

PART 2 of 4- ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION: THE INDIGNATION AGAINST THE HOLY COVENANT

Jesus gave a warning regarding the end of the world.

Matt 24:15 When ye therefore **shall see** the **abomination of desolation**, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) 24:16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:

*The only place in the book of Daniel where this abomination of desolation is spoken of in Matthew 24 is in Daniel 11:30, 31 and Daniel 12:11. Keep in mind this abomination has everything to do with indignation (hatred) and wickedness **against the holy covenant**.*

Daniel 11:30 For the ships of Chittim shall come against him]: therefore he: shall be grieved, and return, and have **indignation against] the holy covenant**: so shall he do; he shall even return, and have intelligence with them that **forsake the holy covenant**. 11:31 And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily *sacrifice*, and they **shall place the abomination that maketh desolate**. 11:32 And such as **do wickedly against the covenant** shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do [exploits].

Dan 12:11 And from the time [that] the daily [*sacrifice*] shall be taken away, and the **abomination that maketh desolate set up**, [there shall be] a thousand two hundred and ninety days.

First, a few definitions from Webster's 1828 Dictionary.

ABOMINATION, n.

1. Extreme hatred; detestation.

2. **The object of detestation**, a common signification in scripture.

The way of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord. Proverbs 15:9.

3. Hence, **defilement, pollution, in a physical sense, or evil doctrines and practices, which are moral defilements, idols and idolatry, are called abominations**. The Jews were an abomination to the Egyptians; and the sacred animals of the Egyptians were an abomination to the Jews. The Roman army is called the abomination of desolation. Matthew 24:13. In short, **whatever is an object of extreme hatred, is called an abomination**.

DESOLATION, n.

1. The act of desolating destruction or expulsion of inhabitants; destruction; ruin; waste.

Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation. Matthew 12:25.

2. A place deprived of inhabitants, or otherwise wasted, ravaged and ruined.

How is Babylon become a desolation among the nations. Jeremiah 50:23.

3. A desolate state; gloominess; sadness; destitution.

The **abomination of desolation**, Roman armies which ravaged and destroyed Jerusalem. Matthew 24:15.

INDIGNATION, n. [L. indignatio.]

1. Anger or extreme anger, mingled with contempt, disgust or abhorrence.

When Haman saw Mordecai in the king's gate, that he stood not up, nor moved for him, he was full of indignation against Mordecai. Esther 5:9.

2. The anger of a superior; extreme anger; particularly, the wrath of God against sinful men for their ingratitude and rebellion. 2 Kings 3:27.

3. The effects of anger; the dreadful effects of God's wrath; terrible judgments. Isaiah 26:20.

4. Holy displeasure at one's self for sin. 2 Corinthians 7:11.

An important thought to consider.

Jesus gave this warning in Matthew 24 when his disciples asked what is the sign of His coming and the end of the world. Jesus used the verses in Daniel Chapters 11 and 12 to point his disciples to the abomination of desolation in the 1st century BEFORE these verses explaining the workings of the papacy came on the scene or were in existence beginning in the 5th century. Keeping this in mind, we know that this prophecy in Matthew 24 had a **twofold** meaning as it also pointed us down to the “**terrors of the last great day**”. With this understanding, we know for our day, just like for the disciples, Jesus was **NOT**

referring to the papacy, but to the **abomination of desolation**. As Adventists, we make the mistake of trying to identify Matthew 24 with the papacy only, for the last days, rather than to the **abomination of desolation committed** by the papacy. We know history will repeat. For instance we are told we will repeat the history of the Jews, the history of France in the French Revolution. What was the attitude towards God by the Jews and France? What we fail to understand is **the history that will be repeated is the principle of the “similar” actions and thoughts of man toward God** in these historical examples. The mistake made by Adventists, is they try to blend these past historical examples with territories of the earth and/or leaders of the world today (inserting their names in these Bible passages) and therefore they place past history into the present or future of which we have been clearly admonished **NOT to do with fulfilled Biblical prophecy!**

The future was mercifully veiled from the disciples. Had they at that time fully comprehended **the two awful facts**,—the Redeemer’s sufferings and death and the destruction of their city and temple,—they would have been paralyzed with horror. Christ presented before them **an outline of the prominent events to transpire before the close of time.** His words were not then fully understood; but their meaning was to be unfolded as his people should need the instruction therein given. **The prophecy which he uttered was twofold in its meaning: while foreshadowing the destruction of Jerusalem [70 A.D.], it prefigured also the terrors of the last great day.** {4SP 26.1}

Sister White quotes Daniel 11:30-36 then makes the following statement:

Scenes similar to those described in these words will take place. We see evidence that Satan is fast obtaining the control of human minds, who have not the fear of God before them. **Let all read and understand the prophecies of this book, for we are now entering upon the time of trouble spoken of:** {L1103-1904.20}

So, to move forward, we need to understand what this abomination of desolation and indignation against the holy covenant to which Jesus is referring.

Let’s begin by quoting Daniel 11 and 12 again to see what our pioneers taught regarding that history that took place (beginning in the 5th century) of setting up the papacy for 1260 years to see **the papal MINDSET and ACTIONS** (abomination) **toward the holy covenant of God.**

Daniel 11:30 **For the ships of Chittim** [Barbarian invaders of the fourth century- esp. the Vandals. Under general; Hannibal of Carthage **Rev 8:8,9**] **shall come against him** [Rome]: **therefore he** [the Roman Emperors]: **shall be grieved, and return, and have indignation** [the staff to chastise] **against** [Christianity] **the holy covenant** [Rome generally, but specifically Emperors Probus and Diocletian, who persecuted the Christians on the pretext that the barbarian invasions were thought to have occurred because the Christians offended the gods of Rome]: **so shall he** [Rome] **do; he** [Rome generally; specifically Constantine] **shall even return, and have intelligence with them** [the bishop of Rome and prelates who formed a compact with Constantine in A.D. 331] that **forsake the holy covenant** [Roman Christianity fell away from the pure faith.]. 11:31 **And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily (paganism) sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination** (setting up evil doctrines and practices) that maketh **desolate** (papalism that brings ruin and destruction for 1260 years). 11:32 **And such** [apostate Christians] **as do wickedly against the covenant** [law of God] **shall he** [Papacy; bishops of Rome] **corrupt by flatteries** [follow decrees/ inducements of Pope rather than Word of God]: **but the people** [faithful Christians] **that do know their God** [Waldenses, Albigenses, Huguenots- those who keep the knowledge of the truth uncorrupted] **shall be strong, and do [exploits]** [the courageous stand of the saints for the truth, despite intense persecution, as well as their incisive preaching against the rising tide of evil in the church]. (**Rev 17:3-9**)

Dan 12:11 **And from the time [that] the daily [Paganism] [sacrifice] shall be taken away [508 AD- “to remove” see Dan 11:31], and the abomination that maketh desolate set up [Papacy in 538 AD], [there shall be] a thousand two hundred and ninety days [1290 years of papal persecution]. [508 + 1290 = 1798]**

From the above, we can see the hatred manifested by the papal system towards Christians and towards God's holy covenant. The papacy, by her actions and mindset, represented the abomination (evil doctrines and practices) of desolation (which leads to ultimate destruction) against the holy covenant (God's law). When the papacy destroyed Christians, they destroyed Jesus and His doctrine. They crucified Christ as did the Jews of old.

Matt 25:40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, **Inasmuch as ye have done [it] unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done [it] unto me.**

This abomination (evil doctrines and practices) of desolation (that brings destruction) is connected with the close of probation.

Close of Probation: There is more than one event connected with the close of probation.... The prophet states, “events”- plural. We already know one event: When the Turk/Islam moves from Constantinople (Istanbul) to Jerusalem.

The events connected with the close of probation and the work of preparation for the time of trouble, are clearly presented. But multitudes have no more understanding of these important truths than if they had never been revealed. Satan watches to catch away every impression that would make them wise unto salvation, and the time of trouble will find them unready. {GC 594.1}

What could be another “visual” event connected to the above event mentioned in Matthew 24:15? Ans. The abomination of desolation standing in the holy place.

Matthew and Mark compared. Notice Matthew says, “stand in the holy place” and Mark says, “standing where it ought not.” This particular “abomination” should not be standing in the holy place, Jerusalem! We need to figure who is committing this abomination against the covenant (law) that stands in Jerusalem.

Matt 24:15 **When ye therefore (in the future) shall see (will literally see with our eyes) the abomination (setting up evil doctrines and practices) of desolation (bringing destruction/ ruin), spoken of by Daniel the prophet (Dan 11:30-32 indignation against the holy covenant/ law); stand in the holy place (Jerusalem), (whoso readeth, let him understand:)** 24:16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:

And he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but **God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.** Luke 16:15

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

Thought: Why would God allow Jerusalem to be annihilated by Islam under the third woe? Have they continued in the same disobedience against the law which brought the fall of Jerusalem in 70 A.D.?

The abomination of desolation standing in the holy place. What is this abomination of evil doctrines and practices that causes desolation of destruction and ruin? Ans. Indignation (contempt) against the holy covenant: setting up of sacrificial system in Jerusalem!! The Jews still deny that Christ's blood was shed once and for all by practicing and keeping the sacrificial system alive just as the Jews of old did after nailing Jesus to the cross.

Jews today are planning to continue in their useless sacrifices. The Jews are literally “standing in the holy place” where they “ought not” with the sacrificial system.

Animal sacrifices will soon be resumed in Jerusalem.

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In what appears to be another fulfillment of end time Bible prophecies, a group called the Organization of Seventy Nations is planning to resume animal sacrifices on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem later this month to mark the renewal of the covenant Noah made after leaving the ark after the great flood. (Source: breakingisraelnews.com)

After leaving the ark, Noah built an altar to the Lord and offered burnt offerings with animal sacrifices from every clean animal and every clean bird. (Genesis 8:20) Then God promised to never again destroy the whole earth with a flood. (Genesis 9:11-15)

The Organization of Seventy Nations is planning to resume animal sacrifices on September 25, 2019. Their goal is to offer redemption, right standing with God, without any requirement to accept the atonement which God offered to the whole world through His only begotten son, Jesus Christ. (John 3:16) Jesus clearly told us He is the only way to the Father when He said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.” (John 14:6 NKJV) So, even though this organization claims to be honoring God, their actions show

And Christ warned us in Matthew and Mark that this same practice not only happened by the Jews causing their destruction in 70 A.D, but it is going to happen again by the Jews in the last days and is something we will “see” standing in the holy place (Jerusalem).

Matt 24:15 When ye therefore (in the future) shall see (will literally see with our eyes) the abomination (setting up evil doctrines and practices) of desolation (bringing destruction/ruin), spoken of by Daniel the prophet (Dan 11:30-32 indignation against the holy covenant/law); stand in the holy place (Jerusalem), (whoso readeth, let him understand:) **24:16** Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:

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

Heb 7:27 Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: **for this he did once, when he offered up himself.**

Heb 9:12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption [for us].

Heb 9:26 For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but **now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.** 9:27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: 9:28 So **Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many;** and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

Heb 10:10 By the which will **we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once [for all].**

Going back in history, what was the Papal indignation against the holy covenant in Dan 11? Ans. They taught the customs and traditions of man, teaching contrary to the doctrines of the Bible and they forced worship upon all and persecuted those who would not comply with her teachings. They deny Christ's sacrifice to this day in their communion service by teaching the wafer and grape juice is the literal body and blood of Christ. Here they keep Christ on the cross and recognize him not as a risen Saviour! It's all about the sacrificial system of which Christ fulfilled on the cross.

*What is the greatest abomination that man and the Jews can commit today that the Jews committed in 70 A.D.?
Ans. Denial of Christ's sacrifice by continuing in the sacrificial system of slaying lambs.*

At the first advent of Christ, Satan knew that he had come to limit his power, and set free captives which he had bound, and his skill was especially exercised to lead the **Jewish nation** to believe Christ an impostor. The prophecies furnished sufficient evidence to unprejudiced minds that Christ was indeed the Son of God, the Saviour of the world. But **the unbelieving Jews chose their own standard of virtue, and purity of life. They would not be taught by the Just One, and continued to perform their useless sacrifices and offerings, looking forward for a Messiah which had already come.** {4aSG 117.2}

Those who by faith follow Jesus in the great work of the atonement, receive the benefits of his mediation in their behalf; but those who reject the light that brings to view this work of ministration, are not benefited thereby. **The Jews who rejected the light given at Christ's first advent, and refused to believe in him as the Saviour of the world, could not receive pardon through him. When Jesus at his ascension entered by his own blood into the heavenly sanctuary to shed upon his disciples the blessings of his mediation, the Jews were left in total darkness, to continue their useless sacrifices and offerings.** The ministration of types and shadows had ceased. **That door by which men had formerly found access to God, was no longer open. The Jews had refused to seek him in the only way whereby he could then be found, through the ministration in the sanctuary in Heaven.** Therefore they found no communion with God. **To them the door was shut.** They had no knowledge of Christ as the true sacrifice and the only mediator before God; hence they could not receive the benefits of his mediation. {4SP 269.1}

Heb 6:6 If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; **seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put [him] to an open shame.**

The destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. was only a partial fulfillment of which the final fulfillment will occur in the last days. Today, the Jews desire to continue in these "useless sacrifices" and God will visit them for their final punishment when Islam moves to Jerusalem and annihilates the Jews.

The Saviour's prophecy concerning the visitation of judgments upon Jerusalem is to have another fulfillment, of which that terrible scene was but a faint shadow. The second advent of the Son of God is foretold by lips which make no mistake: "Then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory. And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." [Matthew 24:30, 31.] **Then shall they that obey not the gospel be consumed with the spirit of his mouth, and destroyed with the brightness of his coming.** [2 Thessalonians 2:8.] {4SP 37.1}

1 Pet 4:17 For the time [is come] that **judgment must begin at the house of God:** and if [it] first [begin] at us, what shall the end [be] of them that obey not the gospel of God? 4:18 And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear? 4:19 Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls [to him] in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator

*Apostate Israel (Jews and spiritual Jews- Seventh-day Adventists) have their backs turned toward the temple of the Lord by denying (**indignation**) His sacrifice once and for all when we deny (**abomination**) His messages (his law) of truth which ends in destruction (**desolation**). The despisers (**indignation**) of **God's covenant** (law) will ultimately be keeping the papal Sunday/ Sabbath.*

There were still "**greater abomination**" for the prophet to behold. At a gate leading from the outer to the inner court he was shown "women weeping for Tammuz," and within "the inner court of the Lord's house, ... at the door of the temple of the Lord, between the porch and the altar, were about five and twenty men, with their backs toward the temple of the Lord, and their faces toward the east; and **they worshiped the sun** toward the east." Verses 13-16. {PK 448.4}

*Apostate Spiritual Israel (Seventh-day Adventists) will also be held accountable for backsliding and abominations committed. This ties in with the **third angel's message** of destruction that is coming which Islam will bring to Jerusalem and also the destruction upon the ungodly inhabitants of the world by the 7 last plagues.*

I saw that since Jesus had left the Holy place of the heavenly Sanctuary, and had entered within the second veil (1844), the churches were left as were the Jews; and they have been filling up with every unclean and hateful bird. I saw **great iniquity and vileness in the churches**; yet they profess to be Christians. **Their profession, their prayers and their exhortations, are an abomination in the sight of God.** Said the angel, God will not smell in their assemblies. **Selfishness, fraud and deceit** are practiced by them without the reprovings of conscience. And over all these **evil traits** they throw the cloak of religion. I was shown the **pride** of the nominal churches. **God was not in their thoughts**; but their carnal minds dwell upon themselves. They **decorate their poor mortal bodies (dress)**, and then look upon themselves with satisfaction and pleasure. **Jesus and the angels looked upon them in anger (INDIGNATION)**. Said the angel, Their sins and **pride** have reached unto heaven. Their portion is prepared. **Justice and judgment have slumbered long, but will soon awake.** Vengeance is mine, and I will repay, saith the Lord. **The fearful threatenings of the third angel are to be realized**, and they will drink the **wrath of God**. An innumerable host of evil angels are spreading themselves over the whole land. The churches and religious bodies are crowded with them. And they look upon the religious bodies with exultation; for **the cloak of religion covers the greatest crimes and iniquity**. (*This is why we are repeating "scenes similar" in the verses of Daniel 11:30-36 as stated by Sister White in Lt103-1904.20*) {1SG 190.1}

Rev_21:27 **And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie:** but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

What it means to be keeping the "holy covenant" (law of God) as a Christian.

When you bind yourself in holy covenant to God, you will separate from idols and things unclean. The light you have had, the blessings you have received, the high and holy calling you have had, all **forbid that you should be in your present position, in bondage to unholy, unsanctified elements of the world or in friendship with the enemies of God.** **You are required to come out, to be separate and to maintain a holy character as a son of God.** **When you obey God you will have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness.** I feel deeply in earnest. I again appeal to you to take your stand on the side of Christ and humiliate your soul and disappoint the enemy. The people now who believe must know where you stand—what side you are on. Sacred obligations are resting upon you. How will you meet these claims? Again I entreat, **break the chains of Satan**. Be again a free man. {Lt3-1883.30}

The waiting, watching (for the close of probation) ones keep the "holy covenant"!

The lamps are to impress upon the church the necessity of eternal vigilance as the price of safety. Devotion, watching, and prayer are not for a moment to be neglected. **The Lord is coming a second time to our world, and there must be found in us a disposition to wait and watch for his appearing (close of probation), lest coming suddenly he find us sleeping.** (Mark 13:36) All whom Christ has united in holy covenant with himself are to feel that it is not safe at any time to be without oil in their vessels. (Matt 25:4) The warning Christ has given is for us, and we shall be found guilty before God if we do not take heed to it. "And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and **cares of this life**, and so that day come upon you unawares. **For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth.** **Watch** ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man." (Luke 21:34-36) {RH March 27, 1894, par. 8}

We have the promise that it is possible to keep His holy covenant.

God has assured us that it is possible to serve Him in holiness: "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for He hath visited and redeemed His people, ... to perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember **His holy covenant**; the oath which He swore to our father Abraham, that He would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve Him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before Him, all the days of our life." [Luke 1:68, 72-75.] {Ms41-1902.37}

The world has no claim to our service; for by a solemn, holy covenant we accepted God's badge of service at the time of our baptism. On that occasion we pledged ourselves, in the presence of the three great heavenly Powers, to come out from the world and be separate. {Ms130-1902.15}

Examples of abominations (evil doctrines and practices) which in a nutshell is any deed or act that is contrary to the word (his law) of God. When we commit abominations, we AUTOMATICALLY deny His holy covenant, His sacrifice.

The profusion reigning everywhere gave birth to luxury and pride. Idleness and riches make the heart hard that has never been oppressed by want or burdened by sorrow. The love of pleasure was fostered by **wealth and leisure**, and the people gave themselves up to **sensual indulgence**. "Behold," says the prophet, "this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, **pride, fullness of bread, and abundance of idleness** was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. **And they were haughty, and committed abomination before Me: therefore I took them away as I saw good.**" Ezekiel 16:49, 50. There is nothing more desired among men than riches and leisure, and yet these gave birth to the sins that brought destruction upon the cities of the plain. Their useless, idle life made them a prey to Satan's temptations, and **they defaced the image of God**, and became satanic rather than divine. **Idleness is the greatest curse that can fall upon man**, for **vice and crime follow** in its train. It **enfeebles the mind, perverts the understanding, and debases the soul**. Satan lies in ambush, ready to destroy those who are unguarded, whose leisure gives him opportunity to insinuate himself under some attractive disguise. **He is never more successful than when he comes to men in their idle hours.** {PP 156.2}

Prov 16:5 **Every one [that is] proud in heart [is] an abomination** to the LORD: [though] hand [join] in hand, he shall not be unpunished.

Those who would be victors should contemplate and count the cost of salvation. **Strong human passions must be subdued; the independent will must be brought into captivity to Christ.** The Christian is to realize that he is not his own. He will have temptations to resist, and battles to fight against his own inclinations; for **the Lord will accept no half-way service.** **Hypocrisy is an abomination to him.** The follower of Christ must walk by faith, as seeing him who is invisible. Christ will be his dearest treasure, his all and in all. {RH June 16, 1896, par. 5}

Prov 12:22 **Lying lips [are] abomination** to the LORD: but they that deal truly [are] his delight.

This description is now being fulfilled to the letter in the religious world. The Lord declares: "Every one from the least even unto the greatest is given to **covetousness**, from the prophet even unto the priest every one dealeth falsely. For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, **saying, Peace, peace, when there is no peace.** Were they ashamed when they had committed **abomination**? Nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush; therefore shall they fall among them that fall; in the time of their visitation they shall be cast down, saith the Lord." [Verses 10-12.] {Ms60-1900.3}

The cause of God can afford to be fair and be exact in its dealing and not allow **a farthing to the upbuilding of itself that is unjustly gained. A penny pressed out of the poor man is not only an abomination** to God in any business enterprise but **more so in a work professing to be the special work of God.** God will look with **abhorrence** upon means gained to the cause by oppressing the hireling in his wages and presenting the means thus gained as an offering to Him, with one hand placing in the treasury, while with the other hand grinding down the poor man's wages by working upon his conscientiousness, because he is connected with the work of God. Such acts will surely bring the curse of God. {Lt32-1875.40}

Eze 18:12 **Hath oppressed the poor and needy,** hath spoiled by violence, hath not restored the pledge, and hath lifted up his eyes to the idols, **hath committed abomination,**

The commonplace matters of time and earth had engrossed the minds of the people at the time of Christ, just as Satan had designed that they should. Sin had expelled from the heart the love of God, and **instead of the love of God there was found in the heart the love of the world, the love of sinful indulgence of evil passions.** Christ alone could adjust the claims between heaven and earth. Man's vision had become blinded, because he did not keep in view the spiritual and eternal world. But the kind of teaching that Christ gave to the world did not harmonize with the teaching of the scribes and Pharisees; for their religion consisted in a round of forms and ceremonies, and the offering of sacrifices, which had been designed by Christ to keep his **sacrifice** in mind, had lost its significance. **Unless the sacrifices were offered in faith, accompanied with contrition and humility, they were valueless in the eyes of God,** and even an **abomination to him.** God repeatedly had declared that the sacrifices acceptable to him were a broken and a contrite heart. He said, "The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart, and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit." {ST December 11, 1893, par. 4}

Prov 15:8 **The sacrifice of the wicked [is] an abomination to the LORD:** but the prayer of the upright [is] his delight.

A legal religion can never lead souls to Christ; for it is a loveless, Christless religion. **Fasting or prayer that is actuated by a self-justifying spirit is an abomination in the sight of God.** The solemn assembly for worship, the round of religious ceremonies, the external humiliation, the imposing **sacrifice**, proclaim that the doer of these things regards himself as righteous, and as entitled to heaven; but it is all a deception. Our own works can never purchase salvation. {DA 280.2}

It was not enough that the ark and the sanctuary were in the midst of Israel. It was not enough that the priests offered **sacrifices**, and that the people were called the children of God. The Lord does not regard the requests of those **who cherish iniquity in their hearts**, and it is written that **“he that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination.”** {RH March 20, 1888, par. 12}

Prov 28:9 **He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer [shall be] abomination.**

The One of authority with great solemnity looked upon the parties and said, “There are very many here who have come to My banquet who have not on the wedding garment. **Only those who can represent Me by their dress—to show they are married to me by wearing the wedding garment which is My righteousness, My words, My character—can partake of My supper.** Your ordinary garments will do Me no honor. Those who **choose their own natural traits of character** will not reveal they are married to Me and are in most holy covenant to remain bound up with Me for to partake of My heavenly banquet. I cannot represent you to My Father and your God in such variety of habiliments as you display. You are not in any wise representing the character I purchased for you with My own blood.” {Ms203-1903.6}

Deut 22:5 **The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment:** for all that do so [are] **abomination** unto the LORD thy God.

The same principle contained in Paul's instruction is presented by Isaiah: “The Lord spake thus to me with a strong hand, and instructed me **that I should not walk in the way of this people, saying, Say ye not, A confederacy, to all them to whom this people shall say, A confederacy; neither fear ye their fear, nor be afraid.** Sanctify the Lord of hosts himself; and **let him be your fear**, and let him be your dread. And he shall be for a sanctuary; but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. And **many among them shall stumble, and fall, and be broken, and be snared, and be taken. Bind up the testimony. seal the law among my disciples.** And I will wait upon the Lord, that hideth his face from the house of Jacob, and I will look for him. ... **To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.**” [Isaiah 8:11-17, 20.] {Lt164-1901.18}

“Unto you, O men, I call; and my voice is to the sons of man. O ye simple, understand wisdom; and, ye fools, be ye of an understanding heart. **Hear: for I will speak of excellent things; and the opening of my lips shall be right things.** For my mouth shall speak truth; and **wickedness is an abomination to my lips.** All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing **froward** or perverse in them. They are all plain to him that understandeth, and right to them that find knowledge. **Receive my instruction**, and not silver; and knowledge rather than choice gold. **For wisdom is better than rubies;** and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it. In wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions. **The fear of the Lord is to hate evil; pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.** ... **Whoso findeth me findeth life, and shall obtain favor of the Lord. But he that sinneth against me wrongeth his own soul; all they that hate me love death.**” [Proverbs 8:4-13, 35, 36.] {Lt164-1901.19}

The Lord Jesus put these words in the mouth of His appointed instructor, **for the benefit of those living in this age, when a decided testimony is to be borne in regard to the binding claims of the law of God.** {Lt164-1901.20}

FROWARD, a. [L. versus: turned or looking from.]

Perverse, that is, **turning from, with aversion or reluctance; not willing to yield or comply with what is required;** unyielding; ungovernable; refractory; **disobedient;** peevish; as a froward child.

Prov 3:32 For the **froward [is] abomination** to the LORD: but his secret [is] with the righteous.

Prov 29:27 **An unjust man [is] an abomination to the just: and [he that is] upright in the way [is] abomination to the wicked.**

Prov 24:9 The thought of foolishness [is] sin: and **the scorner [is] an abomination to men.**

Isa 66:17 They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens behind one [tree] in the midst, **eating swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse,** shall be consumed together, saith the LORD.

Lev 11:12 **Whatsoever hath no fins nor scales in the waters, that [shall be] an abomination unto you.**

Lev 11:20 **All fowls that creep, going upon [all] four, [shall be] an abomination unto you.**

Lev 11:41 And **every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth [shall be] an abomination; it shall not be eaten.**

Lev 18:22 **Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it [is] abomination.**

Lev 20:13 **If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination:** they shall surely be put to death; their blood [shall be] upon them.

Deut 7:25 The **graven images of their gods** shall ye burn with fire: thou shalt not desire the silver or gold [that is] on them, nor take [it] unto thee, lest thou be snared therein: for it [is] an **abomination** to the LORD thy God. 7:26 **Neither shalt thou bring an abomination into thine house,** lest thou be a cursed thing like it: [but] thou shalt utterly detest it, and thou shalt utterly abhor it; for it [is] a cursed thing.

What covenant sacrifice is the Lord asking of his children today?

The Lord has **lent means to His people to prove them, to test the depth of their professed love for Him. Some would let go of Him and give up their heavenly treasure rather than to decrease their earthly possessions and make a covenant with Him by sacrifice. He calls for them to sacrifice; but the love of the world closes their ears. and they will not hear.** {2T 197.2}

Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is **perfect.** Matt 5:48

Jesus said unto him, **If thou wilt be perfect,** go [and] **sell that thou hast, and give to the poor,** and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come [and] follow me. Matt 19:21

When this young man asked what he should do that he might gain eternal life, Christ answered him plainly. When he asked, "What lack I yet?" Jesus pointed out to him wherein he fell short. He failed when tested in regard to his **worldly possessions. These were his idol.** Distinctly and definitely Christ told him that **his riches stood in the way of his gaining eternal life.** "If thou wilt be **perfect,**" He said, "go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow Me." But when he heard this, "he went

away sorrowful; for he had great possessions.” [Verses 20-22.] **He wanted the heavenly treasure, but he wanted also the temporal advantages his riches would bring him. He desired eternal life; but he was not willing to make the sacrifice.** To give up his earthly treasure that was seen for the heavenly treasure that was unseen was too great a risk. He refused the offer of eternal life, and went away, and ever after the world was to receive his worship. {Ms123-1908.42}

“Then said Jesus unto His disciples, Verily I say unto you, that a **rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven**. And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a **rich man** to enter into the kingdom of God. When His disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, Who then can be saved? But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible. {Ms123-1908.43}

“Then answered Peter and said unto Him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed Thee; what shall we have therefore? And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed Me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of His glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And **every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life. But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first.**” [Verses 23-30.] {Ms123-1908.44}

I saw that some hardly know yet what self-denial, or sacrifice is, and what it is to suffer for the truths’ sake. But **I saw that none will enter heaven without making a sacrifice**. They should cherish a spirit of **sacrifice, and self-denial**. Some have not sacrifice themselves, their own bodies on the altar of God. They indulge in hasty, fitful temper, and gratify their appetites, and attend to their own self-interest, regardless of the cause of God. **Those who are willing to make any sacrifice for eternal life, will have it.** And it will be worth suffering for, worth crucifying self for, and **sacrificing every idol** for. The far more, the exceeding and eternal weight of glory swallows up every thing, and eclipses every earthly pleasure. {T01 16.1}

Riches are only entrusted to man that they may be appropriated for the Lord’s service. They are not to be used for our own special gratification, for needless display in the invention of palaces, pictures, grounds, and extravagance of any kind. If he does this while he knows the suffering and wants of human beings, he makes himself an unfaithful steward. While their fellow men are in the darkness and they know not God, those who have God’s money lent them in trust, place that money in things that are not necessary. Through the **lust of riches, the lust of extravagance and indulgence,** the work and cause of God is hindered. {Ms150-1898.23}

Here is a book given us to guide our feet through the perils of this dark world to heaven. **It tells us how we can escape the wrath of God,** and also tells of the sufferings of Christ for us, the great sacrifice that has been made for us, that we might be saved and enjoy the presence of God for ever. And if any come short at last that have heard the truth, as they have in this land of light, it will be their own fault. **They will be without excuse.** **The Word of God tells us how we may be perfect Christians, and escape the seven last plagues** [poured out through Islam bringing destruction]. **But they took no interest to find this out.** Other things diverted the mind, idols were cherished by them, and God’s holy Word has been neglected and slighted. God has been trifled with by professed Christians, and when that holy Word shall judge them in the last day, they will be found wanting. That Word that they have neglected for foolish story-books, tries their lives. It is the standard, and their motives, words, works, and the manner they use their time, are all compared with the written Word of God, and **if they come short then, their cases are decided for ever.** {T01 14.2}

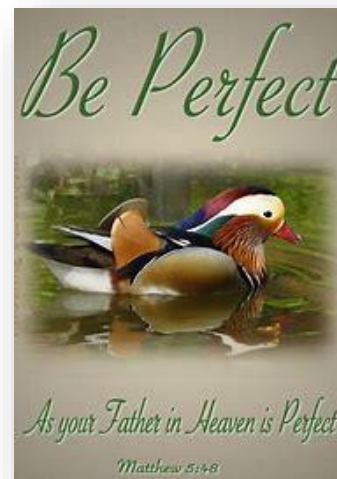
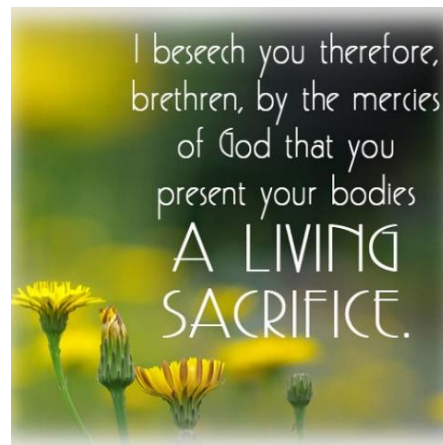
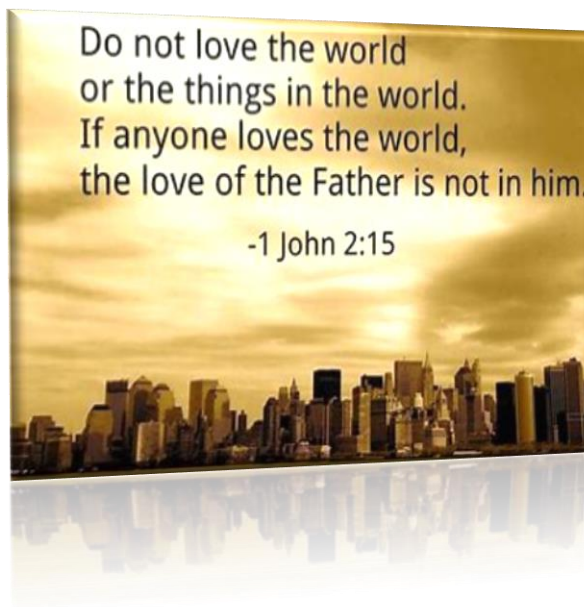
In the gospel the character of Christ is portrayed. As he descended step by step from his throne, his divinity was veiled in humanity; but in his miracles, his doctrines, his sufferings, his betrayal, his mockery, his trial, his death by crucifixion, his grave among the rich, his resurrection, his forty days upon earth, his ascension, his triumph, his priesthood, are inexhaustible treasures of wisdom, recorded for us by inspiration in the word of God. The waters of life still flow in abundant streams of salvation. The mysteries of redemption, the blending of the divine and the human in Christ, his incarnation, sacrifice, mediation, will be sufficient to supply minds, hearts,

tongues, and pens with themes for thought and expression for all time; and time will not be sufficient to exhaust the wonders of salvation, but through everlasting ages, Christ will be the science and the song of the redeemed soul. New developments of the perfection and glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ, will be forever unfolding. And now there must **be perfect** reliance upon his merit and grace; there must be distrust of self, and living faith in him. {ST November 24, 1890, par. 8}

They would not dishonor God; they would not receive the mark of the beast or of his image; they would overcome as servants and sons of God, that they might inherit all things. 4LtMs, Ms 16, 1884, par. 8...

They count all things loss for the excellency of Christ. They could not be bribed or seduced or terrified. **They were deaf to the siren song of pleasure, blind to the dazzling splendors presented before them to confuse, to allure, their senses. Worldly distractions, ambitions, honors were presented before them but only to be rejected.** Indifferent to the threats and unmoved by terrors of the infernal powers, they could not be overthrown by Satan's devices. 4LtMs, Ms 16, 1884, par. 10

One effort more, and then **Satan's last device is employed.** He hears the unceasing cry for Christ to come, for Christ to deliver them. **This last strategy is to personate Christ and make them think their prayers are answered. But this answers to the last closing work, the abomination of desolation standing in the holy place.** [Text ends here.] 4LtMs, Ms 16, 1884, par. 11



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