

# WHEN DID SUNDAY ENFORCEMENT BECOME A LAW?

**The Sunday Law has already been made a law and enforced** in our country and abroad back in the days (late 1800's) of Sister White.

This document will show that this was truly an issue in her day and that she stated Sunday Law enforcement would start in America first and then go to all other countries of the world. We now see it in other countries, therefore a Sunday law had to have been passed in the U.S. some time PREVIOUSLY in order for it to have been enforced in other countries since.

In the book entitled, "[DATELINE SUNDAY](#)", on page 74, shows that **in August, 1892, President Harrison signed the very first Sunday closing law bill.** This was after A.T. Jones went to congress in 1888 to fight the Blair Act. The Blair Act was changed to another name and was passed as **the Sunday Closing Law** in 1892.

In January of 1893, A.T. Jones once again went before Congress, but at this time, he was told that the law was the law and they were not going to change it back. At this time, this law (The Sunday Closing Law) was now **A NATIONAL LAW** because it was signed by the President.

**This was not a state law**, for this law superseded all state laws. Notice this interesting statement from **1884 Great Controversy**, page 503.3, that has opened the door to the states:

"This beast not only compels the earth and its inhabitants to worship the first beast, as above noticed, but it causes them that dwell upon the earth to make an image to the first beast. **This can be done only by a union of Church and State, or by so subordinating the civil to the ecclesiastical power that the State will be compelled to enforce the tenets and requirements of the Church.** **A Religious Amendment to the Constitution of the United States (this took place in 1892) would speedily insure this result.**" 1884

A.T. Jones goes into detail as to what happened in the articles entitled "[GENERAL CONFERENCE BULLETIN, 1893](#)", under sections "SERMONS #2-3 BY A.T. JONES 1893..."

#2 is titled RELIGIOUS LEGISLATION

#3 is titled AWAKE TO THE TIMES

#4 has no title, it just says, "SERMON #4 by A.T. Jones"

All 3 of these sermons shed light as to what really happened when President Harrison signed that law.

## 1881/82

**Already the judgments of God are abroad in the land**, as seen in storms, in floods, in tempests, in earthquakes, in peril by land and by sea. **The great I AM is speaking to those who make void His law.** When God's wrath (7 last plagues) is poured out upon the earth, who will then be able to stand? **Now** is the time for God's people to show themselves true to principle. When the religion of Christ is most held in contempt, when His law is most despised, then should our zeal be the warmest and our courage and firmness the most unflinching. To stand in defense of truth and righteousness when the majority forsake us, to fight the battles of the Lord when champions are few--this will be our test. At this time we must gather warmth from the coldness of others, courage from their cowardice, and loyalty from their treason. **The nation will be on the side of the great rebel leader.** {5T 136.2}

The test will surely come. **Thirty-six years ago (1845) I was shown that what is now transpiring would take place, that the observance of an institution of the papacy would be enforced upon the people by a Sunday law, while the sanctified rest day of Jehovah would be trampled underfoot.** {5T 137.1}

The Captain of our salvation will strengthen His people for the conflict in which they must engage. How often when Satan has brought all his forces to bear against the followers of Christ, and death stares them in

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the face, have earnest prayers put up in faith brought the Captain of the Lord's host upon the field of action and turned the tide of battle and delivered the oppressed. {5T 137.2}

Now is the time when we should closely connect with God, that we may be hid when the fierceness of His **wrath** (*7 last plagues*) is poured upon the sons of men. **We have wandered away from the old landmarks** (*i.e., the true teachings on Daniel 11:45 and Rev. Ch 9/ The Trumpets*). **Let us return.** If the Lord be God, serve Him; if Baal, serve him. Which side will you be on? {5T 137.2} 1881/82

### 1888

Brother A. T. Jones speaks every Sunday night on the signs of the times and **the lawmaking powers who are trying to exalt Sunday.** {21 ME 324.1} 1888

The **watchmen** (*Matt 24 language*) **must sound the alarm.** If men are at ease in Zion **somebody must be awake to give the trumpet** (*we are under the sounding of the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet since 1844*) **a certain sound. Let the blaze of the beacon light be seen everywhere. Let the ease-loving awake, the tranquil be disturbed, and let them labor for religious liberty.** And after we have done all we can, then leave our Lord to do His work.

There was at last an opening made for Brother Jones, but it was not pleasant to fight every inch for any privileges and advantages to bring the truth before the people. The message borne had a wonderful effect on those that heard it. **There were many not of our faith who were deeply stirred with the importance of doing something and doing it now, in the struggle for religious freedom. Many were awakened to see what this religious amendment meant**—turning from a “Thus saith the Lord, the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God.” A spurious sabbath is presented to be legislated into power, compelling the observance of a sabbath which God has not enjoined upon man. {16MR 239.2} 1889

### 1889

I have been much burdened in regard to **movements that are now in progress for the enforcement of Sunday observance.** It has been shown to me that Satan has been working earnestly to carry out his designs **to restrict religious liberty.** Plans of serious import to the people of God are advancing in an underhand manner among the clergymen of various denominations, and **the object of this secret maneuvering is to win popular favor for the enforcement of Sunday sacredness. If the people can be led to favor a Sunday law, then the clergy intend to exert their united influence to obtain a religious amendment to the Constitution, and compel the nation to keep Sunday.** {RH Dec. 24, 1889, par 1}

### 1889

**“We have been looking many years for a Sunday law to be enacted in our land; and now that the movement is right upon us,** we ask, What are our people going to do in the matter? Do you realize that the night will soon come, when no man can work? Have you that intensity of zeal, that piety and devotion, which will enable you to stand when opposition is brought upon you? ... We should specially seek God for grace and power to be given to his people now. God lives; and **we do not believe that the time has fully come when he would have our liberties restricted.** The prophet saw ‘four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the **four winds** (***FUTURE: Islam on the scene after probation closes***) of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree.’ Another angel ascending from the east, cried to them, saying, ‘Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants

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of our God in their foreheads.' This points out the work we now have to do, which is to cry to God for the angels to hold the four winds until missionaries shall be sent to all parts of the world, and shall have proclaimed the warning against disobeying the law of Jehovah." {HM Aug., 1, 1889, par 2}

### 1890

By **the decree enforcing the institution of the papacy** (Sunday law passed into law in 1892 & was enforced) in violation of the law of God, **our nation will disconnect herself fully from righteousness.** (THIS WAS FULFILLED IN 1892!!) When Protestantism shall stretch her hand across the gulf to grasp the hand of the Roman power, when she shall reach over the abyss to clasp hands with spiritualism, when, under the influence of this threefold union, our country shall repudiate every principle of its Constitution (still in process of declension) as a Protestant and republican government, and **shall make provision for the propagation of papal falsehoods and delusions,** (and this has been going on & waxing worse since 1892, for over 130 years!) **then we may know that the time has come for the marvelous working of Satan and that the end** (end begins when Islam comes on the scene, probation closes & 7 last plagues begin) **is near.**

As the approach of the Roman armies was a sign to the disciples of the impending destruction of Jerusalem, so may **this apostasy be a sign to us that the limit of God's forbearance is reached, that the measure of our nation's iniquity is full,** and **that the angel of mercy is about to take her flight (close of probation/ 7 last plagues begin- Islam invades Jerusalem), never to return.** The people of God will then be plunged into those scenes of affliction and distress which prophets have described as the time of Jacob's trouble (7 last plagues begin as probation has closed). The cries of the faithful, persecuted ones ascend to heaven. And as the blood of Abel cried from the ground, there are voices also crying to God from martyrs' graves, from the sepulchers of the sea, from mountain caverns, from convent vaults (Yes, the Catholic Church has martyred millions): "How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost Thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?" {5T 451.1, 2} 1890

### 1892

**SUNDAY LAW PASSED INTO LAW UNDER PRESIDENT HARRISON**

### 1893

**We know that Brother Jones has been giving the message for this time—meat in due season for the starving flock of God.** Those who do not allow prejudice to bar the heart against the heaven-sent message, cannot but feel the spirit and force of the truth. Brother Jones has borne the message from church to church and from State to State; and light and freedom and the outpouring of the Spirit of God have attended the word, as events of a most startling nature in the fulfilment of prophecy show that the great crisis is rapidly approaching. Brother Jones seeks to arouse the professed people of God from their death-like slumber, to see the importance of giving the warning to the world. {11MR 230.1, 2} 1893

**SUNDAY LAW IS ALREADY HERE. SUNDAY LAW ENFORCEMENT WILL AGAIN BE REKINDLED IN AMERICA (WHEN ENFORCED) AND THEN ALL COUNTRIES ON THE GLOBE WILL FOLLOW:**

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## 1900

As America, the land of religious liberty, shall unite with the papacy in forcing the conscience and compelling men to honor the false Sabbath, the people of every country on the globe will be led to follow her example... {6T 18.2} 1900

Foreign nations will follow the example of the United States. Though she leads out, yet the same crisis will come upon our people in all parts of the world. {6T 395.1} 1900

NOTE: According to the two previous quotes, the ENFORCEMENT of Sunday law will start first in America, then the other countries will follow. My question is, how has the enforcement of Sunday been implemented already in other countries (Germany, Croatia, Canary Islands, etc.) if it hasn't started in America as of yet? ANSWER: IN 1892, THE SUNDAY LAW WAS PASSED IN AMERICA, AND AT ONE TIME, IT WAS BEING SOMEWHAT ENFORCED ON THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, BUT JUST LIKE ROME SURROUNDED JERUSALEM AND FLED AWAY AND CAME BACK LATER (see 5T 451 quote above), **THE ENFORCEMENT OF THIS LAW TOO FLED AWAY, BUT WILL BE COMING BACK** (Sister White compares the passing of this law to when Rome surrounded Jerusalem, and we know Jerusalem was destroyed when they were surrounded the **SECOND** time) READ THE QUOTES BELOW TO SEE THIS ACTUALLY WAS ALREADY A LAW IN HER DAY AND READ A.T. JONES SERMONS #2-4 IN [THE GENERAL CONFERENCE BULLETIN OF 1893](#), AND "DATELINE SUNDAY" DOCUMENTING HOW THE PRESIDENT MADE THAT SUNDAY LAW. **ALL THAT IS NEEDED NOW IS SOME TYPE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER TO ENFORCE THIS LAW ONCE AGAIN...**AS A MATTER OF FACT, **A BLUE LAW IS NOT A SUNDAY LAW THAT WILL BE PUT INTO PLACE** (as many of our pastors/ leaders believe- we all need to study for ourselves). **A BLUE LAW IS THE ENFORCEMENT OF A LAW THAT ALREADY EXISTS.** (Please google "WHAT IS A BLUE LAW")

SEE <https://www.libertymagazine.org/article/history-of-sunday-laws> FOR HISTORY OF SUNDAY LAW ENFORCEMENT.

**SUNDAY BECAME A LAW IN SISTER WHITE'S DAY AND WAS BEING ENFORCED (After bill passed in 1892):**

## 1897

The decree enforcing the worship of this day is to go forth to all the world. **In a limited degree, it has already gone forth.** In several places the civil power is speaking with the voice of a dragon, just as the heathen king spoke to the Hebrew captives. {ST, May 6, 1897 par. 15}

## 1901

Brethren and sisters, would that I might say something to awaken you to the importance of this time, the significance of the events that are now taking place. I point you to the aggressive movements **now** being made for the restriction of religious liberty. **God's sanctified memorial has been torn down,** and in its place a false sabbath, bearing no sanctity, stands before the world. And while the powers of darkness are stirring up the elements from beneath, the Lord God of heaven is sending power from above to meet the emergency by arousing His living agencies to exalt the law of heaven. Now, just now, is our time to work in foreign countries..."(6T 18.1) (THIS WAS WRITTEN IN 1901, 9 years after President Harrison signed this Sunday Law)

**Please note our pioneers understood plainly in 1895 that Sunday Law already in force:**

We cannot tell the people any more that the United States government **is going to** put away the Sabbath of the Lord from the fourth commandment and put Sunday in its place. **No man can do that and speak truly. Everyone that speaks the truth on that has to say that has been done and point the people simply to the official record in the proceedings of the government that shows it and there it stands.**

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Therefore, as this is truly so, this text applies as never before, "Now is our salvation nearer than when we believed." {February 13, 1895 ATJ, GCB 116.9} (Italicized in original)

SO, ACCORDING TO WHAT HAS BEEN SHOWN ABOVE, WE KNOW, WITHOUT A DOUBT, THAT **WE ARE NOT LOOKING FOR THE PASSING OF A SUNDAY LAW- IT'S ALREADY HERE!** RATHER, **WE ARE WAITING FOR THE ENFORCEMENT, ONCE AGAIN, TO BE IMPLEMENTED.** WE NEED TO HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING ALL THE COUNSEL OF CHRIST AND THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY (I.E. GET OUT OF CITIES, PREACH TRUTH OF 3 AM ETC.) SINCE 1892! PLEASE READ QUOTES BELOW THAT SHOW THAT THE INCREASE OF NATURAL DISASTERS (ONE ON THE HEEL OF ANOTHER) WILL PROMPT LEADERS OF THIS COUNTRY TO **ENFORCE** SUNDAY ONCE AGAIN.

## Sunday will be enforced due to calamities

Men in responsible positions will not only ignore and despise the Sabbath themselves, but from the sacred desk, will urge upon the people the observance of the first day of the week, pleading tradition and custom in behalf of this man-made institution. **They will point to calamities on land and sea—to the storms of wind, the floods, the earthquakes, the destruction by fire—as judgments indicating God's displeasure because Sunday is not sacredly observed. These calamities will increase more and more, one disaster will follow close upon the heels of another;** and those who make void the law of God will point to the few who are keeping the Sabbath of the fourth commandment as the ones who are bringing wrath upon the world. This falsehood is Satan's device that he may ensnare the unwary. {ST January 17, 1884, par. 12}

We need Nehemiahs in 1884, who shall arouse the people to see how far from God they are because of the transgression of his law. Nehemiah was a reformer, a great man raised up for an important time. As he came in contact with evil and every kind of opposition, fresh courage and zeal were aroused. His energy and determination inspired the people of Jerusalem; and strength and courage took the place of feebleness and discouragement. His holy purpose, his high hope, his cheerful consecration to the work, were contagious. The people caught the enthusiasm of their leader, and in his sphere each man became a Nehemiah, and helped to make stronger the hand and heart of his neighbor. Here is a lesson for ministers of the present day. If they are listless, inactive, destitute of godly zeal, what can be expected of the people to whom they minister? {ST January 17, 1884, par. 13}

Man's personal accountability to God should command careful attention. The law can never pardon. Its province is not to save the transgressor, but to convict him. It is far-reaching, and all we do bears the stamp of its approval or condemnation. Men professing godliness often regard the secret sins of the soul very lightly; but it is the secret motives of the heart that determine the true character, and God will bring them into judgment. The dangers resulting from disobeying God and seeking the friendship of the world have not lessened with the lapse of time. There is earnest work to be done; and the **faithful watchman** (*Matt 24 language*), **who is actuated by love to God and a desire to save sinners,** will reap the reward of his labors; but the **unfaithful watchman,** whose influence tends to union with the world, **will cause the ruin of many souls.** {ST January 17, 1884, par. 14}

**The Lord has a controversy with his professed people in these last days. In this controversy men in responsible positions will take a course directly opposite to that pursued by Nehemiah.** They will not only ignore and despise the Sabbath themselves, but they will try to keep it from others by burying it beneath the rubbish of custom and tradition. In churches and in large gatherings in the open air, ministers will urge upon the people the necessity of keeping the first day of the week. **There are calamities on sea and land; and these calamities will increase, one disaster following close upon another; and the little band of conscientious Sabbath-keepers will be pointed out as the ones who are bringing the wrath of God upon the world by their disregard of Sunday.** {RH March 18, 1884, par. 8}



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Satan urges this falsehood that he may take the world captive. It is his plan to compel men to accept errors. He takes an active part in the promulgation of all false religions, and will stop at nothing in his efforts to enforce erroneous doctrines. Under a cloak of religious zeal, men, influenced by his spirit, have invented the most cruel tortures for their fellow-men, and have inflicted the most awful sufferings upon them. Satan and his agents have the same spirit still; and the history of the past will be repeated in our day. {RH March 18, 1884, par. 9}

As a people, we are looked upon as peculiar. Our position and faith distinguish us from every other denomination. If we are in life and character no better than the world, they will point the finger of scorn at us and say, "These are Seventh-day Adventists." "We have here a sample of the people who keep the seventh day for Sunday." The stigma which should be rightfully attached to such a class is thus placed upon all who are conscientiously keeping the seventh day. Oh, how much better it would be if such a class would not make any pretension to obey the truth!—Testimonies for the Church 5:138 (1882).

### Inscription on 1850 pioneer chart:

#### IMAGE OF PAPACY

The two lamb like horns, (REPUBLICANISM & PROTESTANTISM), whose names number 666, become united in action, speak like a DRAGON, and control the civil legislature, and cause it to make the CHURCH the IMAGE of the papacy which received a deadly wound and was healed.

**Rev. 17: 13-14.** These have ONE MIND and shall give their POWER and STRENGTH unto the beast, (the executive power). **And causeth all to receive their MARK, and worship their IMAGE.** These shall make war with the LAMB, and the lamb shall overcome them; for He is LORD of lords, and KING of kings. **Rev. 13:11-18.**

The Lord has shown me clearly that **the image of the beast will be formed before probation closes; for it is to be the great test for the people of God, by which their eternal destiny will be decided. ... In (Revelation 13) this subject is plainly presented:** "I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spoke as a dragon. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them that dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed." [Verse 11.] Then the miracle-working power is revealed: "And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads, and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name." [Verses 14-17.]

**This is the test that the people of God must have before they are sealed.** All who prove their loyalty to God by observing His law, and refusing to accept a spurious Sabbath, will rank under the banner of the Lord God Jehovah, and will receive the seal of the living God. Those who yield the truth of heavenly origin, and accept the Sunday Sabbath, will receive the mark of the beast. What need will there be of the solemn warning not to receive the mark of the beast, when all the saints of God are sealed and ticketed for the New Jerusalem? "O consistency, thou art a jewel!" {6 LTMS, LT 11, 1890, par 10-12}

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## QUOTES AFTER 1892~

### 1895

Satan has worked with all his power to abolish the Sabbath of the fourth commandment and place a common working day in its stead. But the Lord has sent men light on this point, so that none need be in ignorance. Those who have not received the light and have died, regarding the first day of the week as the Sabbath of the Lord, will not be held accountable for their mistake. Although the Lord has invested the seventh day with the sanctity of His blessing, he compels none to observe it. All who know the holy commandments and refuse to obey decide their destiny for eternity. Those who appreciate the great sacrifice made for them will not bow down to an idol sabbath, but will render obedience to the holy day which God has sanctified and blessed as the day of His rest.

The transgression of God's commandment by Adam was considered small, but its results have been by no means small. That one act of disobedience opened the floodgates of woe upon our world. So today the fourth commandment, which was given to man to be revered as a memorial of creation, is set aside by men as of no particular consequence. They say, "It does not matter which day you keep as long as you rest one day in the week. God is not particular about the day." Thus they trample under their feet the fourth commandment, showing no respect for a "Thus saith the Lord." Like Nadab and Abihu they present to the Lord common fire, instead of the fire of God's own kindling. They take a day which has not the blessing of the Lord upon it, and honor it as the Sabbath.

The laws of states and nations exalt that day, and clothe it with importance. They make laws that every soul shall worship this idol. That which is false is sanctioned by human laws, and disobedience to those laws is regarded as an offence punishable with the stocks, fines, imprisonment, and death. Thus men are forced to obey men, while the guardians of nations refuse to obey the laws of Jehovah. Thus they fulfill the prophecy concerning the man of sin, who sitting in the temple of God, shows himself to be God.

This is the supreme delusion of these last days. Satan has done this work in no halfway manner. That Sabbath which God declares is the sign and seal of the loyalty of His people, by which they are to know Him as the only true God, the maker of heaven and earth, the day He has sanctified and blessed, is made the busiest day of the week. This cunning device of Satan has been brought in to ensnare the commandment-keeping people of God. Through successive steps he has led men to regard Sunday, first as a holiday which all must observe, and then as God's holy day. But God no more accepts this false sabbath than He accepted the strange fire offered by Nadab and Abihu. {10 LTMS, LT 100, 1895, par 27-30}

### 1897

If the light of truth has been presented to you, revealing the Sabbath of the fourth commandment, and showing that there is no foundation in the word of God for Sunday observance, and yet you still cling to the false Sabbath, refusing to keep holy the Sabbath which God calls "My holy day," you receive the mark of the beast. When does this take place?—When you obey the decree that commands you to cease from labor on Sunday and worship God, while you know that there is not a word in the Bible showing Sunday to be other than a common working-day, you consent to receive the mark of the beast, and refuse the seal of God. If we receive this mark in our foreheads or in our hands, the judgments (7 last plagues) pronounced against the disobedient must fall upon us. But the seal of the living God is placed upon those who conscientiously keep the Sabbath of the Lord. {RH July 13, 1897, par 6}

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## 1900

The observance of the Sabbath is a weekly celebration that distinguishes Sabbathkeepers from all who disregard God's holy day. God gave the seventh day to man as a blessing. But the man of sin, under Satan's inspiration, has taken a day which has no sanctity, and made it a festival day. He has displaced God's memorial by his own invention. He has exalted a common working day above the day God has sanctified and blessed.

Even though all the churches have accepted the institution of the papacy, even though the world is bound to give influence to this spurious invention, does this give one tinge of sanctity to the day? Nay verily. The numbers observing it do not make it sacred. God gave the seventh day to His people to be kept holy throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant. All the changes God's opponent may attempt to make in the holy law do not convert Sunday into a sanctified day, or place on it heaven's seal. The honor which comes from man is nothing. {15 LTMS, LT 83, 1900, par 9, 10}

## 1902

All the symbolical representations serve a double purpose. From them God's people learn not only that the physical forces of the earth are under the control of the Creator, but also that under his control are the religious movements of the nations. Especially is this true with reference to the enforcement of observance. He who gave His people, through His servant Moses, instruction in regard to the sanctity of the Sabbath—as recorded in ([Exodus 31:11-18](#))—will in the hour of trial preserve those who keep this day as a sign of loyalty to Him. God's commandment-keeping people believe that He will fulfil His promise to protect them. By actual experience they know that the Lord sanctifies them and grants to them the seal of His approval as commandment keepers. Those who read the Scriptures with an intense desire to know what the Spirit saith unto the churches know that God lives and reigns.

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In the last days Satan will appear as an angel of light, with great power and heavenly glory, and claim to be the lord of the whole earth. He will declare that the Sabbath has been changed from the seventh to the first day of the week; and as lord of the first day of the week he will present this spurious sabbath as a test of loyalty to him. Then will take place the final fulfilment of the Revelator's prophecy:

“They worshiped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshiped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, and His tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. And all that dwell upon the earth shall



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worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." [Revelation 13:4-8.]

"And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them that dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, and deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six." [Verses 11-18.]

In connection with this Scripture, the entire fourteenth chapter of Revelation should be studied much by God's people. Verses nine to eleven bring to view the special message of warning against worshiping the beast and his image and receiving his mark in the forehead or in the hand. This warning is to be given to the world by those who are mentioned in the twelfth verse as keeping "the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus."

Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end of the creation of God. Those who sincerely work for the salvation of souls will improve their capabilities to the utmost; and as they work unselfishly, they will have divine assistance. {17 LTMS, MS 153, 1902, par 7-12}

### 1903

The work of the Holy Spirit is to convince the world of sin, of righteousness and of judgment. The world can only be warned by seeing those who believe the truth sanctified through the truth, acting upon high and holy principles, showing in a high, elevated sense, the line of demarcation between those who keep the commandments of God, and those who trample them under their feet. The sanctification of the Spirit signalizes the difference between those who have the seal of God, and those who keep a spurious rest-day. When the test comes, it will be clearly shown what the mark of the beast is. It is the keeping of Sunday. Those who after having heard the truth, continue to regard this day as holy, bear the signature of the man of sin, who thought to change times and laws. {BTS Dec 1, 1903, par 6}

### **Other Quotes:**

Several times during our conversation, in which you become very much in earnest, you repeated the sentence, "O consistency, thou art a jewel!" I repeat the same with decided force to you. You say that Anna's visions place the forming of the image of the beast after probation closes. This is not so. You claim to believe the testimonies; let them set you right on this point. **The Lord has shown me clearly that the image of the beast will be formed before probation closes**; for it is to be the great test for the people of God, by which their eternal destiny will be decided. Your position is such a jumble of inconsistencies that but few will be deceived. {15MR 15.1}

**In Revelation 13 this subject is plainly presented**; [Revelation 13:11-17, quoted]. {15MR 15.2}

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This is the test that the people of God must have before they are sealed. All who prove their loyalty to God by observing His law, and refusing to accept a spurious sabbath, will rank under the banner of the Lord God Jehovah, and will receive the seal of the living God. Those who yield the truth of heavenly origin, and accept the Sunday sabbath, will receive the mark of the beast. What need will there be of the solemn warning not to receive the mark of the beast, when all the saints of God are sealed and ticketed for the New Jerusalem? "O consistency, thou art a jewel!" {15MR 15.3}

## Prepare for the Day of Test

Ministers and people need the converting power of grace before they will be able to stand in the day of the Lord. The world is fast approaching that point in iniquity and human depravity when God's interference will become necessary. And at that time His professed followers should be more marked for their fidelity to His holy law. Their prayer will be as that of David: "It is time for Thee, Lord, to work: for they have made void Thy law." **Psalm 119:126**. And by their conduct they will say: "Therefore I love Thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold." **Verse 127**. The very contempt that is shown to the law of God is sufficient reason why His commandment-keeping people should come to the front and show their esteem and reverence for His downtrodden law. {2TT 30.3}

"And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold." **Matthew 24:12**. The very atmosphere is polluted with sin. **Soon God's people will be tested by fiery trials, and the great proportion of those who now appear to be genuine and true will prove to be base metal**. Instead of being strengthened and confirmed by opposition, threats, and abuse, they will cowardly take the side of the opposers. The promise is: "Them that honor Me I will honor." **1 Samuel 2:30**. Shall we be less firmly attached to God's law because the world at large have attempted to make it void? {2TT 31.1}

**Already the judgments of God are abroad in the land, as seen in storms, in floods, in tempests, in earthquakes, in peril by land and by sea**. The great I AM is speaking to those who make void His law. When God's wrath is poured out upon the earth, who will then be able to stand? Now is the time for God's people to show themselves true to principle. When the religion of Christ is most held in contempt, when His law is most despised, then should our zeal be the warmest and our courage and firmness the most unflinching. To stand in defense of truth and righteousness when the majority forsake us, to fight the battles of the Lord when champions are few—**this will be our test**. At this time we must gather warmth from the coldness of others, courage from their cowardice, and loyalty from their treason. **The nation will be on the side of the great rebel leader**. {2TT 31.2}

**The test will surely come**. Thirty-six years ago (1845) I was shown that **what is now transpiring** would take place, that **the observance of an institution of the papacy would be enforced upon the people by a Sunday law**, while the sanctified rest day of Jehovah would be trampled underfoot. {2TT 31.3}

The Captain of our salvation will strengthen His people for the conflict in which they must engage. How often when Satan has brought all his forces to bear against the followers of Christ, and death stares them in the face, have earnest prayers put up in faith brought the Captain of the Lord's host upon the field of action and turned the tide of battle and delivered the oppressed. {2TT 31.4}

Now is the time when we should closely connect with God, that we may be hid when the fierceness of His wrath (*7 last plagues*) is poured upon the sons of men. **We have wandered away from the old landmarks. Let us return**. If the Lord be God, serve Him; if Baal, serve him. Which side will you be on? {2TT 32.1}

1881/82

# WHEN DID SUNDAY ENFORCEMENT BECOME A LAW?

## VERY GOOD COUNSEL

### Chapter 49—Our Attitude Toward the Civil Authorities

By some of our brethren many things have been spoken and written that are interpreted as expressing antagonism to government and law. It is a mistake thus to lay ourselves open to misunderstanding. It is not wise to find fault continually with what is done by the rulers of government. It is not our work to attack individuals or institutions. We should exercise great care lest we be understood as putting ourselves in opposition to the civil authorities. It is true that our warfare is aggressive, but **our weapons are to be those found in a plain “Thus saith the Lord.”** **Our work is to prepare a people to stand in the great day of God.** We should not be turned aside to lines that will encourage controversy or arouse antagonism in those not of our faith.

We should not work in a manner that will mark us out as seeming to advocate treason. We should weed out from our writings and utterances every expression that, taken by itself, could be so misrepresented as to make it appear antagonistic to law and order. **Everything should be carefully considered, lest we place ourselves on record as encouraging disloyalty to our country and its laws.** We are not required to defy authorities. There will come a time when, because of our advocacy of Bible truth, we shall be treated as traitors; but let not this time be hastened by unadvised movements that stir up animosity and strife.

**The time will come when unguarded expressions of a denunciatory character, that have been carelessly spoken or written by our brethren, will be used by our enemies to condemn us. These will not be used merely to condemn those who made the statements, but will be charged upon the whole body of Adventists.** Our accusers will say that on such and such a day one of our responsible men said thus and so against the administration of the laws of this government. **Many will be astonished to see how many things have been cherished and remembered that will give point to the arguments of our adversaries.** Many will be surprised to hear their own words strained into a meaning that they did not intend them to have. Then let our workers **be careful to speak guardedly at all times and under all circumstances.** Let all beware lest by reckless expressions they bring on a time of trouble before the great crisis which is to try men's souls.

**The less we make direct charges against authorities and powers, the greater work we shall be able to accomplish, both in America and in foreign countries.** Foreign nations will follow the example of the United States. Though she leads out, yet the same crisis will come upon our people in all parts of the world.

**It is our work to magnify and exalt the law of God.** The truth of God's holy word is to be made manifest. We are to hold up the Scriptures as the rule of life. In all modesty, in the spirit of grace, and in the love of God we are to point men to the fact that the Lord God is the Creator of the heavens and the earth, and that **the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord.**

In the name of the Lord we are to go forward, unfurling His banner, advocating His word. **When the authorities command us not to do this work, when they forbid us to proclaim the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, then it will be necessary for us to say as did the apostles: “Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.”** Acts 4:19, 20.

**The truth is to be set forth in the power of the Holy Spirit.** This alone can make our words effective. **Only** through the Spirit's power will victory be gained and held. The human agent must be worked by the Spirit of God. The workers must be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation. They must have divine wisdom, that nothing may be uttered which would stir up men to close our way. Through the inculcation of spiritual truth we are to prepare a people who shall be able, in meekness and fear, to give a reason for their faith before the highest authorities in our world.

**We need to present the truth in its simplicity, to advocate practical godliness; and we should do this in the spirit of Christ.** The manifestation of such a spirit will have the best influence upon our own souls, and it will have a convincing power upon others. Give the Lord opportunity to work through His own agents.

# WHEN DID SUNDAY ENFORCEMENT BECOME A LAW?

Do not imagine that it will be possible for you to lay out plans for the future; let God be acknowledged as standing at the helm at all times and under every circumstance. He will work by means that will be suitable, and will maintain, increase, and build up His own people.

The Lord's agents should have a sanctified zeal, a zeal that is wholly under His control. Stormy times will come rapidly enough upon us, and we should take no course of our own that will hasten them. **Tribulation will come of a character that will drive to God all who wish to be His, and His alone.** Until tested and proved in the furnace of trial, we do not know ourselves, and it is not proper for us to measure the characters of others and to condemn those who have not yet had the light of the third angel's message.

If we wish men to be convinced that the truth we believe sanctifies the soul and transforms the character, let us not be continually charging them with vehement accusations. In this way we shall force them to the conclusion that the doctrine we profess cannot be the Christian doctrine, since it does not make us kind, courteous, and respectful. Christianity is not manifested in pugilistic accusations and condemnation.

Many of our people are in danger of trying to exercise a controlling power upon others and of bringing oppression upon their fellow men. There is danger that those who are entrusted with responsibilities will acknowledge but one power, the power of an unsanctified will. Some have exercised this power unscrupulously and have caused great discomfiture to those whom the Lord is using. **One of the greatest curses in our world (and it is seen in churches and in society everywhere) is the love of supremacy.** Men become absorbed in seeking to secure **power and popularity.** This spirit has manifested itself in the ranks of Sabbathkeepers, to our grief and shame. But spiritual success comes only to those who have learned meekness and lowliness in the school of Christ.

**We should remember that the world will judge us by what we appear to be.** Let those who are seeking to represent Christ be careful not to exhibit inconsistent features of character. Before we come fully to the front, let us see to it that the Holy Spirit is poured upon us from on high. When this is the case, we shall give a decided message, but it will be of a far less condemnatory character than that which some have been giving; and all who believe will be far more earnest for the salvation of our opponents. **Let God have the matter of condemning authorities and governments wholly in His own keeping.** In meekness and love let us as faithful sentinels defend the principles of truth as it is in Jesus. {6T 394-397} 1900

Please also visit our [Godhead/ Holy Spirit](#) page for more information on the Subject of Sunday Law

<http://iwillstanduponmywatch.com/>