

The Significance, Importance and Purpose of Daniel 11:40–45

Daniel eleven is the middle chapter of Daniel the prophet's final vision. His final vision includes chapters ten through twelve. The vision is the climax of Daniel's prophetic information. The vision builds upon and brings together all the prophetic information Daniel has recorded within his entire book. The book of Daniel is the foundation of the prophetic light of the Bible. Without the foundation, the book of Revelation, which is the capstone of Bible prophecy, is almost empty, if not entirely destroyed. The book of Revelation, which portrays what must shortly come to pass, must be established on the book of Daniel—if it is to be correctly understood. Without the climax of the book of Daniel, which is Daniel's last vision, Daniel's testimony is muted and incomplete at best. And while Daniel's last vision is the climax of his complete work, verses forty through forty-five is the climax of the final vision!

Daniel 11:40–45 is the “axle” that all other passages of Bible prophecy relate to as “spokes”.

Bible prophecy is two-fold in purpose. It either identifies God and His people, or it identifies issues connected to the enemies of God and His people. The final confrontation of God's people and His enemies is most clearly portrayed in the last six verses of Daniel eleven. The final rise and fall of the king of the north in these verses is the final fall of Babylon. The fall of Babylon is the final message of warning to mankind. Current history, and what is just ahead, is portrayed in these verses. The events in the verses identify the Sunday-law crisis from the beginning to the point that human probation closes. They identify the process and sequence in which the papal power returns to control the earth. They identify the message of the hour. They identify the persecution of that time. They portray the division of all humanity in the world into two classes.

The verses send the warning that probation is about to close—first for Seventh-day Adventists and then the entire world. This warning is the information designed by God to bring the revival and reformation to the Seventh-day Adventist church, which must take place before it can receive the latter rain and proclaim the final warning message to a dying world. The verses speak to both corporate Adventism, as well as individual Adventists. The verses are a life-or-death passage, for they identify that God's people must now finish the work of character development through the power of the Holy Spirit in order to receive the seal of God.

For this reason, and others, Satan has developed a variety of roadblocks to tempt God's people to reject the truth within these verses. Therefore—part of the correct understanding of these verses, is the recognition of the Satanic roadblocks that have been placed within past Advent history and which have been recently set up. The intent of God for these verses is to awaken and prepare His people for the seal of God and the time of trouble, and to equip them with an intelligent and powerful message to share with the world around them.

One purpose of these verses is to provide a clear understanding of end-time events, but the greater purpose is to awaken God's people to their personal need of preparation.

These verses retain the foundational understanding of prophecy as recognized by the pioneers of Adventism, but they also change that truth. The *change* brought about by these verses, is when they establish that the prophetic truths of the Bible as originally proclaimed by Adventism, have now become—present truth! As an example:

Revelation thirteen identifies that there would come a time period when the United States would begin to force the world to worship the beast of Catholicism. This has always been truth. Daniel 11:40 establishes that we have now entered into that very time period.

Revelation thirteen has always been true—but today it is “present truth”.

The sequence of events portrayed in these verses is established and confirmed by the application of historic sequences previously recognized and accepted by trustworthy students of prophecy, who are generally referred to as the “pioneers” of Adventism. The prophecies which the pioneers came to understand and proclaim identify historical sequences that establish a clear pattern to identify the sequence of events identified within Daniel 11:40–45.

Not only is prophetic history the tool to identify the correct understanding of the events portrayed in Daniel 11:40–45, but the experience which the correct understanding produces in the individual student of prophecy, and also the Seventh-day Adventist church corporately—parallels perfectly the revival experience that took place in the beginning of Adventism, which is generally called the “Millerite movement”. The only difference (and the difference is profound and important to recognize), is that the Millerite time period possessed the characteristics set forth in the message to Philadelphia in Revelation three, but today God’s people are symbolized by the characteristics identified by the message to Laodicea.

Verse forty describes the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1989, as being brought about by President Ronald Reagan’s unholy alliance with the Vatican. The fulfillment of this verse parallels the collapse of the Ottoman Empire in fulfillment of Revelation 9:15. It also identified that the final movements of Bible prophecy were under way.

Verse forty-one announces a Sunday law in the United States. It is at the Sunday law test that living men either receive the mark of the beast or the seal of God. To receive either is to reach the time when your personal probation has closed. At the Sunday law, only those who have an understanding of the Sabbath and Sunday issue, (or could have had an understanding if they had taken advantage of their God-given opportunities to understand the Sabbath and Sunday issue) will receive either the seal of God or the mark of the beast.

It is Seventh-day Adventists who will first be held accountable for this testing truth! It is at the Sunday law that probation closes for Seventh-day Adventists. This test simultaneously purifies the church, and then the latter rain is poured out upon those who have received the seal of God, and they begin to proclaim the loud cry message to those outside of Adventism, who at that point in time have not understood the issue between Sabbath and Sunday. There is one qualification to add to this. The Sunday law proceeds geographically. It begins in the USA and then every other country will follow the example of the United States. Those other countries are illustrated in verses forty-two and forty-three with the symbol of Egypt.

If Adventism recognizes corporately or individually that the next thing to take place in Bible prophecy is the close of probation, and they then bring their lives into agreement with the demands of this truth, they will finish the work of character development necessary to obtain the seal of God. If they do not, they will come to that test and receive the mark of the beast. This is the history portrayed in these verses, and this is the formula to bring about the revival and reformation that precedes the latter rain.

The Sunday law in the United States is portrayed in verse forty-one, the next two verses identify the papacy taking complete control of planet earth. The “deadly wound” of the papacy is healed at this point. Verse forty-four then describes the warfare and persecution that follows, while also identifying the third angel’s message as the “tidings out of the east and west”.

Verse forty-five portrays the fall of Babylon, as human probation closes for all mankind. The purpose of Daniel 11:40–45 is to identify the final movements of prophecy, while also announcing that those events have begun. These verses also provide the information necessary for human beings to shake off their Laodicean slumber and take up the work necessary to prepare themselves for eternity, while warning mankind that the end is here. This knowledge is what is increased in Daniel twelve as the wise shine, and it is also the knowledge “lacked” by those among God’s people who are destroyed.

Important Principles of Prophecy in Contextual Order

The Sunday law arrives when the United States speaks as a dragon in Revelation 13:11:

“And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.”

“two-fold”

The Sunday law that fulfills Bible prophecy is two-fold in nature—it forces you to observe Sunday and persecutes you for observing Sabbath:

“A time is coming when the law of God is, **in a special sense**, to be made void in our land. The rulers of our nation will, by legislative enactments, enforce the Sunday law, and thus God’s people be brought into great peril. **When** our nation, in its legislative councils, shall enact laws to bind the consciences of men in regard to their religious privileges, **enforcing Sunday observance**, and **bringing oppressive power to bear against those who keep the seventh-day Sabbath**, the law of God will, to all intents and purposes, be made void in our land; and **national apostasy will be followed by national ruin.**” *The Seventh-day Adventists Bible Commentary*, volume 7, 977.

“whoever shall trample”

The mark of the beast is only given to men and women when they have had opportunity to understand the issues connected with Sabbath and Sunday:

“**With the issue thus clearly brought before him**, whoever shall trample upon God’s law to obey a human enactment receives the mark of the beast; he accepts the sign of allegiance to the power which he chooses to obey instead of God. The warning from heaven is: ‘If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of His indignation.’ Revelation 14:9–10.” *The Great Controversy*, 604–605.

“If the light of truth has been presented”

“**If the light of truth has been presented** to you, revealing the Sabbath of the fourth commandment, and showing that there is no foundation in the Word of God for Sunday observance, and yet you still cling to the false sabbath, *refusing to keep holy the Sabbath* which God calls ‘my holy day,’ you receive the mark of the beast. *When does this take place?*—When you obey the decree that commands you to *cease from labor on Sunday and worship God*, while you know that there is not a word in the Bible showing Sunday to be other than a common working-day, you consent to receive the mark of the beast, *and refuse the seal of God*. If we receive this mark in our foreheads or in our hands, the judgments pronounced against the disobedient must fall upon us. But the seal of the living God is placed upon those *who conscientiously keep the Sabbath of the Lord.*” *Review and Herald*, April 27, 1911.

“when—then”

To knowingly transgress the Sabbath after the Sunday law is to receive the mark of the beast:

“But **the time to receive the mark of the beast**, as designated in prophecy, has not yet come. **The testing time** has not yet come. There are true Christians in every church, not excepting the Roman Catholic communion. None are condemned until they have had the light and have seen the obligation of the fourth commandment. But **when** the decree shall go forth enforcing the counterfeit Sabbath, and **when** the loud cry of the third angel shall warn men against the worship of the beast and his image, the line will be clearly drawn between the false and the true. **Then** those who still continue in transgression will receive the mark of the beast in their foreheads or in their hands. *Bible Training School*, February 2, 1913.

“when the decree shall go forth”

The testing time begins at the Sunday law:

“But **when the decree shall go forth** enforcing the counterfeit Sabbath, and **when** the loud cry of the third angel shall warn men against the worship of the beast and his image, the line will be clearly drawn between the false and the true. **Then** those who still continue in transgression will receive the mark of the beast in their foreheads or in their hands. *Bible Training School*, February 2, 1913.

“their character will remain for eternity”

At the Sunday law test, probation closes:

“What are you doing, brethren, in the great work of preparation? Those who are uniting with the world are receiving **the worldly mold** and **preparing for the mark of the beast**. Those who are distrustful of self, who are humbling themselves before God and purifying their souls by obeying the truth these are receiving **the heavenly mold** and **preparing for the seal of God** in their foreheads. **When the decree goes forth** and the stamp is impressed, **their character will remain pure and spotless for eternity.**” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 216.

“character will be revealed”

There is a day in prophecy where character is revealed:

“But the day is coming, and it is close upon us, **when every phase of character will be revealed by special temptation. Those who remain true to principle, who exercise faith to the end, will be those who have proved true under test and trial during the previous hours of their probation**, and have formed characters after the likeness of Christ. It will be those who have cultivated close acquaintance with Christ, who, through his wisdom and grace, are partakers of the divine nature. But no human being can give to another, heart-devotion and noble qualities of mind, and supply his deficiencies with moral power. We can each do much for each other by giving to men a Christlike example, thus influencing them to go to Christ for the righteousness without which they cannot stand in the judgment. Men should prayerfully consider the important matter of character-building, and frame their characters after the divine model.” *The Youth’s Instructor*, January 16, 1896.

“revealed by a crisis”

Character is revealed by a crisis:

“**Character is revealed by a crisis.** When the earnest voice proclaimed at midnight, ‘Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him,’ the sleeping virgins **roused** from their slumbers, and it was seen who had made preparation for the event. Both parties were taken unawares, but one was prepared for the emergency, and the other was found without preparation. **Character is revealed by circumstances.** Emergencies bring out the true metal of character. **Some sudden and unlooked-for calamity, bereavement, or crisis, some unexpected sickness or anguish, something that brings the soul face to face with death, will bring out the true inwardness of the character.** It will be made manifest whether or not there is any real faith in the promises of the word of God. It will be made manifest whether or not the soul is sustained by grace, whether there is oil in the vessel with the lamp.” *Review and Herald*, October 17, 1895.

“a great crisis”

The Sunday law is the great crisis of Bible prophecy where character is revealed:

“**A great crisis** awaits the people of God. **A crisis** awaits the world. The most momentous struggle of all the ages is just before us. Events which for more than forty years we have upon the authority of the prophetic word declared to be impending are now taking place before our eyes. Already the question of an amendment to the Constitution restricting liberty of conscience has been urged upon the legislators of

the nation. The question of enforcing Sunday observance has become one of national interest and importance. We well know what the result of this movement will be. But are we ready for the issue? Have we faithfully discharged the duty which God has committed to us of giving the people warning of the danger before them?" *Testimonies*, volume 5, 711.

"Those who are making an effort to change the Constitution and secure a law enforcing Sunday observance little realize what will be the result. A crisis is just upon us." *Ibid.*, 753.

"when Sunday is exalted"

Character will be made manifest at the Sunday law:

"When the law of God is being made void, when His name is dishonored, when it is considered disloyal to the laws of the land to keep the seventh day as the Sabbath, when wolves in sheep's clothing, through blindness of mind and hardness of heart, are seeking to compel the conscience, shall we give up our loyalty to God? No, no. The wrongdoer is filled with a Satanic hatred against those who are loyal to the commandments of God, but the value of God's law as a rule of conduct must be made manifest. The zeal of those who obey the Lord will be increased as the world and the church unite in making void the law. They will say with the Psalmist, 'I love thy commandments above gold; yea above fine gold' [Psalm 119:127]. This is what will be sure to occur when the law of God is made void by a national act. When Sunday is exalted and sustained by law, then the principle that actuates the people of God will be made manifest, as the principle of the three Hebrews was made manifest when Nebuchadnezzar commanded them to worship the golden image in the plain of Dura. We can see what our duty is when the truth is overborne by falsehood." *Manuscript Releases*, volume 13, 71.

"yield to the powers that be"

The church is purified at the Sunday law:

"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." *Review and Herald*, April 27, 1911.

"must have decision now"

Our choice for or against the seal of God is made before the Sunday law:

"Said the angel, 'Deny self; ye must step fast.' Some of us have had time to get the truth and to advance step by step, and every step we have taken has given us strength to take the next. But now time is almost finished, and what we have been years learning, they will have to learn in a few months. They will also have much to unlearn and much to learn again. **Those who would not receive the mark of the beast and his image when the decree goes forth, must have decision now** to say, *Nay*, we will not regard the institution of the beast." *Early Writings*, 67.

"then the latter rain"

The latter rain falls upon those who are sealed:

"Not one of us will ever receive the seal of God while our characters have one spot or stain upon them. It is left with us to remedy the defects in our characters, to cleanse the soul temple of every defilement. **Then the latter rain will fall upon us** as the early rain fell upon the disciples on the Day of Pentecost.

"What are you doing, brethren, in the great work of preparation? Those who are uniting with the world are receiving the worldly mold and preparing for the mark of the beast. Those who are distrustful of self, who are humbling themselves before God and purifying their souls by obeying the truth these are

receiving the heavenly mold and preparing for the seal of God in their foreheads. **When the decree goes forth and the stamp is impressed, their character will remain pure and spotless for eternity.**

“Now is the time to prepare. **The seal of God will never be placed upon the forehead of an impure man or woman.** It will never be placed upon the forehead of the ambitious, world-loving man or woman. It will never be placed upon the forehead of men or women of false tongues or deceitful hearts. **All who receive the seal must be without spot before God—candidates for heaven.** Go forward, my brethren and sisters. I can only write briefly upon these points at this time, merely calling your attention to the necessity of preparation. Search the Scriptures for yourselves, that you may understand **the fearful solemnity of the present hour.**” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 214–216.

“the times of refreshing”

The latter rain is the refreshing:

“The great work of the gospel is not to close with less manifestation of the power of God than marked its opening. The prophecies which were fulfilled in the outpouring of the former rain at the opening of the gospel are again to be fulfilled in the latter rain at its close. Here are **‘the times of refreshing’** to which the apostle Peter looked forward when he said: ‘Repent ye therefore, and be converted, **that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come** from the presence of the Lord; and He shall send Jesus.’ Acts 3:19–20.” *The Great Controversy*, 611–612.

“the presence of the Lord”

The refreshing is the presence of the Lord:

“The refreshing is coming from the presence of the Lord. Let us set our hearts in order that **the truth of God** may live in us; that it **may purify us, ready to receive the latter rain.**” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 8, 228.

“blotted out when the times of refreshing come”

The refreshing comes when our sins are blotted out:

“Thus will be realized the complete fulfillment of the new-covenant promise: **‘I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.’** **‘In those days, and in that time,** saith the Lord, the iniquity of Israel shall be sought for, and **there shall be none;** and the sins of Judah, and they shall not be found.’ Jeremiah 31:34; 50:20. ‘In that day shall the branch of the Lord be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth shall be excellent and comely for them that are escaped of Israel. And it shall come to pass, that **he that is left in Zion, and he that remaineth in Jerusalem, shall be called holy,** even everyone that is written **among the living** in Jerusalem.’ Isaiah 4:2–3.

“**‘The work of the investigative judgment and the blotting out of sins is to be accomplished before the second advent of the Lord.** Since the dead are to be judged out of the things written in the books, it is impossible that the sins of men should be blotted out until after **the judgment at which their cases are to be investigated.** But the apostle Peter **distinctly states** that the sins of believers will be blotted out **‘when the times of refreshing shall come** from the presence of the Lord; and He shall send Jesus Christ.’ Acts 3:19–20.” *The Great Controversy*, 485.

“the mighty angel will come down’ is the refreshing”

The fourth angel’s message takes place at the outpouring of the latter rain—when our sins are blotted out:

“I have **no specific time** of which to speak when the outpouring of the Holy Spirit will take place—when the mighty angel will come down from heaven, and unite with the third angel in closing up the work for this world; my message is that our only safety is in being ready for **the heavenly refreshing,**

having **our lamps trimmed and burning**. Christ has told us to watch; ‘for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh.’ ‘Watch and pray’ is the charge that is given us by our Redeemer. Day by day we are to seek the enlightenment of the Spirit of God, that it may do its office work upon the soul and character. O, how much time has been wasted through giving attention to trifling things. **Repent and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.**” *Selected Messages*, book 1, 192.

“The world can only be warned”

The world can only be warned by seeing people with the seal of God:

“The work of the Holy Spirit is to convince the world of sin, of righteousness and of judgment. **The world can only be warned** by seeing those who believe the truth sanctified through the truth, acting upon high and holy principles, showing in a high, elevated sense, the line of demarcation between those who keep the commandments of God, and those who trample them under their feet. The sanctification of the Spirit signalizes **the difference between those who have the seal of God**, and those who keep a spurious rest-day. **When** the test comes, it will be clearly shown what the mark of the beast is. It is the keeping of Sunday. Those who after having heard the truth, continue to regard this day as holy, bear the signature of the man of sin, who thought to change times and laws.” *Bible Training School*, December 1, 1903.

“while the door is closed”

Probation closes for Adventists first:

“Many who have known the truth have corrupted their way before God and have departed from the faith. **The broken ranks will be filled up by those represented by Christ as coming in at the eleventh hour.** There are **many with whom the Spirit of God is striving**. The time of God’s destructive judgments is the time of mercy for those who have no opportunity to learn what is truth. Tenderly will the Lord look upon them. His heart of mercy is touched; His hand is still stretched out to save, while the door is closed to those who would not enter. Large numbers will be admitted who in these last days hear the truth for the first time.” *This Day With God*, 163.

“they would shut the gates of the Holy City against themselves”

Probation closes progressively:

“I saw that the holy Sabbath is, and will be, the separating wall between the true Israel of God and unbelievers; and that the Sabbath is the great question, to unite the hearts of God’s dear waiting saints. And if one believed, and kept the Sabbath, and received the blessing attending it, and then gave it up, and broke the holy commandment, they would shut the gates of the Holy City against themselves, as sure as there was a God that rules in heaven above. I saw that God had children, who do not see and keep the Sabbath. They had not rejected the light on it. And at the commencement of the time of trouble, we were filled with the Holy Ghost as we went forth and proclaimed the Sabbath more fully. This enraged the church, and nominal Adventists, as they could not refute the Sabbath truth. And at this time, God’s chosen, all saw clearly that we had the truth, and they came out and endured the persecution with us.” *A Word to the Little Flock*, 18–19.

“will take the places of those”

“There are **diligent students of the word of prophecy** in all parts of the world, who are obtaining light and still greater light from searching the Scriptures. This is true of all nations, of all tribes, and all peoples. These will come from the grossest error, and **will take the places of those who have had opportunities and privileges and have not prized them**. These have worked out their own salvation with fear and trembling lest they become deficient in doing the ways and will of God, while those who

have great light, have, through perversity of their own natural hearts, turned away from Christ because displeased with the requirements.

“But God will not be left without witness. **The one-hour laborers will be brought in at the eleventh hour**, and will consecrate ability and all their entrusted means to advance the work. These will receive the reward for their faithfulness, because they are true to principle and shun not their duty to declare the whole counsel of God. **When** those who have had abundance of light throw off the restraint which the Word of God imposes, and make void His law, others will come in to fill their place, and **take their crown**. . . .

“Great is the work of the Lord. Men are choosing sides. Even **those supposed to be heathen** will choose the side of Christ, while those who become offended, as did the disciples, will go away and walk no more with Him. And others will come in and occupy the place they have left vacant. The time is very near when man shall have reached the prescribed limits. . . The record of their works in the books of heaven is ‘Weighed in the balances, and found wanting.’” *Testimonies to Southern Africa*, 50–51.

“I saw that God had children who do not see and keep the Sabbath. They have not rejected the light upon it. And at the commencement of the time of trouble, we were filled with the Holy Ghost as we went forth and proclaimed the Sabbath more fully. This enraged the churches and nominal Adventists, as they could not refute the Sabbath truth. And at this time **God’s chosen all saw clearly that we had the truth, and they came out and endured the persecution with us**. I saw the sword, famine, pestilence, and great confusion in the land. The wicked thought that we had brought the judgments upon them, and they rose up and took counsel to rid the earth of us, thinking that then the evil would be stayed.” *Early Writings*, 33.

“the holy Sabbath is ... the separating wall”

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

“This view was given in 1847 when there were but very few of the Advent brethren observing the Sabbath, and of these but few supposed that its observance was of sufficient importance to draw a line between the people of God and unbelievers. Now the fulfillment of that view is beginning to be seen. ‘The commencement of that time of trouble,’ here mentioned does not refer to the time when the plagues shall begin to be poured out, but to a short period just before they are poured out, **while Christ is in the sanctuary**. At that time, **while the work of salvation is closing**, trouble will be coming on the earth, and the nations will be angry, yet held in check **so as not to prevent the work of the third angel**. **At that time the ‘latter rain,’ or refreshing from the presence of the Lord, will come, to give power to the loud voice of the third angel**, and prepare the saints to stand in the period when the seven last plagues shall be poured out.” *Early Writings*, 85–86.

“as judgment passes upon the house of God”

“Angels keep a faithful record of every man’s work, and as judgment passes upon the house of God, the sentence of each is recorded by his name, and the angel is commissioned to spare not **the unfaithful servants**, but to cut them down **at the time of slaughter**. And that which was committed to their trust is taken from them. Their earthly treasure is then swept away, and they have lost all. And the crowns they might have worn, had they been faithful, are put upon the heads of **those saved by the faithful servants** whose means was constantly in use for God.” *Testimonies*, volume 1, 198.

“shaken out”

“**The numbers of this company had lessened.** Some had been shaken out and left by the way. The careless and indifferent, who did not join with those who prized victory and salvation enough to perseveringly plead and agonize for it, did not obtain it, and they were left behind in darkness, and **their places were immediately filled by others taking hold of the truth and coming into the ranks.** Evil angels still pressed around them, but could have no power over them.

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

“in every religious crisis”

The gold and the dross is separated at the Sunday law:

“I was pointed to the providence of God among His people and was shown that every trial made by the refining, purifying process upon professed Christians proves some to be dross. The fine gold does not always appear. In every religious crisis some fall under temptation. **The shaking of God blows away multitudes like dry leaves.** Prosperity multiplies a mass of professors. Adversity purges them out of the church. As a class, their spirits are not steadfast with God. They go out from us because they are not of us; for when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, many are offended.” *Testimonies*, volume 4, 89.

Summary

Probation closes for Adventists at the Sunday law test, for they will be held accountable for the light of the Sabbath. Daniel 11:41 is identifying that probation is about to close for Seventh-day Adventists. Probation first closes in the United States, and then, in every other country of the world as they follow the example of the United States.

The Lord promised to do nothing, except he would forewarn his people through prophecy (Amos 3:7). Daniel 11:40–45 is that forewarning for God’s people about the most serious testing time in sacred history.

When God’s people are portrayed in prophecy at the end of the world they are always portrayed as spiritually asleep. In Ezekiel 37, they are symbolized as a valley of dry bones. The Laodiceans in Revelation three, believe Christ is abiding within, when he is outside. Daniel 11:40–45 is the startling message of prophecy that awakens God’s people to their condition, while also bringing the serious implications of both the need of preparation and the punishment for not preparing.

God’s church is purified at the Sunday law. Those who receive the seal of God proclaim the final warning message to men and women outside of Adventism. Those men and women are then judged by the Sabbath and Sunday question—and as they choose for or against the truth, they also close their probation.