

ZOOM AUGUST 30, 2025

I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: **he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner;** but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.
Matthew 3:11–12.

BY THE WORDS OF TRUTH

“Whose **fan** is in His hand, and He will throughly purge His floor, and gather His wheat into the garner.’ Matthew 3:12. This was one of the times of purging. **By the words of truth, the chaff was being separated from the wheat.** Because they were too vain and self-righteous to receive reproof, too world-loving to accept a life of humility, many turned away from Jesus. Many are still doing the same thing. **Souls are tested today as were those disciples in the synagogue at Capernaum.** When truth is brought home to the heart, they see that their lives are not in accordance with the will of God. They see the need of an entire change in themselves; but they are not willing to take up the self-denying work. Therefore they are angry when their sins are discovered. They go away offended, **even as** the disciples left Jesus, murmuring, ‘This is an hard saying; who can hear it?’” *The Desire of Ages*, 392.

“He then called upon me to ‘**come and see.**’

“I looked into the **casket**, but my eyes were dazzled with the sight. They shone with **ten times their former glory.** I thought they had been scoured in the sand by **the feet of those wicked persons who had scattered and trod them in the dust.** **They were arranged in beautiful order in the casket,** every one in its place, without any visible pains of **the man who cast them in.** I **shouted** with very joy, and **that shout awoke me.**” *Early Writings*, 83.

“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.** Daniel shall stand in his lot at the end of the days. John sees the little book unsealed. Then Daniel’s prophecies have their proper place in the first, second, and third angels’ messages to be given to the world. The unsealing of the little book was the message in relation to time.”

The Seventh-day Adventists Bible Commentary, volume 7, 971.

THE THIRD ANGEL

“I then saw **the third angel.** Said my accompanying angel, ‘Fearful is his work. Awful is his mission. He is the angel that is to select the wheat **from** the tares, and seal, or bind, the wheat for the heavenly garner. These things should engross the whole mind, the whole attention.’”

Early Writings, 119.

“There cannot be a third without the first and second.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 104.

TWO CLASSES

“The Lord is about to reveal the difference between the **righteous** and the **wicked**; for his **‘fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor,** and gather his wheat into his garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.’” *Review and Herald*, November 8, 1892.

“The scribes and Pharisees professed to explain the Scriptures, but they explained them in accordance with **their own ideas and traditions**. Their **customs** and **maxims** became more and more exacting. In its spiritual sense, the sacred Word became to the people as **a sealed book**, closed to their comprehension.” *Signs of the Times*, May 17, 1905.

“When Christ came to this earth, the **traditions** that had been **handed down from generation to generation**, and **the human interpretation of the Scriptures**, hid from men the truth as it is in Jesus. The truth was buried beneath a mass of **tradition**. The spiritual import of **the sacred volumes** was lost; for in their unbelief men locked the door of the heavenly treasure. Darkness covered the earth, and gross darkness the people. Truth looked down from heaven to earth; but nowhere was revealed the divine impress. A gloom like the pall of death overspread the earth.

“But **the Lion of the tribe of Judah** prevailed. He opened **the seal that closed the book of divine instruction**. The world was permitted to gaze upon pure, unadulterated truth. Truth itself descended to roll back the darkness and counteract error. A Teacher was sent from heaven with the light that was to light every man that comes into the world. There were men and women who were eagerly seeking for **knowledge, the sure word of prophecy**, and when it came, it was as a light shining in a dark place.” *Spalding Magan*, 58.

“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, 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 11:30–36**.

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

“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. And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame *and* everlasting contempt. And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever. 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 12:1–4.”

Manuscript Releases, number 13, 394.

THE SIEGE OF SELEUCIA-IN-PIERIA—FOURTH SYRIAN WAR (219 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.

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*.

BATTLE OF PANIUM—FIFTH SYRIAN WAR (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.

SUNDAY LAW IN USA

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 11:10–16.

ANTIOCHUS MAGNUS (ANTIOCHUS THE GREAT)

SIEGE OF SELEUCIA FOURTH SYRIAN WAR

(Daniel 11:40; Isaiah 8:7, 8)

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.

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*.

And Uzziah prepared for them throughout all the host shields, and spears, and helmets, and habergeons, and bows, and slings *to cast* stones. And he made in Jerusalem engines, invented by cunning men, to be on the towers and upon the bulwarks, to shoot arrows and great stones withal. And his name spread far abroad; for he was marvellously helped, **till he was strong**. But **when he was strong, his heart was lifted up to his destruction**: for he transgressed against the Lord his God, and went into the temple of the Lord to burn incense upon the altar of incense. And **Azariah** the priest went in after him, and with him **fourscore priests** of the Lord, *that were* valiant men: And they withstood Uzziah the king, and said unto him, *It appertaineth* not unto thee, Uzziah, to burn incense unto the Lord, but to the priests the sons of Aaron, that are consecrated to burn incense: go out of the sanctuary; for thou hast trespassed; neither *shall it be* for thine honour from the Lord God.

Then Uzziah was wroth, and *had* a censer in his hand to burn incense: and while he was wroth with the priests, the leprosy even rose up in his forehead before the priests in the house of the Lord, from beside the incense altar. And Azariah the chief priest, and all the priests, looked upon him, and, behold, he *was* leprous in his forehead, and they thrust him out from thence; yea, himself hasted also to go out, because the Lord had smitten him. And Uzziah the king was a leper unto the day of his death, and dwelt in a several house, *being* a leper; for he was cut off from the house of the Lord: and Jotham his son *was* over the king's house, judging the people of the land. Now the rest of the acts of Uzziah, first and last, did Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, write. So Uzziah slept with his fathers, and they buried him with his fathers in the field of the burial which *belonged* to the kings; for they said, He *is* a leper: and Jotham his son reigned in his stead.

2 Chronicles 26:14–23.

“Ptolemy lacked the prudence to make a good use of his victory. Had he followed up his success, he would probably have become master of the whole kingdom of Antiochus; but content with making only a few menaces and a few threats, he made peace that he might be able to give himself up to the uninterrupted and uncontrolled indulgence of his brutish passions. Thus, having conquered his enemies, he was overcome by his vices, and, forgetful of the great name which he might have established, he spent his time in feasting and lewdness.

“His heart was lifted up by his success, but he was far from being strengthened by it; for the inglorious use he made of it caused his own subjects to rebel against him. But the lifting up of his heart was more especially manifested in his transactions with the Jews. Coming to Jerusalem, he there offered sacrifices, and was very desirous of entering into the most holy place of the temple, contrary to the law and religion of that place; but being, though with great difficulty, restrained, he left the place burning with anger against the whole nation of the Jews, and immediately commenced against them a terrible and relentless persecution. In Alexandria, where the Jews had resided since the days of Alexander, and enjoyed the privileges of the most favored citizens, forty thousand according to Eusebius, sixty thousand according to Jerome, were slain in this persecution. The rebellion of the Egyptians, and the massacre of the Jews, certainly were not calculated to strengthen him in his kingdom, but were sufficient rather almost totally to ruin it.”

Uriah Smith, *Daniel and Revelation*, 254.

PANIAM—FIFTH SYRIAN WAR (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.*

“Every nation that has come upon the stage of action has been **permitted** to occupy its place on the earth, that it might be seen whether it would fulfill the purpose of ‘the Watcher and the Holy One.’ **Prophecy has traced the rise and fall of the world’s great empires—Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome.** With each of these, as with nations of less power, **history repeated itself.** Each had its period of test, each failed, its glory faded, its power departed, and its place was occupied by another. . . .

“**From the rise and fall of nations as made plain in the pages of Holy Writ,** they need to learn how worthless is mere outward and worldly glory. Babylon, with all its power and its magnificence, the like of which our world has never since beheld, —power and magnificence which to the people of that day seemed so stable and enduring, —how completely has it passed away! As ‘the flower of the grass’ it has perished. So perishes all that has not God for its foundation. Only that which is bound up with His purpose and expresses His character can endure. His principles are the only steadfast things our world knows.” *Education*, 177, 184.

AS MADE PLAIN IN THE BOOKS OF DANIEL AND THE REVELATION

“From the rise and fall of nations as made plain in the books of Daniel and the Revelation, we need to learn how worthless is mere outward and worldly glory. Babylon, with all its power and magnificence, the like of which our world has never since beheld, —power and magnificence which to the people of that day seemed so stable and enduring, —how completely has it passed away! As ‘the flower of the grass,’ it has perished. James 1:10. So perished the Medo-Persian kingdom, and the kingdoms of Grecia and Rome. And so perishes all that has not God for its foundation. Only that which is bound up with His purpose, and expresses His character, can endure. His principles are the only steadfast things our world knows.” *Prophets and Kings*, 548.

ANTIOCHUS III

Fourth Syrian War (219–217 BCE), he initially succeeded but was defeated at the Battle of Raphia (217 BC) by Ptolemy IV.

His victory in the Fifth Syrian War (202–195 BC), particularly at the Battle of Panium (200 BC), which secured Coele-Syria for the Seleucids. He formed an alliance with Philip V of Macedon during the Fifth Syrian War to partition Ptolemaic territories. He was defeated by Rome in the Roman-Seleucid War (192–188 BC) at the Battle of Magnesia, leading to the Treaty of Apamea, which curtailed Seleucid power.

The fifth Syrian war ended with the Peace Treaty of 195 BC, sealed by the marriage of Ptolemy V to Antiochus III’s daughter, Cleopatra I Syra, making her the great-grandmother of Cleopatra VII.

Cleopatra I Syra was the mother of Ptolemy VI Philometor, Ptolemy VIII Physcon, and **Cleopatra II**. Cleopatra II, daughter of Cleopatra I, married her brother Ptolemy VI and later Ptolemy VIII. She was the mother of **Cleopatra III**. Cleopatra III, in turn, was the mother of **Cleopatra VII** (through her marriage to Ptolemy IX Soter). Cleopatra VII was **the last active ruler of the Ptolemaic Kingdom**, famous for her alliances with Julius Caesar and Mark Antony and she reigned (51–30 BC) marking **the end of Hellenistic Egypt**, as it was annexed by Rome after her defeat at the Battle of Actium (31 BC).