The following letter written in 1896 is a warning addressed to all Adventists and especially to those who have stepped off the established foundational platform by taking any portion of the <u>fulfilled visions</u> (prophecies) of Daniel and John, through misapplication of the Scriptures, and placing them into the FUTURE. This is a warning that if not heeded, will lead to your eternal loss.

Also, in this letter the Jews are addressed who knew not the time of their visitation (close of probation). Why? Because they were misapplying the Scriptures! They applied the 1st Coming of Christ to the 2nd Coming as foretold in the Scriptures and since Christ did not come in the manner they thought as described by the 2nd Coming, they rejected him. The Jews placed His 1st Coming too far into the FUTURE! The Jews were confused on the 2 different Comings of Christ; therefore, they did not know (recognize) the time of their visitation!

The Lord in answering the disciples about the signs of the end, blended these two prophecies regarding the end of probationary time (destruction of Jerusalem and destruction in time of the end) so we would not repeat the mistake of the Jews and to be without excuse of not knowing the time of OUR visitation.

Like the Jews, we have 2 Comings. We have the Coming to judgment (probation/ atonement closes) and we have the 2nd Coming (immortal glorification/ tabernacles!). How are we repeating this same mistake as the Jews, of mixing up the 2 "Comings" of Christ?

First of all, by setting dates for the Coming of Christ, like the Jews, we are placing His Coming too far in the FUTURE when the Scriptures in Matthew 24 and Mark 13 admonish to be "watching" and be ready TODAY.

Secondly, by focusing on the 2nd Coming mostly and setting dates in the future, one completely overlooks the importance of knowing the time of our visitation in the 1st Coming (end of judgment/ atonement) which is the Coming that will determine your eternal destiny.

Thirdly, Adventist are not recognizing the event (Dan 11:45) that will tell us that probation (Dan 12:1 coming to judgment) is about to close. Why? Because they are misapplying the visions of Daniel and John in regard to these past fulfilled prophecies and placing them into the FUTURE! They either reapply fulfilled prophecies (by placing into the FUTURE) or they state that these fulfilled prophecies have never yet taken place which also places them in the FUTURE! An example of the latter would be Revelation Chapter 9. They don't recognize the Biblical language of Revelation Chapter 9 in other portions of Scripture since they don't recognize Revelation Chapter 9 as PAST fulfilled history; therefore, they cannot understand the Biblical language of the last and most important prophecy given by Christ in the parable of the shooting forth of the fig tree in Matthew 24 and Mark 13 (close of probation). Therefore, they will not recognize the time of their visitation and will not understand present end-time prophecies of additional light for our day in the language of Joel, Psalms 83 and Ezekiel 32 etc. since prophecy expounds upon itself by the Bible being its own expositor.

It would be well for all to take heed in the letter set forth and look closer into these things with much humbleness and prayer—to know the time of your visitation which will determine your eternal destiny.

MR No. 1236 - Testimony Concerning the <u>Views of Prophecy</u> Held by John Bell--Part I

(Written November 8, 1896, at Cooranbong, N.S.W.)

LAST 40 YEARS
CORRECT APPLICATION
MADE TO SCRIPTURES

I have not been able to sleep since half past one o'clock. I was bearing to Brother John Bell a message which the Lord had given me for him. The peculiar views he holds are a mixture of truth and error. If he

MIXTURE OF TRUTH AND ERROR

had passed through the experience of God's people as He has led them for the last forty years, he would be better prepared to make the correct application of Scripture. {17MR 1.1}

WAYMARKS TO BE CAREFULLY GUARDED

SCRIPTURES MISAPPLIED

The great <u>waymarks of truth</u>, showing us our bearings in <u>prophetic</u> <u>history</u>, are to be carefully guarded, lest they <u>be torn down and replaced</u> <u>with theories</u> that would bring confusion rather than genuine light. I have been cited to the very <u>erroneous theories</u> that have been presented over

and over again. Those who advocated these theories presented Scripture quotations, but they misapplied and

NEW THEORIES INCORRECT

misinterpreted them. The theories supposed to be correct were incorrect, and yet many thought them the very theories to be brought before the people. The prophecies of Daniel and John are to be diligently studied. {17MR 1.2}

PIONEERS BORE
MESSAGE OF
TIME & RECEIVED
GREAT LIGHT ON
FULFILLMENT OF
PROPHECIES

There are those now living who in studying the prophecies of Daniel and John, received great light from God as they passed over the ground where special prophecies were in process of fulfillment in their order. They bore the message of time to the people. The truth shone out clearly as the sun at noonday. Historical events,

PROPHECIES FULFILLED IN THEIR ORDER BY HISTORICAL EVENTS

showing the direct fulfillment of prophecy, were set before the people, and the prophecy was seen to be a figurative delineation of events leading down to the close of this earth's history. The scenes connected with the working of the man of sin are the last features revealed in this earth's history. The people now have a special message to give to the world, the third angel's message. Those who, in their experience, have passed over the ground and acted a part in the proclamation of the first, second, and third angel's messages, are not so liable to be led into false paths as are those who have not had an experimental knowledge of the people of God. {17MR 1.3}

GOD'S PEOPLE TO WARN THE WORLD God's people are to warn the world to prepare for the second appearing of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is coming with power and great glory, when the cry of peace and safety is being sounded from every part of the Christian world, and the sleeping church and the world will be asking in scorn, "Where is the promise of His coming? . . . All things continue as they were from the beginning." {17MR 2.1}

Christ was taken up into heaven in a cloud composed of living angels. The angels declared to the men of Galilee, "Why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven." This is the great event to be contemplated and talked of. The declaration of the angels was that He should come in the same manner as He went up into heaven. {17MR 2.2}

2ND COMING TO BE TALKED ABOUT

And the second appearing of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ is to be kept fresh before the minds of the people. Let all understand this. Jesus is coming again. The same Jesus that ascended into heaven, escorted by the heavenly host, is coming again. The same Jesus who has been our Advocate, our friend at court, pleading the cases of all who accept Him as their Saviour, will come the second time to be admired in all them that believe. {17MR 2.3}

There have been one and another who in studying their Bibles thought they discovered great light, and new theories, but these have not been correct. The Scripture is all true, but by misapplying the Scripture men arrive at wrong conclusions. We are engaged in a mighty conflict, and it will become more close and

PAST 50 YEARS PROPHECY TAUGHT CORRECTLY determined as we near the final struggle. We have a sleepless adversary, and he is constantly at work upon human minds that have not had a personal experience in the teachings of the people of God for the past fifty years. Some will take the truth applicable to their time, and place it in the future. Events in the train of prophecy that had their fulfillment away in the past are made

ERRONEOUS GREAT LIGHT AND NEW THEORIES

PAST
PROPHECIES
PLACED IN
FUTURE

future, and thus by these theories the faith of some is undermined. {17MR 2.4}

WARNING DANGER! OF PLACING PAST BIBLE HISTORY IN FUTURE From the light that the Lord has been pleased to give me, <u>you are in danger of doing the same work</u>, presenting before others truths which <u>have had</u> their place and done their specific work for the time, <u>in the history of the faith of the people of God. You</u>

recognize these facts in Bible history as true, but apply them to the future. They have their force still in their proper place, in the chain of events (see 1.3) that have made us as a people what we are today, and as such they are to be presented to those who are in the darkness of error. {17MR 3.1}

WE ARE TO PRESENT SAME PAST BIBLE/
HISTORY TEACHINGS
OF OUR PIONEERS

The <u>true workers of Jesus Christ</u> are to cooperate with their <u>brethren who have had an experience in</u> <u>the work from the very rise of the third angel's message</u>. These followed on step by step, <u>receiving light and truth</u> as they advanced, bearing one test after another, lifting the cross that lay directly in their pathway, and pressing on to know the Lord, whose goings forth are prepared as

the morning. You and other of our brethren must accept the truth as God has given it to His students of prophecy, as they have been led by genuine, living experience, advancing point by point, tested, proved, and tried, until the truth is to them a reality. From their voices and pens the truth in bright, warm rays has gone to all parts of the world, and that which was to them testing truth, as brought by the Lord's delegated messengers, is testing truth to all to whom this message is proclaimed. {17MR 3.2}

MUST ACCEPT AND RECOGNIZE OUR PIONEER PAST TEACHINGS ON PROPHECY

PILLARS OF FAITH NOT TO BE REMOVED The <u>burden of the warning</u> now to come to the people of God, nigh and afar off, is the <u>third angel's message</u>. And those who are seeking to understand this message will not be led by the Lord <u>to make an application of the Word that will undermine the foundation and <u>remove the pillars of the faith</u> that has made Seventh-day Adventists what they are today. {17MR 4.1}</u>

<u>The truths</u> that have been <u>unfolding in their order</u>, as we have advanced along <u>the line of prophecy</u> revealed in the Word of God, <u>are truth</u>, <u>sacred</u>, <u>eternal truth</u> <u>today</u>. Those who passed over the ground step by step in the past history of our experience, seeing the <u>chain of truth in the prophecies</u>, were prepared <u>to accept</u> <u>and obey every ray of light</u>. They were praying, fasting, searching, digging for the

CHAIN OF TRUTH
IN LINE OF
PROPHECY
IS STILL TRUTH
TODAY

EVERY POINT
WAS
ESTABLISHED
& SEALED BY
HOLY SPIRIT

truth as for hidden treasures, and the Holy Spirit, we know, was teaching and guiding us. Many theories were advanced, bearing a semblance of truth, but so mingled with misinterpreted and misapplied scriptures that they led to dangerous errors. Very well do we know how every point of truth was established, and the seal set upon it by the Holy Spirit of God. And all the time voices were heard, "Here is the truth," "I have the truth; follow me." But the warnings came, "Go not ye after them. I have not sent them, but they ran." (See Jeremiah 23:21.) {17MR 4.2}

The leadings of the Lord were marked, and most wonderful were His revelations of what is truth. Point

TRUTH THEN STILL
TRUTH TODAY

after point was established by the Lord God of heaven. That which was truth then, is truth today. But the voices do not cease to be heard--"This is truth. I have new light." But these new lights in prophetic lines

are manifest in **misapplying the Word** and setting the people of God adrift without an anchor to hold them. If the student of the Word would take the **truths** which God has revealed in the leadings of His people, and appropriate these truths, digest them, and bring them into their practical life, they would then be living channels of light. But those who have set themselves to study out new theories, have a mixture of truth and error combined, and after trying to make these things prominent, have demonstrated that they have not kindled their taper from the divine altar, and it has gone out in darkness. {17MR 4.3}

ERRONEOUS
"NEW LIGHT"
IN PROPHETIC
LINES ARE
MANIFEST IN
MISAPPLYING
THE WORD

MISPLACING THE
PROPEHCIES
COUNTERWORKS
THE TRUTH

According to the light God has given me, you are on the same track. That which appears to you to be a chain of truth is, in some lines, misplacing the prophecies and counterworking that which God has revealed as truth. The third angel's message is our burden to the people (... shall receive of the wrath [plagues] of God- Rev 14:9-10). It is the gospel of peace and righteousness and

truth. Here is our work, to stand firmly to proclaim this. We need now to have every piece of the armor on.--Ms 31, <u>1896</u>. (Parenthesis added)

Ellen G. White Estate Washington, D. C. April 6, 1987. Entire manuscript. {17MR 5.1} <End of part 1>

NEW LIGHT

We must not for a moment think that there is no more light, no more truth, to be given us. We are in danger of becoming careless, by our indifference losing the sanctifying power of truth, and composing ourselves with the thought, 'I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing.' While we must hold fast to the truths which we have already received, we must not look with suspicion upon any new light that God may send. — Ellen G. White, Gospel Workers, page 310 (1915)

By definition, the word "new" is something that has never been. "New light" is NOT FORGOTTEN truths (since they have existed before), but rather, it is something that has NOT YET BEEN.

In every age there is a new development of truth, a message of God to the people of that generation. The old truths are all essential; new truth is not independent of the old, but an unfolding of it. It is only as the old truths are understood that we can comprehend the new. But it is the light which shines in the fresh unfolding of truth that glorifies the old. He who rejects or neglects the new does not really possess the old. For him it loses its vital power and becomes but a lifeless form. {COL 127.4}

MR No. 1237 - Testimony Concerning the Views of Prophecy Held by John Bell--Part II

(Written November 8, 1896, at Cooranbong, N.S.W.)

NO MAN HAS RIGHT TO CHANGE LOCATION (ie. PLACING IN FUTURE) OF PAST **ESTABLISHED PROPHETIC MESSAGES**

The proclamation of the first, second, and third angels' messages has been located by the Word of Inspiration. Not a peg or pin is to be removed. No human authority has any more right to change the location of these messages than to substitute the New Testament for the Old. The Old Testament is the gospel in figures and symbols. The New Testament is the substance. One is as essential as the other. The

Old Testament presents lessons from the lips of Christ, and these lessons have not lost their force in any particular. {17MR 6.1}

The first and second messages were given in 1843 and 1844, and we are now under the proclamation of the third; but all three of the messages are still to be proclaimed. It is just as essential now as ever before that they shall be repeated to those who are seeking for the truth. By pen and voice we are to sound the proclamation, **showing their order and the application** of the prophecies that bring us to the third angel's message. There cannot be a third without the first and second. These messages we are to give to the world in publications, in discourses, showing in the line of prophetic history the things that have been and the things that will be. {17MR 6.2}

SHOWING IN THE LINE OF PROPHETIC HISTORY & APPLICATION OF **PROPHECIES**, BRING US TO 3RD ANGEL'S **MESSAGE WHICH IS TO** BE REPEATED TO THOSE **SEEKING TRUTH**

WHEN BOOK OF **DANIEL OPENED** (1844), "TIME **NO LONGER**"

The book that was sealed was not the book of Revelation, but that portion of the prophecy of Daniel which related to the last days. The Scripture says, "But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased" [Daniel 12:4]. When the book was opened, the proclamation was made, "Time shall be no longer." [See Revelation 10:6.] The book of Daniel is now unsealed, and the revelation made by

Christ to John is to come to all the inhabitants of the earth. By the increase of knowledge a people is to be prepared to stand in **the latter days**. {17MR 6.3}

"And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come: and worship Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters" [Revelation 14:6, 7]. {17MR 7.1}

JUDGMENT MESSAGE OF 3RD ANGEL

This message, if heeded, will call the attention of every nation and kindred and tongue and people to a close examination of the Word, and to the true light in regard to the power that has changed the seventh-day Sabbath to a spurious sabbath. The only true God has been forsaken, His law has been discarded, His sacred Sabbath

BREACH IN SABBATH

institution has been trampled in the dust by the man of sin. The fourth commandment, so plain and explicit, has been ignored. The Sabbath memorial, declaring who the living God is, the Creator of the heavens and the earth, has been torn down, and a spurious sabbath has been given to the world in its place. Thus a breach has been made in the law of God. A false sabbath could not be a true standard. {17MR 7.2}

In the <u>first angel's message</u> <u>men are called upon to worship God</u>, our Creator, who made the world and all things that are therein. They have paid homage to an institution of the Papacy, making of no effect the law of Jehovah, but there is to be an increase of knowledge on this subject. {17MR 7.3}

1ST ANGLE'S MESSAGE

The message proclaimed by the angel flying in the midst of heaven is the everlasting gospel, the same gospel that was declared in Eden when God said to the serpent, "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]. Here was the <u>first promise</u> of a Saviour who would stand on the field of battle to contest the power of Satan and prevail against him. Christ came to our world to represent ______

LAW OF GOD the character of God as it is represented in His holy law; for His law is a transcript of His character. Christ was both the law and the gospel. The angel that proclaims the everlasting gospel proclaims the law of God; for the gospel of salvation brings men to

CHARACTERS
ARE FORMED
BY OBEDIENCE
TO THE
TRUTH/ LAW

obedience of the law, whereby their characters are formed after the divine similitude. $\{17MR\ 7.4\}$

In the fifty-eight chapter of Isaiah, the work of those who worship God, the Maker of the heavens and

the earth, is specified: "They that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations" [Isaiah 58:12]. God's memorial, His seventh-day Sabbath, will be uplifted. "Thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in. If thou turn away thy foot from the Sabbath [no longer trample it under your feet], from doing thy pleasure on My holy day; and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honourable; and shalt honour Him, . . . I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it" [Isaiah 58:12-14]. {17MR 8.1}

REPAIRER
OF THE
BREACH
HONOR
THE
SABBATH

The history of the church and the world, the loyal and the disloyal, is here plainly revealed. The loyal under the proclamation of the third angel's message have turned their feet into the way of God's commandments, to respect, to honor, and glorify Him who created the heavens and the earth. The opposing forces have dishonored God by making a breach in His law, and when light from His Word has

SABBATH
POINTS
MAN TO THE
TRUE GOD

called attention to His holy commandments, revealing the breach made in the law by the papal authority, then, to get rid of conviction, men have tried to destroy the whole law. But could they destroy it? No; for all who will search the Scriptures for themselves will see that the law of God stands immutable, eternal, and His memorial, the Sabbath, will endure through eternal ages, pointing to the only true God in distinction from all false gods. {17MR 8.2}

Satan has been persevering and untiring in his efforts to prosecute the work he began in heaven, to change the law of God. He has succeeded in making the world believe the theory he presented in heaven before his fall, that the law of God was faulty and needed revising. A large part of the professed Christian church, by their attitude, if not by their words, show that they have accepted the same error. But if in one jot or tittle the law of God has been changed, Satan has gained on earth that which he could not gain in heaven. He has prepared his delusive snare, hoping to take

REVISING
LAW OF GOD
(HIS WORDS)
WHEN
PRESENTING
NEW
THEORIES

TWO PARTIES DEVELOPED

snare. A line of distinction is being drawn between the **children of obedience and the children of disobedience**, the loyal and true and the disloyal and untrue. **Two great**

parties are developed, the worshipers of the beast and his image, and the worshipers of the true and living God. {17MR 9.1}

The message of <u>Revelation 14</u>, proclaiming that the hour of God's <u>judgment is come</u>, is given in the time of the end; and the angel of <u>Revelation 10</u> is represented as having one foot on the sea and one foot on the land, showing that <u>the message will be carried to distant lands</u>, the ocean will be crossed, and the islands of the sea will hear the proclamation of the last message of warning to our world. {17MR 9.2}

"And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven, and sware by Him that liveth forever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the

earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer" [Revelation 10:5, 6]. This message announces the end of the prophetic periods. The disappointment of those who expected to see

DISAPPOINTMENT REVEALED HEARTS

our Lord in 1844 was indeed bitter to those who had so ardently looked for His appearing. It was in the Lord's order that this disappointment should come, and that hearts should be revealed. {17MR 9.3}

END OF PROPHETIC PERIODS ANNOUNCED IN 1844

Not one cloud has fallen up on the church that God has not prepared for; not one opposing force has risen to counterwork the work of God but He has foreseen. All has predicted

through His prophets. He has not left His church in darkness, forsaken, but has traced in prophetic declarations what would occur, and through His providence, acting in its appointed place in the world's history, He has brought about that which His Holy

HISTORY OF PAST FORETOLD IN PROPHETIC DECLARATIONS

GOD'S LAW IS CONNECTED WITH PAST PROPHETIC HISTORY! Spirit inspired the prophets to foretell. All His purposes will be fulfilled and established. His law is linked with His throne, and satanic agencies combined with human agencies cannot destroy it. Truth is inspired and guarded by God; it will live, and will succeed, although it may appear at times to be overshadowed. The gospel of Christ is the law exemplified in character. The deceptions practiced against it, every device for vindicating falsehood, every error forged by satanic agencies, will eventually be eternally broken, and the triumph of truth will be like the appearing of

the sun at noonday. The Sun of Righteousness shall shine forth with healing in His wings, and the whole earth shall be filled with His glory. {17MR 10.1}

PROPHETIC
HISTORY
SPECIFIED TO BE
FULFILLED IN THE
PAST, HAS BEEN

All that God has in <u>prophetic history</u> specified to be fulfilled in the past <u>has</u> <u>been</u>, and all that is <u>yet to come</u> in its order will be. <u>Daniel</u>, God's prophet, stands in his place. <u>John</u> stands in his place. In the Revelation the Lion of the tribe of Judah has opened to the students <u>of prophecy the book of Daniel</u>, and thus is

Daniel standing in his place. He bears his testimony, that which the Lord revealed to him in vision of the great and solemn events which we must know as we stand on the very

EVENTS WE MUST KNOW

threshold of their fulfillment. {17MR 10.2}

THROUGH
HISTORY AND
PROPHECY
TRUTH & ERROR
REVEALED

In <u>history and prophecy</u> the Word of God portrays the long, continued **conflict between**

KNOW WHERE WE STAND

truth and error. That conflict is yet in progress. Those things which have been, will be repeated. Old controversies will be revived, and <u>new theories will be continually arising</u>. But God's people, <u>who in their belief and fulfillment of prophecy</u> have acted a part in the proclamation of the <u>first, second, and third angels' messages</u>,

know where they stand. They have an experience that is more precious than fine gold. They are to **stand** firm as a rock, holding the beginning of their confidence steadfast unto the end. {17MR 11.1}

A transforming power attended the proclamation of the <u>first and second angels' messages</u>, as it attends the message of <u>the third angel</u>. Lasting convictions were made upon human minds. The power

of the Holy Spirit was manifested. There was diligent study of the Scriptures, point by point. Almost entire nights were devoted to earnest searching of the Word. We searched for the truth as for hidden treasures. The Lord revealed Himself to us. Light was shed on the prophecies, and we knew that we received divine instruction. {17MR 11.2}

DIVINE LIGHT WAS SHED ON THE PROPHECIES

GOD MAKES KNOWN
THE CERTAINTY OF THE
WORDS OF TRUTH

This expresses something of the exercises we were passing through: "Bow down thine ear, and hear the words of the wise, and apply thine heart unto my knowledge. For it is a pleasant thing if thou keep them within thee; they shall withal be fitted in thy lips. That thy trust may be in the Lord, I

have made known to thee this day, even to thee. Have not I written to thee excellent things in counsels and knowledge, that I might make thee know the certainty of the words of truth; that thou mightest answer the words of truth to them that send unto thee?" [Proverbs 22:17-21]. {17MR 11.3}

After the great Disappointment there were <u>few</u> who set themselves to seek the Word with all their heart. But some souls would not settle down in discouragement and deny that the Lord had led them. To these the truth was opened point by point, and

BEAUTY & POWER OF TRUTH UNKNOWN
BEFORE THE DISAPPONTMENT LED TO
PROCLAIMING MESSAGE IN UNITY

entwined with their most hallowed recollections and sympathies. The searchers after truth felt that the identification of Christ with their nature and interest was complete. <u>Truth</u> was made to shine forth, beautiful in its simplicity, dignified with a power and invested with an assurance <u>unknown before the Disappointment</u>. <u>We could then proclaim the message in unity</u>. {17MR 12.1}

AFTER (1844)
DISAPPOINTMENT
ERRORS CREPT IN

But among those who had not held fast their faith and experience, there was great confusion. Every conceivable opinion was presented as the message of truth; but the Lord's voice was, "Believe them not; for I have not sent them." {17MR 12.2} corruptions entering church since 1844- see EW 277

We walked carefully with God. The message was to be given to the world, and **we knew that this present light was the special gift of God.** The impartation of this gift was the prerogative of God. His <u>disappointed ones</u>, who were still seeking after truth,

MESSAGES TO BE REPEATED

BEHELD CHRIST
IN THE HIGH &
HOLY PLACE =
MOST HOLY
PLACE
(7BC 967-68)

were led step by step to communicate to the world that which had been communicated to them. The prophetic declarations

were to be repeated, and the <u>truth essential for salvation was to be made known</u>. The work moved hard at first. Often the hearers <u>rejected</u> the message as unintelligible, and the conflict began in decided earnest, especially upon the Sabbath question. But the Lord manifested His presence. At times the veil which concealed His glory from our eyes was drawn aside. We beheld Him in the high and holy place. {17MR 12.3}

The Lord will not lead minds now to set aside the <u>truth</u> that the Holy Spirit <u>has</u> moved upon His servants in the past to proclaim. {17MR 12.4}

VERY IMPORTANT POINT TO REMEMBER: TRUTH
OF PAST THAT PIONEERS PROCLAIMED IS THE
SAME TRUTH TODAY!

WAYMARKS

Many will honestly search the Word for light as those in the past have searched it; and they see light in the Word. But they did not pass over the ground in their

experience, when these messages of warning were first proclaimed. Not having had this experience, some do not appreciate the value of the truths that have been to us as waymarks, and that have made us as a peculiar people what we are. They do not make a right application of the Scriptures, and thus they frame theories that are not correct. It is true that they quote an abundance of Scripture, and teach much that is true; but truth is so mixed with error as to lead to wrong conclusions. Yet

INCORRECT
THEORIES BY
WRONG
APPLICATION
OF SCRIPTURE

because they can weave Scripture into their theories, they think they have a straight chain of truth. Many who did not have an experience in the rise of the messages, accept these erroneous theories, and are led into false paths, backward instead of forward. This is the enemy's design. {17MR 12.5}

Satan is working that the history of the Jewish nation may be repeated in the experience of those who claim to believe present truth. The Jews had the Old Testament Scriptures, and supposed themselves

SATAN PLANS HISTORY OF JEWISH NATION TO BE REPEATED! conversant with them. But they made a woeful mistake. The prophecies that refer to the glorious second appearing of Christ in the clouds of heaven they regarded as referring to His first coming. Because He did not come according to their expectations, they turned away from Him. Satan knew just how to take these men in his net, and deceive and destroy them. {17MR 13.1}

Sacred, eternal truths had been given them in trust for the world. The treasures of the law and the gospel, united as closely as the Father is united with the Son, were to be presented to all the world. The prophet declares, "For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth. And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the Lord shall name. Thou shalt also be a crown of glory in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God" [Isaiah 62:1-3]. {17MR 13.2}

This is that which the Lord had spoken concerning Jerusalem. But when Jesus came to our world just as prophecy had declared He would come, His divinity clothed with humanity, with majesty and lowliness combined, His mission was misunderstood. The delusive hope for a temporal prince led to misapplication of Scripture. {17MR 14.1}

Jesus came as an infant of days, of poor parentage. But there were some who were willing to receive the heavenly Guest. For these the angel messengers veiled their glory, and the heavenly chorus rang over the hills of Bethlehem with hosannas to the newborn King. The humble shepherds believed Him, received Him, and worshiped Him. But the very ones who ought to have been the first to welcome Jesus did not

CHARACTER
RESULTS FROM
BELIEVING ERROR

discern Him. He was not the one their ambitious hopes desired. The false path they had entered, they continued to follow to the end. They became unteachable, self-righteous, and self-sufficient, fancying they possessed true light and that they were the only safe instructors of the people. {17MR 14.2}

The very same Satan is at work to undermine the faith of the people of God at this time. There are persons ready to catch up every new idea. The prophecies of Daniel and the Revelation are

misinterpreted. These persons do not consider that the truth has been set forth at the appointed time by the very men whom God

WE ARE TO BELIEVE ON "THEIR WORD" was leading to do this special work. These men followed on step by step in the very fulfillment of prophecy, and those who have not had a personal experience in this work

BY MISINTERPRETING DANIEL
AND REVELATION, SATAN IS
WORKING TO UNDERMINE THE
ESTABLISHED TRUTHS & FAITH
OF GOD'S PEOPLE TODAY

are to take the Word of God and believe on "their word" who have been led by the Lord in the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels' messages. These messages, received and acted upon, are doing their work to prepare a people to stand in the great day of God. If we search the Scriptures to confirm the truth God has given His servants for the world, we shall be found proclaiming the first, second, and third angels' messages. {17MR 14.3}

ERRORS COME TO THOSE
WHO TURN AWAY FROM
THE LIGHT OF THE
PROPHECIES ALREADY
GIVEN

NO NEW EXPOSITIONS TO BE GIVEN ON PROPHECIES ALREADY ESTABLISHED

It is true that there are prophecies yet to be fulfilled. But very erroneous work has been done again and again, and will continue to be done by those who seek to find new light in the prophecies, and who begin by turning away from the light that God has already given. The messages of Revelation 14 are those by which the world is to be tested; they are the everlasting gospel, and are to be sounded everywhere. But the Lord does not lay upon those who have not had an experience in His work the burden of making a new exposition of those prophecies which He has, by His Holy Spirit, moved upon His chosen servants to explain. {17,MR 15.1}

According to the light God has given me, this is the work which you, Brother John Bell, have been attempting to do. Your views have found favor with some; but it is because these persons have not discernment to see the true bearing of the arguments you present. They have had but a limited experience in the work of God for this time, and they do not see where your views would lead them, and you do not see yourself where they would lead. They are ready to assent to your statements; they see nothing in them but that which is correct. But they are misled because you have woven together much Scripture in constructing your theory. Your arguments appear conclusive to them. {17MR 15.2}

Not so, however, with those who have an experimental knowledge of the truth that applies in the last period of this earth's history. While they see that you hold some precious truth, they see also that you have misapplied Scripture, placing it in a framework of error where it does not belong, and making it give force to what which is not present truth. Because some accept that which you have written, do not become elated. It is most trying to your brethren who have confidence in you as a Christian and who love you as such,

THOSE WHO STAY
WITH THE PAST
ORIGINAL TRUTHS
GIVEN ON
PROPHECY WILL
NOT BE DECEIVED!

to state to you that the network of argument, which you have thought of so great consequence **is not the theory of truth** that God has given His people to proclaim for this time. {17MR 15.3}

THOSE WHO CHANGE THE <u>PAST</u>

<u>TEACHINGS ON FULFILLED PROPHECY</u> TEAR

UP THE FOUNDATION OF OUR FAITH!

The light God has given me is that the Scriptures you have woven together you yourself do not fully understand. If you did, you would discern that your theories tear up the very foundation of our faith. {17MR 16.1}

My brother, I have had many testimonies to correct those who have started out in the same way you are now traveling. These persons seemed sure that they were led by God, and they have come with their different theories to ministers who were preaching the truth. I said to these ministers, "The Lord is not in this; be not deceived, neither take the responsibility of deceiving others." At camp meetings I have had to speak plainly in regard to those who were thus leading away from right paths. With pen and voice I have borne the message, "Go not ye after them." {17MR 16.2}

The hardest task I ever had to do in this line was in dealing with one who, I knew, wanted to follow the Lord. For some time he had thought he was obtaining new light. He was very ill, and must soon die.

And oh, how my heart hoped he would not make it necessary for me to tell him just what he was doing. Those to whom he presented his views listened to him eagerly, and some thought him inspired. He had a chart made, and reasoned from the Scriptures to show that the Lord would come at a certain date, in 1894, I think. To many his reasoning seemed to be without a flaw. They told of his powerful exhortations in his sickroom. Most wonderful views passed before him. But what was the source of his inspiration? It was the morphine given him to relieve his pain. {17MR 16.3}

WHILE UNDER
DRUGS, BROTHER
GAVE FALSE
LIGHT AND SET A
DATE FOR THE
COMING OF
CHRIST

ERRONEOUS LIGHT
(SUCH AS DATE
SETTING) COMES FROM
MISAPPLICATION OF
SCRIPTURE

At our camp meeting at Lansing, Michigan, just before I came to Australia, I had to speak plainly in regard to this new light. I told the people that the words they had heard were not the truth of inspiration. The wonderful light, which presented such a show of truth, was the result of a misapplication of Scripture. The Lord's work would not close up in 1894. The word of the Lord to me was, "This is not truth, but will lead into

strange paths, and some will become confused over this representation, and will give up the faith." {17MR 16.4}

Other persons have written to me of most flattering views which had been presented to them, and some have had them put in print. A new life has seemed to stir them; they are full of zeal. But the word comes to me as it has come to me in regard to the theories you hold: "Believe them not." You have a

THE JEWS THOUGHT
THEY HAD "GREAT LIGHT"
& STUMBLED BY MIXING
OF TRUTH AND ERROR

mixture of truth and error, so combined that you think it all genuine. Here is where the Jews stumbled. They wove a fabric that appeared to them a beautiful thing, but it led them to refuse the light Christ brought to them. They thought they had great light, and in that light they walked, and rejected the pure, true light which Christ had come to give. Intensity

is taking possession of minds, urging them into different ventures, which lead them they know not where. $\{17MR\ 17.1\}$

SETTING
TIME FOR
CHRIST
TO COME
IS NOT
GIVEN TO
ANY MAN

No one has a true message fixing the time when Christ is to come or not to come. Be assured that God gives no one authority to say that Christ delays His coming five years, ten years, or twenty years. "Be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh" [Matthew 24:44].

This is our message, the very message that the three angels flying in the midst of heaven are proclaiming. The work to be

THE BURDEN OF
OUR MESSAGE
(see 4.1) OF THE
3 ANGELS IS
FOUND IN
MATT 24:44

done now is that of sounding this last message of mercy to a fallen world. A new life is coming from heaven and taking possession of all God's people. But divisions will come in the church. **Two parties will be developed.** (See 9.1) The wheat and tares grow up together for the harvest. {17MR 17.2}

The work will grow deeper and become more earnest to the very close of time. And all who are laborers together with God will contend most earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints. They will not be turned from the present message, which is already lightening the earth with its glory. Nothing is worth contending for but the glory of God. The only rock that will stand is the Rock of Ages. The truth as it is in Jesus is the refuge in these days of error. {17MR 18.1}

A PROMISE! TRUE FOLLOWERS WILL NOT TURN FROM ORIGINAL MESSAGES GIVEN TO PIONEERS

God has warned His people of the perils before them. John beholds the things which will be in the last days, and he sees a people working counter to God. Read Revelation 12:17; 14:10-13, and chapters 17 and 13. John sees the company who have been deceived. He says, "I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of

the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty (Battle of Armageddon). Behold, I come (close of probation) as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth (Matt 24:44), and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame" [Revelation 16:13-15]. {17MR 18.2} (Parenthesis added)

From those who have <u>rejected truth</u>, the light of God has departed. They did not heed the message of the True Witness, "I counsel thee to buy of Me gold (Ellen "Gould") tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white (Ellen "White") raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve (Ellen "Harmon" - soldier of peace), that thou mayest see" [Revelation 3:18]

LAODICEA IS THE
COMPANY DECEIVED
IN REV 16:13-15!
THEY KNOW NOT
THE TIME OF THEIR
VISITATION (CLOSE
OF PROBATION);
THEY LISTEN NOT TO
THE WARNINGS OF
THE PROPHET (LIKE
THIS LETTER)

(Laodicea Church). But that message will do its work, and a people will be prepared to stand without fault before God. {17MR 18.3} (Parenthesis added)

John beheld this company, and he says, "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to Him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and His wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints" [Revelation 19:7, 8]. {17MR 18.4}

ANCIENT PROPHECY WILL
BE UNDERSTOOD CLEARLY
IF WE FOLLOW PAST
TEACHINGS OF PIONEERS
UNDER BANNER OF 3RD
ANGEL'S MESSAGE WHICH
WERE UTTERED FOR US AT
THE END OF THE WORLD

Prophecy has been fulfilling, line upon line. The more firmly we stand under the banner of the third angel's message, the more clearly shall we understand the prophecy of Daniel; for the Revelation is the supplement of Daniel. The more fully we accept the light presented by the

MUST BE UNDER INFLUENCE OF HOLY SPIRIT TO UNDERSTAND PROPHECY

Holy Spirit through the consecrated servants of God (pioneers), the deeper and surer, even as the eternal throne, will appear the truths of ancient prophecy; we shall be assured that men of God spake as they were moved upon by the Holy Ghost. Men must themselves be under

the influence of the Holy Spirit in order to understand the Spirit's utterances through the prophets. These messages were given, not for those that uttered the prophecies, but for us who are living amid the scenes of their fulfillment. {17MR 19.1}

GOD WANTS US
TO ACCEPT THE
LIGHT ALREADY
GIVEN BY OUR
PIONEERS ON
THE PROPHECIES

I would not feel that I could present these things, if the Lord had not given me this work to do. There are others besides yourself, and more than one or two, who like you think they have new light, and are all ready to present it to the people. But it would be pleasing to God for them to accept the light already given and walk in it, and base their faith upon the Scriptures, which sustain the positions held by the people of God for many years. The everlasting gospel is to be proclaimed by human agents. We are to sound the messages of the angels which are represented as flying in the midst of heaven, with the last warning to

a fallen world. If we are not called upon to prophesy, we are called to believe the prophecies, and to cooperate with God in giving light to other minds. This we are trying to do. {17MR 19.2}

You can help us, my brother, in many ways. But I am commissioned of the Lord to say to you that you are not to be self-centered. Take heed how you hear, how you understand, and how you appropriate the Word of God. The Lord will bless you in drawing in even lines with your brethren. Those whom He has sent forth to proclaim the third angel's message have been working in unison with the heavenly intelligences. The Lord does not lay upon you a burden to proclaim a message that will bring discord into the ranks of believers. I repeat, He is not leading anyone by His Holy Spirit to frame a theory

PIONEERS WERE
WORKING IN
UNISON WHEN
PROCLAIMING THE
3RD ANGEL'S
MESSAGE

that will unsettle faith in the solemn messages He has given His people to bear to our world. {17MR 19.3}

I advise you not to regard your writings as precious truth. It would not be advisable for you to immortalize by putting in print that which has cost you so much anxiety. It is not the Lord's will that this matter should be brought before His people, for it will work to hinder the very message of truth they are to believe and practice in these last days of peril. {17MR 20.1}

The Lord Jesus said to His disciples when He was with them, "I have many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now." He could have made disclosures which would have absorbed the attention of the disciples and caused them to lose sight of His former instruction that He wished to be the subject of their most earnest thought. But He withheld those things which they would have been amazed to hear,

and which would have afforded them opportunity to cavil (false or frivolous objections), to create misunderstanding and disaffection. He would give no occasion for persons of little faith and piety to mystify and misrepresent the truth, and thus create factions. {17MR 20.2}

Jesus could have presented mysteries which would have given subject for thought and investigation for generations, even to the close of time. Himself the source of all true science, <u>He could have led men to the</u>

TRYING TO LEARN
INFORMATION THAT
GOD HAS NOT REVEALED
CAN DRAW US AWAY
FROM LEARNING HIS
IMPORTANT TRUTHS

investigation of mysteries, and age after age their minds would have been so thoroughly absorbed that they would have felt no desire to eat the flesh and drink the blood of the Son of God. {17MR 20.3}

CONJECTURE ECLIPSES
MOMENTOUS TRUTH

Jesus well knew that <u>Satan</u> is constantly working to <u>excite curiosity</u>, and busy men with <u>conjecture</u> (CONJECTURE, v.t. To guess; to judge by guess, or by the probability or the possibility of a fact, or by very slight evidence; to

form an opinion at random.). Thus he seeks to eclipse the grand and momentous truth (singular) which Christ wished to be ever prominent before their minds. "For this is life eternal, that they might know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent." {17MR 21.1} (Parenthesis added)

There is a lesson for us in those words of Christ spoken after the feeding of the five thousand. He said, "Gather up the fragments, that nothing be lost." These words meant more than that the disciples should gather the broken pieces of bread into baskets. Jesus meant that they should mark His words, should study the Scriptures, and treasure every ray of light. Instead of searching for a knowledge of something that God had not revealed, they were carefully to gather up what He had given them. {17MR 21.2}

FRAGMENTS ARE
EVERY RAY OF
LIGHT ALREADY
GIVEN TO BE
GATHERED UP

MAN THINKS HE IS WISER
THAN GOD WHEN
MISAPPLYING SCRIPTURES

Satan had tried to eclipse from human minds the knowledge of God, and to eradicate from their hearts the attributes of God. Man was seeking out many inventions, which he supposed that he himself had originated, and he thought himself wiser than God. That which God

had revealed was misconstrued, misapplied, and mingled with satanic delusions. Satan will quote Scripture in order to deceive. He tried to deceive Christ in this way. So he still tries to deceive men. He will lead them to misconstrue the Scriptures, and make them testify to falsehood. {17MR 21.3}

Christ came to adjust truths that had been misplaced and made to serve the cause of error. He recalled them, repeated them, placed them in their proper position in the framework of truth, and bade them stand fast forever. Thus it was with the law of God, with the Sabbath, and with the marriage institution. We are to study His example. Satan seeks to obliterate everything that would keep the true God in remembrance; but

TRUTHS OF THE PAST ARE
TO STAND FAST FOREVER
& CANNOT BE CHANGED
& ARE CONNECTED TO
LAW OF GOD

the followers of Christ are to <u>treasure up what God</u> <u>has</u> <u>revealed</u>. No truth of <u>His Word</u>, opened to them by His Spirit, is to be set aside. {17MR 21.4}

UNFOLDING OF PROPHECIES HAVE MADE SEVENTHDAY ADVENTISTS WHO THEY ARE & WILL NOT WEAKEN THEIR CONFIDENCE OF PAST TRUTHS

Theories will be continually agitated to divert the mind, to unsettle the faith. Those who have had the actual experience in the unfolding of the prophecies, have been made what they are today, Seventh-day Adventists, by these prophecies. They are to stand with their loins girt about with truth, and with the whole armor on. Those who have not had this experience are privileged to hold the message of truth with the same confidence. The light that God has been pleased to give His people will not weaken their confidence in the path in which He has led them in the past, but will strengthen them to hold fast the faith. We must hold the beginning of our confidence firm unto the end. {17MR 22.1}

"Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus" (Revelation 14:12). Here we stand, under the third angel's message. "And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils (Compare with 18.2 above), and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the

kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities" [Revelation 18:1-5]. {17MR 22.2}

A CALL TO COME OUT OF ERROR (BABYLON)!

Thus the substance of the second angel's message is again given to the world by that other angel (Rev 18 angel) who lightens the earth with his glory. These messages all blend in one, to come before the people in the closing days of this earth's history. All the world will be tested, and all that have been in the darkness of error in regard to the Sabbath of the fourth commandment will understand the last message of mercy that is to be given to men. {17MR 23.1}

INQUIRE, "WHAT WILL ETERNITY BE TO ME?"

Our work is to proclaim the commandments of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. "Prepare to meet thy God" [Amos 4:12], is the warning given to the world. (Compare with 17.2 above) It is a warning to us

individually. We are called upon to lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us. There is a work for you, my brother, to do, to yoke up with Christ. Make sure that your building is on the rock. Do not risk eternity on a probability. You may not live to participate in the perilous scenes on which we are now entering. The life of no one of us is assured for any given time. Should you not watch every

moment? Should you not closely examine your own self, and inquire, What will eternity be to me? {17MR 23.2}

GREAT BURDEN OF EVERY SOUL The great burden of every soul should be, Is my heart renewed? Is my soul transformed? Are my sins pardoned through faith in Christ? Have I been born again? Am I complying with the invitation, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek

and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light" [Matthew 11:28]. Do you count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus? And do you feel it your duty to believe every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God?--Ms 32, 1896.

Ellen G. White Estate Washington, D. C. April 6, 1987. Entire Manuscript. {17MR 23.3}

<End of letter>

The soul's value is estimated by the cross of Calvary. The Lord appreciates the souls for whom he died, and wants them to be the subjects of his kingdom; but the god of this world blinds the perceptive powers of men so that they do not see their peril. To them Christ is saying, "If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace!" He is still pleading that they may understand the day of their visitation (Luke 19:42), saying, as did the gardener concerning the unfruitful tree, "Let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it, and dung it, and if it bear fruit, well; and if not, then after that thou shalt cut it down." (Luke 13: 8, 9) - {ST, November 21, 1895 par. 8} (Parenthesis added)

Of Babylon at this time it is declared, "Her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities." [Revelation 18:5.] She has filled up the measure of her guilt, and destruction is about to fall upon her. But God still has a people in Babylon; and before the visitation of his judgments, these faithful ones must be called out, that they "partake not of her sins, and receive not of her plagues." Hence the movement symbolized by the angel coming down from Heaven, lightening the earth with his glory, and crying mightily with a strong voice, announcing the sins of Babylon. In connection with his message the call is heard, "Come out of her, my people." As these warnings join the third angel's message, it swells to a loud cry. {4SP 422.1}

By these <u>solemn warnings</u> the people will be stirred. Thousands upon thousands have never listened to words like these. <u>In amazement they hear the testimony that Babylon is the church</u>, <u>fallen because of her errors and sins</u>, <u>because of her rejection of the truth sent to her from Heaven</u>. {4SP 424.1}

DANGER IN STRIKING AGAINST THE VISIONS

What strategy does Satan use to keep souls deceived?

Says the great deceiver: "I will have upon the ground, as my agents, men holding false doctrines mingled with just enough truth to deceive souls. I will also have unbelieving ones present, who will express doubts in regard to the Lord's messages of warning to his church. Should the people read and believe these admonitions, we could have little hope of overcoming them. But if we can divert their attention from these warnings, they will remain ignorant of our power and cunning, and we shall secure them in our ranks at last. God will not permit his words to be slighted with impunity. If we can keep souls deceived for a time (until sealing is past), God's mercy will be withdrawn (THIS IS WHEN PROBATION CLOSES), and he will give them up to our full control. {4SP 340.2}

In order to sustain erroneous doctrines or unchristian practices, they seize (take hold of suddenly and forcibly) upon passages of Scripture separated from the context, perhaps quoting half of a single verse as proving their point, when the remaining portion would show the meaning to be quite the opposite. With the cunning of the serpent, they entrench themselves behind disconnected utterances construed to suit their carnal desires. Thus do many willfully pervert the word of God. Others, who have an active imagination, seize upon the figures and symbols of Holy Writ, interpret to suit their fancy, with little regard to the testimony of Scripture as its own interpreter, and then they present their vagaries (A wandering of the thoughts; a wild freak; a whim; a whimsical purpose. - 1828 Webster's Dictionary) as the teachings of God's word. {4SP 343.3} (Read 17MR 1-23 "Testimony Concerning the Views of Prophecy Held by John Bell")

<u>The Bible</u> was designed to be a guide to all who wish to become acquainted with the will of their Maker. God gave to men the **sure word of prophecy**; angels and even **Christ himself came to make known to**

Daniel and John the things that must shortly come to pass. Those important matters that concern our salvation were not left involved in mystery. They were not revealed in such a way as to perplex and mislead the honest seeker after truth. Said the Lord by the prophet Habakkuk, "Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it." [Habakkuk 2:2, 3.] The word of God is plain to all who study it with a prayerful heart. Every truly honest soul will come to the light of truth. "Light is sown for the righteous." [Psalm 97:11.] No church can advance in holiness unless its members are earnestly seeking for truth as



for hid treasure. {4SP 344.2} 1884 GC Snares of Satan Chapter

Prophecy Visions upon Tables/ Charts

(1-9 based on "prophetic time"; 10-12 to be fulfilled soon (not based on "prophetic time" Rev 10:6, but events): (1) 2520 yrs., (2) Rise and Fall of Kingdoms: Babylon, Media-Persia, Greece, Rome (Pagan), Rome (papal), 10 Barbarian Kingdoms, (3) 2300 yrs., (4) 1290 yrs., (5) 1260 yrs. (6) 1335 yrs., (7) 490 yrs./ 70 wks., (8) 150 yrs./ Trumpets 1-4, (9) 391yrs./ 15 days / Woe Trumpets 5 & 6, (Time no longer since 1844; based on events going forward): (10) Trumpet 7/3rd woe, (11) 3 angel's warning messages/Judgment-Plagues, (12) Second Coming

The visions of Daniel and John are on the tables of Habakkuk (1843 & 1850 charts)

The <u>burden of this prophesy is time</u>, concerning which, there has been <u>true</u>, and <u>false visions</u>. The <u>true vision</u> [or light] on time, was written on the Chart, or table. - <u>Hab.2:2</u>. God approved of the <u>proclamation of 1843</u>, and the 10th day of the 7th month (Oct 22) 1844: by the pouring out of the Holy <u>Ghost. Since</u> the 7th month (Oct 22) 1844, the "rebellious house" of Israel, have been <u>removing the "land-marks," and writing, and proclaiming false visions</u>; but we all know that it has been the work of <u>man</u>, and not of God. These flattering divinings, have cheered on the "rebellious house" of Israel to some extent; but the work has not had the holy, sanctifying influence, as when <u>God's hand</u> was in the work on <u>time</u>. {1847 JW, WLF 5.9} (Exposing errors entering church since 1844 included in 3rd AM-1SG 193.2)

What happens to those who strike against the visions of Daniel and John?

I saw the state of some who professed to stand on present truth, but disregarded the visions—the way God had chosen to teach, in some cases, those who erred from Bible truth. I saw that in striking against the visions, they did not strike against the worm,—the feeble instrument that God spoke through, but against the Holy Ghost. I saw it was a small thing to speak against the instrument, but it was dangerous to slight the words of God. I saw if they were in error and God chose to show them their errors through visions, and they disregarded the teachings of God through visions, they would be left to take their own way, and run in the way of error, and think they were right until they would find it out too late. Then in the time of trouble (after probation has closed) I heard them cry to God in agony—why didst Thou not show us our wrong, that we might have gotten right, and ready for this time. Then an angel pointed to them, and said—my Father taught but you would not be instructed. He spoke through visions but you disregarded His voice, and He gave you up to your own ways to be filled with your own doings. {Ms2-1849.6}

Then <u>I saw</u> four angels who had a work to do on the earth, and were on their way to accomplish it. <u>I saw</u> Jesus clothed with priestly garments. He gazed in pity on the remnant then raised His hands upward, and with a voice of deep pity cried—"My Blood, Father, My Blood, My Blood, My Blood." {Ms2-1849.7} Then <u>I saw</u> an exceeding bright light come from God who sat on the great white throne, and was shed all about Jesus. <u>I saw</u> an angel with a commission from Jesus swiftly flying to the four angels who had a work to do on the earth, and waving something up and down in his hand, and crying with a loud voice, "<u>Hold, Hold, Hold, Hold until the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads</u>." [Revelation 7:3.] {Ms2-1849.8}

We need to trust the Visions made plain upon tables (1843 & 1850 charts) which was a fulfillment of Habakkuk 2:1-4 and Habakkuk says at the end they will speak and NOT lie.

As early as 1842, the direction given in this prophecy, to "write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it," had suggested to Charles Fitch the preparation of a prophetic chart to illustrate the visions of Daniel and the Revelation. The publication of this chart was regarded as a fulfillment of the command given by Habakkuk.... "The vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry... The just shall live by his faith." {GC88 392.1} ← FAITH IN THE VISIONS ESTABLISHED!

A portion of Ezekiel's prophecy also was a source of strength and comfort to believers: "And the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Son of man, what is that proverb that ye have in the land of Israel, saying, The days are prolonged, and every vision faileth? Tell them (a command) therefore, Thus saith the Lord God: ... The days are at hand, and the effect of every vision. ... I will speak, and the word that I shall speak shall come to pass; it shall be no more prolonged." "They of the house of Israel say, The vision that he seeth is for many days to come, and he prophesieth of the times that are far off (SEE WARNING AGAINST TIME SETTING- LSMS 137.3). Therefore say unto them (a command), Thus saith the Lord God: There shall none of my words be prolonged any more, but the word which I have spoken shall be done." [Ezekiel 12:21-25, 27, 28.] {GC88 392.2} (Parenthesis added)

Prov 29:18

Where [there is] no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy [is] he.

2Thess 2:10, 11

And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion,

that they should believe a lie:

A WARNING AGAINST TIME SETTING BY THE "EVIL SERVANT" FOUND IN MATT 24 AND LUKE 12

<u>Different times were set</u> for the Lord to come, and were urged upon the brethren. But the Lord showed me that they would pass by, for the time of trouble (Dan 12:1 plagues- time of trouble- comes after Dan 11:45 fulfilled- Islam plants tabernacle of his palace in Jerusalem) must come <u>before</u> the advent of Christ (2nd Coming), and that <u>every time</u> a date was set, and passed, it would weaken the faith of God's people. For this I was charged with <u>being the evil servant</u> that said, "My Lord delayeth His coming (Matt 24:48; Luke 12:45)." {LSMS 137.3} (Parenthesis added)

The people of God need to study what <u>characters they must form</u> in order to pass through the test and proving of the last days. <u>Many are living in spiritual weakness and backsliding</u>. <u>They know not what they believe</u> (know not the history and immovable solid foundational teachings of our faith). Let us read and study <u>the twelfth chapter of Daniel</u>. <u>It is a warning</u> (Dani 12:1, the 7 last plagues to come upon the unrepentant and disobedient) that we shall all need to understand before the time (close of probation) of the end. There are ministers claiming to believe the truth who are <u>not sanctified through the truth</u> (We are <u>sanctified by</u> the <u>TRUTH- John 17:17</u>, not by error!). Unless a change comes in their lives, they <u>will</u> say, "<u>My Lord delayeth His coming</u>." [Matthew 24:48.] {Lt161-1903.6} {15MR 228.2} (Parenthesis added)

The times and seasons God has put in His own power. And why has not God given us this knowledge?-- Because we would not make a right use of it if He did. A condition of things would result from this knowledge among our people that would greatly retard the work of God in preparing a people to stand in the great day that is to come. We are not to be engrossed with speculations in regard to the times and the seasons which God has not revealed. Jesus has told His disciples to "watch," but not for definite time. His followers are to be in the position of those who are listening for the orders of their Captain; they are to watch, wait, pray, and work, as they approach the time for the coming of the Lord; but no one will be able to predict just when that time will come; for "of that day and hour knoweth no man." You will not be able to say that He will come in one, two, or five years, neither are you to put off His coming by stating that it may not be for ten or twenty years. . . . We are not to know the definite time either for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit or for the coming of Christ.--Review and Herald, March 22, 1892. {Ev 221.1}

That a wrong use is often made of the text [Matthew 24:36] is evident from the context.... One saying of the Saviour must not be made to destroy another. Though no man knoweth the day nor the hour (close of probation), we are instructed and required [for it is in the imperative] (Imperative-"of vital importance, Crucial") to know when it (close of probation) is near (Dan 11:45 Turkey invades Jerusalem), even at the doors (Dan 12:1 Jesus steps out of MHP). {4SP 496.2} (Parenthesis added) Brackets in original

No one has a true message fixing the time when Christ is to come or not to come. Be assured that God gives no one authority to say that Christ delays His coming five years, ten years, or twenty years. "Be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh" [Matthew 24:44]. This (close of probation) is our message, the very message that the three angels flying in the midst of heaven are proclaiming. The work to be done now is that of sounding this last message of mercy to a fallen world. A new life is coming from heaven and taking possession of all God's people. But divisions will come in the church. Two parties will be developed. The wheat and tares grow up together for the harvest. {17MR 17.2} (Parenthesis added)



He will come, let us watch and be ready;
He will come, hallelujah! hallelujah!
He will come in the clouds of His Father's bright glory but we know not the hour.

The Turkish Revolution No. 5A

Triangular Question by Percy T. Magan

For more than half a century the Seventh – day Adventist people have maintained that the scripture plainly teach that in the last days the Ottoman Empire in Europe will come to an end, and that following this there will be a world-wide war — "a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation, to even the same time."

And we have further declared that according to the Word of God this universal war would terminate in the battle of Armageddon, the end of the world, and the coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

{Vol 5. RH Aug 5, 1909, p 532}

Every eye is centered on that one spot, and has been for years. Turkey is known universally as the "sick man of the east...the time will come when he will remove from Constantinople, and take up his abode in Palestine; that is, plant his tabernacle between the Mediterranean and Red Seas. Time and again the world has been brought to realize that the end of all things is near at hand, for all know that when the Turk steps out of Constantinople, there will be a general breaking up of Europe. They may not name this impending conflict the battle of Armageddon, but God has so named it." {1901 SNH, SDP 247.3} "I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth. . . . And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God; and he cried . . . Saying, hurt not the earth . . . Till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads." these angels now hold the winds of strife, waiting for the church of god to prepare for his coming. The sealing angel goes through Jerusalem (the church) to place the seal of the living God on the foreheads of the faithful, and while this work goes forward, Turkey stands as a national guidepost to the world, that men may know what is going on in the sanctuary above. {1901 SNH, SDP 248.1} God's eye is upon his people, and he never leaves himself without a witness in the world. No man knows when Turkey will take its departure from europe, but when that move is made earth's history will **be short.** Then it will be said, "he that is unjust let him be unjust still, . . . And he that is righteous let him be righteous still." to-day is "the day of preparation...while the world watches Turkey, let the servant of God watch the movements of his great high priest, whose ministry for sin is almost over."

Sister White on Ottoman Empire in Prophecy (History)

{**1901** SNH, SDP 248.2}

Loose the **four angels** which are bound in the great river **Euphrates**. And the **four angels** were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year (6th Trumpet/2nd woe 391 years/15 day prophecy that ended Aug 11, 1840), for to slay the third part of men. **Revelation 9:14, 15**. {Mar 152.1} **The history of nations that one after another have occupied their allotted time and place, unconsciously witnessing to the truth of which they themselves knew not the meaning, speaks to us.** To every nation and to every individual of today God has assigned a place in His great plan. Today men and nations are being measured by the plummet in the hand of Him who makes no mistake. All are by their own choice deciding their destiny, and God is overruling all for the accomplishment of His purposes. . . {Mar 152.2}

All that prophecy has foretold as coming to pass, until the present time, has been traced on the pages of history, and we may be assured that all which is yet to come (Islam under 7th trumpet/ 3th woe- Dan 11:45, Matt 24:32) will be fulfilled in its order. {Mar 152.3}

In the year 1840, another remarkable fulfilment of prophecy excited widespread interest. Two years before, Josiah Litch, one of the leading ministers preaching the second advent, published an exposition of Revelation 9, predicting the fall of the Ottoman empire (6th Trumpet/2nd woe 391 years/15 day prophecy that ended Aug 11, 1840). According to his calculations, this power was to be overthrown "in A.D. 1840, sometime in the month of August;" and only a few days previous to its accomplishment he wrote:

"Allowing the first period, 150 years, to have been exactly fulfilled before Deacozes ascended the throne by permission of the Turks, and that the 391 years, fifteen days, commenced at the close of the first period, it will end on the 11th of August, 1840, when the Ottoman power in Constantinople may be expected to be broken. And this, I believe, will be found to be the case."—Josiah Litch, in Signs of the Times, and Expositor of Prophecy, Aug. 1, 1840. {Mar 152.4}

At the very time specified, <u>Turkey, through her ambassadors, accepted the protection of the allied powers of Europe, and thus placed herself under the control of Christian nations.</u> The event exactly fulfilled the prediction. . . . A wonderful impetus was given to the advent movement. {Mar 152.5}(Parenthesis added)

TIME OF TROUBLE CONNECTED TO FOUR WINDS REPRESENTED AS AN ANGRY HORSE (Islam)

<u>Different times were set for the Lord to come</u>, and were urged upon the brethren. But the Lord <u>showed me</u> that they would pass by, for the <u>time of trouble</u> (Dan 12:1 plagues- time of trouble- comes after Dan 11:45 fulfilled- Islam plants tabernacle of his palace in Jerusalem) <u>must</u> come <u>before</u> the advent of Christ (2nd Coming), and that <u>every time</u> a <u>date was set</u>, and passed, it would weaken the faith of God's people. For this I was charged with <u>being the evil</u> servant that said, "My Lord delayeth His coming (Matt 24:48; Luke 12:45)." {LSMS 137.3} (Parenthesis added)

About four months since, I had <u>a vision</u> of events, all in the future. And <u>I saw</u> the <u>time of trouble</u>, such as never was,—Jesus told me it was <u>the time of Jacob's trouble</u>, and that we should be delivered out of it by the <u>voice</u> of God. <u>Just before we entered it</u>, we <u>all received the seal [Sabbath]</u> of the living God. Then <u>I saw</u> the <u>four Angels</u> cease to hold the <u>four winds</u>. And <u>I saw</u> famine, pestilence and sword, nation rose against nation, and the whole world was in confusion. {DS March 14, 1846, par. 2} [Brackets added]

Angels are holding the four winds, represented as an angry horse (*Turkey/ Islam*) seeking to break loose and rush over the face of the whole earth, bearing destruction and death in its path. {20MR 216.6} See Rev 9:3

<u>I saw</u> that the <u>four angels</u> would hold the <u>four winds</u> (*Islam*) until Jesus' work was done in the sanctuary, <u>then</u> the seven last plagues will be poured out. These plagues enraged the wicked against the righteous, and they thought that we had brought the <u>plagues</u> down upon them, and if they could rid the earth of us, then the <u>plagues</u> would be stayed. {Ms2-1849.2} (*Parenthesis added*)After these things <u>I saw</u> <u>four angels</u> standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the <u>wind</u> should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. Rev. 7:1 <u>Four mighty angels</u> are still holding the four winds of the earth. Terrible <u>destruction</u> is forbidden to come in full. The ... <u>winds</u> will be the stirring up of the nations to one deadly combat, while the angels hold the <u>four winds</u>, forbidding the terrible power of Satan to be exercised in its fury until the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads. {Mar 175.1}

The four winds of heaven striving upon the great sea represent the terrible scenes of conquest and revolution by which kingdoms have attained to power. {GC 439.3-440.0}

If such scenes as this are to come, such tremendous <u>judgments</u> on a guilty world, where will be the refuge for God's people? How will they be sheltered until the indignation be overpast? <u>John sees the elements of nature-earthquake, tempest, and political strife</u> (Turkey, king of north, taking over Jerusalem is based on politics & war!) -- represented as being held by <u>four angels</u>. {TM 444.3} (Parenthesis added)

Political Strife

We are living in the midst of an "epidemic of crime," at which thoughtful, God-fearing men everywhere stand aghast. The corruption that prevails, it is beyond the power of the human pen to describe. Every day brings fresh revelations of political strife, bribery, and fraud. Every day brings its heart-sickening record of violence and lawlessness, of indifference to human suffering, of brutal, fiendish destruction of human life. Every day testifies to the increase of insanity, murder, and suicide. Who can doubt that satanic agencies are at work among men with increasing activity to distract and corrupt the mind, and defile and destroy the body? {CH 25.1}

What should be our focus on all this strife?

Again, there are brought into our periodicals selections mwhich can be found in other papers and books, and, which need not be repeated. It costs money to issue these matters that have no bearing on the times or the spiritual interests of our people. The long accounts of the war can be obtained in any political or daily paper. It is not the business of the householder, whom God has appointed, to bring before the people subjects that may be found in the publications of the world, and the less these things are brought into our religious papers, and the more space given to that class of matter which is spiritual food,—in living experience, in Bible studies, in plain, simple, earnest appeals,—the better will it be for the spiritual good and advancement of the work.—Manuscript 95, 1898. {CW 20.1}

"The events (Rev 9, Islam, Dan 11:45, Matt 24:32) connected with the close of probation and the work of preparation for the time of trouble (plagues), 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."

[GC88 594.1] (Parenthesis added)

"That a wrong use is often made of the text [Matthew 24:36] is evident from the context. ... One saying of the Saviour must not be made to destroy another. Though no man knoweth the day nor the hour (close of probation/no future time setting of dates allowed; we are commanded to watch for event in Matt 24:32 & Dan 11:45 for fulfillment), we are instructed and required [for it is in the imperative] (Imperative-"of vital importance, Crucial") to know when it (The Time of Our Visitation; close of probation!) is near (Matt 24: 32-34 & Dan 11:45 Turkey invades Jerusalem), even at the doors (Dan 12:1 Jesus steps out of MHP, then plagues let loose)."

[4SP 496.2] (Parenthesis added) Brackets in original

"But of that day and hour knoweth no [man], no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.

Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come."

Matt 24:36, 42