

# Leaves of Life

*Tree of Life Ministries*

---

Edition 13

---

**The Structure Part 2**

**The Death Decree**

---



23 October 2018

**“T**he great controversy between Christ and Satan, that has been carried forward for nearly six thousand years, **is soon to close; and the wicked one redoubles his efforts** to defeat the work of Christ in man's behalf, and to fasten souls in his snares. **To hold the people in darkness and impenitence till the Saviour's mediation is ended**, and there is no longer a sacrifice for sin, is the object which he seeks to accomplish.”

“When there is no special effort made to resist his power, when indifference prevails in the church and the world, **Satan is not concerned**; for he is in no danger of losing those whom he is leading captive at his will. **But when the attention is called to eternal things**, and souls are inquiring, ‘**What must I do to be saved?**’ **he is on the ground**, seeking to match his power against the power of Christ, and to counteract the influence of the Holy Spirit.

“The Scriptures declare that upon one occasion, when the angels of God came to present themselves before the Lord, Satan came also among them, [[Job 1:6](#).] not to bow before the Eternal King, but to further his own malicious designs against the righteous. **With the same object he is in attendance when men assemble for the worship of God**. Though hidden from sight, **he is working with all diligence to control the minds of the worshipers**. Like a skillful general, he lays his plans beforehand. **As he sees the messenger of God searching the Scriptures, he takes note of the subject to be presented to the people**. Then he employs all his cunning and shrewdness **to so control circumstances that the message may not reach those whom he is deceiving on that very point**. The one who most needs the warning will be urged into some business transaction which requires his presence, **or will by some other means be prevented from hearing the words that might prove to him a savor of life unto life**.

“Again, Satan sees the Lord's servants burdened because of the spiritual darkness that enshrouds the people. **He hears their earnest prayers** for divine grace and power to break the spell of indifference, carelessness, and indolence. Then with renewed zeal he plies his arts. **He tempts men to the indulgence of appetite or to some other form of self-gratification**, and thus benumbs their sensibilities, so that they fail to hear the very things which they most need to learn...

# Tree of Life Ministries

**T**ree of Life Ministries is a self-supporting, non-profit, Seventh-day Adventist ministry, which was officially registered in Germany in 2016. At present, the majority of its members are based in Austria.

Our mission is to prepare Seventh-day Adventists for the soon-coming crisis and to teach the everlasting gospel of the three angels' messages of Revelation 14 through seminars, video productions and written publications. We believe that we are living in the last generation, for whom the entire Bible has been written. Each of the ancient prophets spoke less for their own time than for ours, so that their prophesying is in force for us. The different stories in the Bible typify events that will take place at the end of the world. History will repeat itself. We must study the scriptures "line upon line" in light of their prophetic application to the final generation. This constitutes the "present truth" for this time, which is needed to prepare the church to receive the "latter rain." By understanding the spiritual application of these histories, we are to learn "righteousness by faith."

*Leaves of Life* is a present truth periodical, which is mainly compiled and edited by Mark Bruce.

## Contact Information

Mark Bruce	+43 664 7956845
Fjodor Trippel	+43 664 4848014
Lorenz von Werder	+43 664 4847980
Contact email	<a href="mailto:tolm.europe@gmail.com">tolm.europe@gmail.com</a>
Ministry website	<a href="http://treeoflife-ministries.org/">http://treeoflife-ministries.org/</a>
YouTube channel	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXLbOapHWiEn8vs0IYaYGHA">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXLbOapHWiEn8vs0IYaYGHA</a>

## To Support Us

Bank	Vereinigte Volksbank eG
Name	Tree Of Life-Ministries e.V.
IBAN	DE72 4726 4367 7644 7351 00
BIC	GENODEM1STM

## Affiliated Ministries

### Living Waters Ministry (Huntsville, Alabama, United States of America)

Contact email	<a href="mailto:songofsolomon4.15@gmail.com">songofsolomon4.15@gmail.com</a>
Ministry website	<a href="https://www.fountainsoflivingwaters.org/">https://www.fountainsoflivingwaters.org/</a>
YouTube channel	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcPrZXqA_63ZOTEGFgSXjMQ">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcPrZXqA_63ZOTEGFgSXjMQ</a>

### Trees of Righteousness Ministry (Johannesburg, Gauteng, South Africa)

Contact email	<a href="mailto:heraldsofthemorning1335@gmail.com">heraldsofthemorning1335@gmail.com</a>
Ministry website	Coming soon...
YouTube channel	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEVdCepjI8ECwuVI34Hf5dw">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEVdCepjI8ECwuVI34Hf5dw</a>

[Our YouTube Channel](#)

# Table of Contents

A Recap .....	4
The First Sign.....	4
21st February 1848 .....	5
The Abomination of Desolation .....	6
The Sealing Time .....	13
The Death Decree.....	17
The First Test.....	18
The Second Test .....	19
The Order Of Events .....	19
The Golden Image: Stage 1 .....	21
Refusing to Bow Down: Stage 2 .....	25
Summary.....	30
<b>Health Section</b> .....	32
The Lord's Healing Method's .....	32

...Satan well knows that all whom he can lead to neglect prayer and the searching of the Scriptures will be overcome by his attacks. Therefore he invents every possible device to engross the mind. There has ever been a class professing godliness, who, instead of following on to know the truth, make it their religion to seek some fault of character or error of faith in those with whom they do not agree. **Such are Satan's right-hand helpers. Accusers of the brethren are not few;** and they are always active when God is at work, and his servants are rendering him true homage. They will put a false coloring upon the words and acts of those who love and obey the truth. **They will represent the most earnest, zealous, self-denying servants of Christ as deceived or deceivers.** It is their work to misrepresent the motives of every true and noble deed, **to circulate insinuations,** and arouse suspicion in the minds of the inexperienced. In every conceivable manner they will seek to cause that which is pure and righteous to be regarded as foul and deceptive.

**"But none need be deceived concerning them.** It may be readily seen whose children they are, whose example they follow, and whose work they do. **'Ye shall know them by their fruits.'** [Matthew 7:16.] Their course resembles that of Satan, the envenomed slanderer, 'the accuser of our brethren.' [Revelation 12:10.]" *{The Great Controversy, 1888 Edition, P. 519, par. 3}*

## A Recap

**I**n our last edition we put in place the structure of: "The Binding Off," by showing how the two temple cleanings were a demonstration of the two separations that will take place under the ministration of the: "Third Angel." This is represented by the two distinct calls of Revelation 18:1-3 and Revelation 18:4,5. We also were showing how the first of those two calls was a repeat of the Second Angel's message, and that the perfect fulfilment of that message was when the nations will force God's people to worship the false Sabbath, instead of the true. In this edition we will look closer at that way mark to substantiate this fact and to bring many other thoughts together with it line upon line.

## The First Sign

**O**n the "Mount of Olives" the disciples asked Christ to explain to them what He meant in regards to His words, when he said: "**Seest thou these great buildings? there shall not be left one stone upon another,** that shall not be thrown down." (Mark 13:2). Christ went on to explain to them that there were signs that had to precede His coming before they would see the signs that marked His imminent coming.

"And Jesus answered and said unto them, **Take heed that no man deceive you.** For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. **And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars:** see that ye be not troubled: for all *these things* must come to pass, **but the end is not yet.** For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. **All these are the beginning of sorrows. Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted,** and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. **And then shall many be offended,** and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.

**And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.** And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. **But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.** And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and **then shall the end come.**" (Matthew 24:4-14)

We can see from the above verses that there are events that come in order, beginning with a warning from Christ not to be deceived. This we will touch on a little later. But first let us focus upon the: "Wars and rumours of wars," where: "Nation shall rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom." Christ states that: "these are the beginning of sorrows," or birth pangs as it can also be translated as. In 1848 there was an event which took place that prefigured the fulfilment of this prophecy, which she wrote about. Let us now look at that event and then later we will read as to what she said in regards to it.

## 21st February 1848

**“O**n the **21st day of February, 1848**, when the courtiers of Louis Phillippe, of France, were gathered around him, he said: "I was never more firmly seated on the throne of empire than I am to-night." **In the twilight of the next evening**, wearing a "pea jacket," disguised as a hackney coachman, he fled outside the walls of the city of Paris seeking a refuge for his personal safety. The cause of this **great and sudden change** is said to have been the result of some movement on his part **favoring the papal usurpation**, which offended his subjects and his soldiers. **He had on that day completed, in the city of Paris, a grand military review of the French army;** and when their arms were stacked, he retired to the palace, when suddenly a small boy jumped upon a cannon, waving a tri-colored flag, crying, "**DOWN WITH THE POPE! DOWN WITH THE POPE!!**" The soldiers taking up the cry, it passed swiftly up and down the lines, gaining strength as it went, until connected with it was the cry, "**AND DOWN WITH THE KING!**" In a few hours all Paris was a scene of wild confusion. The soldiers, with guns in hand, accompanied by a mob, were rushing for the king's palace. He, on being informed of the turmoil, hastened to escape under disguise."

"The commotion and unrest of France **spread rapidly to other countries. Prussia, Hanover, Sardinia, Sicily, Naples, Venice, Lombardy, Tuscany, and Rome** caught the same mob spirit. **Within three months** all Europe was astir, and over thirty empires and kingdoms were in the greatest disorder. Thrones were burned in the streets, kings and emperors were fleeing and hiding for fear of losing their lives. Politicians predicted that there would be a **general revolution** of the governments of the world.

"**Many of the Adventist ministers** who had not as yet heard of the third angel's message, saw this confusion, and supposed **it must be the rallying of the nations for 'the battle of the great day of God Almighty.'**

"**Just at this time the Seventh-day Adventists were learning from the Scriptures that the Sabbath of the fourth commandment was the sign, or seal, of the living God, and that the time had arrived for the proclamation of the sealing message of Rev. 10:1-4,** and they were devising ways and means of getting this message before the people. While the seventh-day people were preparing for this work, **the First-day Adventists were saying,**

**'You are too late with your sealing message, for the battle of the great day and the Lord's actual coming are right upon us.'**

"Some three months later, the outburst among the nations quieted down; not, however, by a settlement of their grievances, but in a manner that journalists themselves could not explain. Of this trouble, Horace Greeley, in the New York Tribune, said: **'It was a great wonder to us all what started so suddenly that confusion among the nations; but it is a greater wonder still what stopped it.'**" {1905, John Nevis Loughborough, *The Great Second Advent Movement*, P. 271, 272}

As a student of prophecy understands, history can also be understood as His Story, meaning that all the past histories are part of God's plan to reveal to us what is coming at the end of the world (Isaiah 44:6,7). When we look closely at the above historical event we can see how all the prophets are pointing forward to this time. In the above story it was Louis (which means Clovis), King of France, that had made a pact with the other Kings of Europe to give the Pope back his power, that he had prior to his deadly wound in 1798. If this event had indeed gone ahead as planned, it would have been a fulfillment of Revelation 13:3, where the: "Deadly wound" would have been: "Healed." In history there is another Clovis of France who was responsible for giving the Papacy its Army (His power), and was thus the power that played a great role in placing the Pope on the throne, from 538-1798. He achieved this by subduing or coercing the other kings from the former fallen Roman empire, to renounce Paganism and turn to Catholicism, giving their allegiance to the Bishop of Rome.

**"Speaking of the marriage of Clovis**, which took place A. D. 493, the history says- "The court of Burgundy, fearful of offending a young prince whose arms were everywhere victorious, granted his request, and the princess Clotilda was accordingly espoused to him. The death of their first son, who, with the king's consent, received baptism, notwithstanding the earnest remonstrances and soothing persuasions of his wife, inspired him with aversion to the Christian religion. His conversion took place 496."

**"Between that time and 508**, 'by alliances,' 'capitulations,' and conquests, 'the Arborici,' the 'Roman garrisons in the west,' Brittany, the Burgundians and the Visgoths, were brought into subjection." {*The Second Advent Manual*, P. 73, para. 3, 4}

In Matthew 24 we can show that both the events of 21<sup>st</sup> February 1848 and 538AD are in fact parallel prophetic events. Christ tells us that the signs that He had listed to us above, were to be marked by a specific sign that we are required to see.

## The Abomination of Desolation

**“W**hen ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)" (Matthew 24:15)

If we now go to the book of Daniel to understand this event, we can find it noted in Daniel chapter 11.

"And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and **they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate.**" (Daniel 11:31)

According to Uriah Smith's historical account of the books of Daniel and Revelation this event was fulfilled in 538AD, when the Pope ascended the Roman throne, through the decree of Justinian in 533AD.

"**'And they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate.'** Having shown quite fully what constituted the taking away of the daily, or paganism, we now inquire, **When was the abomination that maketh desolate, or the papacy, placed, or set up?** The little horn that had eyes like the eyes of man was not slow to see when the way was open for his advancement and elevation. **From the year 508 his progress toward universal supremacy was without a parallel.**" {*Daniel And The Revelation, 1909, P. 285, para. 4*}

"The whole nation of the Ostrogoths had been assembled for the siege of Rome; but success did not attend their efforts. Their hosts melted away in frequent and bloody combats under the city walls; and the year and nine days during which the siege lasted, witnessed almost the entire consumption of the whole nation. **In the month of March, 538,** dangers beginning to threaten them from other quarters, they raised the siege, burned their tents, and retired in tumult and confusion from the city, with numbers scarcely sufficient to preserve their existence as a nation or their identity as a people."

"Thus the Gothic horn, the last of the three, was plucked up before the little horn of Daniel 7. **Nothing now stood in the way of the pope to prevent his exercising the power conferred upon him by Justinian five years before.** The saints, times, and laws were now in his hands, not in purpose only, but in fact. **And this must therefore be taken as the year when this abomination was placed, or set up, and as the point from which to date the predicted 1260 years of its supremacy.**" {*Daniel And The Revelation, 1909, P. 288, 289*}

Therefore, as type must meet antitype, the sign that Christ gave on the Mount of Olives in Matthew 24, that began the year of papal supremacy for 1260 years, is marking the beginning of the Sunday Law crisis, where the: "Man of sin" will rule for a symbolic period, prefigured by 1260 years. This thought is also confirmed in Matthew 24, through the understanding of: "When" and: "Then." For instance, (The first sign) in Matthew 24:15, the sentence in regards to the: "Abomination of desolation" begins with: "When," giving us a prefixed point that is going to mark something to follow it, marked by: "Then." Therefore, in Matthew 24:15, it gives us the start for the event that will follow that point. We find that event in verse 21, where it explains the event to follow.

"For **then shall be great tribulation,** such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be." (Matthew 24:21)

If we read what Sister White mentions about the: "Great tribulation" she states that it marks the period from 538-1798.

“From the destruction of Jerusalem, Christ passed on rapidly to the greater event, the last link in the chain of this earth's history,—the coming of the Son of God in majesty and glory. **Between these two events, there lay open to Christ's view long centuries of darkness, centuries for His church marked with blood and tears and agony.** Upon these scenes His disciples could not then endure to look, and Jesus passed them by with a brief mention. **“Then shall be great tribulation,”** He said, “such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.” **For more than a thousand years such persecution as the world had never before known was to come upon Christ's followers. Millions upon millions of His faithful witnesses were to be slain.** Had not God's hand been stretched out to preserve His people, all would have perished. “But for the elect's sake,” He said, **“those days shall be shortened.”** {*The Desire of Ages, P. 630, para. 5*}

“The Saviour gives signs of His coming, and more than this, He fixes the time when the first of these signs shall appear: **‘Immediately after the tribulation of those days** shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: and then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.’”

**“At the close of the great papal persecution,** Christ declared, the sun should be darkened, and the moon should not give her light. Next, the stars should fall from heaven. And He says, ‘Learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: so likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that He is near, even at the doors.’ Matthew 24:32, 33, margin.” {*The Desire of Ages, P. 631, 632*}

It must be noted however, and also understood, that Christ mingled the description of several different historical events in the prophecy that He gave at that time. If we look at the event in Luke 21, we can see that it actually points to a different event.

**“And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies,** then know that the desolation thereof is nigh.” {*Luke 21:20*}

The above event was marking the surrounding of Jerusalem by Cestius in the Autumn of 66AD, which began the Roman siege. This led to the destruction of Jerusalem in the Spring of 70AD, by Titus. Does this mean that the prophets are in disagreement? No! Christ takes the: “Abomination of desolation” and places it at the same point in time when Cestius surrounds Jerusalem. However, we as students of prophecy are required to discern what Christ means when He brings these events together and understand that Christ wants us to see the layers in this prophecy.

To concur with that thought, when we look at the time period from the autumn of AD 66, to the spring of AD 70, we have a period of three and a half years, which

prophetically speaking also marks a period of 1260. Therefore, when you parallel both of the events marked by Christ, that mark the sign to precede His coming, you have two parallel events. These are the 1260 years of papal persecution, from 538-1798 and Cestius to Titus (three and a half years), that would culminate with the destruction of Jerusalem. Sister White parallels the destruction of Jerusalem as a punishment for one group and a deliverance for another. This is important and will become more apparent as we go through these studies.

“The Saviour's prophecy concerning the visitation of judgments upon Jerusalem **is to have another fulfillment, of which that terrible desolation was but a faint shadow.** In the fate of the chosen city we may behold the doom of a world that has rejected God's mercy and trampled upon His law. Dark are the records of human misery that earth has witnessed during its long centuries of crime. The heart sickens, and the mind grows faint in contemplation. Terrible have been the results of rejecting the authority of Heaven. **But a scene yet darker is presented in the revelations of the future.** The records of the past,—the long procession of tumults, conflicts, and revolutions, the ‘battle of the warrior ... with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood’ (Isaiah 9:5),—what are these, in contrast with the terrors of that day **when the restraining Spirit of God shall be wholly withdrawn from the wicked,** no longer to hold in check the outburst of human passion and satanic wrath! **The world will then behold, as never before, the results of Satan's rule.”**

**“But in that day, as in the time of Jerusalem's destruction, God's people will be delivered, everyone that shall be found written among the living.** Isaiah 4:3. Christ has declared that He will come the second time to gather His faithful ones to Himself: “Then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And **He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds,** from one end of heaven to the other.’ Matthew 24:30, 31. Then shall they that obey not the gospel be consumed with the spirit of His mouth and be destroyed with the brightness of His coming. 2 Thessalonians 2:8. Like Israel of old the wicked destroy themselves; they fall by their iniquity. By a life of sin, they have placed themselves so out of harmony with God, their natures have become so debased with evil, that the manifestation of His glory is to them a consuming fire.” {*The Great Controversy, P. 36, 37*}

If we bring all the thoughts together now beginning with February 21 1848, which we will read about in a moment, you have the king of France (type of the USA), in collusion with the Kings of Europe, making a pact with the Papal power, that would heal the deadly wound. This event as we will see is being paralleled with 538 AD and the surrounding of Jerusalem by Cestius, in 66 AD, which will lead to a civil war. Let us now read what Sister White stated about that event.

**“December 16, 1848,** the Lord gave me a view of the shaking of the powers of the heavens. I saw that when the Lord said ‘heaven,’ in giving the signs recorded by **Matthew, Mark, and Luke,** He meant heaven, and when He said ‘earth,’ He meant earth. The powers of heaven are the sun, moon, and stars. They rule in the heavens. **The powers of earth are those that rule on the earth. The powers of heaven will be shaken at the voice of God.**

<http://treeoflife-ministries.org/>

Then the sun, moon, and stars will be moved out of their places. They will not pass away, but be shaken by the voice of God.”

“Dark heavy clouds came up, and clashed against each other. The atmosphere parted and rolled back; then we could look up through the open space in Orion, whence came the voice of God. The holy city will come down through that open space. **I saw that the powers of earth are now being shaken, and that events come in order. War, and rumors of war, sword, famine, and pestilence are first to shake the powers of earth**, then the voice of God will shake the sun, moon, and stars, and this earth also. **I saw that the shaking of the powers in Europe is not, as some teach, the shaking of the powers of heaven, but it is the shaking of the angry nations.**” {*Christian Experience and Teachings*, P. 111, para. 1, 2}

We can see from the above quote that she takes the events of 1848 and rebukes the “First Day Adventists,” who were making the statement that it was too late for the sealing message to be given. The reason for this, is that they were insinuating that this event was in fact marking His second coming: “The First-day Adventists were saying, ‘**You are too late with your sealing message, for the battle of the great day and the Lord's actual coming are right upon us.**’” Sister White was therefore correcting their misapplication of scripture and explaining that it was in fact the shaking of the Earth (The sign that precedes His coming) and not the shaking of the Heavens and the Earth (The signs that mark his imminent coming).

This brings us back to the point that Christ made to the disciples on the Mount of Olives, when He said: “Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, **I am Christ; and shall deceive many.**” (Matthew 24:4, 5). Christ makes the point very clear not to be deceived on this point. Christ cannot come until after the 1260 years of papal persecution, that was typifying the Sunday Law Crisis, where the USA, in agreement with “The Ten Kings,” will place the Papacy back on the throne of the world, marking the healing of the deadly wound. Before Christ can come, God’s people must be tested by the image of the Beast test.

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

“In Revelation 13 this subject is plainly presented; [**Revelation 13:11-17**, quoted].

“**This is the test that the people of God must have before they are sealed.** All who prove their loyalty to God by observing His law, and refusing to accept a spurious sabbath, will rank under the banner of the Lord God Jehovah, **and will receive the seal of the living God.** Those who yield the truth of heavenly origin, and accept the Sunday sabbath, will receive the mark of the beast...” {*Manuscript Releases, Volume 15, P. 15, para. 1-3*}

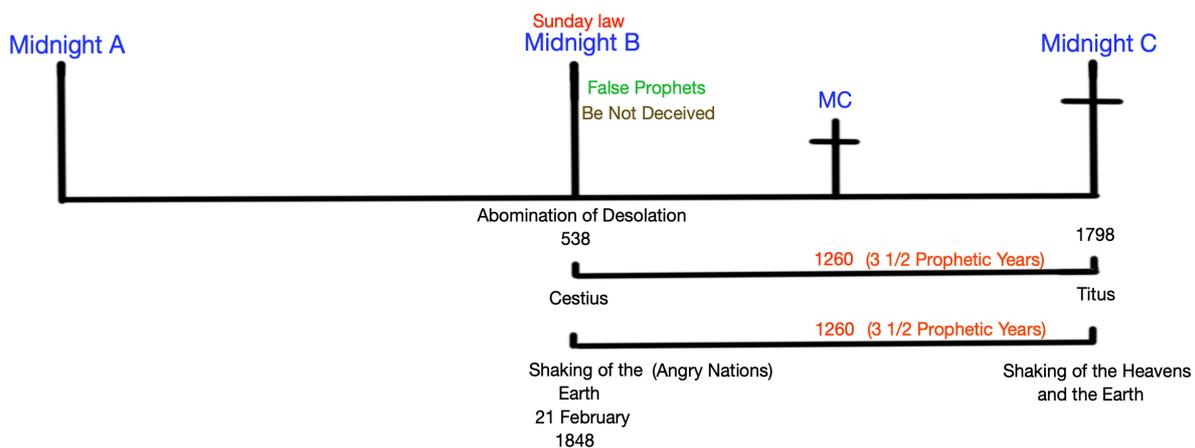
A third witness for this deception at the Sunday law is given by Paul in 2 Thessalonians, where he said. “**Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come**, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is

worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God." (2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4). Sister White went on to explain these verses.

**“But before the coming of Christ, important developments in the religious world, foretold in prophecy, were to take place.** The apostle declared: ‘Be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshiped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.’”

**“Paul's words were not to be misinterpreted.** It was not to be taught that he, by special revelation, had warned the Thessalonians **of the immediate coming of Christ.** Such a position would cause confusion of faith; for disappointment often leads to unbelief. **The apostle therefore cautioned the brethren to receive no such message as coming from him,** and he proceeded to emphasize the fact that **the papal power, so clearly described by the prophet Daniel,** was yet to rise and wage war against God's people. **Until this power should have performed its deadly and blasphemous work, it would be in vain for the church to look for the coming of their Lord.** ‘Remember ye not,’ Paul inquired, ‘that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?’” {Acts of the Apostles, P. 265, para. 1, 2}

You therefore have three witnesses warning God’s people not to be deceived at Midnight point B, when the Sunday Law comes, to believe any message that teaches that this point marks Christ’s coming, It could not come until after the period typified by the 1260. Let us look at a diagram of “The Binding Off” to see how that looks.



When we bring all these thoughts together, we can see that the prophetic testimony is teaching us that Christ does not come at Point B, but rather directs us to point C, where one class will receive the punishment, marked by the destruction of Jerusalem, and the other class will be delivered by the voice of God. It is marking a test that we will have to understand, otherwise we will be deceived. Now a point that I would like to stress as we study out these waymarks, that is the second coming of Christ which is marked here at

point C. This is not speaking about the literal second coming that takes place during the seven last plagues, but rather referring to the point where God’s people are being delivered, when they receive the Latter rain. This is explained when Christ states: "For many shall come in my name, saying, **I am Christ**; and shall deceive many." (Matthew 24:5). The word: "Christ" means the anointed one. It represents a group of people who are claiming to have received the outpouring of the Latter rain, saying that they are now like Him, whereas in reality they have received strong delusion. When we understand this point, we can also understand why the two temple cleansings are marked by the two phases of Revelation 18 and will see in future studies that you must receive both phases, in order to be fully like Christ. Therefore, at Midnight B, the wise virgins who have oil in their lamps, marked by the fulfillment of Matthew 25:1-4, will receive the message of Revelation 18:1-3 and go forward in that power to give the last warning internally to God’s people. The foolish however will receive strong delusion, which they will claim to be the full out pouring of the Spirit and go forward to deceive many. We will confirm this thought as we go through these studies.

However, what I would like to focus on now, is: "The image of the Beast test." In order to correctly understand our test, we must bring everything together: "Line upon line." When we understand that Midnight A-C is a parallel to 911-Midnight A, then we can also identify Midnight A as a parallel in the line of Christ, where He, immediately after His Baptism went into the wilderness for forty days. At the end of those days Satan came down as an: "Angel of light" to tempt Him paralleling our test at Point B, where the: "Many false prophets" will come and try to deceive God’s people as Satan came to deceive Christ.

"For such **are false apostles**, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; **for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light**. Therefore *it is* no great thing if **his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness**; whose end shall be according to their works." (2Corinthians 11:13-15)

We also know that a wilderness, according to Revelation 12:6 and 14, represents the 1260. Therefore, when we bring line upon line together, because we know the first temple cleansing is being marked as the Sunday Law, a point where God’s people will reject Him (Matthew 25:1-4), it is also marking the cross. As we have a wilderness before and after the cross, we can bring in the principle of the last week of Christ and lay it upon the top of this line, which would lead us up to the COP for one group at point C, where Christ will say "It is done."



Once we establish this pattern, we can bring other stories in line upon line to lay upon this line and give other witnesses to this truth. For instance, Moses was on the mount in the cloud for forty days. At the end of this period, on his return from the mount there was a rebellion that took place, where they made a Golden Calf. This would parallel the Sunday Law at Point B. However, every word must have its proper bearing (Miller's Rule No 1). I therefore want to leave the other witnesses for later to show where they are correctly pointing to, but before we do this let us bring some other lines of truth and let God's word speak.

Let us now show how the image of the beast test will look like that is spoken of in Revelation 13:11-17. Sister White stated in the quote we read from 15MR 15 on page 10: **"This is the test that the people of God must have before they are sealed."** Let us now show that the shaking of the Earth at Point B marks the beginning of the "Sealing Time."

## The Sealing Time

**"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 hastening 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 world is now realizing the sure results of transgression of the law of God.** His work of creation completed, the Lord rested on the seventh day, and sanctified the day of His rest, setting it apart as the day which man should devote to His worship. **But today the world at large is utterly disregarding the law of Jehovah. Another day has been instituted in the place of God's day of rest.** The human agent has set his way and his will against the positive teachings of the Word, and the world is plunged in rebellion and sin." *{Selected Messages Book 1, P. 221, 222}*

Several points I want to take note of in the above quote. The first is that she states that: **"We are standing on the threshold of great and solemn events,"** which when you read on is marking the shaking of the earth, when: **"The nations are angry."** We have already ascertained that this is marking the Sunday Law crisis, where God's people are now forced to break the true Sabbath. This is confirmed when it goes on to say: **"The world is now realizing the sure results of transgression of the law of God,"** where: **"Another day has been instituted in the place of God's day of rest."**

The next quote links itself to the above quote. It marks the same point in time where: **"great and solemn events are being fulfilled."** Sister White calls it: **"A great emergency."**

**"We are standing on the threshold of great and solemn events.** Prophecy is fast fulfilling. The Lord is at the door. There is soon to open before us a period of overwhelming

interest to all living. The controversies of the past are to be revived; new controversies will arise. The scenes to be enacted in our world are not yet even dreamed of. **Satan is at work through human agencies.** Those who are making an effort **to change the Constitution and secure a law enforcing Sunday observance little realize what will be the result.** A crisis is just upon us.”

“But God’s servants are not to trust to themselves in this **great emergency.** In the visions given to Isaiah, to Ezekiel, and to John we see how closely heaven is connected with the events taking place upon the earth and how great is the care of God for those who are loyal to Him. The world is not without a ruler. **The program of coming events is in the hands of the Lord. The Majesty of heaven has the destiny of nations, as well as the concerns of His church, in His own charge.**” {*Testimonies For The Church, Volume 5, P. 753, par. 2, 3*}

This next quote is also mentioning the time when: **“The nations are angry,”** but wants us to understand that this is the period that we know in Adventism as: **“The little time of Jacob’s trouble.”** It tells us, when this time of trouble begins, the: **“Nations will be held in check,”** and: **“The latter rain”** will arrive (Revelation 18:1-3), which we mark at the first temple cleansing.

“This view was given in 1847 when there were but very few of the Advent brethren observing the Sabbath, and of these but few supposed that its observance was of sufficient importance to draw a line between the people of God and unbelievers. **Now the fulfillment of that view is beginning to be seen. ‘The commencement of that time of trouble,’** here mentioned does not refer to the time when the plagues shall begin to be poured out, but to a short period just before they are poured out, while Christ is in the sanctuary. **At that time,** while the work of salvation is closing, **trouble will be coming on the earth, and the nations will be angry, yet held in check** so as not to prevent the work of the third angel. **At that time** the ‘latter rain,’ or refreshing from the presence of the Lord, will come, to give power to the loud voice of the third angel, and prepare the saints to stand in the period when the seven last plagues shall be poured out.” {*Early Writings, P. 85, par. 3*}

This leads us on to the next quote where we can bring many nice points and link them together.

**“The final overthrow of all earthly dominions is plainly foretold in the word of truth.** In the prophecy uttered when sentence from God was pronounced upon the last king of Israel is given the message:”

“‘Thus saith the Lord God; Remove the diadem, and take off the crown: ... exalt him that is low, and abase him that is high. I will overturn, overturn, overturn, it: and it shall be no more, until He come whose right it is; and I will give it Him.’ Ezekiel 21:26, 27.

“The crown removed from Israel passed successively to the kingdoms of **Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome.** God says, ‘It shall be no more, until He come whose right it is; and I will give it Him.’

**“That time is at hand. Today the signs of the times declare that we are standing on the threshold of great and solemn events.** Everything in our world is in agitation. Before

our eyes is fulfilling the Saviour's prophecy of the events to **precede His coming**: 'Ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars.... **Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom**: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.' Matthew 24:6, 7.

"The present is a time of overwhelming interest to all living. Rulers and statesmen, men who occupy positions of trust and authority, thinking men and women of all classes, have their attention fixed upon the events taking place about us. They are watching the strained, restless relations that exist among the nations. They observe the intensity that is taking possession of every earthly element, and they recognize that something great and decisive is about to take place—that the world is on the verge of a stupendous crisis.

**"Angels are now restraining the winds of strife, that they may not blow until the world shall be warned of its coming doom**; but a storm is gathering, ready to burst upon the earth; and when God shall bid His angels loose the winds, **there will be such a scene of strife as no pen can picture.**

"The Bible, and the Bible only, gives a correct view of these things. **Here are revealed the great final scenes in the history of our world**, events that already are casting their shadows before, the sound of their approach causing the earth to tremble and men's hearts to fail them for fear." {*Education*, P. 179, 180}

The first point I want to make is that it is referring to: **"The final overthrow of all earthly dominions,"** or nations, and she likens that final overthrow to have been typified by the statue of Daniel 2, referring to the four kingdoms of Babylon, Medo-persia, Greece and Rome. Notice she uses the words: **"That time is at hand."** This is a phrase that is connected with the shaking of the Earth in Luke 21 where it states: "And he spake to them a parable; Behold the fig tree, and all the trees; When they now shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves **that summer is now nigh at hand.** So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that **the kingdom of God is nigh at hand.**" (Luke 21:29-31). The final overthrow of the nations is marked by both the destruction of Jerusalem and the destruction of Babylon. Let us read how Sister White ties both these events together.

**"After speaking of the end of the world, Jesus comes back to Jerusalem, the city then sitting in pride and arrogance, and saying, 'I sit a queen, and shall see no sorrow'** (see Revelation 18:7). As his prophetic eye rests upon Jerusalem, he sees that **as she was given up to destruction, the world will be given up to its doom. The scenes that transpired at the destruction of Jerusalem will be repeated at the great and terrible day of the Lord, but in a more fearful manner....**

"As men throw off all restraint, and **make void his law themselves, as they establish their own perverted law**, and try to force the consciences of those who honor God and keep his commandments **to trample the law under their feet**, they will find that the tenderness which they have mocked will be exhausted....

**"A world is represented in the destruction of Jerusalem,** and the warning given then by Christ comes sounding down the line to our time: **'And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations,** with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring' (Luke 21:25). Yes, they shall pass their borders,

and destruction will be in their track. They will engulf the ships that sail upon their broad waters, and with the burden of their living freight, they will be hurried into eternity, without time to repent." {*Selected Messages, Book 3, P. 417, par. 1-3*}

Notice when she mentions the destruction of Jerusalem it is marking: "**The shaking of the Heavens and the Earth,**" which we know is also marking the second coming of Christ. Sister White ties these two events together as the crisis that is "**at hand.**"

"...Jesus did not answer His disciples by taking up separately the destruction of Jerusalem and the great day of His coming. **He mingled the description of these two events.** Had He opened to His disciples future events as He beheld them, they would have been unable to endure the sight. In mercy to them **He blended the description of the two great crises,** leaving the disciples to study out the meaning for themselves..." {*The Desire of Ages, P. 628, par. 1*}

Let us now read how the destruction of Babylon is a parallel event. Notice how just as Jerusalem said; "**I sit a queen, and shall see no sorrow,**" Babylon expresses the same thoughts.

"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. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities. Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double. How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her: for she saith in her heart, **I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow.** Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong *is* the Lord God who judgeth her." (Revelation 18:4-8)

**The destruction of Babylon pictures to some degree the final destruction of the world, of which the prophet writes, "Behold, the day of the Lord cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate; and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it."** **Destruction came upon Babylon while the king and his lords were engaged in feasting and revelry. Cyrus and his army marched up the bed of the river Euphrates;** for trenches had been dug, and the river turned from its course, so that there was no obstruction to their entering the city, provided the gates were opened. The guardsmen were indulging in merriment and revelry, and the city was left without defense. Before the officers were aware, the enemy had entered the city, and escape was impossible. Those in one part of the city were slain or captured before those in another part knew that the city was invaded. **No alarm was sounded, no cry could be raised to warn the people that the forces of Cyrus were upon them....** {*ST December 29, 1890, par. 2*}

During the destruction of Jerusalem the Jews were keeping the Feast of Passover, which was a mockery to God. Christ had given His life on the cross which was what the Passover pointed to. Therefore, this feast was an abomination in His eyes, just as the

Babylonians were likewise holding a drunken feast to Bacchus, the wine God, on the evening of its destruction. Let us go back to the quote from Education 179, where when she said **“That time is at hand.”** It marks the same point where **“We are standing on the threshold of great and solemn events,”** where **“Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.”** Therefore, the sign that points to the second coming of Christ (The outpouring of the latter rain) and the destruction of Jerusalem, is also pointing to the destruction of the Cities, when the final earthly kingdoms will be brought down. She says; **“Angels are now restraining the winds of strife, that they may not blow until the world shall be warned of its coming doom.”** **“Here are revealed the great final scenes in the history of our world.”**

Let us now list all the points in order so that we can place them upon our line.

1. It's the threshold of great and solemn events.
2. Nations are rising against nation.
3. They have made void God's law.
4. The punishment for transgressing God's law is nigh at hand.
5. It is the sealing time.
6. The Angels are holding back the four winds until His work is finished.
7. The first sign is a warning to prepare for the second sign.

The most important point at this time that I wish us to take note of is that Sister White parallels the four nations listed in Daniel chapter two, (Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece and Rome) as a symbol of the nations, that will fall when the Lord comes to punish the nations. From this we can ascertain that the Statue is a symbol of the threefold union that will bring this Sunday law upon God's people. This I will endeavor to prove as we go through these studies. I want us now to go into the binding off to put in place the order of events that will transpire, beginning at point B until we get to point C.

## The Death Decree

**A**s we read earlier, in Christ's Object Lessons page 412, it states that at Midnight God's people will come face to face with death marking the point where the “Cry” goes out at “Midnight” in Matthew 25:6. Let us now try to understand from the scriptures how this comes to pass and how will it look like for us.

Let us begin by looking at a principle. The Bible states; "If any *man* come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, **yea, and his own life also**, he cannot be my disciple." (Luke 14:26) There are seven things listed in this verse (the number of completeness) that Christ requires from us. The first six are relating to our earthly ties, which are those whom we love, but the last one is referring to our lives, which is the greatest test of all to give up for Christ.

Sister White states that God's people at the end of the world will be studying the book of Job with great interest.

"The long years amid desert solitudes were not lost. Not only was Moses gaining a preparation for the great work before him, but during this time, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, he wrote the book of Genesis and **also the book of Job, which would be read with the deepest interest by the people of God until the close of time** {*The Signs of the Times, February 19, 1880*}. {*SDA Bible Commentary, Vol 3, P. 1140, par. 3*}

If all the prophets are speaking about the end of the world then the book of Job is also pointing to the Sunday Law test. It is also a nice point to note that the book of Job consists of forty-two chapters as does the Great controversy. Forty-two being a symbol for the 1260 wilderness that is marked from Midnight B-C. Let us look now at these two tests. If the principle in Luke 14:26 is correct then Job should first be tested on all the things that he loves and is attached to, followed by his own life.

## The First Test

**N**ow there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them. And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. And the LORD said unto Satan, **Hast thou considered my servant Job, that *there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?*** Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought? Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? **thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.** But put forth thine hand now, and **touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face.** And the LORD said unto Satan, **Behold, all that he hath *is* in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand.** So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD." (Job 1:6-12)

At Midnight point B when the Sunday Law is put in place, Christ warns us to "Be not deceived," as "**Many**" "**False prophets**" would come and "**Deceive many.**" Just as Satan came as "**An Angel of light**" to test Christ, these "**False prophets**" will come to act as His agents, to deceive those who are not gathering the oil. We see from the above verses that Job represents someone who is righteous, someone who has gathered the oil and who will not listen to their deceptive theories, just as Christ did not listen to Satan's.

In this first test Job lost his sons, his daughters, his house and all his living, yet he endured this test without sinning.

"Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped, And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD. **In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.**" (Job 1:20-22)

## The Second Test

**L**et us examine now Job's second test. If we are correct in our understanding, then as Job had been tested on whether or not he was prepared to forsake all his worldly goods for the sake of Christ, according to scripture (Luke 14:33), he must now likewise be prepared to forsake his life. "Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren." (1John 3:16)

"Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the LORD. And the LORD said unto Satan, From whence comest thou? And Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. And the LORD said unto Satan, **Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? and still he holdeth fast his integrity, although thou movedst me against him, to destroy him without cause.** And Satan answered the LORD, and said, **Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life.** But put forth thine hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face. **And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, he is in thine hand; but save his life. So went Satan forth from the presence of the LORD, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown.** And he took him a potsherd to scrape himself withal; and he sat down among the ashes. **Then said his wife unto him, Dost thou still retain thine integrity? curse God, and die.** But he said unto her, **Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh.** What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? **In all this did not Job sin with his lips.**" (Job 2:1-10)

The Bible record is written for us. It is therefore plain to see, that these same two tests will come upon us, just as they did with Job. The Lord does not change (Malachi 3:6) and when this great test comes, will we stand by every word of God, or will we forsake all to save our skins? This is the great test that we must be preparing ourselves for.

## The Order Of Events

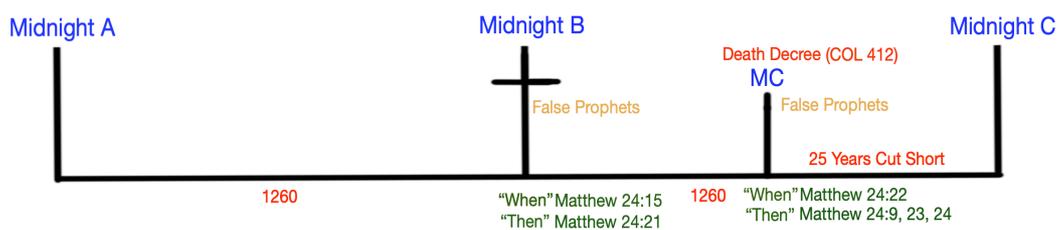
**N**ow that we have ascertained the two tests that will come upon us during the Sunday Law Crisis, that are marked by Satan coming down, are we able find another place to confirm Satan coming to test us twice? If we go back to look at Matthew 24 closely, we will see that there are in fact two times that "The False prophets" manifest themselves.

The Bible tells us; "**For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.**" (Matthew 24:5). This is the first time where the false prophets are identified as coming to deceive, marked by "**The shaking of the Earth,**" where "**The nations are angry,**" placing them at point B (Matthew 25:1-4). However, if you look closely we have two witnesses to show that they also manifest themselves at the Midnight Cry, where again the virgins manifest their characters, according to Matthew 25:6. In verse 8 it states

in relation to the shaking of the Earth: "**All these are the beginning of sorrows.**" At this point in verse 9 we now have the word "**Then,**" marking a point during the period after point B, where they will deliver you up. This leads up to a point where they will kill you: "**Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you:** and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake." It goes on to say that at that point, many will be offended: "**And then shall many be offended,** and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another." We can also find this same truth in the book of John where it states: "These things have I spoken unto you, that **ye should not be offended.** They shall put you out of the synagogues: **yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you** will think that he doeth God service." (John 16:1-2). Christ is telling us about these things in advance, so that we can know what is coming and prepare accordingly: "**But these things have I told you, that when the time shall come, ye may remember that I told you of them.** And these things I said not unto you at the beginning, because I was with you." (John 16:4)

To confirm the above thoughts, that there is in fact two times where the "**False prophets**" (Foolish virgins) manifest themselves, which would also be in agreement with the two temple cleansings (Separations) in Matthew 25 and the two times that Job is tested by Satan. If we remember that verse 15 starts with "**When,**" marking the point where the Abomination of desolation is set up at point B. This leads to "**Then,**" in verse 21: "**For then shall be great tribulation,** such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be." (Matthew 24:21). The Great tribulation, as we have already read, is referring to the 1260 years of papal supremacy, which was cut short by 25 years, a point where the first of the signs that marked His coming began to sound. The next verse, 23, begins with the word "**Then,**" where it states the following: "**Then** if any man shall say unto you, **Lo, here is Christ, or there;** believe *it* not. **For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders;** insomuch that, if *it were* possible, they shall deceive the very elect." (Matthew 24:23, 24).

Let us now look at a diagram to help us to see these points, so that we can see how the lord brings things together: "Line upon line."



To conclude, in agreement with the above diagram, the Twenty Five years cut short, marks the point where more "**False prophets**" rise the second time and will be responsible for delivering God's people up to death, in agreement with Christ's Object lessons 412. This is where the second group of foolish virgins fall away, marking where the: "**Man of sin,**" will be revealed.

"It is in a crisis that character is revealed. **When the earnest voice proclaimed at midnight, 'Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him,'** and the sleeping virgins were roused from their slumbers, it was seen who had made preparation for the

event. Both parties were taken unawares; but one was prepared for the emergency, and the other was found without preparation. **So now, a sudden and unlooked-for calamity, something that brings the soul face to face with death,** will show whether there is any real faith in the promises of God. It will show whether the soul is sustained by grace. **The great final test comes at the close of human probation,** when it will be too late for the soul's need to be supplied." {*Christ's Object Lessons, P. 412, par. 1*}

Sister White states, that the point where the false prophets manifest themselves, marks the sign of His imminent coming. This is in agreement with the Midnight Cry, which announces His coming.

**"And, furthermore, Satan is not permitted to counterfeit the manner of Christ's advent.** The Saviour has warned His people against deception upon this point, and **has clearly foretold the manner of His second coming.** **"There shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect....** Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, He is in the desert; go not forth; behold, He is in the secret chambers; believe it not. For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." Matthew 24:24-27, 31; 25:31; Revelation 1:7; 1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17. This coming there is no possibility of counterfeiting. It will be universally known—witnessed by the whole world." {*The Great Controversy, P. 625, par. 2*}

Therefore, when we place line upon line, we can place the second time the **"False prophets"** arising at **"The Midnight Cry,"** In agreement with COL 412, that marks the point where God's people will come face to face with death.

As we go through these studies, we will continue to lay more truths to add and give confirmation to these thoughts.

Let us now go to the book of Daniel, to give confirmation to this structure, where we can see how all these stories are truly teaching us very precisely, as to what is soon to come upon us. We will begin in Chapter 3, a chapter that Sister White states plainly is marking the Sunday law.

## The Golden Image: Stage 1

**"A corrupt union has been formed to tear down God's memorial of creation—the seventh day, which He hallowed and blessed and gave to man to be a sign between God and His people, to be observed throughout their generations forever. A period is coming when everyone will take sides between the Sabbath of the fourth commandment, which the Lord has sanctified and blessed, and the spurious sabbath instituted by the man of sin."**

**"An idol sabbath has been set up, as the golden image was set up in the plains of Dura.** And as Nebuchadnezzar, **the king of Babylon, issued a decree that all who would not bow down and worship this image should be killed, so a proclamation will be made that all who will not reverence the Sunday institution will be punished with imprisonment and death.** Thus the Sabbath of the Lord is trampled underfoot. But the Lord has declared, 'Woe unto them that decree unrighteous decrees, and write grievousness which they have

prescribed' [Isaiah 10:1]. [Zephaniah 1:14-18; 2:1-3, quoted.]" {*Manuscript Releases, Volume 14, P. 91, par. 2, 3*}

Daniel chapter 3 begins with a decree that states: "Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height *was* threescore cubits, *and* the breadth thereof six cubits: he set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon. **Then Nebuchadnezzar the king sent to gather together the princes, the governors, and the captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces,** to come to the dedication of the image which Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up. Then the princes, the governors, and captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, were gathered together unto the dedication of the image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up; and they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up. **Then an herald cried aloud, To you it is commanded, O people, nations, and languages, That at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king hath set up: And whoso falleth not down and worshippeth shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.**" (Daniel 3:1-6)

Sister White explains in the book of Spalding and Megan, that it is the United States who makes the decree and this is in agreement with the Bible.

"The Lord has shown me clearly that the image of the beast will be formed before probation closes; for **it is to be the great test for the people of God, by which their eternal destiny will be decided...."**

"In Revelation 13 this subject is plainly presented; [**Revelation 13:11-17**, quoted].

"**This is the test that the people of God must have before they are sealed.** All who prove their loyalty to God by observing His law, and refusing to accept a spurious sabbath, will rank under the banner of the Lord God Jehovah, **and will receive the seal of the living God.** Those who yield the truth of heavenly origin, and accept the Sunday sabbath, will receive the mark of the beast..." {*Manuscript Releases, Volume 15, P. 15, para. 1-3*}

Sister white instructs us that the great test can be found beginning in Revelation 13:11: "And I beheld **another beast coming up out of the earth;** and he had two horns like a lamb, and **he spake as a dragon.**" (Revelation 13:11)

The Beast that speaks like a Dragon is the USA.

"**I saw that the two-horned beast had a dragon's mouth,** and that his power was in his head, and that **the decree would go out of his mouth.** Then I saw the Mother of Harlots; that the mother was not the daughters, but separate and distinct from them. **She has had her day, and it is past, and her daughters, the Protestant sects, were the next to come on the stage and act out the same mind that the mother had when she persecuted the saints.** I saw that as the mother has been declining in power, the daughters had been

growing, and soon they will exercise the power once exercised by the mother.” {*Spalding and Megan Collection, P. 1, par. 4*}

We can therefore clearly identify Nebuchadnezzar as the USA, who is prophetically the: “**King of kings**” (Daniel 2:37), teaching us that the USA is the king of “**The ten Kings**,” of Revelation 17. Kings and rulers etc are the Dragon power, for they are powers that have the ability to persecute.

“**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, P. 38, par. 2*}

“The line of prophecy in which these symbols are found begins with Revelation 12, with the dragon that sought to destroy Christ at His birth. **The dragon is said to be Satan (Revelation 12:9); he it was that moved upon Herod to put the Saviour to death.** But the chief agent of Satan in making war upon Christ and His people during the first centuries of the Christian Era **was the Roman Empire**, in which paganism was the prevailing religion. **Thus while the dragon, primarily, represents Satan, it is, in a secondary sense, a symbol of pagan Rome.**” {*The Great Controversy, P. 438, par. 2*}

In the time of Christ, Rome was the prevailing power that ruled over the then known world. It was the agency that had the power to persecute, it was the civil power that Satan used to try and destroy Christ at His birth. In the quote below it confirms this understanding, as to how Satan manifests himself through these powers.

“Herod's [*It was **Herod Antipas** who took part in the trial of Christ, and **Herod Agrippa I** who put James to death. Agrippa was nephew and brother-in-law of Antipas. Through intrigue he secured the throne of Antipas for himself, and on coming to power pursued the same course toward the Christians that Antipas had followed. **In the Herodian dynasty there were six persons who bore the name of Herod.** It thus served in a measure as a general title, the individuals being designated by other names, as **Antipas, Philip, Agrippa, etc.** So we might say **Czar Nicholas, Czar Alexander, etc.** In the present instance this use of the term becomes more natural and appropriate inasmuch as Agrippa, when he put James to death, occupied the throne of Antipas, who a little before had been concerned in the trial of Christ; and **he manifested the same character. It was the same Herodian spirit, only in another personality, as ‘the dragon’ of Revelation 12:17 is the same as the dragon of verse 3, the real inspiring power in each being the dragon of verse 9. In the one case he works through pagan Rome; in the other through our own government.**]* heart had grown still harder; and when he heard that Christ had risen, he was not much troubled. He took the life of James, and when he saw that this pleased the Jews, he took Peter also, intending to put him to death. But God had a work for Peter to do, and sent his angel to deliver him. Herod was visited with the judgments of God. While exalting himself

in the presence of a great multitude, he was smitten by the angel of the Lord, and died a most horrible death. {*Early Writings, P. 185, par. 2*}

It tells us in the book of Ezekiel that Pharaoh, who is the King of Egypt, which is a symbol of the world, is the head of the dragon power: "Speak, and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; **Behold, I am against thee, Pharaoh king of Egypt, the great dragon** that lieth in the midst of his rivers, which hath said, My river *is* mine own, and I have made *it* for myself." (Ezekiel 29:3). It is this dragon power, with the USA as the leading power, that will speak like a dragon to persecute God's people, when it unites with the Papacy. Notice the ten nations (Ten Kings) here in the book of Psalms, who lift up the head (The Papacy) and are united to murder God's people.

"Keep not thou silence, O God: hold not thy peace, and be not still, O God. For, lo, thine enemies make a tumult: and **they that hate thee have lifted up the head**. They have taken crafty counsel against thy people, and consulted against thy hidden ones. **They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from *being* a nation**; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance. **For they have consulted together with one consent**: they are confederate against thee: The tabernacles of **Edom**, and the **Ishmaelites**; of **Moab**, and the **Hagarenes**; **Gebal**, and **Ammon**, and **Amalek**; the **Philistines** with the inhabitants of **Tyre**; **Assur** also is joined with them: they have holpen the children of Lot. Selah." (Psalms 83:1-8)

"As we approach the last crisis, it is of vital moment that harmony and unity exist among the Lord's instrumentalities. The world is filled with storm and war and variance. **Yet under one head—the papal power—the people will unite to oppose God in the person of His witnesses.**" {*Pastoral Ministry, P. 114, par. 4*}

Notice in Psalm 83 that these ten nations have formed a confederacy with: "**The Man of Sin**," that they all have one mind (One consent) to kill God's people. This is also marked in Revelation 17.

"And the ten horns which thou sawest **are ten kings**, which have received no kingdom as yet; **but receive power as kings one hour with the beast**. **These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast**. These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him *are* called, and chosen, and faithful." (Revelation 17:12-14)

To conclude these initial thoughts from Daniel 3. It begins with all the rulers of the Kingdom of Babylon (A symbol of the Kings of the Earth), who gather themselves together to worship the Golden Image (A symbol of the Sunday law), where it is decreed, that all, meaning the whole world, are to bow down and worship this image. Anyone who fails to do this, is to be thrown into the fiery furnace. What we see here is a law enacted by the United States and is repeated worldwide, that anyone who does not worship, will face death. Let us look at another witness for this in Daniel chapter 6, where we can see a very similar gathering of all the rulers of the earth. This time however, King Darius represents

someone who gets deceived, into making a decree against Daniel, who is a symbol for God's people at the end of the world.

"It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom an hundred and twenty princes, which should be over the whole kingdom; And over these three presidents; of whom Daniel was first: that the princes might give accounts unto them, and the king should have no damage. **Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him;** and the king thought to set him over the whole realm. **Then the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him.** Then said these men, **We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find it against him concerning the law of his God.** Then these presidents and princes **assembled together** to the king, and said thus unto him, King Darius, live for ever. **All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree,** that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions. **Now, O king, establish the decree, and sign the writing, that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not. Wherefore king Darius signed the writing and the decree."** (Daniel 6:1-9)

## Refusing to Bow Down: Stage 2

**W**e need to understand, that when a nation makes a law, it is only when that law has been broken, that a person will suffer the result of the transgression. Therefore, when this law is made at Midnight B, it will only effect God's people as and when they break that law, after it has come into effect. Another point we must also understand, is that even though a law has been passed, that if transgressed may result in death, it doesn't necessarily mean that this will be the result. Satan knows that martyrs, will bring many to sympathise with those who hold to the truth and he would rather that people are prevented from keeping the truth, by other means first. It is only as those means fail, that he will resort to putting to death those who stand fast for their faith.

"Trial and persecution will come to all who, in obedience to the Word of God, refuse to worship this false sabbath. **Force is the last resort of every false religion.** At first it tries attraction, as the king of Babylon tried the power of music and outward show. **If these attractions, invented by men inspired by Satan, failed to make men worship the image, the hungry flames of the furnace were ready to consume them. So it will be now.** The papacy has exercised her power to compel men to obey her, and she will continue to do so. We need the same spirit that was manifested by God's servants in the conflict with paganism" {*The Signs of the Times, May 6, 1897*}. – {*SDA Bible Commentary, Vol 7, P. 976, par. 9*}

"As the controversy extends into new fields and the minds of the people are called to God's downtrodden law, Satan is astir. **The power attending the message will only**

<http://treeoflife-ministries.org/>

**madden those who oppose it.** The clergy will put forth almost superhuman efforts to shut away the light lest it should shine upon their flocks. **By every means at their command they will endeavor to suppress the discussion of these vital questions. The church appeals to the strong arm of civil power, and, in this work, papists and Protestants unite.** As the movement for Sunday enforcement becomes more bold and decided, the law will be invoked against commandment keepers. **They will be threatened with fines and imprisonment, and some will be offered positions of influence, and other rewards and advantages, as inducements to renounce their faith.** But their steadfast answer is: "Show us from the word of God our error"—the same plea that was made by Luther under similar circumstances. Those who are arraigned before the courts make a strong vindication of the truth, and some who hear them are led to take their stand to keep all the commandments of God. Thus light will be brought before thousands who otherwise would know nothing of these truths."

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

**"As the storm approaches, a large class who have professed faith in the third angel's message, but have not been sanctified through obedience to the truth, **abandon their position and join the ranks of the opposition.** By uniting with the world and partaking of its spirit, they have come to view matters in nearly the same light; and **when the test is brought, they are prepared to choose the easy, popular side. Men of talent and pleasing address, who once rejoiced in the truth, employ their powers to deceive and mislead souls. They become the most bitter enemies of their former brethren.** When Sabbathkeepers are brought before the courts to answer for their faith, **these apostates are the most efficient agents of Satan to misrepresent and accuse them,** and by false reports and insinuations to stir up the rulers against them.**

**"In this time of persecution the faith of the Lord's servants will be tried.** They have faithfully given the warning, looking to God and to His word alone. God's Spirit, moving upon their hearts, has constrained them to speak. Stimulated with holy zeal, and with the divine impulse strong upon them, they entered upon the performance of their duties without coldly calculating the consequences of speaking to the people the word which the Lord had given them. They have not consulted their temporal interests, **nor sought to preserve their reputation or their lives.** Yet when the storm of opposition and reproach bursts upon them, some, overwhelmed with consternation, will be ready to exclaim: 'Had we foreseen the consequences of our words, we would have held our peace.' **They are hedged in with difficulties. Satan assails them with fierce temptations.** The work which they have undertaken seems far beyond their ability to accomplish. **They are threatened**

**with destruction.** The enthusiasm which animated them is gone; yet they cannot turn back. Then, feeling their utter helplessness, they flee to the Mighty One for strength. They remember that the words which they have spoken were not theirs, but His who bade them give the warning. God put the truth into their hearts, and they could not forbear to proclaim it. {*The Great Controversy, P. 607, 608*}

Therefore, when we take into account all the points above, although a Sunday law will be made (with a maximum penalty of death attached to it), it states that other means will first be employed, to cause people to renounce their faith, and if all else fails, the death decree will be used as a last resort. We can confirm this by going back to Daniel chapter 3, where we are able to see clearly, that the threatening of death is given before the people bow down.

"Then an herald cried aloud, To you **it is commanded**, O people, nations, and languages, **That at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet**, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king hath set up: And **whoso falleth not down** and worshippeth **shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace**. Therefore **at that time, when all the people heard the sound** of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and all kinds of musick, **all the people, the nations, and the languages, fell down and worshipped the golden image** that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up." (Daniel 3:4-7)

Let us look now and see the result, of all those who refuse to bow down, as recorded in the prophetic narrative.

"Wherefore **at that time certain Chaldeans came near, and accused the Jews**. They spake and said to the king Nebuchadnezzar, O king, live for ever. **Thou, O king, hast made a decree**, that every man that shall hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, shall fall down and worship the golden image: **And whoso falleth not down and worshippeth, that he should be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace. There are certain Jews** whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; **these men, O king, have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up**. Then Nebuchadnezzar in *his* rage and fury commanded to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. **Then they brought these men before the king.**" (Daniel 3:8-13)

So as we can see, after the decree has been made (at point B) and a refusal to bow down is reported, God's people will be brought before the rulers of the earth, to give an account for their faith. God's word gives us instruction, as to what we are to do at this time.

"Then said he unto them, **Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom**: And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and **great signs shall there be from heaven**. **But before all these**, they shall lay their hands on you, and persecute you, **delivering you up to the synagogues, and**

into prisons, being brought before kings and rulers for my name's sake. And it shall turn to you for a testimony. Settle *it* therefore in your hearts, not to meditate before what ye shall answer: **For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist.** And ye shall be betrayed both by parents, and brethren, and kinsfolks, and friends; and **some of you shall they cause to be put to death.** And ye shall be hated of all *men* for my name's sake. But there shall not an hair of your head perish. In your patience possess ye your souls." (Luke 21:10-19)

In the above verses, it begins with the shaking of the earth, which we have already correctly marked at Point B, where the Sunday Law comes into place. It goes on to speak about the shaking of the heavens, but then states: **"But before all these,"** referring to the shaking of the heavens, **"They shall"** deliver you up **"Before kings and rulers."** At that time, it is a promise that the Lord will deliver us, if we faithfully wait and trust in Him, as we will see in Daniel chapters 3 and 6.

"Then **Nebuchadnezzar in his rage and fury** commanded to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Then they brought these men before the king. Nebuchadnezzar spake and said unto them, **Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, do not ye serve my gods, nor worship the golden image which I have set up?** Now if ye be ready that at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the image which I have made; *well:* but if ye worship not, ye shall be cast the same hour into the midst of a burning fiery furnace; and **who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?** Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, answered and said to the king, **O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king.** But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that **we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.** Then was Nebuchadnezzar full of fury, and the form of his visage was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego: *therefore* he spake, and commanded that they should heat the furnace one seven times more than it was wont to be heated. And he commanded the most mighty men that *were* in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, *and* to cast *them* into the burning fiery furnace." (Daniel 3:13-20)

"Now **when Daniel knew that the writing was signed,** he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, **he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.** Then these men assembled, and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God. **Then they came near, and spake before the king concerning the king's decree;** Hast thou not signed a decree, that every man that shall ask *a petition* of any God or man within thirty days, save of thee, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions? **The king answered and said, The thing is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not.** Then answered they and said before the king, **That Daniel, which is of the children of the captivity of Judah, regardeth not thee, O king, nor the decree that thou hast signed, but maketh his petition three times a day.** Then the king, when he heard *these* words, **was**

**sore displeased with himself, and set his heart on Daniel to deliver him:** and he laboured till the going down of the sun to deliver him. Then these men assembled unto the king, and said unto the king, **Know, O king, that the law of the Medes and Persians is, That no decree nor statute which the king establisheth may be changed.** Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast *him* into the den of lions. **Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.**" (Daniel 6:10-16)

In the above stories, we see the same pattern. A decree is made, God's people refuse to bow down to the decree, they are brought before the king, and the decree is enforced upon them. The only point I want to make that differs in these two accounts, is the fact that Nebuchadnezzar is angry that they refuse to bow down, but Darius who was deceived, believes that they will be delivered. Because of the laws that do not change, he had no choice but to enforce the law. There will be people, lawmakers and statesmen, who although, are part of this false system at the end of the world, will see the truth and do all they can to assist God's true people. We should do all that we can therefore to give a correct account of our faith, not only for our own sakes, but also for the many who will be saved if we are faithful.

In 14MR 91.3, which we have already read above on P. 21, it states that: "**a proclamation will be made** that all who will not reverence the Sunday institution **will be punished with imprisonment and death.**" John the Baptist was one of those who paid the price of his faith with his life. Some however, will be merely placed in prison, from where they will be delivered. Let us look at a couple of more witnesses, before we close on this point we have been studying.

The first story we will look at is the story of Joseph, who refuses to sleep with Potiphar's wife. His wife being a symbol of a false church, who cries out when Joseph refuse to lie with her, represents the false message that she bears against God's people. Joseph, because of his faithfulness to resist her, is thrown into prison.

"And it came to pass after these things, that his master's wife cast her eyes upon Joseph; and she said, **Lie with me. But he refused,** and said unto his master's wife, Behold, my master wotteth not what *is* with me in the house, and he hath committed all that he hath to my hand; *There is* none greater in this house than I; neither hath he kept back any thing from me but thee, because thou *art* his wife: **how then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?** And it came to pass, **as she spake to Joseph day by day, that he hearkened not unto her, to lie by her, or to be with her.** And it came to pass about this time, that *Joseph* went into the house to do his business; and *there was* none of the men of the house there within. And she caught him by his garment, saying, Lie with me: and **he left his garment in her hand, and fled, and got him out.** And it came to pass, when she saw that he had left his garment in her hand, and was fled forth, That she called unto the men of her house, and spake unto them, saying, See, he hath brought in an Hebrew unto us to mock us; he came in unto me to lie with me, and **I cried with a loud voice:** And it came to pass, when he heard that I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment with me, and fled, and got him out. And she laid up his garment by her, until his lord came home. And she spake unto him according to these words, saying, **The Hebrew servant,**

<http://treeoflife-ministries.org/>

which thou hast brought unto us, came in unto me to mock me: And it came to pass, as I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment with me, and fled out. And it came to pass, when his master heard the words of his wife, which she spake unto him, saying, After this manner did thy servant to me; that **his wrath was kindled. And Joseph's master took him, and put him into the prison**, a place where the king's prisoners were bound: and he was there in the prison." (Genesis 39:7-20)

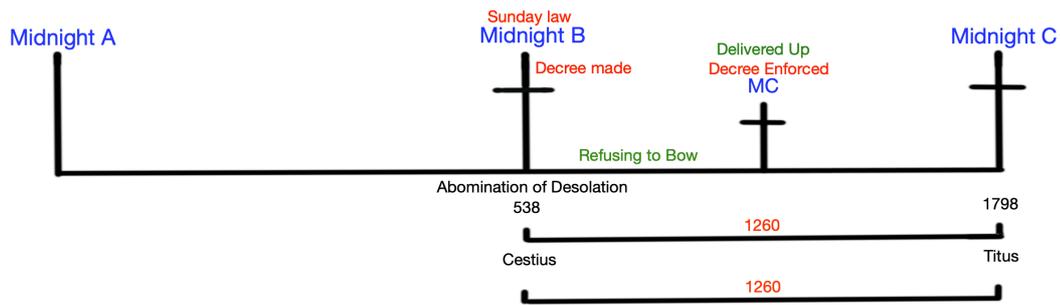
Another account can be seen in the story of Esther, which Sister White states is a representation of the Sunday Law Crisis.

"After these things did king Ahasuerus **promote Haman** the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, and advanced him, and **set his seat above all the princes that were with him**. And all the king's servants, that were in the king's gate, bowed, and revered Haman: for the king had so commanded concerning him. **But Mordecai bowed not, nor did him reverence**. Then the king's servants, which were in the king's gate, said unto Mordecai, **Why transgressest thou the king's commandment?** Now it came to pass, when **they spake daily unto him, and he hearkened not** unto them, that **they told Haman**, to see whether Mordecai's matters would stand: for he had told them that he was a Jew. And **when Haman saw that Mordecai bowed not, nor did him reverence, then was Haman full of wrath**. And he thought scorn to lay hands on Mordecai alone; for they had shewed him the people of Mordecai: **wherefore Haman sought to destroy all the Jews that were throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus, even the people of Mordecai.**" (Esther 3:1-6)

**"The Protestant world today see in the little company keeping the Sabbath a Mordecai in the gate.** His character and conduct, expressing reverence for the law of God, are a constant rebuke to those who have cast off the fear of the Lord, **and are trampling upon His Sabbath**; the unwelcome intruder **must by some means be put out of the way.**" {*Testimonies for the Church, Volume 5, P. 450, par. 1*}

## Summary

**A**S I hope we can clearly see, all the prophets are speaking directly about the end of the world, which is soon to come upon us. When this Sunday Law decree comes to pass, the Bible is giving us a clear account of the order of events and how they are to play out, against God's faithful remnant, leading us down to the close of our probation. I want to close these thoughts here with a diagram, to bring the points we have just discussed together, for us visually, so that we can see how it looks on our structure.



In this edition, I have mainly dealt with the time period from Midnight B, when The Sunday Law is made, to The Midnight Cry, encompassing the same two tests that Job had to face. The first as we read was a test to see if we are prepared to give up everything upon this Earth that we have any attachment to. Our families, wives, children, worldly goods and honours. All must be laid upon the altar. Finally, we are asked to lay down our lives for Christ, just as he laid down His life for us. For most of us, this will be a hard saying, where many will fall away. Let us pray that each one of us, as we are faced with the reality of what awaits us, would use the time wisely to make the necessary preparations.

In our next edition, I will continue from where we have left off here. We will look at what happens to God’s people during the death decree test, that comes upon them at the Midnight Cry and understand what the Bible teaches about this time period, from the Midnight Cry to Point C. We will also understand how God’s people will be delivered by the voice of God.



## Health Section

### The Lord's Healing Method's

**“T**he knowledge that man is to be a temple for God, a habitation for the revealing of His glory, should be the highest incentive to the care and development of our

**physical powers.** Fearfully and wonderfully has the Creator wrought in the human frame, and He bids us make it our study, understand its needs, and act our part in preserving it from harm and defilement.” {*Ministry of Healing, P. 271, par. 1*}



“In the ministry of healing **the physician is to be a co-worker with Christ.** The Saviour ministered to both the soul and the body. **The gospel which He taught was a message of spiritual life and of physical restoration. Deliverance from sin and the healing of disease were linked together.** The same ministry is committed to the Christian physician. He is to unite with Christ in relieving both the physical and spiritual needs of his fellow men. **He is to be to the sick a messenger of mercy, bringing to them a remedy for the diseased body and for the sin-sick soul.”**

“Christ is the true head of the medical profession. The chief Physician, **He is at the side of every God-fearing practitioner who works to relieve human suffering.** While the physician uses **nature's remedies for physical disease,** he should point his patients to Him who can relieve the maladies of both the soul and the body. **That which physicians can only aid in doing, Christ accomplishes.** They endeavor to assist nature's work of healing; **Christ Himself is the healer. The physician seeks to preserve life; Christ imparts life.”** {*Ministry of Healing, P. 111, par. 1, 2*}

“**The sick are to be healed through the combined efforts of the human and the divine.** Every gift, every power, that Christ promised to His disciples, He bestows upon those who will serve Him faithfully.” {*Medical Ministry, P. 12, par. 1*}

“The religion of the Bible is not detrimental to the health of the body or of the mind. **The influence of the Spirit of God is the very best medicine that can be received by a sick man or woman.** Heaven is all health; and the more deeply the heavenly influences are realized, the more sure will be the recovery of the believing invalid. {*Medical Ministry, P. 12, par. 3*}

“Some have asked me, ‘Why should we have sanitariums? **Why should we not, like Christ, pray for the sick, that they may be healed miraculously?**’ I have answered, ‘Suppose we were able to do this in all cases; how many would appreciate the healing? **Would those who were healed become health reformers, or continue to be health destroyers?’”**

“Jesus Christ is the Great Healer, **but He desires that by living in conformity with His laws** we may cooperate with Him in the recovery and the maintenance of health. **Combined with the work of healing there must be an imparting of knowledge of how to resist temptations.** Those who come to our sanitariums should be aroused to a sense of their own responsibility to work in harmony with the God of truth.

“**We cannot heal.** We cannot change the diseased conditions of the body. **But it is our part, as medical missionaries, as workers together with God, to use the means that He has provided.**

[Our YouTube Channel](#)

**Then we should pray that God will bless these agencies.** We do believe in a God; we believe in a God who hears and answers prayer. He has said, 'Ask, and ye shall receive; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.'" {*Medical Ministry, P. 13, par. 1-3*}

**"Many have expected that God would keep them from sickness merely because they have asked Him to do so.** But God did not regard their prayers, because their faith was not made perfect by works. **God will not work a miracle to keep those from sickness who have no care for themselves, but are continually violating the laws of health and make no efforts to prevent disease.** When we do all we can on our part to have health, then may we expect that the blessed results will follow, and we can ask God in faith to bless our efforts for the preservation of health. **He will then answer our prayer, if His name can be glorified thereby.** But let all understand that they have a work to do. **God will not work in a miraculous manner to preserve the health of persons who are taking a sure course to make themselves sick, by their careless inattention to the laws of health."**

**"Those who will gratify their appetite, and then suffer because of their intemperance, and take drugs to relieve them, may be assured that God will not interpose to save health and life which are so recklessly periled.** The cause has produced the effect. Many, as their last resort, follow the directions in the word of God, and request the prayers of the elders of the church for their restoration to health. **God does not see fit to answer prayers offered in behalf of such, for He knows that if they should be restored to health, they would again sacrifice it upon the altar of unhealthy appetite."** {*Medical Ministry, P. 13, 14*}

"The way in which Christ worked was to preach the word, and to relieve suffering by miraculous works of healing. **But I am instructed that we cannot now work in this way; for Satan will exercise his power by working miracles.** God's servants today could not work by means of miracles, **because spurious works of healing, claiming to be divine, will be wrought."**

**"For this reason the Lord has marked out a way in which His people are to carry forward a work of physical healing combined with the teaching of the word.** Sanitariums are to be established, and with these institutions are to be connected workers who will carry forward **genuine medical missionary work.** Thus a guarding influence is thrown around those who come to the sanitariums for treatment.

**"This is the provision the Lord has made whereby gospel medical missionary work is to be done for many souls.** These institutions are to be established out of the cities, and in them educational work is to be intelligently carried forward. {*Medical Ministry, P. 14, par. 2-4*}

