

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. Daniel 11:14.

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

“When God sends to men warnings so important that they are **represented as proclaimed by holy angels flying in the midst of heaven**, He requires every person endowed with reasoning powers to heed the message. The fearful judgments denounced against the worship of the beast and his image (Revelation 14:9–11), should lead all to a diligent study of the prophecies to learn what the mark of the beast is, and how they are to avoid receiving it. But the masses of the people turn away their ears from hearing the truth and are turned unto fables. The apostle Paul declared, looking down to the last days: ‘The time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine.’ 2 Timothy 4:3. **That time has fully come.** The multitudes do not want Bible truth, because it interferes with the desires of the sinful, world-loving heart; and Satan supplies the deceptions which they love.

“But God will have a people upon the earth to maintain **the Bible, and the Bible only, as the standard of all doctrines and the basis of all reforms.** The **opinions of learned men, the deductions of science, the creeds or decisions of ecclesiastical councils,** as numerous and discordant as are the churches which they represent, **the voice of the majority**—not one nor all of these should be regarded as evidence for or against any point of religious faith. Before accepting any doctrine or precept, we should demand a plain ‘**Thus saith the Lord**’ in its support.

“Satan is constantly endeavoring to attract attention to man in the place of God. He leads the people to look to **bishops, to pastors, to professors of theology,** as their guides, **instead of searching the Scriptures** to learn their duty for themselves. Then, **by controlling the minds of these leaders, he can influence the multitudes according to his will.**” *The Great Controversy*, 594–595.

KING OF THE NORTH

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. 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. 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. Daniel 11:40–45.

“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, 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 plainly 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 angels' 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." *Selected Messages*, book 2, 102.

EARTH BEAST

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 which 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. Revelation 13:11–18.

TEN KINGS

And here *is* **the mind which hath wisdom.** The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth. And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, *and* the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space. And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition. And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him *are* called, and chosen, and faithful. And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues. And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire. For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled. And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth. Revelation 17:9–18.

And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared. And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs *come* out of the mouth of the **dragon**, and out of the mouth of the **beast**, and out of the mouth of the **false prophet**. 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. Behold, I come as a thief. **Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.** And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon. Revelation 16:12–16.

ALL NEED WISDOM

“By a **variety of images** the Lord Jesus represented to John the wicked character and seductive influence of those who have been distinguished for their persecution of God’s people. **All need wisdom carefully to search out the mystery of iniquity that figures so largely in the winding up of this earth’s history.** God’s presentation of the detestable works of the inhabitants of **the ruling powers of the world who bind themselves into secret societies and confederacies**, not honoring the law of God, should enable the people who have the light of truth to keep clear of all these evils. More and more will all false religionists of the world manifest their evil doings; for there are but two parties, those who keep the commandments of God and those who war against God’s holy law.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 18, 30.

every impression that would make them wise unto salvation ...
here is wisdom ... 666
the mind that has wisdom ... the eighth is of the seven

PARALLEL MOVEMENTS

“The work of God in the earth presents, from age to age, a striking similarity in every great reformation or religious movement. The principles of God’s dealing with men are ever the same. The important movements of the present have their parallel in those of the past, and the experience of the church in former ages has lessons of great value for our own time.” *The Great Controversy*, 343.

THE FIRST AND SECOND ANGEL’S MESSAGES

“God has given the messages of Revelation 14 **their place in the line of prophecy**, and their work is not to cease till the close of this earth’s history. The first and second angel’s messages are still truth for this time, and are to run **parallel with this which follows**. The third angel proclaims his warning with a loud voice. ‘After these things,’ said John, ‘I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power, and the earth was lightened with his glory.’ In this illumination, the light of all the three messages is combined.” *The 1888 Materials*, 803, 804.

THE SEVEN THUNDERS

“The special light given to John which was expressed in the seven thunders was a delineation of **events** which would transpire under the first and second angels’ messages. . . .

“After these seven thunders uttered their voices, the injunction comes to John as to Daniel in regard to the little book: ‘Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered.’ These relate to **future events** which will be disclosed in their order.” *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, volume 7, 971.

THE PARABLE OF THE TEN VIRGINS

“The parable of the ten virgins of Matthew 25 also **illustrates the experience of the Adventist people.**” *The Great Controversy*, 393.

“I am often referred to the parable of the ten virgins, five of whom were wise, and five foolish. **This parable has been and will be fulfilled to the very letter**, for it has a special application to this time, and, like the third angel’s message, has been fulfilled and will continue to be present truth till the close of time.” *Review and Herald*, August 19, 1890.

For the Lord spake thus to me with a strong hand, and instructed me that I should not walk in the way of this people, saying, Say ye not, A **confederacy**, to all *them* to whom this people shall say, A **confederacy**; neither fear ye their fear, nor be afraid. Sanctify the Lord of

hosts himself; and *let him be your fear*, and *let him be your dread*. And he shall be for a sanctuary; but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. And many among them shall stumble, and fall, and be broken, and be snared, and be taken. **Bind** up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples. And **I will wait upon the Lord**, that hideth his face from the house of Jacob, and I will look for him. Behold, I and the children whom the Lord hath given me *are* for signs and for wonders in Israel from the Lord of hosts, which dwelleth in mount Zion. And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead? To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, *it is* because *there is* no light in them. And they shall pass through it, hardly bestead and hungry: and it shall come to pass, that when **they shall be hungry, they shall fret themselves, and curse their king and their God**, and look upward. And they shall look unto the earth; and behold trouble and darkness, dimness of anguish; and *they shall be* driven to darkness. Isaiah 8:11–22.

Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send **a famine in the land**, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of **hearing the words of the Lord**: And they shall wander from **sea to sea**, and from the **north** even to the **east**, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the Lord, and **shall not find it**. In that day shall the fair **virgins** and young men faint for thirst. They that swear by **the sin of Samaria**, and say, Thy god, O **Dan**, liveth; and, **The manner of Beersheba liveth**; even **they shall fall, and never rise up again**. Amos 8:11–14.

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.

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*.

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.

“Dear Brother Jeff,

Could you please briefly share your assessment of Russia as the ‘King of the South’? Politically, it doesn't currently seem as though this king is being subdued by the ‘King of the North,’ since Russia is, in many ways, dictating terms to much of the world. On the other hand, we also know that the identity of the King of the South has shifted throughout history, especially considering that Russia can't exactly be described as an atheistic nation anymore. What are your thoughts? Warm greetings,”

Where *there is* no **vision**, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy *is* he. Proverbs 28:19.

the robbers of thy people shall exalt themselves to establish the vision; but they shall fall—

DANIEL 11:15–17

And it came to pass, when I, *even* Daniel, had seen **the vision, (H2377)** and sought for the meaning, then, behold, there stood before me as **the appearance (H4758)** of a man. And I heard a man's voice between *the banks of* Ulai, which called, and said, Gabriel, make this *man* to **understand** the vision. **(H4758)** So he came near where I stood: and when he came, I was afraid, and fell upon my face: but he said unto me, **Understand**, O son of man: for at the time of the end *shall be* the vision. **(H2377)**

At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to shew *thee*; for thou *art* greatly beloved: therefore **understand** the matter, and consider the vision. **(H4758)** Daniel 9:23.

at the time of the end *shall be* the vision. **(H2377)**

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. ... And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words *are* closed up and sealed till the time of the end. Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand. Daniel 12:4, 9, 10.

“William Miller, when applying his hermeneutic, noticed in the various apocalyptic passages a recurring theme of controversy between the people of God and their enemies. In his analysis of the persecuting powers of God's people throughout the ages he developed the concept of the two abominations, defined as paganism (the first abomination) symbolizing the persecuting force outside the church, and the papacy (the second abomination) representing the persecuting power within the church. It was the motif of the two abominations that characterized most of his following prophetic interpretations.” P. Gerard Damsteegt, *Foundations of the Seventh-day Adventist Message and Mission*, 22.

“During, the twelve years I was a deist, I read all histories I could find; but now I loved the Bible It taught of Jesus! But still there was a good deal of the Bible that was dark to me. In 1818 or 19, while conversing with a friend! To whom I made a visit, and who had known and heard me talk while I was a deist, he inquired, in rather a significant manner, ‘What do you think of this text, and that?’ referring to the old texts I objected to while a deist. I understood what he was about, and replied—If you will give me time, I will tell you what they mean. ‘How long time do you want?’ I don't know, but I will tell you, I replied, for I could not believe that God had given a revelation that could not be understood I then resolved to study my Bible, believing I could find out what the Holy Spirit meant. But as soon as I had formed this resolution **the thought came to me—‘Suppose you find a passage that you cannot understand, what will you do?’ This mode of studying the Bible then came to my mind:** —I will take the words of such passages, and trace them through the Bible, and find out their meaning in this way. I had *Cruden's Concordance*, which I think is the best in the world; so I took that and my Bible, and set down to my desk, and read nothing else, except the newspapers a little, for I was determined to know what my Bible meant. I began at Genesis, and read on slowly; and when I came to a text that I could not understand, I searched through the Bible to find out what it meant. After I had gone through the Bible in this way, O, how bright and glorious the truth appeared! I found what I have been preaching to you. I was satisfied that the seven times terminated in 1843. **Then I came to the 2300 days;** they brought me to the same conclusion; but I had no thought of finding out when the Savior was coming, and I could not believe it; but **the light struck me so forcibly I did not know what to do.** Now, I thought, I must put on spurs and breeching; I will not go faster than the Bible, and I will not fall behind it. Whatever the Bible teaches, I will hold on to it. But still there were some texts that I could not understand.’

“So much for his general mode of studying the Bible. On another occasion he stated his mode of settling the meaning of the text before us—the meaning of ‘the daily.’ ‘I read on,’ said he, ‘and could find no other case in which it was found, but in Daniel. I then took those words which stood in connection with it, ‘take away.’ He shall take away the daily, ‘from the time the daily shall be taken away,’ etc. I read on, and thought I should find no light on the text; finally I came to 2 Thessalonians 2:7–8. ‘For the mystery of iniquity doth already work, only he who now letteth, will let, until he be taken out of the way, and then shall that wicked be revealed,’ etc. And when I had come to that text, O, how clear and glorious the truth appeared! There it is! that is ‘the daily!’ Well, now, what does Paul mean by ‘he who now letteth,’ or hindereth? By ‘the man of sin,’ and ‘the wicked,’ Popery is meant. Well, what is it which hinders Popery from being revealed? Why, it is Paganism; **well, then, ‘the daily’ must mean Paganism.**” Apollos Hale, *The Second Advent Manuel*, 65, 66.

HIMES’S FIRST CHART

“IV. Himes’s Composite Chart of Daniel’s Visions

“A well-devised composite chart, in color, called *A Pictorial Chart of Daniel’s Visions*, was issued prior to 1843 by J. V. Himes, and widely distributed. It was arranged in three paralleling horizontal sections, or lines, likewise marked off by centuries. . . .

“So, in prophetic teaching **this chart is essentially—and quite naturally—a replica of Miller’s early positions on the time periods as well as the symbols.** In connection with Miller’s ‘666 years’ of pagan Rome, in the lower section, Himes has ‘Pagan Rome, the Continual or Daily,’ from 158 B.C. to A.D. 508. Then, at A.D. 508 stands a smoking altar with its pagan priest in color, and the words, ‘Paganism taken away’; and at A.D. 538 is a cross—surmounted Catholic altar, before which stands a Catholic priest with his smoking censer, and the expression, ‘Papacy began.’ **This feature however, soon disappears in the large ‘1843 Chart,’ which becomes the standard, used subsequently by all the Millerite ministers both before and during the actual year ‘1843.’**” Leroy Froom, *The Prophetic Faith of Our Fathers*, volume 4, 725–727.

THE SIMPLE ENGLISH

“I saw in relation to the ‘Daily,’ that the word ‘sacrifice’ was supplied by man’s wisdom, and does not belong to the text; and that **the Lord gave the correct view of it to those who gave the judgment hour cry. When union existed, before 1844, nearly all were united on the correct view of the ‘Daily;’** but since 1844, in the confusion, other views have been embraced, and darkness and confusion has followed.” *Early Writings*, 74.

MANUSCRIPT RELEASE, VOLUME 20, 17–22

“And there was Brother Daniells, whose mind the enemy was working; and your mind and Elder Prescott’s mind were **being worked by the angels that were expelled from heaven.**”

“And I was shown from the first that the Lord had given neither Elders Daniells nor Prescott the burden of this work. **Should Satan’s wiles be brought in, should this “Daily” be such a great matter as to be brought in to confuse minds and hinder the advancement of the work at this important period of time? It should not, whatever may be.**”

“We have no time to lose. Troublous times are before us. The world is stirred with the spirit of war. Soon the scenes of trouble spoken of in the prophecies will take place. The prophecy in the eleventh of Daniel has nearly reached its complete fulfillment. **Much of the history that has taken place in fulfillment of this prophecy will be repeated.** In the thirtieth verse a power is spoken of that ‘shall be grieved, [Daniel 11:30–36 quoted.]

“**Scenes similar to those described in these words will take place.**” *Manuscript Releases*, number 13, 394.

THE WISE

“By a **variety of images** the Lord Jesus represented to John the wicked character and seductive influence of those who have been distinguished for their persecution of God’s people. **All need wisdom carefully to search out the mystery of iniquity that figures so largely in the winding up of this earth’s history.** God’s presentation of the detestable works of the inhabitants of **the ruling powers of the world who bind themselves into secret societies and confederacies**, not honoring the law of God, should enable the people who have the light of truth to keep clear of all these evils. More and more will all false religionists of the world manifest their evil doings; for there are but two parties, those who keep the commandments of God and those who war against God’s holy law.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 18, 30.

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. Revelation 13:18.

And here *is* **the mind which hath wisdom**. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth. And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, *and* the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space. And the beast that was, and is not, even he is **the eighth, and is of the seven**, and goeth into perdition. Revelation 17:9–11.

“And when the Papacy, robbed of its strength, was forced to desist from persecution, John beheld a new power coming up to echo the dragon’s voice, and carry forward the same cruel and blasphemous work. This power, **the last that is to wage war against the church and the law of God**, was symbolized by a beast with lamblike horns.

“But the stern tracing of the prophetic pencil reveals a change in this peaceful scene. The beast with lamblike horns speaks with the voice of a dragon, and ‘exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him.’ Prophecy declares that he will **say to them that dwell on the earth that they should make an image to the beast**, and that “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.’ Thus **Protestantism follows in the steps of the Papacy.**” *Signs of the Times*, November 1, 1899.

THE MYSTERY

And upon her forehead *was* a name written, **MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH**. And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration. And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the **mystery** of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns. Revelation 17:5–7.

The **mystery** of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches. Revelation 1:20.

But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the **mystery** of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets. Revelation 10:7.