

## ZOOM 1-11-25

“The line of distinction between professed Christians and the ungodly is now hardly distinguishable. Church members love what the world loves and are ready to join with them, and Satan determines to unite them in one body and thus strengthen his cause by sweeping all into the ranks of spiritualism. Papists, who boast of miracles as a certain sign of the true church, will be readily deceived by this wonder-working power; and Protestants, having cast away the shield of truth, will also be deluded. Papists, Protestants, and worldlings will alike accept the form of godliness without the power, and they will see in this **union a grand movement for the conversion of the world and the ushering in of the long-expected millennium.**

“Through spiritualism, Satan appears as a benefactor of the race, healing the diseases of the people, and professing to present a new and more exalted system of religious faith; but at the same time he works as a destroyer. His temptations are leading multitudes to ruin. Intemperance dethrones reason; sensual indulgence, strife, and bloodshed follow. Satan delights in war, for it excites the worst passions of the soul and then sweeps into eternity its victims steeped in vice and blood. **It is his object to incite the nations to war against one another, for he can thus divert the minds of the people from the work of preparation to stand in the day of God.**

“Satan works through the elements also to garner his harvest of unprepared souls. He has studied the secrets of the laboratories of nature, and he uses all his power to control the elements as far as God allows. When he was suffered to afflict Job, how quickly flocks and herds, servants, houses, children, were swept away, one trouble succeeding another as in a moment. It is God that shields His creatures and hedges them in from the power of the destroyer. But the Christian world have shown contempt for the law of Jehovah; and the Lord will do just what He has declared that He would—**He will withdraw His blessings from the earth** and remove His protecting care from those who are rebelling against His law and teaching and forcing others to do the same. Satan has control of all whom God does not especially guard. He will favor and prosper some in order to further his own designs, and he will bring trouble upon others and lead men to believe that it is God who is afflicting them.

“While appearing to the children of men as a great physician who can heal all their maladies, he will bring disease and disaster, until **populous cities are reduced to ruin and desolation.** Even now he is at work. In accidents and calamities by sea and by land, **in great conflagrations**, in fierce tornadoes and terrific hailstorms, in tempests, floods, **cyclones**, tidal waves, and earthquakes, in every place and in a thousand forms, Satan is exercising his power. He sweeps away the ripening harvest, and famine and distress follow. He imparts to the air a deadly taint, and thousands perish by the pestilence. These visitations are to become **more and more frequent and disastrous.** Destruction will be upon both man and beast. ‘The earth mourneth and fadeth away,’ ‘the haughty people ... do languish. The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant.’ Isaiah 24:4, 5.” *The Great Controversy*, 588, 589.

“Our time is precious. We have but **few, very few, days of probation left us** in which to qualify ourselves for the future eternal life. We are not to devote these precious moments to forms and ceremonies, or cheap, superficial education. **Think deeply before you speak.** God designs that we shall keep the mind in pursuit of something tangible, something that we will not leave behind in this world, but that we can take with us into the higher school. The minds of the youth need the Word of God for instruction, that they may be ‘thoroughly furnished unto all good works’ [2 Timothy 3:16, 17]. The teachers will need to be very simple when teaching from the Scriptures.

**The students must be given ‘precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little’ [Isaiah 28:10].** Do not leave the slightest impression on the minds of your students that they are restricted and forced to wear a yoke of restraint that is unnecessary.

“**Strive** to understand thoroughly every passage that you read. Fix one verse in mind, and after you have studied it prayerfully yourself, trying to **understand thoroughly** every word expressed, present that verse to the students. It is of little advantage to skim over the surface of the Scriptures. If we would understand fully the words of Christ, thought must be brought into the searching of the Scriptures. We should open the Scriptures with great reverence, and not in a slothful, lazy manner. The word of Christ is spirit and life to the receiver. The words of Christ to the Pharisees were, ‘[Ye] search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me’ [John 5:39]. They were searching the Scriptures for evidence of Christ’s appearing, gathering up every evidence in regard to the manner in which they supposed He would come, while Christ was in their midst, and they did not discern Him by the use of faith. ‘Ye will not come to me, that ye might have life,’ He said. ‘I receive not honor from men,’ He said to the opposing Pharisees, [Verses 40, 41; Verses 42–47 quoted].

“**In this our day, as in Christ’s day, there will be a misreading and misinterpreting of the Scriptures.** If the Jews had studied the Scriptures with earnest, prayerful, humble hearts, their searching would have been rewarded with a true knowledge of the time, and **not only the time, but also the manner**, of Christ’s first appearing. They would not have ascribed **the glories of the second appearing of Christ to His first advent.** They had the testimony of Daniel; they had the testimony of Isaiah and the other prophets; they had the teaching of Moses; and here was Christ Himself in their midst, and still they were searching the Scriptures for evidence in regard to His coming. They were doing to Christ, at the same time, the very things that it had been prophesied they would do. They were so blinded that **they knew not the time of His visitation**, or what they were doing. Thus they were fulfilling the Scripture.

“Many are doing the same thing today, in 1897, because they have not had experience in the testing message comprehended in the first, second, and third angels’ messages. **There are those who are searching the Scriptures for proof that these messages are still in the future.** They gather together the truthfulness of the messages, but they **fail to give them their proper place in prophetic history.** Therefore such are in danger of misleading the people in regard to **locating** the messages. **They do not see and understand the time of the end, or when to locate the messages.** The day of God is coming with stealthy tread, but the supposed wise and great men are prating about ‘higher education’ which they suppose originates with finite men. **They know not the signs of Christ’s coming, or of the end of the world.**

“The evidence of the soon coming of Christ is right upon us, and many of us are asleep. We do not half gather up the important truths that are for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. If we did receive and believe the Word of God, we should be farther in advance spiritually than we are today. Iniquity abounds everywhere, and the love of many has waxed cold. **Unless we understand the importance of the moments that are swiftly passing into eternity, and make ready a people to stand in the great day of God, we shall be registered in the books of heaven as unfaithful stewards.** The watchman is to know the time of the night. Everything is now clothed with a solemnity that all who believe the truth should feel and sense. They should act in reference to the great day of God. The plagues of God are already just upon the world, and we need to be preparing for that great day. We have not time now to spend in speculative ideas, or in hap-hazard movements. We should fear to skim the surface of the Word of God. When the light shines in our hearts, **we shall, by all our words and works, live in accordance with that light,**

**understand the words of God, and make it our spiritual, daily food, as represented by Christ as eating His flesh and drinking His blood.** Then we will be prepared to teach the Word of God as we never have done before. We must sink the shaft deeper in the mines of truth. All the little things of life are but a mote now. Those that pertain to eternity are of great consequence.” (Written Dec. 20, 1896, from “Sunnyside,” Cooranbong, N.S.W.) *Sermons and Talks*, volume 1, 288–290.

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“...they have not had **experience** in the testing message **comprehended** in the first, second, and third angels’ messages.”

“**...they knew not the time of His visitation.**”

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Yea, they that feed of the portion of his meat shall destroy him, and his army shall overflow: and many shall fall down slain. And **both these kings’ hearts shall be** to do mischief, and **they shall speak lies at one table**; but it shall not prosper: for yet **the end shall be at the time appointed**. Then shall he **return** into his land with great riches; and his heart *shall be* against the holy covenant; and he shall do *exploits*, and **return** to his own land. At **the time appointed** he shall **return**, and come toward the south; but it shall not be as the former, or as the latter. For the ships of Chittim shall come against him: therefore he shall be grieved, and **return**, and have indignation against the holy covenant: so shall he do; he shall even **return**, and **have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant**.

And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily *sacrifice*, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate.

And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he **corrupt by flatteries**: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do *exploits*. And they that understand among the people shall instruct many: yet they shall fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, **many days**. Now when they shall fall, they shall be holpen with a little help: but many shall cleave to them with flatteries. And *some* of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make *them* white, *even* to **the time of the end: because it is yet for a time appointed**. And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and **shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished**: for **that that is determined** shall be done. Daniel 11:26–36.

### 30 BC AND 65 AD

“**Two returnings from foreign conquest** are here brought to view; **the first**, after the events narrated in verses 26, 27; **and the second**, after this power had had indignation against the holy covenant, and had performed exploits. **The first was fulfilled in the return of Caesar after his expedition against Egypt and Antony**. He returned to Rome with abundant honor and riches; for, says Prideaux (II, 556), ‘At this time such vast riches were brought to Rome from Egypt on the reducing of that country, and the return of Octavianus [Caesar] and his army from thence, that the value of money fell one half, and the prices of provisions and all vendible wares was doubled thereon.’ Caesar celebrated his victories in a three-days’ triumph, —a triumph which Cleopatra

herself would have graced, as one of the royal captives, had she not artfully caused herself to be bitten by the fatal asp.

“The next great enterprise of the Romans after the overthrow of Egypt, was the expedition against Judea, and **the capture and destruction of Jerusalem**. The holy covenant is doubtless the covenant which God has maintained with his people, under different forms, in different ages of the world, that is, with all believers in him. The Jews rejected Christ; and, according to the prophecy that **all who would not hear that prophet should be cut off**, they were destroyed out of their own land, and scattered to every nation under heaven. And while Jews and Christians alike suffered under the oppressive hands of the Romans, it was doubtless in the reduction of Judea especially, that the exploits mentioned in the text were exhibited.” Uriah Smith, *Daniel and Revelation*, 278.

“The time appointed is probably the prophetic time of verse 24, which has been previously mentioned. It closed, as already shown, **in A.D.330**, at which time this power was to return and come again toward the south, but not as on the former occasion, when it went to Egypt, nor as the latter, when it went to Judea. Those were expeditions which resulted in conquest and glory. This one led to demoralization and ruin. **The removal of the seat of empire to Constantinople was the signal for the downfall of the empire**. Rome then lost its prestige. The western division was exposed to the incursions of foreign enemies. On the death of Constantine, the Roman empire was divided into three parts, between his three sons, Constantius, Constantine II, and Constans. Constantine II and Constans quarreled, and Constans, being victor, gained the supremacy of the whole West. He was soon slain by one of his commanders, who, in turn, was shortly after defeated by the surviving emperor, and in despair ended his own days, A.D.353. The barbarians of the North now began their incursions, and extended their conquests till the imperial power of the West expired in A.D.476.

“This was indeed different from the two former movements brought to view in the prophecy; and to this the fatal step of removing the seat of empire from Rome to Constantinople directly led.” Uriah Smith, *Daniel and Revelation*, 279, 280.

Clovis; 496—And arms shall stand on his part,  
Warfare against the City of Rome 353—538: and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength,  
Paganism removed 508: and shall take away the daily *sacrifice*,  
Papacy established 538: and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate.

**1798: the time of the end: because *it is* yet for a time appointed.**

And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods,

**1798: and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined** shall be done. Daniel 11:27–36.

And after threescore and two weeks **shall Messiah be cut off**, but not for himself: and **the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary**; and the end thereof *shall be* with a flood, and unto the end of the war **desolations** are determined. And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and **in the midst of the week** he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make *it*

**desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.** Daniel 9:26, 27.

Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all. But **in his estate** shall he honour **the God of forces: and a god whom his fathers knew not** shall he honour with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things. Thus shall he do **in the most strong holds with a strange god**, whom he shall acknowledge *and* increase with glory: and he shall cause them to rule over many, and shall divide the land for gain. Daniel 11:37–39.

FORCES: a *fortified* place; figuratively a *defence*: - force, fort (-ress), rock, strength (-en), (X most) strong (hold).

And at **the time of the end** shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over. Daniel 11:40.

But he that cometh against him shall do according to his own will, and none shall stand before him: and he shall stand in the glorious land, which by his hand shall be consumed. He shall also set his face to enter with the strength of his whole kingdom, and upright ones with him; thus shall he do: and he shall give him the daughter of women, corrupting her: but she shall not stand *on his side*, neither be for him. After this shall he turn his face unto the isles, and shall take many: but a prince for his own behalf shall cause the reproach offered by him to cease; without his own reproach he shall cause *it* to turn upon him. Then he shall turn his face toward the fort of his own land: but he shall stumble and fall, and not be found. Then shall stand up **in his estate** a raiser of taxes *in* the glory of the kingdom: but within few days he shall be destroyed, neither in anger, nor in battle. And in **his estate** shall stand up a vile person, to whom they shall not give the honour of the kingdom: but he shall come in peaceably, and obtain the kingdom by flatteries. And with **the arms of a flood shall they be overflown from before him, and shall be broken; yea, also the prince of the covenant.** Daniel 11:16–22.

And after threescore and two weeks **shall Messiah be cut off**, but not for himself: and **the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary**; and the end thereof *shall be* with **a flood**, and unto the end of the war **desolations** are determined. And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and **in the midst of the week** he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make *it* **desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.** Daniel 9:26, 27.

But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many. And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him. And **at that time** shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation *even* to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. Daniel 11:44, 45; 12:1.

**He shall enter also into the glorious land**, and many *countries* shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of **his hand**, *even* Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon. He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape. But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians *shall be* at his steps. Daniel 11:41–43.

But he that cometh against him shall do according to his own will, and none shall stand before him: and **he shall stand in the glorious land**, which by **his hand** shall be consumed. Daniel 11:16.

#### **1989: BATTLE OF PORPHYRION—217 BC**

But his sons shall be stirred up, and shall assemble a multitude of great forces: and *one* shall certainly come, and overflow, and pass through: then shall he return, and be stirred up, *even* to his fortress.

#### **2014: BATTLE OF RAPHIA—217 BC**

And the king of the south shall be moved with choler, and shall come forth and fight with him, *even* with the king of the north: and he shall set forth a great multitude; but the multitude shall be given into his hand. *And* when he hath taken away the multitude, his heart shall be lifted up; and he shall cast down *many* ten thousands: but he shall not be strengthened *by it*.

#### **BEFORE THE SUNDAY LAW: BATTLE OF PANIUM—200 BC**

For the king of the north shall return, and shall set forth a multitude greater than the former, and shall certainly come after certain years with a great army and with much riches.

And **in those times** there shall many stand up against the king of the south: also the robbers of thy people shall exalt themselves to establish the vision; but they shall fall.

So the king of the north shall come, and cast up a mount, and take the most fenced cities: and the arms of the south shall not withstand, neither his chosen people, neither *shall there be any* strength to withstand. Daniel 11:10–15.