

THE GOLDEN THREAD OF PROPHECY

Lesson #11C: “THE PROPHETIC PATTERN”

The Seven Thunders

The message of the hour for Adventism today is that the Seven Thunders of Revelation 10:4 are being unsealed. The Seven Thunders represent the history of 1840-1844 and the history when the 144,000 are being developed. In other words the truth of the Seven Thunders is that the Millerite History is repeated to the very letter at the end of Adventism. We are Modern Israel and the history of Moses is the beginning of ancient Israel; that's when they entered into the covenant with the Lord. That is when He received them as His denominated people.

The Beginning of Ancient Israel is identical to the end of ancient Israel which was the history of Christ. It is not just a close parallel but an identical parallel. Passover is the cross; Pentecost is Pentecost; it is identical.

Jesus is the God that portrays the end from the beginning—He portrayed the end of Ancient Israel with the beginning of Ancient Israel.

What we need to understand here at the end of the world is that this history right now is a parallel to the Millerite history. Ancient Israel was told over and over again not to forget the history of the deliverance. They were to remember their beginning, because that would tell them of their end.

We will see that the beginning of Adventism is identical with the end of Adventism—that is the message the Seven Thunders have to teach us. We have nothing to fear for the future except as we forget God's leading in our past experience.

“Prophecy has been fulfilling, line upon line. The more firmly we stand under the banner of the third angel's message, the more clearly shall we understand the prophecy of Daniel; for the Revelation is the supplement of Daniel. The more fully we accept the light presented by the Holy Spirit through the consecrated servants of God, the deeper and surer, even as the eternal throne, will appear the truths of ancient prophecy; we shall be assured that men of God spake as they were moved upon by the Holy Ghost. Men must themselves be under the influence of the Holy Spirit in order to understand the Spirit's utterances through the prophets. These messages were given, not for those that uttered the prophecies, but for us who are living amid the scenes of their fulfillment.” 2SM 114.

The logic to this statement is that there is some way that the Three Angel's Messages is a banner—and we suggest that this 3-1 combination and the Three Angel's Messages coming into history in the Millerite time period, followed by the Fourth Angel's Message is the banner of the Three Angel's Message. And when we use that as a pattern to bring the ancient truths of prophecy together and line them upon one another, then the truths of ancient prophecy become clearer and clearer.

We have read the quote from the Spirit of Prophecy that says that every great reformatory movement is the same; God's working with man is ever the same, He doesn't do anything different.

Golden Thread of Prophecy: 11:C—The Prophetic Pattern

In these history patterns we have been looking at we see darkness followed by a reform message; followed by a message where there will be a manifestation of the Holy Spirit but also you will see activity against God's people; followed by a message of judgment, a disappointment, a work, a backsliding, and then a repeat of the Second Message.

We've seen that banner with Moses; the Three Decrees; Christ; the Millerite movement; on the testimony of two a thing is established—the Lord does not repeat things that are of no consequence. You can find this pattern at least thirty times in Bible history in at least the simple form.

Revelation 10:4 “And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not.”

22:10, 11 “And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand. 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.”

There is only one prophecy in the book of Revelation that was sealed up and that is the Seven Thunders. Notice that Sister White is the one who makes the comparison between the sealing up of the Seven Thunders and the sealing of the book of Daniel.

“After these seven thunders uttered their voices, the injunction comes to John as to Daniel in regard to the little book: ‘Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered.’ These relate to future events which will be disclosed in their order. . . .

“The special light given to John which was expressed in the seven thunders was a delineation of events which would transpire under the first and second angels' messages.” The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary, volume 7, 971.

Sister White says the Seven Thunders represent future events; there is a series of events at the end of the world that have been represented by the Seven Thunders and they also represent the events that happened under the First and Second Angel's messages, 1840-1844; she does not here include the Third. Whatever the events are at the end of the world, it is clear that they will parallel the events of 1840-1844.

Covenant

We noted that it was in the receiving of the Law on Sinai that Christ entered into a covenant with Ancient Israel, they became His denominated people—they received the Law, they were ‘married’ to Him. We know they were married because the time came when they were divorced in AD 34 at the stoning of Stephen. They were married to God with this historical pattern and it was in the exact same pattern that they were divorced from Him. The beginning pattern was the same as the ending.

In 1844, God once again entered into a covenant relation with a people for the second time in history, He ‘Married’ a people, and they became His denominated people. We see by this that the pattern laid down at the beginning of Modern Israel will be the same in the end of Modern Israel. Ancient Israel is a model for Modern Israel.

Ancient and Modern Israel

“All the experience of Israel has a lesson for us, who are living in the last hours of time. We should carefully consider their course of action and the dealings of God with them, and then imitate their virtues, while we shun those acts which brought upon them his displeasure.” Signs of the Times,

November 11, 1880.

“I was pointed back to ancient Israel. But two of the adults of the vast army that left Egypt entered the land of Canaan. Their dead bodies were strewn in the wilderness because of their transgressions. Modern Israel are in greater danger of forgetting God and being led into idolatry than were His ancient people. Many idols are worshiped, even by professed Sabbathkeepers. God especially charged His ancient people to guard against idolatry, for if they should be led away from serving the living God, His curse would rest upon them, while if they would love Him with all their heart, with all their soul, and with all their might, He would abundantly bless them in basket and in store, and would remove sickness from the midst of them.

“A blessing or a curse is now before the people of God—a blessing if they come out from the world and are separate, and walk in the path of humble obedience; and a curse if they unite with the idolatrous, who trample upon the high claims of heaven. The sins and iniquities of rebellious Israel are recorded and the picture presented before us as a warning that if we imitate their example of transgression and depart from God we shall fall as surely as did they. ‘Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.’” Testimonies, volume 1, 609.

“The unbelief and sins of ancient Israel were presented before me, and I saw that similar wrongs and iniquity exist among modern Israel. The pen of inspiration recorded their crimes for the benefit of those who live in these last days, that we might shun their evil example.” Testimonies, volume 4, 1491.

“For forty years did unbelief, murmuring, and rebellion shut out ancient Israel from the land of Canaan. The same sins have delayed the entrance of modern Israel into the heavenly Canaan. In neither case were the promises of God at fault. It is the unbelief, the worldliness, unconsecration, and strife among the Lord’s professed people that have kept us in this world of sin and sorrow so many years.” Selected Messages, book 1, 69.

“His word will bring as serious consequences upon God’s people today as did the same sin upon ancient Israel. There is a limit beyond which He will no longer delay His judgments. The desolation of Jerusalem stands as a solemn warning before the eyes of modern Israel, that the corrections given through His chosen instruments cannot be disregarded with impunity.” Testimonies, volume 4, 167.

“‘These things . . . are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.’ 1 Corinthians 10:11. The warning comes sounding down along the line to our time: ‘Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. But exhort one another daily, while it is called Today; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end; while it is said, Today if ye will hear His voice, Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation. For some, when they had heard, did provoke: howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses.’ Hebrews 3:12–16.

“Cannot we who are living in the time of the end realize the importance of the apostle’s words: ‘Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God?’ Verse 12.

“Upon us is shining the accumulated light of past ages. The record of Israel’s forgetfulness has been preserved for our enlightenment. In this age God has set His hand to gather unto Himself a people from every nation, kindred, and tongue. In the advent movement He has wrought for His heritage, even as He wrought for the Israelites in leading them from Egypt. In the great disappointment of 1844 the faith of His people was tested as was that of the Hebrews at the Red Sea. Had the Adventists in the early days still trusted to the guiding Hand that had been with them in their past experience, they would have seen

of the salvation of God. If all who had labored unitedly in the work of 1844 had received the third angel's message and proclaimed it in the power of the Holy Spirit, the Lord would have wrought mightily with their efforts. A flood of light would have been shed upon the world. Years ago the inhabitants of the earth would have been warned, the closing work would have been completed, and Christ would have come for the redemption of His people." Testimonies, volume 8, 115–116.

"The sin of ancient Israel was in disregarding the expressed will of God and following their own way according to the leadings of unsanctified hearts. Modern Israel are fast following in their footsteps, and the displeasure of the Lord is as surely resting upon them." Testimonies, volume 5, 93.

"But we are less excusable than was ancient Israel. We have had every opportunity to elevate and ennoble our characters, which they did not have. We also have their history, recorded that we may shun their example of unbelief and impatient murmuring and rebellion." Signs of the Times, April 15, 1880.

Ancient Israel is an example of us, Modern Israel; and the beginning of Ancient Israel, the sequence of events, the pattern, is identical to the end of Ancient Israel. It is also identical with the beginning of Modern Israel and the end of Modern Israel—it's identical. There are no accidents in the Word of God—if there is anything we need to understand—it's this history. When this history begins to be played out in our age, the 144,000 are required to recognize it.

A Warning Message

"Men cannot with impunity reject the warning which God in mercy sends them. A message was sent from heaven to the world in Noah's day, and their salvation depended upon the manner in which they treated that message. Because they rejected the warning, the Spirit of God was withdrawn from the sinful race, and they perished in the waters of the Flood. In the time of Abraham, mercy ceased to plead with the guilty inhabitants of Sodom, and all but Lot with his wife and two daughters were consumed by the fire sent down from heaven. So in the days of Christ. The Son of God declared to the unbelieving Jews of that generation: 'Your house is left unto you desolate.' Matthew 23:38. Looking down to the last days, the same Infinite Power declares, concerning those who 'received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved': 'For this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: that they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.' 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12. As they reject the teachings of His word, God withdraws His Spirit and leaves them to the deceptions which they love." The Great Controversy, 430–431.

The focus of the warning message in the times referred to in this passage, was a warning message for God's people. In all of these histories, we see the 3-1 combination, sometimes as in Abraham, only the simple form is seen—the 3 heavenly visitors, but the pattern is there.

Noah/Change Dispensations

Darkness

Genesis 6:5. "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."

Reform: # 1

Noah brought a message of reform and it was for the entire world.

Hebrews 11:7. "By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the

righteousness which is by faith.”

Resistance

Noah met resistance from the people that scoffed at him that he was a fool for doing this.

“In Noah’s day the inhabitants of the old world laughed to scorn what they termed the superstitious fears and forebodings of the preacher of righteousness. He was denounced as a visionary character, a fanatic, an alarmist. ‘As it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man.’ Men will reject the solemn message of warning in our day, as they did in Noah’s time. They will refer to those false teachers who have predicted the event and set the definite time, and will say that they have no more faith in our warning than in theirs.” Testimonies, volume 5, 308.

Manifestation of the Holy Spirit: # 2

This was the supernatural event of the animals coming and getting onboard the ark.

Genesis 7:8–9. “Of clean beasts, and of beasts that are not clean, and of fowls, and of every thing that creepeth upon the earth, There went in two and two unto Noah into the ark, the male and the female, as God had commanded Noah.”

Judgment: # 3

There was a closing of a door.

Genesis 7:16. “And they that went in, went in male and female of all flesh, as God had commanded him: and the Lord shut him in.”

The Number Seven

In many of these histories after the closing of the door you will see the number Seven illustrated in some way.

Genesis 7:4. “For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth.”

The Rain: #4

The literal rain in this sequence is a parallel with the spiritual Latter Rain at the fourth Angel’s time period.

Genesis 7:10–12. “And it came to pass after seven days, that the waters of the flood were upon the earth. In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights.”

“The work of God in the earth presents, from age to age, a striking similarity in every great reformation or religious movement. The principles of God’s dealing with men are ever the same. The important movements of the present have their parallel in those of the past, and the experience of the church in former ages has lessons of great value for our own time.

“No truth is more clearly taught in the Bible than that God by His Holy Spirit especially directs His servants on earth in the great movements for the carrying forward of the work of salvation. Men are instruments in the hand of God, employed by Him to accomplish His purposes of grace and mercy. Each

has his part to act; to each is granted a measure of light, adapted to the necessities of his time, and sufficient to enable him to perform the work which God has given him to do. But no man, however honored of Heaven, has ever attained to a full understanding of the great plan of redemption, or even to a perfect appreciation of the divine purpose in the work for his own time. Men do not fully understand what God would accomplish by the work which He gives them to do; they do not comprehend, in all its bearings, the message which they utter in His name. . . .

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

“Peter, writing of the salvation brought to light through the gospel, says: Of this salvation ‘the prophets have inquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister.’ 1 Peter 1:10–12.

“Yet while it was not given to the prophets to understand fully the things revealed to them, they earnestly sought to obtain all the light which God had been pleased to make manifest. They ‘inquired and searched diligently,’ ‘searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify.’ What a lesson to the people of God in the Christian age, for whose benefit these prophecies were given to His servants! ‘Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister.’ Witness those holy men of God as they ‘inquired and searched diligently’ concerning revelations given them for generations that were yet unborn. Contrast their holy zeal with the listless unconcern with which the favored ones of later ages treat this gift of Heaven. What a rebuke to the ease-loving, world-loving indifference which is content to declare that the prophecies cannot be understood!” The Great Controversy, 343–344.

Every reformatory movement in history is identical and it has been the focus of the writings of the prophets to record these facts, because the whole focus of the Bible is the time period when the final reformatory movement takes place, when the 144,000 are raised up. This is what all the prophets were seeking to understand—how privileged we are to be able to study these things for ourselves.

Elijah / The First

Darkness

1 Kings 17:18. “And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, As the Lord God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.”

Reform: # 1

1 Kings 18:21. “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.”

Resistance by Enemies # 2

1 Kings 18:22–29. 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. 23 Let them therefore give us two bullocks; and let them choose one bullock for themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under:

and I will dress the other bullock, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under: 24 And call ye on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD: and the God that answereth by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken.

25 “And Elijah said unto the prophets of Baal, Choose you one bullock for yourselves, and dress it first; for ye are many; and call on the name of your gods, but put no fire under. 26 And they took the bullock which was given them, and they dressed it, and called on the name of Baal from morning even until noon, saying, O Baal, hear us. But there was no voice, nor any that answered. And they leaped upon the altar which was made.

27 “And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked. 28 And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets, till the blood gushed out upon them. 29 And it came to pass, when midday was past, and they prophesied until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that there was neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded.”

Manifestation of the Holy Spirit: # 2

1 Kings 18:37–39. “Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the Lord God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again. Then the fire of the Lord fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces: and they said, The Lord, he is the God; the Lord, he is the God.”

Judgment: # 3

1 Kings 18:40–42. “And Elijah said unto them, Take the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape. And they took them: and Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon, and slew them there. And Elijah said unto Ahab, Get thee up, eat and drink; for there is a sound of abundance of rain. So Ahab went up to eat and to drink.”

The Number Seven—the Disappointment

1 Kings 18:43. “And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; and he cast himself down upon the earth, and put his face between his knees, And said to his servant, Go up now, look toward the sea. And he went up, and looked, and said, There is nothing. And he said, Go again seven times.”

The Rain: #4

1 Kings 18:37–45. “And it came to pass at the seventh time, that he said, Behold, there ariseth a little cloud out of the sea, like a man’s hand. And he said, Go up, say unto Ahab, Prepare thy chariot, and get thee down, that the rain stop thee not. And it came to pass in the mean while, that the heaven was black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain. And Ahab rode, and went to Jezreel.”

Purification

“Elijah was a type of the saints who will be living on the earth at the time of the second advent of Christ and who will be ‘changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump,’ without tasting of death. 1 Corinthians 15:51–52.” Prophets and Kings, 227. [The 144,000]

“The work of John was foretold by the prophet Malachi: ‘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.’ Malachi 4:5, 6. John the Baptist went forth in the spirit and power of Elijah, to prepare the way of the Lord, and to turn the people to the wisdom of the just. He was a representative of those living in the last days, to whom God has entrusted sacred truths to present before the people, to prepare the way for the second appearing of Christ. And the same principles of temperance which John practiced should be observed by those who in our day are to warn the world of the coming of the Son of man.” Temperance, 91.

Elijah & John the Baptist

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

A Shut Door/Change Dispensations

Revelation 3:7-8. “And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth; I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.”

Matthew 25:10-13. “And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut. Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not. Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.”

This closing of the door marks a close of probation for those who went through the testing of that time. In the histories of Noah, Moses, John Baptist, Millerites and also the 144,000 we see a change of dispensations and focus of worship that takes place in connection with these histories.

Noah: from Eden’s gate to altars (Dispensation of the Father)

Moses: From altars to sanctuary

John Baptist: From earthly to heavenly sanctuary (Dispensation of the Son)

Millerites: From Holy Place to Most Holy Place (Dispensation of the Holy Spirit)

144,000: From Earth to Heaven literally

Since October 22, 1844, when the focus of worship changed From the Holy Place to the Most Holy Place; we are now in the dispensation of the Holy Spirit. And spiritually, the counterfeit that is in the world opposing what we are doing, began right at that same period of time—it is the fallen protestant churches which spiritually fell in 1842.

When you look at this history and the history of Elijah—he is telling the story of two altars; two offerings are offered up; a testing process—the altar of Baal, the altar of God. This history of Elijah we are required to bring down and apply to the Millerite time period. It’s not just that you can do it if you want to; you are required to do it. That history showed that the two altars introduced; that story spoke of 3 ½ literal years of no-rain; a parallel to 1260 prophetic years of the Dark Ages.

Elijah was the prophet for his history and then we are told the John the Baptist was a second Elijah; and we know that the Elijah message is repeated here at the end.

There is a change of dispensation that took place in October 22, 1844, when the Lord is once again rising up a denominated people, and the Holy Spirit is going to give His testimony about the Godhead, and He is going to do that in its fullest sense when He has 144,000 human beings that are fully under His influence—they perfectly reflect the character of Christ.

The Millerite Time Period

“I was shown in vision, and I still believe, that there was a shut door in 1844. All who saw the light of the first and second angels’ messages and rejected that light, were left in darkness. And those who accepted it and received the Holy Spirit which attended the proclamation of the message from heaven, and who afterward renounced their faith and pronounced their experience a delusion, thereby rejected the Spirit of God, and it no longer pleaded with them.” Selected Messages, book 1, 63.

Now

“The parable of the ten virgins was given by Christ Himself, and every specification should be carefully studied. A time will come when the door will be shut. We are represented either by the wise or the foolish virgins. We cannot now distinguish, nor have we authority to say, who are wise and who foolish. There are those who hold the truth in unrighteousness, and these appear outwardly like the wise.” Manuscript Releases, volume 16, 270.

Two Temple Cleansings/Purification

“God’s love for His church is infinite. His care over His heritage is unceasing. He suffers no affliction to come upon the church but such as is essential for her purification, her present and eternal good. He will purify His church even as He purified the temple at the beginning and close of His ministry on earth. All that He brings upon the church in test and trial comes that His people may gain deeper piety and more strength to carry the triumphs of the cross to all parts of the world.” Testimonies volume 9, 228.

In our time we are going to be passing through changes—if we don’t die, we will soon pass into the judgment of the living—there is a different relationship between God and His people at that time. There is a change when the Sunday Law testing period comes and probation begins to close on those people that understand the Sabbath and Sunday issue. There is a change of dispensation when Christ moves from the Most Holy and puts on His garments of vengeance, and there is a change of dispensation when He returns as well.

We are going to go through a change of dispensation just as surely as they did at the beginning of Adventism.

The Second and Fourth Angel’s Messages/Purification

“When Jesus began His public ministry, He cleansed the Temple from its sacrilegious profanation. Among the last acts of His ministry was the second cleansing of the Temple. So in the last work for the warning of the world, two distinct calls are made to the churches. The second angel’s message is, ‘Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication’ Revelation 14:8. And in the loud cry of the third angel’s message a voice is heard from heaven saying, ‘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’ Revelation 18:4–5.” Selected Messages, book 2, 118.

The Present Parallels the Past

“The work of God in the earth presents, from age to age, a striking similarity in every great reformation or religious movement. The principles of God’s dealing with men are ever the same. The important movements of the present have their parallel in those of the past, and the experience of the church in former ages has lessons of great value for our own time.” *The Great Controversy*, 343.

Sin, Righteousness, and Judgment

“The work of the Holy Spirit is to convince the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment.” *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, volume 7, 980.

This is the step by step method that the Holy Spirit always uses.

History of the Remnant/Adventism

1st Angel—Sin

Reform Message—1831/empowered 8/11/1840

2nd Angel—Righteousness—Midnight Cry

Revival Message—6/1842/empowered 8/12–17/1844

3rd Angel—Judgment

Judgment Message—10/22/1844 –Disappointment

Number 7—The Sabbath Symbolized

“I saw the ten commandments written on them with the finger of God. On one table were four, and on the other six. The four on the first table shone brighter than the other six. But the fourth, the Sabbath commandment, shone above them all; for the Sabbath was set apart to be kept in honor of God’s holy name. The holy Sabbath looked glorious—a halo of glory was all around it.” *Early Writings*, 33.

4th Angel—Part A: Babylon is Fallen

Revelation 18:1–3. “And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.”

4th Angel—Part B: The Mark of the Beast

Revelation 18:4. “And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.”

“But when the decree shall go forth enforcing the counterfeit sabbath, and the loud cry of ‘the third angel’ shall warn men against the worship of the beast and his image, the line will be clearly drawn between the false and the true. Then those who still continue in transgression will receive the mark of the beast.” *Signs of the Times*, November 8, 1899.

“And in the loud cry of the third angel’s message a voice is heard from heaven saying, ‘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’ Revelation 18:4, 5.” *Selected Messages*,

book 2, 118.

At that point there is going to be a blood bath; we have no idea how bad it will be.

Persecution

“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.” Selected Messages, book 3, 397.

The Close of Probation

Daniel 11:44–12:1. 44 “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. 45 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. 12:1 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.”

History of the Remnant

Sin: Reform Message—(fear)

Revelation 14:6–7. “And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God.”

Righteousness: Revival Message—(glory) Character

Revelation 14:7. “And give glory to him.”

Judgment: Judgment Message—(judgment)

Revelation 14:7. “For the hour of his judgment is come.”

The Sabbath Symbolized (the Creator) Number 7

Revelation 14:7. “And worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.”

Babylon is Fallen

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

The Mark of the Beast—Sunday Law

Revelation 14:9–12. 9 “And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, 10 The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: 11 And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. 12 Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.”

Persecution

Revelation 14:13. “And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.”

The Close of Probation

Revelation 14:14. “And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle.”

The Unsealing

Millerites—there was an unsealing of the book of Daniel.

At the 1798 time period the book began to be unsealed. When was Daniel sealed?

Daniel 9:24 “Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.”

This point was at the time of Christ. When was it sealed to?

Daniel 12:4. “But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: [1798] many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.”

144,000

Revelation 10:4 “And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not.”

Revelation 22:10. “And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand.”

We know that the Millerite time period events are repeated to the very letter at the end of the world. Just before human probation closes, the prophecy in Revelation that has been sealed up, the Seven Thunders is to be unsealed by the Lion of the tribe of Judah. What inspiration tells us is that it is a principle to approach the study of God’s Word which teaches that the beginning of Adventism is an illustration of the end of Adventism. This truth is to produce the same kind of response among God’s people today that the book of Daniel produced among the Millerites back then. It’s being unsealed.

The Millerites and the 144,000

Revelation 10:8–10. “And the voice which I heard from heaven spake unto me again, and said, Go and take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel which standeth upon the sea and upon the earth. And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey.”

We have always understood the secondary understanding of this prophecy, that it referred to the experience of the Millerites, and yet we have not understood its primary meaning even though it is right there in black and white. Before John eats the book—he is told that it is going to be sweet in his mouth and bitter in his belly—He knew it was going to happen.

Golden Thread of Prophecy: 11:C—The Prophetic Pattern

Sister White is very clear that the Millerites did NOT know that they were going to have a bitter experience—a disappointment. In each of the histories we have looked at we see a disappointment illustrated—God’s people at the end of the world will understand that there is a disappointment coming!

This passage is more clearly illustrating the 144,000 than even the Millerites—but you only see that, as you reach the time when the Lion of the Tribe of Judah begins to unseal the truths of the Seven Thunders, and He is telling us that we need to come to grips with the fact that the Millerite time period is a perfect illustration of what we are entering into now. He has forewarned us that there are bitter trials and disappointments ahead, but He will accomplish His purpose for and with His people. We recognize we are there at the point where the Latter Rain is falling, and we need to recognize and receive it.

It is clear that this message, and the others in this series, is of great importance for us to grasp and understand, and whether we understand this or not, the enemy of souls does understand it, and he has been working in so many and various ways to create distraction among God’s people. One of these ways is by raising up a multitude of voices putting forth many different and disjointed views on the prophecies, especially Daniel and Revelation—but remember always—the prophets are subject to the prophets—and when you find a view that cannot be sustained by the principles of prophetic interpretation, and is inconsistent with Spirit of Prophecy guidelines or puts Daniel out of joint with Revelation—then you must reject that view—no matter who it is that is presenting it.

Most of these inconsistent views consist of the placing of elements of time-prophecy into the present or future. This is totally forbidden by clear statements in both the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. Whether calculated in days or years, literal or symbolic makes no difference—NO TIME PROPHECY extends beyond 1844.

Revelation 10:6 “And sware by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer: 7 But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets.” (Prophetic Mystery—The 2300 and 2520 years)

“I plainly stated at the Jackson camp meeting to these fanatical parties that they were doing the work of the adversary of souls; they were in darkness. They claimed to have great light that probation would close in October, 1884. I there stated in public that the Lord had been pleased to show me that there would be no definite time in the message given of God since 1844”.--2SM 73 (1885).

“Our position has been one of waiting and watching, with no time-proclamation to intervene between the close of the prophetic periods in 1844 and the time of our Lord's coming.”--10MR 270 (1888).

“This time, which the angel declares with a solemn oath, is not the end of this world's history, neither of probationary time, but of prophetic time, which should precede the advent of our Lord. That is, the people will not have another message upon definite time. After this period of time, reaching from 1842 to 1844, there can be no definite tracing of the prophetic time. The longest reckoning reaches to the autumn of 1844.” 7BC 971.