

Three Fold Test

2520 – Scattered and Gathered

Hosea 6:1 Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up.

Three Messages raise us up

6:2 After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.

Fourth Angel - Outpouring

6:3 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.

Three Fold Work

John 16:8 And when he is come, he will reprove the world of **sin**, and of **righteousness**, and of **judgment**:

Three Fold Work

Daniel 12:10 Many shall be **purified**, and **made white**, and **tried**; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.

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Jesus

Beginning of His ministry – Three fold test

- The three fold test begins shortly after the dove ascends
- Forty days – The same time period that Moses was in the presence of God on the mount – The Wilderness Wandering years
- 1st – Appetite and Passion
- 2nd – Presumption – Claiming Gods care and blessing while in a state of disobedience

- 3rd – Love of the world – Love of riches and covetousness or worldly vanities or pleasures
- After Christ gets the victory He cleanses the temple this is the 1st temple cleansing and begins His ministry

End of His ministry – Three fold test

Gethsemane is the symbol of the three fold test at the end of the world.

- After the triumphal entry but before Gethsemane Christ cleanses the temple. This is the 2nd temple cleansing and ends His ministry
- The Disciples slept they represent the foolish virgins and experience a three fold test as well and at the third test are scattered
- Christ represents the wise virgins He goes through a three fold test as well
- The disciples and Christ represent the two classes of worshiper in Gods church at the end of the world
- Two classes of worshiper are separated spiritually at the second test this separation is manifested at the third test with a physical separation as is illustrated at the scenes during the Gethsemane trial. Character is developed during the second test and is manifested at the third test
- Through each test Christ exclaims not my will but thine be done
- There is a cup that has to be drained to the dregs during Gethsemane
- There are two cups at the end of the world the cup of Babylon and the mark of the beast and the cup of obedience and righteousness
- A mighty angel comes down to empower the work of Christ
- After the third test the three fold union comes together to persecute Christ who represents Gods remnant at the end of the world

Christ's Day – Pentecost – Three Fold Testing Process

I was pointed back to the proclamation of the first advent of Christ. John was sent in the spirit and power of Elijah to prepare the way of Jesus. Those who rejected the testimony of John were not benefited by the teachings of Jesus. Their opposition to the message that foretold His coming placed them where they could not readily receive the strongest evidence that He was the Messiah. Satan led on those who rejected the message of John to go still farther, to reject and crucify Christ. In doing this they placed themselves where they could not receive the blessing on the day of Pentecost, which would have taught them the way into the heavenly sanctuary. The rending of the veil of the temple showed that the Jewish sacrifices and ordinances would no longer be received. The great Sacrifice had been offered and had been accepted, and the Holy Spirit which descended on the day of Pentecost carried the minds of the disciples from the earthly sanctuary to the heavenly, where Jesus had entered by His own blood, to shed upon His disciples the benefits of His atonement. But the **Jews were left in total darkness**. They lost all the light which they might have had upon the plan of salvation, and still trusted in their useless sacrifices and offerings. The heavenly sanctuary had taken the place of the earthly, yet **they had no knowledge of the change. Therefore they could not be benefited by the mediation of Christ in the holy place.** {EW 259.1}

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Three and one combination – Adam, Eve ,Christ – Abel

A SACRED TRUTH: TWO CLASSES

And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. Genesis 3:15.

“Cain and Abel represent two classes that will exist in the world till the close of time.”
Patriarchs & Prophets, 72.

“Leading thus from the natural to the spiritual kingdom, Christ’s parables are links in the chain of truth that unites man with God, and earth with heaven.” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, 17.23

- Wheat & Tares: Matthew 13:24-43
- The Net (Wicked & Just): Matthew 13:47-50
- Wise Man & The Foolish Man: Matthew 7:24-27
- The Rich Man & Lazarus: Luke 16:19-31
- The Wedding Feast: Matthew 22:1-14

“The Pharisee and the publican represent two great classes into which those who come to worship God are divided. Their first two representatives are found in the first two children that were born into the world.” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, 152.

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Peter – Represents Two Classes

TWO CLASSES IN THE HISTORY OF PETER

“For each of the classes represented by the Pharisee and the publican there is a lesson in the history of the apostle Peter. In his early discipleship Peter thought himself strong. Like the Pharisee, in his own estimation he was ‘not as other men are.’ When Christ on the eve of His betrayal forewarned His disciples, ‘All ye shall be offended because of Me this night,’ Peter confidently declared, ‘Although all shall be offended, yet will not I.’ Mark 14:27, 29. Peter did not know his own danger. Self-confidence misled him. He thought himself able to withstand temptation; but in a few short hours the test came, and with cursing and swearing he denied his Lord.” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, 152.

But Peter said unto him, Although all shall be offended, yet *will* not I. And Jesus saith unto him, Verily I say unto thee, That this day, *even* in this night, before the cock crow twice, thou shalt deny me thrice. Mark 14:29, 30.

“The evil that led to Peter’s fall and that shut out the Pharisee from communion with God is proving the ruin of thousands today. There is nothing so offensive to God or so dangerous to the human soul as pride and self-sufficiency. Of all sins it is the most hopeless, the most incurable. “Peter’s fall was not instantaneous, but gradual.” *A New Life*, 41.

For God speaketh once, yea twice, *yet man* perceiveth it not. Job 33:14.

“Self-confidence led him to the belief that he was saved, and step after step was taken in the downward path, until he could deny his Master. Never can we safely put confidence in self or feel, this side of heaven, that we are secure against temptation. Those who accept the Saviour, however sincere their conversion, should never be taught to say or to feel that they are saved. This is misleading. Every one should be taught to cherish hope and faith; but even when we give ourselves to Christ and know that He accepts us, we are not beyond the reach of temptation. God’s word declares, ‘Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried.’ Daniel 12:10. Only he who endures the trial will receive the crown of life. (James 1:12.)”
Christ’s Object Lessons, 154, 155.24

- First Message = “Purified”
- Second Message = “Made White”
- Third Message = “Tried”

Three fold test – Unrighteousness

“When the crowing of the cock reminded him of the words of Christ, surprised and shocked at what he had just done he turned and looked at his Master. At that moment Christ looked at Peter, and beneath that grieved look, in which compassion and love for him were blended, Peter understood himself. He went out and wept bitterly. That look of Christ’s broke his heart. Peter had come to the turning point, and bitterly did he repent his sin. He was like the publican in his contrition and repentance, and like the publican he found mercy. The look of Christ assured him of pardon. “Now his self-confidence was gone. Never again were the old boastful assertions repeated. “Christ after His resurrection thrice tested Peter. ‘Simon, son of Jonas,’ He said, ‘lovest thou Me more than these?’ Peter did not now exalt himself above his brethren. He appealed to the One who could read His heart. ‘Lord,’ he said, ‘Thou knowest all things; Thou knowest that I love Thee.’ John 21:15, 17.

Three fold test – Righteousness – Feed my sheep

So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, *son* of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. He saith to him again the second time, Simon, *son* of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, *son* of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep. John 21:15–17.

“Then he received his commission. A work broader and more delicate than had heretofore been his was appointed him. Christ bade him feed the sheep and the lambs. In thus committing to his stewardship the souls for whom the Saviour had laid down his own life, Christ gave to Peter the strongest proof of confidence in his restoration. The once restless, boastful, self-confident disciple had become subdued and contrite. Henceforth he followed his Lord in self-denial and self-sacrifice. He was a partaker of Christ’s sufferings; and when Christ shall sit upon the throne of His glory, Peter will be a partaker in His glory.” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, 153, 154.

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Balaam – Blessing and a curse – Three Fold Test

Numbers 22 – 25:9 – Balaam

Numbers 22:1-20 Balaam receives two messages to curse Gods people

Three Fold Test

- Two servants Balaam and the Angel represent a three and one combination
- Two servants represent the Second message (Revelation 18)
- Each test is more close and decided than the one that proceeds it
- The Ass talks (a sign) after Balaam's three attempts to restrain it
- The Angel restrains the ass three times
- The Ass is a blessing and a curse (Balaam is deterred and his foot crushed).
- Balaam's eyes are opened to see the Angel after the three fold test is finished
- Gods people eyes are opened after the third test at the end of the world
- Balaam falls on his face in humility Gods people fall on the rock and are broken.
- The Angel talks with Balaam and empowers him to give the three prophetic messages followed by a fourth prophetic message

1. **1AM - Field** [Numbers 22:23](#) Field is a symbol of the **world** [Matthew 13:8](#)
2. **2AM - Vineyard** [Numbers 22:24-25](#) Vineyard is a symbol of the **church** [Jeremiah 12:10](#); [Matthew 21:33-41](#); [Mark 12:1-9](#); [Luke 20:9-16](#); [Luke 13:6-7](#); [Matthew 21:19-20](#) **Notice** [Mark12:1-9](#) and [Luke 20:9-16](#) **you see three sent out then the Son is number four a three and one.**
3. **3AM – Angel with drawn sword *Judgment** [Numbers 22:31-34](#) – **In a narrow place** [Numbers 22:26](#); [2 Peter 2:15-16](#); [Isaiah 26:11](#)

The three fold test – The ass speaks the angel comes down

Numbers 22: ²¹ And Balaam rose up in the morning, and saddled his ass, and went with the princes of Moab. ²² And God's anger was kindled because he went: and the angel of the LORD stood in the way for an adversary against him. Now he was riding upon his ass, and his two servants [were] with him. ²³ And the ass saw the angel of the LORD standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and the ass turned aside out of the way, and went into the field: and Balaam smote the ass, to turn her into the way. ²⁴ But the angel of the LORD stood in a path of the vineyards, a wall [being] on this side, and a wall on that side. ²⁵ And when the ass saw the angel of the LORD, she thrust herself unto the wall, and crushed Balaam's foot against the wall: and he smote her again. ²⁶ And the angel of the LORD went further, and stood in a narrow place, where [was] no way to turn either to the right hand or to the left. ²⁷ And when the ass saw the angel of the LORD, she fell down under Balaam: and Balaam's anger was kindled, and he smote the ass with a staff. ²⁸ And the LORD opened the mouth of the ass, and she said unto Balaam, What have I done unto thee, that thou hast smitten me these three times? ²⁹ And Balaam said unto the ass, Because thou hast mocked me: I would there were a sword in mine hand, for

now would I kill thee. ³⁰ And the ass said unto Balaam, [Am] not I thine ass, upon which thou hast ridden ever since [I was] thine unto this day? was I ever wont to do so unto thee? And he said, Nay. ³¹ Then the LORD opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel of the LORD standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and he bowed down his head, and fell flat on his face. ³² And the angel of the LORD said unto him, Wherefore hast thou smitten thine ass these three times? behold, I went out to withstand thee, because [thy] way is perverse before me: ³³ And the ass saw me, and turned from me these three times: unless she had turned from me, surely now also I had slain thee, and saved her alive. ³⁴ And Balaam said unto the angel of the LORD, I have sinned; for I knew not that thou stoodest in the way against me: now therefore, if it displease thee, I will get me back again. ³⁵ And the angel of the LORD said unto Balaam, Go with the men: but only the word that I shall speak unto thee, that thou shalt speak. So Balaam went with the princes of Balak.

Balaam is from the mountains of the east

Numbers 23 ⁷ And he took up his parable, and said, Balak the king of Moab hath brought me from Aram, out of **the mountains of the east**, [saying], Come, curse me Jacob, and come, defy Israel.

The first blessing

Numbers 23 ⁸How shall I curse, whom God hath not cursed? or how shall I defy, [whom] the LORD hath not defied? ⁹For from the top of the rocks I see him, and from the hills I behold him: lo, the people shall dwell alone, and shall not be reckoned among the nations. ¹⁰Who can count the dust of Jacob, and the number of the fourth [part] of Israel? Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his!

The second blessing

Numbers 23 ¹⁸ And he took up his parable, and said, Rise up, Balak, and hear; hearken unto me, thou son of Zippor: ¹⁹ God [is] not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do [it]? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good? ²⁰ Behold, I have received [commandment] to bless: and he hath blessed; and I cannot reverse it. ²¹ He hath not beheld iniquity in Jacob, neither hath he seen perverseness in Israel: the LORD his God [is] with him, and the shout of a king [is] among them. ²² God brought them out of Egypt; he hath as it were the strength of an unicorn. ²³ Surely [there is] no enchantment against Jacob, neither [is there] any divination against Israel: according to this time it shall be said of Jacob and of Israel, What hath God wrought! ²⁴ Behold, the people shall rise up as a great lion, and lift up himself as a young lion: he shall not lie down until he eat [of] the prey, and drink the blood of the slain.

The third blessing

Numbers 24 ² And Balaam lifted up his eyes, and he saw Israel abiding [in his tents] according to their tribes; and the spirit of God came upon him. ³ And he took up his parable, and said, Balaam the son of Beor hath said, and the man whose eyes are open hath said: ⁴ He hath said, which heard the words of God, which saw the vision of the Almighty, falling [into a trance], but having his eyes open: ⁵ How goodly are thy tents, O

Jacob, [and] thy tabernacles, O Israel! ⁶ As the valleys are they spread forth, as gardens by the river's side, as the trees of lign aloes which the LORD hath planted, [and] as cedar trees beside the waters. ⁷ He shall pour the water out of his buckets, and his seed [shall be] in many waters, and his king shall be higher than Agag, and his kingdom shall be exalted. ⁸ God brought him forth out of Egypt; he hath as it were the strength of an unicorn: he shall eat up the nations his enemies, and shall break their bones, and pierce [them] through with his arrows. ⁹ He couched, he lay down as a lion, and as a great lion: who shall stir him up? Blessed [is] he that blesseth thee, and cursed [is] he that curseth thee.

The fourth blessing

Numbers 24 ¹⁴ And now, behold, I go unto my people: come [therefore, and] I will advertise thee what this people shall do to thy people in the latter days. ¹⁵ And he took up his parable, and said, Balaam the son of Beor hath said, and the man whose eyes are open hath said: ¹⁶ He hath said, which heard the words of God, and knew the knowledge of the most High, [which] saw the vision of the Almighty, falling [into a trance], but having his eyes open: ¹⁷ I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel, and shall smite the corners of Moab, and destroy all the children of Sheth. ¹⁸ And Edom shall be a possession, Seir also shall be a possession for his enemies; and Israel shall do valiantly. ¹⁹ Out of Jacob shall come he that shall have dominion, and shall destroy him that remaineth of the city. ²⁰ And when he looked on Amalek, he took up his parable, and said, Amalek [was] the first of the nations; but his latter end [shall be] that he perish for ever. ²¹ And he looked on the Kenites, and took up his parable, and said, Strong is thy dwellingplace, and thou puttest thy nest in a rock. ²² Nevertheless the Kenite shall be wasted, until Asshur shall carry thee away captive. ²³ And he took up his parable, and said, Alas, who shall live when God doeth this! ²⁴ And ships [shall come] from the coast of Chittim, and shall afflict Asshur, and shall afflict Eber, and he also shall perish for ever. ²⁵ And Balaam rose up, and went and returned to his place: and Balak also went his way.

Chapter 25 – Balaam and Balak join to destroy Gods people with the Women – Three Fold Enemy

- Balaam – Beast
- Balak – Dragon
- Women – False Prophet

Numbers 25 ¹ And Israel abode in Shittim, and the people began to commit whoredom with the daughters of Moab. ² And they called the people unto the sacrifices of their gods: and the people did eat, and bowed down to their gods. ³ And Israel joined himself unto Baalpeor: and the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel. ⁴ And the LORD said unto Moses, Take all the heads of the people, and hang them up before the LORD against the sun, that the fierce anger of the LORD may be turned away from Israel. ⁵ And Moses said unto the judges of Israel, Slay ye every one his men that were joined unto Baalpeor.

⁶ And, behold, one of the children of Israel came and brought unto his brethren a Midianitish woman in the sight of Moses, and in the sight of all the congregation of the children of Israel, who [were] weeping [before] the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. ⁷ And when Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, saw [it], he rose up from among the congregation, and took a javelin in his hand; ⁸ And he went after the man of Israel into the tent, and thrust both of them through, the man of Israel, and the woman through her belly. So the plague was stayed from the children of Israel. ⁹ And those that died in the plague were twenty and four thousand.

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Egypt – Moses and Aaron’s First Three Plagues – Seven Plagues

Exodus		
• Water to Blood	– Sin	Exodus 1:15-22 - Male children
• Frogs	– Streams, Rivers Ponds	Rev 16:13-16 Frogs - Kings
• Lice	– Judgment	Exodus 8:18-19

Aaron Administers the First Three Plagues – The Magicians Counterfeit Only Two – The Third Plague of Lice is a Judgment – Magicians Can’t Counterfeit

Exodus 8:²² And I will sever in that day the land of Goshen, in which my people dwell, that no swarms [of flies] shall be there; to the end thou mayest know that I [am] the LORD in the midst of the earth.

8: ²³And I will put a division between my people and thy people: to morrow shall this sign be.

Ezekiel 29:3 Speak, and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I [am] against thee, Pharaoh king of Egypt, the great dragon that lieth in the midst of his rivers, which hath said, My river [is] mine own, and I have made [it] for myself.

Pharaoh – Dragon, Servants all the land of Egypt – Beast , False Prophet (Jannes & Jambres 2nd Timothy 3:8)

- Pharaoh – Beast
- Servants – False Prophet
- Egypt – Dragon

²⁴And the LORD did so; and there came a grievous swarm of flies into the house of Pharaoh, and into his servants' houses, and into all the land of Egypt: the land was corrupted by reason of the swarm of flies.

Dragon Power – Police Power

²⁶And Moses said, It is not meet so to do; for we shall sacrifice the abomination of the Egyptians to the LORD our God: lo, shall we sacrifice the abomination of the Egyptians before their eyes, and will they not stone us?

Three Frogs – After The Sixth Plague but before the Seventh

Revelation 16:13 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.

16:14 For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, [which] go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

16:15 Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed [is] he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.

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The Elijah – Elisha sequence

The Open and Shut Door – Jews that are not, worship at the feet – The Sealing:

Revelation 3:7-13 3:7 And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the **key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;** 8 I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name. 9 Behold, **I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie;** behold, I will make them to come and **worship before thy feet**, and to know that I have loved thee. 10 Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, **I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.** 11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown. 12 Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and **he shall go no more out:** and I will write upon him the **name of my God**, and the name of the **city of my God**, [which is] new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and [I will write upon him] **my new name. (the seal is three fold)** 13 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

3 Tarrying times – Three fold test for Elisha As Elisha accompanied the prophet on his round of service from school to school, his faith and resolution were once more tested. At **Gilgal**, and again at **Bethel** and **Jericho**, he was invited by the prophet to turn back. {PK 225.2}

Gilgal–Rolling Away: Joshua 4:18-24; 5:9-15; Bethel–House of God; Jericho–A type of modern Babylon

Bethel – The Lord sends His People the message first after the rolling away – The 2nd of 3 Tarrying times

Judges 6:25-32, 1st Samuel 3-4, Jews then Babylon Judged, Jews first then Gentiles
2nd Kings 2:1-3 And it came to pass, when the LORD would take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal. Circumcision 2 And Elijah

said unto Elisha, **Tarry here, I pray thee**; for the LORD hath sent me to Bethel. And Elisha said [unto him, As] the LORD liveth, and [as] thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they went down to Bethel. (Bethel=house of God) 3 And the **sons of the prophets** that [were] at Bethel came forth to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy master from thy head to day? And he said, Yea, I know [it]; hold ye your peace.

Jericho – After the Lord sends His people the message it goes to the People outside the church. The 3rd of 3 Tarrying times symbol of the twelve virgins (Philadelphia-Laodicea)

Judges 6:33-Chapter 7, 1st Samuel 3-4, Jews then Babylon Judged, Jews - Gentiles

2nd Kings 2:4-5 4 And Elijah said unto him, Elisha, **tarry here, I pray thee**; for the LORD hath sent me to Jericho. And he said, [As] the LORD liveth, and [as] thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they came to Jericho. 5 And the **sons of the prophets** that [were] at Jericho came to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy master from thy head to day? And he answered, Yea, I know [it]; hold ye your peace.

The approach of the third message – During the 2nd test there is a separation of classes. The muddy Jordan river represents Christ the door Ex 4:1-9(3 signs), Ex 7:10, 2nd Kings 5

2nd Kings 2:6 And Elijah said unto him, Tarry, I pray thee, here; for the LORD hath sent me to Jordan. And he said, [As] the LORD liveth, and [as] thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. And **they two went on**.

Fifty stood to view afar off – No Sons of the prophets, the majority outside – Two worshipers manifested

2nd Kings 2:7 And fifty men of the **sons of the prophets** went, and stood to view afar off: and they two stood by Jordan.

Christ – 1st Closed door message – Temple cleansing process begun – The shaking

2nd Kings 2:8 And Elijah took his mantle, and wrapped [it] together, and smote the waters, and they were divided hither and thither, so that they two went over on dry ground.

A Double portion of the Spirit – The sprinkling of the Holy Spirit – Elisha required to see the fire from heaven before he is given the double portion

2nd Kings 2:9-10 9 And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me. 10 And he said, Thou hast asked a hard thing: [nevertheless], if thou **see** me [when I am] taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee; but if not, it shall not be [so]. (required to see)

Fire, Chariot and Horses – Islam = Horses, Fire = Outpouring of Holy Spirit, Chariot = Christ – Elisha receives the double portion Fire from Heaven after he

rends his heart – Mighty Angel comes down to empower – Elisha required to see 2nd test, Mantle symbol of grace

2nd Kings 2:11-13 And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, [there appeared] a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. 12 And Elisha **saw** [it], and he cried, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof. And he saw him no more: and he took hold of his own clothes, and **rent them in two pieces**. (Rending of the heart – Day of atonement experience) 13 He took up also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of Jordan;

Third test – 2nd Closed Door, Door won't close till there is a people who receive the double portion – Progressive Temple cleansing completed – Third message arrives – Progressive testing process

2nd Kings 2:14 And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, Where [is] the LORD God of Elijah? and when he also had smitten the waters, they parted hither and thither: and Elisha went over.

The fifty are a symbol of the foolish virgins - The wicked worship at the feet of the righteous

2nd Kings 2:15 And when the **sons of the prophets** which [were] to view at Jericho saw him, they said, The spirit of Elijah doth rest on Elisha. And they came to meet him, and bowed themselves to the ground before him.

Fifty Seek three days (three tests) but cant find – The door is closed – Foolish virgins shaken out at the third test go searching for oil and cant find it.

2nd Kings 2:16-18 16 And they said unto him, Behold now, there be with thy servants fifty strong men; let them go, we pray thee, and seek thy master: lest peradventure the spirit of the LORD hath taken him up, and cast him upon some mountain, or into some valley. **And he said, Ye shall not send.** 17 And when they urged him till he was ashamed, he said, Send. They sent therefore fifty men; and they sought **three days**, but found him not.

18 And when they came again to him, (for he **tarried at Jericho**,) he said unto them, **Did I not say unto you, Go not?** The lord conquered jericho

The cup of Babylon (Jericho) full of abominations – new cruse (new wine) double portion (outpouring of the Holy Spirit)

2nd Kings 2:19:20 19 And the men of the city said unto Elisha, Behold, I pray thee, the situation of this city [is] pleasant, as my lord seeth: but the water [is] nought, and the ground barren. 20 And he said, Bring me a new cruse, and put salt therein. And they brought [it] to him.

The salt (stone) being cast into the waters – 144,000 Illustrated – The waters healed (the people) Nations come in to the glorious Holy mountain, Edom Moab and Ammon. The land is healed as well the work of the three Angels is completed Daniel 11:40-45

2nd Kings 2:21 And he went forth unto the spring of the **waters**, and **cast the salt in there**, and said, **Thus saith the LORD, I have healed these waters; there shall not be from thence any more death or barren [land]**. Jeremiah 15:16; 51:63-64, Revelation 10:7-11; Revelation 18:21

2nd Kings 2:22 So the waters were healed unto this day, according to the saying of Elisha which he spake.

Forty Two Children Torn – Jezebel given time to repent and cast into the lake of fire

Revelation 2:20, 19:20 (lake of fire 1x) Beast and False Prophet , 20:10,14,15 (lake of fire 3x) Devil/Dragon, Beast and False Prophet

2nd Kings 2:23-25 23 And he went up from thence unto Bethel: and as he was going up by the way, there came forth little children out of the city, and mocked him, and said unto him, Go up, thou bald head; go up, thou bald head. 24 And he turned back, and looked on them, and cursed them in the name of the LORD. And there came forth two she bears out of the wood, and tare forty and two children of them. 25 And he went from thence to mount Carmel, and from thence he returned to Samaria.

Jezebels Children Revelation 2:23 And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works.

Resurrection Symbol 2nd Kings 13:21 – Elijah a symbol of Christ – By His death many will be raised

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Millerite

Early Writings 259-260

- The Three Fold Testing Process – Three Angels Messages
- These Messages are referred to as a platform
- Divide the Classes of Worshipers into Two Camps
- Using a Triple Application of Prophecy
- The Third Test Prepares the Worshiper to receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit
- Is a Life or Death testing Message

The Millerite Time Period—Three Tests

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. {EW 258.3}

Millerite Time Period – Three Fold Testing Process – Life or Death

The three fold test

Many look with horror at the course of the Jews in rejecting and crucifying Christ; and as they read the history of His shameful abuse, they think they love Him, and would not have denied Him as did Peter, or crucified Him as did the Jews. But God who reads the hearts of all, has brought to the test that love for Jesus which they professed to feel. All heaven watched with the deepest interest the reception of the first angel's message. But many who professed to love Jesus, and who shed tears as they read the story of the cross, derided the good news of His coming. Instead of receiving the message with gladness, they declared it to be a delusion. They hated those who loved His appearing and shut them out of the churches. **Those who rejected the first message could not be benefited by the second; neither were they benefited by the midnight cry, which was to prepare them to enter with Jesus by faith into the most holy place of the heavenly sanctuary.** And by rejecting the two former messages, they have so darkened their understanding that they can see no light in the third angel's message, which shows the way into the most holy place. I saw that as the Jews crucified Jesus, so the nominal churches had crucified these messages, and therefore they have no knowledge of the way into the most holy, and they cannot be benefited by the intercession of Jesus there. **Like the Jews, who offered their useless sacrifices, they offer up their useless prayers to the apartment which Jesus has left; and Satan, pleased with the deception, assumes a religious character, and leads the minds of these professed Christians to himself,** working with his power, his signs and lying wonders, to fasten them in his snare. Some he deceives in one way, and some in another. He has different delusions prepared to affect different minds. Some look with horror upon one deception, while they readily receive another. Satan deceives some with Spiritualism. He also comes as an angel of light and spreads his influence over the land by means of false reformations. The churches are elated, and consider that God is working marvelously for them, when it is the work of another spirit. The excitement will die away and leave the world and the church in a worse condition than before. {EW 260.1}

Father Give us of thy Spirit – End of the 2300 Days

I saw a throne, and on it sat the Father and the Son. I gazed on Jesus' countenance and admired His lovely person. The Father's person I could not behold, for a cloud of glorious light covered Him. I asked Jesus if His Father had a form like Himself. He said He had,

but I could not behold it, for said He, "If you should once behold the glory of His person, you would cease to exist." Before the throne I saw the Advent people--the church and the world. I saw two companies, one bowed down before the throne, **deeply interested**, while the other stood **uninterested and careless**. Those who were bowed before the throne would offer up their prayers and look to Jesus; then He would look to His Father, and appear to be pleading

55

with Him. A light would come from the Father to the Son and from the Son to the praying company. Then I saw an **exceeding bright light** come from the Father to the Son, and from the Son it waved over the people before the throne. **But few would receive this great light**. Many came out from under it and immediately resisted it; others were careless and did not cherish the light, and it moved off from them. Some cherished it, and went and bowed down with the little praying company. **This company all received the light and rejoiced in it, and their countenances shone with its glory.** {EW 54.2}

I saw the Father rise from the throne, [SEE PAGE 92.] and in a flaming chariot go into the holy of holies within the veil, and sit down. Then Jesus rose up from the throne, and the most of those who were bowed down arose with Him. I did not see one ray of light pass from Jesus to the careless multitude after He arose, **and they were left in perfect darkness**. Those who arose when Jesus did, kept their eyes fixed on Him as He left the throne and led them out a little way. Then He raised His right arm, and we heard His lovely voice saying, "Wait here; I am going to My Father to receive the kingdom; keep your garments spotless, and in a little while I will return from the wedding and receive you to Myself." Then a cloudy chariot, with wheels like flaming fire, surrounded by angels, came to where Jesus was. He stepped into the chariot and was borne to the holiest, where the Father sat. There I beheld Jesus, a great High Priest, standing before the Father. On the hem of His garment was a bell and a pomegranate, a bell and a pomegranate. Those who rose up with Jesus would send up their faith to Him in the holiest, and pray, "My Father, give us Thy Spirit." Then Jesus would breathe upon them the Holy Ghost. In that breath was light, power, and much love, joy, and peace. {EW 55.1}

I turned to look at the company who were still bowed before the throne; they did not know that Jesus had left it. Satan appeared to be by the throne, trying to carry on the work of God. I saw them look up to the throne, and pray, "Father, give us Thy Spirit." Satan would then breathe upon them an unholy influence; in it there was light and much power, but no sweet love, joy, and peace. Satan's object was to keep them deceived and to draw back and deceive God's children.

To be made forcible now

All the messages given from 1840-1844 are to be made forcible now, for there are many people who have lost their bearings. The messages are to go to all the churches. {21MR 437.1}

Christ said, "Blessed are your eyes, for they see; and your ears, for they hear. For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them" [Matthew 13:16, 17]. Blessed are the eyes which saw the things

that were seen in 1843 and 1844. {21MR 437.2}

The message was given. And there should be no delay in repeating the message, for the signs of the times are fulfilling; the closing work must be done. A great work will be done in a short time. A message will soon be given by God's appointment that will swell into a loud cry. Then Daniel will stand in his lot, to give his testimony. {21MR 437.3}

Wonderful manifestation of the power of God – Resisted and fought against

There is to be in the [Seventh-day Adventist] churches a wonderful manifestation of the power of God, but it will not move upon those who have not humbled themselves before the Lord, and opened the door of the heart by confession and repentance. In the manifestation of that power which lightens the earth with the glory of God, they will see only something which in their blindness they think dangerous, something which will arouse their fears, and they will brace themselves to resist it. Because the Lord does not work according to their ideas and expectations they will oppose the work. "Why," they say, "should we not know the Spirit of God, when we have been in the work so many years?"--RH Extra, Dec. 23, 1890. {LDE 209.3}

The third angel's message will not be comprehended, the light which will lighten the earth with its glory will be called a false light, by those who refuse to walk in its advancing glory.--RH May 27, 1890. {LDE 210.1}

The Messages of the fourth Angel

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, p. 300. (1885) {Ev 118.1}

The Test to Be Met

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 daytime we look toward heaven, but do not see stars. They are there, fixed in the firmament, but the eye cannot distinguish them. In the night we behold their genuine luster. {ChS 49.2}

The time is not far distant, when the test will come to every soul. . . . 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.--Testimonies, vol. 5, pp. 80,81. {ChS 49.3}

Millerites – Delineation of Events – 7 Thunders

1. 1798 Millerites Proclaim Rome – 1st Angels Message and is the antitype of 2nd Chronicles 35:20-24, 2nd Kings 23:29-35
2. The Message is Formalized in 1833 – Falling of the Stars
3. August 11, 1840 – The mighty Angel Comes Down to Empower the Message
4. 1st – Closed Door Message – June 1842 – Protestant Churches become Babylon when they close their door to the Millerite Messages. Representing the 1st cleansing of the temple in Christ's day – 2nd Angels Message
5. Midnight Cry – Exeter Campmeeting August 12-17 to October 22, 1844 – A Mighty Manifestation of the Power of God
6. Investigative Judgment Begins October 22, 1844 – The 2nd Door closes representing the 2nd cleansing of the temple in Christ's day. The foolish virgins are shaken out of Adventism 50 Remain – 3rd Angels Message
7. Christ Comes in the Clouds to the Ancient of Days – [Daniel 7:9-10, 13](#)

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144K – Times of the Fourth Angel – Three Messages run Parallel with Power

144,000 – Delineation of Events – 7 Thunders

1. 1989 – Modern Watchmen Proclaim Rome – 1st Angels Message
2. The Message is Formalized in 1996 – The Time of the End Magazine is Published and Daniel 11:40-45 is Opened with A Testing Message for the last Generation
3. September 11, 2001 The Mighty Angel Comes Down to Empower Adventism but few receive it or understand – 2nd Angels Message
4. 1st Closed Door Message – The Sunday Law Arrives in America and the Door of Probation Closes on Adventism the foolish virgins are shaken out and the Church is Purified. This parallels the 1st Temple cleansing in Christ's day – 3rd Angels Message
5. Loud Cry Message – The Church purified goes forth to proclaim the Loud Cry Message and the Righteous Faithful still in Babylon are hurried out before the Falling of the Plagues under the Power and Guidance of the 4th Angel of Revelation 18 – 4th Angels Message
6. Judgment Begins When Michael Stands up – 2nd Closed Door Message – Probation Closes on Humanity and the 7 Last Plagues begin to fall - This parallels the 2nd Temple cleansing in Christ's day
7. Christ comes in the clouds to receive the saints of all generations – Satan is bound in the bottomless pit for a thousand years while the saints of the most High Judge the Dead. [1st Thessalonians 4:16-17](#)

When we look at Daniel 11:40-45 there are 7 Prophetic Events... Also Daniel 11:40-45 is 1840-1844 and Revelation 18:1-4. Lets see how this sequence of events takes place.....

Daniel 11:40-45; 12:1-3 – Purified Made White & Tried – v.12:10

1. v.40 – 1989 The king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over.
2. The Watchmen Proclaim Rome with the USA coming together in a clandestine fashion to hasten the demise of the Soviet Union. The battle between east and west opens the key of the bottomless pit and next thing the watchmen are to see is Islam.
3. September 11 2001 The 3rd woe Arrives in History and the blotting out and Judgment of the living begins. The 7th trumpet 3rd woe fits with [Isaiah 20-21](#). The Message is Empowered. The little book open now is Daniel 11:40-45. 9T11-14 Sequence of events is begun . . . In 9T she describes the events of September 11th 2001. Then she states “The world is stirred with the spirit of war and economic collapse. Finally soon the trouble spoken of in the prophecies will take place . . . The eleventh chapter of Daniel has nearly reached its complete fulfillment”.
4. v.41 – There is a closed door at the Sunday Law. Many are overthrown in the Glorious land America. The Protestant churches and many in Adventism and “Babylon Falls”.

v.42-43 – The rest of the world institutes the Sunday Law and are represented as Egypt. When the 3 fold geographic obstacles have been overcome by the Papacy his ascension to rule the world is accomplished and persecution begins of Gods faithful Sabbath keeping people.

5. v.44 – During this time period before the final close of probation we see the message swelling into the Loud Cry. This represents that “other voice” of Revelation 18:4 it is the 4th Message that is a repeat of the 2nd Angels Message and is preceded by the 1st Message and the 3rd Message follows.
6. Daniel 12:1 – Michael Stands up. The 2nd door closes and probation ends for humanity. The 7 last plagues begin to fall on those who have not had their sins blotted out in the Most Holy place. When Michael Stands up the pronouncement is made Revelation 22: ¹¹He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. This begins the “great time of trouble” or “Jacobs time of trouble”.
7. Daniel 12:2-3 Christ comes as King of Kings and Lord of Lords there is a special resurrection for those who died within the time period of the 3 Angels messages and those who pierced Him. Those who are among the wicked cry for the rocks to fall on them and hide them from His Glory. The earth is burned with fire from the “breath of His nostrils” [Job 4:9](#) and the “fiery stream that issues from before him” [Daniel 7:10](#)

The Three fold test for Gods People at the end of the world

1. Return to the Foundations – Daniel Chapter 1 – Return the Law and Prophets

2. See the Image formed – Daniel Chapter 2 – The Lord has shown me clearly that the image of the beast will be formed **before** probation closes; for it is to be the great test for the people of God, by which their eternal destiny will be decided. {2SM 80.4}
3. The Sunday Law Test – Daniel Chapter 3 – The fiery Furnace is a Type of the Sunday Law Test

9T11-18 The Last Crisis

We are living in the time of the end. The fast-fulfilling signs of the times declare that the coming of Christ is near at hand. The days in which we live are solemn and important. The Spirit of God is gradually but surely being withdrawn from the earth. Plagues and judgments are already falling upon the despisers of the grace of God. The calamities by land and sea, the unsettled state of society, the alarms of war, are portentous. They forecast approaching events of the greatest magnitude. {9T 11.1}

The agencies of evil are combining their forces and consolidating. They are strengthening for the last great crisis. Great changes are soon to take place in our world, and the final movements will be rapid ones. {9T 11.2}

The condition of things in the world shows that troublous times are right upon us. The daily papers are full of indications of a terrible conflict in the near future. Bold robberies are of frequent occurrence. Strikes are common. Thefts and murders are committed on every hand. Men possessed of demons are taking the lives of men, women, and little children. Men have become infatuated with vice, and every species of evil prevails. {9T 11.3}

The enemy has succeeded in perverting justice and in filling men's hearts with the desire for selfish gain. "Justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter." Isaiah 59:14. In the great cities there are multitudes living in poverty and wretchedness, well-nigh destitute of food, shelter, and clothing; while in the same cities are those who have more than heart could wish, who live luxuriously, spending their money on richly furnished houses, on personal adornment, or worse still, upon the gratification of sensual appetites, upon liquor, tobacco, and other things that destroy the powers of the brain, unbalance the mind, and debase the soul. The cries of starving humanity are coming up before God, while by every species of oppression and extortion men are piling up colossal fortunes. {9T 11.4}

On one occasion, when in New York City, I was in the night season called upon to behold buildings rising story after story toward heaven. These buildings were warranted to be fireproof, and they were erected to glorify the owners and builders. Higher and still higher these buildings rose, and in them the most costly material

was used. Those to whom these buildings belonged were not asking themselves: "How can we best glorify God?" The Lord was not in their thoughts. {9T 12.1}

I thought: "Oh, that those who are thus investing their means could see their course as God sees it! They are piling up magnificent buildings, but how foolish in the sight of the Ruler of the universe is their planning and devising. They are not studying with all the powers of heart and mind how they may glorify God. **They have lost sight of this, the first duty of man.**" {9T 12.2}

As these lofty buildings went up, the owners rejoiced with ambitious pride that they had money to use in gratifying self and provoking the envy of their neighbors. Much of the money that they thus invested had been obtained through exaction, through grinding down the poor. They forgot that in heaven an account of every business transaction is kept; every unjust deal, every fraudulent act, is there recorded. The time is coming when in their fraud and insolence men will reach a point that the Lord will not permit them to pass, and they will learn that there is a limit to the forbearance of Jehovah. {9T 12.3}

The scene that next passed before me was an alarm of fire. Men looked at the lofty and supposedly fire-proof buildings and said: "They are perfectly safe." But these buildings were consumed as if made of pitch. The fire engines could do nothing to stay the destruction. The firemen were unable to operate the engines. {9T 13.1}

I am instructed that when the Lord's time comes, should no change have taken place in the hearts of proud, ambitious human beings, men will find that the hand that had been strong to save will be strong to destroy. **No earthly power can stay the hand of God. No material can be used in the erection of buildings that will preserve them from destruction when God's appointed time comes to send retribution on men for their disregard of His law and for their selfish ambition. {9T 13.2}**

There are not many, even among educators and statesmen, who comprehend the causes that underlie the present state of society. **Those who hold the reins of government are not able to solve the problem of moral corruption, poverty, pauperism, and increasing crime. They are struggling in vain to place business operations on a more secure basis.** If men would give more heed to the teaching of God's word, they would find a solution of the problems that perplex them. {9T 13.3}

The Scriptures describe the condition of the world just before Christ's second coming. Of the men who by robbery and extortion are amassing great riches, it is written: "Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days. Behold, the hire of the laborers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth. Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter. Ye have condemned and killed the just; and he doth not resist you." James 5:3-6. {9T 13.4}

But who reads the warnings given by the fast-fulfilling signs of the times? What impression is made upon worldlings? What change is seen in their attitude? No more than was seen in the attitude of the inhabitants of the Noachian world. **Absorbed in worldly business and pleasure, the antediluvians "knew not until the Flood came, and took them all away."** Matthew 24:39. They had heaven-sent warnings, but they refused to listen. And today the world, utterly regardless of the warning voice of God, is hurrying on to eternal ruin. {9T 14.1}

The world is stirred with the spirit of war. The prophecy of the eleventh chapter of Daniel has nearly reached its complete fulfillment. Soon the scenes of trouble spoken of in the prophecies will take place. {9T 14.2}

"Behold, the Lord maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof. . . . Because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate. . . . The mirth of tabrets ceaseth, the noise of them that rejoice endeth, the joy of the harp ceaseth." Isaiah 24:1-8. {9T 14.3}

"Alas for the day! for the day of the Lord is at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come. . . . The seed is rotten under their clods, the garners are laid desolate, the barns are broken down, for the corn is withered. How do the beasts groan! the herds of cattle are perplexed, because they have no pasture; yea, the flocks of sheep are made desolate." "The vine is dried up, and the fig tree languisheth; the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple tree, even all the trees of the field, are withered: because joy is withered away from the sons of men." Joel 1:15-18, 12. {9T 15.1}

"I am pained at my very heart; . . . I cannot hold my peace, because thou has heard, O my soul, **the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war. Destruction upon destruction is cried; for the whole land is spoiled.**" Jeremiah 4:19, 20. {9T 15.2}

"I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light. I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down." Verses 23-26. {9T 15.3}

"Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it." Jeremiah 30:7. {9T 15.4}

Not all in this world have taken sides with the enemy against God. Not all have become disloyal. There are a faithful few who are true to God; for John writes: "Here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." Revelation 14:12. Soon the battle will be waged fiercely between those who serve God and those who serve Him

not. **Soon everything that can be shaken will be shaken, that those things that cannot be shaken may remain.** {9T 15.5}

Satan is a diligent Bible student. He knows that his time is short, and he seeks at every point to counterwork the work of the Lord upon this earth. **It is impossible to give any idea of the experience of the people of God who shall be alive upon the earth when celestial glory and a repetition of the persecutions of the past are blended. They will walk in the light proceeding from the throne of God. By means of the angels there will be constant communication between heaven and earth. And Satan, surrounded by evil angels, and claiming to be God, will work miracles of all kinds, to deceive, if possible, the very elect.** God's people will not find their safety in working miracles, for Satan will counterfeit the miracles that will be wrought. God's tried and tested people will find their power in the sign spoken of in Exodus 31:12-18. They are to take their stand on the living word: "**It is written.**" This is the only foundation upon which they can stand securely. Those who have broken their covenant with God will in that day be without God and without hope. {9T 16.1}

The worshipers of God will be especially distinguished by their regard for the fourth commandment, since this is the sign of God's creative power and the witness to His claim upon man's reverence and homage. **The wicked will be distinguished by their efforts to tear down the Creator's memorial and to exalt the institution of Rome. In the issue of the conflict all Christendom will be divided into two great classes, those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, and those who worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark.** Although church and state will unite their power to compel all, "both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond," to receive the mark of the beast, yet the people of God will not receive it. Revelation 13:16. The prophet of Patmos beholds "them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God," and singing the song of Moses and the Lamb. Revelation 15:2. {9T 16.2}

Fearful tests and trials await the people of God. The spirit of war is stirring the nations from one end of the earth to the other. But in the midst of the time of trouble that is coming,--a time of trouble such as has not been since there was a nation,--God's chosen people will stand unmoved. **Satan and his host cannot destroy them, for angels that excel in strength will protect them.** {9T 17.1}

God's word to His people is: "**Come out from among them, and be ye separate, . . . and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be My sons and daughters.**" "**Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.**" 2 Corinthians 6:17, 18; 1 Peter 2:9. God's people are to be distinguished as a people who serve Him fully, wholeheartedly, taking no honor to themselves, and remembering that by a most solemn covenant they have bound themselves to serve the Lord and Him only. {9T 17.2}

"The Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily My Sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the Lord that doth sanctify you. Ye shall keep the Sabbath therefore; for it is holy unto you: everyone that defileth it shall surely be put to death: for whosoever doeth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people. Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the Sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord: whosoever doeth any work in the Sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant. It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day He rested, and was refreshed." Exodus 31:12-17. {9T 17.3}

Do not these words point us out as God's denominated people? and do they not declare to us that so long as time shall last, we are to cherish the sacred, denominational distinction placed upon us? The children of Israel were to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations "for a perpetual covenant." The Sabbath has lost none of its meaning. It is still the sign between God and His people, and it will be so forever. {9T 18.1}

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