

FUTURE NEWS

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HOW WILT THOU DO IN THE SWELLING OF JORDAN? JEREMIAH 12:5

Christianity is a Religion of Progress

Yet It Will Triumph Finally *Testmonies for the Church, volume 5, 70, 71..*

Let no man flatter himself that he is a successful man unless he preserves the integrity of his conscience, giving himself wholly to the truth and to God. We should move steadily forward, never losing heart or hope in the good work, whatever trials beset our path, whatever moral darkness may encompass us. Patience, faith, and love for duty are the lessons we must learn. Subduing self and looking to Jesus is an everyday work. The Lord will never forsake the soul that trusts in Him and seeks His aid. The crown of life is placed only upon the brow of the overcomer. There is, for everyone, earnest, solemn work for God while life lasts. As Satan's power increases and his devices are multiplied, skill, aptness, and sharp generalship should be exercised by those in charge of the flock of God. Not only have we each a work to do for our own souls, but we have also a duty to arouse others to gain eternal life.

It pains me to say, my brethren, that your sinful neglect to walk in the light has enshrouded you in darkness. You may now be honest in not recognizing and obeying the light; the doubts you have entertained, your neglect to heed the requirements of God, have blinded your perceptions so that darkness is now to you light, and light is darkness. God has bidden you to go forward to perfection. Christianity is a religion of progress. Light from God is full and ample, waiting our demand upon it. Whatever blessings the Lord may give, He has an infinite supply beyond, an inexhaustible store from which we may draw. Skepticism may treat the sacred claims of the gospel with jests, scoffing, and denial. The spirit of worldliness may contaminate the many and control the few; the cause of God may hold its ground only by great exertion and continual sacrifice, yet it will triumph finally.

The word is: Go forward; discharge your individual duty, and leave all consequences in the hands of God. If we move forward where Jesus leads the way we shall see His triumph, we shall share His joy. We must share the conflicts if we wear the crown of victory. Like Jesus, we must be made perfect through suffering. Had Christ's life been one of ease, then might we safely yield to sloth. Since His life was marked with continual self-denial, suffering, and self-sacrifice, we shall make no complaint if we are partakers with Him. We can walk safely in the darkest path if we have the Light of the world for our guide.

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We also coordinate the **School of the Prophets** for the education of God's remnant people.

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FUTURE NEWS is a publication intended to gather the fragments of truth and present them in written form to the hands of the people living in the final scenes of earth's history. If you would like to be a part of this work we welcome all submissions and ask that any articles be sent to bronwynpeck@gmail.com. Thank you for your consideration of this solemn task.

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During this time period, country living becomes more essential with each passing moment. **Future for America** upholds and promotes this end-time truth. God's people must prepare for the coming storm, and that preparation includes the experience of learning how to survive in a simple fashion, away from the great centers of population.

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OUR GOAL

The question is asked, What shall we do that we might work the works of God? What shall we do to gain heaven? This important question is answered to all who desire to know, 'This is the work of God, that ye believe in him whom he hath sent.' John 6:29. The price for which you may have heaven is the Messiah; the way to heaven is faith in Jesus Christ. He asks you, first to believe, next to work.



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The Sunday Law At The End Of Time

By H. del Rosal

In one of her presentations, Tess explains that God attempted to bring His work to a close twice during early Advent history, once in 1863 and again around 1888. Based on that logic she teaches that God gave a book to each of those generations to warn them of their unique and distinct end-time scenario. To uphold this teaching, Tess compares the title lists of *Spiritual Gifts*, volume 1 (1858) and *The Great Controversy* (1888). She notes that these two books cover the same sequence of end-time events, namely the giving of the three angel's messages through the events of the second coming, yet they have certain distinctive differences.

For example, Tess points out that in the sequence of events, chapter 33 titled "The Sins of Babylon" in the book *Spiritual Gifts*, volume 1 seems to be parallel to the chapters 35-37 in *The Great Controversy* (1888), titled "Liberty of Conscience Threatened (Aims of the Papacy)", "The Impending Conflict", and "The Scriptures a Safeguard". Each of these "end-time" scenarios are very different from one another, the first, she claims, not even mentioning any kind of Sunday Law. By contrast, the first history (1858) emphasizes that the sin of the United States as a nation was the tolerance and support of slavery, which was filling the cup of God's wrath and about to incur His judgments. And the second history (1888) emphasizes that the sin of the nation is in its attempt to join church and state through legislation enforcing Sunday worship.

At first sight, this may seem like solid logic, but we need to think about it carefully. First, the chapter called "The Sins of Babylon" is a reference to Revelation 14 and 18.

Revelation 14:8 And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.

Revelation 18:2-3 And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.

[Revelation 18:1, 2, 4 quoted]...This scripture points forward to a time when the announcement of the fall of Babylon, as made by the second angel [Revelation 14:8] of Revelation 14, is to be repeated, with the **additional mention of the corruptions which have been entering the various organizations that constitute Babylon, since that message was first given, in the summer of 1844.** A terrible condition of the religious world is here described. With every rejection of truth, the minds of the people will become darker, their hearts more stubborn, until they are entrenched in an infidel hardihood. *The Great Controversy*, 603.

From these verses, we are to understand that the corruptions, or sins, of Babylon are not a fixed set of sins, and that over time, more would be added. It is a progressive problem of decline after the Second Angel initially declared the Protestant churches to be Babylon. We might even suggest that some of the sins could be given up, as we can see that the United States abolished slavery, and the Protestants now do not support it or own slaves. But Babylon is still adding sins, which will fill the cup.

The sins of "Babylon" are at the root of the last crisis, but in no way do they show the entire picture of how end-time prophecies will fulfill. In other words, to present one chapter alone from *Spiritual Gifts*, as a picture of the end-time crisis for the early Adventists does not adequately describe how prophecy may have fulfilled in its entirety. Other surrounding chapters, as well as harmonizing quotes



from other sources provide a more complete picture of how prophecy would have fulfilled if God had been able to finish the gospel work at that time.

So, the purpose of this study is to enlighten us about what knowledge an early Adventist had as they approached the 1858 or 1863 history, and how they believed prophecy would fulfill in the end-time crisis. What may surprise you is that they expected a Sunday Law!

Early Understanding Of The Sealing And Sabbath Test

A study of history from Adam to today will reveal that truth, especially regarding the plan of salvation, has been unfolded progressively to God's people. A study comparing histories of reform will verify the same thing, specifically that the opening of a message of truth is progressive. The following quote illustrates the concept that the meaning of scripture is unfolded over time.

“Even the prophets who were favored with the special illumination of the Spirit, did not fully comprehend the import of the revelations committed to them. **The meaning was to be unfolded, from age to age, as the people of God should need the instruction therein contained.**”

The Great Controversy, 344.

Following the same pattern, truth was progressively unfolded during the Millerite and early Adventist history. From 1798 to 1844 the first and second angel's messages unfolded, and after the Great Disappointment in October 1844, the third angel's message began to open to the understanding of the Advent people. Ellen White summarized how God unfolded knowledge regarding the third angel's message of Revelation 14 and certain prophetic truths connected with it.

When we began to present the light on the Sabbath question, we had no clearly defined idea of the third angel's message of Revelation 14:9-12. The burden of our testimony as we came before the people was that the great second advent

movement was of God, that the first and second messages had gone forth, and that the third was to be given. We saw that the third message closed with the words: “Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.” And we as clearly saw as we now see that these prophetic words suggested a Sabbath reform; but **as to what the worship of the beast mentioned in the message was, or what the image and the mark of the beast were, we had no defined position.**

God by His Holy Spirit let light shine forth upon His servants, and **the subject gradually opened to their minds. It required much study and anxious care to search it out, link after link.** By care, anxiety, and incessant labor has the work moved on until the great truths of our message, a clear, connected, perfect whole, have been given to the world. *Testimonies for the Church*, volume 1, 78, 79.

Opening Of Light About The Sunday Law And Related Topics

As the Sabbath truth was opened to Adventists after 1844, specifically around 1846, they began to study the origin of Sunday worship and the true teaching of the Bible regarding the Sabbath. This led them to realize that the Sabbath was a subject of end-time prophecy. As they studied, they began to understand the role of the Papacy in prophecy; its past role in changing the day of worship from Sabbath to Sunday, and its future role, united with the Apostate Protestants of the United States, in bringing the world to a test regarding their false day of worship.

The following quotes are given in chronological order, showing the understanding that the Adventists were developing about legislation for Sunday worship (a Sunday Law) in prophecy and its related topics, such as the image and mark of the Beast, the role of the Papacy, the decree enforcing a false day of worship, etc.



Please take notice that they understood much of this BEFORE the book *Spiritual Gifts*, volume 1 was published in 1858, which is years before Ellen White wrote out and affirmed these same truths for the book *The Great Controversy* in 1888.

1847

The following quote explains these truths: the Papacy changed day of worship from Sabbath to Sunday, to keep Sunday would be to receive the mark of the Beast, and there would be a requirement to keep Sunday.

...Jesus opened them, and I saw the ten commandments written on them with the finger of God. [Exodus 31:18.] On one table was four, and on the other six. The four on the first table shone brighter than the other six. But the fourth (the Sabbath commandment,) shone above them all; for the Sabbath was set apart to be kept in honor of God's holy name. [Isaiah 58:13,14.] The holy Sabbath looked glorious—a halo of glory was all around it. I saw that the Sabbath was not nailed to the cross. If it was, the other nine commandments were; and we are at liberty to go forth and break them all, as well as to break the fourth. I saw that God had not changed the Sabbath, for He never changes. [Malachi 3:6.] But **the Pope had changed it from the seventh to the first day of the week; for he was to change times and laws.** [Daniel 7:25.] ...

I saw all that “would not receive the **mark of the Beast, and of his Image**, in their foreheads or in their hands,” could not buy or sell. [Revelation 13:15-17.] I saw that the number (666) of the Image Beast was made up; [Revelation 13:18.] and that it was **the Beast that changed the Sabbath, and the Image Beast had followed on after, and kept the Pope's, and not God's Sabbath.** And all we were **required** to do, was to give up God's Sabbath, and **keep the Pope's, and then we should have the mark of the Beast, and of his image.**” *A Word to the Little Flock*, 18, 19.

1849

In 1849 and 1850 the early Adventists published a number of articles related to the Sabbath and the origins of Sunday worship. They can be found in the periodicals *The Present Truth* (1849), *The Advent Review* (1850), and *The Advent Review and Sabbath Herald* (1850+).

During these early years God was putting in place the understanding and order of final events; angering of the nations, close of probation, wrath of God in the plagues, death decree, then judgment of the wicked. They also began to understand that God would seal His people, and test them on the Sabbath truth.

At the commencement of the holy Sabbath, January 5, **1849**, we engaged in prayer with Brother Belden's family at Rocky Hill, Connecticut, and the Holy Ghost fell upon us. I was taken off in vision to the most holy place, where I saw Jesus still interceding for Israel. On the bottom of His garment was a bell and a pomegranate. Then I saw that Jesus would not leave the most holy place until every case was decided either for salvation or destruction, and that the wrath of God could not come until Jesus had finished His work in the most holy place, laid off His priestly attire, and clothed Himself with the garments of vengeance. Then Jesus will step out from between the Father and man, and God will keep silence no longer, but pour out His wrath on those who have rejected His truth. I saw that the **anger of the nations, the wrath of God, and the time to judge the dead were separate and distinct, one following the other**, also that Michael had not stood up, and that the time of trouble, such as never was, had not yet commenced. **The nations are now getting angry, but when our High Priest has finished His work in the sanctuary, He will stand up, put on the garments of vengeance, and then the seven last plagues will be poured out.**



I saw that the four angels would hold the four winds until Jesus' work was done in the sanctuary, and then will come the seven last plagues. These plagues enraged the wicked against the righteous; they thought that we had brought the judgments of God upon them, and that if they could rid the earth of us, the plagues would then be stayed. **A decree went forth to slay the saints**, which caused them to cry day and night for deliverance. This was the time of Jacob's trouble. Then all the saints cried out with anguish of spirit, and were delivered by the voice of God. The 144,000 triumphed. Their faces were lighted up with the glory of God. Then I was shown a company who were howling in agony. On their garments was written in large characters, "Thou art weighed in the balance, and found wanting." I asked who this company were. The angel said, "These are they who have once kept the Sabbath and have given it up." I heard them cry with a loud voice, "We have believed in Thy coming, and taught it with energy." And while they were speaking, their eyes would fall upon their garments and see the writing, and then they would wail aloud. I saw that they had drunk of the deep waters, and fouled the residue with their feet—**trodden the Sabbath underfoot**—and that was why they were weighed in the balance and found wanting. *Early Writings*, 36.

Time has continued on a few years longer than they expected, therefore they think it may continue a few years more, and in this way their minds are being led from present truth, out after the world. In these things I saw great danger; for if the mind is filled with other things, present truth is shut out, and there is no place in our foreheads for the seal of the living God. **This seal is the Sabbath.** I saw that the time for Jesus to be in the most holy place was nearly finished, and that time can last but a very little longer; and what leisure time we have should be spent in searching the Bible, which is to judge us in the last day. *Broadside 2*, January 31, 1849.

The sealing time is very short, and soon will be over. Now is the time to make our calling and election sure, while the four angels are holding the four winds. *Broadside 2*, January 31, 1849.

Test of the Sabbath

Sabbath, March 24th, 1849, we had a sweet, and very interesting meeting with the Brethren at Topsham, Me. The Holy Ghost was poured out upon us, and I was taken off in the Spirit to the City of the living God. There I was shown that the commandments of God, and the testimony of Jesus Christ, relating to the shut door, could not be separated, and that the time for the commandments of God to shine out, with all their importance, and for **God's people to be tried on the Sabbath truth**, was when the door was opened in the Most Holy Place of the Heavenly Sanctuary, where the Ark is, containing the ten commandments. This door was not opened, until the mediation of Jesus was finished in the Holy Place of the Sanctuary in 1844. Then, Jesus rose up, and shut the door in the Holy Place, and opened the door in the Most Holy, and passed within the second vail, where he now stands by the Ark; and where the faith of Israel now reaches.

I saw that Jesus had shut the door in the Holy Place, and no man can open it; and that he had opened the door in the Most Holy, and no man can shut it (See Revelation 3:7, 8.): and that since Jesus has opened the door in the Most Holy Place, which contains the Ark, the commandments have been shining out to God's people, and **they are being tested on the Sabbath question.**

I saw that **the present test on the Sabbath could not come, until the mediation of Jesus in the Holy Place was finished;** and he had passed within the second vail; therefore, Christians, who fell asleep before the door was opened in the Most Holy, when the midnight cry was finished, at the seventh month 1844; and had not kept the true Sabbath, now rest in hope; for they had not the light, and the **test on the Sabbath**, which we now have, since that door was opened....

I saw that the enemies of the present truth have been trying to open the door of the Holy Place, that Jesus has shut; and to close the door of the Most Holy Place, which he opened in 1844, where the Ark is containing the two tables of stone, on which are written the ten commandments, by the finger of Jehovah.

Satan is now using every device in this sealing time, to keep the minds of God's people from the present, sealing truth; and to cause them to waver. I saw **a covering that God was drawing over his people, to protect them in the time of trouble;** and every soul that was decided on the truth, and was pure in heart, was to be covered with the covering of Almighty God. *The Review and Herald*, August 1, 1849.

1850

The next quote demonstrates that they understood that the beast would try to enforce his "institution" of Sunday worship through a decree.

But now **time is almost finished**, and what we have been years learning, they will have to learn in a few months. And they will have to unlearn much, and learn again. And **those who will not receive the mark of the beast and his image, when the decree goes forth**, must have decision now to say, nay, we will not regard the institution of the beast. *Experience and Views*, 55.

1850 Chart, printed in December 1850

Adventists understood that the "beast" in prophecy is the Papacy, and it was believed that the United States would unite church (Protestantism) and state (Republicanism) to form an image of the papacy. The 1850 chart shows a two-horned beast, with the title "Image of Papacy", and the following statements:

Revelation 13:11-17. And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a DRAGON, And he exerciseth all the POWER of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them

which dwell therein to worship the first beast, *and make an IMAGE to the beast* whose deadly wound was healed.

The **two lamb like horns**, (Republicanism & Protestantism,) whose names number 666, become **united in action, speak like a DRAGON, and control the civil legislature, and cause it to make the CHURCH the IMAGE of papacy** which received a deadly wound and was healed. *1850 Chart*.

1851

The Mark of the Beast will be given when the counterfeit Sabbath is brought to a test.

That the institution of the first-day Sabbath was not of divine origin, but a tradition of the Elders by which the fourth commandment is made void, the historical quotations given in the "Herald" abundantly prove. That the change of the holy Sabbath was gradually brought about, and not consummated till the commencement of the 1260 years of Antichrists' reign, is also a matter of fact. The Council of Orleans A. D. 538 accomplished this work. The word of God shows that the dragon is yet to make war on the remnant of the Church who keep the commandments of God; and that the two-horned beast is yet to require on pain of death that we worship the image of the first beast, and receive his mark. - Hence it is evident that the claims of the beast are to be enforced on those who keep the commandments of God. Revelation 12, 17; 13, 15, 16. **Those who acknowledge the authority of the beast, will then receive his mark, - his counterfeit Sabbath of the beast: for it is the act of bringing this to a test which will constitute it emphatically THE MARK OF THE BEAST**, or mark of that power that should "think to change time and laws." J.N. Andrews, *The Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*, May 19, 1851, 88.



1855

In 1855 J.N. Andrews wrote a book, called *The Three Angels of Revelation 14:6-12*, explaining their prophetic understanding of end-time events.

Included in this, he explained that they understood the two-horned beast to be the United States; a Protestant nation acting the prophetic part as the false prophet and the second beast of Revelation 13. The following are a couple of excerpts from the book.

...What is this mark of the beast? It is the mark of that beast to whom the image was made—the first beast. Revelation 19, 20; 16, 2. But it is enforced by the two-horned beast. Hence, **we understand it as an institution of Papacy, enforced by Protestantism. The beast and his image unite in this thing, denoting the union of the great system of false Christianity, in opposition to the saints, who are engaged in keeping the commandments of God. Have we such an institution, really the child of Papacy, which the civil power supports, and to which the religious world pays homage? We have. It is found in a weekly Sabbath which the “Man of Sin” has placed in the stead of the Sabbath of the fourth commandment. If we turn to the law of God, we shall find that the fourth commandment alone points out Jehovah. The first three forbids the worship of false gods, and blasphemy. The last six pertain wholly to our duty to our fellow men. Not one of these nine commandments points out the true God. But the Sabbath commandment points out the true God as that being who in six days created heaven and earth, and rested upon the seventh.** By the observance of the sanctified rest day of the Creator, he is acknowledged as the true God, in distinction from every object upon which the eye can rest, in the heavens above, or in the earth beneath. The being that created all these things is God. Such is the teaching of the fourth commandment. **But the Scriptures plainly predict that the man of sin should exalt himself above all that is called**

God, or that is worshiped, and should “think to change times and laws.” 2 Thessalonians 2; Daniel 7, 25. It is not said that he should be able to change them; but he should think to do it; or as the Catholic version reads, “he shall think himself able to change times and laws.” They are not the times and laws of men which he thinks to change, for these he might be able to change as other powers have done; but it is an act of arrogance in which he does not succeed. The times and laws of God are doubtless intended. This apostasy began in the apostolic age. 2 Thessalonians 2, 7. It has resulted in the perfect development of the man of sin; and of his blasphemous acts, among which we may name the change of the fourth commandment. **No one can produce any other authority for changing the Sabbath than Romish traditions. Hear the testimony of a Roman Catholic:**

“Whenever any civil or ecclesiastical enactment conflicts with the requisitions of Jehovah, that power is **worshiped**, which is obeyed in preference to the other. ‘Know ye not that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey his servants are ye to whom ye obey?’ Rom 6, 16.” *Bliss on the Apocalypse*, 233.

We have already seen that the conflict is between the commandments of God, and the requirements of the beast. And that a Papal institution, which has usurped the place of one of the commandments of God, is yet to be made a test by the two-horned beast. It is not difficult therefore to see how men will be made to worship the beast; for whenever they obey the requirements of the beast in the place of the commandments of God they worship the beast; for they acknowledge him as above the Most High. **It is a remarkable fact that the Pagan festival of Sunday, which the great apostasy has substituted for the Sabbath of the Bible, is now enforced by law in most of the States of the Union. A Papal institution which directly contradicts the fourth commandment enforced by a Protestant government!** A most striking instance of the union of church and state in this country the boast of the nation to



the contrary notwithstanding! “Congress,” says the constitution, “shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.” But most of the state governments, which have no right to infringe upon the constitution, have already decided that the Sabbath of the Bible shall be kept on Sunday, and the judges have decided such laws to be constitutional! If the government has a right to nullify the fourth commandment there is an end to the principle of religious liberty; for it has an equal right to nullify any or all of the others. J.N. Andrews, *The Three Angels of Revelation 14:6-12*, 116.

Spiritual Gifts (1858)

It has been demonstrated up to this point, that before the book *Spiritual Gifts* was published, the Adventist believers had already developed a fairly clear understanding of what prophecy portrayed as end-time events. They knew that the central issue would be a test over the true day of worship (Sabbath), and the enforcement of a false day of worship (Sunday) by the Papacy and Apostate Protestantism.

Chapter 28 of *Spiritual Gifts* reinforces their belief that under the Third Angel’s message they would be in combat with the beast, who they understood to be the Papacy.

Chapter 28 The Third Angel’s Message

As the ministration of Jesus closed in the Holy place, and he passed into the Holiest, and stood before the ark containing the law of God, he sent another mighty angel to earth with the third message. He placed a parchment in the angel’s hand, and as he descended to earth in majesty and power, he proclaimed a fearful warning, the most terrible threatening ever borne to man. This message was designed to put the children of God upon their guard, and show them the hour of temptation and anguish that was before them. **Said the angel, They will be brought into close combat with the beast and his image.** Their only

hope of eternal life is to remain steadfast. Although their lives are at stake, yet they must hold fast the truth. The third angel closes his message with these words, Here is the patience of the saints; here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus. ... *Spiritual Gifts*, volume 1, 162.

Affirmation From 1888

In chapter 35 of the 1888 version of *The Great Controversy*, titled “Liberty of Conscience Threatened (Aims of the Papacy)”, Ellen White makes an interesting statement. It is in the following quote. In the second paragraph she makes reference to “forty years” which, if subtracted from 1888, would point back to around 1848. She is saying that for forty years, or since about 1848, “students of prophecy in the United States have presented this testimony” or that which was explained about prophecy in the first paragraph.

Revelation 13 quoted... The infliction of the deadly wound points to the abolition of the papacy in 1798. After this, says the prophet, “His deadly wound was healed; and all the world wondered after the beast.” **Paul states plainly that the man of sin will continue until the second advent. [2 Thessalonians 2:8.] To the very close of time he will carry forward his work of deception.** And the Revelator declares, also referring to the papacy, “All that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life.” [Revelation 13:8.] **In both the Old and the New World, papacy will receive homage in the honor paid to the Sunday institution,** that rests solely upon the authority of the Romish Church.

For about forty years, students of prophecy in the United States have presented this testimony to the world. **In the events now taking place is seen a rapid advance toward the fulfillment of the prediction.** With Protestant teachers there is the same claim of divine authority for Sunday-keeping, and the same lack of scriptural evidence, as with the papist leaders who fabricated miracles to supply the place of a command from God. The



assertion that God's judgments are visited upon men for their violation of the Sunday-sabbath, will be repeated; already it is beginning to be urged. And a movement to enforce Sunday observance is fast gaining ground. *The Great Controversy*, 578, 579.

In other words, she is saying that for about forty years, students of prophecy in the United States had presented this testimony about Revelation 13, and the Papacy instituting and enforcing Sunday worship. I would also parallel the following sentences, underlined in the second paragraph above:

In the events now taking place is seen a rapid advance toward the fulfillment of the **prediction**... And a movement to enforce Sunday observance is fast gaining ground.

The "prediction" had been a Sunday Law, preached by students of prophecy for forty years, and the movements around 1888 were advancing toward its fulfillment.

Two Scenarios

What Tess can accomplish if she can convince you that the 1863 history does not contain the elements or expectation of a Sunday Law, is to convince you that each "second coming" attempt has very different characteristics. This is to say that if the 1863 history did not have the Sunday Law element, but the 1888 history did, then we might expect yet a different outcome in our own time. This leads to her conclusion that each dispensation will come with different expectations and different interpretations of prophecy, based on the unique political and cultural influences of the particular dispensation.

Then she simplifies the "main issues" of these two periods down to principle elements, which are found in the book chapters discussed earlier; the first being simply oppression of minorities, and the second a merging of church and state, in which the church will urge some kind of legislation. These two

principle elements are then combined to create our supposed end-time scenario. The specific problem of Sunday worship is removed from the narrative as if it is not a consistent key element.

I am arguing a different scenario. Truth is always unfolded as God directs. The truth of the Sunday Law crisis began to be unfolded after 1844, during the time of the third angel. I have shown that as early as 1850 Adventists believed that end-time prophecy predicted a decree enforcing the Papacy's day of worship, Sunday. Knowledge of this Sunday Law, although adequately clear in the 1850's, was less developed than after Ellen White wrote about it in the 1880's. God progressively unfolded these end-time truths to His people as they needed it, and established these truths through inspiration.

Key Point

The key point is that there is a rule or principle regarding truth. Once a truth has been brought out by God's providences, and established among His people as truth, then affirmed or "sealed" by the Holy Spirit through the Spirit of Prophecy, it is not possible for that truth to be thrown away or changed afterward. Once truth, always truth. This is explained by Ellen White when she defended the old foundational truths established in the early years of Adventism.

When the power of God testifies as to what is truth, that truth is to stand forever as the truth.

No after suppositions contrary to the light God has given are to be entertained. Men will arise with interpretations of Scripture which are to them truth, but which are not truth. **The truth for this time God has given us as a foundation for our faith. He Himself has taught us what is truth.** One will arise, and still another, with new light, which contradicts the light that God has given **under the demonstration of His Holy Spirit.** A few are still alive who passed through the experience gained in the establishment of this truth. God has graciously spared their lives to



repeat, and repeat till the close of their lives, the experience through which they passed even as did John the apostle till the very close of his life. **And the standard bearers who have fallen in death are to speak through the reprinting of their writings.** I am instructed that thus their voices are to be heard. They are to bear their testimony as to what constitutes the truth for this time.

We are not to receive the words of those who come with a message that contradicts the special points of our faith. They gather together a mass of Scripture, and pile it as proof around their asserted theories. This has been done over and over again during the past fifty years. And while the Scriptures are God's word, and are to be respected, the application of them, if such application moves one pillar from the foundation that God has sustained these fifty years, is a great mistake. **He who makes such an application knows not the wonderful demonstration of the Holy Spirit that gave power and force to the past messages that have come to the people of God.** *Selected Messages*, book 1, 161. (written 1905).

Therefore, because it was early established that a Sunday Law will be part of the prophetic fulfillments at the end of time, and later affirmed by God through inspiration, we continue to believe in that established truth and expect the development of a Sunday Law in the end-time crisis.

March 2020 Weekend Conference in Arkansas

We are holding a March 2020 conference at *School of the Prophets* in Arkansas. We would love to host anyone that can join us. Hold the date on your calendar for March 19-22, 2020 and consider coming to join us. Speakers and cost is not yet confirmed but we will keep you informed as we get closer to our date. Contact Bronwyn at 501.762.7025 with any questions you may have.

Letters From the Little Flock

☞ Sunday night, as I was on-line, I was notified of the presentation 'Hiding Mother Angelica'. Half way into listening to this presentation, I experienced more peace than I have had in the last several months.

By the second presentation 'Threading the Needles', I was impressed to send an email to Jeff. I wanted him to know that there are yet those that do appreciate his ministry, his efforts, and his teaching. By the third presentation, I found that I needed to catch up, since I had not read the Time of the End magazine, and I noted such, and was graciously afforded a digital copy.

I am indeed in one of those groups. Last month, I was told to study the Portugal meetings. These sessions left me uneasy. I had issues understanding much of what was being said, and the text on the screen was difficult. I followed along by writing out what was said and sent questions to the moderators.

The first one did not like my questions. The second chided me for some of what I had asked. We never got to presentations 3, 4, or 5. I watched the German Campmeeting, and was aghast at what I saw and heard. I am a dinosaur, not a PC kind of person - the political attitudes expressed made me ill.

I had addressed that I seek to be re-baptized. I was baptized into the Lutheran church (sprinkled); then into the SDA corporate church also as a child - I have seen my need. However, if I was to be baptized into another 'politically charged' movement, I want none of it, for that is not of Christ. So, now I study more - to understand, to catch up - 'to show myself approved unto God'. More than this, as I see it, John 6:68 applies. May your name remain, Always.

☞ Please include my family and I in any kind of on-line meetings or communication FFA or SOTP conducts. We are with you, and praise God for your family! There may only be 3 people in the room with Jeff, but we are with you in spirit, and we love you.

☞ Thank you for contacting us, we appreciate it. Yes, we got those e-mails telling us not to watch Mr. Pippenger's talks now. We do not believe in treating people like that, so we are watching all of them. Right away. We especially appreciate the last one about the locked doors. Yes, we are still getting emails but we want to keep studying the Word of the Lord with you all please. We still want to discuss baptism, and we would like to be connected with like-minded people. We need some help sorting all of this out for sure. Maybe we could please talk on the phone sometime; I personally need some encouragement on a few of the baptismal vows.

☞ Beloved Brother Jeff, I have watched your recent few recordings of the last week. I wish that I had words to say that were as a balm to a wound. My heart is burdened for you and your household. It is not in me to delight in the upheaval that has come upon your ministry. In your last recording you spoke of how some people in the U.K. are glorying in hope of your overthrow. It pained me to hear it. I would rather sit in the dust with you than stand over you in triumph. I know that you do not pity yourself, and I am not pitying you. The only comfort that I can give you is the knowledge that you have one less enemy than maybe you imagined. One less person happy to see you cast down. One more person hoping and praying for your health and peace.

We have this in common, that very many who we have loved and trusted as friends have hated us and spoken evil of our name, and many evil things have been reported and thought about us that are not based in reality. God is not pleased when a brother falls and is trodden down and his fall is celebrated. Whoever does this work is on the side of the enemy and against God. Whoever does this work cannot prosper. I know that it is in harmony with the spirit of Christ to build up and restore a brother who is found to be in a fault. He who is spiritual will do this work. I don't think you are in need of being built up by me, but perhaps my solidarity and vow of kindness toward you can somewhat ease the burden of all the brothers who have turned against you and gaped their mouths in condemnation of you. I hope these words find their way to you. If you care to ease my concern at all by responding and confirming that your spirit is strong and your mind is not perplexed I would be happy. Blessing to you and your house and may God be with you.

☞ Dear Kathy and Jeff. You brought me to tears as I read along on your last presentation of *The Great Controversy* 186-188. That is a powerful "old wine skin" thus say it the Lord. It is so plain and clear just like many others this movement was built upon. The clouds and darkness are starting to dissipate by the Sun of Righteousness. Not only friends but my family has been deeply affected by this fanaticism that was clearly manifested in Germany. Very, very bitter. By the grace and power of God I'll meet it now with all my strength. Thank you brother Jeff for coming out of hiding. Praise God for His servants, His Word, and the Spirit of Prophecy.

☞ Satan is determined that the final work and the 144,000 will never come to pass because it is his death sentence if he can't stop it! So he is more determined than ever in the whole 6000 years of earth's history! The dragon is wroth with the remnant! May God help us just now!

☞ Good Morning! Truth will prevail. Jesus said, "I AM, be not afraid." "The Lord has His resources. His hand is on the machinery." Love and hugs.

☞ I am watching the videos now and felt impressed to reach out. It has been awhile since we talked last. Just wanted to send you my warm greetings and hugs. Blessings.