

# THE GOLDEN THREAD OF PROPHECY

“Those who take only a surface view of the Scriptures will, with their superficial knowledge, which they think is very deep, talk of the contradictions of the Bible, and question the authority of the Scriptures. But those whose hearts are in harmony with truth and duty will search the Scriptures with a heart prepared to receive divine impressions. The illuminated soul sees a spiritual unity, one grand golden thread running through the whole, but it requires patience, thought, and prayer to trace out the precious golden thread.” 7BC 945

## Lesson #09

### “Seven Trumpets; Three Woes; Islam”

#### The Role of Islam: Part 1

##### A New Development of Truth

“In every age there is a new development of truth, a message of God to the people of that generation. The old truths are all essential; new truth is not independent of the old, but an unfolding of it. It is only as the old truths are understood that we can comprehend the new. When Christ desired to open to His disciples the truth of His resurrection, He began ‘at Moses and all the prophets’ and ‘expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning Himself.’ Luke 24:27. But it is the light which shines in the fresh unfolding of truth that glorifies the old. He who rejects or neglects the new does not really possess the old. For him it loses its vital power and becomes but a lifeless form.” Christ’s Object Lessons, 127.

It does not seem that many in Adventism understand that Islam has a role in Bible Prophecy and few understand that Islam was identified in Bible Prophecy by the Pioneers. If there is some new light on Islam, it is going to be a development of the old, and to understand it we must deal with it in light of the pioneer understanding of Islam.

From this light we have reason to believe that we have entered into a prophetic period that began on 9/11/01 and parallels August 11, 1840. Prophecy indicates it was at that point that the Latter Rain time period was entered into, and only those that will recognize that we are in the time when it is to fall will receive it. The starting point of this parallel was an action by Islam, just as August 11, 1840 concerned Islam and is in agreement with the concept that history is repeated. So we are going to go through the prophetic evidence to nail this down.

#### Argument One and Two

##### The Number Twelve

The Number Twelve is used in the Bible in connection with God’s kingdom; Twelve tribes; Twelve apostles, Twelve gates etc. Jacob pronounced prophetic blessings on his twelve sons. Predictions were made of the role they would play at the end of the world.

Genesis 49:1, 28. 1 “And Jacob called unto his sons, and said, Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you that which shall befall you in the last days.

28 “All these are the twelve tribes of Israel: and this is it that their father spake unto them, and blessed them; every one according to his blessing he blessed them.”

## #1—Patriarchal Blessing

“At the last all the sons of Jacob were gathered about his dying bed. And Jacob called unto his sons, and said, ‘Gather yourselves together, and hear, ye sons of Jacob; and hearken unto Israel your father,’ ‘that I may tell you that which shall befall you in the last days.’ Often and anxiously he had thought of their future, and had endeavored to picture to himself the history of the different tribes. Now as his children waited to receive his last blessing the Spirit of Inspiration rested upon him, and before him in prophetic vision the future of his descendants was unfolded. One after another the names of his sons were mentioned, the character of each was described, and the future history of the tribes was briefly foretold.” Patriarchs and Prophets, 235.

## Ishmael

Genesis 17:20. “And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation.”

Genesis 25:12–16. “Now these are the generations of Ishmael, Abraham’s son, whom Hagar the Egyptian, Sarah’s handmaid, bare unto Abraham: And these are the names of the sons of Ishmael, by their names, according to their generations: the firstborn of Ishmael, Nebajoth; and Kedar, and Adbeel, and Mibsam, And Mishma, and Dumah, and Massa, Hadar, and Tema, Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah: These are the sons of Ishmael, and these are their names, by their towns, and by their castles; twelve princes according to their nations.”

Isaiah 44:7 “And who, as I, shall call, and shall declare it, and set it in order for me, since I appointed the ancient people? and the things that are coming, and shall come, let them shew unto them.”

Ishmael is one of the Ancient people that have a role to play in the final events. Just as the sons of Jacob had a prophetic blessing pronounced on them, so Ishmael also had a prophecy of the role his descendants were to play at the end of the world.

Genesis 16:10–12. “And the angel of the Lord said unto her, I will multiply thy seed exceedingly, that it shall not be numbered for multitude. And the angel of the Lord said unto her, Behold, thou art with child, and shalt bear a son, and shalt call his name Ishmael; because the Lord hath heard thy affliction. And he will be a wild man; his hand will be against every man, and every man’s hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren.”

Adventists have understood in the past that the 5th and 6th Trumpets, the 1st and 2nd woes, referred to Islam, based on that we know the 3rd woe is also Islam. They have a role to play in Bible Prophecy and their role among other things is because they are a wild man and because their hand is against every man, they bring about a crisis that brings together every man against them. They are the issue that brings about the One World Government at the end.

They do so because they are ‘wild’, they have the mentality to walk into a room and blow themselves up thinking they are going to be with virgins in paradise at that point. Bible prophecy indicates that this is only going to escalate and be the catalyst to bring about the Sunday Law and continue to escalate to

bring in the One World Government with the Pope as ‘Moral’ Leader. Once that power is placed in his hand the world will learn that he is not interested in Islam, but in ridding the world of Sabbath Keepers.

### **An Affliction to the Descendants of Isaac**

“Abraham had marked the result of the intermarriage of those who feared God and those who feared Him not, from the days of Cain to his own time. The consequences of his own marriage with Hagar, and of the marriage connections of Ishmael and Lot, were before him. The lack of faith on the part of Abraham and Sarah had resulted in the birth of Ishmael, the mingling of the righteous seed with the ungodly. The father’s influence upon his son was counteracted by that of the mother’s idolatrous kindred and by Ishmael’s connection with heathen wives. The jealousy of Hagar, and of the wives whom she chose for Ishmael, surrounded his family with a barrier that Abraham endeavored in vain to overcome.”

One of the characteristics of the descendants of Ishmael is that they are a mingling of righteous and unrighteous. Now can a fountain bring forth salt water and fresh water at the same time? I don’t think you can make a case that the descendants of Ishmael are righteous.

“Abraham’s early teachings had not been without effect upon Ishmael, but the influence of his wives resulted in establishing idolatry in his family. Separated from his father, and embittered by the strife and contention of a home destitute of the love and fear of God, Ishmael was driven to choose the wild, marauding life of the desert chief, ‘his hand’ ‘against every man, and every man’s hand against him.’ Genesis 16:12. In his latter days he repented of his evil ways and returned to his father’s God, but the stamp of character given to his posterity remained. The powerful nation descended from him were a turbulent, heathen people, who were ever an annoyance and affliction to the descendants of Isaac.” Patriarchs and Prophets, 174.

One of the roles that the descendants of Ishmael played was that they were an annoyance to ancient Israel, but at the same time the Lord used them at times to be a deliverer for Ancient Israel as well, and this characteristic goes all the way through to the end. In the fifth trumpet, describing the work of Mohamed there is a command to ‘hurt not those who have the seal of God’. So in spite of the fact that Islam was bringing warfare to the world at that time they were also bringing deliverance as well to God’s people.

### **A Deliverer to the Descendants of Isaac**

Genesis 37:28. “Then there passed by Midianites merchantmen; and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites for twenty pieces of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt.”

Joseph was to be slain, but by his brothers selling him to the Ishmaelite traders, his life was spared.

Matthew 2:11. “And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.”

One of the general terms for the descendants of Ishmael is the ‘children of the East’, and the Wise men in this story came from the East. The gifts brought by these men brought the financial ability for Joseph to be able to take Mary and Baby Jesus and flee into Egypt to escape being slain by Herod.

Exodus 3:1; 18:23, 24. “Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.

24 If thou shalt do this thing, and God command thee so, then thou shalt be able to endure, and all this people shall also go to their place in peace. 24 So Moses hearkened to the voice of his father in law, and did all that he had said.”

When Moses was overwhelmed by the work of managing the people of Israel, his father in law helped him with useful advice.

### **The Turk Appeared on the Eastern Frontier**

“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.

Down through history both in Bible times and after, we can see the descendants of Ishmael providing both deliverance and annoyance to the descendants of Isaac.

**Enclosed Europe:** Islam wrapped itself around Europe and prevented Catholicism from spreading to the whole world.

**Preserved the Received Text of the Bible:** It was Islam that indirectly, through their interest in education, protected the Apostolic Church of the East, and preserved the true Greek manuscripts of the Received Text of the Bible, that later were used in the Authorized King James Bible.

**Preserved the Reformation:** The Lord used the descendants of Ishmael, to bring warfare against Europe, during the Reformation time period. At certain time when the Pope was about to send his forces to destroy the Reformation, and they would be forced to turn back and defend against the oncoming Turks.

### **#2—Balaam: Numbers 22—A blessing and a Curse:**

The entire Bible is of course in place for the end of time, but one place we especially see this is in the story of Numbers 22, where King Balak wants to prevent Israel from entering the Promised Land and hired Balaam to curse them. Balaam was a prophet who lived with the Children of the East, the descendants of Ishmael. He came to curse but he ended up pronouncing blessings.

In this story we see that at the end of the world, the Children of the East—descendants of Ishmael—are going to be producing both a blessing and a curse. Balaam is a type of Islam all down through history and particularly at the end of the world.

### **Triple Applications of Prophecy**

During the time of the Millerite Movement, God used William Miller to establish certain Biblical Rule for the interpretation of prophecy and as we see these events being repeated here at the end of the world, these principles of Prophecy are relevant to the understanding of the message.

The main principle established by Miller was the Year-Day principle of Time Prophecy. Here at the end this principle is part of our heritage and it is truth, but we know that time prophecies are no longer since 1844. The message that comes to God’s people at the end of the world is a different message and we can expect that there will be certain rules of Bible prophecy that are recognized as important for the understanding of the message of the hour. One of those rules is the Triple Application of Prophecy, which we can see here:

## Argument Three

### Babylon is fallen, is fallen

Revelation 18:2. “And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.”

### Twice Fallen

Every Adventist knows that this is our message, this is the Fourth Angel’s Message—the Loud Cry message. In this message we see a Triple Application indicated—Babylon Is Fallen—Is Fallen. When did Babylon fall twice in the past?

Babylon fell at the Tower of Babel and Babylon fell at Belshazzar’s feast, when the Hand wrote upon the wall. What this is saying to us is the message we are to carry to the World is about the Fall of Babylon and the way we will teach people about the third Fall of Babylon, is by identifying the characteristics of the first and second Fall of Babylon. As we bring together these two stories we see all the characteristics about how Modern Babylon falls.

Right in the message itself it shows that this rule of the Triple Application of Prophecy is part of what God’s people are going to understand at the end of the world.

Genesis 11:7-9. “Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another’s speech. So the Lord scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city. Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the Lord did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the Lord scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth.”

Daniel 5:30-31. “In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain. And Darius the Median took the kingdom, being about threescore and two years old.”

### Upon the Testimony of Two

2 Corinthians 13:1. “In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established.”

The Triple Application of Prophecy is a rule that the Lord has brought to light here at the end of the world that allows us to bring into clarity the final warning message. This rule has some internal rules that govern it. When you take the first time that Babylon fell and you combine it with the Second time that Babylon fell, you will define the third time that Babylon falls.  $1 + 2 = 3$ .

Another example of the Triple Application of Prophecy is the Three Elijahs, and the same principles operate. You take the characteristics of the first Elijah and you combine them with the characteristics of the second Elijah you establish the characteristics of the third Elijah.

Another interesting fact about these Triple Applications of Prophecy is that they are always dealing with Rome and the three-fold power at the end of the world.

| Messenger                    | Civil Power                      | Impure Woman  | Dance of Deception           |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| 1st Elijah                   | Ahab: Improper Marriage          | Jezebel       | Prophets of Baal             |
| 2nd Elijah: John the Baptist | Herod: Improper Marriage         | Herodias      | Salome Daughter of Herodias. |
| 3rd Elijah:                  | United Nations: 10 Kings: Dragon | Papacy: Beast | USA: False Prophet           |

### 1 + 2 = 3

State Power is improperly 'married' to the Church, represented by the impure woman. The Civil power is deceived by a Dance of Deception. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> Elijah we see that Salome was the daughter of Herodias and represents the Protestant daughters of Rome in the end time scenario.

### The Three Elijahs

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Elijah:

1 Kings 18:17–22; 17 “And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel? 18 And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the LORD, and thou hast followed Baalim. 19 Now therefore send, and gather to me all Israel unto mount Carmel, and the prophets of Baal four hundred and fifty, and the prophets of the groves four hundred, which eat at Jezebel's table.”

20 “So Ahab sent unto all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together unto mount Carmel. 21 And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word. 22 Then said Elijah unto the people, I, even I only, remain a prophet of the LORD; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men.”

19:1-3. 1 “And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and withal how he had slain all the prophets with the sword. 2 Then Jezebel sent a messenger unto Elijah, saying, So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by to morrow about this time. 3 And when he saw that, he arose, and went for his life, and came to Beersheba, which belongeth to Judah, and left his servant there.”

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Elijah:

John the Baptist: Matthew 14:3–11. 3 “For Herod had laid hold on John, and bound him, and put him in prison for Herodias' sake, his brother Philip's wife. 4 For John said unto him, It is not lawful for thee to have her. 5 And when he would have put him to death, he feared the multitude, because they counted him as a prophet.”

6 “But when Herod's birthday was kept, the daughter of Herodias danced before them, and pleased Herod. 7 Whereupon he promised with an oath to give her whatsoever she would ask. 8 And she, being before instructed of her mother, said, Give me here John Baptist's head in a charger.”

9 “And the king was sorry: nevertheless for the oath's sake, and them which sat with him at meat, he commanded it to be given her. 10 And he sent, and beheaded John in the prison. 11 And his head was brought in a charger, and given to the damsel: and she brought it to her mother.”

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Elijah:**

144,000: Malachi 4:5, 6. “Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord: And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.”

John the Baptist came before the Great Day of the Lord, but it wasn't the Great and Dreadful Day of the Lord which refers to the end of the world. This prophecy had a partial fulfillment with John Baptist, but its complete fulfillment is in our day and age.

So we take the characteristics of the First Elijah and combine with the characteristics of the Second Elijah to have the characteristics of God's people at the end of the world. By doing this we see that there are two groups of God's people shown, one that will be translated like the first Elijah and one that will be Martyred like John the Baptist.

## **The Beast; the Dragon and the False Prophet**

### **The Beast: Impure Woman/impure church—The Papacy**

#### **Jezebel & Herodias**

Revelation 2:20. “Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols.”

### **The Dragon: King/Civil Authority—United Nations**

#### **Ahab & Herod**

“Thus while the dragon, primarily, represents Satan, it is, in a secondary sense, a symbol of pagan Rome.” The Great Controversy, 439.

“Kings and rulers and governors have placed upon themselves the brand of antichrist, and are represented as the dragon who goes to make war with the saints—with those who keep the commandments of God and who have the faith of Jesus. In their enmity against the people of God, they show themselves guilty also of the choice of Barabbas instead of Christ.” Testimonies to Ministers, 38.

### **The False Prophet: Dance of Deception/deceiving power—USA**

#### **The prophets of Baal & Salome the daughter of Herodias**

Revelation 13:13-14. “And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those

miracles which he 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.”

## **Elijah/God’s People**

### **Elijah’s Message: The Unlawful marriage**

### **The Third Angel’s Message/Combination of church and state**

Revelation 17:1 “And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: 2 With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.”

## **Imprisonment**

### **The Impure Woman:**

The Woman is in Control of Three-fold Power; The Woman is Behind the scenes pulling the strings; The Woman is Seeking to deal with Heretics

### **The King: Civil power deceived**

Three Romes: The characteristics of Pagan Rome + Papal Rome show us what Modern Rome will be.

Pagan Rome—persecuting power

Papal Rome—persecuting power

Pagan Rome—desolating power; the daily desolating power

Papal Rome— desolating power; the abomination of desolation

Pagan Rome—Pontifex Maximus

Papal Rome—Pontifex Maximus

Pagan Rome’s religion—paganism

Papal Rome’s religion—paganism

Pagan Rome—sun worshippers

Papal Rome— sun worshippers

Pagan Rome—abomination of desolation in AD 70 time-period

Papal Rome—abomination of desolation in 1260 year time-period

Pagan Rome—represents state-craft

Papal Rome—represents church-craft

Pagan Rome—time prophecy identifying how long it would rule supremely

Papal Rome—time prophecy identifying how long it would rule supremely

Pagan Rome—ruled supremely once third geographical obstacle was overcome

Papal Rome—ruled supremely once third geographical obstacle was overcome

Pagan Rome—ruled supremely from the city of Rome

Rome—ruled supremely from the city of Rome

Pagan Rome—Counterfeits Jerusalem and God

Papal Rome—Counterfeits Jerusalem and God

Another Triple Application is found in the Three Woes, the first two of which our pioneers recognized as referring to Islam. As we take the characteristics of the first and second woe, we can identify what we would expect to see in the third woe.

### **The Three Woes**

Revelation 9:1 “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. 2 And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit. 3 And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.”

4 “And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads. 5 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. 6 And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them.”

7 “And the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads were as it were crowns like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men. 8 And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions. 9 And they had breastplates, as it were breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle. 10 And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails: and their power was to hurt men five months. 11 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.”

### **The First Woe: Islam: Arabia—Mohamed**

The first woe is centered in Arabia, the second in Turkey and these are two different cultures.

THE KEY: Empowered after war between East and West: Daniel 11:40.

Persia had been laying siege to Constantinople for six years and then King Chosroes withdrew after placing the Romans under yearly tribute. The Roman army took advantage of the time to make a long march and come into Persia and make a surprise attack. This was the Battle of Nineveh. The Romans won the battle but it left both armies so depleted that there was no power to interfere with the rise of Islam. This was the ‘key’ that opened the bottomless pit.

Mode of warfare: strike suddenly and unexpectedly:

They would come up over the sand-dunes with their Arabian horses and attack without warning and then they would be gone again.

Focus of warfare: the armies of Rome:

Directed by their tails:

Isaiah 9:15. “The ancient and honourable, he is the head; and the prophet that teacheth lies, he is the tail.”

Providential force that tormented (HURTS) the armies of Rome

The Fifth Trumpet: Hurt not those who have the seal of God

History: From Mohamed to July 27, 1299 and then until July 27, 1449

### **The Second Woe**

Revelation 9:12 “One woe is past; and, behold, there come two woes more hereafter. 13 And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, 14 Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. 15 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.

16 And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them. 17 And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone.

18 By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths. 19 For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails: for their tails were like unto serpents, and had heads, and with them they do hurt.

20 And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues 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.”

### **Islam: Turkey—Othman**

Mode of warfare: strike suddenly and unexpectedly with explosives

Focus of warfare: the armies of Rome

Directed by their heads and tails:

Isaiah 9:15. “The ancient and honourable, he is the head; and the prophet that teacheth lies, he is the tail.” Providential force that brought down (KILLS) Imperial (pagan) Rome

The Sixth Trumpet

1840 through 1844

History: From July 27, 1449 until August 11, 1840 and then through October 22, 1844

### **#3—The Third Woe**

#### **Islam: Worldwide—Bin Laden?**

Mode of warfare: strike suddenly and unexpectedly with explosives

Focus of warfare: the armies of Rome; which in the end times is USA.

Directed by their heads and tails

Providential force that torments (FIRST HURTS) the army of Rome and then brings down (KILLS) modern Rome: the dragon, the beast and the false prophet.

The Seventh Trumpet

## The Investigative Judgment

History from October 22, 1844, until September 11, 2001, until Michael stands up

There is a role for Islam in Bible Prophecy, and it is only recognizable if you maintain the pioneer understanding of the trumpets of Revelation, and this is an important point to see.

We have looked at the principle of the Triple Application of Prophecy which has its own internal rules of application. One rule is that on the testimony of two a thing is established. Another rule is that the Triple Applications of Prophecy are always dealing with Rome.

When it comes to the Woes, it's telling us how Rome comes down.

When it comes to the Three Elijah's, it is telling us the structure of the Beast, the Dragon and the False Prophet in Rome—one is a civil power and one is an impure church and one is a deceiving power.

The Triple Application of Prophecy allows us to approach the Three Woes and realize that at some point in time in earth's history, when the Third Woe begins we should expect to see radical Islam, suddenly and unexpectedly strike the armies of Rome, (The United States).

What are the two strengths of the United States? Military and economic power; what are the symbols of military and economic strength in the United States? Certainly the Pentagon and the world trade center could qualify for that. So at 9/11 Radical Islam struck suddenly and unexpectedly with explosives against the economic and military powers of United States.

It is not really an issue whether others than Islam were behind this or not—the issue is, that at that time, the world powers came together to discuss the fate of Islam, just as in August 11, 1840 the four great European powers came together to discuss the fate of Islam. We see in this a repeat of history.

## The Role of Islam # 2

### The Woes

Revelation 8:13 “And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound!”

Trumpets in Prophecy have several meanings

Assembly and Alarm: Numbers 10:1–10.

Holy Convocation: Leviticus 23:24–25.

Deliverance: Leviticus 25:9–13.

A Day of Wrath and Distress: Zephaniah 1:14–18.

The pioneers correctly understood that trumpets in Revelation's Prophecy are a symbol of the bringing down of kingdoms.

### The Downfall of an Empire

“In prophetic scripture, the sounding of trumpets is always used to denote the downfall of some empire, nation, or place, or some dreadful battle, which may decide the fate of empires, nations, or places. . . .

“The last three trumpets will claim our attention in his discourse; the first four having their accomplishment under Rome Pagan; to the last three under Rome Papal. These three trumpets and three woes are a description of the judgments that God has sent and will send on this Papal beast, the abomination of the whole earth.” William Miller’s Works, volume 2, page 115–116.

Because Miller thought that the Second Coming was going to occur in 1844, he naturally thought that the third woe was going to happen in 1844 and that Papal Rome would be dealt with at that time. Modern Rome was not in existence in William Miller’s day.

The Dragon has been there all the time—actually since the fall of Lucifer in heaven. The Dragon power is the ‘continual power’ the ‘daily’. So there was a Dragon power in Miller’s day, but not the same one that is there today in the end times. The ‘Beast power’ was there also in a subdued way—smarting under his deadly wound—and the ‘False Prophet’ was only just getting started. Its first step towards becoming the False Prophet took place on 1842 when the Protestant churches closed their doors to the final warning message.

The dragon power in the end is the same as the ten kings who have one mind and give their kingdom to the beast. Revelation 17:12, 13.

"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." 7BC 983.

This Dragon Power is a worldwide, civil power. 1947 saw the formation of the United Nations.

One of the first things that those who set up the United Nations did was to take a piece of the Holy Land and gave it to the Jews. Right from that point you can track the beginning of radical Islam’s terrorist activities. They have escalated since then but they did not begin until the modern dragon-power was in place. They are going to be the power that hurts and brings down the armies of Rome.

The False prophet is the United States and the Dragon Power is the United Nations but the United Nations is simply the civil structure—the strength of the United Nations is the United States. Although they are different in one sense, you can’t separate completely the United Nations from the United States as if UN is going to use any military might, it will be from the United States. So since the setting up of the UN, the descendants of Ishmael have had their toes stepped on and it has only escalated every step of the way.

In the Triple Application of Prophecy; the characteristics of the first woe, combined with the characteristics of the second woe give us the characteristics of the third woe.

Revelation. 9:1, 2. “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. 2 And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit.”

The ‘key’ to the bottomless pit at the start of the first woe was a long drawn out war between east and west that ended in Rome’s victory at the Battle of Nineveh which left Rome depleted and unable to prevent the rise of the Mohammedan power.

There are two powers in prophetic history that came from the bottomless pit. The first was Islam and the Ottoman Empire collapsed in Aug. 11, 1840. The second was atheism and Soviet Russia, the modern atheistic power collapsed in 1989.

This collapse of the USSR after a prolonged ‘cold war’ between east and west is the ‘key’ that again brings Islam into the picture. With the door now opened by that ‘key’, we could expect to see Islam

shortly after this, begin to fulfill their end of the world role. Sure enough we see this dramatically in 9-11-2001. At this time we saw Islam attacking the 'armies of Rome' suddenly and unexpectedly with explosives.

It is at this time that the Mighty Angel of Revelation 18 came down—this parallels the angel that came down in 1840 Aug. 11 which empowered the Millerite movement with the power of fulfilled prophecy.

## Angering the Nations

Revelation 11:14–19. “The second woe is past; and, behold, the third woe cometh quickly.

“And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

“And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.

“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.

“And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: (October 22, 1844) and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.”

This referred to a change of dispensations at that time—from the Holy Place to the Most Holy. The Seventh Trumpet and the Third Woe begins at this time and continues until Christ finishes His work in the Most Holy Place

## #5—The Anger of the Nations

“I saw that the anger of the nations, the wrath of God, and the time to judge the dead were separate and distinct, one following the other, also that Michael had not stood up, and that the time of trouble, such as never was, had not yet commenced. The nations are now getting angry, but when our High Priest has finished His work in the sanctuary, He will stand up, put on the garments of vengeance, and then the seven last plagues will be poured out.

“I saw that the four angels would hold the four winds until Jesus' work was done in the sanctuary, and then will come the seven last plagues.” Early Writings, 36.

We are suggesting that the Third Woe is the angering of the nations. The power that accomplishes the angering of the nations, according to Bible prophecy, is Islam.

## Is Stirring

“The end of all things is at hand, and the message of warning must be given. A spirit of anger is stirring the nations, and it will soon be too late to work for the Lord.” The Paulson Collection, 196.

## Are Angry

“We are standing on the threshold of great and solemn events. Prophecies are fulfilling. Strange and eventful history is being recorded in the books of heaven—events which it was declared should shortly precede the great day of God. Everything in the world is in an unsettled state. The nations are angry, and

great preparations for war are being made. Nation is plotting against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. The great day of God is hasting greatly. But although the nations are mustering their forces for war and bloodshed, the command to the angels is still in force, that they hold the four winds until the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads." Selected Messages, book 1, 221.

## Already

"Already kingdom is rising against kingdom. There is not now a determined 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. How carefully we should improve the little remaining period of our probation!" Review and Herald, November 27, 1900.

## #6—The Four Winds

Revelation 7:1–3. 1 "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."

Some of the winds, although held, begin to slip a bit before the close of probation.

## Strife & War

"Winds are a symbol of strife. The four winds of heaven striving upon the great sea represent the terrible scenes of conquest and revolution by which kingdoms have attained to power." The Great Controversy, 439.

## Elements of Nature

"If such scenes as this are to come, such tremendous judgments on a guilty world, where will be the refuge for God's people? How will they be sheltered until the indignation be overpast? John sees the elements of nature—earthquake, tempest, and political strife—represented as being held by four angels. These winds are under control until God gives the word to let them go. There is the safety of God's church. The angels of God do His bidding, holding back the winds of the earth, that the winds should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree, until the servants of God should be sealed in their foreheads. The mighty angel is seen ascending from the east (or sunrising). This mightiest of angels has in his hand the seal of the living God, or of Him who alone can give life, who can inscribe upon the foreheads the mark or inscription, to whom shall be granted immortality, eternal life. It is the voice of this highest angel that had authority to command the four angels to keep in check the four winds until this work was performed, and until he should give the summons to let them loose." Testimony to Ministers, 444.

"Four mighty angels are still holding the four winds of the earth. Terrible destruction is forbidden to come in full. The accidents by land and by sea; the loss of life, steadily increasing, by storm, by tempest, by railroad disaster, by conflagration; the terrible floods, the earthquakes, and the winds will be the stirring up of the nations to one deadly combat, while the angels hold the four winds, forbidding the terrible power of Satan to be exercised in its fury until the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads." Review and Herald, June 7, 1887.

### **That Spirit will Increase**

“There is a spirit of desperation, of war and bloodshed, and that spirit will increase until the very close of time. Just as soon as the people of God are sealed in their foreheads—it is not any seal or mark that can be seen, but a settling into the truth, both intellectually and spiritually, so they cannot be moved—just as soon as God’s people are sealed and prepared for the shaking, it will come. Indeed, it has begun already. The judgments of God are now upon the land, to give us warning, that we may know what is coming.” Manuscript Releases, volume 10, 252.

“In the last scenes of this earth’s history, war will rage.” Maranatha, 297.

### **Their Hands are Loosening**

“I asked my accompanying angel the meaning of what I heard, and what the four angels were about to do. He said to me that it was God that restrained the powers, and that He gave His angels charge over things on the earth; that the four angels had power from God to hold the four winds, and that they were about to let them go; but while their hands were loosening, and the four winds were about to blow, the merciful eye of Jesus gazed on the remnant that were not sealed, and He raised His hands to the Father and pleaded with Him that He had spilled His blood for them.” Early Writings, 38.

### **Now Being Withdrawn**

“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 will be such a scene of strife as no pen can picture.” Testimonies, volume 6, 408.

The angering of the Nations parallels these scenes. In the story of the rebuilding of the temple in the time of Nehemiah we see the temple rebuilt and then the streets and the walls are rebuilt in ‘troubulous times’. In the end time the ‘streets and walls’ are rebuilt in troublous times. We are to ‘restore paths to dwell in’ and ‘repair the breach that has been made in the wall’ which refers to God’s Law.

### **The 4 Winds are an Angry Horse**

“Angels are holding the four winds, represented as an angry horse seeking to break loose, and rush over the face of the whole earth, bearing destruction and death in its path.” Selected Messages, book 3, 409.

### **Directed by the Hand of the Lord**

“I have seen that the 1843 chart was directed by the hand of the Lord, and that it should not be altered; that the figures were as He wanted them; that His hand was over and hid a mistake in some of the figures, so that none could see it, until His hand was removed.” Early Writings, 74.

On this chart we see two angry horses, war horses representing the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> woe, Islam’s attacks. The third woe we are told in the above quote as an angry horse.

### **Hurt not the earth, sea & trees**

Revelation 7:1–3. 1 “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.”

### **Hurt not the trees**

Revelation 9:4. “And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads.”

### **#7—Four Angels Loosed and Restrained**

Revelation 9:14–15. “Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. 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.”

July 27 1449---391 years and 15 days---ending in August 11, 1840. At the beginning we see 4 angels loosed, so at the end of this time, prophetically we have 4 angels restrained. This happened when the 4 great European powers came together to decide the fate of Islam. We are told that the 4 winds when they are released are an angry horse, like Islam on the chart is portrayed. There comes a time when the sealing and binding off of God’s people gets underway and during that time 4 angels are restraining the winds. In Aug. 11 1840, Islam was restrained as the 4 Great European powers came together to decide the fate of Islam and Islam is shown as an angry war horse which according to Sister White represents the 4 winds of strife.

In Sept. 11, 2001, the entire world came together to begin to decide the fate of Islam.

### **Then**

“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.

“Everything in the world is in an unsettled state. The nations are angry, and great preparations for war are being made. Nation is plotting against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. The great day of God is hasting greatly. But although the nations are mustering their forces for war and bloodshed, the command to the angels is still in force, that they hold the four winds until the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads.” The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary, 968.

### **The Sealing Time**

“My dear brethren and sisters, let the commandments of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ be in your minds continually and let them crowd out worldly thoughts and cares. When you lie down and when you rise up, let them be your meditation. Live and act wholly in reference to the coming of the Son of man. The sealing time is very short, and will soon be over. Now is the time, while the four angels are holding the four winds, to make our calling and election sure.” Early Writings, 58.

The sealing time is when the Latter Rain begins to fall. One thing about the falling of the Latter Rain that many are not straight on is that those who receive the Latter Rain are REQUIRED to recognize that it is falling. The history of the period of 1840 to 1844 we are told, parallels the time when the 144,000 is being made up.

### **The Sealing Time Delayed**

“The Lord God is a jealous God, yet He bears long with the sins and transgressions of His people in this generation. If the people of God had walked in His counsel, the work of God would have advanced, the messages of truth would have been borne to all people that dwell on the face of the whole earth. Had the people of God believed Him and been doers of His word, had they kept His commandments, the angel would not have come flying through heaven with the message to the four angels that were to let loose the winds that they should blow upon the earth crying, Hold, hold the four winds that they blow not upon the earth until I have sealed the servants of God in their foreheads. But because the people are disobedient, unthankful, unholy, as were ancient Israel, time is prolonged that all may hear the last message of mercy proclaimed with a loud voice. The Lord’s work has been hindered, the sealing time delayed. Many have not heard the truth. But the Lord will give them a chance to hear and be converted, and the great work of God will go forward.” Manuscript Releases, volume 15, 292.

### **Soon**

“Soon the four winds of heaven will be loosed, and in every part of the globe there will be dissension, strife, war, bloodshed.” Manuscript Releases, volume 18, 177.

May God help us to be awake to the fact that we are in the time when God wants to seal His people, that the sealing time is very short, and that we have a part to play in that process.