hopeless darkness, in endless death.

The death of a sinless angel could not save us. He alone through whom God our Father created all things, all angels, all humanity, He, the Son of God, must die, must thus give His life anew to dying men. This He could do only by dying in our stead, dying for us.

“An angel’s life would not pay the debt, nothing but the death and intercession of God’s Son would pay the debt.” *Early Writings*, 127.

Jesus said to the angels, “that He should by His death save many, that the life of an angel could not pay the debt.” *Early Writings*, 150.

“Said the angel, think ye that the Father yielded up His Beloved Son without a struggle? No, No, it was even a struggle with the God of Heaven, whether to let guilty man perish or to give His beloved Son to die for him.” *Early Writings*, 151.

“An angel’s life would not pay the debt. Nothing but the death and intercessions of His Son would pay the debt. . . . He suffered His beloved Son to die for man’s transgressions.” *Early Writings*, 152.

“The death of God’s beloved Son on the cross, shows the immutability of the law of God.” *Testimonies*, volume 2, page 201.

Someone may ask “how could the Son of God die?”

Whether we can understand how it could be, or not, we must believe it. “Great is the mystery of Godliness.”

How could the Son of God be conceived and born of the Virgin Mary and come up through helpless babyhood, through childhood to manhood. The Infinite God takes care of the “HOW.” We can only believe it is so, or we are lost in eternal night.

“By FAITH are ye saved.”

Fearful is the condemnation of the Jews who refused to believe that Christ rose from the dead. What shall we say of Adventist ministers who deny that He even DIED much less rose from the dead.

“Be astonished, O ye Heavens at this, and be horribly afraid.” Jeremiah2:12.

Brought up from childhood as a Seventh-day Adventist I am startled, terrified to know that any man claiming to believe this great Truth should hold any doctrine whose logic would cause him to deny the death of the Son of God.

Oh Jesus, Lamb of God, Oh thou Son of God, my Saviour,  
THOU HAST DIED FOR ME.

“Who gave His only Son to die  
To die for the sins of the world,  
That all who believe in His Holy Name  
Should see their God.”

## Thoughts in Advance of Part Five

### THE OMEGA APOSTASY

“One thing it is certain is soon to be realized,—**the great apostasy, which is developing and increasing and waxing stronger, and will continue to do so** until the Lord shall descend from heaven with a shout. We are to **hold fast the first principles of our denominated faith**, and go forward from strength to increased faith. Ever we are to keep the faith that that has been substantiated by the Holy Spirit of God from **the earlier events of our experience**, until the present time. We need now larger breadth, and deeper, more earnest, unwavering faith in the leadings of the Holy Spirit. If we needed the manifest proof of the Holy Spirit’s power to confirm truth in the beginning after the passing of the time, we need today all the evidence in the confirmation of the truth, when souls are departing from the faith and giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils. There must not be any languishing of soul now.

“If ever there was a period of time when we needed the Holy Spirit’s power in our discourses, in our prayers, in every action proposed, it is now. We are not to stop at the first experience, but while we bear the same message to the people, this message is to be strengthened and enlarged. We are to see and realize the importance of the message, made certain by its divine origin. We are to follow on to know the Lord, that we may know that his going forth is prepared as the morning.

“Our souls need the quickening from the Source of all power. We may be strengthened and confirmed in the past experience that holds us to the essential points of truth which have made us what we are,—Seventh-day Adventists.

“The past fifty years have not dimmed one jot or principle of our faith as we received the great and wonderful evidences that were made certain to us in 1844, after the passing of the time. The languishing souls are to be confirmed and quickened according to his word. And many of the ministers of the gospel and the Lord’s physicians will have their languishing souls quickened according to the word. Not a word is changed or denied. That which the Holy Spirit testified to as truth **after the passing of the time**, in our great disappointment, is the solid foundation of truth. **Pillars of truth were revealed**, and we accepted the foundation principles that have made us what we are--Seventh-day Adventists, keeping the commandments of God and having the faith of Jesus.

“**Have not the hearts of Christ’s disciples burned within them as he has talked with us by the way and opened to us the Scriptures?** Has not the Lord Jesus opened to us the Scriptures, and presented to us things kept secret from the foundation of the world? Some have heard the reading of the evidence of the binding claims of the law of God, and the enjoined obedience to his commandments, and have felt their characters to be in such contrast to the requirements that had they been placed in circumstances similar to Jehoiakim, king of Judah, they would have done as he did. **A special message was sent to him to be read in his hearing, but after listening to three or four pages, he cut it out with a penknife, and cast it into the fire.** But this could not destroy the message; for the word of God will never return unto him void. The same Holy Spirit who had given the first testimony, which was refused and burned, came to the servant of God, who caused the first to be written in the roll, and **repeated the very message that had been rejected, caused the latter to be written and added a great deal more to it.**

“Those who are willing to have the straight, plain messages of God consumed, to get them out of their sight, will only give increased publicity to, and confirmation of, the messages that they dismissed and repulsed. When the Lord sends a message to any man or woman, and they refuse to be corrected, refuse to receive it, that is not the end of the message by any means. All the transaction is recorded, and those who took part in it, by their refusal to be corrected, pronounce their own sentence against themselves.

“When God sends a message to any person, minister or doctor, if men pursue a course to make of no effect the message sent, a course that destroys the influence of the message that God designed should make a change in the principles of the one corrected, and turn his heart to repentance, **it would be better for these men if they had never been born.** Wickedness and deceit remain in the one to whom the Lord in mercy sent his message, but they, through Satan’s devising, took it upon themselves to justify and vindicate the one whom God had corrected, and he took it upon himself to refuse the message given, and went on, sustained **by men who claimed to be the ministers and doctors of the Lord.** The one who ought to have realized his sin and corrected his evil, was presumptuous, and turned from the messages of God to follow his own course, until sin, in deception, in falsehood, in unprincipled working, in underhand dealing, became current. **Whether there is any hope of a change, we know not.** But all who have built that man up in his crooked course of action, which they know was not justice and righteousness, will suffer with the transgressor, unless they shall humble themselves before God, and show that repentance that needeth not to be repented of.

“Thus saith the Lord, I am the high and holy One who inhabiteth eternity. The Lord God will be vindicated in the interest he has taken to bring men to repentance, that they should see their crooked ways and turn and be converted. But ministers and doctors have stepped in between God and men reprov’d, and made of no effect the reproofs he has sent, notwithstanding that the warning was to save erring men, and turn them from their wrong course of action, that their usefulness should not be destroyed.

“The Spirit who asked Zechariah, ‘What seest thou?’ to which he answered, ‘I see a flying roll,’ **also caused an angel to fly in the midst of heaven,** ‘having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him [let no glory be given to erring, sinful men]; for the hour of his judgment is come.’ **Many indeed will not understand, but will stumble at the words contained in the roll.**” *The New York Indicator*, February 7, 1906.

## **The Fourth Generation: Part Five**

### **THE LAST GENERATION—1989 THROUGH THE SUNDAY LAW**

#### **THE PRESENT PARALLELS THE PAST**

“The work of God in the earth presents, from age to age, a striking similarity in every great reformation or religious movement. The principles of God’s dealing with men are ever the same. The important movements of the present have their parallel in those of the past, and the experience of the church in former ages has lessons of great value for our own time.” *The Great Controversy*, 343.

#### **THE GENERATION OF VIPERS**

##### **ALL ITS PHASES**

“The Laodicean message has been sounding. Take this message **in all its phases** and sound it forth to the people wherever Providence opens the way.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 15, 94.

##### **JONES AND WAGGONER**

“Those who name the name of Christ should adopt Christian maxims. **They should fear to ridicule the message or the messenger.** Let no man say that this conversation is in heaven, while he is manifestly groveling in the dust, and his thoughts and feelings are as far separated from God as the east from the west. **The true Christian will fear to make light of God’s message,** lest he may lay a stumbling block in the way of a soul who may see and imitate his example.

“The church of God is to shine as a light to the world, but Jesus is the illuminator, and He is represented as moving among His people. No one shines by his own light. The Lord God almighty and the Lamb are the lights thereof. **The message given us by A. T. Jones, and E. J. Waggoner is the message of God to the Laodicean church,** and woe be unto anyone who professes to believe the truth and yet does not reflect to others the God-given rays. Elder Smith, had you been **unprejudiced,** had not reports affected you and led you to bar your heart against the entrance of what these men presented; had you, like the noble Bereans, searched the Scriptures to see if their testimony agreed with its instruction, you would have stood upon vantage ground, and **been far advanced in Christian experience.** If you had received the truth into a good and honest heart, you would have become a living channel of light, with clear perception and sanctified imagination. Your conceptions of truth would have been exalted, and your heart made joyful in God. God would have given you a testimony clear, powerful, and convincing. But the first position you took in regard to the message and the messenger, has been a continual snare to you and a stumbling block.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 15, 92.

##### **THE PARABLE OF THE TEN VIRGINS**

“**The state of the Church represented by the foolish virgins, is also spoken of as the Laodicean state.**” *Review and Herald*, August 19, 1890.

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

##### **VALLEY OF DRY BONES—EZEKIEL 37**

“But not only does this simile of the dry bones apply to the world, but also to **those who have been blessed with great light;** for they also are like the skeletons of the valley. They have the form of men, the framework of the body; but they have not spiritual life. But the parable does not leave the dry bones merely knit together into the forms of men; for it is not enough that there is symmetry of limb and feature. The breath of life must vivify the bodies, that they may stand upright, and spring into activity. **These bones represent the house of Israel, the church of God, and the hope of the church is the vivifying influence of the Holy Spirit. The Lord must breathe upon the dry bones, that they may live.**

“The Spirit of God, with its vivifying power, must be in every human agent, that every spiritual muscle and sinew may be in exercise. Without the Holy Spirit, without the breath of God, there is torpidity of conscience, loss of spiritual life. Many who are without spiritual life have their names on the church records, but they are not written in the Lamb’s book of life. They may be joined to the church, but they are not united to the Lord. They may be diligent in the performance of a certain set of duties, and may be regarded as living men; but many are among those who ‘have a name that thou livest, and art dead.’ Unless there is genuine conversion of the soul to God; unless the vital breath of God quickens the soul to spiritual life; unless the professors of truth are actuated by heaven-born principle, they are not born of the incorruptible seed which liveth and abideth forever. Unless they trust in the righteousness of Christ as their only security; unless they copy his character, labor in his spirit, they are naked, they have not on the robe of his righteousness. The dead are often made to pass for the living; for those who are working out what they term salvation after their own ideas, have not God working in them to will and to do of his good pleasure.

“**This class is well represented by the valley of dry bones Ezekiel saw in vision.** Those who have had committed to them the treasures of truth, and yet who are dead in trespasses and sin, need to be created anew in Christ Jesus. There is so little real vitality in the church at the present time, that it takes constant labor to give men the appearance of life to the professed people of God. When the converting power of God comes upon the people, it will be made manifest by activity. They will become workers, and will esteem the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of the world. They will have respect unto the crown of life, the immortal inheritance. **They will not be dependent upon their ministers for their life and experience, but will realize that Christ is the Chief Shepherd of the flock. They will not think that their ministers are appointed of God to do their work for them. They will understand that they must work out their own salvation with fear and trembling, knowing that it is God that worketh in them to will and to do of his good pleasure.**”  
*Review and Herald, January 17, 1893.*

#### THE HANDWRITING ON THE WALL

“Filled with the knowledge of the will of God in all wisdom and spiritual understanding, walking worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, fruitful in every good work, increasing in the knowledge of God, strengthened with all might by his glorious power, unto all patience and long-suffering with joyfulness,—such were the early disciples. They sought above all things to know the will of God. But do these words describe the church in its present condition? Many who claim to believe the truth are far from practicing its principles. The church is weak and inefficient because many of its members follow their own impulses, refusing to do the will of God. **Not by the Spirit of God, but by another spirit, are they led. They know not the meaning of the written Word.** When they bring into the daily life the principles of God’s law, they will be able to say from experience. ‘The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul.’

“In the hearts of many, God has a work to do, if they will allow him. They need a complete transformation of character. This is their only hope. Some now in the work will have to pass through the furnace of affliction before they will see the need of having all dross burned away from the religious experience.

“The church must and will shine forth ‘fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners.’ **God’s servants must, by laboring together with Christ, roll away the curse that has made the church so lukewarm.** ‘Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints,’ writes the great apostle to the Gentiles, ‘is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; and to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: to the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, according to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord.’ When these words are believed and lived, the church will have a heaven below to go to heaven in.

“These words were spoken by our Instructor: ‘Some are reckless, insensible of the results of sin, heedless of warning. **Soon the handwriting on the wall, now unintelligible to them, will be read.** But it will then be too late for them to repent. **Like Belshazzar,** they seem unable to see their peril. **A straight testimony must be borne to our churches and institutions, to arouse the sleeping ones.**’

“When **the word of the Lord is believed and obeyed**, steady advancement will be made. Let us now see our great need. **The Lord cannot use us until he breathes life into the dry bones.** I heard the words spoken: ‘Without the deep moving of the Spirit of God upon the heart, without its life-giving influence, **truth becomes a dead letter.**’” *Review and Herald*, November 18, 1902.

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“As I saw that the hearts with which I longed to be in harmony **were padlocked by prejudice and unbelief**, I thought best for me to leave them. My purpose was to go from Minneapolis the first of the week. Brother Kilgore came with a request that I should speak the next day, but I said, ‘No, my brother, I can say nothing that many of my ministering brethren consider to be of any value to them. I must not work and exhaust my strength needlessly. I must go away and see what the Lord has for me to do elsewhere, for I know I have a message to bear to His people.’

“I wished to meditate, to pray, [that I might know] in what manner we could work to present the subject of sin and atonement in the Bible light before the people. They were greatly needing this kind of instruction that they might give the light to others and have the blessed privilege of being workers together with God in gathering in and bringing home the sheep of His fold. What power must we have from God that icy hearts, having only a legal religion, should see the better things provided for them—Christ and His righteousness! **A life-giving message was needed to give life to the dry bones.**” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 12, 205.

#### EVERY WIND OF DOCTRINE

“If all that appears to be divine life were such in reality; if all who profess to present the truth to the world were preaching for the truth and not against it, and if they were men of God guided by His Spirit,—then might we see something cheering amid the prevailing moral darkness. But the spirit of antichrist is prevailing to such an extent as never before. Well may we exclaim: ‘Help, Lord; for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men.’ **I know that many think far too favorably of the present time.** These ease-loving souls will be engulfed in the general ruin. Yet we do not despair. We have been inclined to think that where there are no faithful ministers there can be no true Christians, but this is not the case. God has promised that where the shepherds are not true He will take charge of the flock Himself. God has never made the flock wholly dependent upon human instrumentalities. **But the days of purification of the church are hastening on apace.** God will have a people pure and true. **In the mighty sifting soon to take place** we shall be better able to measure the strength of Israel. The signs reveal that the time is near when **the Lord will manifest that His fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly purge His floor.**

“The days are fast approaching when there will be great perplexity and confusion. Satan, clothed in angel robes, will deceive, if possible, the very elect. There will be gods many and lords many. **Every wind of doctrine will be blowing.** Those who have rendered supreme homage to ‘science falsely so called’ will not be the leaders then. Those who have trusted to intellect, genius, or talent will not then stand at the head of rank and file. They did not keep pace with the light. Those who have proved themselves unfaithful will not then be entrusted with the flock. In the last solemn work few great men will be engaged. They are self-sufficient, independent of God, and He cannot use them. **The Lord has faithful servants, who in the shaking, testing time will be disclosed to view.** There are precious ones now hidden who have not bowed the knee to Baal. They have not had the light which has been shining in a concentrated blaze upon you. But it may be under a rough and uninviting exterior the pure brightness of a genuine Christian character will be revealed. In the day time we look toward heaven but do not see the stars. They are there, fixed in the firmament, but the eye cannot distinguish them. In the night we behold their genuine luster.

“The time is not far distant when the test will come to every soul. The mark of the beast will be urged upon us. Those who have **step by step** yielded to worldly demands and conformed to worldly customs will not find it a hard matter to yield to the powers that be, rather than subject themselves to derision, insult, threatened imprisonment, and death. The contest is between the commandments of God and the commandments of men. **In this time the gold will be separated from the dross in the church.** True godliness will be clearly distinguished from the appearance and tinsel of it. Many a star that we have admired for its brilliancy will then go out in darkness. Chaff like a cloud will be borne away on the wind, even from places where we see only floors of rich wheat. All who assume the ornaments of the sanctuary, but are not clothed with Christ’s righteousness, will appear in the shame of their own nakedness.

“When trees without fruit are cut down as cumberers of the ground, when multitudes of false brethren are distinguished from the true, then the hidden ones will be revealed to view, and with hosannas range under the banner of Christ. Those who have been timid and self-distrustful will declare themselves openly for Christ and His truth. The most weak and hesitating in the church will be as David—willing to do and dare. The deeper the night for God’s people, the more brilliant the stars. Satan will sorely harass the faithful; but, in the name of Jesus, they will come off more than conquerors. Then will the church of Christ appear “fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners.” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 80–81.

## Concluding Thoughts on the The Fourth Generation

### EZEKIEL 8–12

“This sealing of the servants of God is the same that was shown to Ezekiel in vision. John also had been a witness of this most startling revelation. He saw the sea and the waves roaring, and men’s hearts failing them for fear. He beheld the earth moved, and the mountains carried into the midst of the sea (which is literally taking place), the water thereof roaring and troubled, and the mountains shaking with the swelling thereof. He was shown plagues, pestilence, famine, and death performing their terrible mission.” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 445.

Then said he unto me, Son of man, hast thou seen what the ancients of the house of Israel do in the dark, every man in the chambers of his imagery? for they say, **The Lord seeth us not; the Lord hath forsaken the earth.** Ezekiel 8:12.

“‘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.’

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

“In the time when His wrath shall go forth in judgments, these humble, devoted followers of Christ will be distinguished from the rest of the world by their soul anguish, which is expressed in lamentation and weeping, reproofs and warnings. While others try to throw a cloak over the existing evil, and excuse the great wickedness everywhere prevalent, those who have a zeal for God’s honor and a love for souls will not hold their peace to obtain favor of any. Their righteous souls are vexed day by day with the unholy works and conversation of the unrighteous. They are powerless to stop the rushing torrent of iniquity, and hence they are filled with grief and alarm. They mourn before God to see religion despised in the very homes of those who have had great light. They lament and afflict their souls because pride, avarice, selfishness, and deception of almost every kind are in the church. The Spirit of God, which prompts to reproof, is trampled underfoot, while the servants of Satan triumph. God is dishonored, the truth made of none effect.

“The class who do not feel grieved over their own spiritual declension, nor mourn over the sins of others, will be left without the seal of God. The Lord commissions His messengers, the men with slaughtering weapons in their hands: ‘Go ye after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity: slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; and begin at My sanctuary. Then they began at the ancient men which were before the house.’

“**Here we see that the church—the Lord’s sanctuary—was the first to feel the stroke of the wrath of God. The ancient men, those to whom God had given great light and who had stood as guardians of the spiritual interests of the people, had betrayed their trust.** They had taken the position that **we need not look for miracles and the marked manifestation of God’s power as in former days**. Times have changed. These words strengthen their unbelief, and they say: The Lord will not do good, neither will He do evil. He is too merciful to visit His people in judgment. Thus ‘Peace and safety’ is the cry from men who will never again lift up their voice like a trumpet to show God’s people their transgressions and the house of Jacob their sins. These dumb dogs that would not bark are the ones who feel the just vengeance of an offended God. Men, maidens, and little children all perish together.

“The abominations for which the faithful ones were sighing and crying were all that could be discerned by finite eyes, but by far the worst sins, those which provoked the jealousy of the pure and holy God, were unrevealed. The great Searcher of hearts knoweth every sin committed in secret by the workers of iniquity. These persons come to feel secure in their deceptions and, because of His long-suffering, say that the Lord seeth not, and then act as though He had forsaken the earth. But He will detect their hypocrisy and will open before others those sins which they were so careful to hide.

“No superiority of rank, dignity, or worldly wisdom, no position in sacred office, will preserve men from sacrificing principle when left to their own deceitful hearts. **Those who have been regarded as worthy and righteous prove to be ring-leaders in apostasy and examples in indifference and in the abuse of God’s mercies.** Their wicked course He will tolerate no longer, and in His wrath He deals with them without mercy.

“It is with reluctance that the Lord withdraws His presence from those who have been blessed with great light and who have felt the power of the word in ministering to others. They were once His faithful servants, favored with His presence and guidance; but they departed from Him and led others into error, and therefore are brought under the divine displeasure.

“The day of God’s vengeance is just upon us. The seal of God will be placed upon the foreheads of those only who sigh and cry for the abominations done in the land. Those who link in sympathy with the world are eating and drinking with the drunken and will surely be destroyed with the workers of iniquity. ‘The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and His ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.’” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 207–212.