

KING OF THE NORTH:

Breakthrough In the Understanding of Daniel 11

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FOREWORD TO THIS SECOND PUBLICATION ON DANIEL 11

THE first publication of Islam as the King of the North, served the purpose of documenting that the King of the North of Daniel 11:40-45 was nearly unanimously understood and promulgated for some seven decades by Seventh-day Adventists as being Turkey. This period lasted through the end of World War I in 1918. Some of our leaders had made strong statements to the effect that the war would almost certainly involve driving Turkey out of Constantinople, with it then placing its government in Jerusalem. There, Bible prophecy claimed that she would come to her end, ushering in the time of trouble with its seven last plagues, the battle of Armageddon, and Christ's rescue of His saints. These unwise, strong, current event, time-wise positions became an embarrassment to our people when the war ended with Turkey still intact, and still in Constantinople.

This embarrassment led to a backlash among us against Turkey being the King of the North, and a renewed turn to the Papacy as holding that title. The proverbial baby (Turkey) was thrown out with the bath water. The thinking was, that since our predictions that WW I would see the end of Turkey, and then the final events culminating in Christ's soon return, were not fulfilled, then Turkey being the King of the North, must not be true.

The majority historicist¹ view had been that all but verse 45 had been fulfilled within a short time of 1898. This understanding is quite in harmony with the following statement by Ellen White in 1904.

"We have no time to lose. Troublous times are before us. The world is stirred with the spirit of war. Soon the scenes of trouble spoken of in the prophecies will take place. The prophecy in the eleventh of Daniel has nearly reached its complete fulfillment." Ellen G. White, *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 13, 394 (February 24, 1904)

Since WW I, the majority view seems to be that the Papacy will eventually fulfill verses 40-45 of Daniel 11. This, however, has led to much confusion and disagreement as to what power is the King of the South of those same verses. We presently have no clear, unifying interpretation of the last portions of Daniel 11. This situation is confirmed by the official papers of the October 19-20, 2018 Daniel 11 Prophecy Conference—(<http://www.daniel11prophecy.com/conference-papers1.html>). A minority are trying to remind us that Turkey still exists, and may still fulfill verse 45, when God knows that earth's probation is about to close.

This writer was convinced by the material presented in the first edition that the French revolution, then Napoleon is the correct interpretation of verses 36-39, and on into 40; and that Turkey, as the King of the North, fulfilled verses 40-44. This leaves only verse 45 for Turkey to fulfill when God's people can be used of Him to give the Loud Cry to the world and probation can close.

However, a few areas were not clear to me. First, I was operating on an imperfect definition of the King of the North. I had accepted the common explanation that the King of the North consisted of the power immediately to the north of Israel; true much of the time, but not in harmony with the original definition (more on this later). Presently, the nations of Lebanon and Syria are immediately north of the

¹ See footnote on page 25

nation of Israel, which is largely in control of Jerusalem. Because of this, I felt that the prophecy will be fulfilled by a cooperative effort of multiple Muslim states, and thus the title of the first publication was “ISLAM, King of the North.” I believe that with this revised and enlarged second publication, the reader will find evidence for greater confidence that Turkey still is the King of the North, and will remain so until it comes to its end as prophesied.

A second area that seemed confusing was the almost universal position of our bible students to not take literally what verse 40 says, that the King of the North actually comes to its end in Jerusalem, and Chap. 12:1 states that Turkey’s end is only shortly before Michael stands up, closing human probation. The vast majority of our leaders implied that Turkey must have been resuscitated in order to have its river Euphrates dried up under the sixth plague of Revelation 16:12, which will be some, undefined time AFTER the close of probation. This is confused interpretation. In the Comments area of the first publication, I expressed my concern regarding the involvement of the earlier destroyed King of the North in the sixth plague.

A third area of concern was the tendency of our communicators to largely ignore the overarching role of the Papacy, and associates, in the end time work of deceiving the whole world to join in warfare against the law of God, and His people in the battle of Armageddon.

The purpose of this second publication is to help clear up these areas of confusion. In this edition we will also add personal observations, gleaned from further study and comments of friends, regarding key verses, which we trust will bring a greater harmony to our understanding of these issues. In our Christian walk, we must search for, and accept truth, regardless of its source:

“The Lord often works where we least expect Him; He surprises us by revealing His power through instruments of His own choice, while He passes by the men to whom we have looked as those through whom light should come. God desires us to receive the truth upon its own merits—because it is truth.”
Testimonies to Ministers, 106.

COMMENTS ON DANIEL 11²

DANIEL 11:1, 2- HISTORY OF MEDO-PERSIA

“**ALSO** I in the first year of Darius the Mede, even I, stood to confirm and to strengthen him. (2) And now will I shew thee the truth. Behold, there shall stand up yet three kings in Persia; and the fourth shall be far richer than they all: and by his strength through his riches he shall stir up all against the realm of Grecia.” **Daniel 11:1, 2.**

The fourth king was Xerxes the Great—Ahasuerus of the book of Esther—who ruled from B.C. 486-465. In B.C. 480 he led a massive army of some five and one-half million in a futile effort to conquer Greece.

DANIEL 11:3, 4- BASIS³ FOR THE TERMS KINGS OF THE NORTH AND OF THE SOUTH

THE correct definition of the King of the North is based on the following:

² For more detailed commentary on any portion, see the standard publications: Daniel and the Revelation, Uriah Smith, 1897 ed.; Story of Daniel the Prophet and The Story of the Seer of Patmos, both by S. N. Haskell and found in The Collected Writings of Stephen. N. Haskell.

³ Adapted from material at <https://phm.org/rome-and-the-king-of-the-north-bill-cave/>.

“And a mighty king shall stand up, that shall rule with great dominion, and do according to his will. (4) And when he shall stand up, his kingdom shall be broken, and shall be divided toward the four winds of heaven; and not to his posterity, nor according to his dominion which he ruled: for his kingdom shall be plucked up, even for others beside those.” **Daniel 11:3, 4.**

In B.C. 336, young Alexander the Great invaded Persia, and within 10 years, at the age of 30, he was master of an empire stretching from Greece to India. He died from drunken revelry in Babylon in B.C. 323.

The “four winds of heaven” describe the four partitions of the kingdom of Alexander at around 300 B.C. The map below depicts the basis for the names of the fragmented kingdoms of Greece when first referred to in the Bible.

We have confirmation from a second source, of the validity of this map. The following quote describes the outcome of war among five of Alexander’s major generals:

“The details of this fighting need not delay us. As soon as one general was eliminated, another rose to take his place. Olympias obtained the death of Philip III in 317; a year later Cassander had her assassinated; and in 309 he murdered Roxane and her son, Alexander IV, thus exterminating the old Macedonian dynasty. Thereafter, the generals could no longer pretend that they were trying to save Alexander’s empire for his son, and in 306 Antigonus took the title of king for himself. The other generals quickly followed suit. At last, in 301, an important battle was fought at Ipsus in west-central Asia Minor, where Antigonus was defeated and killed by a coalition of his rivals. The victors then divided the Empire amongst themselves. **Cassander got Macedonia and Greece; Lysimachus took Thrace and much of Asia Minor; Ptolemy retained Egypt, Cyrenaica, and Palestine; and the rest of Asia [Syria and eastward] went to Seleucus.**”⁴ (All emphases supplied unless otherwise noted).

The following reference confirms that the area of the King of the North included the area of the Dardanelles—future site of Constantinople:

“The old central power was dead; but it had merely been replaced by another, far more energetic, ambitious, and businesslike, and controlled by a single brain... Seleucus persuaded Ptolemy, Lysimachus, and Cassander, that Antigonus’ ambition threatened their very existence, and the three rulers formed a definite alliance. **Cassander [held] ... Macedonia, ... Ptolemy ... Egypt... Lysimachus ... held the Dardanelles crossings. . . .**⁵

DANIEL 11:5-13- CONFLICTS BETWEEN THE GREEK KINGS OF THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH

“**AND** the king of the south shall be strong, and one of his princes; and he shall be strong above him, and have dominion; his dominion shall be a great dominion. (6) And in the end of years they shall join themselves together; for the king’s daughter of the south shall come to the king of the north to make an agreement: but she shall not retain the power of the arm; neither shall he stand, nor his arm: but she shall be given up, and they that brought her, and he that begat her, and he that strengthened her in these times. (7) But out of a branch of her roots shall one stand up in his estate, which shall come with an army, and shall enter into the fortress of the king of the north, and shall deal against them, and shall prevail: (8) And shall also carry captives into Egypt their gods, with their princes, and with their precious vessels of silver and of gold; and he shall continue more years than the king of the north. (9) So the king of the

⁴ [*The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Students’ Source Book; The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary.*](#) (1962). (Vol. 9, p. 31). Review and Herald Publishing Association.

⁵ [*The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Students’ Source Book; The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary.*](#) (1962). (Vol. 9, p. 33). Review and Herald Publishing Association.

south shall come into his kingdom, and shall return into his own land. (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. (11) And the king of the south shall be moved with choler, and shall come forth and fight with him, even with the king of the north: and he shall set forth a great multitude; but the multitude shall be given into his hand. (12) And when he hath taken away the multitude, his heart shall be lifted up; and he shall cast down many ten thousands: but he shall not be strengthened by it. (13) For the king of the north shall return, and shall set forth a multitude greater than the former, and shall certainly come after certain years with a great army and with much riches.” **Daniel 11:5-13.**

Thus we see that the term King of the North is based on the northern portion of Alexander’s divided kingdom, originally held by Lysimachus. It was the area around the Dardanelles waterway, the future site of Constantinople. The independent kingdom of the King of the North lasted, however, for only about twenty years, for Seleucus, King of the East (later called Syria) conquered and absorbed the territory of the northern kingdom, and thus became the new King of the North—possessor of the future site of Constantinople.

Within a few years, the area of the King of the West—Cassander—was also absorbed by Seleucus, resulting in there being then only two divisions of Alexander’s kingdom—Seleucus as King of the North, and Ptolemy as King of the South. This “continued [some 250 years] until the Hellenistic world was taken over, piece by piece, by the rising power of Rome. Though they were annexed as the Roman provinces of Macedonia (146 B.C.), Syria (64/63 B.C.), and Egypt (30 B.C.), they retained the influence of Greek thought. Greek continued to be the language of the eastern half of the Roman Empire.”⁶

With the rise of Rome as the one world power, the terms King of the North and King of the South disappear for many years from the prophecy of Daniel 11. The King of the South mentioned in **verse 25** is regarding the rebellion in Egypt of the general Antony against Cæsar Augustus—both parties being Roman.

Verses 14 through 16 of Daniel 11 describe the final activities of the Greek kingdoms as they were overcome by pagan Rome.

DANIEL 11:14-22- THE EMPIRE OF PAGAN ROME

“**AND** in those times there shall many stand up against the king of the south: also the robbers of thy people shall exalt themselves to establish the vision; but they shall fall. (15) So the king of the north shall come, and cast up a mount, and take the most fenced cities: and the arms of the south shall not withstand, neither his chosen people, neither shall there be any strength to withstand. (16) But he that cometh against him shall do according to his own will, and none shall stand before him: and he shall stand in the glorious land, which by his hand shall be consumed. (17) He shall also set his face to enter with the strength of his whole kingdom, and upright ones with him; thus shall he do: and he shall give him the daughter of women, corrupting her: but she shall not stand on his side, neither be for him. (18) After this shall he turn his face unto the isles, and shall take many: but a prince for his own behalf shall cause the reproach offered by him to cease; without his own reproach he shall cause it to turn upon him. (19) Then he shall turn his face toward the fort of his own land: but he shall stumble and fall, and not be found. (20) Then shall stand up in his estate a raiser of taxes in the glory of the kingdom: but within few days he shall be destroyed, neither in anger, nor in battle. (21) And in his estate shall stand up a vile person, to whom they shall not give the honour of the kingdom: but he shall come in peaceably, and

⁶ Horn, S. H. (1979). In [*The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Dictionary*](#) (p. 443). Review and Herald Publishing Association.

obtain the kingdom by flatteries. (22) And with the arms of a flood shall they be overflowed from before him, and shall be broken; yea, also the prince of the covenant.” **Daniel 11:14-22.**

We pass quickly over the history of the first centuries of the pagan Roman Empire. Emperor Constantine adopted Christianity as the state religion in the early years of 300 A.D. In 321 A.D. he declared Sunday as a general holiday. The result of his “conversion” was the paganization of Christianity, the foundation upon which the papacy eventually arose.

DANIEL 11:23-31- FORMATION OF THE PAPACY

“**AND** after the league made with him he shall work deceitfully: for he shall come up, and shall become strong with a small people. (24) He shall enter peaceably even upon the fattest places of the province; and he shall do that which his fathers have not done, nor his fathers’ fathers; he shall scatter among them the prey, and spoil, and riches: yea, and he shall forecast his devices against the strong holds, even for a time. (25) And he shall stir up his power and his courage against the king of the south with a great army; and the king of the south shall be stirred up to battle with a very great and mighty army; but he shall not stand: for they shall forecast devices against him. (26) Yea, they that feed of the portion of his meat shall destroy him, and his army shall overflow: and many shall fall down slain. (27) And both these kings’ hearts shall be to do mischief, and they shall speak lies at one table; but it shall not prosper: for yet the end shall be at the time appointed. (28) Then shall he return into his land with great riches; and his heart shall be against the holy covenant; and he shall do exploits, and return to his own land. (29) At the time appointed he shall return, and come toward the south; but it shall not be as the former, or as the latter. (30) For the ships of Chittim shall come against him: therefore he shall be grieved, and return, and have indignation against the holy covenant: so shall he do; he shall even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant. (31) And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate.” **Daniel 11:23-31.**

Constantine built a new imperial residence at Byzantium and renamed the city Constantinople. In 330 A.D., he made this the new capital of the Roman Empire (**verse 29**). This left the city of Rome to the development of the political and religious power of the bishop of Rome. Paganized Western Rome was destroyed by the invasion of barbaric tribes as described by the first four trumpets of Revelation 8:6-12. By 538 A.D. the ten new nations of the former Western Roman Empire were all sympathetic to paganized Christianity and the political and religious authority of the area was in the hands of the Bishop of Rome, now beginning the long rule of the papacy (**verse 31**).

DANIEL 11:32-35- RULE OF THE PAPACY / PROTESTANT REFORMATION

“**AND** such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits. (33) And they that understand among the people shall instruct many: yet they shall fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, many days. (34) Now when they shall fall, they shall be holpen with a little help: but many shall cleave to them with flatteries. (35) And some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, even to the time of the end: because it is yet for a time appointed.” **Daniel 11:32-35.**

These verses describe the intellectual, and spiritually oppressive domination of Europe by the papacy for 1260 years; ended in 1798 by the Pope being taken captive (“deadly wound” of Revelation 13:3) by the French general Berthier. The last verses describe the Protestant Reformation, beginning in A.D. 517.

“The apostasy established in the Western Empire of Rome has for its motto. ‘There is but one God, and the Pope is His prophet.’ and the apostasy established in the Eastern Empire has for its motto. ‘There is but one God, and Mahomet is His prophet.’ To meet both of these apostasies from the religion established

by Jesus Christ, there must be a preaching of the gospel which says. ‘There is but one God, and Jesus Christ is His Prophet.’” “The Time and the Work,” W. W. Prescott sermon, March 27, 1903, *General Conference Daily Bulletin*, March 30, 1903.

Just such preaching of the true gospel was raised up by God in papal Europe that was a religious and political challenge to the Roman Catholic church—and papal authority in particular. Martin Luther’s posting of his Ninety-five Theses in A.D. 1517 is considered to be the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. There had been earlier reformers, and there were to be many that followed. Gutenberg’s development of a printing press with movable type was a great step forward in the dissemination of the gospel based on sola scriptura, sola fide, sola gratia, and solo Christo.

The response of the Catholic Church was trials, condemnation, excommunication, torture, and even death to the heretics.

“A dark and threatening day had come for the Reformation. Notwithstanding the Edict of Worms, declaring Luther to be an outlaw and forbidding the teaching or belief of his doctrines, religious toleration had thus far prevailed in the empire. God’s providence had held in check the forces that opposed the truth. Charles V was bent on crushing the Reformation, but often as he raised his hand to strike he had been forced to turn aside the blow. Again and again the immediate destruction of all who dared to oppose themselves to Rome appeared inevitable; but at the critical moment the armies of the Turk appeared on the eastern frontier, or the king of France, or even the pope himself, jealous of the increasing greatness of the emperor, made war upon him; and thus, amid the strife and tumult of nations, the Reformation had been left to strengthen and extend.” *The Great Controversy*, 197.

Thus, the Lord overruled, resulting in the antichristian Ottoman Empire’s attacks against apostate, papal Christianity, to serve to protect, and even help to promote the true gospel of Christ.

The phrase “for a time appointed” of verse 35 is in reference to the 1260 long years of papal dominance and persecution (as prophesied in Revelation 11:2, 3 and elsewhere) as brought to its end in 1798 when a French general took the pope captive; who died soon in exile. Though a new pope was soon elected, the political power of the papacy had suffered its deadly wound; prophesied to be yet fully restored only in the very end of time.

THE EASTERN ROMAN EMPIRE

WE interrupt our direct discussion of Daniel 11 to review the history of the Eastern Roman Empire and the rise of the Ottoman Empire as described in Revelation

The Eastern Roman Empire, with its capitol in Constantinople, continued on for nearly another thousand years after the Imperial power of the West expired in A.D. 476. During the long papal reign in Europe, the religion (Eastern Orthodox) of the Eastern Empire was much the same as that of the papacy, with the exception that the bishop of Constantinople refused to accept the authority of the Roman pope, and its religious authority was never as centralized as was that of Rome. The long duration, however, of the Eastern Empire was not all peaceful.

In A.D. 540, armed conflicts began between the Emperors of Eastern Rome and the Chosroes of the prominent neighbor further to the East—Persia (modern Iran). By A.D. 615 the Persians had taken over nearly all of Eastern Rome except for Constantinople itself. Heraclius, the Eastern emperor, was able to mount counter-offensives which by A.D. 628 had basically conquered Persia. The end result of these conflicts was that both of these major powers were weakened; facilitating the rapid spread of the rising power of Islam. See *The History of Ancient Iran*, by Richard Frye: <https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/med/frvehst.asp> .

THE RISE OF ISLAM

IN summation of this period we turn to a quote found in *The Sounding of the Seven Trumpets of Revelation 8 and 9*⁷ by James White, pages 35, 36, in comments on **Revelation. 9:1**:—

“‘The spirit of fraud and enthusiasm, whose abode is not in the heavens,’ was let loose on earth. The bottomless pit needed but a key to open it; and that key was the fall of Chosroes. He had contemptuously torn the letter of an obscure citizen of Mecca. But when from his ‘blaze of glory’ he sunk into ‘the tower of darkness’ which no eye could penetrate, the name of Chosroes was suddenly to pass into oblivion before that of Mahomet; and the crescent seemed but to wait its rising till the falling of the star. Chosroes, after his entire discomfiture and loss of empire, was murdered in the year 628; and the year 629 is marked by ‘the conquest of Arabia,’ ‘and the first war of the Mahometans {36} against the Roman empire.’ And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. And he opened the bottomless pit. He fell unto the earth. When the strength of the Roman empire was exhausted, and the great king of the east lay dead in his tower of darkness, the pillage of an obscure town on the borders of Syria was ‘the prelude of a mighty revolution.’ ‘The robbers were the apostles of Mahomet, and their fanatic valor emerged from the desert.’”

The name Mahomet is a medieval European version of Muhammad, the name of the Prophet of Islam. Muhammad was born April 22, 571 A.D. in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, and died on June 8, 632 A.D. in Medina, Saudi Arabia. In those 61 years he started a religio-political movement which has since been an avowed enemy of apostate Christianity—especially the Catholic of both Western and Eastern Rome.⁸

“Islam is a potent mixture of a little truth and a lot of error. The truthful parts are not original, but were gleaned from a few passages in the Older Testament and from even fewer portions in the Newer Testament of the infallible Word of God. The erroneous parts are an odd conglomeration of: certain sections from the Apocrypha which arose in the Intertestamental Period; Post-Christian sectarian writings in the Pseudepigrapha; Arabian Paganism; and the A.D. 570-632 Mohammed’s own views written down by his favourite wife Khadiya.

“Much of this was collected together and then recorded in Islam’s holy book, the *Koran*. That was written not like the Bible, over some fifteen centuries—but over less than 24 years. It consists not of 66 books comprising well over 1000 chapters recorded by about 40 inspired human writers under the one and only Triune God, *Elohim* as its Primary Author—but of just one book of barely a hundred chapters all emanating from one human author speaking in the name of Arabia’s Pre-Islamic unitarian god *Allah*. It reflects the milieu not of all three Old World Continents, but only that of the then-backward region of Arabia. It presents not many prophecies and miracles, but only its own version of some of the eschatological predictions derived from the Bible. It proclaims not atonement for sin and an empty tomb in Jerusalem, but legalistic strictures and a grave in Medina. It preaches not love, but hatred for its enemies. And it produces not liberty throughout the land—but rather slavery in thought, word, and deed.” *Islam In the Bible* by Rev. Professor Dr. Francis Nigel Lee, Queensland Presbyterian Theological College, Brisbane, Australia. <http://www.historicism.net/readingmaterials/iitb.pdf>

THE FIRST WOE

“**AFTER** several centuries—just as the Bible had warned—the Early Christian Church had departed from Holy Scripture. Subsequently, it lapsed into idolatry. However, God would not allow His purposes to save the World to get thwarted. So, as long-term correctives, God sent against the sins of His wayward Christian People two terrible scourges—Islam, and the Papacy.” *Ibid.*

⁷ See Resources for 1859, p. 65 of this publication.

⁸ Radical Islam in modern times—antagonist of Christianity worldwide.

At Mohammed's death in A.D. 632, the Saracen warriors had taken over the entire Arabian peninsula. From A.D. 661-750 they (Umayyad Caliphate) had engulfed all of the Syrian province with Palestine and Persia to East of the Indus river, also all of Egypt, all of the Mediterranean rim of Africa, nearly all of Spain, and part of France. The Eastern Roman Empire was left only with Asia minor with Constantinople (basically the territory of the Greek general Lysimachus—original King of the North), and some of the area of south-central Europe. The map above depicts this extensive 100 year growth:

Around A.D. 1000, the Seljuk Turks began migrating towards the Eastern border of the Byzantine Empire. They had originated to the north of Persia, and during their migratory occupation through Persia and Syria (including the Holy Land) they had converted to Islam. They gradually became the most active, aggressive ethnic group of the Muslim faith. Their first conflict with the Eastern Roman Empire was at Manzikert in the East of Asia minor in 1071. They defeated the Byzantines, capturing the Emperor, but released him after one week placing him under a yearly tribute. This battle has been considered the start and foundation of Turkey. See <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turkey>, and https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Manzikert.

But the troubles of the Eastern Roman Empire was not limited to that of its neighbors and foes of the East. Multiple crusades from papal Europe traversed their territory in attempts to dislodge the infidel Muslims from the Holy Land. Pope Urban II made his call for the first crusade in A.D. 1095. On the fourth crusade, Constantinople itself was attacked and captured. A government was set up, referred to as the Latin Empire, indicating it to be subject to Papal Rome. This occupation by forces of the papacy lasted from A.D. 1204 till 1261 when it was recaptured by the Byzantine Emperor Michael VIII Palaiologos. This is the only record in history of forces of the Papacy controlling Constantinople and area of the Dardanelles—the original Northern territory of the divided Empire of Alexander, the original basis of the term of King of the North. See <https://www.thoughtco.com/crusades-basics-1788631>, and https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Latin_Empire.

THE SECOND WOE

IN A.D. 1280 a Turk named Osman became chief of a small area near the Byzantine border; which by then had receded to nearly the Eastern shore of the Sea of Marmara, across from Constantinople. His rule among the Muslims grew and he became founder of what is known as the Ottoman Empire with a supreme civil and religious leader—Sultan—similar to the Popes of the Papacy. Most bible scholars recognize the Ottoman Empire as a major player in the fulfillment of the prophetic first and second woes of Revelation. It is believed that Revelation 9:11 is in reference to the Sultan position:—

“And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon.” **Revelation 9:11.**

If we accept about A.D. 600 as the beginning of the spread of Islam (start of the first woe) in the Arabian area of the Eastern Roman Empire we find some 700 years later that Islam is united under a Sultan, prepared to fulfill the five months prophecies of Revelation 9:5, 10:—

“And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man. . . .

“And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails: and their power was to hurt men five months.” **Revelation 9:5, 10**

The prophetic five months is equivalent to 150 years which began on July 27, A.D. 1299 when Othman first entered the territory of Nicomedia—nearest area between him and the Bosphorus.

“And their power was to torment men five months.’ Thus far their commission extended, to torment, by constant depredations, but not politically to kill them. ‘Five months;’ that is, one hundred and fifty years. Commencing July 27th, 1299, the one hundred and fifty years reach to 1449. During that whole period the Turks were engaged in an almost perpetual war with the Greek empire, but yet without conquering it. They seized upon and held several of the Greek provinces, but still Greek independence

was maintained in Constantinople. But in 1449, the termination of the one hundred and fifty years, a change came. . . . James White, *The Sounding Of The Seven Trumpets Of Revelation 8 and 9*, 49.

“One woe is past; and, behold, there come two woes more hereafter.” **Revelation 9:12.** We conclude that the first woe punishment by Islam of apostate Christianity lasted some 850 years.

“And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates.” **Revelation 9:13-14.**

The four angels bound in the great river Euphrates is reference to the four principle sultanies of the Ottoman Empire in A.D. 1449. That year the Byzantine emperor Paleologus died but his son felt so threatened by the Muslims that he would not ascend the Greek throne without the consent of the Turkish Sultan Amurath. The consent was given. Thus, the Greek Emperor had voluntarily surrendered the Empire’s independence to the Turkish Empire.

The sultan Amurath died two years later in A.D. 1451 and was succeeded by Mahomet II, who determined to conquer Constantinople and take physical control and possession of the Eastern Roman Empire. A siege began on April 6, A.D. 1453, and the city fell, and the last Byzantine emperor perished on May 16, A.D. 1454. Thus, Turkey came into physical possession of Constantinople and the Dardanelles area, the original territory held by Lysimachus as the first King of the North some 1750 years earlier in B.C. 300. Muslim Turks have maintained a government in this King of the North territory until the present day, A.D. 2019—a contiguous 565 years. As the religio-political Popes had taken over the fallen Western Roman Empire in A.D. 538, the religio-political Sultans had now, some 900 years later, taken over the Eastern Roman Empire.

“During the 16th and 17th centuries, at the height of its power under the reign of Suleiman the Magnificent, the Ottoman Empire was a multinational, multilingual empire controlling most of Southeast Europe, parts of Central Europe, Western Asia, parts of Eastern Europe and the Caucasus, North Africa and the Horn of Africa. At the beginning of the 17th century, the empire contained 32 provinces and numerous vassal states. . . . (see A.D. 1683 map on pg. 8).

“With Constantinople as its capital and control of lands around the Mediterranean basin, the Ottoman Empire was at the centre of interactions between the Eastern and Western worlds for six centuries.” See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ottoman_Empire. Due to the expansion tendency, with forced conversion to Islam by the Ottoman Empire, it was greatly disliked and feared by Papal Europe. See <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:OttomanEmpireMain.png#filelinks>.

“And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men.” **Revelation 9:15.**

This prophecy amounts to 391 years and 15 days in which the Ottoman Empire was to be free to not merely torment apostate Christianity but to conquer and destroy. It remained sovereign in its King of the North territory until A.D. 1840.

“In the year 1840 another remarkable fulfillment of prophecy excited widespread interest. Two years before, Josiah Litch, one of the leading ministers preaching the second advent, published an exposition of Revelation 9, predicting the fall of the Ottoman Empire. According to his calculations, this power was to be overthrown ‘in A.D. 1840, sometime in the month of August;’ and only a few days previous to its accomplishment he wrote: ‘Allowing the first period, 150 years, to have been exactly fulfilled before Deacozes ascended the throne by permission of the Turks, and that the 391 years, fifteen days, commenced at the close of the first period, it will end on the 11th of August, 1840, when the Ottoman power in Constantinople may be expected to be broken. And this, I believe, will be found to be the case.’—Josiah Litch, in *Signs of the Times, and Expositor of Prophecy*, Aug. 1, 1840.

“At the very time specified, Turkey, through her ambassadors, accepted the protection of the allied powers of Europe, and thus placed herself under the control of Christian nations. The event exactly fulfilled the prediction. When it became known, multitudes were convinced of the correctness of the principles of prophetic interpretation adopted by Miller and his associates, and a wonderful impetus

was given to the advent movement. Men of learning and position united with Miller, both in preaching and in publishing his views, and from 1840 to 1844 the work rapidly extended.” Ellen G. White, *The Great Controversy*, 334, 335.

Here again, we see that the events surrounding Islam benefited truth and the lord’s work.

DANIEL 11:36-39- THE FRENCH REVOLUTION—A.D. 1789-1799.

WE now return to our direct discussion of Daniel 11.

“And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done. (37) Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all. (38) But in his estate shall he honour the God of forces: and a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honour with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things. (39) Thus shall he do in the most strong holds with a strange god, whom he shall acknowledge and increase with glory: and he shall cause them to rule over many, and shall divide the land for gain.” **Daniel 11:36-39.**

“We are next presented with the prophetic history of one of the most singular governments furnished by the history of the world;— a government perfectly atheistical in its character and reckless in its conduct.

“Verse 36 “And the⁹ king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvelous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished; for that that is determined shall be done.”

“Such a character as is above described, was revolutionary France. That dreadful revolution commenced 1789, and was styled the first year of liberty. But not satisfied with the achievements of that year, and the liberty they had asserted and exercised, the revolutionists rested not, until they had established the reign of *demoniac equality* and *frantic atheism*. . . . On the 12th of August, 1792, the willful king, or atheistical power, exalted himself above all law; the king of France was seized and carried a prisoner to the temple, and his right to the crown declared forfeited; and it was decreed that to the date of rational liberty, the date of equality should in future be added, in all public acts. The names and titles of the nobility of France were swept away at a stroke, and all distinctions in civil society annihilated. Not satisfied with this, on the 26th of August, 1792, this power exalted himself above all religion, and a decree was passed, establishing atheism by law; and the clergy were ordered to leave the kingdom within a fortnight of its date.” Josiah Litch, *An Address to the Public, and Especially to the Clergy*, 95, 96.¹⁰ (1841). Emphasis in the original.

“When once the principles of the Reformation—liberty of conscience and the equal rights of all men—were presented to a nation, and were refused, that nation sank back into the arms of the papacy, and carried to its completion the principles of that government.

“Such was the history of France. The experience of that nation stands as an object lesson to the world. Truth had been proclaimed within her borders, but again the papacy rose up to do according to his will. It is in that country that verses 36-39 of chapter 11 were exactly fulfilled. Having rejected light, the intensity of the darkness into which men fell was beyond description.

“Scott, in the life of Napoleon, speaking of France in the year 1793, just a few years before the expiration of the allotted time (verse 36), says: ‘The world for the first time heard an assembly of men,

⁹ “The definite article should have been rendered by the indefinite— ‘a king shall do according to his will.’” [footnote 2 in the original].

¹⁰ See p. 43 in this publication.

born and educated in civilization, and assuming to govern one of the finest European nations, uplift their united voices to deny the most solemn truth which man's soul receives, and renounce unanimously the belief and worship of the Deity.' 'France stands apart in the world's history as the single state which, by the decree of her legislative assembly, pronounced that there was no God, and of which the entire population of the capital, and a vast majority elsewhere, women as well as men, danced and sang with joy in accepting the announcement. This was atheism—the logical result of the position taken in Alexandria when Christians assumed the garb of pagan philosophers. God's Word was treated as a product of the human mind. Atheism in the individual is likewise the result of so treating the Scriptures.'" Steven N. Haskell, *Story of Daniel the Prophet*, 240, 241¹¹. (1901).

In commenting on Revelation chap. 11 regarding God's two witnesses—the Old and New Testaments—the Spirit of Prophecy refers to the Atheism of the French Revolution as "the beast . . . of the bottomless pit."

"'When they shall have finished [are finishing] their testimony.' The period when the two witnesses were to prophesy clothed in sackcloth, ended in 1798. As they were approaching the termination of their work in obscurity, war was to be made upon them by the power represented as 'the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit.' In many of the nations of Europe the powers that ruled in church and state had for centuries been controlled by Satan through the medium of the papacy. But here is brought to view **a new manifestation of satanic power.**

"It had been Rome's policy, under a profession of reverence for the Bible, to keep it locked up in an unknown tongue and hidden away from the people. Under her rule the witnesses prophesied 'clothed in sackcloth.' But another power—the beast from the bottomless pit—was to arise to make open, avowed war upon the word of God. . . .

"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. During the Revolution, in 1793, 'the world for the first time heard an assembly of men, born and educated in civilization, and assuming the right to govern one of the finest of the European nations, uplift their united voice to deny the most solemn truth which man's soul receives, and renounce unanimously the belief and worship of a Deity.' Sir Walter Scott, *Life of Napoleon*, vol. 1, ch. 17." Ellen G. White, *The Great Controversy*, 268, 269.

During the revolution, the National Assembly had established the pagan worship of liberty and reason, symbolized by the public worship of a female prostitute from the national opera. "Liberty and reason" meant freedom from the constraints of scripture; with human reason as the guiding light. The result was social and civil anarchy.

"The papacy in France was fast paving [had paved] the road to self-annihilation. Human intellect worshiped brings death. The French Revolution of 1798 [1793-1799], the Massacre of St. Bartholomew [1572], and the Reign of Terror [1793-1794] tell the dreadful story of destruction. The entire history of this period is {243} an object lesson to the world of the final destruction of nations when the Spirit of God is withdrawn, because those in authority refuse to worship Jehovah, choosing rather to exalt the 'Goddess of Reason.'

"Complete overthrow stared France in the face until the control of affairs was assumed by the young military officer, Napoleon Bonaparte. Out of chaos he led the nation through bloodshed to a place of honor among the nations of Europe. The cause of the struggle, which cost thousands of lives, was the attempt to suppress both civil and religious rights. . . .

¹¹ See p. 153 of this publication.

“Then appeared Napoleon. With the rapid movements of a master mind he carried victory for French arms throughout Europe. The army was the controlling element; nobles and clergy were alike powerless, and the common people had exhausted themselves without avail during the terrors of the past few years.” Steven N. Haskell, *Story of Daniel the Prophet*, 242-244.

“Thus terminated the Reign of Terror and the Infidel Revolution. Out of its ruins rose Bonaparte, to guide the tumult to his own elevation, place himself at the head of the French government, and strike terror to the hearts of nations.” Uriah Smith, *Daniel and the Revelation*¹², 272.

DANIEL 11:40-45- RETURN OF THE KINGS OF THE NORTH, AND OF THE SOUTH—A.D. 1798—

“**AND** at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over.” **Daniel 11:40.**

In 1798, having destroyed the civil authority of the papacy (previously referred to), Napoleon, at the head of the French army, sought new glory. His plan was to capture Egypt, then attack from the South and capture Constantinople, capital of the Ottoman Empire, making him ruler of the previous Eastern Roman Empire. This would add momentum to his continued efforts to fully control the territory of the original Western Roman Empire.

“It has before been stated, that ‘the time of the end’ is from the fall of Popery, 1798, to the end itself. The king of the South, we have also seen in the preceding remarks, is Egypt; and the king of the North, is Syria. ‘*Him*,’ in the 40th verse, is the atheistical government of France. This government was to prosper, verse 36, ‘until the indignation be accomplished;’ or until Papal Europe should be scourged for the persecutions inflicted on the people of God. For this purpose, atheistical France was permitted to triumph. The French revolution, and the wars which followed it, and desolated Europe for so many years, were God’s sore judgment on the Papal powers. *Buonaparte* was an instrument of vengeance in the hand of the Almighty.” Josiah Litch, *An Address to the Public, and Especially to the Clergy*, 98. (1841).

Muslim Syria became an integral part of the Ottoman Empire in A.D. 1516, and remained such for some 400 years until partitioned off in 1918 as a result of WWI. Reference to “Syria” during those years is essentially the same as saying “Ottoman,” “Turkish Empire.” See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline_of_Syrian_history.

In 1854, James White affirmed that the principle of determining the various kings of Daniel 11, is by their territory.

“It is our opinion that any power that reigns over Syria is—for the time being— ‘the king of the north,’ spoken of in Daniel XI; hence that the Turkish Dynasty is now that power. If Russia, Austria, England, or France should become possessed of supreme power over Syria, then it—which ever it might be—would become ‘the king of the north.’ Till then none but the Turkish Dynasty occupies that position, in our opinion.” James White, *Review and Herald*, Dec. 12, 1854.

In 1896, A. T. Jones applies the principle stated by James White, to the identity of “the king of the north during the “time of the end”—1798 to the end.

“Finally, in verse 40, he (Daniel) comes to speak of ‘the time of the end,’ and again mentions ‘the king of the south’ and ‘the king of the north.’ The territories of the northern and of the southern division of Alexander’s dominion remain respectively the kingdoms of the north and the south unto the end, and from beginning to end, whatever powers might occupy these respective territories, would be the kings of the north and of the south. The power therefore which, at the time of the end, occupies the territory of Thrace and Bithynia, originally held by Lysimachus, will be the king of the north as certainly as was the

¹² See pages 81 and 133 in this publication.

power of Lysimachus itself. And as Constantinople is the center of the territory originally held by Lysimachus, the first ‘king of the north,’ and as the power (Turkey) that now reigns in Constantinople holds the identical territory held by Lysimachus himself, it is plain enough that this power is ‘the king of the north’ of the last verses of the eleventh chapter of Daniel, and of our own day.” A. T. Jones, *The Eastern Question*¹³, 11, 1896.

In 1798, the Ottoman Empire had been in control of the King of the North territory for some 270 years. Muslim Egypt, under the Mamelukes, was a semi-dependent, vassal state of the empire.

“The downfall of the papacy, which marked the termination of the 1260 years, and, according to verse 35, showed the commencement of the time of the end, occurred on the 10th of February, 1798, when Rome fell into the hands of Berthier, the general of the French. On the 5th of March following, Bonaparte received the decree of the Directory relative to the expedition against Egypt. He left Paris May 3, and set sail from Toulon the 19th, with a large naval armament, consisting of 500 sail, carrying 40,000 soldiers and 10,000 sailors. July 5, Alexandria was taken, and immediately fortified. On the 23d the decisive battle of the pyramids was fought, in which the Mamelukes contested the field with valor and desperation, but were no match for the disciplined legions of the French. Murad Bey lost all his cannon, 400 camels, and 3000 men. The loss of the French was comparatively slight. On the 24th, Bonaparte entered Cairo, the capital of Egypt, and only waited the subsidence of the floods of the Nile to pursue Murad Bey to Upper Egypt, whither he had retired with his shattered cavalry, and so make a conquest of the whole country. Thus the king of the south was able to make but a feeble resistance.” *Uriah Smith Daniel and the Revelation*, 275.

Having gained control of Egypt, France, under Napoleon, was then the king of the south. France’s control continued for some two to three years. The sultan of Turkey, not wanting Egypt to become a French province, declared war on September 2, 1798.

“Was the coming of the king of the north, or Turkey, like the whirlwind in comparison with the pushing of Egypt? Napoleon had crushed the armies of Egypt; he essayed to do the same thing with the armies of the sultan, who were menacing an attack from the side of Asia. Feb. 27, 1799, with 18,000 men, he commenced his march from Cairo to Syria. He first took the fort of El-Arish, in the desert, then Jaffa (the Joppa of the Bible), conquered the inhabitants of Naplous at Zeta, and was again victorious at Jafet. Meanwhile, a strong body of Turks had entrenched themselves at St. Jean d’Acre [Northwest of Jerusalem], while swarms of Mussulmans gathered in the mountains of Samaria, ready to swoop down upon the French when they should besiege Acre. Sir Sidney Smith at the same time appeared before St. Jean d’Acre with two English ships, reinforced the Turkish garrison of that place, and captured the apparatus for the siege, which Napoleon had sent across by sea from Alexandria. A Turkish fleet soon appeared in the offing, which, with the Russian and English vessels then cooperating with them, constituted the ‘many ships’ of the king of the north.” *Ibid.*, 276.

Napoleon laid siege to Acre on March 18, 1799.

“Napoleon was twice called away to save some French divisions from falling into the hands of the Mussulman hordes that filled the country. Twice also a breach was made in the wall of the city; but the assailants were met with such fury by the garrison, that they were obliged, despite their best efforts, to give over the struggle. After a continuance of sixty days, Napoleon raised the siege, sounded, for the first time in his career, the note of retreat, and on the 21st of May, 1799, commenced to retrace his steps to Egypt.” *Ibid.*

“He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, even Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon.” **Daniel 11:41.**

“Abandoning a campaign in which one third of the army had fallen victims to war and the plague, the French retired from St. Jean d’Acre, and after a fatiguing march of twenty-six days re-entered Cairo

¹³ See p. 111 of this publication.

in Egypt. They thus abandoned all the conquests they had made in Judea; and the ‘glorious land,’ Palestine, with all its provinces, here called ‘countries,’ fell back again under the oppressive rule of the Turk. Edom, Moab, and Ammon, lying outside the limits of Palestine, south and east of the Dead Sea and the Jordan, were out of the line of march of the Turks from Syria to Egypt, and so escaped the ravages of that campaign. On this passage Adam Clarke has the following note: ‘These and other Arabians, they [the Turks] have never been able to subdue. They still occupy the deserts, and receive a yearly pension of *forty thousand* crowns of gold from the Ottoman emperors to permit the caravans with the pilgrims for Mecca to have a free passage.’” Ibid., 278, 279.

“He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape.” **Daniel 11:42.**

With the assistance of the British, the Turkish army was able to limit the whole French army to the cities of Cairo and Alexandria; which surrendered on June 27, and September 2, respectively. Napoleon had placed control of the army with another general, and had managed to find a ship to return him to France.

“But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps.” **Daniel 11:43.**

“... the sultan permitted the Egyptians to reorganize their government as it was before the French invasion. He asked of the Egyptians neither soldiers, guns, nor fortifications, but left them to manage their own affairs independently, with the important exception of putting the nation under tribute to himself. In the articles of agreement between the sultan and the pasha of Egypt, it was stipulated that the Egyptians should pay annually to the Turkish government a certain amount of gold and silver, and “six hundred thousand measures of corn, and four hundred thousand of barley.” ” Ibid., 280.

“But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many.” **Daniel 11:44.**

The Crimean war of 1853-1856, appears to have fulfilled this verse in that “the Persians on the east and the Russians on the north, were the ones which instigated that conflict. Tidings from these powers troubled him (Turkey). Their attitude and movements incited the sultan to anger and revenge. Russia, being the more aggressive party, was the object of attack. Turkey declared war on her powerful northern neighbor in 1853. The world looked on in amazement to see a government which had long been called ‘the Sick Man of the East,’ a government whose army was dispirited and demoralized, whose treasuries were empty, whose rulers were vile and imbecile, and whose subjects were rebellious and threatening secession, rush with such impetuosity into the conflict. The prophecy said that they should go forth with ‘great fury;’ and when they thus went forth in the war aforesaid, they were described, in the profane vernacular of an American writer, as ‘fighting like devils.’ England and France, it is true, soon came to the help of Turkey; but she went forth in the manner described, and as is reported, gained important victories before receiving the assistance of these powers.” Ibid., 281.

“And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.” **Daniel 11:45**

“We have now traced the prophecy of the 11th of Daniel down, step by step, and have thus far found events to fulfill all its predictions. It has all been wrought out into history except this last verse. The predictions of the preceding verse having been fulfilled within the memory of the generation now living, we are carried by this one past our own day into the future; for no power has yet performed the acts here described. But it is to be fulfilled; and its fulfillment must be accomplished by that power which has been continuously the subject of the prophecy from the 40th verse down to this 45th verse. If the application to which we have given the preference in passing over these verses, is correct, we must look to Turkey to make the move here indicated.” Ibid. 281, 282.

COMMENTS

THE explanatory comments for these last six verses of Daniel 11 have been taken from the pen of Uriah Smith; published in 1897—ninety-nine years after the beginning of the time of the end in 1798, which is two hundred twenty-one years from the present 2019.

These verses 40 through 45, and to a lesser extent, verses 36 through 39 of Daniel 11, are probably the most controverted prophetic verses among Seventh-day Adventists today. The present author has described above, the presently least popular position on these verses. He has come to this position after much study and prayer, and has concluded that this position follows best of taking the scripture as it reads. It follows the concept that if a literal fulfillment of a prophecy can be found, then one need not search for a symbolic interpretation as its primary fulfillment. This position fits best with the overall weight of the evidence.

Modern day, Muslim Turkey, with its capitol in Ankara since World War I, still possesses the much coveted Constantinople and the Bosphorus, and surrounding areas—the defining territory of the original king of the north some 23 centuries in the past.

Because bible prophecy speaks largely of the Papacy as the source of the deceptive wine upon which the end time world becomes drunken, and actively promotes the most serious attacks upon God’s people, His law, and His right to rule, many students do not see the need, or purpose for, Islam playing any role in end time prophecy. They tend to accept the stated position of James White that Daniel’s four major prophecies—Daniel 2, 7, 8, and 11, all end with the second coming of Christ, and that therefore, their last named powers are all the same—the papacy.

However, this is based on a failure to take the scripture as it reads. Verse 45 of Daniel 11 clearly states that the king of the north comes to its end, verse 1 of Daniel 12 (a continuation of the same prophecy) explains that its end is some indefinite time before Michael stands up—the end of human probation; which is some indefinite time before Christ actually comes. Therefore, the last worldly power of Daniel 11 does not last until the second coming, and is thus a different power than the papacy of the other three prophecies, which is destroyed “with the brightness of His coming.” 2 Thessalonians 2:8.

This position that Turkey is the king of the north in the time of the end was nearly unanimously held by our people for some seven decades prior to World War I. Unfortunately, they made numerous predictions too tied to specific events which they thought were certain to happen. Adventism was greatly embarrassed when several predicted events did not happen. Hindsight tells us that God knew that His people were not sealed—not prepared for their probation to close.

In those years of near unanimity on the king of the north, the promoters misread verse 45 of Daniel 11 with verse 1 of chap. 12, similar to that of James White. They also did not take seriously the idea that the king of the north actually comes to its end PRIOR to the close of probation. Ignoring this point, they quite unitedly turned to the sixth plague of Revelation:

“And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared.” **Revelation 16:12.**

Based on the concept that waters represent peoples, and the river Euphrates drains the lands associated with Islam, it is stated that this is referring to the support for Islam, and thus of Turkey the king of the north coming to its end. It was then frequently claimed that the fall of the king of the north was a major trigger for the very end battle of Armageddon, referred to in verses 14 and 16.

Such interpretation is ignoring the Scripture as it reads and does much unwarranted harm to the validity of the overall interpretation of Turkey as the king of the north. The drying up of the Euphrates river of the sixth plague is more accurately understood as the very end time drying up of the support of “great Babylon”¹⁴ of verse 19—the overarching work of the papacy in helping to unite the false religions of the

¹⁴ “Revelation 17:1 describes end-time Babylon as sitting upon many waters, perhaps a reference to the Euphrates (*see Jer. 51:13*). Revelation 17:15 explains that the waters upon which end-time Babylon sits represent the people who support it: the worldwide civil, secular, and political powers behind the system. . . .

“The symbolic drying up of the Euphrates in Revelation 16:12 results in the collapse of Babylon in the end time. . . .

world in one great effort to destroy God's people and to establish Satan as the rightful ruler of this world, rather than Christ. More on this later.

At this time, each reader is encouraged to study my first publication on this subject—*ISLAM, King of the North: Inconvenient Truth or Mere Distraction* included with its resource materials in this second publication. Its many little-known documents help us to understand how broad and deep was our unanimity on the king of the north for so many decades. Some of the resource materials have been abridged, carefully retaining their most important areas. You will find much that is in harmony with the interpretations above. You will also find much with minor variations from the above. There is also some that vigorously opposes some of the above—especially verses 36-39, and 40-45. Ultimately, each of us must decide for ourselves. Unfulfilled prophecy must be approached with caution, especially avoiding being swayed unduly by human reason, and current events.

DANIEL 11:30-36

HISTORY TO BE REPEATED

HISTORY TO BE REPEATED

IN 1904 Ellen G. White made the following challenging statements:

“We have no time to lose. Troublous times are before us. The world is stirred with the spirit of war. Soon the scenes of trouble spoken of in the prophecies will take place. The prophecy in the eleventh of Daniel has nearly reached its complete fulfillment. Much of the history that has taken place in fulfillment of this prophecy will be repeated. In the thirtieth verse¹⁵ a power is spoken of that ‘shall be grieved, and return, and have indignation against the holy covenant: so shall he do; he shall even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant. [Verses 31-36, quoted.]

“And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate. (32) And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits. (33) And they that understand among the people shall instruct many: yet they shall fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, many days. (34) Now when they shall fall, they shall be holpen with a little help: but many shall cleave to them with flatteries. (35) And some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, even to the time of the end: because it is yet for a time appointed. (36) And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done.” **Daniel 11:31-36.**

“Scenes similar to those described in these words will take place. We see evidence that Satan is fast obtaining the control of human minds who have not the fear of God before them. Let all read and understand the prophecies of this book, for we are now entering upon the time of trouble spoken of: [Daniel 12:1-4, quoted.]

“And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. (2) And

“As the people of the world witness the upheaval in nature (see Rev. 16:3-9), they turn to Babylon for protection. However, as the fifth plague strikes the seat of Babylon's authority (Revelation 16:10, 11), they see the futility of seeking help there. Feeling deceived, they turn against Babylon, causing her downfall (see Rev. 17:16).” *Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide*, Jan/Feb/Mar 2019, 87.

¹⁵ “For the ships of Chittim shall come against him: therefore he shall be grieved, and return, and have indignation against the holy covenant: so shall he do; he shall even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant.” Daniel 11:30.

many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. (3) And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever. (4) But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.” **Daniel 12:1-4.** Ellen G. White, *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 13, 394.

Most bible scholars interpret these verses to apply to the formation of the papacy—“the abomination that maketh desolate”—and its reign during the Dark Ages; with the rise of the Protestant Reformation. The end of the 1260 year papal dominance in 1798—“the time of the end”—is referred to in verse 35.

Verse 36 describes the king exalting and magnifying himself above every god.

The servant of the Lord then passes over verses 37 through 45 of Daniel 11 and goes directly to the close of human probation of Daniel 12:1; then the special, limited, resurrection of both righteous, and wicked just prior to Christ’s return, and the eternal reward of those who turned “many to righteousness,” of verses 2 and 3.

It appears that the spirit of prophecy is directing our attention with these, “to be repeated,” verses to the healing of the 1798 deadly wound of the papacy. Inspiration, elsewhere, describes this as an end time union of a resurging Papacy, with apostate Protestantism, and Spiritualism. Revelation 13:1-10 tells of the papacy beast being worshiped by “all that dwell upon the earth.” Verses 11-18 describe Protestant America exercising the dragon-like power of the first beast, and leading the nations of the world in the formation of “an image to the beast” and demanding universal worship with economic penalties for dissenters, and physical persecution—even to death. Such apostasy and persecution of the last days will be challenged by the loud cry of the three angels’ messages.

Such an understanding of these verses—Daniel 11:31-36—thus, provides a clear explanation of how the understanding of Muslim Turkey being the King of the North of verses 40-45 blends in with, rather than replacing, the overarching work of Satan to make the whole world drunken with the corrupted wine of the papacy.

END-TIME ISSUES ENCOURAGING THE NATIONS / RELIGIONS TO WORK UNITEDLY

1. Climate Change: Indeed, the earth is growing old like a garment. There is clear evidence of a continued increase in the frequency, as well as the severity of, various forms of natural disasters—floods, droughts, tornadoes, hurricanes, etc. Presently, much of the world is struggling to decrease the amount of carbon dioxide, with the idea that this will help reverse, or at least contain this progression of serious natural events.

“Even now he (Satan) is at work. In accidents and calamities by sea and by land, in great conflagrations, in fierce tornadoes and terrific hail-storms, in tempests, floods, cyclones, tidal waves, and earthquakes, in every place and in a thousand forms, Satan is exercising his power. He sweeps away the ripening harvest, and famine and distress follow. He imparts to the air a deadly taint, and thousands perish by the pestilence. These visitations are to become more and more frequent and disastrous. Destruction will be upon both man and beast. ‘The earth mourneth and fadeth away,’ ‘the haughty people . . . do languish. The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant.’” [Isaiah 24:4, 5.] Ellen G. White, *The Great Controversy*, (1888 ed.), 590.

2. Diminishing Natural Resources: With the continuing growth of the world’s population, there is a diminishing of adequate sources of potable water, land for growing food, forests as a basic energy source, and even adequate space for suitable homes. Greedy man has proved to be a bad steward of the earth’s resources. Scripture points to the end time as to when those who destroy the earth will be destroyed.

“And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.” Revelation 11:18.

3. Terrorism: The ongoing spiritual and physical conflict between radical Islam and apostate Christianity. We have documented that this warfare began with the rise to spiritual and civil power of the Islamic prophet Mohammed in A.D. 621. Islam today seems to be involved in most [not always the aggressor] of the many armed conflicts around the world. Many nations are working together to help halt or contain the aggressive tendency of radicalized Muslims. This world-wide conflict is likely to continue until Islam is engulfed by the overarching activity of the future Image to the Beast. More on this later.

4. Religious Peer Pressure—Modify Our Beliefs: As individuals, by nature we like to be well thought of—not too peculiar from the culture around us. This tendency carries over through leaders, to the actions and beliefs of church organizations. During the Dark Ages, the paganized papacy severely persecuted, and put to death millions of dissenters from any one of a number of their non-scriptural beliefs. Those doctrines have not changed, and yet today, most Protestant churches are no longer protesting. Many state that “the Protestant Reformation is over.”

During the process of the healing of its deadly wound, the papacy has not tried to change, excuse, or hide its distinctive beliefs, while “returning” daughter churches have indicated their willingness to accept the original Catholic teaching. Several prominent churches have, in the last few years, signed agreements with the papacy that their understanding of justification is now the same as the Papal. Prophecy tells us that the whole world—except for a small minority—will become drunken with the false-doctrine-wine of Rome.

We are told that the end time enforcement of papal Sunday sacredness, versus the seventh day Sabbath of the Creator God, will be the final test for God’s people, and the whole world. However, in the meantime, God’s remnant church has not proven fully immune to the peer pressure of increasingly wayward Christianity. The issue of Women’s ordination to spiritual headship is presently threatening to openly divide the church. In the 1950s we avoided being classified as a cult by leading inquiring evangelical leaders to understand that we believed atonement was completed at the cross, and that Christ came to this earth with an unfallen human nature. [See Annotated Edition of *Questions On Doctrine*, available through the ABC].

In 1980 the SDA Church first stated that it believed in “the Trinity.” We presently find this stated as such in official publications¹⁶ without any explanation, as to whether its understanding of the Trinity is any different from that of the Catholic Church, who invented the term, or not. A full discussion of this subject is beyond the scope of this publication, but it is of much greater significance than first meets the eye. We need to remember that the original rise of the papacy to its full political and religious authority in A.D. 538 was only possible because three nations (horns) which refused to accept this very doctrine of the papacy, were “uprooted.” Multitudes were persecuted, tortured, and slain for rejection of this Catholic teaching. We should not be surprised that during the healing of the deadly wound, there is peer pressure to openly accept the papacy’s definition of the godhead, or to at least, without clarification, to imply that possibility. Yes, we must be very cautious in openly identifying with teachings of the papacy that deal with the nature and personality of God, such as the trinity and the human nature of Christ.

¹⁶ “2. The Trinity

“There is one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, a unity of three co-eternal Persons. God is immortal, all-powerful, all-knowing, above all, and ever present. He is infinite and beyond human comprehension, yet known through His self-revelation. God, who is love, is forever worthy of worship, adoration, and service by the whole creation. (Gen. 1:26; Deut. 6:4; Isa. 6:8; Matt. 28:19; John 3:16; 2 Cor. 1:21, 22; 13:14; Eph. 4:46; 1 Peter 1:2.)” 28 *Fundamental Beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church*, 3, 2015 Edition; Also *Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide*, Jan/Feb/Mar 2019, 108.

5. Ecumenical—Recognize Christ In Others: “The Global Christian Forum (GCF) emerged as a new and fresh initiative in the late twentieth century, responding to both the achievements and the limitations in the historical quest for Christian unity.” Its formation sprang from two defining events. The first was a “call for a new global initiative for Christian unity . . . in December 1998 at the 8th Assembly of the World Council of Churches (WCC) in Harare, Zimbabwe. . . .

The second “defining moment occurred in June, 2002, at Fuller Theological Seminary, a prominent Evangelical seminary in Pasadena (USA). Representatives of a wide range of global Christianity gathered”—an SDA Church representative participated. . . . “The love for one another that flowed from their recognition of Jesus Christ in each other led to full agreement in the midst of their dramatic diversity on a declaration of common purpose and faith. The new forum, they said, would be ‘an open space wherein representatives from a broad range of Christian churches and inter-church organizations, which confess the triune God [default Catholic Trinity] and Jesus Christ as perfect in His divinity and humanity [sinless human nature], can gather to foster mutual respect, to explore and address together common challenges.’ This declaration remains to this day the foundational statement of purpose and faith of the GCF.”

As of 2019, Seventh-Day Adventist Church General Conference representative, “Revd. Dr. Ganoune Diop” was one of some twenty-five members of the organization’s steering committee. See: <http://www.globalchristianforum.org/task-group.html> and <http://www.globalchristianforum.org/committee.html>

This forum is designed to “facilitate a broader and deeper pattern of relationships among all those who confess Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.” This is not a platform conducive for identifying mystery Babylon the Great and the giving of our distinctive scriptural beliefs. Our participation implies that our purposes are the same as those of the forum—to recognize the leading of Christ and the work of the Holy Spirit in all professed Christian faiths. This is not a step forward in sharing the true gospel to the whole world in order that Christ may return.

Yes, there may be issues with which we can cooperate, but we must not be enticed by threats, ridicule, or mockery to change any God-given belief, message, or practice. Yes, we can show ourselves to be friends, and in our friendship present to our fellow Christians, that the Three Angels’ Messages of Revelation 14:6-12 encapsulate God’s last messages to mankind—a call to cease imbibing of the wine of Babylon. Our friendship with fellow Christians is to give the call “Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.” Revelation 18:4

“Every device that the prince of darkness can suggest will be employed to induce God’s servants to form a confederacy with the agents of Satan. Repeated solicitations will come to call them from duty; but, like Nehemiah, they should steadfastly reply, ‘I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down.’ God’s workers may safely keep on with their work, letting their efforts refute the falsehoods that malice may coin for their injury. Like the builders on the walls of Jerusalem they must refuse to be diverted from their work by threats or mockery or falsehood.

“As the time of the end draws near, Satan’s temptations will be brought to bear with greater power upon God’s workers. He will employ human agents to mock and revile those who ‘build the wall.’ . . . They should endeavor to defeat the purposes of their adversaries, but they should not allow anything to call them from their work. . . .

“Neither should they allow their enemies to gain their friendship and sympathy, and thus lure them from their post of duty.” Ellen G. White, *Prophets and Kings*, 659.

The working of the above Global Christian Forum is a reflection of Pope Francis’ message to Catholics and Muslims in meetings in Morocco in March 2019. “Pope Francis told the tiny Catholic community in predominantly Muslim Morocco on Sunday that their mission was not to convert their neighbors but to live in brotherhood with other faiths.” “The Pope also stressed the need for inter-religious dialogue, saying people should resist ‘classifying ourselves according to different moral, social,

ethnic or religious criteria.” <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-pope-morocco/conversion-is-not-your-mission-pope-tells-catholics-in-morocco-idUSKCN1RC0EI>

Issues, as above, that encourage cooperation between nations and churches, condition them to more readily serve in the future as experienced tools to carry out Satan’s agenda of the end time. Clearly, we need to resist, and even extricate ourselves, from this world-wide web being spun by the Papacy to draw all into a one world religion. Rather than to “come together,” our task and message is to “come out” and “be separate.”

DELAYED EXPERIENCE OF GOD’S REMNANT PEOPLE

REVELATION 7 speaks of four angels holding back the winds of strife in the last days of earth’s history until the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads:

“And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. (2) And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, (3) Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. (4) And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.” **Revelation 7:1-4.**

A special group referred to as the “one hundred and forty and four thousand,” are eventually sealed. The resource materials, elsewhere in this publication, indicate that this sealing could have been completed, and Christ have come, as early as a few years after 1844, if God’s people had followed His leading. Instead, they lapsed back into the Laodicean condition of Revelation 3:14-22.

“We may have to remain here in this world because of insubordination many more years, as did the children of Israel, but for Christ’s sake, His people should not add sin to sin by charging God with the consequence of their own wrong course of action. Now, have men who claim to believe the Word of God learned their lesson that obedience is better than sacrifice?” *Spalding and Magan, Unpublished Manuscript Testimonies, 202.*

Sad, but true—our failure, individually and corporately, to be fully surrendered to Christ’s Scriptural and Spirit of Prophecy directives has prolonged His efforts to form this special one hundred and forty-four thousand group. This logjam has held up, as indicated by the four restraining angels, the flow of final events, ending with the return of Jesus. The reason of the long delay is because Jesus is not willing for we, His people, to perish:

“The long night of gloom is trying; but the morning is deferred in mercy, because if the Master should come, so many would be found unready. God’s unwillingness to have His people perish has been the reason for so long delay.” *Testimonies, vol. 2, 194.*

Earth dwellers will not know when this group is fully made up—sealed. Inspiration, elsewhere, tells us that this group will pass through a series of final events, ending with translation without seeing death, at Christ’s return. Fortunately, “the final movements will be rapid ones” (*Testimonies, vol. 9, 11*).

Though “rapid,” the final events will tend to begin in limited ways, and progress over time to their full extent, e.g. The group of sealed saints is not fully made up, nor the latter rain fully received, until Christ’s priestly ministry is completed. Also, the restraining work of the four angels does not fully cease until that time:

“When the third angel’s message closes, mercy no longer pleads for the guilty inhabitants of the earth. The people of God have accomplished their work. They have received ‘the latter rain,’ ‘the refreshing from the presence of the Lord,’ and they are prepared for the trying hour before them. Angels are hastening to and fro in heaven. An angel returning from the earth announces that his work is done; the

final test has been brought upon the world, and all who have proved themselves loyal to the divine precepts have received ‘the seal of the living God.’ Then Jesus ceases His intercession in the sanctuary above. He lifts His hands and with a loud voice says, ‘It is done;’ and all the angelic host lay off their crowns as He makes the solemn announcement: ‘He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.’ Revelation 22:11. Every case has been decided for life or death. Christ has made the atonement for His people and blotted out their sins. The number of His subjects is made up; ‘the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven,’ is about to be given to the heirs of salvation, and Jesus is to reign as King of kings and Lord of lords.” *The Great Controversy*, 613, 614.

“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.” *Early Writings*, 36

EVENTS OF THE END TIME

THE order of the following events is only a very rough attempt to indicate the sequence of the beginning of each one. Obviously, there will be much overlapping of the various events.

1. WITHDRAWAL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:

Increase of Natural Disasters—“The restraining Spirit of God is even now being withdrawn from the world. Hurricanes, storms, tempests, fire and flood, disasters by sea and land, follow each other in quick succession. Science seeks to explain all these. The signs thickening around us, telling of the near approach of the Son of God, are attributed to any other than the true cause. Men cannot discern the sentinel angels restraining the four winds that they shall not blow until the servants of God are sealed; but when God shall bid His angels loose the winds, there shall be such a scene of strife as no pen can picture.” *Testimonies*, vol. 6, 408.

“The time is at hand when there will be sorrow in the world that no human balm can heal. The Spirit of God is being withdrawn. Disasters by sea and by land follow one another in quick succession. How frequently we hear of earthquakes and tornadoes, of destruction by fire and flood, with great loss of life and property! Apparently these calamities are capricious outbreaks of disorganized, unregulated forces of nature, wholly beyond the control of man; but in them all, God’s purpose may be read. They are among the agencies by which He seeks to arouse men and women to a sense of their danger.” *Prophets and Kings*, 277.

Increase of Crime—“We are living in the midst of an ‘epidemic of crime,’ at which thoughtful, God-fearing men everywhere stand aghast. The corruption that prevails, it is beyond the power of the human pen to describe. Every day brings fresh revelations of political strife, bribery, and fraud. Every day brings its heart-sickening record of violence and lawlessness, of indifference to human suffering, of brutal, fiendish destruction of human life. Every day testifies to the increase of insanity, murder, and suicide. Who can doubt that satanic agencies are at work among men with increasing activity to distract and corrupt the mind, and defile and destroy the body?” *Ministry of Healing*, 142, 143.

Increase of Spiritual Darkness—“At the present time, when the end of all things earthly is rapidly approaching, Satan is putting forth desperate efforts to ensnare the world. He is devising many plans to occupy minds, and to divert attention from the truths essential to salvation. In every city his agencies are busily organizing into parties those who are opposed to the law of God. The archdeceiver is at work to introduce elements of confusion and rebellion, and men are being fired with a zeal that is not according to knowledge.” *The Acts of the Apostles*, 219.

“This is a time of spiritual darkness in the churches of the world. Ignorance of divine things has hidden God and the truth from view. The forces of evil are gathering in strength. Satan flatters his coworkers that he will do a work that will captivate the world. While partial inactivity has come upon the church, Satan

and his hosts are intensely active. The professed Christian churches are not converting the world; for they are themselves corrupted with selfishness and pride, and need to feel the converting power of God in their midst before they can lead others to a purer or higher standard.” *Testimonies*, vol. 9, 65.

Increase of Satan’s Skills—“The great controversy between good and evil will increase in intensity to the very close of time. In all ages the wrath of Satan has been manifested against the church of Christ; and God has bestowed His grace and Spirit upon His people to strengthen them to stand against the power of the evil one. When the apostles of Christ were to bear His gospel to the world and to record it for all future ages, they were especially endowed with the enlightenment of the Spirit. But as the church approaches her final deliverance, Satan is to work with greater power. He comes down ‘having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.’ Revelation 12:12. He will work ‘with all power and signs and lying wonders.’ 2 Thessalonians 2:9. For six thousand years that mastermind that once was highest among the angels of God has been wholly bent to the work of deception and ruin. And all the depths of satanic skill and subtlety acquired, all the cruelty developed, during these struggles of the ages, will be brought to bear against God’s people in the final conflict. And in this time of peril the followers of Christ are to bear to the world the warning of the Lord’s second advent; and a people are to be prepared to stand before Him at His coming, ‘without spot, and blameless.’ 2 Peter 3:14. At this time the special endowment of divine grace and power is not less needful to the church than in apostolic days.” *The Great Controversy*, ix.

2. RECEPTION OF THE LATTER RAIN

In contrast to the Holy Spirit being withdrawn from the world, the 144,000 receive a special, “latter rain,” outpouring of the Holy Spirit. This special blessing of the Holy Spirit will enable them to remain faithful to Christ through the end days when Satan perfects his greatest deceptions, and is allowed to exercise his greatest power to harass, threaten, and destroy. This latter rain also enables this group to confront, and unmask, Satan and his agents, through the “loud cry” preaching of the three angels’ messages of Revelation 14:6-12.

“But near the close of earth’s harvest, a special bestowal of spiritual grace is promised to prepare the church for the coming of the Son of man. This outpouring of the Spirit is likened to the falling of the latter rain; and it is for this added power that Christians are to send their petitions to the Lord of the harvest ‘in the time of the latter rain.’ In response, ‘the Lord shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain.’ ‘He will cause to come down . . . the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain,’ Zechariah 10:1; Joel 2:23.” *Acts of the Apostles*, 55.

“I heard those clothed with the armor speak forth the truth with great power. It had effect. Many had been bound; some wives by their husbands, and some children by their parents. The honest who had been prevented from hearing the truth now eagerly laid hold upon it. All fear of their relatives was gone, and the truth alone was exalted to them. They had been hungering and thirsting for truth; it was dearer and more precious than life. I asked what had made this great change. An angel answered, ‘It is the latter rain, the refreshing from the presence of the Lord, **the loud cry of the third angel.**’” *Early Writings*, 272.

“Only those who are living up to the light they have will receive greater light. Unless we are daily advancing in the exemplification of the active Christian virtues, we shall not recognize the manifestations of the Holy Spirit in the latter rain. It may be falling on hearts all around us, but we shall not discern or receive it.” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 507 (1897).

3. THE LOUD CRY

“I saw that God has honest children among the nominal Adventists and the fallen churches, and before the plagues shall be poured out, ministers and people will be called out from these churches and will gladly receive the truth. Satan knows this; and before the loud cry of the third angel is given, he raises an excitement in these religious bodies, that those who have rejected the truth may think that God

is with them. He hopes to deceive the honest and lead them to think that God is still working for the churches. But the light will shine, and all who are honest will leave the fallen churches, and take their stand with the remnant.” *Early Writings*, 261.

“The health reform, I was shown, is a part of the third angel’s message, and is just as closely connected with it as are the arm and hand with the human body. I saw that we as a people must make an advance move in this great work. Ministers and people must act in concert. God’s people are not prepared for the loud cry of the third angel. They have a work to do for themselves which they should not leave for God to do for them. He has left this work for them to do. It is an individual work; one cannot do it for another.” *Testimonies*, vol. 1, 486.

“Angels were sent to aid the mighty angel from heaven, and I heard voices which seemed to sound everywhere, ‘Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.’ This message seemed to be an addition to the third message, joining it as the midnight cry joined the second angel’s message in 1844. The glory of God rested upon the patient, waiting saints, and they fearlessly gave the last solemn warning, proclaiming the fall of Babylon and calling upon God’s people to come out of her that they might escape her fearful doom.” *Early Writings*, 277, 278.

4. NATIONAL SUNDAY LAW IN THE UNITED STATES

“A time is coming when the law of God is, in a special sense, to be made void in our land. The rulers of our nation will, by legislative enactments, enforce the Sunday law, and thus God’s people be brought into great peril. When our nation (the United States), in its legislative councils, shall enact laws to bind the consciences of men in regard to their religious privileges, enforcing Sunday observance, and bringing oppressive power to bear against those who keep the seventh-day Sabbath, the law of God will, to all intents and purposes, be made void in our land; and national apostasy will be followed by national ruin. We see that those who are now keeping the commandments of God need to bestir themselves, that they may obtain the special help which God alone can give them. They should work more earnestly to delay as long as possible the threatened calamity.” Ellen G. White, *The Review and Herald*, December 18, 1888.

“The time is not far distant, when, like the early disciples, we shall be forced to seek a refuge in desolate and solitary places. As the siege of Jerusalem by the Roman armies was the signal for flight to the Judean Christians, so the assumption of power on the part of our nation, in the decree enforcing the papal sabbath, will be a warning to us. It will then be time to leave the large cities, preparatory to leaving the smaller ones for retired homes in secluded places among the mountains.” *Testimonies*, vol. 5, 464, 465.

“By the decree of enforcing the institution of the Papacy in violation of the law of God, our nation will disconnect herself fully from righteousness. When Protestantism shall stretch her hand across the gulf to grasp the hand of the Roman power, when she shall reach over the abyss to clasp hands with Spiritualism, when, under the influence of this threefold union, our country shall repudiate every principle of its Constitution as a Protestant and Republican government, and shall make provision for the propagation of papal falsehoods and delusions, then we may know **that the time has come for the marvelous working of Satan**, and that the end is near.” *Ibid.*, 451.

5. THE IMAGE OF THE BEAST

“And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he (the Protestant World) had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. (15) And he had power to

give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.” Revelation 13:14, 15.

“All who will not bow to the decree of the national councils and obey the national laws to exalt the sabbath instituted by the man of sin, to the disregard of God’s holy day, will feel, not the oppressive power of popery alone, but of the Protestant world, the image of the beast.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 380.

“When the early church became corrupted by departing from the simplicity of the gospel and accepting heathen rites and customs, she lost the Spirit and power of God; and in order to control the consciences of the people, she sought the support of the secular power. The result was the papacy, a church that controlled the power of the state, and employed it to further her own ends, especially for the punishment of ‘heresy.’ In order for the United States to form an image of the beast, the religious power must so control the civil government that the authority of the state will also be employed by the church to accomplish her own ends. . . .” *The Great Controversy*, 443.

“The ‘image to the beast’ represents that form of apostate Protestantism which will be developed when the Protestant churches shall seek the aid of the civil power for the enforcement of their dogmas.” *Ibid.*, 443, 445.

“The Lord has shown me clearly that the image of the beast will be formed before probation closes, for it is to be the great test for the people of God, by which their eternal destiny will be decided.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 81.

6. THE MARK OF THE BEAST

“While the observance of the false sabbath in compliance with the law of the state, contrary to the fourth commandment, will be an avowal of allegiance to a power that is in opposition to God, the keeping of the true Sabbath, in obedience to God’s law, is an evidence of loyalty to the Creator. While one class, by accepting the sign of submission to earthly powers, receive the mark of the beast, the other, choosing the token of allegiance to divine authority, receive the seal of God.” *The Great Controversy*, 605.

“Sunday keeping is not yet the mark of the beast, and will not be until the decree goes forth causing men to worship this idol sabbath. The time will come when this day will be the test, but that time has not come yet.” *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 7, 977.

7. PERSECUTION

“As enmity is aroused in various places against those who observe the Sabbath of the Lord, it may become necessary for God’s people to move from those places to places where they will not be so bitterly opposed.” *Last Day Events*, 151.

“As the defenders of truth refuse to honor the Sunday-sabbath some of them will be thrust into prison, some will be exiled, some will be treated as slaves. To human wisdom all this now seems impossible, but as the restraining Spirit of God shall be withdrawn from men and they shall be under the control of Satan, who hates the divine precepts, there will be strange developments. The heart can be very cruel when God’s fear and love are removed.” *The Great Controversy*, 608.

“The time is coming when we cannot sell at any price. The decree will soon go forth prohibiting men to buy or sell of any man save him that hath the mark of the beast. We came near having this realized in California a short time since, but this was only the threatening of the blowing of the four winds. As yet they are held by the four angels. We are not just ready. There is a work yet to be done, and then the angels will be bidden to let go, that the four winds may blow upon the earth.” *Testimonies*, vol. 5, 152.

“The best thing for us is to come into close connection with God and, if He would have us be martyrs for the truth’s sake, it may be the means of bringing many more into the truth.” *Selected Messages*, book 3, 420.

“Many will be imprisoned, many will flee for their lives from cities and towns, and many will be martyrs for Christ’s sake in standing in defense of the truth.” *Ibid.*, 397.

“There is a prospect before us of a continued struggle, at the risk of imprisonment, loss of property and even of life itself, to defend the law of God.” *Testimonies*, vol. 5, 712.

“To meet the trials, perplexities, and persecution that are sure to come in various ways in regard to the Sabbath law, and to distinguish the path of duty clearly, will require intelligent knowledge of the Scriptures, much faith, and divine wisdom, for righteousness and truth will be darkened by error and false theories. We shall find that we must let loose of all hands except the hand of Jesus Christ. Friends will prove treacherous, and will betray us. Relatives, deceived by the enemy, will think they do God service in opposing us and putting forth the utmost efforts to bring us into hard places, hoping we will deny our faith. But we may trust our hand in the hand of Christ amid darkness and peril.” *Manuscript 21*, 1889, 12.

“He (Satan) is securing his army of human agents to engage in the last conflict against the Prince of life, to overthrow the law of God, which is the foundation of His throne. Satan will work with miraculous presentations to confirm people in the belief that he is what he claims to be—the prince of this world—and that victory is his. He will turn his forces against those who are loyal to God; but though he may cause pain, distress, and human agony, he cannot defile the soul. . . . The people of God in these last days must expect to enter into the thick of the conflict, for the prophetic Word says, ‘The dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.’ Letter 43, 1895.” Ellen G. White, *Review and Herald*, Oct. 29, 1895.

8. THE SHAKING

“Conscientious obedience to the word of God will be treated as rebellion. Blinded by Satan, the parent will exercise harshness and severity toward the believing child; the master or mistress will oppress the commandment-keeping servant. Affection will be alienated; children will be disinherited and driven from home. The words of Paul will be literally fulfilled: ‘All that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.’ 2 Timothy 3:12. As the defenders of truth refuse to honor the Sunday-sabbath, some of them will be thrust into prison, some will be exiled, some will be treated as slaves. To human wisdom all this now seems impossible; but as the restraining Spirit of God shall be withdrawn from men, and they shall be under the control of Satan, who hates the divine precepts, there will be strange developments. The heart can be very cruel when God’s fear and love are removed.

“As the storm approaches, a large class who have professed faith in the third angel’s message, but have not been sanctified through obedience to the truth, abandon their position, and join the ranks of the opposition. By uniting with the world and partaking of its spirit, they have come to view matters in nearly the same light; and when the test is brought, they are prepared to choose the easy, popular side. Men of talent and pleasing address, who once rejoiced in the truth, employ their powers to deceive and mislead souls. They become the most bitter enemies of their former brethren.” *The Great Controversy*, 608.

“We are in the shaking time, the time when everything that can be shaken will be shaken. The Lord will not excuse those who know the truth if they do not in word and deed obey His commands.” *Testimonies*, vol. 6, 332.

“I asked the meaning of the shaking I had seen and was shown that it would be caused by the straight testimony called forth by the counsel of the True Witness to the Laodiceans. This will have its effect upon the heart of the receiver, and will lead him to exalt the standard and pour forth the straight truth. Some will not bear this straight testimony. They will rise up against it, and this is what will cause a shaking among God’s people.” *Early Writings*, 270.

“The time is not far distant when the test will come to every soul. The mark of the beast will be urged upon us. Those who have step by step yielded to worldly demands and conformed to worldly customs will not find it a hard matter to yield to the powers that be, rather than subject themselves to

derision, insult, threatened imprisonment, and death. The contest is between the commandments of God and the commandments of men. In this time the gold will be separated from the dross in the church.” *Testimonies*, vol. 5, 81.

“When the religion of Christ is most held in contempt, when His law is most despised, then should our zeal be the warmest and our courage and firmness the most unflinching. To stand in defense of truth and righteousness when the majority forsake us, to fight the battles of the Lord when champions are few—this will be our test. At this time we must gather warmth from the coldness of others, courage from their cowardice, and loyalty from their treason.” *Ibid.*, 136

“Satan and his angels will appear on this earth as men, and will mingle with those of whom God’s Word says, ‘Some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.’ (1 Timothy 4:1.)—Letter 147, 1903, p. 3. (To Brother and Sister Farnsworth, July 14, 1903.)” *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 8, 345.

9. CHRIST TAKES THE REINS

“Unless those who can help in _____ are aroused to a sense of their duty, they will not recognize the work of God when the loud cry of the third angel shall be heard. When light goes forth to lighten the earth, instead of coming up to the help of the Lord, they will want to bind about His work to meet their narrow ideas. Let me tell you that the Lord will work in this last work in a manner very much out of the common order of things, and in a way that will be contrary to any human planning. There will be those among us who will always want to control the work of God, to dictate even what movements shall be made when the work goes forward under the direction of the angel who joins the third angel in the message to be given to the world. God will use ways and means by which it will be seen that He is taking the reins in His own hands. The workers will be surprised by the simple means that He will use to bring about and perfect His work of righteousness.” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 300.

“He will raise up from among the common people men and women to do His work, even as of old He called fishermen to be His disciples. There will soon be an awakening that will surprise many. Those who do not realize the necessity of what is to be done will be passed by, and the heavenly messengers will work with those who are called the common people, fitting them to carry the truth to many places.” *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 15, 312.

“As the time comes for it [the third angel’s message] to be given with greatest power, the Lord will work through humble instruments, leading the minds of those who consecrate themselves to His service. The laborers will be qualified rather by the unction of His Spirit than by the training of literary institutions. Men of faith and prayer will be constrained to go forth with holy zeal, declaring the words which God gives them.” *The Great Controversy*, 606.

“When divine power is combined with human effort, the work will spread like fire in the stubble. God will employ agencies whose origin man will be unable to discern. Angels will do a work which men might have had the blessing of accomplishing had they not neglected to answer the claims of God.” *Selected Messages*, book 1, 118

10. THROUGHOUT CHRISTENDOM

The end time great conflict between the forces of Christ and Satan develop, and ripen first, throughout Christendom.

“In the issue of the contest all Christendom will be divided into two great classes—those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, and those who worship the beast and his image and receive his mark. Although church and state will unite their power to compel ‘all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond’ (Revelation 13:16), to receive ‘the mark of the beast,’ yet the people of God will not receive it. The prophet of Patmos beholds ‘them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the

sea of glass, having the harps of God' and singing the song of Moses and the Lamb.' Revelation 15:2, 3." *The Great Controversy*, 450.

"As the Sabbath has become the special point of controversy throughout Christendom, and religious and secular authorities have combined to enforce the observance of the Sunday, the persistent refusal of a small minority to yield to the popular demand will make them objects of universal execration. It will be urged that the few who stand in opposition to an institution of the church and a law of the state ought not to be tolerated; that it is better for them to suffer than for whole nations to be thrown into confusion and lawlessness. The same argument eighteen hundred years ago was brought against Christ by the 'rulers of the people.' 'It is expedient for us,' said the wily Caiaphas, 'that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not.' John 11:50. This argument will appear conclusive; and a decree will finally be issued against those who hallow the Sabbath of the fourth commandment, denouncing them as deserving of the severest punishment and giving the people liberty, after a certain time, to put them to death. Romanism in the Old World and apostate Protestantism in the New will pursue a similar course toward those who honor all the divine precepts." *Ibid.*, 615, 616.

"As the decree issued by the various rulers of Christendom against commandment keepers shall withdraw the protection of government and abandon them to those who desire their destruction, the people of God will flee from the cities and villages and associate together in companies, dwelling in the most desolate and solitary places. Many will find refuge in the strongholds of the mountains. Like the Christians of the Piedmont valleys, they will make the high places of the earth their sanctuaries and will thank God for 'the munitions of rocks.' Isaiah 33:16. But many of all nations and of all classes, high and low, rich and poor, black and white, will be cast into the most unjust and cruel bondage. The beloved of God pass weary days, bound in chains, shut in by prison bars, sentenced to be slain, some apparently left to die of starvation in dark and loathsome dungeons. No human ear is open to hear their moans; no human hand is ready to lend them help." *Ibid.*, 626.

"The Bible declares that before the coming of the Lord, Satan will work 'with *all* power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness;' and they that 'received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved,' will be left to receive 'strong delusion, that they should believe a lie.' 2 Thessalonians 2:9-11. Not until this condition shall be reached, and the union of the church with the world shall be fully accomplished throughout Christendom, will the fall of Babylon be complete. The change is a progressive one, and the perfect fulfillment of Revelation 14:8 is yet future." *Ibid.*, 389, 390. *Emphasis in the original.*

11. SATAN PERSONATES CHRIST

Inspiration implies that after the image to the beast is in operation throughout Christendom, with Sunday laws in place, that Satan will take open leadership of his forces by personating Christ. This great delusion will solidify apostate Christianity in their drunkenness with the papal wine. But his goal is greater still—the conversion of the immense, non-Christian (Pagan) religions (the whole world) to Catholicism, at least to Sunday sacredness. To help make Sunday worship universal, he will use miracles, and the personation of past religious leaders as best serves his purpose.

"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. This union is cemented by the great apostate." *Testimonies*, vol. 7, 182.

"Satan sees that he is about to lose his case. He cannot sweep in the whole world. He makes one last desperate effort to overcome the faithful by deception. He does this in personating Christ. He clothes himself with the garments of royalty which have been accurately described in the vision of John. He has power to do this. He will appear to his deluded followers, the Christian world who received not the love of the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness (transgression of the law), as Christ coming the second time." *Last Day Events*, 164.

“As the crowning act in the great drama of deception, Satan himself will personate Christ. The church has long professed to look to the Saviour’s advent as the consummation of her hopes. Now the great deceiver will make it appear that Christ has come. In different parts of the earth, Satan will manifest himself among men as a majestic being of dazzling brightness, resembling the description of the Son of God given by John in the Revelation. Revelation 1:13-15. The glory that surrounds him is unsurpassed by anything that mortal eyes have yet beheld. The shout of triumph rings out upon the air: ‘Christ has come! Christ has come!’ The people prostrate themselves in adoration before him, while he lifts up his hands and pronounces a blessing upon them, as Christ blessed His disciples when He was upon the earth. His voice is soft and subdued, yet full of melody. In gentle, compassionate tones he presents some of the same gracious, heavenly truths which the Saviour uttered; he heals the diseases of the people, and then, in his assumed character of Christ, he claims to have changed the Sabbath to Sunday, and commands all to hallow the day which he has blessed. He declares that those who persist in keeping holy the seventh day are blaspheming his name by refusing to listen to his angels sent to them with light and truth. This is the strong, almost overmastering delusion. Like the Samaritans who were deceived by Simon Magus, the multitudes, from the least to the greatest, give heed to these sorceries, saying: This is ‘the great power of God.’ Acts 8:10.

“But the people of God will not be misled. The teachings of this false christ are not in accordance with the Scriptures. His blessing is pronounced upon the worshipers of **the beast and his image**, the very class upon whom the Bible declares that God’s unmingled wrath shall be poured out.

“And, furthermore, Satan is not permitted to counterfeit the manner of Christ’s advent.” *The Great Controversy*, 624, 625.

“Here it was [that] the masterly effort of Satan would have deceived the very elect. But who were the ones blessed by him? Whom did he make glad? Whom did he honor? The combined powers of earth, the churches fallen by rejecting light and the messages of mercy Heaven had sent to heal Babylon but she refused. (Christ had declared the friendship of the world was enmity with God. Whosoever would be a friend of the world was the enemy of God.) The papal power, the man of sin which thought to change times and laws, that had presented a rival sabbath to the world to be worshiped, the apostate power who sits in the temple of God showing himself that he is God, the power that drank the blood of the saints is united with the Protestant churches, having two horns like a lamb but speaks as a dragon; the deceptions of spiritualism which have perpetuated Satan’s lie uttered in Eden, ‘Thou shalt not surely die’ [Genesis 3:4]—all these are bound up in bundles, a corrupt harmony under a corrupt leader. The blessing is pronounced by this false christ upon the worshipers of the beast and his image, [the people] who have received the mark of the beast and the mark of the image of the beast.” *Manuscript 16*, 1884, paragraph 3.

“While appearing to the children of men as a great physician who can heal all their maladies, he will bring disease and disaster, until populous cities are reduced to ruin and desolation. Even now he is at work. In accidents and calamities by sea and by land, in great conflagrations, in fierce tornadoes and terrific hail-storms, in tempests, floods, cyclones, tidal waves, and earthquakes, in every place and in a thousand forms, Satan is exercising his power. He sweeps away the ripening harvest, and famine and distress follow. He imparts to the air a deadly taint, and thousands perish by the pestilence. These visitations are to become more and more frequent and disastrous. Destruction will be upon both man and beast. ‘The earth mourneth and fadeth away,’ ‘the haughty people . . . do languish. The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant’ (Isaiah 24:4, 5).” *The Great Controversy*, 589, 590.

“I saw that soon it would be considered blasphemy to speak against the rapping, and that it would spread more and more, that Satan’s power would increase and some of his devoted followers would have power to work miracles and even to bring down fire from heaven in the sight of men.” *Early Writings*, 59.

“Wonderful scenes, with which Satan will be closely connected, will soon take place. God’s Word declares that Satan will work miracles. He will make people sick, and then will suddenly remove from them his satanic power. They will then be regarded as healed. These works of apparent healing will

bring Seventh-day Adventists to the test. Many who have had great light will fail to walk in the light, because they have not become one with Christ. His instruction is not palatable to them.” *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 19, 358.

12. DECEASED FRIENDS & RELIGIOUS LEADERS PERSONATED

“I saw that the saints must get a thorough understanding of the present truth, which they will have to maintain from the Scriptures. They must understand the state of the dead; for the spirits of devils will yet appear to them, professing to be beloved friends and relatives, who will declare to them that the Sabbath has been changed, and, also, other unscriptural doctrines. They will do all in their power to excite sympathy, and work miracles before them, to confirm what they declare. The people of God must be prepared to withstand these spirits with the Bible truth, that the dead know not any thing, and that they are the spirits of devils. Our minds must not be taken up with things around us, but must be occupied with the present truth, and a preparation to give a reason of our hope with meekness and fear. We must seek wisdom from on high that we may stand in this day of error and delusion.

“I saw that we must examine well the foundation of our hope, for we shall have to give a reason for it from the scriptures; for we shall see this delusion spreading, and we shall have to contend with it face to face. . . .

“He who is the father of lies, blinds and deceives the world by sending his angels forth to speak for the apostles, and make it appear that they contradict what they wrote when on earth, which was dictated by the Holy Ghost. These lying angels make the apostles to corrupt their own teachings and declare them to be adulterated. By so doing he can throw professed Christians, who have a name to live and are dead, and all the world in uncertainty about the word of God; for that cuts directly across his track, and is likely to thwart his plans. Therefore he gets them to doubt the divine origin of the Bible, and then sets up the infidel Thomas Paine, as though he was ushered into heaven when he died, and with the holy apostles whom he hated on earth, is united, and appears to be teaching the world.

“Satan assigns each one of his angels their part to act. He enjoins upon them to be cunning, artful and sly. **He instructs some of them to act the part of the apostles, and speak for them, while others are to act out infidels and wicked men who died cursing God, but now appear to be very religious.** There is no difference made between the most holy apostles and the vilest infidel.” Ellen G. White, *Supplement to the Christian Experience and Views of Ellen G. White*, 5-9.

13. A TIME OF TROUBLE

“On page 33 [of Early Writings] is given the following: ‘. . . At the commencement of the time of trouble, we were filled with the Holy Ghost as we went forth and proclaimed the Sabbath more fully.’

“This view was given in 1847 when there were but very few of the Advent brethren observing the Sabbath, and of these but few supposed that its observance was of sufficient importance to draw a line between the people of God and unbelievers. Now the fulfillment of that view is beginning to be seen. ‘The commencement of that time of trouble,’ here mentioned, does not refer to the time when the plagues shall begin to be poured out, but to a short period just before they are poured out, while Christ is in the sanctuary. At that time, while the work of salvation is closing, trouble will be coming on the earth, and the nations will be angry, yet held in check so as not to prevent the work of the third angel.” *Early Writings*, 85, 86.

“A great crisis awaits the people of God. Very soon our nation will attempt to enforce upon all the observance of the first day of the week as a sacred day. In doing this they will not scruple to compel men against the voice of their own conscience to observe the day the nation declares to be the Sabbath.” Ellen G. White, *Review and Herald*, Extra, Dec. 11, 1888.

“When the power invested in kings is allied to goodness, it is because the one in responsibility is under the divine dictation. When power is allied with wickedness, it is allied to Satanic agencies, and it will work to destroy those who are the Lord’s property. The Protestant world have set up an idol sabbath in the place where God’s Sabbath should be, and they are treading in the footsteps of the Papacy. For this reason I see the necessity of the people of God moving out of the cities into retired country [places,] where they may cultivate the land and raise their own produce. Thus they may bring their children up with simple, healthful habits. I see the necessity of making haste to get all things ready for the crisis. Letter 90, 1897.” *Country Living*, 21.

14. UNIVERSAL WAR AGAINST TRUTH

“It is the lying wonders of the devil that will take the world captive, and he will cause fire to come down from heaven in the sight of men. He is to work miracles, and this wonderful, miracle-working power is to sweep in the whole world.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 51.

“The enemy is preparing to deceive the whole world by his miracle-working power. He will assume to personate the angels of light, to personate Jesus Christ.” *Ibid.*, 96.

“We are approaching the end of this earth’s history, and Satan is working as never before. He is striving to act as director of the Christian world. With an intensity that is marvelous he is working with his lying wonders. Satan is represented as walking about as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. He desires to embrace the whole world in his confederacy. Hiding his deformity under the garb of Christianity, he assumes the attributes of a Christian, and claims to be Christ Himself.” *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 8, 346.

“He (Christ) commands His servants to present the last invitation of mercy to the world. They cannot remain silent, except at the peril of their souls. Christ’s ambassadors have nothing to do with consequences. They must perform their duty and leave results with God.

“As the opposition rises to a fiercer height, the servants of God are again perplexed; for it seems to them that they have brought the crisis. But conscience and the word of God assure them that their course is right; and although the trials continue, they are strengthened to bear them. The contest grows closer and sharper, but their faith and courage rise with the emergency. . . .

“So long as Jesus remains man’s intercessor in the sanctuary above, the restraining influence of the Holy Spirit is felt by rulers and people. It still controls to some extent the laws of the land. Were it not for these laws, the condition of the world would be much worse than it now is. While many of our rulers are active agents of Satan, God also has His agents among the leading men of the nation. The enemy moves upon his servants to propose measures that would greatly impede the work of God; but statesmen who fear the Lord are influenced by holy angels to oppose such propositions with unanswerable arguments. Thus a few men will hold in check a powerful current of evil. The opposition of the enemies of truth will be restrained that the third angel’s message may do its work. . . .

“The angel who unites in the proclamation of the third angel’s message is to lighten the whole earth with his glory. **A work of world-wide extent and unwonted power is here foretold.** The advent movement of 1840-44 was a glorious manifestation of the power of God; the first angel’s message was carried to every missionary station in the world, and in some countries there was the greatest religious interest which has been witnessed in any land since the Reformation of the sixteenth century; but these are to be exceeded by the mighty movement under the last warning of the third angel.” *The Great Controversy*, 609-611.

“Important are the lessons to be learned from the experience of the Hebrew youth on the plain of Dura. In this our day, many of God’s servants, though innocent of wrongdoing, will be given over to suffer humiliation and abuse at the hands of those who, inspired by Satan are filled with envy and religious bigotry. Especially will the wrath of man be aroused against those who hallow the Sabbath of

the fourth commandment; and at last a universal decree will denounce these as deserving of death.” *Prophets and Kings*, 512.

“The Sabbath of the fourth commandment, sanctified by God, was given to man as the memorial of the creation of the world and all things therein. Ever since the institution of the Sabbath in Eden, Satan has made a determined effort to destroy this memorial, and in its stead to institute a spurious sabbath, in order that the memorial of God’s great and wonderful works might be lost from the mind, and there be brought about a worldwide apostasy against God’s law. He well knows that, by leading men and women to disregard the fourth commandment, he has placed them on his side of the controversy; for God says, ‘Whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.’—Manuscript 24, 1891, 7.” *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 5, 88.

“The so-called Christian world is to be the theater of great and decisive actions. Men in authority will enact laws controlling the conscience, after the example of the papacy. Babylon will make all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. Every nation will be involved. Of this time John the Revelator declares: [Revelation 18:3-7; 17:13, 14, quoted]. ‘These have one mind.’ There will be a universal bond of union, one great harmony, a confederacy of Satan’s forces. ‘And shall give their power and strength unto the beast.’ Thus is manifested the same arbitrary, oppressive power against religious liberty—freedom to worship God according to the dictates of conscience—as was manifested by the papacy, when in the past it persecuted those who dared to refuse to conform with the religious rites and ceremonies of Romanism.” *Selected Messages*, book 3, 392.

“History will be repeated. False religion will be exalted. The first day of the week, a common working day, possessing no sanctity whatever, will be set up as was the image of Babylon. All nations and tongues and peoples will be commanded to worship this spurious sabbath. . . . The decree enforcing the worship of this day is to go forth to all the world.” *Last Day Events*, 134, 135.

“The wicked . . . declared that they had the truth, that miracles were among them, that angels from heaven talked with them and walked with them, that great power and signs and wonders were performed among them, and that this was the temporal millennium that they had been expecting so long. The whole world was converted and in harmony with the Sunday law.” *Selected Messages*, 427, 428.

“The whole world is to be stirred with enmity against Seventh-day Adventists because they will not yield homage to the papacy by honoring Sunday, the institution of this antichristian power.” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 37.

“Those who trample upon God’s law make human laws which they will force the people to accept. Men will devise and counsel and plan what they will do. The whole world keeps Sunday, they say, and why should not this people, who are so few in number, do according to the laws of the land?—Ms 163, 1897.” *Last Day Events*, 136.

15. THREE UNCLEAN SPIRITS

“And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. (14) For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.” Revelation 16:13-14.

“When Protestantism shall stretch her hand across the gulf to grasp the hand of the Roman power, when she shall reach over the abyss to clasp hands with spiritualism, when, under the influence of this threefold union, our country shall repudiate every principle of its Constitution as a Protestant and republican government and shall make provision for the propagation of papal falsehoods and delusions, then we may know that the time has come for the marvelous working of Satan and that the end is near.” *Testimonies*, vol. 5, 451

“Satan has long been preparing for his final effort to deceive the world. The foundation of his work was laid by the assurance given to Eve in Eden: ‘Ye shall not surely die.’ ‘In the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.’ Genesis 3:4, 5. Little by little he has prepared the way for his masterpiece of deception in the development of spiritualism. He has not yet reached the full accomplishment of his designs; but it will be reached in the last remnant of time. Says the prophet: ‘I saw three unclean spirits like frogs; . . . they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.’ Revelation 16:13, 14. Except those who are kept by the power of God, through faith in His word, the whole world will be swept into the ranks of this delusion. The people are fast being lulled to a fatal security, to be awakened only by the outpouring of the wrath of God.” *The Great Controversy*, 561, 562.

“Papists, Protestants, and worldling will alike accept the form of godliness without the power, and they will see in this union a grand movement for the conversion of the world and the ushering in of the long-expected millennium.” *Maranatha*, 190.

16. DEATH DECREE

What develops first in Christendom, eventually, spreads to “all nations.”

“As the decree issued by the various rulers of Christendom against commandment keepers shall withdraw the protection of government, and abandon them to those who desire their destruction, the people of God will flee from the cities and villages and associate together in companies, dwelling in the most desolate and solitary places. Many will find refuge in the strongholds of the mountains. . . . But many of all nations and of all classes, high and low, rich and poor, black and white, will be cast into the most unjust and cruel bondage. The beloved of God pass weary days bound in chains, shut in by prison bars, sentenced to be slain, some apparently left to die of starvation in dark and loathsome dungeons.” *The Great Controversy*, 626.

“Though a general decree has fixed the time when commandment keepers may be put to death, their enemies will in some cases anticipate the decree, and before the time specified, will endeavor to take their lives. But none can pass the mighty guardians stationed about every faithful soul. Some are assailed in their flight from the cities and villages; but the swords raised against them break and fall powerless as a straw. Others are defended by angels in the form of men of war.” *Ibid.*, 631.

“I saw the leading men of the earth consulting together, and Satan and his angels busy around them. I saw a writing, copies of which were scattered in different parts of the land, giving orders that unless the saints should yield their peculiar faith, give up the Sabbath, and observe the first day of the week, the people were at liberty after a certain time, to put them to death.” *Early Writings*, 282, 283.

“In the day of fierce trial he (Christ) will say, ‘Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee; hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast.’ What are the chambers in which they are to hide? They are the protection of Christ and holy angels. The people of God are not at this time all in one place. They are in different companies, and in all parts of the earth; and they will be tried singly, not in groups. Every one must stand the test for himself.” *Historical Sketches*, 158.

17. TURKEY TO JERUSALEM

“And he (the king of the north) shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.” Daniel 11:45

Our earlier study, using the historicist method,¹⁷ led to the conclusion that Muslim Turkey, has been, since its capture of Constantinople in A.D. 1554, the king of the North of Daniel 11:40-45. Thus at some point in the future, we can expect Turkey to place its religio-political headquarters in Jerusalem between the Mediterranean and Dead seas. The result of such activity is said to be the end of the nation, for its former “friends” will not help it.

“And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.” Daniel 12:1

Thus, the continuation of the prophecy into chapter 12:1 speaks of Michael (Christ) standing up some undefined time after Turkey comes to its end. This refers to the close of human probation, when Christ states, “He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still” (Revelation 22:11). This verse 1, also speaks of the great time of trouble during which Michael will protect, and eventually deliver, His faithful saints from.

“From age to age the Lord has made known the manner of His working. When a crisis has come, He has revealed Himself, and has interposed to hinder the working out of Satan’s plans. With nations, with families, and with individuals, He has often permitted matters to come to a crisis, that His interference might become marked. Then He has made manifest that there is a God in Israel who will maintain His law and vindicate His people.” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, 178.

Our further study will attempt to shed light on the purposes, and impact of Turkey’s role in the final events of this earth.

18. DEADLY WOUND FULLY HEALED

“The prophecy of Revelation 13 declares that the power represented by the beast with lamblike horns shall cause ‘the earth and them which dwell therein’ to worship the papacy—there symbolized by the beast ‘like unto a leopard.’ The beast with two horns is also to say ‘to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast’ and, furthermore, it is to command all, ‘both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond,’ to receive the mark of the beast. Revelation 13:11-16. It has been shown that the United States is the power represented by the beast with lamblike horns, and that this prophecy will be fulfilled when the United States shall enforce Sunday observance, which Rome claims as the special acknowledgment of her supremacy. But in this homage to the papacy the United States will not be alone.

¹⁷ Christian Historicism is a method of interpretation of biblical prophecies which associates symbols with historical persons, nations or events. The main primary texts of interest to Christian historicists include apocalyptic literature, such as the Book of Daniel and the Book of Revelation. It sees the prophecies of Daniel as being fulfilled throughout history, extending from the past through the present to the future. It is sometimes called the continuous historical view. Commentators have also applied historicist methods to ancient Jewish history, to the Roman Empire, to Islam, to the Papacy, to the Modern era, and to the end time.

“The historicist method starts with Daniel 2 and works progressively through consecutive prophecies of the book—chapters 7, 8 and 11—resulting in a view of Daniel’s prophecies very different from preterism and futurism. According to William Shea, Antiochus is thus scaled down to a very modest subheading under the Greek kingdom. ‘This is the most ancient system of interpretation in both Jewish and Christian traditions. So far it is the only one which respects the historical intention of the biblical author as such. The preterist approach makes the Bible lie, the futurist approach makes the Bible a work of science fiction; neither one seriously takes the historical data into account.’” [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Historicism_\(Christianity\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Historicism_(Christianity))

Numbers eleven and thirteen of “William Miller’s Rules of Interpretation,” read thusly:

“11. How to know when a word is used figuratively: If it makes good sense as it stands, and does no violence to the simple laws of nature, then it must be understood literally; if not, figuratively. Revelation 12:1,2;17:3-7.

“13. To know whether we have the true historical event for the fulfillment of a prophecy: If you find every word of the prophecy (after the figures are understood) is literally fulfilled, then you may know that your history is the true event. But if one word lacks a fulfillment, then you must look for another event, or wait its future development. For God takes care that history and prophecy both agree, so that the true, believing children of God may never be ashamed. Psalms 21:5; Isaiah 14:17-19; 1 Peter 2:6; Revelation 17:17; Acts 3:18.” *Miller’s Works*, Vol. 1, 22.

The influence of Rome in the countries that once acknowledged her dominion is still far from being destroyed. And prophecy foretells a restoration of her power. 'I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.' Verse 3. The infliction of the deadly wound points to the downfall 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 2:3-8. To the very close of time he will carry forward the 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, the papacy will receive homage in the honor paid to the Sunday institution, that rests solely upon the authority of the Roman Church." *The Great Controversy*, 578, 579.

"Strange, eventful history is being recorded in the books of heaven. Everything in our world is in agitation. Events are changing to bring about the day of God, which hasteth greatly. The world is filled with storm and war and variance. **Under one head, the papal power**, it has united to oppose God in the person of His faithful witnesses. This union is cemented by the great apostate. All jealousy, evil surmising, and evil speaking are of him, and tend to produce discord and disunion. Then shall God's people be at variance with one another? Shall they not be cemented together by the Holy Spirit, each worker filled with love and sympathy for his fellow-worker, each filling his appointment with faithful effort, seeking earnestly to prepare the way of the Lord? In the general discord there should be one place where harmony and unity should exist because the Bible is the guide. . . .

"The sword of the Spirit, which cuts both ways, is to be in the hands of God's servants. His inspiration is to be upon them, leading them all to speak as the voice of one." Ellen G. White, *Signs of the Times*, February 7, 1900.

"If the minds of the people of God were not occupied with things of minor consequence, they would see that the signs of the times are fast fulfilling, and that events of the greatest consequence to them are taking place in the world and in the churches pointed out by the words, '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.'" Ellen G. White, *Bible Training School*, December 1, 1902.

"A day of great intellectual darkness has been shown to be favorable to the success of popery. It will yet be demonstrated that a day of great intellectual light is equally favorable for its success." *The Spirit of Prophecy*, vol. 4, 390.

19. PROBATION CLOSES

"I saw angels hurrying to and fro in heaven. An angel with a writer's inkhorn by his side returned from the earth and reported to Jesus that his work was done, and the saints were numbered and sealed. Then I saw Jesus, who had been ministering before the ark containing the ten commandments, throw down the censer. He raised His hands, and with a loud voice said, 'It is done.'" *Early Writings*, 279.

"Just before we entered it [the time of trouble], we all received the seal of the living God. Then I saw the four angels cease to hold the four winds. And I saw famine, pestilence and sword, nation rose against nation, and the whole world was in confusion." *Last Day Events*, 228.

"Only a moment of time, as it were, yet remains. But while already nation is rising against nation and kingdom against kingdom, there is not now a general engagement. As yet the four winds are held until the servants of God shall be sealed in their foreheads. Then the powers of earth will marshal their forces for the last great battle." *Testimonies*, vol. 6.

"When the irrevocable decision of the sanctuary has been pronounced, and the destiny of the world has been forever fixed, the inhabitants of the earth will know it not. The forms of religion will be continued by a people from whom the Spirit of God has been finally withdrawn, and the satanic zeal

with which the prince of evil will inspire them for the accomplishment of his malignant designs, will bear the semblance of zeal for God.” *The Great Controversy*, 615.

“Christ declared that when He comes some of His waiting people will be engaged in business transactions. Some will be sowing in the field, others reaping and gathering in the harvest, and others grinding at the mill.—Ms 26, 1901.” *Last Day Events*, 231.

“As Satan influenced Esau to march against Jacob, so he will stir up the wicked to destroy God’s people in the time of trouble. . . . He sees that holy angels are guarding them, and he infers that their sins have been pardoned, but he does not know that their cases have been decided in the sanctuary above.” *The Great Controversy*, 618.

20. THE BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON WITH THE SEVEN LAST PLAGUES

Once every individual has had an opportunity to intelligently choose whether to obey God as presented in the Three Angels’ Messages, or to accept the papal doctrines—wine of Babylon, the doctrine of devils,—probation closes and the world enters the intensified climax of the warfare between the forces of good and of evil. This final warfare is referred to as “The Battle of Armageddon,” and is interrupted by the death of the wicked followers of “Babylon the Great” at Christ’s second coming, but resumed at the end of the millennium by the great white throne judgment and the lake of fire.

The period till Christ’s return, is referred to for the righteous, as “The Time of Jacob’s Trouble;” for the wicked it is the time of “The Seven Last Plagues.”

The time of Jacob’s trouble is a test of the faith and character of the saints, and a demonstration of their worthiness of salvation. God’s law and government are vindicated through the perfect obedience of the saints. Having lived a past life of open sin, their now perfect obedience enabled by their Holy Spirit transformed characters, document beyond question that God’s law/character is “holy, and just, and good” (Romans 7:12), and may be perfectly kept by any who are truly willing.

The plagues upon the wicked, of Revelation 16, serve several purposes:

1. They reveal to the wicked that they are indeed on the losing side of the contest as warned by the three angels’ messages. The fifth plague (Revelation 16:10) of darkness upon the seat of the beast, pin-points the papacy as, indeed, the antichrist power of scripture. As this truth dawns upon the doomed wicked, their support of the papacy, and her cohorts, in Mystery Babylon the Great dries up and they burn her with fire. This is the drying up of the “great river Euphrates” of the sixth plague (Revelation 16:12). See chapters 17 and 18 of Revelation.

2. They reveal to the wicked, to the righteous, to the entire universe, the irreversible intensity of the rebellion of the wicked, and the justness of their punishment. This is shown especially by the response of the wicked to the fourth and fifth plagues—of their “blaspheming” of God, and their “repenting not.”

“The battle of Armageddon is soon to be fought. He on whose vesture is written the name, King of kings, and Lord of lords, is soon to lead forth the armies of heaven.” *Testimonies*, vol. 6, 406.

“The Lord God of Israel is to execute judgment upon the gods of this world as upon the gods of Egypt. With fire and flood, plagues and earthquakes, He will spoil the whole land. Then His redeemed people will exalt His name and make it glorious in the earth. Shall not those who are living in the last remnant of this earth’s history become intelligent in regard to God’s lessons?” *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 10, 240, 241.

“Only a moment of time, as it were, yet remains. But while already nation is rising against nation and kingdom against kingdom, there is not now a general engagement. As yet the four winds are held until the servants of God shall be sealed in their foreheads. Then the powers of earth will marshal their forces for the last great battle.” *Testimonies*, vol. 6, 14.

“The world is soon to be left by the angel of mercy and the seven last plagues are to be poured out. . . . The bolts of God’s wrath are soon to fall, and when He shall begin to punish the transgressors there will be no period of respite until the end.” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 182.

“Satan will then plunge the inhabitants of the earth into one great, final trouble. As the angels of God cease to hold in check the fierce winds of human passion, all the elements of strife will be let loose. The whole world will be involved in ruin more terrible than that which came upon Jerusalem of old.” *The Great Controversy*, 614.

“The battle of Armageddon will be fought. And that day must find none of us sleeping. Wide awake we must be, as wise virgins having oil in our vessels with our lamps. The power of the Holy Ghost must be upon us and the Captain of the Lord’s host will stand at the head of the angels of heaven to direct the battle. Solemn events before us are yet to transpire. Trumpet after trumpet is to be sounded; vial after vial poured out one after another upon the inhabitants of the earth. Scenes of stupendous interest are right upon us and these things will be sure indications of the presence of Him who has directed in every aggressive movement, who has accompanied the march of His cause through all the ages, and who has graciously pledged Himself to be with His people in all their conflicts to the end of the world. He will vindicate His truth. He will cause it to triumph. He is ready to supply His faithful ones with motives and power of purpose, inspiring them with hope and courage and valor in increased activity as the time is at hand.” *Selected Messages*, book 3, 426.

Spirit Manifestations Unmasked

“When these spiritualistic deceptions are revealed to be what they really are—the secret workings of evil spirits—those who have acted a part in them will become as men who have lost their minds.—Letter 311, 1905, p. 5. (To Brethren Daniells and Prescott, and Their Associates, October 30, 1905.)” *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 8, 345.

Provision of Food

“The Lord has shown me repeatedly that it is contrary to the Bible to make any provision for our temporal wants in the time of trouble. I saw that if the saints had food laid up by them or in the field in the time of trouble, when sword, famine, and pestilence are in the land, it would be taken from them by violent hands, and strangers would reap their fields.” *Last Day Events*, 264.

Shaking of the Earth & Heavens

“Never did this message apply with greater force than it applies today. More and more the world is setting at naught the claims of God. Men have become bold in transgression. The wickedness of the inhabitants of the world has almost filled up the measure of their iniquity. This earth has almost reached the place where God will permit the destroyer to work his will upon it. The substitution of the laws of men for the law of God, the exaltation, by merely human authority, of Sunday in place of the Bible Sabbath, is the last act in the drama. When this substitution becomes universal, God will reveal Himself. He will arise in His majesty to shake terribly the earth. He will come out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the world for their iniquity, and the earth shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.” *Testimonies*, vol. 7, p. 141.

“December 16, 1848, the Lord gave me a view of the shaking of the powers of the heavens. I saw that when the Lord said ‘heaven,’ in giving the signs recorded by Matthew, Mark, and Luke, He meant heaven, and when He said ‘earth’ He meant earth. The powers of heaven are the sun, moon, and stars. They rule in the heavens. The powers of earth are those that rule on the earth. The powers of heaven will be shaken at the voice of God. Then the sun, moon, and stars will be moved out of their places. They will not pass away, but be shaken by the voice of God.” *Early Writings*, 41.

Deliverance

“And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great Prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same

time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book' [Daniel 12:1]. When this time of trouble comes, every case is decided; there is no longer probation, no longer mercy for the impenitent. The seal of the living God is upon His people.

"This small remnant, unable to defend themselves in the deadly conflict with the powers of earth that are marshaled by the dragon host, make God their defense. The decree has been passed by the highest earthly authority that they shall worship the beast and receive his mark under pain of persecution and death. May God help His people now, for what can they then do in such a fearful conflict without His assistance!" *Testimonies*, vol. 5, 212, 213.

"The people of God—some in prison cells, some hidden in solitary retreats in the forests and the mountains—still plead for divine protection, while in every quarter companies of armed men, urged on by hosts of evil angels, are preparing for the work of death. It is now, in the hour of utmost extremity, that the God of Israel will interpose for the deliverance of His chosen. . . .

"It is at midnight that God manifests His power for the deliverance of His people. The sun appears, shining in its strength. Signs and wonders follow in quick succession. The wicked look with terror and amazement upon the scene, while the righteous behold with solemn joy the tokens of their deliverance. . . . Dark, heavy clouds come up, and clash against each other. In the midst of the angry heavens is one clear space of indescribable glory, whence comes the voice of God. . . .

"That voice shakes the heavens and the earth. There is a mighty earthquake, 'such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great.' The firmament appears to open and shut. The glory from the throne of God seems flashing through. The mountains shake like a reed in the wind, and ragged rocks are scattered on every side. There is a roar as of a coming tempest. The sea is lashed into fury. There is heard the shriek of the hurricane, like the voice of demons upon a mission of destruction. The whole earth heaves and swells like the waves of the sea. Its surface is breaking up. Its very foundations seem to be giving way. Mountain chains are sinking. Inhabited islands disappear. . . .

"Fierce lightnings leap from the heavens, enveloping the earth in a sheet of flames. Above the terrific roar of thunder, voices, mysterious and awful, declare the doom of the wicked. . . . Those who a little before were so reckless, so boastful and defiant, so exultant in their cruelty to God's commandment-keeping people, are now overwhelmed with consternation, and shuddering in fear. Their wails are heard above the sound of the elements. Demons acknowledge the deity of Christ, and tremble before His power, while men are supplicating for mercy, and groveling in abject terror." *The Great Controversy*, 635-638.

Response of the Deceived

"The people see that they have been deluded. They accuse one another of having led them to destruction; but all unite in heaping their bitterest condemnation upon the ministers. Unfaithful pastors have prophesied smooth things; they have led their hearers to make void the law of God and to persecute those who would keep it holy. Now, in their despair, these teachers confess before the world their work of deception. The multitudes are filled with fury. 'We are lost!' they cry, 'and you are the cause of our ruin;' and they turn upon the false shepherds. The very ones that once admired them most will pronounce the most dreadful curses upon them. The very hands that once crowned them with laurels will be raised for their destruction. The swords which were to slay God's people are now employed to destroy their enemies. Everywhere there is strife and bloodshed." *Ibid.*, 655, 656.

The Special Resurrection

"Graves are opened, and 'many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth . . . awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt' (Daniel 12:2). All who have died in the faith of the third angel's message come forth from the tomb glorified to hear God's covenant of peace with those who have kept His law. 'They also which pierced Him' (Revelation 1:7), those that mocked and derided Christ's dying agonies, and the most violent opposers of His truth and His people, are raised to behold Him in His glory, and to see the honor placed upon the loyal and obedient." *Ibid.*, 637.

Day and Hour of Christ's Return Announced

“The voice of God is heard from heaven, declaring the day and hour of Jesus’ coming, and delivering the everlasting covenant to His people. Like peals of loudest thunder His words roll through the earth. The Israel of God stand listening, with their eyes fixed upward. Their countenances are lighted up with His glory, and shine as did the face of Moses when he came down from Sinai. The wicked cannot look upon them. And when the blessing is pronounced on those who have honored God by keeping His Sabbath holy, there is a mighty shout of victory.” *Ibid.*, 640.

21. CHRIST’S SECOND COMING

“Soon there appears in the east a small black cloud, about half the size of a man’s hand. It is the cloud which surrounds the Saviour and which seems in the distance to be shrouded in darkness. The people of God know this to be the sign of the Son of man. In solemn silence they gaze upon it as it draws nearer the earth, becoming lighter and more glorious, until it is a great white cloud, its base a glory like consuming fire, and above it the rainbow of the covenant. Jesus rides forth as a mighty conqueror. . . . With anthems of celestial melody the holy angels, a vast, unnumbered throng, attend Him on His way. . . . No human pen can portray the scene; no mortal mind is adequate to conceive its splendor. . . . As the living cloud comes still nearer, every eye beholds the Prince of life. No crown of thorns now mars that sacred head; but a diadem of glory rests on His holy brow. His countenance outshines the dazzling brightness of the noonday sun. . . .

“The righteous cry with trembling: ‘Who shall be able to stand?’ The angels’ song is hushed, and there is a period of awful silence. Then the voice of Jesus is heard, saying: ‘My grace is sufficient for you.’ The faces of the righteous are lighted up, and joy fills every heart. And the angels strike a note higher and sing again as they draw still nearer to the earth. . . .

“The derisive jests have ceased. Lying lips are hushed into silence. The clash of arms, the tumult of battle, ‘with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood’ (Isaiah 9:5), is stilled. Nought now is heard but the voice of prayer and the sound of weeping and lamentation. . . .

“Amid the reeling of the earth, the flash of lightning, and the roar of thunder, the voice of the Son of God calls forth the sleeping saints. He looks upon the graves of the righteous, then, raising His hands to heaven, He cries: ‘Awake, awake, awake, ye that sleep in the dust, and arise!’ Throughout the length and breadth of the earth the dead shall hear that voice, and they that hear shall live. And the whole earth shall ring with the tread of the exceeding great army of every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. From the prison house of death they come, clothed with immortal glory, crying: ‘O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?’ 1 Corinthians 15:55. And the living righteous and the risen saints unite their voices in a long, glad shout of victory. . . .

“The living righteous are changed ‘in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye.’ At the voice of God they were glorified; now they are made immortal and with the risen saints are caught up to meet their Lord in the air. Angels ‘gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.’ Little children are borne by holy angels to their mothers’ arms. Friends long separated by death are united, nevermore to part, and with songs of gladness ascend together to the City of God. . . .

“Before the ransomed throng is the Holy City. Jesus opens wide the pearly gates, and the nations that have kept the truth enter in. There they behold the Paradise of God, the home of Adam in his innocence. Then that voice, richer than any music that ever fell on mortal ear, is heard, saying: ‘Your conflict is ended.’ ‘Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.’” *Ibid.*, 640-646.

ISLAM’S IMPACT UPON THE WORLD

JAMES WHITE’S well-known belief that the last power (or its territory) of Daniel’s four major prophecies, chapters 2, 7, 8, and 11, are all the same power (or territory thereof)—the papacy (professed

Christian Europe). He acknowledged that in the first three prophecies, the final power came to its end at Christ's second coming. He failed, however, to recognize the significance of the final power of the fourth prophecy coming to its end prior to the close of probation (Daniel 11:45 and 12:1)—some time before Christ's actual return. As we have documented, over the years, many bible students, using the historicist method of prophecy interpretation, have concluded that the final power of chapter 11 is best understood to be Islamic Turkey. The origin of Turkey is not from Christian Europe but from Asia with an antichristian, rather than a fallen Christian faith. Though at times controlling parts of Europe (presently a small area around Constantinople), it has not been accepted as an integral part of Europe, and we do not see any emphasis regarding its existence or territory in the first three prophecies of Daniel. Verses 40 through 45 contain no wording indicating a required application to a European or fallen Christian power, any more than to a non-European, or non-Christian power. Thus, the wording clearly leaves open the door to an Asiatic, non-Christian power being the king of the north.

The early rise and activity of Islam is described, not by Daniel, but by the prophecies of the fifth and sixth trumpets of Revelation 9—tales of “woe” with harassment, punishment, and eventually conquest—total destruction of the Eastern Roman (Christian) Empire in the fifteenth century. For a number of years now, the modern world has been experiencing a relationship with Islam, very reminiscent of the first two woes—repeatedly, faith driven conflicts between Christians and Muslims; Islamic terrorist attacks against so-called Christian nations—with the same response of apostate Christianity as earlier:—

“ . . . yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk: (21) Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.” Revelation 9:20-21

As noted elsewhere, the Turkish country has possessed the original territory of the Greek general Lysimachus—the area of Constantinople and the Dardanelles since A.D. 1453. The power controlling this territory has been referred to in Daniel 11 as the king of the north. Despite history testifying of activities regarding Turkey in 1798, and soon after, that correlate well with the predictions of verses 40-44 of Daniel 11, it appears that the majority of Seventh-day Adventist scholars insist that those verses are yet to be fulfilled by the end time papacy. If that be true, then we must ask: What purpose is served by the repetition of verses 30-36 as instructed by the testimony of Jesus?

Yes, there are some legitimate questions regarding Turkey being the referred to power in the last verses of Daniel 11. Primarily, what possible purpose(s) is there for Turkey coming to its end in the midst of the momentous final events of this earth; which prophecy so clearly portrays as being dominated, in Satan's war against Christ, by the professed Christian papacy and her cohorts?

ISLAM'S INFLUENCE IN THE PAST

THE influence by Islam in the past, should shed some light on the future:

GOD USES “ALL MEN”

“The knowledge current in the world may be acquired; for all men are God's property, and are worked by God to fulfill His will in certain lines, even when they refuse the man Christ Jesus as their Saviour. The way in which God uses men is not always discerned, but He does use them. God entrusts men with talents and inventive genius, in order that His great work in our world may be accomplished. The inventions of human minds are supposed to spring from humanity, but God is behind all.” *Fundamentals of Christian Education*, 409.

“As in times past, so again we are obliged to trace far back to find the source of events which now appear in full view. About the time that the papacy was growing into a full-fledged monarchy, recognized among nations of the earth, another power had birth. This new work of Satan came in the form of Mohammedanism, which today (1901) holds about one sixth of the world's population in its grasp. . . .

“As the founding of Constantinople is a guidepost in history, so the capture of that city in 1453 is another landmark. One of the greatest checks received by the papacy was due to the influx into Italy of Greek scholars, driven from Constantinople by the incoming Mohammedans. The discovery of America was due to the closing of the eastern passage to the rich islands of the Indian Ocean by the Mohammedans in Constantinople and Asia Minor, and so in more ways than is usually thought, God worked to advance truth through those who were ignorant of his truth.” S. N. Haskell, *Story of Daniel the Prophet*, 246, 247.

EFFECT UPON THE REFORMATION

“A dark and threatening day had come for the Reformation. Notwithstanding the Edict of Worms, declaring Luther to be an outlaw and forbidding the teaching or belief of his doctrines, religious toleration had thus far prevailed in the empire. God’s providence had held in check the forces that opposed the truth. Charles V was bent on crushing the Reformation, but often as he raised his hand to strike he had been forced to turn aside the blow. Again and again the immediate destruction of all who dared to oppose themselves to Rome appeared inevitable; but at the critical moment the armies of the Turk appeared on the eastern frontier, or the king of France, or even the pope himself, jealous of the increasing greatness of the emperor, made war upon him; and thus, amid the strife and tumult of nations, the Reformation had been left to strengthen and extend.” *The Great Controversy*, 197.

EFFECT UPON THE MILLERITE MOVEMENT

“And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men.” Revelation 9:15.

This time prophecy, when interpreted as a prophetic day equals one year in actual time—“a day for a year”—amounted to 391 years and 15 days for the independent Ottoman Empire to be loosed to not merely torment apostate Christianity but to conquer and destroy. Using this scripture-based, Millerite method of calculating prophetic time, Josiah Litch published, ten days prior to the event, that bible prophecy foretold that the Ottoman Empire would be overthrown on August 11, 1840. (See discussion earlier regarding the Second Woe)

“At the very time specified, Turkey, through her ambassadors, accepted the protection of the allied powers of Europe, and thus placed herself under the control of Christian nations. The event exactly fulfilled the prediction. When it became known, multitudes were convinced of the correctness of the principles of prophetic interpretation adopted by Miller and his associates, and a wonderful impetus was given to the advent movement. Men of learning and position united with Miller, both in preaching and in publishing his views, and from 1840 to 1844 the work rapidly extended.” Ellen G. White, *The Great Controversy*, 334, 335.

POSSIBLE EFFECTS UPON THE END-TIME EVENTS

“**WITH** about 1.8 billion followers (2015), almost a quarter of earth’s population, Islam is the second-largest and the fastest-growing religion in the world. . . . Religious switching has no impact on Muslim population, since the number of people who embrace Islam and those who leave Islam are roughly equal.” <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muslims>.

With about 2.2 billion followers (2010), almost one-third of earth’s population, Christianity is the largest religion in the world. See <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christianity>

For centuries, Muslim Turkey has been propped up by professed Christian nations as a buffer between Russia and the Mediterranean Sea. She is presently a member of NATO, and weaponized by the Western Powers. Her coming to an end is bound to be a factor in serious, future conflicts regarding her territory.

Negotiations, political and military maneuvering, threatening jabs, renegeing on promises, military force, deception, traitors, ignoring of official agreements—these, and possibly other time consuming activities are potential ingredients of Turkey planting “the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain” (Daniel 11:45). But because the purported Christian nations who have repeatedly supported and rescued Turkey in the past, will at that time be committed to the “Christianization” of the world under the leadership of the papacy, the image of the beast, and Satan personating Christ at that late hour, Turkey’s enemies will be allowed to destroy her as a nation. This turmoil over Turkey may very possibly dampen and retard efforts to halt the loud cry of the third and fourth angels, and thus facilitate God’s redemptive truths to spread worldwide.

This prophecy of Turkey as the end time king of the north, whether by few or by many,¹⁸ will be presented as part of the loud cry final warning to the world. Her coming to her end as a political nation, though not fulfillment of a time prophecy, it will be fulfillment of an event prophecy—a long prophesied very important event—the imminent close of probation—the last opportunity for salvation through willing obedience to the laws and leadership of Christ. This seemingly, improbable, impossible event of Turkey’s headquarters being planted in Jerusalem, has the possibility of providing the same beneficial effects as the Ottoman Empire losing its sovereignty on the exact day prophesied in 1840:

1. Confirmation that the Bible is of divine origin, and that it is the only reliable source of truth.
2. Confirmation that Seventh-day Adventists have the correct truth, based on correct methods of bible and bible prophecy interpretation.
3. A strong impetus to the message that the seventh day is the true Sabbath; that the papacy is indeed the antichrist; that the purported returned-from-the-dead beings are indeed demons; and that the purported Christ is actually Satan in disguise.
4. Recognition of these truths will impel persons of learning and position to lend their voices to swell the loud cry to the deceived world.
5. Confirm to the harassed and persecuted saints that their condition and message is based on the infallible Word of God, strengthening their faith that their deliverance at the end of the yet future time of Jacob’s trouble is assured.

Yes, the under-appreciated Turkey as the king of the north has the potential of having a tremendous impact on the multi-faceted end time events.

MULTIPLE KINGS OF THE NORTH

WITH the demise of the Turkish nation, whichever power takes control of Constantinople and the Dardanelles area, will at that point be giving its support to the doctrinal leadership of the papacy, entitling the papacy to be considered the new king of the north. However, the papacy at that point is under the rulership of the personated-by-Satan-christ, thus entitling Satan to take the title as the king of the north. It is possible that both the papacy and Satan will plant their palaces between the seas in Jerusalem. Satan’s long time desire has been to displace God, and sit on His throne of the Universe—said to be “in the sides of the north.”

“For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north.” Isaiah 14:13

But Christ is the true king of the north of the yet to be restored earth. The imposter king of the north—Satan—with his rebellious followers, will be destroyed, and Christ will plant His eternal throne in the New Jerusalem on the present location of the mount of olives. Yes, the true King of the North will come to the front when all sin and evil is destroyed.

¹⁸ Yes, in 1840, only one prophecy scholar—Josiah Litch—had the discernment and / or the faith in the historicist method of Bible interpretation to go on public record that the Ottoman Empire would lose its sovereignty on a specific day.

COMPLETE INTERPRETATION OF CHAPTER ELEVEN OF DANIEL.

WE have come to the end of **a complete interpretation of Daniel's chapter 11**,—with many future events being tentative. Using the historicist method of interpreting bible prophecy, we came to the conclusion, with our first passage through the chapter, that, up to just prior to the close of probation, Muslim Turkey is the legitimate king of the north. Then, we followed the 1904 directive of the servant of the Lord that “Much of the history that has taken place in fulfillment of this prophecy will be repeated.” Then after quoting verses 31-36, she stated:

“Scenes similar to those described in these words will take place. . . . Let all read and understand the prophecies of this book, for we are now entering upon the time of trouble spoken of: [Daniel 12:1-4, quoted.].” *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 13, 394.

“Scenes similar” to the first application of these verses to the formation of the papacy of the Dark Ages, led us to the future, full healing of the deadly wound of the papacy during the final events. Thus the Daniel 11 prophecy portrays two powers, both looking to political/civil power to enforce their false religious beliefs, in their goal of “converting” the whole world to their “true faith;” both coming to their end during the final events—one prior to the close of probation, the other at the second coming. The false doctrines of the papacy will be the world-wide testing that divides the redeemed from the lost.

The teachings of Islam will not be a test for the world as a whole, but they will be a test for the nearly one-fourth of earth's population that believe in them. Each of them will be given the choice of serving the papal doctrines, or suffering affliction with the saints in their obedience of the truths of God. The whole world will be forced to become practicing Catholics, or practicing saints. Muslim Turkey, though a minor player in comparison with the papacy in the end events has the potential of impeding the activity of the papal coalition, and of providing a great impetus to the loud cry.

THE FIRST PUBLICATION ON THE KING OF THE NORTH CONTINUES IN THE PRINTED VERSION