

Our Firm Foundation



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Not Evil

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Editorial

Joe Olson



Joe Olson serves as the executive director and chairman of the board of Hope International. He also travels as an international speaker.

Leap for Joy

How many words can you think of that Jesus used only one time throughout His life, as recorded in the scriptures? Ever thought about that? I ran across one this morning. It is the word “leap.” In all of the gospel accounts, Jesus never again used the word “leap.” In and of itself, it would not have come across to me as especially significant, but because it was used in reference to the Beatitudes, it piqued my interest.

Jesus began His Beatitudes, in the gospel of Luke, by pronouncing a blessing upon the poor, the hungry, those that weep, and then on those that “men” hate and are separated from “their” company, and are reproached and have their “names cast out” as evil.

“And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said, Blessed be ye poor: for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are ye that hunger now: for ye shall be filled. Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh. Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man’s sake.” Luke 6:20-22.

Please notice the caveat; you are blessed **IF** it was done for “the Son of man’s sake.” That is a huge “if.” However, if these things are done to you for Jesus’ sake, then you are blessed, according to Jesus. But He goes beyond this. Not only

are you blessed, He says, but you are to rejoice in that day.

“Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets.” Luke 6:23.

And after you are to rejoice, Jesus uses the word “leap” for the first and only time in all the scriptures. There is no other time that He says to leap. Only one. And it was incredibly interesting that the only time in all the word of God that Jesus

says to “leap” is when “men” hate you and separate themselves from you and cast out your name as evil.

I put quotation marks around the word “men” for a reason.

What men? What “men” will do these things? Worldlings? Pagans? Catholics? Apostate Protestants? No, according to Jesus, it is those who did *similar* things to the prophets. Throughout the Bible, who treated the prophets badly? Almost always, it was the church members. God’s church, if you will.

And as a result of this ill treatment, Jesus says to “leap” for joy. What came to mind as I considered the word “leap” was the miraculous healing of the man by Peter:

“Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately

his feet and ankle bones received strength. And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.” Acts 3:6-8.

This man was so excited upon being healed that he was leaping all over the place! In like manner, Jesus says that when we are treated badly by fellow church members, we are to start leaping. We are blessed, we are to rejoice, and we are to leap for joy!

Isn’t it time we start doing it? We seem to get so down when we are treated badly. We get depressed, we get angry, we get hurt, but we rarely “leap for joy!” And why are we told to be so happy about these circumstances? Because we don’t just have a reward in heaven; we have a “great” reward!

Don’t we all want to have a “reward” in heaven? How would you like to have a “great” reward? I know I do. When these things come upon us, let’s turn our eyes toward what Jesus has promised. . . . the great reward! We aren’t supposed to be offended because of these things.

“These things have I spoken unto you, that ye should not be offended. They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service.” John 16:1-2.

Not only are we to rejoice and leap for joy, but we are to guard against being offended. Jesus has been so merciful to us. Let’s honor Him by following His instructions. “Leap” for joy!



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Resist Ye Not Evil

“Recompense to no man evil for evil.”

“Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.” Matthew 5:38, 39.

Character Revealed in Crisis

The Christian walk, as we all may be aware, is never a smooth path, but rather one full of many battles—indeed, an unceasing warfare against sinful tendencies, practices and habits. One of the most obvious challenges that we always face as Christians is that of dealing with abuse, unfair treatment, negativity and any unkind acts done to us. One may profess to be a good Christian, but it is only under provocation that the strength of Christian character is revealed. Suddenly the urge for revenge and redress arises, consequently leading the abused to retaliate. Naturally it is common for us to hit back when hit, return insult for insult, blow given for blow received. We live in a world in which “standing up” is the expected norm when unfairly treated. Even if we do not stand up to hit back, often we are found cherishing bitterness and wishing that those who wronged us may

get their bitter reward. And when they do, we find ourselves rejoicing that “justice” has been done.

Carnal Influences vs God’s Counsel

I recall when I was involved in an accident in which a wheel came off a moving vehicle whilst I was standing along the road one morning. Unfortunately, I had a bone broken just below the knee, but the driver of the vehicle managed to safely stop the vehicle. After being hospitalized for days, I spent almost two months bedridden due to the nature of the fracture. This was a trying time for me, as I feared not being able to walk again. During this period, I had visits from brethren of the same faith who came to visit and pray for me. I must confess, one of the most common questions was, “Where is the person whose wheel hit you? Has he compensated you in any way? Sue him if he is not cooperating.”

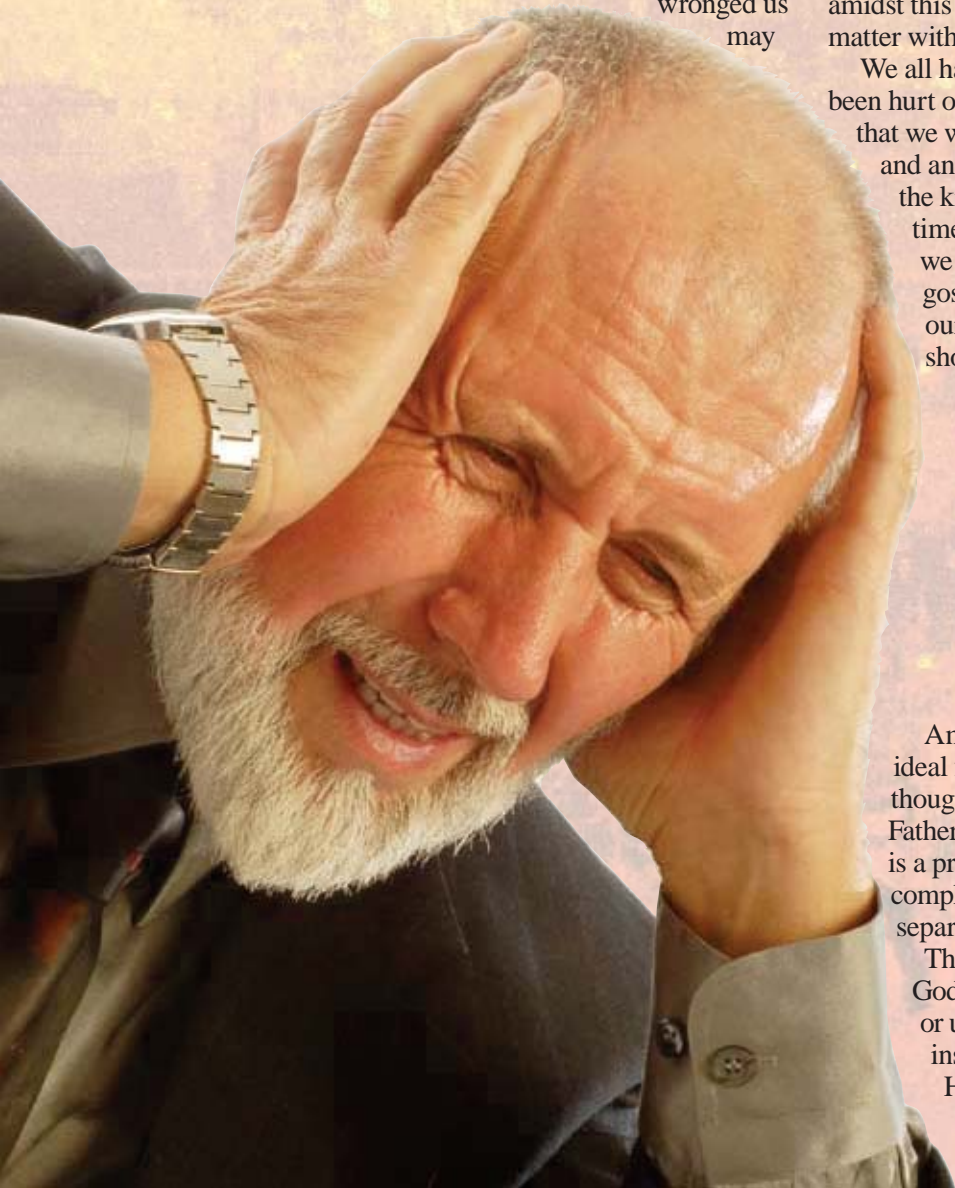
All these sentiments influenced me so much that for days I debated the right course. Initially, I did not want to sue him or get him punished for what was not his direct fault, but a desire for compensation was slowly creeping in. As I prayed about it amidst this pressure, I got the impression that I should rest the matter with God and stop taking any legal action.

We all have come across situations in our life where we have been hurt or unfairly treated. However, our Lord, understanding that we will always face such negativity, left us an instruction and an example of how we ought to react. As children of the kingdom, the standard for us is high. Sadly, so many times we excuse our wrong course of action, citing that we are human and forgetting that the real purpose of the gospel is that we may be transformed and saved from our sins. Rarely do we stop to ask Him the course we should pursue.

“Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.”

Amidst such a conflict, Inspiration reminds us, “God’s ideal for His children is higher than the highest human thought can reach. ‘Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.’ This command is a promise. The plan of redemption contemplates our complete recovery from the power of Satan. Christ always separates the contrite soul from sin.” *Desire of Ages*, 311.

The text quoted in the first paragraph clearly reveals how God wants us to act in the face of any form of provocation or unfair treatment. Fighting back, returning evil for evil, insult for insult, is far from what God expects of us as His children. We are further admonished, “Say not, I



will do so to him as he hath done to me: I will render to the man according to his work.” Proverbs 24:29.

Wait on the Lord

If God would not have us retaliate, where, then, as Christians do we get redress? Scripture reveals to us that God would have us surrender all our frustrations and hurt to Him. Instead of taking the matter upon ourselves, we should actually rest our cases with Him Who is our Father, and have faith that justice will prevail in His own way and at His time. “Say not thou, I will recompense evil; but wait on the LORD, and he shall save thee.” Proverbs 20:22 (see also Psalms 37:28).

David’s Example

The life of David presents a powerful example of how we may relate to those who have provoked and hurt us. In the twenty-fourth chapter of the second book of Samuel we come across an incident during which Saul was after David to kill him. Having pursued David as far as Engedi, Saul entered into a cave to relieve himself, thus providing David with an opportunity to kill him, as he was hiding with his men in the same cave that Saul had entered. Notice the words from David:

“And he said unto his men, The LORD forbid that I should do this thing unto my master, the LORD’s anointed, to stretch forth mine hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of the LORD. So David stayed his servants with these words, and suffered them not to rise against Saul. But Saul rose up out of the cave, and went on his way. David also arose afterward, and went out of the cave, and cried after Saul, saying, My lord the king. And when Saul looked behind him, David stooped with his face to the earth, and bowed himself.



“It was to bring the bread of life to His enemies that our Saviour left His home in heaven.”

“And David said to Saul, Wherefore hearest thou men’s words, saying, Behold, David seeketh thy hurt? Behold, this day thine eyes have seen how that the LORD had delivered thee today into mine hand in the cave: and some bade me kill thee: but mine eye spared thee; and I said, I will not put forth mine hand against my lord; for he is the LORD’s anointed. Moreover, my father, see, yea, see the skirt of thy robe in my hand: for in that I cut off the skirt of thy robe, and killed thee not, know thou and see that there is neither evil nor transgression in mine hand, and I have not sinned against thee; yet thou huntest my soul to take it. The LORD judge between me and thee, and the LORD avenge me of thee: but mine hand shall not be upon thee. As saith the proverb of the ancients, Wickedness proceedeth from the wicked: but mine hand shall not be upon thee.” 1 Samuel 24:4-13.

Twice Tempted to Avenge

Later, in chapter 26, David got another chance at Saul’s life in the wilderness of Ziph. David and his men saw Saul asleep in a trench. The men implored David to seize the opportunity and

kill his relentless foe. “Then said Abishai to David, God hath delivered thine enemy into thine hand this day: now therefore let me smite him, I pray thee, with the spear even to the earth at once, and I will not smite him the second time. And David said to Abishai, Destroy him not: for who can stretch forth his hand against the LORD’s anointed, and be guiltless? David said furthermore, As the LORD liveth, the LORD shall smite him; or his day shall come to die; or he shall descend into battle, and perish. The LORD forbid that I should stretch forth mine hand against the LORD’s anointed: but, I pray thee, take thou now the spear that is at his bolster, and the cruse of water, and let us go.” 1 Samuel 26:8-11.

We demonstrate how truly Christian we are . . . by how we react under provocation.

Once again David spared Saul’s life and actually declared that God himself would deal with Saul in His own way and at the time He saw fit. This was the same Saul who had numerous

times wanted David killed. If only we could trust the Lord in this respect and allow Him to deal with those that have hurt us. Indeed, He will handle the case for us in a better way. "Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord." Romans 12:17-19.

Cherished Hurts, Secret Animosity

Many of us may not actually retaliate against those that cause us pain, but inwardly we still cherish feelings of animosity and bitterness, even to wishing some misfortune may befall them. And if it does, we inwardly rejoice that they have had their reward. I have come across professed Christians discussing with satisfaction and indifference some misfortune that has befallen one with whom they were at variance. Scripture counsels against such feeling and attitudes: "Rejoice not when thine enemy falleth, and let not thine heart be glad when he stumbleth: Lest the LORD see it, and it displease him, and he turn away his wrath from him." Proverbs 24:17.

This also includes avoiding the habit of ignoring and avoiding those that have crossed our paths. In certain instances we decide to ignore and try to avoid those who have hurt us before. However, we forget that Christianity is not only about avoiding the evil, but also seeking that which is good. We are counseled to deliberately do good to them, no matter how much they have hurt or wronged us. How many would pray for our enemies, do them good and love them? "Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good." Romans 12:20, 21.

"Be reconciled to thy brother." Matthew 5:24.

The love of God is something more than a mere negation; it is a

positive and active principle, a living spring, ever flowing to bless others. If the love of Christ dwells in us, we shall not only cherish no hatred toward our fellows, but we shall seek in every way to manifest love toward them." *Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing, 58.*

Doing as Jesus Did

With more emphasis, our Savior continued, "Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbor, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you; that ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven." Matthew 5:44.

"We need to understand that imperfection of character is sin."

If only we could draw an example from our Saviour. Inspiration records, "It was to bring the bread of life to His enemies that our Saviour left His home in heaven. Though calumny and persecution were heaped upon Him from the cradle to the grave, they called forth from Him only the expression of forgiving love. Through the prophet Isaiah He says, 'I gave My back to the smiters, and My cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not My face from shame and spitting.' 'He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth: He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so He openeth not His mouth.' Isaiah 50:6; 53:7. And from the cross of Calvary there come down through the ages His prayer for His murderers and the message of hope to the dying thief." *Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing, 71.*

To Be Perfect, Love Your Enemies

Dear reader, have you been unfairly treated, hurt or provoked? Follow scriptural counsel; love those that have caused pain. Show the love and true Christian concern. We demonstrate how truly Christian we are, not by how active we are in the church, but how we react under provocation. God would have us turn the other cheek, difficult as it may be-- but it is not impossible. His enabling grace is sufficient if we surrender our lives to Him.

After that admonition in Matthew 5:44, He concluded by saying; "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." Verse 48. True Christian perfection will be seen in the way we handle such things. Our profession will be meaningless if we fail to maintain a calm Christian spirit and attitude in face of negativity, variance or hurt. May God help us to be true children of the kingdom, revealing Him in all we do.

"God will accept only those who are determined to aim high. He places every human agent under obligation to do his best. Moral perfection is required of all. Never should we lower the standard of righteousness in order to accommodate inherited or cultivated tendencies to wrong-doing. We need to understand that imperfection of character is sin. All righteous attributes of character dwell in God as a perfect, harmonious whole, and every one who receives Christ as a personal Saviour is privileged to possess these attributes." *Christ's Object Lessons, 330.*



LIBERTY OF CONSCIENCE

T H R E A T E N E D

Ellen G. White

The people need to be aroused to resist the advances of this most dangerous foe to civil and religious liberty.

Romanism is now regarded by Protestants with far greater favor than in former years. In those countries where Catholicism is not in the ascendancy, and the papists are taking a conciliatory course in order to gain influence, there is an increasing indifference concerning the doctrines that separate the reformed churches from the papal hierarchy; the opinion is gaining ground that, after all, we do not differ so widely upon vital points as has been supposed, and that a little concession on our part will bring us into a better un-

derstanding with Rome. The time was when Protestants placed a high value upon the liberty of conscience which had been so dearly purchased. They taught their children to abhor popery and held that to seek harmony with Rome would be disloyalty to God. But how widely different are the sentiments now expressed!

The defenders of the papacy declare that the church has been maligned, and the Protestant world are inclined to accept the statement. Many urge that it is unjust to judge the church of today by the abominations and absurdities that marked her reign during the centuries of ignorance and darkness. They excuse her horrible cruelty as the result of

The time was when Protestants placed a high value upon the liberty of conscience which had been so dearly purchased.

the barbarism of the times and plead that the influence of modern civilization has changed her sentiments.

Claim of Infallibility Reveals True Intent

Have these persons forgotten the claim of infallibility put forth for eight hundred years by this haughty power? So far from being relinquished, this claim was affirmed in the nineteenth century with greater positiveness than ever before. As Rome asserts that the “church never erred; nor will it, according to the Scriptures, ever err” (John L. von Mosheim, *Institutes of Ecclesiastical History*, book 3, century II, part 2, chapter 2, section 9, note 17), how can she renounce the principles which governed her course in past ages?

The papal church will never relinquish her claim to infallibility. All that she has done in her persecution of those who reject her dogmas she holds to be right; and would she not repeat the same acts, should the opportunity be presented? Let the restraints now imposed by secular governments be removed and Rome be reinstated in her former power, and there would speedily be a revival of her tyranny and persecution.

Hatred of Religious Liberty

A well-known writer speaks thus of the attitude of the papal hierarchy as regards freedom of conscience, and of the perils which especially threaten the United States from the success of her policy:

“There are many who are disposed to attribute any fear of Roman Catholicism in the United States to bigotry or childishness. Such see nothing in the character and attitude of Romanism that is hostile to our free institutions, or find nothing portentous in its



growth. Let us, then, first compare some of the fundamental principles of our government with those of the Catholic Church.

“The Constitution of the United States guarantees liberty of conscience. Nothing is dearer or more fundamental. Pope Pius IX, in his Encyclical Letter of August 15, 1854, said: ‘The absurd and erroneous doctrines or ravings in defense of liberty of conscience are a most pestilential error--a pest, of all others, most to be dreaded in a state.’ The same pope, in his Encyclical Letter of December 8, 1864, anathematized ‘those who assert the liberty of conscience and of religious worship,’ also ‘all such as maintain

that the church may not employ force.’

“The pacific tone of Rome in the United States does not imply a change of heart. She is tolerant where she is helpless. Says Bishop O’Connor: ‘Religious liberty is merely endured until the opposite can be carried into effect without peril to the Catholic world.’ . . . The archbishop of St. Louis once said: ‘Heresy and unbelief are crimes; and in Christian countries, as in Italy and Spain, for instance, where all the people are Catholics, and where the Catholic religion is an essential part of the law of the land, they are punished as other crimes.’ . . .

“Heresy and unbelief are crimes; and in Christian countries. . .where the Catholic religion is an essential part of the law of the land, they are punished as other crimes. . .”



God Pities the Deceived

It is true that there are real Christians in the Roman Catholic communion. Thousands in that church are serving God according to the best light they have. They are not allowed access to His word, and therefore they do not discern the truth. [PUBLISHED IN 1888 AND 1911. SEE APPENDIX.] They have never seen the contrast between a living heart service and a round of mere forms and ceremonies. God looks with pitying tenderness upon these souls, educated as they are in a faith that is delusive and unsatisfying. He will cause rays of light to penetrate the dense darkness that

they would discern the signs of the times. The Roman Church is far-reaching in her plans and modes of operation. She is employing every device to extend her influence and increase her power in preparation for a fierce and determined conflict to regain control of the world, to re-establish persecution, and to undo all that Protestantism has done. Catholicism is gaining ground upon every side. See the increasing number of her churches and chapels in Protestant countries. Look at the popularity of her colleges and seminaries in America, so widely patronized by Protestants. Look at the growth of ritualism in England and the frequent defections to the ranks of the Catholics. These things should awaken the anxiety of all who prize the pure principles of the gospel.

Protestants have tampered with and patronized popery; they have made compromises and concessions which papists themselves are surprised to see and fail to understand. Men are closing their eyes to the real character of Romanism and the dangers to be apprehended from her supremacy. The people need to be aroused to resist the advances of this most dangerous foe to civil and religious liberty.

Visible Splendor, Concealed Vice

Many Protestants suppose that the Catholic religion is unattractive and that its worship is a dull, meaningless round of ceremony. Here they mistake. While Romanism is based upon deception, it is not a coarse and clumsy imposture. The religious service of the Roman Church is a most impressive ceremonial. Its gorgeous display and solemn rites fascinate the senses of the people and silence the voice of reason and of conscience. The eye



“Every cardinal, archbishop, and bishop in the Catholic Church takes an oath of allegiance to the pope, in which occur the following words: ‘Heretics, schismatics, and rebels to our said lord (the pope), or his aforesaid successors, I will to my utmost persecute and oppose.’”-- Josiah Strong, *Our Country*, ch. 5, pars. 2-4. [SEE APPENDIX FOR CORRECTED REFERENCES.]

surrounds them. He will reveal to them the truth as it is in Jesus, and many will yet take their position with His people.

Rome on the Move

But Romanism as a system is no more in harmony with the gospel of Christ now than at any former period in her history. The Protestant churches are in great darkness, or

is charmed. Magnificent churches, imposing processions, golden altars, jeweled shrines, choice paintings, and exquisite sculpture appeal to the love of beauty. The ear also is captivated. The music is unsurpassed. The rich notes of the deep-toned organ, blending with the melody of many voices as it swells through the lofty domes and pillared aisles of her grand cathedrals, cannot fail to impress the mind with awe and reverence.

This outward splendor, pomp, and ceremony, that only mocks the longings of the sin-sick soul, is an evidence of inward corruption. The religion of Christ needs not such attractions to recommend it. In the light shining from the cross, true Christianity appears so pure and lovely that no external decorations can enhance its true worth. It is the beauty of holiness, a meek and quiet spirit, which is of value with God.

Brilliance of style is not necessarily an index of pure, elevated thought. High conceptions of art, delicate refinement of taste, often exist in minds that are earthly and sensual. They are often employed by Satan to lead men to forget the necessities of the soul, to lose sight of the future, immortal life, to turn away from their infinite Helper, and to live for this world alone.

Its gorgeous display and solemn rites fascinate the senses. . .and silence the voice of reason and of conscience.

A religion of externals is attractive to the unrenewed heart. The pomp and ceremony of the Catholic worship has a seductive, bewitching power, by which many are deceived; and they come to look

upon the Roman Church as the very gate of heaven. None but those who have planted their feet firmly upon the foundation of truth, and whose hearts are renewed by the Spirit of God, are proof against her influence. Thousands who have not an experimental knowledge of Christ will be led to accept the forms of godliness without the power. Such a religion is just what the multitudes desire.

Confession to Man Degrades

The church's claim to the right to pardon leads the Romanist to feel at liberty to sin; and the ordinance of confession, without which her pardon is not granted, tends also to give license to evil. He who kneels before fallen man, and opens in confession the secret thoughts and imaginations of his heart, is debasing his manhood and degrading every noble instinct of his soul. In unfolding the sins of his life to a priest,—an erring, sinful mortal, and too often corrupted with wine and licentiousness,—his standard of character is lowered, and he is defiled in consequence. His thought of God is degraded to the likeness of fallen humanity, for the priest stands as a representative of God. This degrading confession of man to man is the secret spring from which has flowed much of the evil

that is defiling the world and fitting it for the final destruction. Yet to him who loves self-indulgence, it is more pleasing to confess to a fellow mortal than to open the soul to God. It is more palatable to hu-





man nature to do penance than to renounce sin; it is easier to mortify the flesh by sackcloth and nettles and galling chains than to crucify fleshly lusts. Heavy is the yoke which the carnal heart is willing to bear rather than bow to the yoke of Christ.

Sad Similarities

There is a striking similarity between the Church of Rome and the Jewish Church at the time of Christ's first advent. While the Jews secretly trampled upon every principle of the law of God, they were outwardly rigorous in the observance of its precepts, loading it down with exactions and traditions that made obedience painful and burdensome. As the Jews professed to revere the law, so do Romanists claim to reverence the cross. They exalt the symbol of Christ's sufferings, while in their lives

they deny Him whom it represents.

Papists place crosses upon their churches, upon their altars, and upon their garments. Everywhere is seen the insignia of the cross. Everywhere it is outwardly honored and exalted. But the teachings of Christ are buried beneath a mass of senseless traditions, false interpretations, and rigorous exactions. The Saviour's words concerning the bigoted Jews, apply with still greater force to the leaders of the Roman Catholic Church: "They bind heavy burdens and grievous be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers." Matthew 23:4. Conscientious souls are kept in constant terror fearing the wrath of an offended God, while many of the dignitaries of the church are living in luxury and sensual pleasure.

Deadly Substitutions

The worship of images and relics, the invocation of saints, and the exaltation of the pope are devices of Satan to attract the minds of the people from God and from His Son. To accomplish their ruin, he endeavors to turn their attention from Him through whom alone they can find salvation. He will direct them to any object that can be substituted for the One who has said: "Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28. *Great Controversy*, 563-8.

To be continued.

Ellen G. White, 1827-1915, received the spiritual gift of prophecy, and the fruits of her life and work accord with the biblical tests of a true messenger of God. To this day, her counsels are an incalculable blessing to God's people around the world.

Among the cities of the ancient world, one of the greatest was Nineveh, built by Ashur, grandson of Noah. It was the New York of its day. Founded on the bank of the river Tigris, it was a city so large for its day that it took 3 days to cross it. Though evidently a city of great wealth and commerce, it was also a center of crime and great cruelty. Nahum 3:1-4 describes a city of death, slavery, prostitution, one that sold nations and families through her witchcraft. God called it a bloody

and boarded the ship, no doubt believing he had disposed of the matter.

Like some who, in the early days of Adventism, were bidden to give a message but who ran from God's call, there is a price for disobedience. We think of William Foss and Hazen Foy, both given a vision to relate to God's people; both ran from the call. Neither ever had peace again. Instead, the call was given to the weakest of the weak, Ellen Harmon, who tremblingly accepted.

Under the Sunday law crisis, even the most timid of Sabbath keepers will have no choice but to witness for the Sabbath, if they determine to be faithful. In *Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. 5, page 456, we read, "The work which the church has failed to do in a time of peace and prosperity she will have to do in a terrible crisis under the most discouraging, forbidding circumstances. . . . The members of the church will individually be tested and proved. They will be placed in

Jonah

a Type of the Remnant

Ralph Moss

Jonah exemplifies
the best and worst of our
responses to God's call
for message-bearers.

city and compared it to a ravenous lion. But even in that wicked city God saw those who were reaching out for something better and higher. A loving God determined to grant those seekers of truth an opportunity to learn of Him.

A Message to Bear

The instrument chosen to do this work was the prophet Jonah. Jonah was commissioned to "arise, go to Nineveh . . . and cry against it." Jonah 1:1, 2. Think of the Revelation 18 message that God's people will soon be commissioned to give to a world as wicked as Nineveh was.

Jonah was filled with consternation at the difficulties of the situation ("they will kill me") and Satan overwhelmed him with discouragement. Seized with a great dread, he rose up to flee to Tarshish, which was in the opposite direction. He went to the seaport of Joppa and, finding a ship ready to sail, he paid the fare

Witnessing Despite Ourselves
God, however, did not leave Jonah alone. He sent a great storm. The mariners cried to their gods for help to no avail, while Jonah slept. In a world filled with disaster and storm, are God's people asleep like Jonah, oblivious to the storm and the work that should be theirs to do? Remember, the ten virgins all slept. The sailors, upon waking Jonah up (What storm will wake up God's remnant people?), found by his own admission that he was the cause of the storm. This incident forced Jonah to witness for his faith. This seems to have resulted in the sailors learning of the true God for the first time. This again illustrates that men and devils can do nothing against the truth that in the end will glorify the truth.

circumstances where they will be forced to bear witness for the truth"--just like Jonah!

Judgment Messages

At his own request, Jonah was thrown overboard and instantly the storm ceased. A great fish that God had prepared then swallowed him. A submarine ride took him where he was originally told to go. The fish vomited him upon the banks of the river. Possibly witnesses to this event ran into the city to tell what they had seen. Now, the Ninevites worshipped Dagon, the fish god. Jonah coming out of a fish out of the water might have caused them to view him as a god. We are not told all the details of this event, but Jonah no longer questioned God. He began to preach a judgment

"The members of the church will individually be tested and proved, . . . placed in circumstances where they will be forced to bear witness for the truth."

message which resulted in the conversion of the whole city.

A similar message has been given to the Seventh-day Adventist church. Revelation 14:9, 10 says, “. . . If any man worship the beast and his image and receive his mark in his forehead or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God. . . .” Revelation 18:4 adds, “Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that

“Every follower of Christ should earnestly inquire: “Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?””

ye receive not of her plagues.” Just as Jonah was raised to give a final warning of judgment, Adventists have been raised for the same purpose.

Loud Cries Heard

This loud cry—“Yet forty days and Nineveh shall be overthrown” (Jonah 3:4)--resulted in the conversion of the entire city. It was the most successful evangelistic effort ever recorded, with even the king repenting and sitting in sackcloth and ashes. The message was pressed home to every heart by the Holy Spirit.

So in our day the Loud Cry of the third angel will be pressed home to all the world. While an entire world will not be converted, many will come out of Babylon. God allows men a period of probation; Nineveh was given 200

more years. So under the Loud Cry all of earth’s inhabitants will be given a period of time to repent, but there is a point beyond which divine patience is exhausted. The judgments of God are sure to follow.

His Message to Us Now

God’s message today for all of us is, “Be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of Man cometh.” Matthew 24:44.

The prophet of the Lord warned us, “We are living in the most solemn period of this world’s history. The destiny of earth’s teeming multitudes is about to be decided. Our own future well-being and also the salvation of other souls depend upon the course which we now pursue. We need to be guided by the Spirit of truth. Every follower of Christ should earnestly inquire: ‘Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?’ We need to humble ourselves before

the Lord, with fasting and prayer, and to meditate much upon His word, especially upon the scenes of the judgment. We should now seek a deep and living experience in the things of God. We have not a moment to lose.” *Great Controversy*, 601.

Let us not be Jonahs in this day and age. Instead, let us heed the call.



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Theological Waymarks

Part 1

The King of the North

Sound hermeneutical principles guide in the end-time interpretation of the events of Daniel 11:40.

Daniel 11:40-12:1 has been difficult exegetical (interpretive) ground for a long time. The hour is late, however, brothers and sisters, and we believe that the Lord is calling his people into line. “Come now, and let us reason together.” If not now, when? Therefore, a direct and simplified study of significant words, phrases and symbols in each verse, accompanied by historical, biblical, or Spirit of Prophecy explanations, should suffice not only to illuminate divine prophecy in Daniel as it relates to closing events of earthly history, but also to strengthen our faith in a God who “declares the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done.” Isa. 46:9-10. With a solid understanding, we can then go forth to teach and preach the prophetic truth with conviction and in love to a dying world. “All heaven is looking upon you who claim to believe the most sacred truth ever committed to mortals. Angels are waiting with longing desire to cooperate with you in working for the salvation of souls.” *2 Selected Messages*, 136.

Let us commence, then, in humility as we tread lightly on unfulfilled

prophecy, that this exposition may rightly present to the reader the intent and purpose Heaven so desired to convey in warning the church of the obstacles she must meet and the degree of faith that will be required of all to be able to stand when Michael Himself shall stand up. We must fortify our minds with the truth, and this truth must produce a faith in each of us that will become a living personal experience. Thus, that we press ever onward for that united faith that in turn will bring forth a united front is our sincere prayer.

We begin with the first of the verses under study:

Dan. 11:40 “**And at the time⁶²⁵⁶ of the end⁷⁰⁹³ shall the king⁴⁴²⁸ of the south⁵⁰⁴⁵ push⁵⁰⁵⁵ at⁵⁹⁷³ him: and the king⁴⁴²⁸ of the north⁶⁸²⁸ shall come against him like a whirlwind,^{8175,5921} with chariots,⁷³⁹³ and with horsemen,⁶⁵⁷¹ and with many⁷²²⁷ ships;⁵⁹¹ and he shall enter⁹³⁵ into the countries,⁷⁷⁶ and shall overflow⁷⁸⁵⁷ and pass over.⁷⁵⁶⁷⁴**”

One must first identify and understand significant words, phrases and symbols in each verse before one can

hope to come to a correct interpretation. Then appropriate time and place for their intended Biblical application can be ascertained.

11:40 And at THE TIME OF THE END . . .

When is the time of the end? This time period began in 1798. Inspiration has identified it as such in the following:

“The message of salvation has been preached in all ages; but this message is a part of the gospel which could be proclaimed only in the last days, for only then would it be true that the hour of judgment had come. The prophecies present a succession of events leading down to the opening of the judgment. This is especially true of the book of Daniel. But that part of his prophecy which related to the last days, Daniel was bidden to close up and seal ‘to the time of the end.’ Not till we reach this time could a message concerning the judgment be proclaimed, based on the fulfillment of these prophecies. But at the time of the end, says the prophet, ‘many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.’ Daniel 12:4.

“The apostle Paul warned the church not to look for the coming of Christ in his day. ‘That day shall not come,’ he says, ‘except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed.’ 2 Thessalonians 2:3. Not till after the great apostasy, and the long period of the reign of the ‘man of sin,’ can we look for the advent of our Lord. The ‘man of sin,’ which is also styled ‘the mystery of iniquity,’ ‘the son of perdition,’ and ‘that wicked,’ represents the papacy, which, as foretold in prophecy, was to maintain its supremacy for 1260 years. This period ended in 1798. The coming of Christ could not take place before that time. Paul covers with his caution the whole of the Christian dispensation down to the year 1798. It is this side of that time that the message of Christ’s second coming is to be proclaimed.

existence of the living God and resisted His commands. No monarch ever ventured upon more open and high-handed rebellion against the authority of Heaven than did the king of Egypt. When the message was brought him by Moses, in the name of the Lord, Pharaoh proudly answered: ‘Who is Jehovah, that I should hearken unto His voice to let Israel go? I know not Jehovah, and moreover I will not let Israel go.’ Exodus 5:2, ARV. This is atheism, and the nation represented by Egypt would give voice to a similar denial of the claims of the living God and would manifest a like spirit of unbelief and defiance. . . .

“According to the words of the prophet, then, a little before the year 1798 some power of satanic origin and character would rise to make war upon the Bible. And in the land where

the testimony of God’s two witnesses should thus be silenced, there would be manifest the atheism of the Pharaoh and the licentiousness of Sodom.

“This prophecy has received a most exact and striking fulfillment in the history of France. . . .” *Great Controversy*, 269.

Atheistic France did push at the papacy in the French Revolution, commencing in 1789. John refers to this event and enlarges upon it in Revelation 11:2-11. Then through Napoleon, the French army entered Rome on the 10th of February, 1798. On February 15th of the same year, the French administered Rome’s deadly wound through legislation, and the papacy received her judicial punishment as prophesied in Revelation 13:10. (For a documented account of how this took place, as well as the legislative documentation that suppressed religious liberty for 1260 years, see my forthcoming book *508 538 1798 Source Book*.) But organized atheism in France is now gone, so who might be designated as the king of the south after the passing of 1798? (Notice that this power would have a “king” or a “kingdom,” meaning

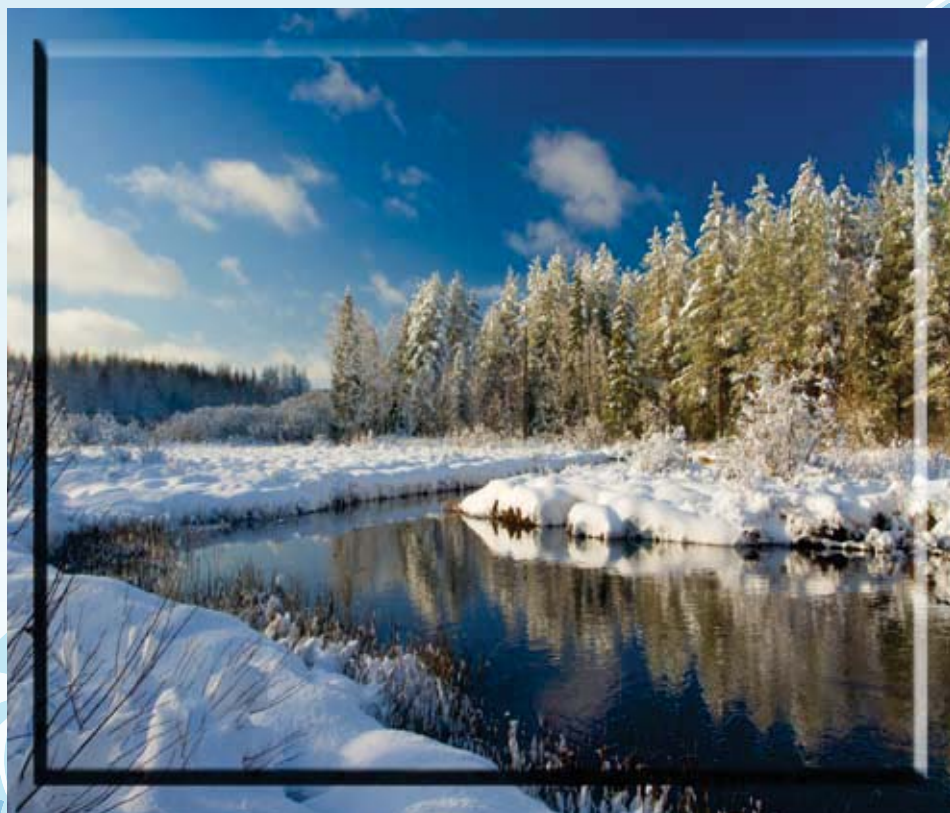
The things of God before the cross are always taken in a literal and local sense; after the cross, in a symbolic or spiritual and worldwide sense.

“No such message has ever been given in past ages. Paul, as we have seen, did not preach it; he pointed his brethren into the then far-distant future for the coming of the Lord. The Reformers did not proclaim it. Martin Luther placed the judgment about three hundred years in the future from his day. But since 1798 the book of Daniel has been unsealed, knowledge of the prophecies has increased, and many have proclaimed the solemn message of the judgment near.” *Great Controversy*, 356.

11:40 . . . shall THE KING OF THE SOUTH . . .

The King of the South is the King of Egypt. (See Daniel 11:5-9) Who, then, is designated as the King of the South in the time of the end? Inspiration defines it this way:

“Of all nations presented in Bible history, Egypt most boldly denied the



it is organized, which is not a characteristic of a philosophical force.) The greatest expression of organized atheism today is communism.

It is recognized that the same principles and the same spirit of atheistic France now find their expression in international communism. Ever since its rise, communism has been pushing against the papacy. The papacy's greatest fear for many years has been, and still is, the aims, influence and ambitions of communism. History has shown that since the turn of the 20th century many of the wars have taken place because of competing influences of communism and Romanism. Accordingly, "the King of the South" is an all-inclusive term that encompasses all organized atheistical kingdoms of communism at the time of the end, for the title spiritually represents a world-wide kingdom. How do we justify such an interpretation?

***Pre-Cross: Literal-Local;
Post-Cross: Spiritual-Worldwide***

The hermeneutical principle is this: The things of God before the cross are always taken in a literal and local sense; after the cross, in a symbolic or spiritual and worldwide sense. Let us give you an example of this in the last vision of Daniel, found in chapters 10-12. When we read in Daniel 10:14 and 11:14, we interpret "thy people" as meaning the literal Jews, and rightly so. But then we come to Daniel 12:1, which is part of the vision of chapter 11, for there is no break in the original text and, in fact, the vision does not contextually conclude till verse 3 of chapter 12. In Daniel 12:1, we interpret "thy people" as the saints of God, born-again Christians, spiritual Israel, the Christian Church at the very end of probationary time.

***After the Second Coming,
we return to literal time.***

So the great question that naturally would be asked is this: How can we move in our interpretation from literal-local to spiritual-worldwide? Wouldn't any such



interpretations appear inconsistent or contrived? It is well-known that futurists like many evangelicals and others teach that Daniel 12:1's "thy people" refers to the literal Jews. On the surface, this literal interpretation seems to be consistent and logical, so why do Seventh day Adventists differ from that approach?

We restate the hermeneutical principle: Before the cross, we interpret the prophetic symbols literally. After the cross and up to the time of the Second Coming, we interpret the prophetic symbols spiritually. In answer to the question above, we have the divine endorsement for doing so in the writings of Paul. In the book of Romans, written after the cross, Paul explains that a Jew is not someone who is such merely by birth, but a Jew is the person who is circumcised or renewed in heart. This is the born-again Christian. He or she has become a spiritual Jew. The term

Jew under this dispensation now has a spiritual, worldwide application, as does the city Jerusalem, which is now interpreted and understood to be the Christian Church.

***Post-Second Advent:
Return to Literal-Local***

Also, the prophetic principle is that after the Second Coming, we return to literal time. The thousand-year millennium is literally 1000 years. So it is with Babylon. After the cross Babylon is no longer understood and confined in a literal, local geographical location. No, Babylon, like the Jew and Jerusalem, is understood as spiritual, worldwide Babylon. And the same Biblical hermeneutical principle applies to the King of the South as well as to the King of the North. Before the cross: literal, local. After the cross: spiritual, worldwide. After the second coming: literal, local.

11:40 . . . PUSH at him:

“Push” or “pushing” describes a military conquest.

Dan. 8:4 “I saw the ram pushing westward, and northward, and southward; so that no beasts might stand before him, neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great.”

11:40 . . . and THE KING OF THE NORTH . . .

The papacy is the King of the North.

The following corroborative statement is taken from a tract by Louis F. Were:

“The (General Conference) study group appointed by the Committee on Biblical Study and Research presented their ‘Report on the Eleventh Chapter of Daniel, With Particular Reference to Verses 36-39,’ in ‘The Ministry,’ March, 1954. The report states definitively: ‘Therefore, from the foregoing, we conclude that verses 36-39 of Daniel 11 accurately set forth in prophetic language the work and history of papal Rome.’

“In *The Great Controversy*, page 50, the Lord’s messenger undoubtedly refers to Daniel 11:36, saying: ‘This compromise between paganism and Christianity resulted in the development of the “man of sin” foretold in prophecy as opposing and exalting himself above God. That gigantic system of false religion is a masterpiece of Satan’s power—a monument of his efforts to seat himself upon the throne to rule the earth according to his will.’ Daniel declared that ‘the king shall do according to his will’—that is, the king of the north, for ‘the king’ as shown by the context is ‘the king of the north.’ The Study group referred to above, in its report concerning the subsequent verses in Daniel 11, says: ‘Without doubt the Papacy, if it is the power of Daniel 11:36-39, must also play a part in the historical fulfillment of these verses, for the pronoun “him” in verse 40 must refer to the power brought to view in verses 36-39.’

“Thus ‘the king’ of verse 36 is undoubtedly ‘the king of the north’ mentioned in Dan. 11:40-45. By applying

v. 36 to the Papacy, Mrs. E. White disagreed with Uriah Smith’s application of Dan. 11:36 to the French Revolution.” Louis F. Were, *The Truth concerning Mrs. E. G. White, Uriah Smith, and the King of the North*, pg. 4.

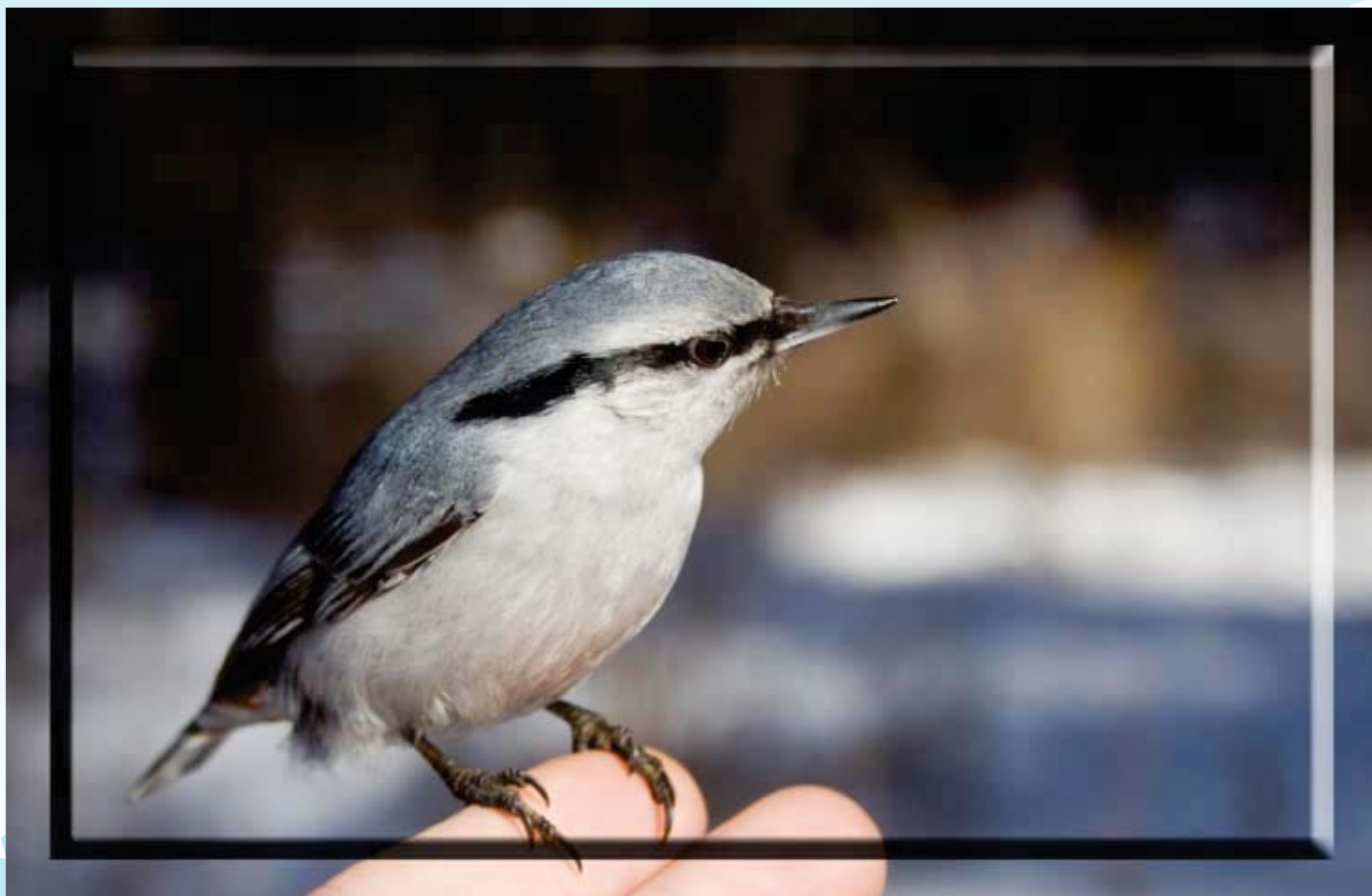
Papacy to Lead Opposition

The conclusions above are in harmony with the prophecies of Ellen White, in that the last entity of Daniel 11 is not Turkey, but the papacy, as will be further shown:

“The world is filled with storm and war and variance. Yet under one head—the papal power—the people will unite to oppose God in the person of His witnesses.” *Testimonies to the Church*, Vol. 7, 182.

“Romanism in the Old World and apostate Protestantism in the New will pursue a similar course toward those who honor all the divine precepts.” *Great Controversy*, 616.

When one compares Ezekiel 38:15, II Thessalonians 2:7-8, Revelation 13 and 17, to name just a few, the conclu-



sion is inescapable that, through legislation, Rome recovers from her deadly wound and becomes a central figure in the great controversy at the end of time. Keep in mind that Rome will dominate the Old World and apostate Protestantism the New World.

11:40 ... shall come against him like a WHIRLWIND ...

This represents destruction.

Prov. 1:27 “When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. . . .”

Jer. 23:19 “Behold, a whirlwind of

sued after them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, and his horsemen, and his army, and overtook them encamping by the sea, beside Pihahiroth, before Baalzephon.”

Ex. 14:26 “And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand over the sea, that the waters may come again upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen.”

Ex. 14:28 “And the waters returned, and covered the chariots, and the horsemen, and all the host of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them; there remained not so much as one of them.”

riches is come to nought. And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off. . . .”

11:40 ... and he shall ENTER ...

The verb “enter” means “to besiege.”⁹³⁵ The reader is asked to temporarily accept this definition until additional terms are defined and the meaning of “enter” is revisited.

11:40 ... into the COUNTRIES ...

The Hebrew word *eh'-rets*⁷⁷⁶ (countries, plural) is indeed found in the original and belongs in this text. When it is explained how and when “he shall enter,” it will then be made plain into what he enters.

11:40 ... and shall OVERFLOW AND PASS OVER.

A military invasion is depicted, during which nothing can stand in its way. Complete annihilation is here described.

Dan. 11:10 “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.”

Isa. 8:7-9 “Now therefore, behold, the Lord bringeth up upon them the waters of the river, strong and many, even the king of Assyria, and all his glory: and he shall come up over all his channels, and go over all his banks: And he shall pass through Judah; he shall overflow and go over, he



the LORD is gone forth in fury, even a grievous whirlwind: it shall fall grievously upon the head of the wicked.”

Jer. 25:32 “Thus saith the LORD of hosts, Behold, evil shall go forth from nation to nation, and a great whirlwind shall be raised up from the coasts of the earth.”

11:40 ... with CHARIOTS and HORSEMEN ...

These represent an army.

Ex. 14:9 “But the Egyptians pur-

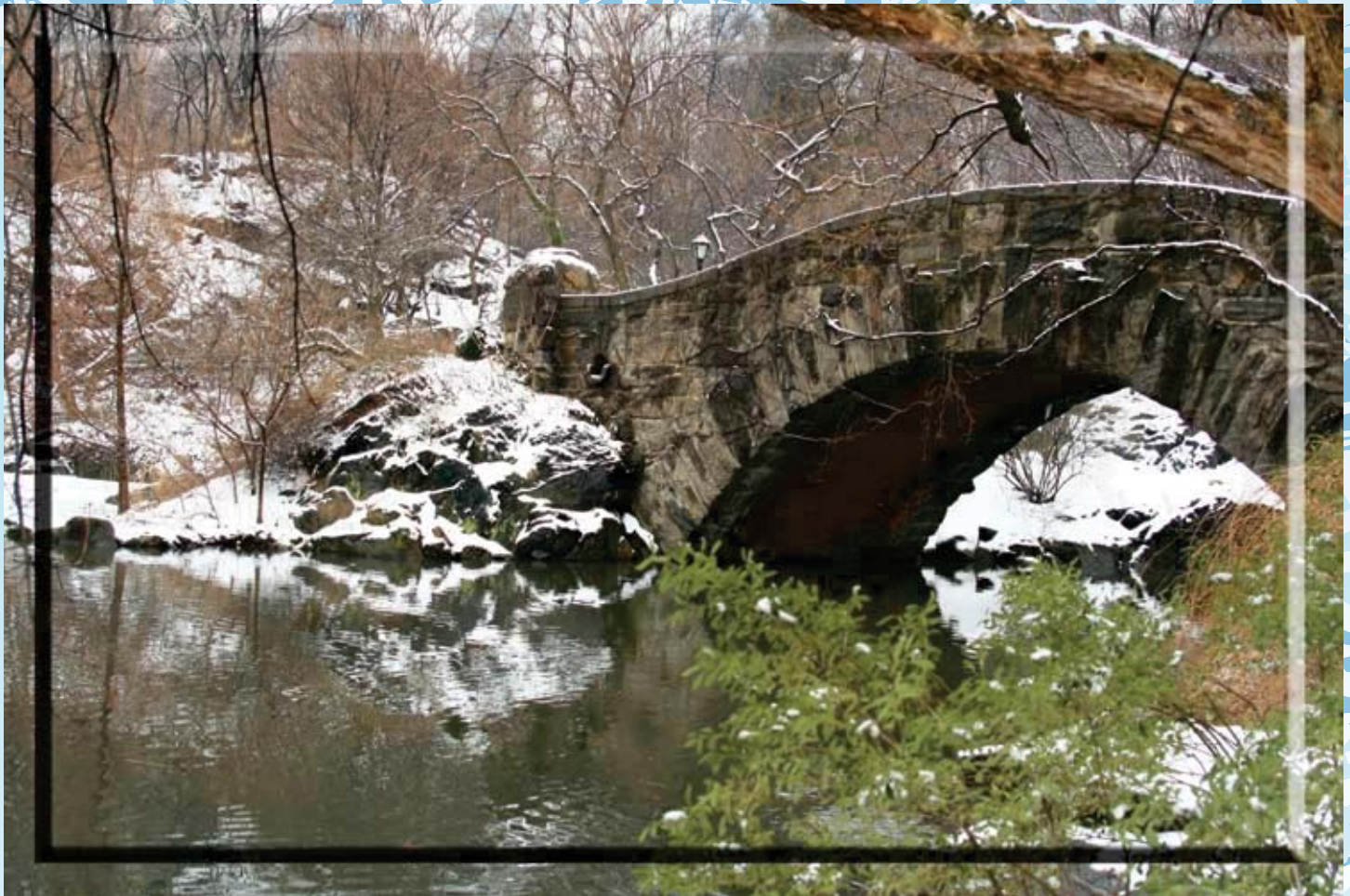
11:40 ... and with many SHIPS;

Economy, trade, merchandise, merchants, riches—in other words, monetary matters are here named.

Ps. 107:23 “They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters. . . .”

Let it be remembered that Revelation complements Daniel. Revelation 18:17 shows us how ships are to be understood in the symbolic sense.

Rev. 18:17 “For in one hour so great



shall reach even to the neck; and the stretching out of his wings shall fill the breadth of thy land, O Immanuel. Associate yourselves, O ye people, and ye shall be broken in pieces; and give ear, all ye of far countries: gird yourselves, and ye shall be broken in pieces; gird yourselves, and ye shall be broken in pieces.”

Now that we have allowed the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy to interpret itself on these Biblical words and phrases of Daniel 11:40, we may confidently begin to evaluate that verse and apply those interpretations to our times—the time of the end. We have already established and generally we think it is agreed by all that the first part of Daniel 11:40 is interpreted as such: “And at the time of the end [1798] shall the king of the south [atheistic France] push at him [the Papacy].” But it is the remainder of verse 40 that depicts a future offensive movement on the part of the papacy that demands a careful analysis. We repeat the verse here, call-

ing your attention to the actions of the king of the north:

Dan. 11:40 “**And at the time⁶²⁵⁶ of the end⁷⁰⁹³ shall the king⁴⁴²⁸ of the south⁵⁰⁴⁵ push⁵⁰⁵⁵ at⁵⁹⁷³ him: and the king⁴⁴²⁸ of the north⁶⁸²⁸ shall come against him like a whirlwind,^{8175, 5921} with chariots,⁷³⁹³ and with horsemen,⁶⁵⁷¹ and with many⁷²²⁷ ships,⁵⁹¹ and he shall enter⁹³⁵ into the countries,⁷⁷⁶ and shall overflow⁷⁸⁵⁷ and pass over.**”⁵⁶⁷⁴

A Technique of Overview then Ordered Details

Daniel gives us five clues for the interpretation, time and place of the events of the latter part of verse 40. Four of them are in verse 40 itself. In his first clue, Daniel indicates in his conventional way that the remainder of Daniel 11:40 is none other than an overview of the remaining events of chapter 11, to be fulfilled in their chronological order. Daniel’s first clue is his technique

of overview in Daniel 9:24, which was then immediately followed by time-segment details in verses 25 through 27.

Satan’s Plan Used Before

Before we can start with an analysis of the four remaining clues in verse 40, it will be necessary to illustrate the four prophetic steps in Satan’s plan against God’s people at the end of time that Ellen White saw and recorded. She noted the escalating severity of the methods to be used against them to compel them to forsake their allegiance to Jesus. Ironically, it was the same four steps in the same chronological order used against the Jews in Nazi Germany. These sequential steps will aid us in making correct chronological placement of the events of Daniel 11:40 and add immensely to our understanding of the final events. Ellen White was given a clear understanding of the coming future events. Shall we not look and see?

“The events connected with the close

She noted the escalating severity of the methods to be used against them to compel them to forsake their allegiance to Jesus.

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.” *Great Controversy*, 594.

Four Coercions

Satan’s first coercive device is recorded in *Great Controversy* to be fines, imprisonment, and inducements:

“As the movement for Sunday enforcement becomes more bold and decided, the law will be invoked against commandment keepers. They will be threatened with fines and imprisonment, and some will be offered positions of influence, and other rewards and advantages, as inducements to renounce their faith.” *Great Controversy*, 607.

Secondly, Satan will arrange that “they will be forbidden to buy or sell.” This introduces the financial aspect by way of the term “ships” in the sequence of events in their chronological order.

Satan’s third attempt to separate God’s people from Him is that “they shall be put to death.” The second and third steps are recorded in *The Desire of Ages*:

“In the last great conflict of the controversy with Satan those who are loyal to God will see every earthly support cut off. Because they refuse to break His law in obedience to earthly powers, they will be forbidden to buy or sell. It will finally be decreed that they shall be put to death. See Rev. 13:11-17.”

Desire of Ages, 121-2.

Satan’s fourth and last scheme is his final solution. Until this point, the populace would not have been at liberty to slay God’s people; that has been the prerogative of governments only. But

now a universal death decree issued by the various rulers of Christendom after the second plague (Rev. 16:3-7) gives the infuriated mobs liberty to slay God’s people—again ironically, at the commencement of the fifth plague (see GC 635-6). “The decree which is to go forth against the people of God will be very similar to that issued by Ahasuerus against the Jews in the time of Esther.” *Testimonies to the Church*, Vol. 5, 450. See also GC 626, 628, 631. However, this last device of Satan fails to reap his desired outcome.

Four Remaining Clues to Interpretation

Returning now to the topic of future oppressive movements mentioned in the latter part of Daniel 11:40, we will start with an analysis of the four remaining clues provided in verse 40. Of course, in staying with the text, one has the likelihood of the best possible interpretation of the text. Never should one walk away from the text for his or her interpretation unless the text is calling for it.

These four remaining clues will confirm that in Daniel 11:40, he repeats his technique of overview followed by time-segment details, as we have already illustrated from Daniel 9:24, 25-27. The second clue, (the first of the four clues to be found in verse 40) then, is the noun “ships.” As verified earlier, “ships” introduced a monetary aspect. Since we have only an introduction and not an interpretation here, we therefore will await the interpretation of Dan 11:43, which will shed needed light on this monetary issue. But since Revelation 13 complements and expands on the book of Daniel, we can find in Revelation 13:16-17 a clear connection to the monetary issue at this time. The forbidding to “buy or sell”

takes place after the national Sunday law. “. . . National apostasy, which will end only in national ruin.” *Signs of the Times*, March 22, 1910. This national ruin will make the matter of buying and selling a very serious one, indeed. Given our global economy, it will adversely impact the entire world.

The third clue Daniel has given us in his overview will cement the chronology of this event in its chain of events. That clue is the verb “enter,” meaning “to besiege” or “to surround.” This brings us to two fundamental questions: When does Rome begin her transparent military conquest for world dominion again, and what precipitates it? The answer is given immediately in Daniel 11:41. We will fully illustrate this premise when we begin our analysis of verse 41.

Daniel’s fourth clue for us is the plural noun “countries.” Since the Bible is to be read for its most obvious meaning and “countries” carries no symbolic imagery here, Daniel’s use of “countries” shows there will be a simultaneous assault, particularly on the countries in the Old World, on the part of Rome.



*The latter part of verse 40
Daniel II is none other*

The fifth and last clue to be found within verse 40 is the compound verb phrase “and shall overflow and pass over.” As we have already illustrated, this is a description of total victory. Nothing can stand in Rome’s way; complete annihilation is hereby described. Where in Daniel 11 does it appear that the King of the North has overwhelmed and vanquished all opposition? Why, yes, of course--Daniel 11:45.

Daniel’s Overview Completed

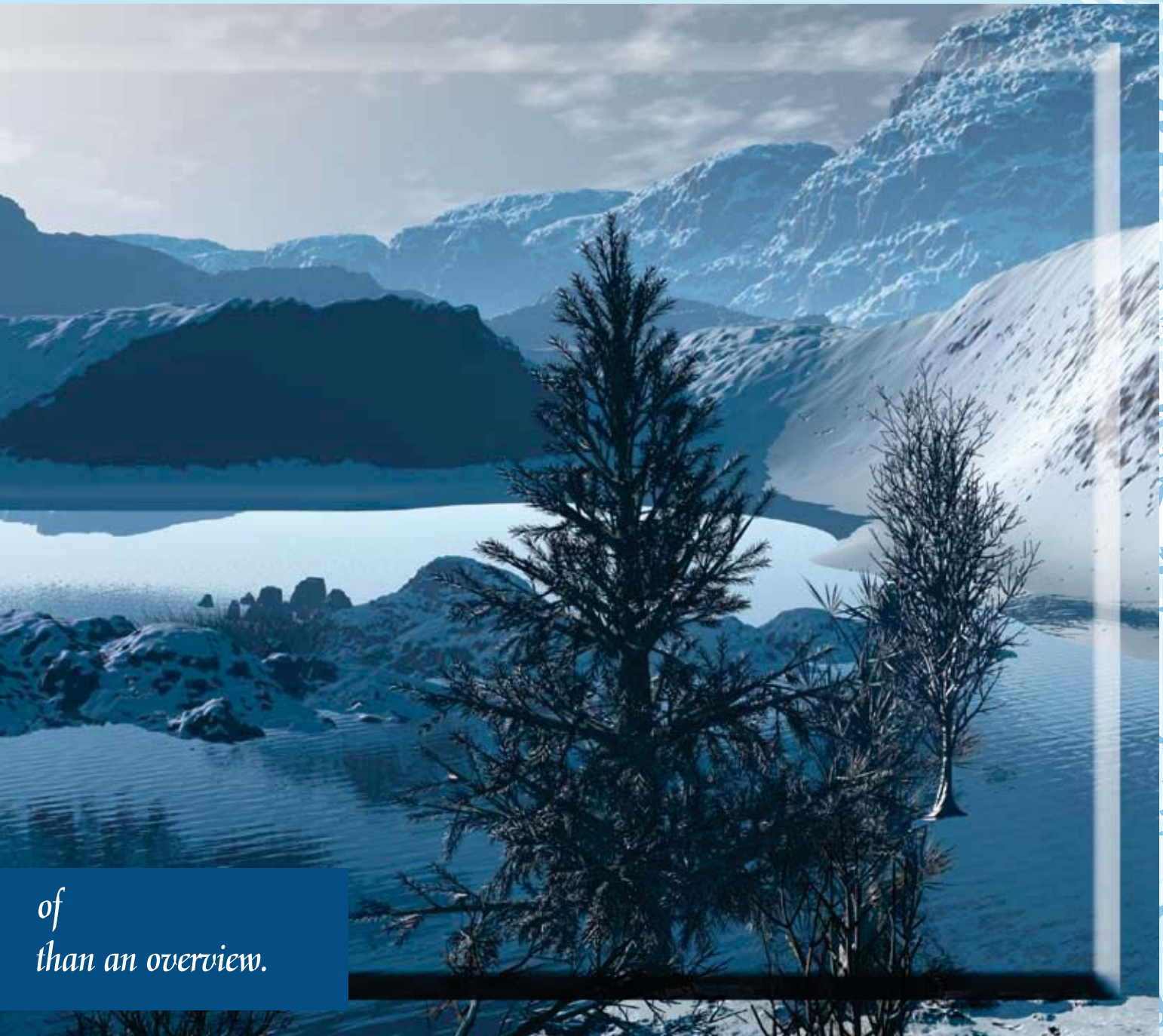
At this point, even without our ex-

position illustrating the “how, when, and where” of the verb “enter” (when Rome is to commence her military onslaught in total transparency before the world), it is now clear that the latter part of verse 40 of Daniel 11 is none other than an overview. Daniel then symbolically sets forth in verses 41-45 the remaining events that are to transpire in their chronological order. It has been necessary to set this foundation so that the commencement of these events will be clear to all.

To Be Continued.



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*of
than an overview.*

Children's Story

THE STORY OF JOSEPH: JOSEPH'S ANCESTORS

More than six hundred years before Joseph was born, the people on earth had become very wicked. They forgot about the true God of heaven, and worshiped idols made of wood and stone.

At last God could bear with them no longer. So He sent a flood of waters upon the earth and destroyed them.

But Noah and his family were true to God, so the Lord saved them, and some of all the kinds of beasts and birds, in a great boat called the ark.

The Lord led the beasts and birds into the ark. It must have been a beautiful sight to see them come, "two and two," without any one to lead them, and take their places in the ark.

When all were in place, the Lord shut the door of the ark. Then there was an awful storm that lasted forty days. And the whole earth was covered with water.

When the waters of the flood went down, Noah came out of the ark. And he took some of the best of the beasts that had been saved in the ark, and slew them, and burned them as a sacrifice to God.

This offering pleased the Lord, for Noah had only a very few beasts. All that had not gone into the ark were dead.

And the Lord put the rainbow in the clouds as a sign that He would never again destroy the world by a flood.

After the flood the family of Noah increased very rapidly and spread abroad in the earth.

They soon forgot God, and began to worship idols as people did before the flood.

Then they built a great tower, called the tower of Babel. They thought they would build it so high that if another flood should come, they could climb to the top of it and be saved.

But the Lord was not pleased with this rebellious work, so He changed their language, so that some spoke one language and some another.



After that no one could understand what the others said to him, and so they could not work together. Hence the work ceased and the people were scattered.

The patriarch Abraham was born only two years after the death of Noah. He was true to God, and did not worship idols like the wicked people around him.

When Abraham was seventy-five years old, the Lord came to him, and told him to leave his home and the idolatrous people who lived near him, and go into another land of which He would tell him.

The Lord also told Abraham that his children should become a great nation, and that He would give them

the land of Canaan as their home. So he journeyed toward Canaan.

But the most wonderful promised made to Abraham was that, after hundreds of years, Christ, the Savior of the world, would come in the line of his family.

Abraham had a son named Isaac. He obeyed his father in all things,

and was true to God, like his father.

Isaac had two sons, whose names were Jacob and Esau. Jacob was a faithful shepherd, and took care of his father's flocks; while Esau was a hunter. Jacob loved and served the God of his father, but Esau did not obey the Lord.

These brothers did not agree, and Jacob had to go far from home, where he lived many years. When he came back, he had twelve sons.

Ten of these sons were not good men. They did not obey their father, but took their own way, and were very hard hearted.

But the two younger sons, Joseph and Benjamin, loved their father, and were obedient to him.

From *The Story of Joseph* by James E. White (1902), Vol. 3 of the Pioneer Series (Upward Way: 1989), and available at Hope International Book Store.

Health Gem



To Eat Meat or Not To Eat Meat

Part 3

“A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast: but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.” Proverbs 12:10.

“The moral evils of a flesh diet are not less marked than are the physical ills...Think of the cruelty to animals that meat eating involves, and its effect on those who inflict and those who behold it. How it destroys the tenderness with which we should regard these creatures of God!” CD 383.

Continuing in my latest series of articles, today I am covering more aspects of meat eating. Since I’ve been writing on this subject for the last couple issues, I will just jump right in! This time I will be dealing with one of the aspects of the meat industry that sends chills up my spine. I’m sure you know what I’m talking about: animal cruelty. Many people “know” about parts of it, but I don’t think they really realize the whole horrifying truth about it. “Ani-

mal cruelty” is such a general term that doesn’t even begin to explain the appalling acts that are actually **allowed** to take place in our country today.

Those of you with a particularly soft heart or those that have a special connection with animals will probably be more affected by the information here today, though I’m sure everyone will agree that what is happening to God’s creatures is totally unacceptable. I never could understand how someone could be an animal lover and would do anything to save the life of a puppy, kitten, whale, dolphin, etc., yet could still eat meat, considering the treatment of the animals. Unfortunately, most people just don’t know. And some people don’t want to know. Thankfully, many people are getting wiser. They are starting to ask questions . . . and they are horrified to learn the answers.

It is said that the average meat eater is responsible for the deaths of some 2,400 animals during his or her lifetime. Animals raised for food endure great suffering in their housing, transport, feeding and slaughter, which is something not clearly evident in the neatly- wrapped packages of meat offered for sale at grocery counters. Given the information, many Americans—especially those with a Christian background—recoil at knowing they participate in a meat production system so oppressive to the animals that our God has created.



The word “beef” is a euphemism--one of those bland words people use when they’re uncomfortable with the reality of what is being portrayed. And in this case the reality is very uncomfortable, indeed. So instead of labeling the meat “dead cow flesh,” which would certainly affect sales, they call it “beef”. Almost 33 million cows are killed every year (that’s 90,000 cows and calves every 24 hours) in the United States alone,

To Eat Meat or Not To Eat Meat *continued*

so that their dead bodies can become “beef” for human consumption. Despite what most of us would like to believe, their short lives are not filled with lazy days of grass and sunshine down on the family farm, and their deaths are not easy, quick or “humane.”

An article in the pig industry journal *National Hog Farmer* (11/15/93) recommended reducing the average space per animal from eight to six square feet, concluding, “Crowding pigs pays.” Morley Safer reported on the television program *60 Minutes*¹ that today’s factory pig is no “Babe:” “[They] see no sun in their limited lives, with no hay to lie on, no mud to roll in. The sows live in tiny cages, so narrow they cannot even turn around. They live over metal grates, and their waste is pushed through slats beneath them and flushed into huge pits.”

If you think that is bad, what about when a male calf is born to a dairy cow. What does a farmer do with this by-product of the dairy industry? If the newborn calf is not immediately slaughtered, he is likely to be taken away from his mother shortly after birth and sent to a veal factory. There he will be locked up in a stall and chained by his neck to prevent him from turning around for his entire life. He will be fed a special diet without iron or roughage. He will be injected with antibiotics and hormones to keep him alive and to make him grow. He will be kept

in darkness except for feeding time. The result? A nearly full-grown animal with flesh as tender and milky-white as a newborn’s. The beauty of the system, from the standpoint of the veal industry, is that meat from today’s so-called “crate veal” still fetches the premium price it always did when such flesh came only from a baby calf—just a lot more of it.



**If these things were
done to a puppy
or kitten, the
offender would
be charged with
crimes and jailed...**

Yet that is nothing compared to the torture many animals endure. Brutality to animals has become routine in today’s factory farm.

“At a standard beef slaughterhouse, 250 cows are killed every hour. Victims are prodded into the killing stall with a high-voltage electric prod. According to a visitor to a slaughterhouse, ‘The cows are fully aware of what lies ahead. The physical symptoms of terror were

painfully evident on the faces of every animal. During the 40 seconds to a minute that each animal had to wait in the killing stall before losing consciousness, the terror became visibly more intense. The animal could smell the blood, and see his or her former companions in various stages of dismemberment.’

“By law, cows must be stunned before slaughter by having their skulls smashed with a metal bolt. But the procedure is imprecise and workers are under constant pressure to keep up the speed of the production line. As a result, many cows are still conscious when they are hoisted by a hind leg, breaking bones and tearing ligaments in the process, and their throats are cut and dismemberment begins. In the words of a former slaughterhouse worker, ‘On bad days, dozens of animals reached my station clearly alive and conscious. Some would survive as far as the tail cutter, the belly ripper, the hide puller. They die piece by piece.’”²

In an interview with a slaughterhouse worker in the book *Slaughterhouse*, the worker said, “One time the knocking gun (NOTE: Knocking Gun: an object similar to a nail gun but designed so the nail can be shot into the head of a horse, cow or pig. It is supposed to go into brain, crushing the skull and killing animal quickly.) was broken all day, so they were taking a knife and cutting the back of the cow’s neck open while he was still standing up. They would



just fall down and be shaking. And they stab cows in the butt to make ‘em move. Break their tails. They beat them so bad. I’ve drug cows till their bones start breaking, while they were still alive. Bringing them around the corner and they get stuck up in the doorway, just pull them till their hide ripped, till the blood just dripped on the steel and concrete. Breaking their legs pulling them in. And the cow would be crying with its tongue stuck out. They pull him till his neck just pops.”³

Slaughterhouse workers described fully-conscious pigs who were beaten over the head with a lead pipe (cracking skulls), stabbed to cause them to bleed out, and then dunked (for hair removal) into 140-degree water]. “There’s no way these animals can bleed out in the few minutes it takes to get up the ramp. By the time they hit the scalding tank, they’re still fully conscious and squealing. Happens all the time.”⁴

I could go on for pages with stories that would bring tears to your eyes and make you sick to your stomach. What is happening to these animals is pure evil. There is no excuse whatsoever for what is happening, yet it continues because we like the “taste” of meat.

If these things were done to a puppy or kitten, the offender would be charged with crimes and jailed, but unfortunately the Animal Welfare Act does not apply to animals intended for human consumption. So, as unbelievable as it seems, this behavior is not against the law. It is allowed to take place and will continue to take place as long as we are supporting the industry by eating meat.

But just because something is “legal” does NOT make it right. Take a look at your own life and diet. Knowing now what happens to these poor helpless creatures, is it worth it to you to continue eating meat? I hope you say no.

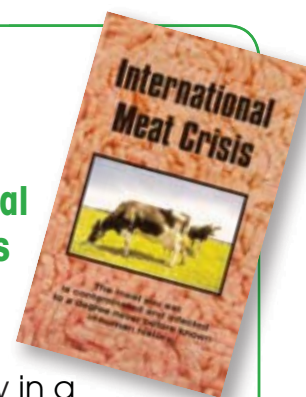
If you feel convicted that you should stop eating meat in order to stop supporting this cruel business, and if you are interested in learning ways to take meat out of your diet, we have many ways to help. We have a number of cookbooks that can help

you learn how to prepare delicious vegetarian meals, books with more information about the meat and dairy industry, and a brand new line of totally vegan meat substitutes that contain no MSG, preservatives, meat or dairy products, OR byproducts. Call us today for more information!

- 1 “Pork Power: Are Hog Farmers Creating a Waste Hazard?” June 22, 2003.
- 2 “Cow Cruelty,” Animal Liberation Victoria (www.alv.org.au/issues/cattle/cattle.php), 1.
- 3 Gail A. Eisnitz, *Slaughterhouse: The Shocking Story of Greed, Neglect, and Inhumane Treatment inside the U.S. Meat Industry*, 145.
- 4 *Ibid.*, 71.

International Meat Crisis

Vance Ferrell



We are now in a worldwide meat crisis! Don’t believe for a minute that because you live in the United States you are safe! This is a **MUST** read! Don’t wait – get the facts now!

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News Watch



"Mom" and "Dad" Outlawed

"'Mom and Dad' as well as 'husband and wife' have been banned from California schools under a bill signed by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, who with his signature also order public schools to allow boys to use girls restrooms and locker rooms, and vice versa, if they choose," according to the sex with which they identify.

Calling the governor's actions a blatant attack on traditional family values, the executive director of Capitol Resource Institute said some parents will have to remove their children from public schools to protect them from unwanted sexual indoctrination.

"Analysts have warned that schools across the nation will be impacted by the decision, since textbook publishers must cater to their largest purchaser, which often is California, and they will be unlikely to go to the expense of having a separate edition for other states...."

"The bills signed by Schwarzenegger include SB777, which bans anything in public schools that could be interpreted as negative toward homosexuality, bisexuality and other alternative lifestyle choices. There are no similar protections for students with traditional or conservative lifestyles and beliefs, however...." worldnetdaily.com, Oct. 13, 2007.

End-time perspective: "...Immorality abounds everywhere. Licentiousness is the special sin of this age. Never did vice lift its deformed head with such boldness as now. The people seem to be benumbed, and the lovers of virtue and true goodness are nearly discouraged by its boldness, strength, and prevalence." AH 328.

Uncontrollable Wildfires

More than a half million people were ordered from San Diego county homes... as wildfires burned from the Mexican border to north of Los Angeles. Across Southern California alone, more than 1300 homes were destroyed and fires threatened over 56,000 homes. One fire chief said that unless the winds eased, there was no way to stop the fires, that they would burn till they reached the ocean. CNN.com, October 23, 2007.

End-time perspective: "The Lord will arise to shake terribly the earth.... Fires will break out unexpectedly, and no human effort will be able to quench them. The palaces of earth will be swept away in the fury of the flames.... The end is near, probation is closing. Oh, let us seek God while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near!" MYP 89-90.

Vatican Beatifies 498 Martyrs

"The Vatican staged its largest mass beatification ceremony ever Sunday, putting 498 victims of religious persecution before and during Spain's civil war on the path to possible sainthood.

"The ceremony has



drawn criticism from some in Spain who see it as implicit criticism of the current Socialist government as it takes a critical look at the country's civil war past and the fascist dictatorship of Gen. Francisco Franco, which was supported by the Roman Catholic Church....

"Spain's 1936-69 civil war pitted an elected, leftist government against right wing forces that rose up under Franco, who went on to win and presided over a nearly 40-year dictatorship staunchly supported by the Catholic Church. Violence against clergy had been simmering since 1931, with leftist forces targeting the institution they saw as a symbol of wealth, repression and inequality. Their attacks against the clergy gave Franco a pretext for launching his rebellion. The church estimates that nearly 7,000 clergy were killed in Spain from 1931 to 1939.

"Pope Benedict XVI... [said] the beatification of so many ordinary Catholics showed that martyrdom wasn't reserved to a few but 'is a realistic possibility for the entire Christian people.' 'This martyrdom in ordinary life is an important witness in today's secularized society,' he said.

"Some in Spain have questioned the timing of the ceremony, coming three days before Parliament is to pass a Socialist-sponsored law seeking to make symbolic amends to victims of the war and of the Franco dictatorship. The bill mentions people persecuted for their religious beliefs, but for the most part it is an unprecedented, formal condemnation of the Franco regime.

"Critics say the Vatican, which since the late 1980s has beatified nearly 500 other clergy killed in the war, is acting with political motivation and is hitting back at the government by choosing now to beatify nearly another 500 all at once." Nicole Winfield, Asso. Press, Yahoo!News, Oct. 28, 2007.



End-time perspective: “The Roman Church, with all its ramifications throughout the world, forms one vast organization, under the control, and designed to serve the interests, of the papal see. Its millions of communicants, in every country on the globe, are instructed to hold themselves as bound in allegiance to the pope. Whatever their nationality or their government, they are to regard the authority of the church as above all other. Though they may take the oath pledging their loyalty to the State, yet back of this lies the vow of obedience to Rome, absolving them from every pledge inimical to her interests.” GC88 580.

Judge Focuses on Religion

“A [Seventh-day Adventist] Maryville woman who went to court on Aug. 14 for a child custody hearing says she was persecuted because of her religious beliefs at the hands of the Blount County judicial system. According to Jo Anne White, what was supposed to be a standard child custody hearing turned into an almost hourlong “Bible study” in the courtroom in spite of the repeated protests of her attorney, Kevin W. Shepherd....



“...[Judges] are not allowed to base decisions on religious beliefs unless there is proof that the children are endangered by the religious practices....

“When asked if White’s children were ever endangered because of her religious beliefs, [ex-husband] Garrett said, ‘No, ...just aggravated and harassed.’

“While transcripts of the court proceedings do not state why the judge awarded temporary custody to White’s ex-husband, they do show that religion was the primary topic of discussion in the courtroom that day. Rick Laney, *thedailytimes.com*, October 10, 2007.

End-time perspective: “The members of the church will individually be tested and proved. They will be placed in circumstances where they will be forced to bear witness for the truth. Many will be called to speak before councils and in courts of justice, perhaps separately and alone. The experience which would have helped them in this emergency they have neglected to obtain, and their souls are burdened with remorse for wasted opportunities and neglected privileges.” 5T 463.

Almond Alert

“On Friday, I blew the whistle on the FDA for allowing almond manufacturers to label pasteurized almonds as ‘raw.’ It’s unethical and illegal—and it’s tragic that such a nutritious food would be nutritionally castrated by the powers-that-be.... [In addition to steam-heating,] the pasteurization method the FDA is recommending requires the use of propylene oxide..., a recognized carcinogen. A pollution information site called Scorecard says that propylene oxide is in the top 10 percent of compounds that are hazardous to human health and to the ecosystem. In six out of twelve ranking systems, it’s ranked as one of the most hazardous chemicals.

“It’s suspected of causing birth defects, of altering your immune system, and of adversely affecting your central nervous system, your reproductive system, your respiratory system, and your gastrointestinal tract, liver, and gallbladder. And incidentally, propylene oxide has

been banned in Canada, Mexico, and the European Union....” “Pick Your Poison,” www.douglasreport.com.

End-time perspective: “And I saw a table of pure silver; it was many miles in length, yet our eyes could extend over it. I saw the fruit of the tree of life, the manna, almonds, figs, pomegranates, grapes, and many other kinds of fruit.” CET 64.

Russia’s New Air Bomb

“Russia tested the world’s most powerful air-delivered vacuum bomb that generates a shockwave similar to a nuclear blast, the armed forces said.... The bomb is ‘comparable to a nuclear weapon in its power and efficiency,’” said... the deputy chief of the Russian General Staff, adding it doesn’t leave radioactive contamination. The bomb produces an ultrasonic shockwave and an extremely high temperature.

“Russia is reasserting its military power with a new intercontinental ballistic missile, upgrades to its air force and the expansion of its navy. It wants to counter [NATO’s] expansion in Eastern Europe and US plans to deploy anti-missile defense in the region.” Michael Heath, *Bloomberg.com*, Sept. 12, 2007.

End-time perspective: “Without may be wars and fightings, jealousies, envies, hatred, strife; but the peace of Christ is not that which the world giveth or taketh away.” OHC 328.

US Infant Deaths

“...The United States ranks near the bottom for infant survival rates among modernized nations....” *Asso. Press, Yahoo!News*, Nov. 10, 2007.

End-time perspective: In Genesis, “there is not an instance upon record of a natural death in infancy, childhood, or early manhood. There is no account of men and women dying of disease.” FE 22.

“We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history.” E.G. White, *Life Sketches*, 196. Many today have neglected to study the history and people that made up the early days of the Advent movement. To help encourage interest in Adventist history, we have put together questions about people and events of our past. Our goal is to spark faith and further study into “the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history.”

Historical

Footnotes



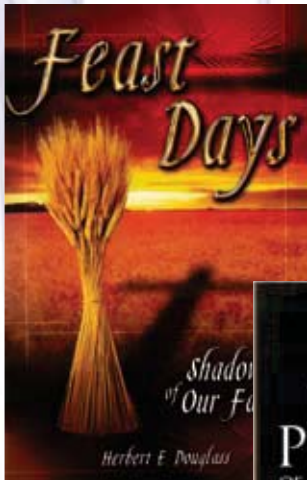
Source: Eric Syme, *A History of SDA Church-State Relations in the United States*. (Pacific Press: 1973).

1. A well-enforced Sunday law resulted in
 - a. Courts crowded with religious violators
 - b. Neglect of criminal cases
 - c. Refusal of police to make more Sunday arrests
 - d. All of the above.
2. In 1882, the California Democratic convention declared against a Sunday law, while the Republican one declared for one. To gain an upper hand, Sunday advocates
 - a. “Bought” votes with free food
 - b. Promoted a workers’ right to day of rest
 - c. Argued for lighter fines
 - d. Shortened Sunday hours to just 8 hours
3. Because the temperance cause was linked to proper Sunday observances, Adventists found themselves leagued with anti-Sunday and _____ interests.
 - a. Anti-temperance
 - b. Slave-owning
 - c. Atheistic
 - d. Antinomian
4. Although one Sunday-enforcement group claimed conscientious observers of another day could work if they didn’t disrupt Sunday peace and quiet, _____ was arrested when he opened the Signs office.
 - a. W. C. White
 - b. J. N. Loughborough
 - c. A. T. Jones
 - d. Uriah Smith’s sister Sarah
5. In 1883 there was only one organization promoting Sunday legislation. By 1888 there were
 - a. 3
 - b. 4
 - c. 5
 - d. 7
6. In April 1888, what organization asked Congress to ban Sunday mail, trains, and military parades?
 - a. General Conference of the Methodist Church
 - b. Nat’l Sabbath Reform Movement
 - c. Nat’l Women’s Christian Temperance Union
 - d. Baptist Home Missionary Soc.
7. Recognizing that whatever exemptions one administration offered, another could remove, Adventist church leaders argued
 - a. Just laws don’t need exemptions
 - b. For a Constitutional amendment
- c. Worship as an inalienable right, not an act of government tolerance
- d. A and C
8. Initially, Adventists had difficulty countering Sunday enforcement attempts because of _____.
 - a. Inaccurate reporting
 - b. Limited press coverage
 - c. No legislative contacts
 - d. Police harassment
9. To publicize the SDA stand on religious liberty issues, the church formed
 - a. A radio station
 - b. A political newspaper
 - c. A political action committee
 - d. A press committee
10. This committee formed the nucleus of the
 - a. National Religious Liberty Association
 - b. Adventist Press Group
 - c. General Conference Publicity Committee
 - d. Office of Adventist Publicity

Answers: 1:d; 2:b; 3:a; 4:
a; 5:b; 6:c; 7:d; 8:b; 9:d;
10:a.

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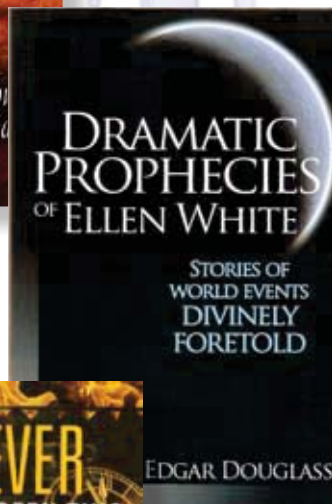


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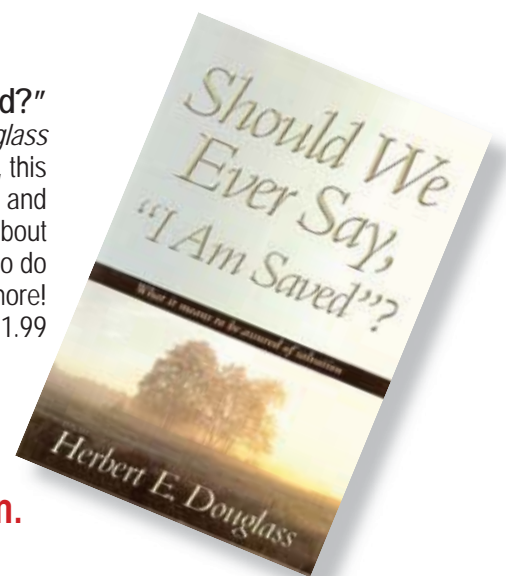
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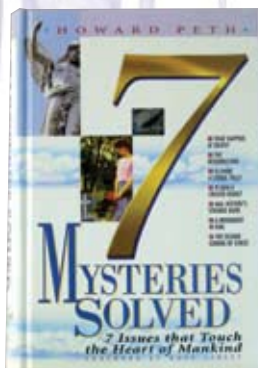


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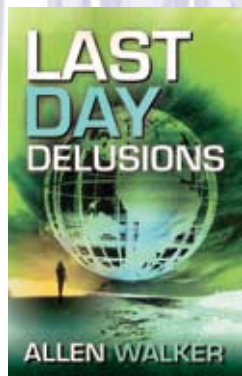
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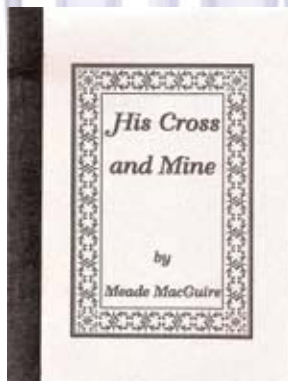
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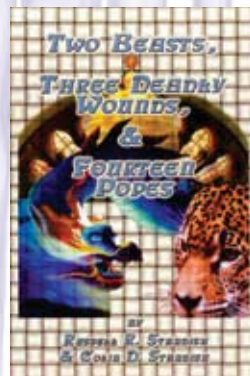
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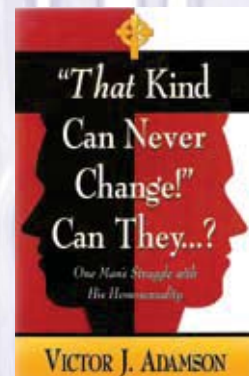
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Letters to The Editor



■ I really enjoy *Firm Foundation* and the wonderful messages in it.
KK, Texas

■ Thank you for the Heidi Heiks DVD. Wonderful!
DK, Arizona

■ Thanks for answering all my questions when I kept calling. I did try the Swedish bitters for my daughter's ear infection. I thought I should try before letting her undergo surgery for ear tubes, which is what the doctor recommended. When I took her back to the doctor, he was *amazed* at how quickly and thoroughly her ear had healed. He told me to start putting Swedish bitters in her other ear, and then my husband wanted me to find out what could be done for his toe fungus. So then I bought the clay you sell.

I am so excited. I always wanted to follow God's counsel and use natural remedies, but no one would ever listen to me and answer all my questions. I thank God for Hope, your patience with me, and all your products.

■ Keep up the good work. I love *Our Firm Foundation* and the DVDs.
MS, Arkansas

■ Please pray for our church. We never get "present truth," only love

and unity and peace and safety. Thanks to Hope International for standing up for truth.
AD, Michigan

■ Please continue to send me *Our Firm Foundation*. I can't imagine my spiritual walk without it.
RH, Missouri

■ I want to make a donation to either subscription assistance or the DVD work. I have been so touched by the letters to the editor telling how people are impacted by the magazine and DVDs.
CT

■ Thank you for your ministry and dedication to the word of our Lord and Savior! I would like to compliment the speakers that are on the monthly DVDs that come to us. They are wonderful and keep with the scriptures! Keep up the great work! We don't have a local church we can go to, so your ministry materials are a real blessing. Thanks so much! Please send me your *Good News* newsletter.

DK

■ I bought Brother Heiks' book and I read it over and over. A great blessing. Thank you.

HJ, Louisiana

■ Thank you for all your work and may God continue to bless the remaining days on this earth.
C&MO, Idaho

■ Heidi Heiks' *The Daily* was a great DVD-- a great presentation! Mr. Heiks makes it so understandable as he presents the facts.
GT, Connecticut

■ Would you tell Heidi that I got down all the *Testimonies for the Church* and read all I could find on "living experience" or "Christian experience." Every place any text led me to, I read that also, and I found as I was studying that Ellen White wrote we must understand the significance of the sanctuary. Never having heard anything about the meaning, I was so glad to see you had such information by Leslie Hardinge and have now more of the background that explains the horrible abomination that desolates. So very, very few SDAs have any clue, nor that precious journey by faith through the sanctuary with Jesus that we are privileged to take daily.

If only they knew the meaning of everything that makes up (made up) the sanctuary! And why, as well as the emblematic reasoning!!

This study makes the "daily," or rather the study of Daniel, stand out in full color!!! We see where we have been blind before.

Thank you, Heidi.

AW, Texas

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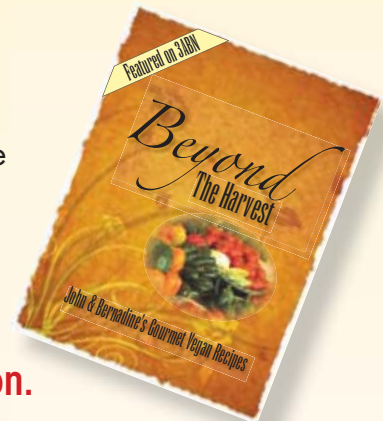
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