

Leaves of Life



Tree of Life Ministries

New Edition 02

The Signs of the Times

Part 2 – The Trumpets

19 September 2023

“Our own course of action will determine whether we shall receive the seal of the living God, or be cut down by the destroying weapons. **Already a few drops of God's wrath have fallen upon the earth; but when the seven last plagues shall be poured out without mixture into the cup of His indignation, then it will be forever too late to repent, and find shelter.** No atoning blood will then wash away the stains of sin.

“‘And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people; and **there shall be a time of trouble**, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, everyone that shall be found written in the book.’ Daniel 12:1. **When this time of trouble comes**, every case is decided; there is no longer probation, no longer mercy for the impenitent. The seal of the living God is upon His people.

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

“**Courage, fortitude, faith, and implicit trust in God's power to save, do not come in a moment. These heavenly graces are acquired by the experience of years. By a life of holy endeavor and firm adherence to the right, the children of God were sealing their destiny. Beset with temptations without number, they knew they must resist firmly or be conquered. They felt that they had a great work to do, and at any hour they might be called to lay off their armor; and should they come to the close of life with their work undone, it would be an eternal loss. They eagerly accepted the light from Heaven,** as did the first disciples from the lips of Jesus...

Tree of Life Ministries

Tree 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 Sunday law crisis and to teach the everlasting gospel of the three angel’s 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 aim to teach 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 can understand what “righteousness by faith” means and enter in to the true born-again experience.

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

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“...When those early Christians were exiled to mountains and deserts, when left in dungeons to die with hunger, cold, and torture, when martyrdom seemed the only way out of their distress, they rejoiced that they were counted worthy to suffer for Christ, who was crucified for them. **Their worthy example will be a comfort and encouragement to the people of God who will be brought into the time of trouble such as never was.**” {Christian Experience and Teachings, P. 187-188}

Introduction

In our last edition, we began by comparing the structure of Matthew twenty-four, with Revelation thirteen. In that study we could see the same layout and order of events, confirming to us how the past histories are to show us what will come to pass at the end of the world. Satan, who wants to be like the most-high God, who changes not, also never changes his methods of deceiving and destroying God’s people. Hence, the Lord is able to tell us what will come to pass before it happens, for there is no new thing at the end of the world. In this edition, we would like to confirm that structure, by taking the history of the seven trumpets and show how they were merely typifying punishments upon Rome, during her period of persecution against God’s people. However, Sister White, in agreement with the point I made in our last edition, likens them to the seven last plagues...

“Thy right hand, O God, shall dash in pieces Thine enemies. Revelation 6 and 7 are full of meaning. **Terrible are the judgments of God revealed. The seven angels stood before God to receive their commission. To them were given seven trumpets.** The Lord was going forth to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity, and the earth was to disclose her blood and no more cover her slain. Give the description in chapter 6.

“**When the plagues of God shall come upon the earth, hail will fall upon the wicked about the weight of a talent.** The hail had struck Brother Belden. One stone struck him on the back of the head, raising a large lump. Another stone struck him very near the temple. The bruise still shows upon the hands of Sister Belden. But what must it be when the hail shall be so much increased in size, falling upon those who would not care for and obey God but insulted Him and despised all His mercies?” {Manuscript Release, Volume 15, P. 219-220}

Therefore, let us begin by going back in History and understand who fulfilled these trumpets and to what did they represent in that time.

A Scourge Upon Rome

In history, the seven trumpets represented judgments that were brought upon Rome at different points throughout its history. Rome, as history shows, went through two phases. First there was Pagan Rome, that ruled supremely for three-hundred and sixty years, which was followed sometime later by Papal Rome, that ruled for one-thousand-two-hundred and sixty years. The Lord has His purposes for bringing things to pass in a certain order and this we will see and understand when we go to the book of Daniel. However, we must understand, that in another sense Rome was merely foreshadowing the USA, which as we read in our last edition, was the last kingdom to wage war against the saints. Pagan Rome had a government that consisted of an Emperor, a Senate and a Consul, very similar to the President, Senate and House of Representatives of the USA. Rome also began as a Republic, just as the USA did, with a republican government ruling. However, history shows that at the end of its time, Rome had become a dictatorship, with the emperor having complete rule. This is in agreement with the USA, that begins like a lamb, yet when the Sunday law comes, it will speak like a dragon, when its constitution, that separates church and state is revoked. At this point the president of the USA, like the emperor of ancient Rome, will become the last world dictator. Also, when you understand that the one-thousand-two-hundred and sixty years of papal persecution, was typifying the Sunday law to be made by the USA, it is easy to see that both elements of pagan and papal Rome will be illustrated during the Sunday law. To confirm this, let us go to the SOP and see what Sister White says upon this matter...

“The time is not far distant, when, like the early disciples, we shall be forced to seek a refuge in desolate and solitary places. **As the siege of Jerusalem by the Roman armies was the signal for flight to the Judean Christians, so the assumption of power on the part of our nation, in the decree enforcing the papal sabbath, will be a warning to us.** It will then be time to leave the large cities, preparatory to leaving the smaller ones for retired homes in secluded places among the mountains.”
{Christian Service, P. 161. par. 1}

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

“As the approach of the Roman armies was a sign to the disciples of the impending destruction of Jerusalem, so may this apostasy be a sign to us that the limit of God's forbearance is reached, that the measure of our nation's iniquity is full, and that the angel of mercy is about to take her flight, never to return. The people of God will then be plunged into **those scenes of affliction and distress** which prophets have described as the time of Jacob's trouble. The cries of the faithful, persecuted ones ascend to heaven. And as the blood of Abel cried from the ground, there are voices also crying to God from martyrs' graves, from the sepulchers of the sea, from mountain caverns, from convent vaults: ‘How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost Thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?’” {Testimonies to the Church, Volume 5, P. 451, par. 1,2}

As we can read above, in both quotes, Sister White takes the sign that is marked in Luke twenty-one, which is the same sign in Matthew twenty-four and explains to us that when this sign comes it marks the Sunday law crisis. However, what I would like for us to see, is that this sign, illustrated by Matthew and Luke, were pointing to two different points in the history of Rome...

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

“**When 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)

The gospel of Luke is referring to the point where Pagan Rome came up against Jerusalem. Sister White writes about it in the Great Controversy...

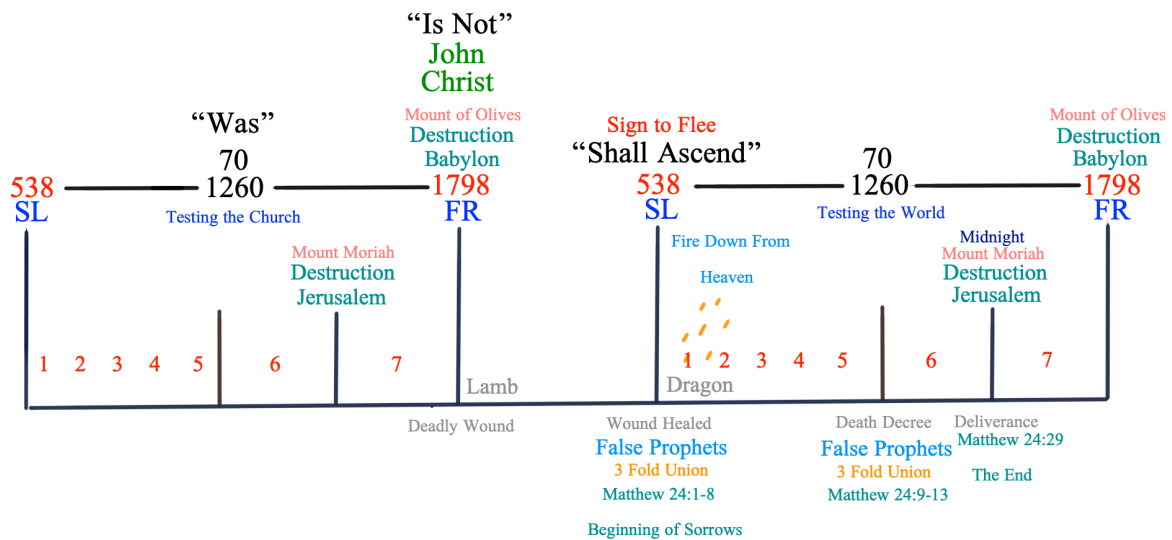
“Not one Christian perished in the destruction of Jerusalem. Christ had given His disciples warning, and **all who believed His words watched for the promised sign**. ‘**When ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies**,’ said Jesus, ‘then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. Then let them which are in Judea flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out.’ Luke 21:20, 21. **After the Romans under Cestius had surrounded the city**, they unexpectedly abandoned the siege when everything seemed favorable for an immediate attack. The besieged, despairing of successful resistance, were on the point of surrender, when the Roman general withdrew his forces without the least apparent reason. But God's merciful providence was directing events for the good of His own people. **The promised sign had been given to the waiting Christians, and now an opportunity was offered for all who would, to obey the Saviour's warning...**” {Great Controversy, P. 30, par. 2}

Whereas the gospel of Matthew is referring to the one-thousand-two-hundred and sixty years of papal rule, which we can identify from the book of Daniel...

“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)

Does God contradict Himself? No! Of course not. Christ brings together different histories together for the end of the world, which we are to understand line upon line. Therefore, what I would like us to understand, is that Christ, who is the author of all history that points to the end of the world, is illustrating to us the combination of Pagan and Papal rule, or in other words the state power combined with an apostate church, marking the period where they will persecute God’s people at the end of the world, which was prefigured by a period of three and a half prophetic years.

Now that we have established this point, let us remind ourselves of our diagram that we illustrated in our last edition, marking the point that both John and Christ were pointing forward to, where they said the deadly wound would be healed and that the USA, that was typified by Pagan Rome, would speak like a dragon and make a Sunday law. Matthew marks this point as the one-thousand-two-hundred years of papal rule...



Now that we have these thoughts in place, let us now illustrate upon our line how the seven trumpets are typifying the seven last plagues. One way we can show this every easily is by going to Revelation chapter eight. In that chapter, Christ is interceding whilst probation is still open. However, when Christ throws down the censor, Sister White tells us that it marks the close of probation, where the seven angels, which have the seven trumpets begin to blow...

“And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour. **And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets.** And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand. **And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth:** and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake. **And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.**” (Revelation 8:1-6)

“I saw angels hurrying to and fro in heaven. **An angel with a writer's inkhorn by his side returned from the earth and reported to Jesus that his work was done, and the saints were numbered and sealed.** Then I saw Jesus, who had been ministering before the ark containing the ten commandments, **throw down the censer.** He raised His hands, and with a loud voice said, ‘It is done.’ And all the angelic host laid off their crowns as Jesus made the solemn declaration, ‘**He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.**’

“Every case had been decided for life or death. **While Jesus had been ministering in the sanctuary, the judgment had been going on for the righteous dead, and then for the righteous living.** Christ had received His kingdom, having made the atonement for His people and **blotted out their sins.** The subjects of the kingdom were made up. The marriage of the Lamb was consummated. And the kingdom, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, was given to Jesus and the heirs of salvation, and Jesus was to reign as King of kings and Lord of lords.

“**As Jesus moved out of the most holy place,** I heard the tinkling of the bells upon His garment; and as He left, a cloud of darkness covered the inhabitants of the earth. **There was then no mediator between guilty man and an offended God.** While Jesus had been standing between God and guilty man, a restraint was upon the people; but when He stepped out from between man and the Father, the restraint was removed and Satan had entire control of the finally impenitent. **It was impossible for the plagues to be poured out while Jesus officiated in the sanctuary;** but as His work there is finished, and His intercession closes, there is nothing to stay the wrath of God, and it breaks with fury upon the shelterless head of the guilty sinner, who has slighted salvation and hated reproof. In that fearful time, after the close of Jesus’ mediation, the saints were living in the sight of a holy God without an intercessor. **Every case was decided, every jewel numbered. Jesus tarried a moment in the outer apartment of the heavenly sanctuary, and the sins which had been confessed while He was in the most holy place were placed upon Satan, the originator of sin, who must suffer their punishment...**” {Early Writings, P. 279-280}

By just comparing Revelation eight with the above quote, it is easy to see that the seven trumpets in history typify the seven last plagues. The Lord demonstrates the end from the beginning. As we have studied, at the end of the world there are two times where the Sunday law will be put in place. The first time for the church, the second time for the rest of the world, who join the church. The end of the first Sunday law, typifies the end of the second. At the end of the second, the seven last plagues pour out, for this is where probation closes for the last person who is possible to be saved. However, those seven plagues which pour out at the end of the second Sunday law must be typified, just like they were in history. Therefore, they must be typified at the end of the first phase of the Sunday law. To prove this point, we will go to the history, as laid out in Daniel chapter two. However, before we do this, let's look at a few points in relation to this. Sister White explains that when the plagues are poured out it is represented by the four winds being loosed...

“I saw that the four angels would hold the four winds until Jesus’ work was done in the sanctuary, and then will come the seven last plagues...” {Christian Experience and Teachings, P. 100, par. 3}

The Seven last plagues, which begin when the four winds are loosed, must have been illustrated in history by the seven trumpets. In order to understand this, we must first read how those seven last plagues were typified...

“The first four trumpets deal with the breaking up of western Rome; the last three, with the overthrow of eastern Rome...” {Bible Handbook, P. 120, par. 1}

As we can read, the seven trumpets, which typify the seven last plagues, were a punishment upon ancient Rome. However, the third woe, or seventh trumpet, was typified in a more recent history which we will confirm a bit later. According to the 1850 chart the third woe represents the seven last plagues. Therefore, in line with the Alpha and Omega, this trumpet must be fulfilled in a typical sense first before the seven last plagues are to be poured out. As we have already discussed, Rome was prefiguring the USA, the last that is to wage war against God's people. We will also see that Babylon was also typifying the USA at the end of the world. In Bible history it was both Babylon and then Rome that destroyed Jerusalem at different points in history, both typifying the USA at the end of the world

Let us now see how this is fulfilled in the antitype. In order to do this, let's read a quote from Sister White in relation to the book of Daniel chapter two...

“The history of nations that one after another have occupied their allotted time and place, unconsciously witnessing to the truth of which they themselves knew not the meaning, **speaks to us.**

To every nation and to every individual of today God has assigned a place in His great plan. **Today men and nations are being measured by the plummet in the hand of Him who makes no mistake.** All are by their own choice deciding their destiny, and God is overruling all for the accomplishment of His purposes.

“The history which the great I AM has marked out in His word, uniting link after link in the prophetic chain, from eternity in the past to eternity in the future, tells us where we are today in the procession of the ages, and what may be expected in the time to come. All that prophecy has foretold as coming to pass, until the present time, has been traced on the pages of history, and **we may be assured that all which is yet to come will be fulfilled in its order.**

“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.

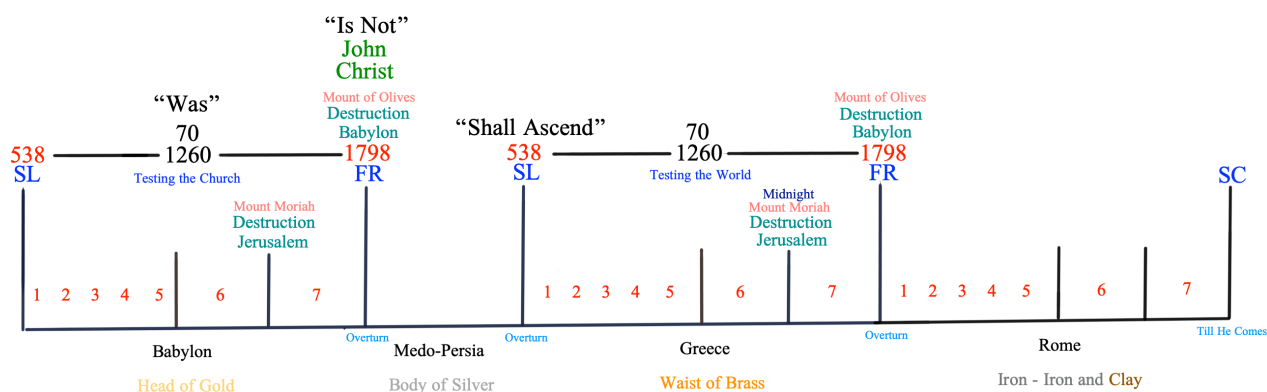
“The crown removed from Israel passed successively to the kingdoms of Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome. God says, ‘It shall be no more, until He come whose right it is; and I will give it Him.’

“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.” {Education, P. 178-179}

“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. 180, par. 1}

As we understand, Christ is the Alpha and Omega. He demonstrates the end of the world by the things that have already taken place in history, so that we can know what is coming in the future. In the above quote, Sister White, using this principle, takes the history of Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece and Rome, the four kingdoms that are illustrated in Daniel chapter two and tells us that they represent the final overthrow of earthly kingdoms. How so you might ask? The Lord uses the literal to illustrate to us spiritual things. All four of those kingdoms were empires. What I want us to understand is that these four empires point to the final empire at the end of the world, representing four phases of that same empire, leading down to the second coming of Christ. How do I know this?

Because all of those four kingdoms have already passed away in history and we read that the last kingdom to wage war against God’s people is the USA. Also, it states that under the fourth kingdom, which was Rome, Christ will come. Did Christ come under Rome in history? Yes, typifying where He will come the second time, during the fourth phase of this last world empire. In the quote above, Sister White gives a clear indication as to when this begins, when she quotes the signs recorded in Matthew twenty-four, illustrating the wars and rumours of war. As we have already studied in our last edition, these signs are marking the Sunday law, when the USA, the last world empire will make a Sunday law. Let us place this upon our diagram so we can see this in a practical way and confirm some other points...



Therefore, the Statue of Daniel two, which Nebuchadnezzar copied from his dream in Daniel three, represents the Sunday law crisis, or in other words the progressive fall of the USA down to the coming of Christ...

“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.]

“The Lord of heaven permits the world to choose whom they will have as ruler. **Let all read carefully the thirteenth chapter of Revelation, for it concerns every human agent, great and small.** Every human being must take sides, either for the true and living God, who has given to the world the memorial of creation in the Seventh-day Sabbath, or for a false sabbath, instituted by men who have exalted themselves above all that is called God or that is worshiped, who have taken upon themselves the attributes of Satan in oppressing the loyal and true who keep the commandments of

God. **This persecuting power will compel the worship of the beast by insisting on the observance of the sabbath he has instituted.** Thus he blasphemes God, “sitting in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God” [2 Thessalonians 2:4].” {Manuscript Release, Volume 14, P. 91, par. 3,4}

As we have already established, it is the two horned beast (representing the USA) from Revelation thirteen that will speak like a dragon and persecute the saints. Therefore, the statue, representing the phases of the last world empire, down to the coming of Christ, is a representation of the antitype of Babylon, or Rome at the end of the world. Revelation seventeen, explains to us that this nation is controlled by the woman Babylon, that sits upon the mind of the King and controls His thoughts...

“So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and **I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast**, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.” (Revelation 17:3)

The Scarlet coloured beast is the statue. It is the dragon, or civil powers, representing the seven horns, or seven kingdoms of Bible prophecy, of which, in 1798, five have fallen...

“And here is the mind which hath wisdom. **The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth. And there are seven kings: five are fallen**, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space.” (Revelation 17:9-10)

For this reason, when the USA makes a Sunday law, the deadly wound is healed and the history of the first five kingdoms repeats spiritually under the last kingdom. Although the woman may not be visible at this point, it is her that is controlling the mind of this king, typified by Nebuchadnezzar. The Bible states of him that he is a king of kings, marking the point that the president of the USA will be ruler over all the other kings of the earth...

“**Thou, O king, art a king of kings**: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory.” (Daniel 2:37)

Hence in 1989, which typified the time of the end, when the union of the USA and the Pope brought down communism, it led to the twin towers in New York being brought down on September 11, 2001, typifying the punishment upon the USA (Babylon) at the end of the Sunday law, for drinking her (the Papacies) wine. For all these reasons, let us take these seven trumpets and show how they will typify the seven last plagues at the end of the world when Babylon is punished.

The Barbarians

In the history of the seven trumpets, there were two powers that the Lord used to punish Rome. The first of those was illustrated by the first four trumpets, whereas the last three by another power. Before we discuss this other power, let us look and see how these first four trumpets were illustrated by the barbarian tribes in history.

The first of these trumpets was executed by the Goths under Alaric...

“The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up.” (Revelation 8:7)

“None could elucidate the texts more clearly, or expound them more fully, than the task has been performed by Gibbon. The chapters of the skeptical philosopher that treat directly of the matter, need but a text to be prefixed, and a few unholy words to be blotted out, to form a series of expository lectures **on the eighth and ninth chapters of Revelation.**’ ‘Little or nothing is left for the professed interpreter to do but to point to the pages of Gibbon.’

“The first sore and heavy judgment which fell on Western Rome in its downward course, was the war with the Goths under Alaric, who opened the way for later inroads. After the death of Theodosius, the Roman emperor, in January, 395, before the end of the winter, the Goths under Alaric were in arms against the empire.

“Hail and fire, mingled with blood,’ were cast upon the earth. The terrible effects of this Gothic invasion are represented as ‘hail,’ from the fact of the northern origin of the invaders; ‘fire,’ from the destruction by flame of both city and country; and ‘blood,’ from the terrible slaughter of the citizens of the empire by the bold and intrepid warriors.

“The blast of the first trumpet has its location about the close of the fourth century and onward, and refers to these desolating invasions of the Roman empire by the Goths. {Daniel and the Revelation, P. 455, par. 4-7}

The second by the Vandals under Genseric...

“And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the third part of the sea became blood; And the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died; and the third part of the ships were destroyed.” (Revelation 8:8-9)

“The history illustrative of the sounding of the second trumpet evidently relates to the invasion and conquest of Africa, and afterward of Italy, by the terrible Genseric. His conquests were, for the most part, naval; and his triumphs were ‘as it were a great mountain burning with fire,

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cast into the sea.’ **What figure would better, or even so well, illustrate the collision of navies, and the general havoc of war on the maritime coasts?** In explaining this trumpet, we are to look for some events which will have a particular bearing on **the commercial world**. The symbol used naturally leads us to look for agitation and commotion. Nothing but a fierce maritime warfare would fulfill the prediction. **If the sounding of the first four trumpets relates to four remarkable events which contributed to the downfall of the Roman empire, and the first trumpet refers to the ravages of the Goths under Alaric, in this we naturally look for the next succeeding act of invasion which shook the Roman power and conduced to its fall. The next great invasion was that of ‘the terrible Genseric,’ at the head of the Vandals.** His career occurred during the years A. D. 428-468. This great Vandal chief had his headquarters in Africa. But, as Gibbon states, ‘The discovery and conquest of the black nations [in Africa], that might dwell beneath the torrid zone, could not tempt the rational ambition of Genseric; but he cast his eyes toward the sea; he resolved to create a naval power, and his bold resolution was executed with steady and active perseverance.’ **From the port of Carthage he repeatedly made piratical sallies, and preyed on the Roman commerce, and waged war with that empire.** To cope with this sea monarch, the Roman emperor, Majorian, made extensive naval preparations. Three hundred long galleys, with an adequate proportion of transports and smaller vessels, were collected in the secure and capacious harbor of Cartagena, in Spain. But Genseric was saved from impending and inevitable ruin by the treachery of some powerful subjects, envious or apprehensive of their master’s success. Guided by their secret intelligence, he surprised the unguarded fleet in the bay of Cartagena; many of the ships were sunk, taken, or burned, and the preparations of three years were destroyed in a single day.” {Daniel and the Revelation, P. 458, par. 1}

The third trumpet was executed by the Huns under Attila...

“And **the third angel sounded**, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters; And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter.” (Revelation 8:10-11)

“That there should be some chieftain or warrior who might be compared to a blazing meteor; whose course would be singularly brilliant; who would appear suddenly like a blazing star, and then disappear like a star whose light was quenched in the waters. That the desolating course of this meteor would be mainly on those portions of the world which abounded with springs of water and running streams. That an effect would be produced as if those streams and fountains were made bitter; that is, that many persons would perish, and that wide desolations would be caused in the vicinity of those rivers and streams, as if a bitter and baleful star should fall into the waters, and death should spread over lands adjacent to them, and watered by them. — Notes on Revelation 8.

It is here premised that this trumpet has allusion to the desolating wars and furious invasions of Attila against the Roman power, which he carried on at the head of his hordes of Huns. Speaking of this warrior, particularly of his personal appearance, Mr. Barnes says: — DAR 461.3

“In the manner of his appearance, he strongly resembled a brilliant meteor flashing in the sky. He came from the East gathering his Huns, and poured them down, as we shall see, with the rapidity of a flashing meteor, suddenly on the empire. He regarded himself also as devoted to Mars, the god of war, and was accustomed to array himself in a peculiarly brilliant manner, so that his appearance, in the language of his flatterers, was such as to dazzle the eyes of beholders.

“In speaking of the locality of the events predicted by this trumpet, Mr. Barnes has this note:

“It is said particularly that the effect would be on ‘the rivers’ and on ‘the fountains of waters.’ If this has a literal application, or if, as was supposed in the case of the second trumpet, the language used was such as had reference to the portion of the empire that would be particularly affected by the hostile invasion, then we may suppose that this refers to those portions of the empire that abounded in rivers and streams, and more particularly those in which the rivers and streams had their origin; for the effect was permanently in the ‘fountains of waters.’ As a matter of fact, the principal operations of Attila were on the regions of the Alps, and on the portions of the empire whence the rivers flow down into Italy. The invasion of Attila is described by Mr. Gibbon in this general language: **‘The whole breadth of Europe, as it extends above five hundred miles from the Euxine to the Adriatic, was at once invaded, and occupied, and desolated, by the myriads of barbarians whom Attila led into the field.’**”

“And the Name of the Star is called Wormwood [denoting the bitter consequences]. These words — which are more intimately connected with the preceding verse, as even the punctuation in our version denotes — **recall us for a moment to the character of Attila, to the misery of which he was the author or the instrument, and to the terror that was inspired by his name.**” {Daniel and the Revelation, P. 461-462}

The fourth trumpet was executed by Odoacer...

“We understand that this trumpet symbolizes the career of Odoacer, the barbarian monarch who was so intimately connected with the downfall of Western Rome. **The symbols, sun, moon, and stars — for they are undoubtedly here used as symbols — evidently denote the great luminaries of the Roman government, — its emperors, senators, and consuls.** Bishop Newton remarks that the last emperor of Western Rome was Momyllus, who in derision was called Augustulus, or the ‘diminutive Augustus.’ Western Rome fell A. D. 476. Still, however, though the Roman sun was extinguished, its subordinate luminaries shone faintly while the senate and consuls continued. But after many civil reverses and changes of political fortune, at length, A. D. 566, the whole form of the ancient government was subverted, and Rome itself was reduced from being the empress of the

world to a poor dukedom tributary to the Exarch of Ravenna.” {Daniel and the Revelation, P. 463, par. 2}

Four different Barbarian Kings, in different ways and at different times were responsible for the demise of the Roman Empire. However, as we can read, all the symbols illustrated in those verses were being interpreted literally. Prophecy denotes that the literal historical application must come first and after this has been fulfilled, it can then point to its perfect spiritual application...

“Howbeit **that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural**; and afterward that which is spiritual.” (1 Corinthians 15:46)

For this reason, we need to take those verses and apply them as four punishments upon Rome at the end of the world. As we have already understood, the USA is the head of the last empire that will wage war against God’s people. Seeing as this empire comprises of every nation in the world, these trumpet powers must represent something that comes from within itself. Can we find in Bible prophecy an illustration of a war from within Rome itself at the end of the world? Yes! The war between the North and the South as found in the book of Daniel chapter eleven. This same war can also be seen in the book of Revelation. During the Sunday law, the whole world will be deceived into keeping Sunday, However, many of those nations are doing it because they are deceived. These nations of the world in Bible prophecy, are represented by the number ten. For instance, Abraham was promised the whole world which was illustrated by ten nations...

“In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates: **The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites, And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims, And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.**” (Genesis 15:18-21)

When we go to the book of Psalms, we can again see a confederacy of ten nations that seek to join with the Pope in his persecution against 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)

The head that these ten nations lift up is the Papacy...

“**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}

As we can read above, ten nations make a confederacy with one another and the Pope, where they seek to murder God's people. These same ten nations we see in the book of Revelation...

“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)

However, these same ten kings, representing the world in support of the USA and the Pope to murder God's people, will revolt and turn against her...

“**And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.** For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled.” (Revelation 17:16-17)

This is illustrated by the punishment that comes upon Egypt when the four winds are loosed...

“The burden of Egypt. **Behold, the LORD rideth upon a swift cloud**, and shall come into Egypt: and the idols of Egypt shall be moved at his presence, and the heart of Egypt shall melt in the midst of it. **And I will set the Egyptians against the Egyptians: and they shall fight every one against his brother, and every one against his neighbour; city against city, and kingdom against kingdom.**” (Isaiah 19:1-2)

We can also see the same illustration in the punishment upon Babylon in the book of Zechariah, which we looked at in our last edition. When Babylon is punished, it is illustrated as neighbour fighting against neighbour...

“Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. **Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.** And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and **the mount of Olives** shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and **half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.**” (Zechariah 14:1-4)

As it states, half of the mountain, referring to Babylon, will go to the South and half to the North, showing the division between the people of Babylon...

“And it shall come to pass in that day, that a great tumult from the LORD shall be among them; and **they shall lay hold every one on the hand of his neighbour, and his hand shall rise up against the hand of his neighbour.**” (Zechariah 14:13)

Sister White confirms this point, when she marks the four winds being loosed as the point where nation comes against nation, as is typified at the beginning of the Sunday law...

“About four months since, **I had a vision of events, all in the future. And I saw the time of trouble, such as never was,**—Jesus told me it was the time of Jacob's trouble, and that we should be delivered out of it by the voice of God. Just before we entered it, we all received the seal of the living God. **Then I saw the four Angels cease to hold the four winds.** And I saw famine, pestilence and sword, **nation rose against nation, and the whole world was in confusion...** {The Ellen G White Letters and Manuscripts, Volume 1, P. 99, par. 1}

Now that we have this thought in place, what I would like to do now is show how the first four trumpets illustrate the four winds being loosed at the punishment of Babylon, illustrating the nations rising up to punish her, as ordained by God. Remembering that spiritual things are spiritually discerned, let us take the Bible, using present day events and allow us to understand what these symbols point to in our time. Let us begin with the first trumpet...

“**The first angel sounded**, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and **the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up.**” (Revelation 8:7)

To understand this, if we go to the book of Revelation, chapter seven, it will help us to see this point...

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

As we can read, the angels were to hold the four winds. Also, we have already discussed, that the four winds illustrate the point where these trumpet powers will be loosed. Therefore, the four winds being held represents the nations being restrained until the sealing work is finished. We can just remind ourselves of this point from a quote we read in our last edition about 1848...

“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}

If we just compare scripture with scripture, it is clear to see that the four winds being restrained is a representation of the Nations being held in check. Therefore, when the four winds are loosed, the Nations will be no longer restrained and God’s wrath will ensue, where the South will come against the North, or in other words, brother against brother, kingdom against kingdom. It went on to say in Revelation seven, that the four winds were not to hurt the earth, the sea, or the trees, until the sealing is completed, after which these four winds, representing the Nations, can hurt the earth, the sea and the trees. Therefore, let us allow the Bible to teach us what these symbols represent. When we go to the Bible and allow it to interpret itself, it explains to us that trees represent either people, or nations...

“And he looked up, and said, I see men as trees, walking.” (Mark 8:24)

“**The tree that thou sawest**, which grew, and was strong, whose height reached unto the heaven, and the sight thereof to all the earth; Whose leaves were fair, and the fruit thereof much, and in it was meat for all; under which the beasts of the field dwelt, and upon whose branches the fowls of the heaven had their habitation: **It is thou, O king, that art grown and become strong**: for thy greatness is grown, and reacheth unto heaven, and thy dominion to the end of the earth.” (Daniel 4:20-22)

“**Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down**, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.” (Matthew 7:19-20)

“And he spake to them a parable; **Behold the fig tree, and all the trees;**” (Luke 21:29)

“**The cursing of the fig tree was an acted parable.** That barren tree, flaunting its pretentious foliage in the very face of Christ, **was a symbol of the Jewish nation.** The Saviour desired to make plain to His disciples the cause and the certainty of Israel's doom. For this purpose He invested the tree with moral qualities, and made it the expositor of divine truth. The Jews stood forth distinct from all other nations, professing allegiance to God. They had been specially favored by Him, and they laid claim to righteousness above every other people. But they were corrupted by the love of the world and the greed of gain. They boasted of their knowledge, but they were ignorant of the requirements of God, and were full of hypocrisy. **Like the barren tree, they spread their pretentious branches aloft, luxuriant in appearance, and beautiful to the eye, but they yielded ‘nothing but leaves.’** The Jewish religion, with its magnificent temple, its sacred altars, its mitred priests and impressive ceremonies, was indeed fair in outward appearance, but humility, love, and benevolence were lacking.

“**All the trees in the fig orchard were destitute of fruit; but the leafless trees raised no expectation, and caused no disappointment. By these trees the Gentiles were represented.** They were as destitute as were the Jews of godliness; but they had not professed to serve God. They made no boastful pretensions to goodness. They were blind to the works and ways of God. With them the time of figs was not yet. They were still waiting for a day which would bring them light and hope. The Jews, who had received greater blessings from God, were held accountable for their abuse of these gifts. The privileges of which they boasted only increased their guilt.” {Desire of Ages, P. 582-583}

The Bible illustrates that the sea also illustrates people and nations...

“And he saith unto me, **The waters which thou sawest**, where the whore sitteth, **are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.**” (Revelation 17:15)

“The ships of Tarshish did sing of thee in thy market: and thou wast replenished, and made very glorious **in the midst of the seas**. Thy rowers have brought thee **into great waters**: the east wind hath broken thee **in the midst of the seas**.” (Ezekiel 27:25-26)

“These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: clouds they are without water, carried about of winds; **trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit**, twice dead, plucked up by the roots; **Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame**; wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever.” (Jude 1:12-13)

“Woe to the multitude of **many people, which make a noise like the noise of the seas**; and to **the rushing of nations, that make a rushing like the rushing of mighty waters**! The nations shall rush like the rushing of **many waters**: but God shall rebuke them, and they shall flee far off, and shall be chased as the chaff of the mountains before the wind, and like a rolling thing before the whirlwind.” (Isaiah 17:12-13)

The Earth is also a symbol of the nations...

“And I beheld another beast **coming up out of the earth**; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, **and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed**.” (Revelation 13:11-12)

The Earth is just another name for the World...

“And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and **his deadly wound was healed**: and **all the world wondered after the beast**.” (Revelation 13:3)

“And **the kings of the earth**, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning,” (Revelation 18:9)

Therefore, in Revelation seven, the four winds were to be held in check from hurting the nations, until the sealing is complete. However, once the sealing is finished, the nations will rise up like an angry sea and begin to destroy one another. This is part of the punishment that comes upon all those who reject Christ’s kingdom and choose to remain part of Babylon.

Now that we have established this, let us look at these four trumpets individually and let us see how the symbols will agree with our above conclusions...

“The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up.” (Revelation 8:7)

The first thing that I would like you to notice is the expression “the third part.” As we view each of these first four trumpets, we will read each time that “the third part” is being punished. Nature teaches us that there are only three thirds to make up a whole. Therefore, the expression “third part” is not referring to a numerical value in a literal sense, but rather pointing to something for spiritually. Allowing the Bible to interpret itself, when we go to Revelation twelve, it explains to us what this expression refers...

“And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.” (Revelation 12:4)

The above verse is in one sense referencing Satan, when he and a third part of the angels were cast out of heaven. Notice that when he was cast out, he was cast out unto the earth. If we just go back to the first trumpet, we can see the same language being employed...

“The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up.” (Revelation 8:7)

The war that took place in heaven was a spiritual war, a war to win allegiance through choice, to either Christ, or Satan...

“And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.” (Revelation 12:7-9)

All the angels that chose to side with Satan, were cast out of heaven onto the earth, which equaled to a third part of the heavenly angels. The Lord demonstrates the end by the beginning. The Bible uses this fall from heaven to illustrate the fall of Babylon, which is Satan’s kingdom, marking the punishment upon Satan and all those who choose to side with him in his rebellion. This is represented by the expression a “third part.”...

“How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!” (Isaiah 14:12)

Sister White explains to us that this fall from heaven represents the punishment upon his kingdom at the end of the seventh plague, where Satan is cast into the bottomless pit...

“That the expression ‘bottomless pit’ represents the earth in a state of confusion and darkness is evident from other scriptures. Concerning the condition of the earth ‘in the beginning,’ the Bible record says that it ‘was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep.’ [The Hebrew word here translated ‘deep’ is rendered in the Septuagint (Greek) translation of the Hebrew Old Testament by the same word rendered ‘bottomless pit’ In Revelation 20:1-3.] Genesis 1:2. Prophecy teaches that it will be brought back, partially at least, to this condition. **Looking forward to the great day of God,** the prophet Jeremiah declares: ‘I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light. I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down.’ Jeremiah 4:23-26.

“Here is to be the home of Satan with his evil angels for a thousand years. Limited to the earth, he will not have access to other worlds to tempt and annoy those who have never fallen. It is in this sense that he is bound: **there are none remaining, upon whom he can exercise his power. He is wholly cut off from the work of deception and ruin which for so many centuries has been his sole delight.**

“The prophet Isaiah, looking forward to the time of Satan's overthrow, exclaims: ‘How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! ... Thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: ... I will be like the Most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms; that made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not the house of his prisoners?’ Isaiah 14:12-17.

“For six thousand years, Satan's work of rebellion has ‘made the earth to tremble.’ He has ‘made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof.’ And he ‘opened not the house of his prisoners.’ For six thousand years his prison house has received God's people, and he would have held them captive forever; **but Christ has broken his bonds and set the prisoners free.**” {Great Controversy, P. 658-659}

As we have been studying, the end of the seventh plague is typified by the seventh trumpet, or third woe, which we understand to be marking the seven last plagues, where the four winds are loosed. Therefore, this point where Satan falls from heaven, marking his punishment, is being typified by the point where the trumpets are blowing. Hence, we see this star fall from heaven to the earth, illustrating the fall of Satan's agents on earth, just as Christ and His angels, are represented by those faithful to Him upon the earth. We are either choosing to follow Christ, or choosing to follow Satan. Thus, the war in heaven is repeated on earth. Therefore, when Satan falls from heaven it is illustrating human beings, who fully under the power of Satan, will do His bidding. Hence, we read in the book of Isaiah...

“The burden of Egypt. **Behold, the LORD rideth upon a swift cloud**, and shall come into Egypt: and the idols of Egypt shall be moved at his presence, and the heart of Egypt shall melt in the midst of it. **And I will set the Egyptians against the Egyptians: and they shall fight every one against his brother, and every one against his neighbour; city against city, and kingdom against kingdom.**” (Isaiah 19:1-2)

“**And the Egyptians will I give over into the hand of a cruel lord; and a fierce king shall rule over them**, saith the Lord, the LORD of hosts.” (Isaiah 19:4)

The people who choose to follow Satan are given over into his hand to demonstrate his character upon the earth. At this point, when this happens, they will show to everyone the true character of the God that they chose to follow, when he turns them into demons to kill one another. It states that when they fall, they are likened unto hail and fire, where they burn up the trees and the green grass...

“The first angel sounded, and there followed **hail and fire** mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: **and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up.**” (Revelation 8:7)

As we have already studied, trees represent both people and nations. However, let us read what the green grass represents...

“Give ear, O ye heavens, and I will speak; and hear, O earth, the words of my mouth. My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, **as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass.**” (Deuteronomy 32:1-2)

As we can read, the Lord is speaking to the heavens and the earth, whereupon He likens His words to the rain that falls upon the grass, representing people upon the earth. The prophet Isaiah confirms this point...

“The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? **All flesh is grass**, and all the goodness thereof is as the flower of the field: **The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass.**” (Isaiah 40:6-7)

As we can read, “all flesh is as grass.” However, notice that this grass is being blown upon, marking the point where the Lord looses the four winds, causing them to be destroyed. The Apostle Peter takes these verses and expounds upon it...

“**Being born again**, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. **For all flesh is as grass**, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. **The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away.**” (1 Peter 1:23-24)

As the scripture says, if we are not born again, meaning that we were not sealed, we will fall away, just as Satan fell from heaven and be burned up. When Christ comes at the end of the thousand years, the whole earth will burn with fire, including Satan and his angels...

“**And when the thousand years are expired**, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: **and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.** And **the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone**, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.” (Revelation 20:7-10)

This burning up at the end of the thousand years is for Satan, his angels and all those who joined with him in his rebellion. However, before this event can come to pass it has to be typified. Hence this hail and fire, falling from heaven to burn up everything, paralleling his angels falling from heaven to the earth. This can also be seen in the book of Revelation, where the ten kings, representing the nations, eat her flesh and burn her with fire...

“**And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast**, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, **and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.**” (Revelation 17:16)

When we go to the next trumpet, this thought can be seen more clearly...

“And **the second angel sounded**, and as it were a **great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea**: and the third part of the sea became blood; And the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died; and **the third part of the ships were destroyed.**” (Revelation 8:8-9)

Allowing the Bible to interpret itself, the great mountain burning with fire that is cast into the sea, is Babylon...

“And I will render unto Babylon and to all the inhabitants of Chaldea all their evil that they have done in Zion in your sight, saith the LORD. **Behold, I am against thee, O destroying mountain, saith the LORD, which destroyest all the earth**: and I will stretch out mine hand upon thee, and roll thee down from the rocks, and **will make thee a burnt mountain.**” (Jeremiah 51:24-25)

“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 18:8)

“And a **mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down**, and shall be found no more at all.” (Revelation 18:21)

Ships in the Bible represents commerce and finances...

“For in one hour so great riches is come to nought. **And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea**, stood afar off,” (Revelation 18:17)

“For **the king's ships went to Tarshish** with the servants of Hiram: every three years once came the ships of Tarshish **bringing gold, and silver, ivory, and apes, and peacocks.**” (2 Chronicles 9:21)

In the book of Ezekiel, it marks the punishment upon Tyre, a type of the Papacy, that is in league with all the nations in trade through their ships. When she is punished all the financers of the world begin to weep...

“Thy rowers have brought thee into great waters: **the east wind hath broken thee in the midst of the seas.** Thy riches, and thy fairs, thy merchandise, thy mariners, and thy pilots, thy calkers, and the occupiers of thy merchandise, and all thy men of war, that are in thee, and in all thy company which is in the midst of thee, shall fall into the midst of the seas in the day of thy ruin. The suburbs

shall shake at the sound of the cry of thy pilots. **And all that handle the oar, the mariners, and all the pilots of the sea, shall come down from their ships**, they shall stand upon the land; And shall cause their voice to be heard against thee, **and shall cry bitterly**, and shall cast up dust upon their heads, they shall wallow themselves in the ashes: And they shall make themselves utterly bald for thee, **and gird them with sackcloth**, and **they shall weep for thee with bitterness of heart** and bitter wailing. And in their wailing they shall take up a lamentation for thee, and lament over thee, saying, **What city is like Tyrus, like the destroyed in the midst of the sea?**” (Ezekiel 27:26-32)

This can be compared with Revelation eighteen when Babylon is punished...

“And **the kings of the earth**, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning, Standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, **Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city!** for in one hour is thy judgment come. And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for **no man buyeth their merchandise any more:**” (Revelation 18:9-11)

“**The merchants of these things, which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing**, And saying, Alas, alas, that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls! For in one hour so great riches is come to nought. **And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off, And cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What city is like unto this great city! And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas, that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she made desolate.**” (Revelation 18:15-19)

Therefore, as we can see, when Babylon is cast into the sea, its financial structure falls apart. Let us continue to strengthen this thought by the third trumpet...

“And the third angel sounded, and **there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp**, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters; And **the name of the star is called Wormwood**: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter.” (Revelation 8:10-11)

A star in Bible prophecy represents an angel, which is a messenger...

“**The mystery of the seven stars** which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. **The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches**: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.” (Revelation 1:20)

The angels that fell from heaven represent fallen angels, or false messengers. This we have already seen represents Satan when he fell from heaven and drew a third part of the Angels with him...

“And **his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth:** and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.” (Revelation 12:4)

Therefore, a star falling from heaven represents a fallen angel, or Satan. It also states that this star when it fell was like a burning lamp. When we go to the book of Ezekiel, it will confirm that this represents an angel...

“As for the likeness of the living creatures, **their appearance was like burning coals of fire, and like the appearance of lamps:** it went up and down among the living creatures; and the fire was bright, and out of the fire went forth lightning.” (Ezekiel 1:13)

Jerusalem is also destroyed by fire through Satan’s agents, which was carried out by Rome in history. Therefore, Satan’s agents, like God’s people are typifying the work of angels, in this case doing the work of destruction. You can see this being illustrated also in the book of Ezekiel, where coals of fire are to be rained down upon Jerusalem...

“And he spake unto the man clothed with linen, and said, **Go in between the wheels, even under the cherub, and fill thine hand with coals of fire from between the cherubims, and scatter them over the city.** And he went in in my sight.” (Ezekiel 10:2)

However, this third trumpet, as we looked at in its historical fulfillment, was prefigured by Genseric of the Vandals. The vandals burned down the cities and destroyed, or vandalised statues and buildings. The Lord takes the natural to point us to the spiritual. Today, as witnessed in the recent uprisings around the world, the radical marxist movements of Antifa and Black Lives Matter, were responsible for this work, rising up against the government of Donald Trump, typifying the South coming against the North. It is therefore easy to see, that the symbols denoted in these first four trumpets are illustrating the punishment upon Babylon for making a Sunday law. Let us look now at the last of the first four trumpets, to bring this thought to a conclusion...

“And **the fourth angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars;** so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise.” (Revelation 8:12)

In the bible, the Sun, Moon and Stars are always illustrated when the heavens and the earth shake. We know from our last edition that when this event comes to pass, that this is the point where Christ told His disciples to look for, that marked His second coming. However, as we will see when we go back to study Matthew twenty-four in a later edition, that the Sun, Moon and Stars are affected at both the destruction of Jerusalem and thereafter at the destruction of Babylon. Let us just read about the destruction of Babylon so that we can see this for ourselves...

“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. **For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine.**” (Isaiah 13:9-10)

“**Therefore I will shake the heavens, and the earth** shall remove out of her place, in the wrath of the LORD of hosts, and in the day of his fierce anger.” (Isaiah 13:13)

So how are we to understand this? Firstly, we know that Satan was kicked out of heaven. The scriptures tell us that Satan wanted to be like the most-high God...

“**How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:**” (Isaiah 14:12-13)

In the above verses, which we have already shown represents the destruction of Babylon, Satan falls from heaven. It is not referring literally to heaven, for he was kicked out after his fall, but rather to his desires to copy the God of heaven on earth. How did he do that? In order to see this, let us go to the story where Babylon is first established by Satan, on earth...

“And they said, **Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven**; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.” (Genesis 11:4)

Satan, who wanted to be like the Most-High God, controlling both the throne and the church, makes a tower that rises up to heaven. It is in this sense, when his tower falls that he falls from heaven. As we studied in our last edition, this tower symbolises the Sunday law. Therefore, when this tower is brought down, it marks the fall of Babylon, where Satan falls spiritually from his false throne, which he set up over the congregation of the earth.

Sun, Moon and Stars rule in the heavens...

“And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also.” (Genesis 1:16)

Sun, Moon and Stars represent rulership. When the Sun, Moon and Stars fall, it represents the fall of a government. Hence when Jerusalem is punished it is marked by the Sun, Moon and Stars falling, the same as Babylon. It is no accident that Rome had a three-form of government, represented by the Sun (Emperor), the Moon (the Senate) and the Stars (the Consul). Hence under the fourth trumpet, when the sun, moon and stars fell, it was marking the fall of the government of Rome. This is what our early pioneers understood...

“Revelation 8:12. Sun, moon, and stars rule the day and night. Emperors, consuls, and senators ruled Rome. In 476 A.D., title of emperor ceased; 541 A.D., consulship ended; 552 A.D., under Narses, the senate was set aside. Gibbon’s Rome, chapters 36, 40, 43.” {Bible Handbook, P. 121, par. 1}

When Jerusalem falls, the sun, moon and stars would be understood through the story of Joseph. In that story, Joseph has a dream, where the sun, moon and stars bowed down to him, representing his father, mother and brothers...

“And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me. And he told it to his father, and to his brethren: and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What is this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth?” (Genesis 37:9-10)

Therefore, the father, who represents Christ, as the Sun of righteousness, would symbolise the fall of the high priest, who stands in the place of Christ. The moon, represented by his mother would represent the church structure, marking all the elders. Lastly, the stars, which were his brethren, representing the angels, or messengers that go forth from the church, would represent false prophets falling from grace. Hence the sun, moon and stars falling represents the fall of a heavenly appointed government. We can also see this written in Romans chapter thirteen...

“Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to

good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: **For he is the minister of God** to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, **a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.**” (Romans 13:1-4)

According to Sister White, the higher powers represent the mind, illustrating the power that controls the body. When the mind is controlled by the Lord’s Spirit, then the body will be in subjection...

“**The body is to be brought into subjection to the higher powers of the being.** The passions are to be controlled by the will, which is itself to be under the control of God. **The kingly power of reason, sanctified by divine grace, is to bear sway in the life.** Intellectual power, physical stamina, and the length of life depend upon immutable laws. Through obedience to these laws, man may stand conqueror of himself, conqueror of his own inclinations, conqueror of principalities and powers, of “the rulers of the darkness of this world,” and of “spiritual wickedness in high places.” Ephesians 6:12.” {A Call to Stand Apart, P. 56, par. 4}

“True education includes the whole being. It teaches the right use of one's self. It enables us to make the best use of brain, bone, and muscle, of body, mind, and heart. **The faculties of the mind, as the higher powers, are to rule the kingdom of the body.** The natural appetites and passions are to be brought under the control of the conscience and the spiritual affections. **Christ stands at the head of humanity,** and it is His purpose to lead us, in His service, into high and holy paths of purity. By the wondrous working of His grace, we are to be made complete in Him.” {Mind Character and Personality, Volume 1, P. 51, par. 3}

The Bible states that Christ is the head and we are the body, representing His kingdom...

“**For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church:** and he is the saviour of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.” (Ephesians 5:23-24)

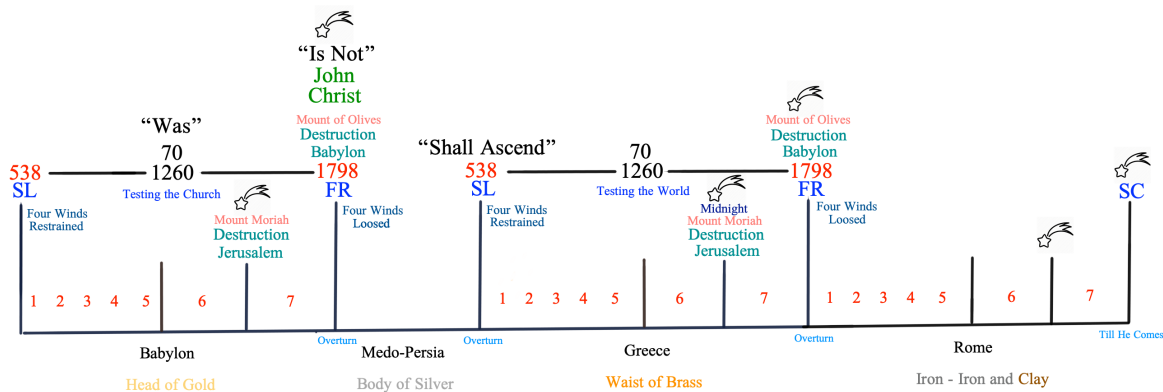
We as a people are to have the mind of Christ, meaning that Christ is to dwell in our hearts...

“For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? **But we have the mind of Christ.**” (1 Corinthians 2:16)

When Christ as ruler is no longer controlling the mind, we are in a fallen condition. Hence when Jerusalem is destroyed, the sun, moon and stars fall from heaven, illustrating the rulers over

His heritage have passed the boundary of His mercy and are now being judged. The same when Babylon will be judged for refusing the grace of Christ when offered to her, the sun moon and stars fall from His grace and mercy no longer pleads for her.

Let us place this upon our diagram so that we can visualise this correctly...



Bringing all these four trumpets together, it is easy to see that it is one punishment, demonstrating the different elements of that punishment upon Babylon, when the four winds are loosed. Now that we have established this thought, let us look at what the last three trumpets represent.

Radical Islam

In the book of Revelation, we have seven churches, seven seals and seven trumpets. In each case, the first four are slightly different from the last three. There is obviously a purpose for this by God. In regards to the seven trumpets, we already see that the first four represent the nations, typifying the loosing of the four winds. What I want us to see now is how the last three represent another power, raised up specifically to punish Rome in history. This power prefigures the terrible punishment upon those who receive the mark of the Beast during the seven last plagues. In the book of Revelation, chapter nine, is where we will find this power, representing the rise of Islam...

“There is scarcely so uniform an agreement among interpreters concerning any other part of the Apocalypse as respecting the application of the fifth and sixth trumpets, or the first and second woes, to the Saracens and Turks. It is so obvious that it can scarcely be misunderstood. Instead of a verse or two designating each, the whole of the ninth chapter of the Revelation, in equal portions, is occupied with a description of both.

“The Roman empire declined, as it arose, by conquest; **but the Saracens and the Turks were the instruments by which a false religion became the scourge of an apostate church**; and hence, instead of the **fifth and sixth trumpets**, like the former, being designated by that name alone, **they are called woes.**” {Daniel and Revelation, P. 469, par. 3,4}

Let us now go to Revelation nine and see how the things of history prefigure events for us the end of the world...

“And the fifth angel sounded, and **I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth**: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit.” (Revelation 9:1)

The pioneers, who were studying from a first-place historical fulfillment, understood this star falling from heaven to represent the rise of the prophet Mohammed...

“‘**A star fell from heaven unto the earth**; and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit.’

“While the Persian monarch contemplated the wonders of his art and power, he received an epistle from an obscure citizen of Mecca, **inviting him to acknowledge Mohammed as the apostle of God**. He rejected the invitation, and tore the epistle. ‘It is thus,’ exclaimed the Arabian prophet, ‘that God will tear the kingdom, and reject the supplication of Chosroes.’ **Placed on the verge of these two empires of the East, Mohammed observed with secret joy the progress of mutual destruction; and in the midst of the Persian triumphs he ventured to foretell, that, before many years should elapse, victory would again return to the banners of the Romans.** ‘At the time when this prediction is said to have been delivered, no prophecy could be more distant from its accomplishment (!) since the first twelve years of Heraclius announced the approaching dissolution of the empire.’” {Daniel And Revelation, P. 469-470}

In that history, at that time, there were two powers contending for the mastery. Chosroes, who was the leader of Persia and Heraclius, the Roman Emperor of Constantinople in the East. In light of the prophetic narrative, it is not difficult to understand that these two powers are prefiguring the North (Heraclius) and the South (Chosroes), both of which are a part of Babylon at the end of the world. Going back now to the bible, let us first continue to lay out the historical understanding of these verses...

“And **the fifth angel sounded**, and **I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth**: and to him was given **the key of the bottomless pit**. And **he opened the bottomless pit**; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of

the smoke of the pit. **And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth:** and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.” (Revelation 9:1-3)

According to the 1843 chart, this star falling from heaven was marking the year 606 A.D when the prophet Mohammed began to arise and spread his false religious beliefs. The fact that he is described as a falling star is a confirmation to this fact. If we just take the Bible and allow it to interpret itself, it will give us a sure place where to mark this event in regards to the prophetic narrative. As we read in relation to the first four trumpets, through his earthly agents, Satan was being illustrated as a star falling from heaven...

“And the third angel sounded, and **there fell a great star from heaven**, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters;” (Revelation 8:10)

Satan falling from heaven, was marking the place where his kingdom (Babylon) collapses, typifying where he and all those who follow him will be destroyed at the end of the thousand years. However, we know Satan, after deceiving everyone seeks permission to then destroy them for breaking God’s law. This he does at the end of the Sunday law, which typifies the work that he also does during the seven last plagues. At the end of the seventh plague Satan is cast into the bottomless pit, paralleling the point where Babylon falls...

“And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and **bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit**, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, **till the thousand years should be fulfilled:** and **after that he must be loosed a little season.**” (Revelation 20:1-3)

As we have already studied, the seven plagues are prefigured during the Sunday law. Therefore, at the end of the Sunday law, when Babylon falls, Satan is cast into the bottomless pit, marking the beginning of the thousand years of peace. For this reason, it is easy to see that the time of peace between the Sunday laws, is a type of the thousand years of peace. During that time Satan is in the bottomless pit, a symbol of him being restrained from doing his work of warring against God’s people, until that time of peace is finished, where he is loosed. Hence, when you back to Revelation nine, the star falling from heaven would be a parallel to Satan falling at the destruction of Babylon, where he is placed in the bottomless pit until he is loosed. Also, when we understand that in history, in the year 606 A.D, marking the rise of Islam, it wasn’t until 27th July, 1299, that Islam began to attack Rome outside of its own territory, when the Saracen tribes all joined together

under Ottoman, for the battle of Nicomedia, marking the beginning of the first woe, the five months of torment marked in Revelation nine...

“**And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth:** and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. **And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads.** And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that **they should be tormented five months:** and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man.” (Revelation 9:3-5)

“**And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit,** whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon. **One woe is past;** and, behold, there come two woes more hereafter.” (Revelation 9:11-12)

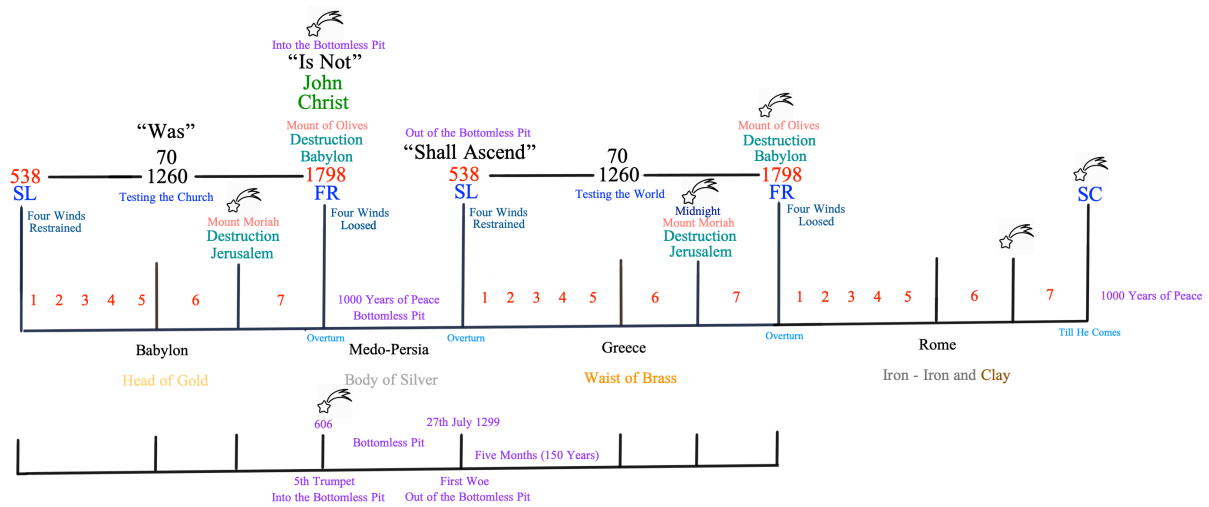
“**When then did the five month of Turkish torment on the Greeks commence? Not until they had a king over them, or were gathered under one government.** The Ottoman government was established about A. D. 1293 or 9. And, according to Gibbon, **Ottoman first entered the territory of Nicomedia, and commenced his attack on the Greeks on July 27th, 1299. The time, 150years would bring us to 1449, when the fifth trumpet, would end,** and the sixth begin to sound.” {Signs of the Times (Himes), August 1, 1840, P. 70, par. 6}

Therefore, when the star falls from heaven, representing the same point where Babylon falls, God, who demonstrates the end by the beginning, is also marking where Islam ends. However, his end is also his beginning, rising to power in a time of peace, where he is loosed from that bottomless pit when Satan is given a key to open it. This marks the beginning of the next Sunday law, where the first woe will begin upon Rome for making that Sunday law. It is no accident that when the USA makes a Sunday law that it is marked as coming out of the bottomless pit...

“**The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit,** and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, **when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.**” (Revelation 17:8)

Therefore, it is clear to see that this is the work of Satan, who in one sense is deceiving the nations to make a Sunday law, marking the time of trouble, where at the same time, through another power, he begins to wreak havoc upon those who he deceived through the power he used to make the Sunday law.

Let us place this upon our diagram so that we can see this more easily...



Now that we have these thoughts in place, let us continue to look at the characteristics of this power so that we can understand more about the purposes of Satan’s plan to destroy the unwary.

The Nazarite Vow

In the scriptures, there was a vow under the Old Testament, that symbolised a Holy people that were set aside for God’s purposes. Christ played this role when He came to the earth, to typify His people at the end of the world. In that vow, it states that the people were not to drink wine, or strong drink and neither were they to cut their hair...

“Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When either man or woman shall separate themselves to **vow a vow of a Nazarite, to separate themselves unto the LORD**: He shall separate himself **from wine and strong drink, and shall drink no vinegar of wine**, or vinegar of strong drink, neither shall he drink any liquor of grapes, nor eat moist grapes, or dried. All the days of his separation shall he eat nothing that is made of the vine tree, from the kernels even to the husk. All the days of the vow of his separation **there shall no razor come upon his head**: until the days be fulfilled, in the which he separateth himself unto the LORD, he shall be holy, **and shall let the locks of the hair of his head grow.**” (Numbers 6:2-5)

In the scriptures we have several examples of those who were under this vow, such as Samson, Samuel, John the Baptist etc, all of whom were typifying Christ. Samson in particular was a strong man because of his long hair. What I would like us to see is how the false prophet, typified by Mohammed, rising up out of the bottomless pit, illustrating the grave, counterfeits the work of God’s true people at the end of the world, which were typified through Christ, a Nazarite. Christ

when He was baptized, came up out of the water, illustrating the new birth. This marks the point where He received the outpouring of the Holy Spirit (dove coming down from heaven) and illustrates this Nazarite that is set aside to do God's will. Satan always counterfeits everything Christ does. At the Sunday law, the beast that had received the deadly wound, comes up out of the water (Revelation 13:1,2, Daniel 7:2), counterfeiting the new birth, where they make the claim to be God's people, bringing fire down from heaven and doing miracles, just as Christ did. It is no accident then, that the power in Revelation nine that rises out of the bottomless pit at the same time as the beast, also makes the same claims, yet hates the beast and seeks to punish her. These are the great deceptions of Satan that God's people must understand. Let us now examine the attributes of this power when it arises out of the bottomless pit and see how it makes these claims...

“And the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads were as it were crowns like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men. And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions. And they had breastplates, as it were breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle.” (Revelation 9:7-9)

As we can read in the above verses, there is listed all the attributes that will help us to see the point I am trying to make. Allowing scripture to explain itself, let us go from point to point and build a prophetic picture. Let us begin with what horses illustrate...

“Woe to them that go down to Egypt for help; and stay on horses, and trust in chariots, because they are many; and in horsemen, because they are very strong; but they look not unto the Holy One of Israel, neither seek the LORD! Yet he also is wise, and will bring evil, and will not call back his words: but will arise against the house of the evildoers, and against the help of them that work iniquity. Now the Egyptians are men, and not God; and their horses flesh, and not spirit. When the LORD shall stretch out his hand, both he that helpeth shall fall, and he that is holpen shall fall down, and they all shall fail together.” (Isaiah 31:1-3)

Isaiah explains to us that horses represent human strength, representing the flesh and not the Spirit. Ishmael, from whose descendants Islam arose, illustrates the children of the flesh...

“But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now. Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman.” (Galatians 4:29-30)

Ishmaelites represent children of the flesh, who trust in their own strength and not the strength of God. This is in contrast to the true children of God, who having ceased from their own works have taken hold of the strength of Christ...

“For **he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works**, as God did from his.” (Hebrews 4:10)

“Or **let him take hold of my strength, that he may make peace with me**; and he shall make peace with me.” (Isaiah 27:5)

“For **they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit**. For to be carnally minded is death; **but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.**” (Romans 8:5-6)

Therefore, Islam represents those who trust in the flesh, in their own strength, and because of this, like Samson who received great strength from God, they will receive strength from Satan to counterfeit that work. Let us now understand what these crowns of gold upon their heads represent...

“Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: **be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.**” (Revelation 2:10)

According to scripture, the crown is given to them that overcome their flesh, a symbol of the new birth, giving more weight to this counterfeit of the true. These radical Muslims are not afraid to die because they believe that everlasting life is theirs as soon as they die. The next point is about them having long hair, just as Samson had long hair...

“**Every man praying or prophesying, having his head covered, dishonoureth his head.**” (1 Corinthians 11:4)

“Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, **if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him?** But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: **for her hair is given her for a covering.**” (1 Corinthians 11:14-15)

Instead of understanding the scriptures spiritually, Islam, who just like Babylon, reads things literally. Hence, these radicalised Muslims very often have long hair like women, thinking that like Samson, their strength is in their hair. Yet the Bible states that it is shame for a man to have long hair, representing those who, when they are resurrected from the grave, will realise they are lost...

“And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and **some to shame and everlasting contempt.**” (Daniel 12:2)

It goes on to say that they have teeth like lions...

“**Break their teeth**, O God, in their mouth: **break out the great teeth of the young lions**, O LORD.” (Psalms 58:6)

“With **hypocritical** mockers in feasts, **they gnashed upon me with their teeth.**” (Psalms 35:16)

“The wicked plotteth against the just, and **gnasheth upon him with his teeth.**” (Psalms 37:12)

“There is a generation, **whose teeth are as swords, and their jaw teeth as knives, to devour the poor from off the earth**, and the needy from among men.” (Proverbs 30:14)

As we can read, teeth represent the desire of a people to devour and destroy others. This was the purpose of this power in history, to chasten and destroy Rome. We will confirm this as we continue through this study. The next characteristic was that they wore breastplates of iron. The breastplate was something that the high priest wore in the sanctuary, illustrating his love for the sheep to whom He shepherded over, keeping them close to His heart...

“And **Aaron shall bear the names of the children of Israel in the breastplate of judgment upon his heart**, when he goeth in unto the holy place, for a memorial before the LORD continually.” (Exodus 28:29)

This is in contrast to Satan’s children who have breastplates of iron over their hearts...

“**The sin of Judah is written with a pen of iron**, and with the point of a diamond: **it is graven upon the table of their heart**, and upon the horns of your altars;” (Jeremiah 17:1)

“**Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;**” (1 Timothy 4:2)

What I would like us to understand, is that radical Islam is a perfect illustration of Satan and his angels, who will ultimately punish Babylon (all those who receive the Mark of the Beast) during the seven last plagues. Prior to that time, radical Islam represents a living illustration of Satan’s kingdom on earth. Satan and his angels have no chance of probation, their hearts are set only to do

evil against all those who break God's law. This is being prefigured by this radical extreme set of pharisees, who think they are the chosen people of God to punish all those who worship idols, which would be anything not according to their own narrow ideas.

The last characteristic that helps to confirm this point is that they are illustrated as having wings that make a sound of horses and chariots. Chariots and horses are a sound of war, illustrating to us that these fallen angels are the children of the king of war, in contrast to God's true angels, who's wings make a noise according to God's word...

“And the sound of the cherubims' wings was heard even to the outer court, as the voice of the Almighty God when he speaketh.” (Ezekiel 10:5)

This god of war, is illustrated as the very king who brought them up out of the bottomless pit...

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

Abaddon and Apollyon, the Hebrew and Greek names for this king, are names for Satan...

G3

Ἀβδδών

Abaddōn

ab-ad-dohn'

Of Hebrew origin [H11]; **a destroying *angel***: - Abaddon.

G623

Ἀπολλύων

Apolluōn

ap-ol-loo'-ohn

Active participle of G622; **a *destroyer* (that is, *Satan*)**: - Apollyon.

Of course, it is no accident that he is illustrated as the Angel of Revelation 9:11, the very date Satan used to destroy the twin towers, a symbol of Babylon, which we will see typifies the third woe.

Sister White explains to us that Satan and his angels are only waiting for the permission to carry out their evil plans and destroy everyone whom they have deceived...

“When He leaves the sanctuary, darkness covers the inhabitants of the earth. In that fearful time the righteous must live in the sight of a holy God without an intercessor. **The restraint which has been upon the wicked is removed, and Satan has entire control of the finally impenitent.** God's long-suffering has ended. The world has rejected His mercy, despised His love, and trampled upon His law. **The wicked have passed the boundary of their probation;** the Spirit of God, persistently resisted, has been at last withdrawn. **Unsheltered by divine grace, they have no protection from the wicked one. Satan will then plunge the inhabitants of the earth into one great, final trouble.** As the angels of God cease to hold in check the fierce winds of human passion, **all the elements of strife will be let loose.** The whole world will be involved in ruin more terrible than that which came upon Jerusalem of old.

“A single angel destroyed all the first-born of the Egyptians and filled the land with mourning. When David offended against God by numbering the people, one angel caused that terrible destruction by which his sin was punished. **The same destructive power exercised by holy angels when God commands, will be exercised by evil angels when He permits. There are forces now ready, and only waiting the divine permission, to spread desolation everywhere.**” {Great Controversy, P. 614, par. 1,2}

Therefore, with all the characteristics of this power laid out, it is easy to see how this power is typifying the work of the seven last plagues by Satan and his angels after probation closes. However, we know that the true God of heaven came to save and not to destroy. Hence, He allows these chastisements to come upon them in type, to awaken them to their need of a Saviour. Therefore, just like Babylon is a tool that the Lord uses to chasten His people to return to the truth, radical Islam is a tool He uses to save those in Babylon, to come out of her before they receive of her plagues. Let us go now to see the work of this power under the time period of the first woe...

The First Woe

The first woe represents a chastisement, or progressive punishment against the powers of Rome and all those who are following her. In this time period, radical Islamic elements are not permitted to destroy these nations, but they are allowed to be such a chastisement, as is illustrated by a plague of Locusts, to cause great fear and discomfort upon all those who worship on Sunday...

“And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; **but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads.** And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man. **And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them.**” (Revelation 9:4-6)

Again, allowing the Bible to interpret itself, let us understand what these expressions mean for us. As we can read, only those men which had not the seal of God in their foreheads were to be tormented. It states in the Bible that the seal of God is the Sabbath...

“Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, **Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations;** that ye may know that I am the LORD that doth sanctify you.” (Exodus 31:13)

“**The sign, or seal, of God is revealed in the observance of the seventh-day Sabbath, the Lord's memorial of creation.** ‘The Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily My Sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the Lord that doth sanctify you.’ Exodus 31:12, 13. Here the Sabbath is clearly designated as a sign between God and His people.

“**The mark of the beast is the opposite of this—the observance of the first day of the week.** This mark distinguishes those who acknowledge the supremacy of the papal authority from those who acknowledge the authority of God.” {Testimonies to the Church, Volume 8, P. 117, par. 4}

These instructions, given in God's word for this power at the end of the world, were fulfilled in history under Abubekr, the leader who succeeded Mohammed's reign...

“**After the death of Mohammed, he was succeeded in the command by Abubekr, A.D. 632,** who, as soon as he had fairly established his authority and government, dispatched a circular letter to the Arabian tribes, from which the following is an extract:

“‘When you fight the battles of the Lord, acquit yourselves like men, without turning your backs; but let not your victory be stained with the blood of women and children. Destroy no palm-trees, nor burn any fields of corn. Cut down no fruit-trees, nor do any mischief to cattle, only such as you kill to eat. When you make any covenant or article, stand to it, and be as good as your word. **And as you go, you will find some religious persons who live retired in monasteries, and propose to themselves to serve God that way; let them alone, and neither kill them nor destroy their monasteries. And you will find another sort of people that belong to the synagogue of Satan, who**

have shaven crowns; be sure you cleave their skulls, and give them no quarter till they either turn Mohammedans or pay tribute.

“It is not said in prophecy or in history that the more humane injunctions were as scrupulously obeyed as the ferocious mandate; but it was so commanded them. **And the preceding are the only instructions recorded by Gibbon, as given by Abubekr to the chiefs whose duty it was to issue the commands to all the Saracen hosts.** The commands are alike discriminating with the prediction, **as if the caliph himself had been acting in known as well as direct obedience to a higher mandate than that of mortal man;** and in the very act of going forth to fight against the religion of Jesus, and **to propagate Mohammedanism in its stead,** he repeated the words which it was foretold in the Revelation of Jesus Christ that he would say.”

“**The Seal of God in Their Foreheads.** - In remarks upon chapter 7:1-3, we have shown that **the seal of God is the Sabbath of the fourth commandment;** and history is not silent upon the fact that there have been observers of the true Sabbath all through the present dispensation. But the question has here arisen with many, **Who were those men who at this time had the seal of God in their foreheads, and who thereby became exempt from Mohammedan oppression?** Let the reader bear in mind the fact, already alluded to, that there have been those all through this dispensation who have had the seal of God in their foreheads, or have been intelligent observers of the true Sabbath; and let them consider further that **the prophecy asserts is that the attacks of this desolating Turkish power are not directed against them, but against another class.** The subject is thus freed from all difficulty; for this is all that the prophecy really asserts. **Only one class of persons is directly brought to view in the text; namely, those who have not the seal of God in their foreheads; and the preservation of those who have the seal of God is brought in only by implication.** Accordingly, we do not learn from history that any of these were involved in any of the calamities inflicted by the Saracens upon the objects of their hate. **They were commissioned against another class of men.** And the destruction to come upon this class of men is not put in contract with the preservation of other men, but only with that of the fruits and verdure of the earth; thus, Hurt not the grass, trees, nor any green thing, but only a certain class of men. And in fulfilment, we have the strange spectacle of an army of invaders sparing those things which such armies usually destroy, namely, the face and productions of nature; **and, in pursuance of their permission to hurt those men who had not the seal of God in their foreheads, cleaving the skulls of a class of religionists with shaven crowns, who belonged to the synagogue of Satan.**” {Daniel and Revelation, 1909, P. 500-501}

Therefore, just as prophecy marks this power rising out of the bottomless pit, it also marks at the same time, the power that had received a deadly wound rising out of the same pit at the Sunday law. At this point two classes will be clearly manifested. One class, who are ignorantly keeping Sunday, having been deceived by the many false prophets, both internally and externally. Whereas, there will be another class who are standing fast for God’s truth, refusing to bow down to

her mandates. At this time, the Lord raises up this power and allows Satan to chastise those who are keeping Sunday, whilst at the same time preserving those who hold fast to the Sabbath. It is stated that they torment with tails like scorpions...

“And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but **that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion**, when he striketh a man.” (Revelation 9:5)

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

A scorpion in the bible is not only a symbol of the desert, where Islam arose out of, but it represents God’s chastisements...

“And now whereas my father did lade you with a heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke: **my father hath chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions.**” (1 Kings 12:11)

Their stings represent the death sentence that hangs over every sinner who refuses to repent...

“**O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.**” (1 Corinthians 15:55-56)

All those who break God’s law are under the curse. The Lord winks at men’s ignorance. However, during the Sunday law, the faithful will remove the ignorance of the people and help them to see the reason why this curse rests upon them...

“**If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin**: but now they have no cloke for their sin.” (John 15:22)

Radical Islamists were allowed to chasten Rome in history, for a period of five prophetic months, equaling a period of one hundred and fifty years. This period lasted from 27th July 1299, to 27th July 1449, where the first woe ended...

“But when did Othman make his first assault on the Greek empire? - According to Gibbon, Decline and Fall, etc., ‘**Othman first entered the territory of Nicomedia on the 27th day of July, 1299.**’

“The calculations of some writers have gone upon the supposition that the period should begin with the foundation of the Ottoman empire; but this is evidently an error; for they were not only to have a king over them, but were to torment men five months. **But the period of torment could not begin before the first attack of the tormentors, which was, as above stated, July 27, 1299.**

“The calculation which follows, founded on this starting-point, was made and published in a work entitled, Christ’s Second Coming, etc., by J. Litch, in 1838.

“**‘And their power was to hurt men five months.’** Thus far their commission extended, to torment by constant depredations, but not politically to kill them. **‘Five months,’ thirty days to a month, give us one hundred and fifty days; and these days, being symbolic, signify one hundred and fifty years. Commencing July 27, 1299, the one hundred and fifty years reach to 1449.** During that whole period the Turks were engaged in an almost perpetual warfare with the Greek empire, but yet without conquering it. They seized upon and held several of the Greek provinces, but still Greek independence was maintained in Constantinople. **But in 1449, the termination of the one hundred and fifty years, a change came, the history of which will be found under the succeeding trumpet.** {Daniel and Revelation, 1909, P. 507, par. 1-4}

During this one hundred and fifty years, it states that they will seek death and not find it, illustrating the terrible effect of the chastisements. However, as we have studied, these woes are merely prefiguring Satan and his angels during the seven last plagues. Let us compare the language given here with the effects upon those who receive the Mark of the beast permanently...

“**And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it;** and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them.” (Revelation 9:6)

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

As we can read, the torment of the first woe, where those who worship on Sunday will seek death and not find it, is merely prefiguring the eternal torment that will come upon those who receive the mark of the beast, until he finally dies. This death will be a mere rest in sleep, until they wake up to face judgment after the thousand years.

Prophecy shows that during the Sunday law, there will be many martyrs. However, it is only those who stand firmly for the truth against Rome, that will be martyred by Rome. Islam is a

representation of Satan and his angels, who are not allowed to touch those who have the Seal in their foreheads. This tormenting by radical Islam against Rome, will be used as an accusation against God's people, that it is their fault that these chastisements are falling. Instead of realising that it is their own sin that has brought this chastisement upon them, they will look for a scapegoat and accuse God's true people falsely...

“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.

“I saw the nominal church and nominal Adventists, like Judas, would betray us to the Catholics to obtain their influence to come against the truth. The saints then will be an obscure people, little known to the Catholics; but the churches and nominal Adventists who know of our faith and customs (for they hated us on account of the Sabbath, for they could not refute it) will betray the saints and report them to the Catholics as those who disregard the institutions of the people; that is, that they keep the Sabbath and disregard Sunday.

“Then the Catholics bid the Protestants to go forward, and issue a decree that all who will not observe the first day of the week, instead of the seventh day, shall be slain. And the Catholics, whose numbers are large, will stand by the Protestants. The Catholics will give their power to the image of the beast. And the Protestants will work as their mother worked before them to destroy the saints...” {Spalding and Magan, P. 2, par. 1}

When God's people refuse to bow down, it will finally lead to a death decree being made against them. This brings us to the point of the second woe.

The Second Woe

When Rome arose out of the bottomless pit to persecute God's people, radical Islam was raised up to do the same to Rome. Likewise, when Rome makes a death decree against God's people, the restraint placed upon these radical Islamic groups will also be removed. Then, instead of just individuals being punished, the nations who make this decree will suffer greater punishment...

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

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

Euphrates. And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men.” (Revelation 9:12-15)

In the above verse, marking the beginning of the second woe, we see the period of five months that was given to chasten those who kept Sunday coming to an end, marking the beginning of a new time period. This time, the restraints that had been placed upon this power are now removed, illustrated by the loosing of the four angels. They are now allowed to slay the “third part”, just like the first four trumpets did to the “third part” representing Babylon. The time period given to them to do this work, is illustrated to them by “an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year”...

“The first woe was to continue from the rise of Mohammedanism until the end of the five months. Then the first woe was to end, and the second to begin. And when the sixth angel sounded, it was commanded to take off the restraints which had been imposed on the nation, by which they were restricted to the work of tormenting men, and their commission was enlarged so as to permit them to slay the third part of men. This command came from the four horns of the golden altar.

“The Four Angels. — These were the four principal sultanies of which the Ottoman empire was composed, located in the country watered by the great river Euphrates. These sultanies were situated at Aleppo, Iconium, Damascus, and Bagdad. Previously they had been restrained; but God commanded, and they were loosed.

“In the year 1449, John Palaeologus, the Greek emperor, died, but left no children to inherit his throne, and Constantine, his brother, succeeded to it. But he would not venture to ascend the throne without the consent of Amurath, the Turkish sultan. He therefore sent ambassadors to ask his consent, and obtained it before he presumed to call himself sovereign.

“Let this historical fact be carefully examined in connection with the prediction given above. This was not a violent assault made on the Greeks, by which their empire was overthrown and their independence taken away, **but simply a voluntary surrender of that independence into the hands of the Turks.** The authority and supremacy of the Turkish power was acknowledged when Constantine virtually said, ‘I cannot reign unless you permit.’

“The four angels were loosed for an hour, a day, a month, and a year, to slay the third part of men. This period amounts to three hundred ninety-one years and fifteen days, during which Ottoman supremacy was to exist in Constantinople. Thus: A prophetic year is three hundred and sixty prophetic days, or three hundred and sixty literal years; a prophetic month, thirty prophetic days, is thirty literal years; one prophetic day is one literal year; and an hour, or the twenty-fourth part of a prophetic day, would be a twenty-fourth part of a literal year, or fifteen days; the whole amounting to three hundred and ninety-one years and fifteen days. DAR 481.1

“But although the four angels were thus loosed by the voluntary submission of the Greeks, yet another doom awaited the seat of empire. **Amurath, the sultan to whom the submission of Constantine XIII was made, and by whose permission he reigned in Constantinople, soon after died,**

and was succeeded in the empire, in 1451, by **Mohammed II, who set his heart on securing Constantinople as the seat of his empire.**

“He accordingly made preparations for besieging and taking the city. The siege commenced on the 6th of April, 1453, and ended in the capture of the city, and the death of the last of the Constantines, on the 16th day of May following. **And the eastern city of the Caesars became the seat of the Ottoman empire.** {Daniel and Revelation, P. 480-481}

This time period in history led up to the fulfilment of a prediction on August, 11th 1840...

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

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

In our last edition, we already marked this death decree in relation to the prophecy of Matthew twenty-four, marking the point where they will be delivered up to be put to death...

“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.” (Matthew 24:9-13)

As we can read above, at the same time they deliver you up and make a death decree, it states that many false prophets arise. From this we can see how Matthew twenty-four and the woes

are in harmony with one another. When the Sunday law begins false prophets arise, paralleling the beginning of the first woe and when they make a death decree for refusing to keep Sunday, again False prophets will arise, paralleling the beginning of the second woe. That second woe is to go all the way until the point that was prefigured by August 11th, 1840, where the second woe finishes. In agreement with this, the seven last plagues, which are being typified by these woes during the Sunday law, give us a pattern in accordance with Revelation nine. Let's read the beginning of the sixth trumpet, second woe and compare it with the sixth plague in Revelation sixteen...

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

“And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that **the way of the kings of the east might be prepared.** And I saw **three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.** For they are the spirits of devils, **working miracles**, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.” (Revelation 16:12-14)

If we just compare the sixth trumpet with the sixth plague, type meets antitype. The four angels are being loosed at the great river Euphrates in agreement with the water being dried up at the same place. This language is taken from the book of Isaiah, when Cyrus, a type of Christ, comes with an army to punish Babylon. The river Euphrates was dried up to accomplish this...

“That saith to the deep, **Be dry, and I will dry up thy rivers: That saith of Cyrus, He is my shepherd,** and shall perform all my pleasure: even saying to Jerusalem, **Thou shalt be built; and to the temple, Thy foundation shall be laid.**” (Isaiah 44:27-28)

“**Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,** whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him; and **I will loose the loins of kings, to open before him the two leaved gates;** and the gates shall not be shut;” (Isaiah 45:1)

The Kings of the East illustrated in Revelation sixteen, refer to Darius and his general Cyrus. These two kings typify the Father and Christ, coming to punish Babylon for making a death decree against God's people. When they do this, they are already sealing their fate which is just in front of them. Notice also, that at that time the threefold union arises. When it arises, it again does miracles like it did at the Sunday law, paralleling the false prophets internally. Also, when we studied

Matthew twenty-four, when they delivered you up, it was to be a sign for God's people, marked by Jerusalem being surrounded by Armies...

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

During the Sunday law, God's people are spiritually in captivity in Babylon and the destruction of Jerusalem would be represented by the destruction of His people. Hence, it is no accident that when Cyrus surrounds Babylon, marked by the sixth plague, it is a sign to them that they are about to be delivered...

“The advent of the army of Cyrus before the walls of Babylon was to the Jews a sign that their deliverance from captivity was drawing nigh. More than a century before the birth of Cyrus, Inspiration had mentioned him by name, and had caused a record to be made of the actual work he should do in taking the city of Babylon unawares, and **in preparing the way for the release of the children of the captivity.** Through Isaiah the word had been spoken:” {Prophets and Kings, P. 551, par. 1}

Therefore, when God's people are surrounded by their enemies, who only wish them harm, we are to take great courage from the fact that Christ is already there with His army (radical Islam), whom He will use to chasten Babylon for their evil that they purpose to do against you. We can see this same illustration in the story of Elisha. When the king of Assyria wanted to war against Israel, Elisha told them in advance his plans, illustrating God's people at the end of the world, who are to warn God's people about Satan's plans before he does them. Through the giving of this warning, it brought the wrath of the king upon him, whereupon the king surrounded the city Elisha was in, paralleling the surrounding of Jerusalem in Matthew twenty-four...

“And he said, Go and spy where he is, that I may send and fetch him. And it was told him, saying, Behold, he is in Dothan. Therefore sent he thither horses, and chariots, and a great host: and they came by night, and compassed the city about.” (2 Kings 6:13-14)

At that time, Elisha's servant saw the great army surrounding the city and was perplexed as to what to do...

“And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do?” (2 Kings 6:15)

Elisha, who represents those who understand prophecy and are sent of God, opens the eyes of his servant and gives him a revelation, representing the conversion of his servant...

“And he answered, **Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.** And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.” (2 Kings 6:16-17)

Blindness is a symbol of sin, yet when our eyes are opened, we will see as God sees and be at one with Him...

“And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that **they which see might be made blind.** And some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and said unto him, **Are we blind also?** Jesus said unto them, **If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth.**” (John 9:39-41)

“For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: **now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.**” (1 Corinthians 13:12)

This revelation will be a topic of study in our next edition, where it will be shown that this is what will save us from our enemies. Getting back to our illustration, notice, that just when the Syrian army comes to capture Elisha, the Lord is there with a greater army, ready to deliver him. Therefore, just when they come to deliver you up before kings and will seek to put you to death, the Lord has already an army in place to deliver you. Likewise in history, whenever Rome gathered an army to destroy God’s people, the Lord brought the Islamic hordes to divert them from their purpose...

“A dark and threatening day had come for the Reformation. Notwithstanding the Edict of Worms, declaring Luther to be an outlaw and forbidding the teaching or belief of his doctrines, religious toleration had thus far prevailed in the empire. **God's providence had held in check the forces that opposed the truth.** Charles V was bent on crushing the Reformation, **but often as he raised his hand to strike he had been forced to turn aside the blow.** Again and again the immediate destruction of all who dared to oppose themselves to Rome appeared inevitable; **but at the critical moment the armies of the Turk appeared on the eastern frontier,** or the king of France, or even the pope himself, jealous of the increasing greatness of the emperor, **made war upon him; and thus, amid the strife and tumult of nations, the Reformation had been left to strengthen and extend.**”
{Great Controversy, P. 197, par. 2}

This time period, from when they deliver you up before kings to be put to death, to the time that you are delivered is illustrated by the sixth plague/trumpet. Sister White explains to us that it is at the end of the sixth plague, beginning of the seventh where we are delivered from our enemies...

“It is at midnight that God manifests His power for the deliverance of His people. The sun appears, shining in its strength. Signs and wonders follow in quick succession. The wicked look with terror and amazement upon the scene, while the righteous behold with solemn joy the tokens of their deliverance. Everything in nature seems turned out of its course. The streams cease to flow. Dark, heavy clouds come up and clash against each other. In the midst of the angry heavens is one clear space of indescribable glory, whence comes the voice of God like the sound of many waters, saying: “It is done.” Revelation 16:17.

“That voice shakes the heavens and the earth. There is a mighty earthquake, ‘such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great.’ Verses 17, 18. The firmament appears to open and shut. The glory from the throne of God seems flashing through. The mountains shake like a reed in the wind, and ragged rocks are scattered on every side. There is a roar as of a coming tempest. The sea is lashed into fury. **There is heard the shriek of a hurricane like the voice of demons upon a mission of destruction.** The whole earth heaves and swells like the waves of the sea. Its surface is breaking up. Its very foundations seem to be giving way. Mountain chains are sinking. Inhabited islands disappear. The seaports that have become like Sodom for wickedness are swallowed up by the angry waters. Babylon the great has come in remembrance before God, ‘to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath.’ Great hailstones, every one ‘about the weight of a talent,’ are doing their work of destruction. Verses 19, 21. The proudest cities of the earth are laid low. The lordly palaces, upon which the world's great men have lavished their wealth in order to glorify themselves, are crumbling to ruin before their eyes. **Prison walls are rent asunder, and God's people, who have been held in bondage for their faith, are set free.** {Great Controversy, P. 636, par. 2,3}

As we can read above, when God's people are delivered by the voice of God, the heavens and the earth are shaken. There is also a great earthquake. In our last edition, Sister White marked the point where the shaking of the heavens and the earth as the point in Matthew twenty-four, where Jerusalem would be destroyed, but also where the righteous would be delivered...

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

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

“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, par. 1,2}

The beginning of the Seventh plague marks the point where the sign of Christ coming on the clouds is seen. As we can read, in the literal seven last plagues Jerusalem, representing the 144,000, is not destroyed, for probation is closed and Satan is not allowed to touch any with the seal of God on their foreheads. However, in Matthew twenty-four, those plagues are being typified, as is the second coming. This is marked by the destruction of Jerusalem, representing all those who refused to bow down to Rome and receive of her mark, yet did it in their own strength. This will be explained when we return to Matthew twenty-four after our next edition. Point to note, is that when the heavens and the earth shake, there is a great earthquake. This brings us back to the trumpets. In Revelation chapter eleven, it speaks about the great tribulation, or one-thousand-two-hundred and sixty years of papal oppression, as found in Matthew twenty-four, culminating with the French Revolution. This is a topic that we can get into more in our next edition, but what I would like us to see, is that the second woe ends with a great earthquake, paralleling the shaking of the heavens and the earth in Matthew twenty-four...

“And **the same hour was there a great earthquake**, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven. **The second woe is past; and, behold, the third woe cometh quickly.**” (Revelation 11:13-14)

“**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.” (Matthew 24:29-31)

Sister White explains to us that August 11th, 1840, marks the latter rain being poured out. This takes place at the end of the investigative judgment for God's people, which as we already understood, is the end of the three hundred and ninety one years and fifteen days, bringing us to the end of the second woe...

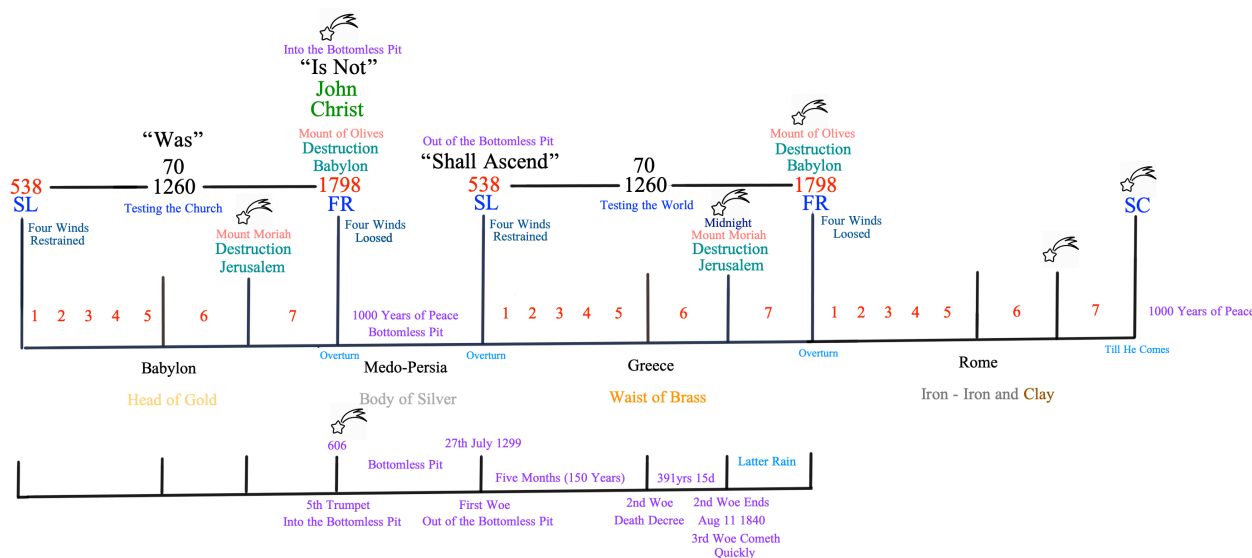
“The angel who unites in the proclamation of the third angel's message is to lighten the whole earth with his glory. A work of world-wide extent and unwonted power is here foretold. **The Advent movement of 1840-44 was a glorious manifestation of the power of God; the first angel's message was carried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

“The work will be similar to that of the day of Pentecost. As the “former rain” was given, in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at the opening of the gospel, to cause the upspringing of the precious seed, so the ‘latter rain’ will be given at its close, for the ripening of the harvest. ‘Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord; his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.’ [Hosea 6:3.] ‘Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain.’ [Joel 2:23.] ‘In the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh.’ ‘And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’ [Acts 2:17, 21.] The great work of the gospel is not to close with less manifestation of the power of God than marked its opening. The prophecies which were fulfilled in the outpouring of the former rain at the opening of the gospel, are again to be fulfilled in the latter rain at its close. **Here are “the times of refreshing” to which the apostle Peter looked forward when he said, ‘Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out [in the investigative Judgment], when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; and he shall send Jesus.’ [Acts 3:19, 20.]”** {Great Controversy 1888, P. 610-611}

To prove this point that the end of the sixth plague/trumpet marks the point where the latter rain is poured out, Sister White explains that when the seventh plague begins the latter rain is poured out...

“We need to study the pouring out of the seventh vial. The powers of evil will not yield up the conflict without a struggle. But Providence has a part to act in **the battle of Armageddon.** **When the earth is lighted with the glory of the angel of Revelation 18,** the religious elements, good and evil, will awake from slumber, and the armies of the living God will take the field.” {Manuscript Release, Volume 19, P. 160, par. 1}

Therefore, when we bring all this information together, we can prove that the first woe ends at the beginning of the sixth trumpet, typifying the beginning of the sixth plague and the end of the sixth trumpet typifies the end of the sixth plague, where God’s people are delivered and the latter rain pours out during the seventh plague. Let us now bring this together, placing it upon our diagram to see it clearly...



These things will become clearer and stronger as we build upon each of these different studies. The Lord is preparing a people to give the last warning message to a world broken in sin, and until His people understand His truth, this work cannot be completed. Hence, Sister White states that it is only when we understand the book of Revelation that this revival can take place...

“Let us give more time to the study of the Bible. **We do not understand the word as we should. The book of Revelation opens with an injunction to us to understand the instruction that it contains.** ‘Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy,’ God declares, ‘and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.’ **When we as a people understand what this book means to us, there will be seen among us a great revival.** We do not understand fully the lessons that it teaches, notwithstanding the injunction given us to search and study it.” {Testimonies to Ministers, P. 113, par. 2}

A last point to note, to help us to see the trumpets typifying the plagues. If we just read what the scripture states in regards to those who do not repent under this chastisement...

“**And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands**, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk:” (Revelation 9:20)

These plagues, representing the work of the two witnesses, who bring these chastisements upon the nations who persecute them during the period of the sixth plague...

“These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and **to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will.**” (Revelation 11:6)

When God’s people have the victory over their sin, represented by the two witnesses and the four angels, who loose the winds, Satan, who is the one who causes these winds of strife and plagues, will obey their voice and have no power over them...

“**And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.**” (Matthew 16:19)

“**And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.**” (Acts 16:18)

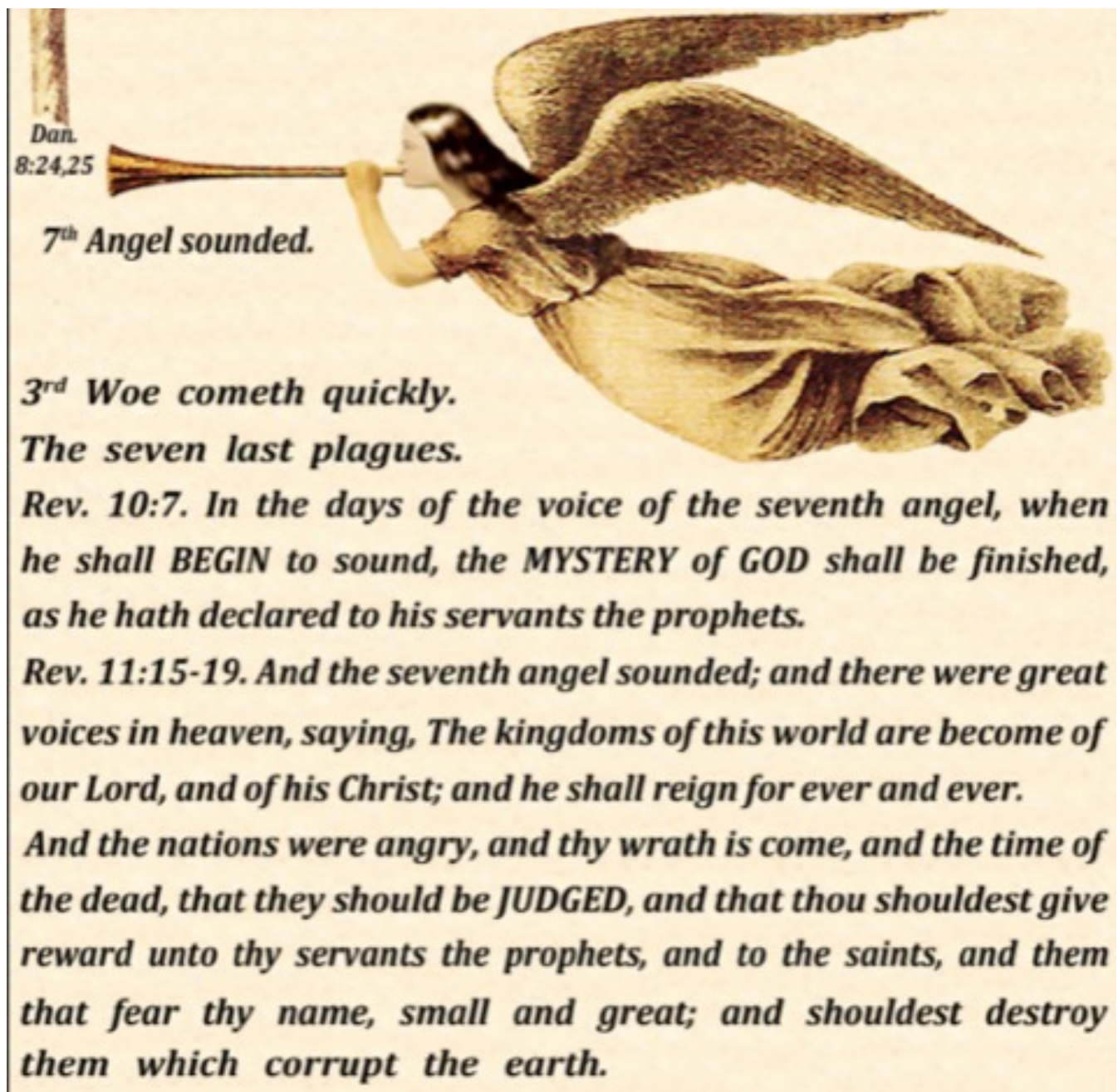
“Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, **We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth. And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so.** And the evil spirit answered and said, **Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye?** And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.” (Acts 19:13-16)

Now, that we are beginning to understand the work of Satan through these trumpet powers, let us finish by understanding the work of the third woe and to what it points...

“The second woe is past; and, **behold, the third woe cometh quickly.**” (Revelation 11:14)

When the second woe ends at the beginning of the seventh plague in type, we read that the angel of revelation eighteen is being poured out, illustrating the work of the latter rain. In our next edition we will explain what that represents. However, for now, what I wish you to see is that there

is a period of time from when the seventh plague in type begins, until the seventh trumpet, third woe begins. What I want us to understand is that the third woe marks the point where the seven literal last plagues begin to be poured out as illustrated on the 1850 Chart...



Our God whom we worship is the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and End. We began this study at the end of the time of trouble, where Babylon was being punished, where the four winds were being loosed, typified by the first four trumpets, which was the beginning of the trumpets. Now we are at the end, we are also at the beginning of the seven plagues, where the four winds are loosed, marking the antitypical fulfilment...

“I saw that the four angels would hold **the four winds** until Jesus’ work was done in the sanctuary, **and then will come the seven last plagues...**” {Christian Experience and Teachings, P. 100, par. 3}

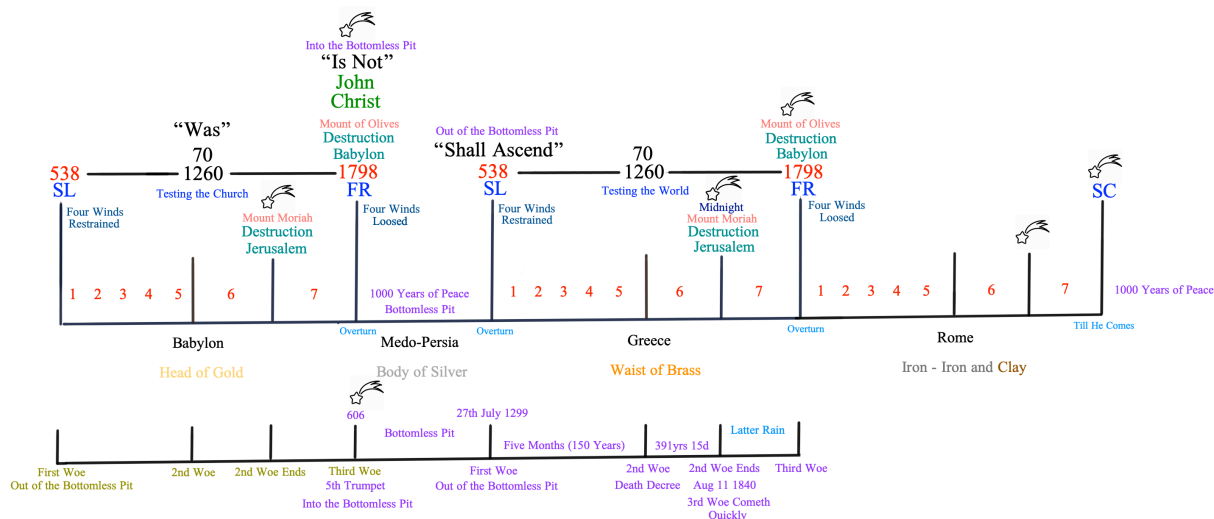
Therefore, the third woe parallels the point where the four winds are loosed, teachings us that in type, the same place where the first four trumpets are loosed, marking the beginning of the seven trumpets, is also the same place that marks the end, where the third woe sounds, where Babylon is punished. This was typified on September 11th, 2001, otherwise known as 911. Do we think it is an accident that the angel of the bottomless pit that illustrates the power that punishes Babylon, is found in Revelation 9:11?

“Now comes the word that I have declared that **New York** is to be swept away by a tidal wave. **This I have never said. I have said, as I looked at the great buildings going up there, story after story: ‘What terrible scenes will take place when the Lord shall arise to shake terribly the earth! Then the words of Revelation 18:1-3 will be fulfilled.’** The whole of the eighteenth chapter of Revelation is a warning of what is coming on the earth. But I have no light in particular in regard to what is coming on New York, **only I know that one day the great buildings there will be thrown down by the turning and overturning of God's power.** From the light given me, I know that **destruction is in the world.** One word from the Lord, one touch of His mighty power, and **these massive structures will fall. Scenes will take place the fearfulness of which we cannot imagine.**” LS 411.5

This punishment that took place on 911, typified the punishment that will come on Babylon at the end of the Sunday law, the end of the seventh plague and the end of the thousand years. At the end of the second Sunday law, it marks the place in prophecy where the work on earth has been completed for every soul and Jesus begins to come to claim His heritage...

“And **the seventh angel sounded;** and there were great voices in heaven, saying, **The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.** And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned. And **the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged,** and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest **destroy them which destroy the earth.**” (Revelation 11:15-18)

Without going too much more into this topic, I would like to finish with us placing all this information upon our diagram, so that we can see these repeating patterns and how they typify what will come when probation closes...



Summary

God’s word is a great mystery, yet when the correct principles are used to unlock His truth, it can be seen very clearly how the Lord, who does not want any of us to be lost, reveals the plan that Satan has in his mind, to deceive and destroy. Let us therefore study these things, to ensure that we are standing upon a more-sure word of prophecy and not a platform of any man’s devising. In our next edition, we will look at the book of Galatians and understand how the time period of the Sunday law, is the very experience that the Lord will use to bring many people out of Babylon and train them up to be fit vessels for His kingdom. May the Lord be with all of us as we strive to enter that kingdom. God bless.