

For, behold, **the day cometh**, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and **the day that cometh shall burn them up**, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do *this*, saith the Lord of hosts. Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, *with* the statutes and judgments. Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet **before** the coming of **the great and dreadful day of the Lord**: And **he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers**, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse. Malachi 4:1–6.

BURN THEM UP

The burden of Tyre. Howl, ye **ships of Tarshish**; for it is laid waste, so that there is no house, no entering in: from the land of Chittim it is revealed to them. Isaiah 23:1.

And it shall come to pass **in that day**, that Tyre shall be forgotten seventy years, according to the days of one king: **after the end of seventy years shall Tyre sing as an harlot**. Take an harp, go about the city, thou harlot that hast been forgotten; make sweet melody, sing many songs, that thou mayest be **remembered**. And it shall come to pass **after the end of seventy years**, that the Lord will visit Tyre, and she shall turn to her hire, and shall commit fornication with all the kingdoms of the world upon the face of the earth. Isaiah 23:15–17, see Luke 1, Exodus 20:8.

And it shall come to pass **in that day**, *that* the Lord shall punish the host of **the high ones that are** on high, and the **kings of the earth** upon the earth. And they shall be **gathered** together, *as* prisoners are **gathered** in the pit, and shall be **shut up in the prison, and after many days shall they be visited**. Isaiah 24:21, 22, see Revelation 16:12–16.

And it shall be said **in that day**, Lo, this *is* our God; **we have waited for him**, and he will save us: this *is* the Lord; **we have waited for him**, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation. Isaiah 25:9, see Matthew 25.

In **that day** shall **this song be sung in the land of Judah**; We have a strong city; salvation will *God* appoint *for* walls and bulwarks. Open ye the gates, that **the righteous nation which keepeth the truth** may enter in. Thou wilt keep *him* in perfect peace, *whose* mind *is* stayed *on thee*: because he trusteth in thee. Trust ye in the Lord forever: for in the Lord Jehovah *is* everlasting strength: For he bringeth down them that dwell on high; the lofty city, **he layeth it low; he layeth it low, even** to the ground; he bringeth it *even* to the dust. The foot shall tread it down, *even* the feet of the poor, *and* the steps of the needy. The **way of the just** *is* uprightness: thou, most upright, dost weigh **the path of the just**. Yea, in **the way of thy judgments**, O Lord, have **we waited for thee**; the desire of *our* soul *is* to **thy name**, and to the **remembrance** of thee. With my soul have I desired thee in the night; yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early: for **when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness**. Isaiah 26:1–9, see Isaiah 27.

Lord, **in trouble have they visited thee, they poured out a prayer when thy chastening was upon them**.

Like as a woman with child, *that* draweth near the time of her delivery, is in pain, *and* crieth out in her pangs; so have we been in thy sight, O Lord. We have been with child, we have been in pain, we have as it were brought forth wind; we have not wrought any deliverance in the earth; neither have the inhabitants of the world fallen.

Thy dead *men* shall live, *together with* my dead body shall they arise. **Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead**. Come, my people, **enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were**

for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast. For, behold, the Lord cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain. Isaiah 26:16–21, see Daniel 12:2.

In that day the Lord with his sore and great and strong sword **shall punish leviathan** the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that *is* in the sea.

In that day sing ye unto her, A vineyard of red wine. I the Lord do keep it; I will water it every moment: lest *any* hurt it, I will keep it night and day. Fury *is* not in me: who would set the briers *and* thorns against me in battle? I would go through them, I would burn them together. **Or** let him take hold of my strength, *that* he may make peace with me; *and* he shall make peace with me.

He shall cause them that come of Jacob to take root: **Israel shall blossom and bud, and fill the face of the world with fruit.**

Hath he smitten him, as he smote those that smote him? *or* is he slain according to the slaughter of them that are slain by him?

In measure, when it shooteth forth, **thou wilt debate** with it: he **stayeth his rough wind in the day of the east wind.** By **this** therefore shall **the iniquity of Jacob be purged;** and **this is all the fruit** to take away his sin;

when he maketh all the stones of the altar as chalkstones that are beaten in sunder, **the groves and images shall not stand up.** Yet the defenced city *shall be* desolate, *and* the habitation forsaken, and left like a wilderness: there shall the calf feed, and there shall he lie down, and consume the branches thereof. **When the boughs thereof are withered, they shall be broken off: the women come, and set them on fire: for it is a people of no understanding:** therefore he that made them will not have mercy on them, and he that formed them will shew them no favour.

And it shall come to pass **in that day,** *that* the Lord shall beat off from the channel of the river unto the stream of Egypt, and ye shall be gathered one by one, O ye children of Israel. And it shall come to pass **in that day,** *that* **the great trumpet shall be blown,** and they shall come which were ready to perish in the land of Assyria, and the outcasts in the land of Egypt, and shall worship the Lord in the holy mount at Jerusalem. Isaiah 27:1–13.

For, behold, **the day cometh,** that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and **the day that cometh shall burn them up,** saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. ... Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet **before** the coming of **the great and dreadful day of the Lord:** And **he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers,** lest I come and smite the earth with a curse. Malachi 4:1, 5, 6.

BEFORE

Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet **before** the coming of **the great and dreadful day of the Lord.** Malachi 4:5.

“We should come into a position where every difference will be melted away. If I think I have light, I shall do my duty in presenting it. Suppose I consulted others concerning the message the Lord would have me give to the people, the door might be closed so that the light might not reach the ones to whom God had sent it. When Jesus rode into Jerusalem, ‘the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen; saying, Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest. And some of the Pharisees from among the multitude said unto him, Master, rebuke thy disciples. And he answered and said unto them, I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out’ (Luke 19:37–40).

“The Jews tried to stop the proclamation of the message that had been predicted in the Word of God; but prophecy must be fulfilled. The Lord says, ‘Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord’ (Malachi 4:5). **Somebody is to come in**

the spirit and power of Elijah, and **when he appears**, men may say, ‘You are too earnest, **you do not interpret the Scriptures in the proper way**. Let me tell you how to teach your message.’

“There are many who cannot distinguish between the work of God and that of man. I shall tell the truth as God gives it to me, and I say now, If you continue to find fault, to have a spirit of variance, you will never know the truth, Jesus said to His disciples, ‘I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now’ (John 16:12). They were not in a condition to appreciate sacred and eternal things; but Jesus promised to send the Comforter, who would teach them all things, and bring all things to their remembrance, whatsoever He had said unto them. Brethren, we must not put our dependence in man. ‘Cease ye from man, whose breath is in his nostrils: for wherein is he to be accounted of?’ (Isaiah 2:22). You must hang your helpless souls upon Jesus. It does not become us to drink from the fountain of the valley, when **there is a fountain in the mountain**. Let us leave the lower streams; let us come to **the higher springs**. If there is a point of truth that you do not understand, upon which you do not agree, investigate, compare scripture with scripture, sink the shaft of truth down deep into the mine of God’s Word. You must lay yourselves and your opinions on the altar of God, put away your preconceived ideas, and let the Spirit of Heaven guide you into all truth.

“My brother said at one time that he would not hear anything concerning the doctrine we hold, for fear he should be convinced. He would not come to the meetings, or listen to the discourses; but **he afterward declared that he saw he was as guilty as if he had heard them**. God had given him an opportunity to know the truth, and He would hold him responsible for this opportunity. **There are many among us who are prejudiced against the doctrines that are now being discussed**. They will not come to hear, they will not calmly investigate, but they put forth their objections in the dark. They are perfectly satisfied with their position. ‘Thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent’ (Revelation 3:17–19).

“**This scripture applies to those who live under the sound of the message, but who will not come to hear it**. How do you know but that **the Lord is giving fresh evidences of His truth, placing it in a new setting, that the way of the Lord may be prepared?** What plans have you been laying that new light may be infused through the ranks of God’s people? What evidence have you that God has not sent light to His children? All self-sufficiency, egotism, and pride of opinion must be put away. We must come to the feet of Jesus, and learn of Him who is meek and lowly of heart. Jesus did not teach His disciples as the rabbis taught theirs. Many of the Jews came and listened as Christ revealed the mysteries of salvation, but they came not to learn; they came to criticize, to catch Him in some inconsistency, that they might have something with which to prejudice the people. They were content with their knowledge, but **the children of God must know the voice of the True Shepherd**. Is not this a time when it would be highly proper to fast and pray before God? We are in danger of variance, in danger of taking sides on a controverted point; and should we not seek God in earnestness, with humiliation of soul, that we may know what is truth?” *Selected Messages*, book 1, 412, 413.

Behold, I will send you Elijah ... And **he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers**, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse. Malachi 4:5, 6.

The way of the just *is* uprightness: thou, most upright, dost weigh **the path of the just**. Yea, in **the way of thy judgments**, O Lord, have **we waited for thee**; the desire of *our* soul *is* to **thy name**, and to the **remembrance** of thee. With my soul have I desired thee in the night; yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early: for **when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness**. Isaiah 26:7, 8, see Jeremiah 6:16, 17.

And thine ears shall hear **a word behind thee**, saying, This *is* the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left. Isaiah 30:21, see Ezekiel 3:1–12, Revelation 1:10.

Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where *is* the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk *therein*. Also I set watchmen over you, *saying*, Harken to the sound of the trumpet. But they said, We will not hearken. Jeremiah 6:16, 17.

Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; **line upon line, line upon line**; here a little, and there a little: For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. To whom he said, **This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear.** But the word of the Lord was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; **line upon line, line upon line**; here a little, and there a little; that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken. Isaiah 28:9–13.

“Humility is inseparable from holiness of heart. The nearer the soul comes to God, the more completely is it humbled and subdued. When Job heard the voice of the Lord out of the whirlwind, he exclaimed, ‘I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes.’ **It was when Isaiah saw the glory of the Lord**, and heard the cherubim crying, ‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts,’ that he cried out, ‘Woe is me, for I am undone!’ Daniel, when visited by the holy messenger, says, ‘My comeliness was turned in me to corruption.’ Paul, after he had been caught up into the third Heaven, and heard things that it was not lawful for a man to utter, spoke of himself as ‘less than the least of all saints.’ It was the beloved John, that leaned on Jesus’s breast, and beheld his glory, who fell before the angels as one dead. The more closely and continuously we behold our Savior the less we shall see to approve in ourselves.” *Signs of the Times*, April 7, 1887.

“As they [**the angels**] see the future, **when the whole earth shall be filled with His glory**, the triumphant song of praise is echoed from one to another in melodious chant, ‘**Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of Hosts.**’ They are fully satisfied to glorify God; and in His presence, beneath His smile of approbation, they wish for nothing more. In bearing His image, in doing His service and worshipping Him, their highest ambition is fully reached.” *Review and Herald*, December 22, 1896.

And I will give *power* unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred *and* threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth. And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed. These have **power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy**: and have **power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues**, as often as they will. And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them. Revelation 11:3–7.

And he said, I beseech thee, **shew me thy glory**. And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy. And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live. And the Lord said, Behold, *there is* a place by me, and thou shalt stand upon a rock: And it shall come to pass, while my glory passeth by, that I will put thee in a clift of the rock, and will cover thee with my hand while I pass by: And I will take away mine hand, and thou shalt see my back parts: but my face shall not be seen. Exodus 33:18–23.

And he arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God. And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the Lord *came* to him, and he said unto him, What doest thou here, Elijah? And he said, I have been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts: for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, *even* I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away. And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the Lord. And, behold, **the Lord passed by**, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the Lord; but the Lord *was* not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; *but* the Lord *was* not in the earthquake: And after the earthquake a fire; *but* the Lord *was* not in the fire: and after the fire **a still small voice**.

And it was *so*, when Elijah heard *it* that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entering in of the cave. And, behold, *there came* a voice unto him, and said, What doest thou here, Elijah? And he said, I have been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts: because **the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant**, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, *even* I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away. 1 Kings 19:8–14.

And Moses returned unto the Lord, and said, Oh, this people have sinned a great sin, and have made them gods of gold. Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin—; and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written. And the Lord said unto Moses, Whosoever hath sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book. Therefore now go, lead the people unto *the place* of which I have spoken unto thee: behold, mine Angel shall go before thee: nevertheless in the day when I visit I will visit their sin upon them. And the Lord plagued the people, because they made the calf, which Aaron made. Exodus 32:31–35.

For it was *so*, when Jezebel cut off the prophets of the Lord, that Obadiah took an hundred prophets, and **hid them** by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water.) ... Was it not told my lord what I did when Jezebel slew the prophets of the Lord, how **I hid** an hundred men of the Lord's prophets by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water? 1 Kings 18:4, 13.

“I saw that God **had stretched out His hand the second time** to recover the remnant of His people. They are these who have been covered up in the ‘rubbish’ **since 1844**. I saw that efforts to spread the truth should now be put forth, such as in 1843 and 1844. In the scattering, efforts to spread the truth had but little effect—accomplished but little or nothing—but now in **the gathering time**, when God has set His hand to gather His people, efforts to spread the truth will have their designed effect; and all should be zealous and united in the work. I saw that a paper was needed, and all should feel interested in it.

“I saw that the truth should be made plain upon tables, that the earth and the fullness thereof is the Lord's, and that necessary means should not be spared to make it plain. I saw that the old chart was directed by the Lord, and that not a figure of it should be altered except by inspiration. I saw that the figures of the chart were as God would have them, and that His hand was over and hid a mistake in some of the figures, so that none should see it till His hand was removed.

“I saw that the two-horned beast had a dragon's mouth, and that **his power was in his head**, and that the decree would go out of his mouth. Then I saw the Mother of Harlots; that the mother was not the daughters, but **separate and distinct** from them. She has had her day, and it is past, and her daughters, the Protestant sects, were the next to come on the stage and act out the same mind that the mother had when she persecuted the saints. I saw that as the mother has been declining in power, the daughters had been growing, and soon they will exercise the power once exercised by the mother.

“I saw **the nominal church and nominal Adventists**, like Judas, would betray us to the Catholics to obtain their influence to come against the truth. **The saints then will be an obscure people, little known to the Catholics**; but the churches and nominal Adventists who know of our faith and customs (for they hated us on account of the Sabbath, for they could not refute it) will betray

the saints and report them to the Catholics as those who disregard the institutions of the people; that is, that they keep the Sabbath and disregard Sunday.” *Spalding and Magan*, 1.

“The work of John the Baptist, and the work of **those who in the last days go forth in the spirit and power of Elijah** to arouse the people from their apathy, are in many respects the same. His work is a type of the work that must be done in this age. Christ is to come the second time to judge the world in righteousness. The messengers of God who bear the last message of warning to be given to the world, are **to prepare the way** for Christ’s second advent, as John prepared the way for his first advent. In this preparatory work, ‘every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain shall be made low; and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain’ for **history is to be repeated**, and once again ‘the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.’” *Southern Watchman*, March 21, 1905.

“Many of our people are lukewarm. They occupy the position of Meroz, neither for nor against, neither cold nor hot. They hear the words of Christ, but do them not. If they remain in this state, He will reject them with abhorrence. Many of those who have had great light, great opportunities, and every spiritual advantage praise Christ and the world with the same breath. They bow themselves before God and mammon. They make merry with the children of the world, and yet claim to be blessed with the children of God. They wish to have Christ as their Saviour, but will not bear the cross and wear His yoke. May the Lord have mercy upon you; for if you go on in this way, nothing but evil can be prophesied concerning you.

“The patience of God has an object, but you are defeating it. He is allowing a state of things to come that you would fain see counteracted by and by, but it will be **too late**. God commanded Elijah to **anoint the cruel and deceitful Hazael king over Syria**, that he might be a scourge to idolatrous Israel. Who knows whether God will not give you up to the deceptions you love? Who knows but that the preachers who are faithful, firm, and true may be the last who shall offer the gospel of peace to our unthankful churches? **It may be that the destroyers are already training under the hand of Satan and only wait the departure of a few more standard-bearers to take their places, and with the voice of the false prophet cry**, ‘Peace, peace,’ when the Lord hath not spoken peace. I seldom weep, but now I find my eyes blinded with tears; they are falling upon my paper as I write. It may be that ere long all prophesyings among us will be at an end, and the voice which has stirred the people may no longer disturb their carnal slumbers.

“When God shall work His strange work on the earth, when holy hands bear the ark no longer, woe will be upon the people. Oh, that thou hadst known, even thou, in this thy day, the things that belong unto thy peace! Oh, that our people may, as did Nineveh, repent with all their might and believe with all their heart, that God may turn away His fierce anger from them.

“I am filled with pain and anguish as I see parents conforming to the world and allowing their children to meet the worldly standard at such a time as this. I am filled with horror as the condition of families professing present truth is opened before me. The profligacy of youth and even children is almost incredible. Parents do not know that secret vice is destroying and defacing the image of God in their children. The sins which characterized the Sodomites exist among them. The parents are responsible; for they have not educated their children to love and obey God. They have not restrained them nor diligently taught them the way of the Lord. They have allowed them to go out and to come in when they chose, and to associate with worldlings. These worldly influences which counteract parental teaching and authority are to be found largely in so-called good society. By their dress, looks, amusements, they surround themselves with an atmosphere which is opposed to Christ.

“Our only safety is to stand as God’s peculiar people. We must not yield one inch to the customs and fashions of this degenerate age, but stand in moral independence, making no compromise with its corrupt and idolatrous practices.

“It will require courage and independence to rise above the religious standard of the Christian world. They do not follow the Saviour’s example of self-denial; they make no sacrifice; they are constantly seeking to evade the cross which Christ declares to be the token of discipleship.

“What can I say to arouse our people? I tell you not a few ministers who stand before the people to explain the Scriptures are defiled. Their hearts are corrupt, their hands unclean. Yet many are crying, ‘Peace, peace;’ and the workers of iniquity are not alarmed. The Lord’s hand is not shortened that He cannot save, nor His ear heavy that He cannot hear; but it is our sins that have separated us from God. The church is corrupt because of her members who defile their bodies and pollute their souls.

“If all of those who come together for meetings of edification and prayer could be regarded as true worshipers, **then might we hope**, though much would still remain to be done for us. But **it is in vain to deceive ourselves**. Things are far from being what the appearance would indicate. From a distant view much may appear beautiful which, upon close examination, will be found **full of deformities**. The prevailing spirit of our time is that of infidelity and apostasy—a spirit of pretended illumination because of a knowledge of the truth, but in reality of the blindest presumption. There is a spirit of opposition to the plain word of God and to the testimony of His Spirit. There is a spirit of idolatrous exaltation of mere human reason above the revealed wisdom of God.

“There are men among us in responsible positions who hold that the opinions of **a few conceited philosophers**, so called, are more to be trusted than the truth of the Bible, or the testimonies of the Holy Spirit. Such a faith as that of Paul, Peter, or John is considered old-fashioned and insufferable at the present day. It is pronounced absurd, mystical, and unworthy of an intelligent mind.

“God has shown me that **these men are Hazael**s to prove **a scourge to our people**. They are wise above what is written. This unbelief of the very truths of God’s word because human judgment cannot comprehend the mysteries of His work is found in every district, in all ranks of society. **It is taught in most of our schools** and comes into the lessons of the nurseries. Thousands who profess to be Christians give heed to lying spirits. Everywhere the spirit of darkness in the garb of religion will confront you.

“If all that appears to be divine life were such in reality; if all who profess to present the truth to the world were preaching for the truth and not against it, and if they were men of God guided by His Spirit,—then might we see something cheering amid the prevailing moral darkness. But **the spirit of antichrist** is prevailing to such an extent as never before. Well may we exclaim: ‘Help, Lord; for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men.’ I know that many think far too favorably of the present time. These ease-loving souls will be engulfed in the general ruin. Yet we do not despair. We have been inclined to think that where there are no faithful ministers there can be no true Christians, but this is not the case. God has promised that **where the shepherds are not true He will take charge of the flock Himself**. God has never made the flock wholly dependent upon human instrumentalities. But **the days of purification of the church** are hastening on apace. **God will have a people pure and true. In the mighty sifting soon to take place we shall be better able to measure the strength of Israel. The signs reveal that the time is near when the Lord will manifest that His fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly purge His floor.**

“The **days are fast approaching when there will be great perplexity and confusion**. Satan, clothed in angel robes, will deceive, if possible, the very elect. There will be **gods many and lords many. Every wind of doctrine will be blowing**. Those who have rendered supreme homage to ‘science falsely so called’ will not be the leaders then. Those who have trusted to intellect, genius, or talent will not then stand at the head of rank and file. **They did not keep pace with the light**. Those who have proved themselves unfaithful will not then be entrusted with the flock. In the last solemn work **few great men** will be engaged. They are self-sufficient, independent of God, and He cannot use them. The Lord has faithful servants, **who in the shaking, testing time will be disclosed** to view. **There are precious ones now hidden who have not bowed the knee to Baal**. They have not had the light which has been shining in a concentrated blaze upon you. But it may be under a rough and uninviting exterior the pure brightness of a genuine Christian character will be revealed. In the day time we look toward heaven but do not see the stars. They are there, fixed in the firmament, but the eye cannot distinguish them. In the night we behold their genuine luster.

“The time is not far distant when the test will come to every soul. The mark of the beast will be urged upon us. Those who have step by step yielded to worldly demands and conformed to worldly

customs will not find it a hard matter to yield to the powers that be, rather than subject themselves to derision, insult, threatened imprisonment, and death. The contest is between the commandments of God and the commandments of men. In this time the gold will be separated from the dross in the church. True godliness will be clearly distinguished from the appearance and tinsel of it. Many a star that we have admired for its brilliancy will then go out in darkness. Chaff like a cloud will be borne away on the wind, even from places where we see only floors of rich wheat. **All who assume the ornaments of the sanctuary, but are not clothed with Christ's righteousness, will appear in the shame of their own nakedness.**

“When trees without fruit are cut down as cumberers of the ground, when multitudes of false brethren are distinguished from the true, **then the hidden ones will be revealed to view**, and with hosannas range under the banner of Christ. Those who have been timid and self-distrustful will declare themselves openly for Christ and His truth. The most weak and hesitating in the church will be as David—willing to do and dare. The deeper the night for God's people, the more brilliant the stars. Satan will sorely harass the faithful; but, in the name of Jesus, they will come off more than conquerors. Then will the church of Christ appear ‘fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners.’

“**The seeds of truth that are being sown by missionary efforts will then spring up and blossom and bear fruit.** Souls will receive the truth who will endure tribulation and praise God that they may suffer for Jesus. ‘In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.’ When the overflowing scourge shall pass through the earth, when **the fan is purging Jehovah's floor**, God will be the help of His people. The trophies of Satan may be exalted on high, but the faith of the pure and holy will not be daunted.

“**Elijah took Elisha** from the plow and threw upon him his mantle of consecration. The call to this great and solemn work **was presented to men of learning and position; had these been little in their own eyes and trusted fully in the Lord, He would have honored them with bearing His standard in triumph to the victory. But they separated from God, yielded to the influence of the world, and the Lord rejected them.**

“Many have exalted science and lost sight of the God of science. This was not the case with the church in the purest times.

“**God will work a work in our day that but few anticipate.** He will raise up and exalt among us those who are taught rather by the unction of His Spirit than by the outward training of scientific institutions. These facilities are not to be despised or condemned; they are ordained of God, but they can furnish only the exterior qualifications. **God will manifest that He is not dependent on learned, self-important mortals.**

“There are few really consecrated men among us, few who have fought and conquered in the battle with self. Real conversion is a decided change of feelings and motives; it is a virtual taking leave of worldly connections, a hastening from their spiritual atmosphere, a withdrawing from the controlling power of their thoughts, opinions, and influences. The separation causes pain and bitterness to both parties. It is the variance which Christ declares that He came to bring. But the converted will feel a continual longing desire that their friends shall forsake all for Christ, knowing that, unless they do, there will be a final and eternal separation. The true Christian cannot, while with unbelieving friends, be light and trifling. The value of the souls for whom Christ died is too great.

“He ‘that forsaketh not all that he hath,’ says Jesus, ‘cannot be My disciple.’ Whatever shall divert the affections from God must be given up. Mammon is the idol of many. Its golden chain binds them to Satan. Reputation and worldly honor are worshiped by another class. The life of selfish ease and freedom from responsibility is the idol of others. These are Satan's snares, set for unwary feet. But these slavish bands must be broken; the flesh must be crucified with the affections and lusts. We cannot be half the Lord's and half the world's. We are not God's people unless we are such entirely. Every weight, every besetting sin, must be laid aside. God's watchmen will not cry, ‘Peace, peace,’ when God has not spoken peace. The voice of the faithful watchmen will be heard: ‘Go ye out from thence, touch no unclean thing; go ye out of the midst of her; be ye clean that bear the vessels of the Lord.’

“The church cannot measure herself by the world nor by the opinion of men nor by what she once was. **Her faith and her position in the world as they now are must be compared with what they would have been if her course had been continually onward and upward.** The church will be weighed in the balances of the sanctuary. If her moral character and spiritual state do not correspond with the benefits and blessings God has conferred upon her, she will be found wanting. The light has been shining clear and definite upon her pathway, and the light of 1882 calls her to an account. If her talents are unimproved, if her fruit is not perfect before God, if her light has become darkness, she is indeed found wanting. **The knowledge of our state as God views it, seems to be hidden from us.** We see, but perceive not; we hear, but do not understand; and we rest as unconcerned as if the pillar of cloud by day, and the pillar of fire by night, rested upon our sanctuary. We profess to know God, and to believe the truth, but in works deny Him. Our deeds are directly adverse to the principles of truth and righteousness, by which we profess to be governed.” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 77–83.

“We would do well to consider the case of **Elisha** when [he was] chosen for his work. Elisha was of a family who had kept the ancient true faith of Israel. He did not live in the thickly populated cities. His father was a tiller of the soil, a farmer. Even during the captivity there were souls who had not degenerated and gone into apostasy, and **this family was included in the seven thousand who had not bowed the knee to Baal.**” *Christ Triumphant*, 166.

“There are many whose religion consists in activities. They want to be engaged in, and have the credit of doing, some great work while the little graces that go to make up a lovely Christian character are entirely overlooked. The busy, bustling service, which gives the impression that one is doing some wonderful work, is not acceptable to God. It is **a Jehu spirit**, which says, ‘Come, see my zeal for the Lord.’ It is gratifying to self; it feeds a self-complacent feeling; but all the while the soul may be defiled with the plague-spot of unsubdued, uncontrolled selfishness.” *Signs of the Times*, November 20, 1884.

“As Elisha was called from following his oxen in the field, to receive the mantle of consecration to the prophetic office, **so was William Miller called to leave his plow** and open to the people the mysteries of the kingdom of God. With trembling he entered upon his work, leading his hearers down, step by step, through the prophetic periods to the second appearing of Christ. With every effort he gained strength and courage as he saw the widespread interest excited by his words.” *The Great Controversy*, 331.

“God suffered him to fall under the power of Satan, the dominion of death, and hid him in the grave from those who were constantly drawing him from the truth. Moses erred as he was about to enter the Promised Land. So also, **I saw that William Miller erred as he was soon to enter the heavenly Canaan**, in suffering his influence to go against the truth. Others led him to this; others must account for it. But angels watch the precious dust of this servant of God, and he will come forth at the sound of the last trump.” *Early Writings*, 257–258.

“Thousands were led to embrace **the truth preached by William Miller**, and servants of God were raised up in **the spirit and power of Elijah** to proclaim the message. **Like John**, the forerunner of Jesus, those who preached this solemn message felt compelled to lay the ax at the root of the tree, and call upon men to bring forth fruits meet for repentance.” *Early Writings*, 233.