

Can there be anyone who has ascended the present heights of divine revelation, commanding full perspective on the conflict of the ages as it comes in review before the Judgment throne, and yet has not realized that upon his gladly complying with the message of the hour hangs his eternal destiny. If there be such a one, unpersuaded by this final warning, then "neither will [he] be persuaded, though one rose from the dead." Luke 16:31. He shall experience tragedy indescribable: His name shall be blotted from the books.

And finally, the fact that the seventh trumpet will not sound until just after the completion of the gospel, is clinching evidence in the proof that the subject of the trumpets treats of the destruction of the wicked, whose probation is closed by their rejection of a message which God sends them.

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Ever since John recorded this imposing symbolization, church history has repeatedly throughout her pages had to

And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them. And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone. By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths. For their power is in their tails: and in their tails: for their tails were like unto serpents, and had heads, and with them they do hurt.

CHAPTER 9, VERSES 1-4, "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. 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."

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Please Note: You are looking at the first actual print page of this tract, as you will notice the top panels are upside down. After printing, this page will be folded twice and trimmed to an actual tract size page.

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FINAL WARNING



"How Long Halt Ye Between Two Opinions?"

“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.”

“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 bitter, because they were made bitter.”

“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.”

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

“And the fourth 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 bitter, because they were made bitter.”

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CHAPTER 8, VERSES 6-13, “And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound. 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.”

The Seven Trumpets

The Revelator's Record

Revelation 8:6-13; 9:1-4, 13-19

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That everyone who thirsteth for the truth may obtain it, this tract is mailed free of charge. It levies but one exaction, the soul's obligation to itself to prove all things and hold fast that which is good. The only strings attached to this free proffer are the golden strands of Eden and the crimson cords of Calvary—the ties that bind.

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(All italics ours)

“If the Lord be God, follow Him: but if Baal, then follow him.” 1 Kings 18:21.

“His life shall be in forfeit to the destroyers. His soul shall faint with weeping, and gnashing of teeth.” Matt. 8:12. He shall perish from the earth—lost forever.

He, though, who is persuaded, and who walks in the light, will experience joy inexpressible: He will receive the “mark” (Ezek. 9:4), the “seal” (Rev. 7:2, 3), of God's approval. His name will be blotted out. His name will be ineffaceably written in the Lamb's book of life. He will witness Michael's standing up and delivering him from the “time of trouble such as never was.” Dan. 12:1. He will return amidst the ransom of the Lord, and come to Zion with “songs and everlasting joy upon” his head. He “shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away” Isa. 35:10. He will inherit the earth—saved eternally!

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Long ago through the Spirit of Prophecy (*Early Writings*, 270) the S. D. A. church was forewarned of this shaking. And now in the present graphic revelation is seen its fatal end—the destruction of all who do not become affrighted and give glory to God. Figuratively numbering seven thousand, these “slain” in the church comprehend that element which does not sigh and cry for the abominations (Ezek. 9:4), and which as a consequence fails to receive the mark (Ezek. 9:4), or the seal (Rev. 7:3-8), of God’s approbation. All who compose this class are cut off, leaving the remnant who “were affrighted”—those who *have* sighed and cried for the abominations, and who *have* consequently received the mark or the seal, and escaped the slaughter. These are they who “shall

point is figurative of a shaking therein. earthquake is a shaking, then the one in firstfruits—the 144,000. And since the church from which is separated the throughout Christendom, but throughout the “earthquake” takes place, not as a whole.

rest of the Christian world—Christendom in this instance a representation of the variously, therefore, the rest of the city is separated from the good, the wheat. Offered—in which the bad, the tares, are separated from the Church which is first purged” therein. Hence, the tenth part “sand” slain figurative of the unrighteous, which fell. This makes the “seven thousand

judged” (Rev. 11:18), is during the millennium, and is the final judgment of the wicked.

VERSE 19, first part. “And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in His temple the ark of His testament.”

The earthly temple’s being patterned after the heavenly, shows that the heavenly temple is divided into two apartments—the holy and the Most holy. On the day of the atonement (judgment) in the earthly temple, the door to the Most holy was opened and the door to the holy was closed. This service typified the commencement of the antitypical atonement (judgment), when the door to the Most holy in the heavenly temple was opened and the entrance to the holy was closed. In other words, when the inner door was opened, the outer door was closed, thus making the two apartments as one. (See Leviticus 16:2, 17; Revelation 4:1; 15:5; *Early Writings*, p. 42.) So the temple’s being closed while the judgment is in session, makes it impossible for one on the outside to see “the ark of His testament,” until after the judgment is completed, when the door which was closed will again, according to Revelation 15:1, 5-8, be opened.

Consequently, the fulfilment of the prophetic statement, “the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in His temple the ark of His testament” (Rev. 11:19), will, just as it was in the beginning of the Judgment, be realized after

goes to show that the majority of Seventh-genuine S. D. A. Bible doctrines. This made to appear to the S. D. A. laity as ing the S. D. A. stamp of approval, are words, the theories of uninspired men have Seventh-day Adventist doctrine. In other their endorsement makes it appear as denomination. But their placing upon it originated by the Seventh-day Adventist on *Daniel and the Revelation*, was not seven trumpets, as it is found in *Thoughts* Thus, plainly, the interpretation of the

“and a statement from Gibbon confirms this view.”—*Id.*, p. 510, footnote. “As the Turks discharged their firearms on horseback, it would appear to read:” in explanation of Revelation 9:17, we Then further in the same chapter, and in *Daniel and The Revelation*, p. 506.

of the sounding of the first five trumpets.” “Keith has furnished us with illustrations et al. “Thus far,” says Elder Smith, nators were Messrs. Keith, Clark, Barnes, the exposition of the trumpets. The original author of the exposition of the trumpets. Here one will notice that other subjects, the subject of “the seven Revelation, in which is explained, among Revelation, and later *Daniel and The* ally entitled *Thoughts on Daniel and The*

make the entry that every attempt made to unlock its mystery has but resulted the more in barricading it with mysticism and confusion. It is necessary, therefore, in clearing the mysticism, first of all to find

The Reason for the Confusion.

The very fact that nineteen centuries of prying at the subject to open it up has only made it the more impenetrable, is the strongest possible evidence that God controls the Scriptures and reveals Them only at the divinely appointed time. The truth of this statement is conclusively substantiated by the angel’s words: “I will shew thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth: and there is none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your Prince.” Dan. 10:21.

And “when He, the Spirit of Truth, is come,” says Christ, in broader statement of this same truth, “He will guide you into all truth.” John 16:13.

Having been put forth prematurely and without the prompting of the Spirit of Truth, human efforts have accordingly failed to discover and explain the truth of “the trumpets.” And no scripture ever being unfolded without Inspiration, the expositions of uninspired minds are hence of private interpretation, in forewarning of which the Bible says: “. . . no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.” 2 Pet. 1:20.

To begin with, the reader's attention is called to Elder Uriah Smith's book, origi-

Popular Theories.

turned searchingly on and humility as the light of truth is now the truth fortify himself with all honesty therefore, is the need that the student of be led to eternal ruin. All-important, their errors for revealed truth, will thereby unwilling to be corrected and to exchange revealed. He realizes full well that many, the prophecies before they are divinely acutely aware of this, Satan misinterprets ning against the Holy Ghost. And being are consequently in constant peril of sin- by renouncing their errors and accepting in error are willing to humble themselves reveals, very few who become thus involved ever, are in great danger because, as history pretation does not draw him away from of it is revealed, provided the false inter- pretation of a prophecy before the truth No one is lost for believing a false inter-

Paving the Way for Sinning Against the Holy Ghost.

revealed. Knowing this, Satan is continually those of chapter 9. Verse 13 of the eleventh chapter brings us up only to the time of the fulfillment of the markings and slaying (Ezekiel 9) in the church, or to the commencement of the Loud Cry of the Third Angel's Message. Chapter 9, verses 20 and 21, carries us on to the completion of the gospel and the ingathering of the saints. "The second woe [sixth trumpet] is past; and behold, the third woe cometh quickly" (Rev. 11:14) —

So before a person can climb the ladder of Truth, he must first of all free himself from erroneous theories, which keep him bound in darkness. And to loose himself from such weights of error so as to reach the top step of the ladder of Truth, he must carefully investigate and "prove all things" in

Open-Mindedness.

"Do not read the Word in the light of former opinions; but, with a mind free from prejudice, search it carefully and prayerfully. If, as you read, conviction comes, and you see that your cherished opinions are not in harmony with the Word, do not try to make the Word fit these opinions. Make your opinions fit the Word. Do not allow what you have believed or practiced in the past to control your understanding."—*Messages to Young People*, p. 260.

This prime necessity urgently confronts those who have been disposed to accept, as unquestionable Bible truths, theories which are the results of

Adding To and Taking From the Scriptures.

Any explanation of a prophecy which adds to or takes from any part of relevant scripture in order to harmonize the interpretation, can only be false. When the Spirit of God interprets the Scriptures, He does not in any way need to alter any part of Them in order to make the explanation

events of the sixth trumpet draw to their 10:7. Thus again it is seen that as the clared to His servants the prophets." Rev. of God should be finished, as He hath de- when he shall begin to sound, the mystery Lord," just as the angel explained: "In the world are become the kingdoms of our announces that "the kingdoms of this The sounding of the seventh trumpet

and ever." of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world sounded; and there were great voices in

VERSE 15. "And the seventh angel

Revelation 11:15-19.

The Seventh Trumpet.

Chapter 10 and 11 of The Revelation cover a series of events different from those of chapter 9. Verse 13 of the eleventh chapter brings us up only to the time of the fulfillment of the markings and slaying (Ezekiel 9) in the church, or to the commencement of the Loud Cry of the Third Angel's Message. Chapter 9, verses 20 and 21, carries us on to the completion of the gospel and the ingathering of the saints. "The second woe [sixth trumpet] is past; and behold, the third woe cometh quickly" (Rev. 11:14) —

sing for the majesty of the Lord" (Isa. 24:14)—give "glory to the God of heaven."

end and the events of the seventh begin, the work of the gospel (the mystery of God) is to be completed.

VERSES 16-18. "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."

As illustrated on the cover page of this tract, the "four and twenty elders" are a part of the judicial tribunal of the investigative judgment in the heavenly sanctuary. (For a more ample explanation of the "elders," study *The Shepherd's Rod*, Vol. 2, pp. 187-221). Accordingly, the words which they speak at the time that the seventh angel begins to sound, reveal that the judicial work of the "Ancient of days" (Dan. 7:9; Rev. 4:3), of the Lamb (Rev. 5:6), of the "ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands" of angels (Rev. 5:11), and of the "elders" and the "beasts," was about finished. Their words reveal also that the time of the resurrection—the time for the saints to receive their reward of eternal life, and for Christ to destroy those who destroy the earth—was come. Clearly, therefore, "the time of the dead, that they should be

body of righteous dead, those from Adams' object, must represent the first and largest

Thus the temple, the first and the largest accepted as members in approved stand- ing! Thus is reenacted the outstanding sin- and other multitudes of like unbelief are believe the Spirit of Prophecy are retained, (Isa. 66:5), while multitudes who dis- bound by such restrictions are "cast out" true friends. And all who refuse to be esteem those who devise them as wise and less accept them without question, and forever in their errors, the laity neverthe- strictions are devised to keep the people utterly unlawful and light-obscuring re- the people. And despite the fact that such which they see no light, be brought before observations, forbid that anything new in Word," as is seen from the foregoing though "unskilful in the these men, revised Edition, pp. 32-35. These men, No. 4, *The Latest News for Mothers*, Re- Vol. 5, p. 293, and elucidated in Tract of experience" mentioned in *Testimonies*, the watchmen who claim to be the "men there is today gross darkness throughout the church, enveloping both the laity and interpretations is signboard evidence that The acceptance and the teaching of such

more difficult to see with exactness? tom of the sea? Which condition is the in the words just quoted, died in the bot- he see that "every" creature, as he says "brimstone" came from, then how could exactly where the "fire," "smoke," and If John could not, as is contended, see

The investigative judgment of the dead consequently takes place in the heavenly temple only, whereas the investigative judgment of the living takes place in the heavenly as well as in the earthly temple. While the records are being made up for the books in the heavenly, the people are being investigated for the separation in the earthly (Matt. 22:11-13). (See Mala- chi 3:1-3). And as the measuring is figurative of the same work, then it leads to the conclusion that the "temple," the "altar," and "them that worship therein" must figuratively represent the three classes to be judged.

The temple and the altar, inanimate objects, must characterize two classes of inanimate saints—the two classes of dead saints. An altar, moreover, obviously, cannot be installed in a temple before the temple is built. And, furthermore, in size it is comparatively much smaller than a temple. Naturally, then, it must symbol- ize a class of saints which not only comes after those who are characterized by the temple but which also is proportionately much smaller.

Thus the temple, the first and the largest object, must represent the first and largest body of righteous dead, those from Adams'

yesterday's Gentile occupation of it. And when ancient Israel returned from Egypt to the land of promise, the times of the Gentiles in those days were fulfilled. Likewise now when antitypical Israel, the 144,000 guileless servants of God, are sealed and taken to Mt. Zion, there to stand with the Lamb, the "times of the Gentiles" in these days will be fulfilled.

(We omit Revelation 11:3-12 from this discussion, for these verses are treated of in *The Shepherd's Rod*, Vol. 2, pp. 270, 283-289; in revised Tract No. 2, *The Warning Paradox*, pp. 47-48; and in *The Great Controversy*, pp. 286-288.)

VERSE 13. "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 "hour," "the earthquake," the "tenth part," "the city," the "seven thousand" slain, and "the remnant" must, to maintain the integrity of the entire trumpet symbolism, themselves be symbolical.

Climaxing the event symbolized "the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven." None but those who "keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ" can truly fear and give glory to Him. Accordingly in the present connection the remnant is necessarily figurative of the righteous, "the wheat," in that part of the city

If John could not, as is contended, see exactly where the "fire," "smoke," and "brimstone" came from, then how could he see that "every" creature, as he says in the words just quoted, died in the bottom of the sea? Which condition is the more difficult to see with exactness? The acceptance and the teaching of such interpretations is signboard evidence that there is today gross darkness throughout the church, enveloping both the laity and the watchmen who claim to be the "men of experience" mentioned in *Testimonies*, Vol. 5, p. 293, and elucidated in Tract No. 4, *The Latest News for Mothers*, Revised Edition, pp. 32-35. These men, though "unskilful in the foregoing Word," as is seen from the foregoing observations, forbid that anything new in which they see no light, be brought before the people. And despite the fact that such strictly unlawful and light-obscuring restrictions are devised to keep the people forever in their errors, the laity nevertheless accept them without question, and esteem those who devise them as wise and true friends. And all who refuse to be bound by such restrictions are "cast out" (Isa. 66:5), while multitudes who disbelieve the Spirit of Prophecy are retained, accepted as members in approved standing! Thus is reenacted the outstanding sin of the Jews, which called forth from the lips of the Saviour the piercing pronouncement:

A fair example is their unhesitatingly applauding such manipulations as rationalizing "the heads of lions" (in the symbolism of Revelation 9:17) into heads of Arabian horses, and the serpent-like tails (Rev. 9:19), into common horses' tails (as evidenced by the accompanying illustration) in order to connect the trumpets with the battles of the Turks!

But even worse, they unhesitatingly agree that the "fire," "smoke," and "brimstone" did not issue, as John saw them, from the lion-like mouths, but rather from a gun in the hand of a Turk!

Their accepting these additions and subtractions to and from Holy Writ, a practice condemned by the Scriptures (Rev. 22:18, 19), shows that they are victims of a faulty vision, which causes them to think themselves right when they are all wrong (*Testimonies*, Vol. 3, pp. 252, 253).

Their subscribing to such a practice, moreover, undermines faith in the Bible, for if the Revelator be wrong in one instance, then can he not be mistaken in other instances also? And if we cannot depend upon the book of The Revelation

time to the beginning of the judgment in 1844. While the altar, a special and smaller object, must represent a special and smaller body of righteous dead, the righteous who die from 1844 on, and who are to come up in the special resurrection of Daniel 12:2 (*Early Writings*, p. 285).

Those who "worship therein" being the living saints who are to be "measured," they can only be the 144,000,—those whom the denomination was, since 1844, to gather in for translation.

VERSE 2. "But the court which is within the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months."

But why leave out the court? Why not measure it also? For since it is a part of the building, it, too, must be symbolical of saints. Obviously because it represents the "great multitude, which no man could number" [measure], of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues" (Rev. 7:9)—the last who come from among the Gentiles. The "court," in other words, is symbolical of the immeasurable (innumerable) harvest of second fruits brought in after the measurable (numberable) harvest of first fruits—the 144,000. It is not measured (investigated), because it represents those among whom there are no "bad" to be cast out; for they are gathered in after the cleansing of the heavenly temple (Dan. 8:14)—after the

judgment of the dead—after the separation of "the bad" from among "the good" in the church, as illustrated by the parable of the net (Matt. 13:47, 48). They are those who by name, "My people" (Rev. 18:4), are called to come out of Babylon, and who, with no unclean among them (Isa. 52:1), come into the already purified and living church of God. (For more extensive treatment of the subject of the investigative judgment, see our Tract No. 3, *The Harvest*, third edition.)

The "forty and two months" (allowing thirty days to a month, and reckoning a day for a year—Ezek. 4:6), represent the 1260-year prophetic period; 538 A. D. to 1798 A. D. (See *The Shepherd's Rod*, Vol. 2, pp. 142, 261.) "The Gentiles" here mentioned are those who tread "under foot" the "holy city" (the church),—an act which calls our attention to the Master's prediction concerning the fate of the saints during this forty and two months period:

"And they [the church] shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away [from the promised land] captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled" (Luke 21:24), the time that the Gentiles go out of Jerusalem and the Israelites go in.

The occupation of the Promised Land by the Gentiles today was typified by

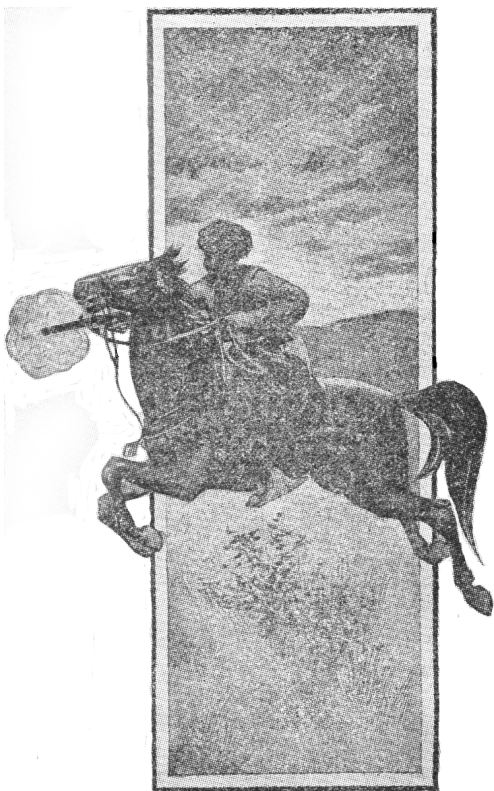
clare it? So, those who learn "to give an answer to every man that asketh . . . a reason of the hope that is in" (1 Pet. 3:15) them, will have no trouble answering the question:

Did John See Correctly?

True, the seer of Patmos was an erring human being like ourselves, but the one who dictated His writings—the great and infallible I Am, Overseer and Proof Reader of the Scriptures—was there to see that John made a faithful record of what he saw, for the exact truth of the symbolism means our very life. Indeed, it is not possible that the Lord would jeopardize our salvation by displaying the symbolism so far removed from John's sight that he could not accurately see and record it, and yet expect to save us by it.

If John failed to see correctly the symbols in the vision, as these supposed-to-be men of learning and experience speciously explain, then does it not imply that God is indifferent as to whether or not He reveals in a misleading way truth which is essential to our salvation? If not, and if John was wrong, why, then, did not God correct him? Was it impossible for Him here to correct His prophet?

"The second angel," says the Revelator, "poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the blood of a dead man; and it every living soul died in the sea." Rev. 16:3.



just as it reads, then how can we put confidence in any of the Bible? And if inspired prophets cannot declare the positive truth of what they see, then how can uninspired students of their writings de-

“For by fire and by His sword will the Lord plead with all flesh: and the slain of the Lord shall be many. . . . And I

prophecy: This logic leads us to Isaiah's predictions. The great multitude, from all nations, the ingathering of the second and a message signaling the commencement of the ingathering of the second event 1844, so must there be an important event the “first-fruits” from many nations, since the commencement of the ingathering of over, an important event and a message at from “all nations.” There being, moreover, the ingathering of the second fruits for the ingathering of the first fruits from “many nations,” so there must be one fore just as there is a prophetic commission for the ingathering of the first fruits just as there is no second. Wherefore, necessarily true that there can be no fruits predicate second fruits, for it is us up to the time of the ingathering of the “firstfruits” (the 144,000). First

The trumpet symbolism has now brought us up to the time of the ingathering of the “firstfruits” (the 144,000). First fruits predicate second fruits, for it is necessarily true that there can be no first where there is no second. Wherefore, as a natural sequence, to grasp the fact that the “angel” said, “thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings” (Rev. 10:11), but not before all, they blindly insist that they are commissioned and ready to “prophesy” before all; that is, to finish the work in all the world. And this, despite their deplorable Laodicean condition!

have endured to the end and measured up to the standard of the judgment—the character of Christ. Incontrovertibly, therefore, the measuring, or numbering, figures forth the work of an investigative judgment.

Thus the doctrine of the investigative judgment, along with the doctrine of ingathering and numbering the 144,000, comprises the *present truth* committed to the S. D. A. denomination in 1844. And these two great truths up to the additional message of today (*Early Writings*, p. 277), the S. D. A. denomination was to proclaim “before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings.”

“The investigative judgment” decides the cases of those who have professed faith in God, and who in consequence have had their names recorded in the books (Dan. 7:10), but some of whom have not endured to the end. It determines which names shall be retained and which shall be blotted out. So not until the investigation is completed, the sanctuary cleansed from unworthy members, will the books show the exact number of names that will be retained and accounted worthy of life eternal.

The most important part of this work, however, is not the numbering but the separating—the sitting of the judicial tribunal to gather, parabolically speaking, “the good into vessels, but [to] cast the

the humble follower of Christ ever does. “thoughts,” if erroneous, for the truth, as noted, the reader should exchange his and of John the Revelator would be illuminated, Vol. 6, p. 17), when the writings of Daniel, the “unrolling of the scroll” (*Testimonies*, them. This he did, of course, with the whatever its contents might be worth to commend the book to its readers for an absolute truth, shows that he simply “thoughts,” denoting an idea, a theory, not board in writing the book. The word, avows him as undesigning and above-*Thoughts on Daniel and The Revelation*, The original title of Elder Smith's book,

deadly designs. mentalities for the accomplishing of his eternal interests lend themselves as instrumentalities for the accomplishing of his “sheep” unwittingly and against their own ceptions, that the “goats” among the to prevent it. And so powerful are his designs, when they accept the Word of God to believe present truth come to their Such a right practice, though, not being

1901. (See also *Early Writings*, p. 62.) *all*, Vol. 78, No. 25, Tuesday, June 18, for whom they labor.—*Review and Herald*, and old, to strengthen themselves and those the treasurehouse of the heart things new wrest the Scriptures, they will bring from just as it reads, when they do not try to senses, when they accept the Word of God to believe present truth come to their flock will cause spiritual consumption, decline, and death. When those who profess

“If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!” Matt. 6:23.

“The enemy,” says the Spirit of Prophecy, “is preparing for his last campaign against the church. He has so concealed himself from view that many can hardly believe that he exists, much less can they be convinced of his amazing activity and power. They have to a great extent forgotten his past record, and when he makes another advance move, they will not recognize him as their enemy, that old serpent, but they will consider him a friend, one who is doing a good work.”—*Testimonies*, Vol. 5, p. 294.

O what great darkness has covered the people! Will you, Brother, Sister, sit in calm unconcern, and watch the enemy plunge them blindly into hell? Says the Lord: “I Jesus have sent Mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.” Rev. 22:16. Then He adds the dread pronouncement: “For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: and if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the Book of Life, and out of the Holy City, and from the things which are written in

“The food that is being prepared for the spiritually.”

truth-coated error that the sheep are dying they are feeding the flock with so much, people away from it. At the same time, increase of light, and are keeping the and ministers are crying out against every Now, as in times past, church leaders

Righteousness, p. 45. self than from the world.”—*Christ Our success are far greater from the church it- without. The hindrances to strength and declares the Spirit of Truth, “than from within.”*

“We have far more to fear from within,” say, the same condition exists today. teachings” were from God. And sad to out whether or not the so-called “strange ence, and prejudice in investigating to find darkness because of indolence, indiffer- contrary she has many times been left in doors, pleading to be received. On the gating new doctrines which knocked at her church been led astray because of investi- therefore, that never at any time has God’s

Let the solemn truth never be forgotten, from generation to generation. cold” have marched on with present truth of enlightenment, who are “either hot or who have been dissatisfied with their degree in every advance of truth. Whereas those and who as a result have been left behind, Such are the “lukewarm” church mem- bers who have not kept pace with the light, ing truths.

this book.” Rev. 22:18, 19.

Now, if John failed in his work, and the Scriptures indeed be as imperfectly written as the commentaries herein examined would force one to conclude they are, how, then, dare Christ adjure us, under pain of such fearful penalty, not to tamper with the Holy Word of God? For if John was wrong in what he wrote, we perish. And if we alter his writings, likewise we perish! What! Were the Scriptures devised for our destruction rather than for our salvation? Forbid the thought! The immutable words of Jesus just quoted, certify that His Book is perfect, and that It need not be altered by any man.

Ironically, though, the very ones who usually become involved in the practice of altering the Scriptures, are those who talk the loudest about exercising great care not to be enmeshed by false doctrine. And, to back up their talk, they very carefully keep themselves aloof from everything new which does not come through themselves. Such will never recover from their terrible blindness until they begin to search for “eyesalve” (Inspiration) as they do for gold, for only new truth can open their eyes, unmask their errors, and woo them to the truth. Satan, though, well knowing that their sight will quickly recover if they come with an open heart to the light, consequently fills them with prejudice to keep them from making an unbiased personal investigation of unfold-

angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the CHAPTER 11, VERSE 1. “And there

of the Lord.” Isa. 66:20. offering in a *clean vessel* into the house Lord, as the children of Israel bring an to My holy mountain Jerusalem, saith the and upon mules, and upon swift beasts, upon horses, and in chariots, and in litters, offering unto the Lord out of *all* nations will bring “*all*” their “*brethren*” for an of bringing 144,000 only, the escaped ones nations.” And, too, it reveals that instead those who escape the slaying of the Lord will be sent, not to “*many*” but to “*all*” Verse 20 of Isaiah 66 also reveals that

those who at that time know not His fame. close of probation, and does not harm slaughter evidently takes place before the And as the escaped are to go to the Gen- then be sending heathen unto heathen! then instead of Christians, and He would (titles), for they themselves would be hea- could not send to the nations (the Gen- ing, then those who escape from it, God were the church not the scene of the slay- of the first fruits in the church. Indeed, The action in verse 20 shows that the

slaying in verse 16 effects the separation they shall declare My glory among the fame, neither have seen My glory; and the nations, . . . that have not heard My will send those that escape of them unto

temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein.”

Though the last verse (verse 11) of chapter 10 brings us to the rise of the S. D. A. denomination, and to the commission to go to “many nations,” it does not disclose the message which the denomination was to proclaim. So the eleventh chapter, being a continuation of the tenth, must disclose it.

During the period of the sixth trumpet there is no literal temple. Thus the measuring (Rev. 11:1) can refer only to a spiritual temple made up of lively stones (saints), as described in Ephesians 2:20-22, or to a figure of the heavenly temple. In either case, the clause, “measure . . . them that worship therein,” must figuratively mean to number them, for worshipers are not measured but numbered. In view of this fact, we are compelled to conclude, unless otherwise shown that the temple, the altar, and the worshipers must each be figurative of a class of believers. And all three must be measured (numbered) after the disappointment in 1844, and during the time of the S. D. A. movement.

Considering that therein are “good” and “bad” members, then very obviously this measuring, or numbering, the worshipers is nothing more or less than a work of investigating and judging their fidelity to the truth. Hence it is a work of retaining in the books only the names of those who

Chapter 10, verse 10, we see, has taken us back to the disappointment in 1844. Also we see that verses 10 and 11 are sequential. Obviously, the latter must therefore carry us on to the next great event which was to take place, and which was to bring light, hope, and courage to the then disheartened church of God. Says John, concerning the angel's prediction of what was to follow:

In this great joy of expectation and bitterness of disappointment was fulfilled the forecast: "it was in my mouth *sweet* as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was *bitter*." Rev. 10:10.

The surpassing joy with which the all-engrossing thought that Christ was coming in the autumn of 1844 A. D. possessed the believers then, was indeed as "sweet as honey" to them. But when the longingly awaited hour came, and failed their joyous expectations, the sweet of hope turned to the "bitter" of disappointment. It did so not only because they had still longer to remain on this cursed and hapless earth, sin-convinced and death-wearied, instead of entering into a land where there is "no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither . . . any more pain" (Rev. 21:4), but also because they were mocked by the wicked multitude, who hated the idea that the world was then coming to an end.

ment of 1844. (This subject is treated of more fully in Tract No. 6, *Why Perish*, Revised Edition, pp. 59-63.)

hope of the S. D. A. denomination from its outset has been to gather the 144,000, it should be more conversant with this subject than with any other, "ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh" "a reason" of its "hope." 1 Pet. 3:15. Sadly, though, it is not; instead, it is more ignorant of who and what are the 144,000 than it is perhaps of any other known Bible truth. And what is still sadder, many of its teachers who are refusing to accept this "most startling revelation" (*Testimonies to Ministers*, p. 445), are now insisting that a knowledge of the subject is not essential to their soul's salvation. And thereby they are saying that they are "rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing," thus implying that God has put a non-essential subject in the Bible! Thus they are self-doomed to remain wretched (unhappy), and miserable (troubled), and poor (in need of truth), and blind (benighted), and naked (without the righteousness of Christ), and consequently to reject the words: "I counsel thee to buy of Me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; . . . and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see." Rev. 3:17, 18.

And sadder yet, even after our brethren are plainly shown that the 144,000 are only the "firstfruits," and that the second are still to be gathered in, they refuse to be convinced, obstinately following on in the fatal steps which from the very begin-

From what this document inconsistently 22, 1934." by W. C. White and A. L. White, Elms-haven Office, St. Helena, Calif., February

In affixing responsibility for the statements just quoted, the letter concludes with the credit line: "Statement prepared by W. C. White and A. L. White, Elms-haven Office, St. Helena, Calif., February 22, 1934."

"Sometimes, when asked to consider some exposition of prophecy, . . . our brethren have refused to give it a candid hearing and they have mistakenly justified their action by saying that Mrs. White had stamped this book with divine approval. This position is contrary to reason and to the *Testimonies*."

"Elder W. C. White testifies that he was present when Elder Smith was persuaded to make thirty-eight corrections in the earlier edition of *Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation*, but the knowledge of this does not at all diminish his enthusiasm in behalf of the sale of this wonderful book. * * *

"In estimating the accuracy of the words attributed to Mrs. White by Elder Boredeau," continues Elder Arthur White, in regard to Elder Boredeau's statement, "one must bear in mind that a number of years had elapsed between the incident related and its recital. We cannot consistently believe that she intended to convey the idea that Elder Smith was inspired to such a degree that his writings were inerrant. * * *

However, going beyond this modest intention of the author, the denomination omitted from the later editions of the book the word "thoughts," the first word of the original title. And now some of the leading men try to make us believe that Sister White was shown that an angel was guiding Elder Smith's hand while he was resetting the theories of uninspired men! Hence it is very evident that though large portions of the book impair the finality of the Scriptures, yet the book's champions will have the errors at all costs—even at the expense of truth! Indeed, their thus exalting the fabrications of men, and stamping them as bearing the seal of Inspiration, while depreciating the precision of The Revelation, show that Satan is the one who has led them into this rationalizing.

Then, again, while on one hand these commentators profess to know more about John's vision than did John himself, on the other hand these champions of Uriah Smith's writings act as though they know more about his experience with Inspiration than did he himself, for he never claimed to be inspired, whereas they *aver* he was. And now that the apostle John, Elder Smith, and Sister White are dead and unable to defend themselves, the living multitude, asleep under the covers of their sins, are unable to detect the snares of the devil. What a lesson to take the Lord's advice, to trust His Word even to "one jot or one tittle" (Matt. 5:18), and if necessary to

distrust every mortal being (Isa. 2:22)!

If those who have great light, and who profess to “keep the commandments of God, and have the faith of Jesus,” dare thus deal with the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, is it any wonder, then, that there is so much doubting of the inspiration of the Scriptures and that there are almost innumerable interpretations of them?

Our conduct as S. D. A.’s has all too precisely fulfilled the prophecy against the Laodiceans, thus indelibly labeling us as that people. Let us therefore confess our sins, and gladly accept the Father’s counsel: “Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of Me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.” Rev. 3:17, 18. With his eyes thus anointed, one will then, as he searches for the truth, find that

*Sister White Never Said the Book
Is Inspired.*

Any last lingering doubt that Sister White did not say and could not have said that the book *Thoughts on Daniel and The Revelation* is inspired, is completely dissi-

dated by Elder Arthur L. White in the following letter:

“Among our older workers there are a number who have thought that Mrs. White had written words to the effect that she had seen in vision an angel standing by the side of Elder Uriah Smith, helping him as he wrote the book above referred to. However, a careful search of her manuscript files has failed to disclose such a statement among her writings, and we believe that there is no such statement in print. . . . Elder A. C. Bordeaux, some years ago made the following statement:

“Many years ago, when the late Elder Uriah Smith was writing ‘Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation,’ while Elder James White and Ellen G. White were at my house in Enosburg, Vt., they received by mail a roll of printed proof-sheets on ‘Thoughts on Revelation’ that Brother Smith had sent to them. Brother White read portions of these to the company, and expressed much pleasure and satisfaction because they were so concisely and clearly written. Then Sister White stated what she had been shown, as follows:—

“The Lord is inspiring Brother Smith—leading his mind by His Spirit, and an angel is guiding his hand in writing these ‘Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation.’” I was present when these words were spoken. “ (Signed) A. C. Bordeaux.”

VERSE 11. “And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings.”

To correct their misunderstanding on Daniel 8:14 the prophetic Word of God declared: “Thou must prophesy *again*”; that is, *repeat* the preaching of Christ’s coming to earth. But as His people were then greatly confused and unable to reconcile the Scriptures, God sent into their midst, one, Ellen G. Harmon, seventeen years of age, to be His mouthpiece unto them. She was given a vision relative to the disappointment and the ingathering of the first fruits, the 144,000. (See *Early Writings*, pp. 13-20.)

By that time it was understood that the statement, “the sanctuary shall be cleansed,” did not mean that Christ was to cleanse the earth in 1844, but rather that in fulfillment of Daniel 7:9, 10, He was to cleanse the heavenly sanctuary. This is the very event which opened the seals and sounded the trumpets, and which, as we have seen, John was told would be “hereafter.” (See Revelation, chapters 4 and 5.) Possessed of this understanding, a small group of believers, who later called themselves “Seventh-day Adventists,” or organized into a body, and zealously moved in “the servants of our God” (the 144,000). This work appeared to them to be an overwhelmingly great task, and it met with ridicule on every side.

When the long-sought number (144,000) of living church members was finally reached in the year 1917, and the world had yet but barely been touched by the message, the leaders of the denomination became confused, but only because they lost sight of the truth that there were bad as well as good in the “net” (gospel church), as Christ had predicted:

“The kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: which, when it was full [when the prospective number was made up], they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the *good* into vessels, but cast the *bad* away.” Matt. 13:47, 48.

The result was that they began to doubt and to question and variously to explain away their former position both as to the number to be gathered in, and the generation to witness the end, until today the subject of the 144,000 has become to them one of the most confused and mooted of Bible subjects.

But now the message in *The Shepherd’s Rod* reveals that the 144,000 (who are to be without guile in their mouth), the appointed number of first-fruit servants to be sealed in the church, are to be separated from the unconsecrated. And the number to be sealed being much smaller than the number of the membership, it sadly reminds us that therein are many “tares.”

Inasmuch as the paramount purpose and

Thus, God's people in the closing work for the world will surpass in power even the early Christian disciples. Such faith, wisdom, determination, and zeal, as no other people have ever possessed, will invest every believer with a commensurate power, such as none others have ever had.

are God's army invincible! shall be any more after it." Joel 2:2. They they are "a great people and a strong; heads, . . . with [which] they do hurt," "tails . . . like unto serpents, and . . . the latter day Christian ministry. Having tails represent the converts to be made by converts made by the early Christian ministry. Correspondingly, then, the horses (as previously explained) represent the Word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intentions of the heart." Heb. 4:12.

The "power" "in their tails"—in that which follows them—is the power in their converts. This is borne out by the identical significance of the locusts' tails, which (as previously explained) represent the converts made by the early Christian ministry. Correspondingly, then, the horses' tails represent the converts to be made by the latter day Christian ministry. Having "tails . . . like unto serpents, and . . . heads, . . . with [which] they do hurt," they are "a great people and a strong; they are God's army invincible!

VERSE 19. "For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails." before them." Zech. 12:3, 8.

Events to Take Place Just Before the Seventh Trumpet Sounds. Revelation 10.

VERSES 1-3, 8-10: "And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: and he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth, and cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth:

"And the voice which I heard from heaven spake unto me again, and said, Go and take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel which standeth upon the sea and upon the earth. And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey. And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter."

(We have omitted verse 4, as it deals with the seven thunders, a subject about which John was told not to write, and which remains unrevealed.)

This "mighty angel," he who "set his right foot upon the sea, and his left on the earth," and who instructed John to eat the book, has been long understood to represent the message which was proclaimed on both land and sea, world-wide, by William Miller and his associates, beginning in 1831 A. D. (*The Great Controversy*, p. 331), and culminating in the disappoint-

"You have no right to manage," further *Ministers*, p. 106. ren do not accept them."—*Testimonies to* sends to His people, if these leading brethren will reject the very messages God have confidence in the leading men, and Bible for themselves, or weighing evidence, not been in the habit of searching the making flesh their arm. Those who have has been that of depending upon men, and truth. The great danger with our people is

"But beware of rejecting that which is counsel?— the church to take heed to the following Will not the light on this condition arouse assuming to set themselves above God! mandaments of God, these men are in effect the Spirit of Prophecy or break the commandments of God, though some disbelieve as exalt them, and in this upholding of such with them, and in this distellowshipping of such as disagree trust in them and truckle to their wishes. belief in the Spirit of Prophecy, blindly tude who, though harboring doubt and un- they retain in reputable standing the multi- who do not accept their decisions, while prerogative, they cast out as evil those Taking to themselves this self-instituted light from them.

fool the laity and thereby shut away the when expedient, for a cloak with which to as using them merely for convenience and, spite, Sister White's writings, but instead ren as not unequivocally accepting, as in-

says regarding the sale of the book, our brethren are once more seen to be not nearly so careful as they are trying to make us believe they are concerning what they teach and hand to the public. Mind what it says: ". . . but the knowledge of this [the errors] does not at all diminish his [W. C. White's] enthusiasm in behalf of the sale of this wonderful book"! A clearer confession of one's blindness, mentally, would be difficult indeed for one to prepare deliberately!

That not only, though, was Elder Smith uninspired, but also that his teachings are in direct opposition to what Sister White was shown in vision, is witnessed by the following statement from an early S. D. A. publication:

"I saw," says Sister White, "all that would not receive the mark of the Beast, and of his Image, in their foreheads or in their hands,' could not buy or sell [Rev. 13:15-17]. I saw that the number (666) of the Image Beast [the two-horned beast of verse 11] was made up; and that it was the beast [the ten-horned beast of verse 1] that changed the Sabbath, and the Image Beast [the two-horned beast] had followed on after, and kept the Pope's and not God's Sabbath."—*A Word to the Little Flock*, p. 19.

Contradicting this heaven-given view, *Thoughts on Daniel and The Revelation* applies the number "666" to the pope.

The actions of the great majority, fully bearing out the bold confession here cited, inescapably incriminate the leading brethren

another and a very strange inconsistency for them to keep him in his position, is even if he is falsely accusing them, then say the least, glaring inconsistency. Or unbelief in her writings) in office, is, to the same time keep themselves with their traditrix Sister White's writings, and at *herd's Rod*, on the false count that it confellowship one for studying *The Shepherd's Rod*, then for them to dis-Conference men, then for them to be correct in what he writes about the General Conference men, if the minister here quoted is

While the S. D. A. officials dis-fellowship those who accept the *Rod*, on the contention that it contradicts Sister White's writings, they wink away such an out and out sub-verse statement as the one just quoted, and permit its author, while drawing salary, to continue on at his unholy work. Were they sincere in their gesture of dis-fellowshipping *Rod* adherents, they would never retain and support ministers who openly teach and write against the writings of Sister White. They would dis-fellowship them first of all.

Just as the rapid accession of converts ("tails") to the church yesterday is what enraged the enemies of Christ, who wanted to keep the people under their control then, so the conversion of the great multitude to the church today is what will "hurt" those who want to keep the people under their control now. The very fact that the serpent-like tails have heads with which "they do hurt," denotes that the converts to the church will have an active part with the ministry in the proclamation of the gospel.

The composite symbolism—rider, lions' head, horse's body, and serpent-like "tails"—in comparison with that of the "Locusts," indicates that whereas the early Christians were killed by their enemies like helpless locusts, God's people today shall, as invincible horses, suffer no harm at any hand. The angelic beings that "sat on them," are the ones who, though invisible to the human eye, will lead "every one in

Each horse significantly has a lion-like head and serpent-like "tails," the one looking ahead and the other watching behind. They therefore can represent but one inseparable host, "as an army with banners," going "forth into all the world, conquering and to conquer."—*Trophees and Kings*, p. 725.

Consequently, before them "all faces shall gather blackness," and nothing shall prevail against them—no, not even "the gates of hell."

Consequently, before them "all faces shall gather blackness," and nothing shall prevail against them—no, not even "the gates of hell."

From this we see that Elder Smith did not share in the same Inspiration which guided Sister White. Though as her follower he was influenced by her, yet his book shows that he was also influenced by the writings of uninspired authors. Containing doctrines from her writings as well as from theirs, the book, consequently, is an admixture of truth and error.

But the most inexcusable part of the whole thing is that the leading brethren have entirely disregarded the inspired vision concerning the number 666 (Rev. 13:18), and in its place have almost unanimously accepted these traditions and theories of men. The sad result is that they have become blind to the light, rebellious against the Spirit of Christ, and consequently untrustworthy servants, unfit and disqualified as leaders of His people. And yet, withal, they go on the while complacently assuring themselves that they are the "men of experience," who alone are capable of investigation and deciding whether or not the messages that come to the people are from God! An arrogation of authority which no one has a right to make unto himself, it is the despotic spawn of egotism and

Glaring Inconsistency.

"Now I think a lot of Sister White and her writings," begins a certain S. D. A. minister in one of our California conferences, in an attempt to overthrow a certain brother's confidence in Sister White's

his path" (Joel 2:8), and who, "having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone," will cause any sword lifted against the saints to break, and fall "as powerless as a straw." (See *Early Writings*, pp. 34, 285; *The Great Controversy*, p. 631; *Life Sketches*, p. 102.)

VERSES 20, 21. "And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the work 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: neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts."

The fact that "the rest of the men which were not killed by" the "fire," "smoke," and "brimstone," repented not, is conclusive evidence that in the closing of the events of the sixth trumpet, and in the beginning of the events of the seventh, the work of the gospel is to be finished, and probation is to close: "in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall *begin* to sound, the mystery of God shall be finished, as He hath declared to His servants the prophets." Rev. 10:7.

Then it will be said: "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." Rev. 22:11.

Now to get on with the sequence of the sixth trumpet, we come to the

Here in pledged word, God foretells in clearest tenor that many of those whom He brings into the church after the purification, will join the 144,000 in proclaiming the message to the whole world, when the earth is lightened with the glory of the angel (Rev. 18:1).

And now as to what swelled the number of preachers from 144,000 to 200,000,000, the Lord says: "I will also take of them [of those whom the 144,000 shall bring from "all nations," after the fulfillment of Isaiah 66:16—the purification of the church] for *priests* and for *Levites*." Isa. 66:21. The very fact of such a multitude of workers speaks for itself that they are engaged in reaping the harvest of the world.

If our eyes were opened as were the eyes of "the young man," we, too, would see an angelic host round about the "Elishas" of today.

"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 6:17.

13:2-13. "And in the day of His fierce anger" Isa. even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir. 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." Isa.

er shall one thrust another; they shall walk every one in his path: and when they fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded. They shall run to and fro in the city; they shall run upon the wall, they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief. The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining." Joel 2:2-10.

"And the remnant of Jacob," declares Micah, "shall be in the midst of many people as a dew from the Lord, as the showers upon the grass, that tarrieth not for man, nor waiteth for the sons of men. And the remnant of Jacob shall be among the Gentiles in the midst of many people as a lion among the beasts of the forest, as a young lion among the flocks of sheep: who, if he go through, both treadeth down, and teareth in pieces, and none can deliver. Thine hand shall be lifted up upon thine adversaries, and all thine enemies shall be cut off." Mic. 5:7-9.

"And in that day" adds the Lord, "will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it. . . . In that day shall the Lord defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and he that is feeble among them at that day shall be as David; and the house of David shall be as God, as the angel of the Lord

At the sounding of the fourth angel, the "third part" of the "sun," the "moon," and the "stars" were "smitten." Its being im-

Were the "star" which, at the sounding of the third trumpet, "fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters," not symbolical, but literal, it would jar the earth off its course and annihilate it!

At the sounding of the fourth angel, the "third part" of the "sun," the "moon," and the "stars" were "smitten." Its being im-

illlogical, also unhistorical.

Obviously, then, the "mountain," the "fire," the "ships," the "creatures," and the "life" which they had, are each figurative. Likewise must be the sea, for only those "creatures" which are in the "sea," and which "had life," "died," showing that there were others which did not have life but which yet lived on. If the creatures are not symbolical, it would be superfluous to say that those which "had life," "died." For unless they had life, how could they have died? A natural sea, furthermore, is never motionless, but ever undulating. Accordingly, were this "sea" literal, it would be impossible to confine the "blood" within the limits of the "third part of the sea."

says the Spirit of Truth, "unless you manage in God's order. Are you under the control of God? Do you see your responsibility to Him? . . . That these men should stand in a sacred place to be as the voice of God to the people, as we once believed the General Conference to be,—that is past. What we want now is reorganization" (*General Conference Bulletin*, 34th session, Vol. 4, Extra No. 1, April 3, 1901, p. 25, Cols. 1, 2) rather than time-wasting in asking the question:

Why Did He Permit the Errors?

For one to ask, Why did God allow errors to creep in among His people, and to be so widely circulated? would be at the same time to ask, Why did He permit errors to come in among His ancient people to such an extent that they finally so obscured from view the very focal point of the entire ceremonial system—the great Infallible Waymark, the long expected Son of God—that not only was He lost sight of but also, when He did come, was rejected and crucified between thieves!

The reason that the Jewish people were led into this dark and tragic course was that they rejected and killed the prophets, whom God sent to correct their erring ways, "till there was no remedy." 2 Chron. 36:16. The experience of the church today has paralleled at every point that of the Jews. In fact, "Said the angel, 'Ye have done worse than they.'"—*Testimonies*,

VERSES 16-19, "And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand; and I heard the number of them. And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone. By these three was the third part of men killed, and by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths. For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails: for their tails were like unto

thousand army numbers "two-hundred thousand command of the angelic horsemen whose is proclaimed to them, shall perish at the preparation for gloryland after the truth All these who fail to make the needful (the 144,000), who are sealed "at a year;" (4) those who do not join "His redeemed" latter rain, which comes "at a month"; and "at a day"; (3) those who receive not the day of God's vengeance, which is revealed who heed not the solemn warning of the to the proclamation of the judgment, which is revealed "at an hour"; (2) those pitiable, (1) those who close their ears in the four messages. They are, to recast the saving truth of the gospel as revealed—all who fail to receive into their lives angels "for to slay the third part of men" These four messages prepare the four

Lord." Isa. 66:19, 20.

called My Mighty ones [the angelic host—"two hundred thousand thousand horsemen"] for Mine anger, even them that rejoice in My highness. The noise of a multitude [the army of Revelation 9:16] in the mountains, like as of a great people; a tumultuous noise of the kingdoms of nations gathered together: *the Lord* of hosts *mustereth* the host of the battle. They come from a far country, from the end of heaven, even the Lord, and the weapons of His indignation, to destroy the whole land.

"Howl ye; for the day of the Lord is at hand; it shall come as a destruction from the Almighty. Therefore shall all hands be faint, and every man's heart shall melt: and they shall be afraid: pangs and sorrows shall take hold of them; they shall be in pain as a woman that travaileth: they shall be amazed one at another; their faces shall be as flames. 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. And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogance of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible. I will make a man more precious than fine gold;

The statements, "which must shortly come to pass" (Rev. 1:1), and "I will show thee things which must be hereafter" (Rev. 4:1), go to say that The Revelation is given with the one particular object in view of showing "the things" lying, not behind, but ahead of, John's time, with reference being made only incidentally to the past, in order to lay the necessary foundation upon which to build the future.

For example: Daniel's vision of the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound. . . . And the seven angels which had the heaven about the space of half an hour. Verses 1, 6, "And when he had opened the seal in their particular periods.

This basic truth that each period of destruction follows only after a corresponding period of sealing, is corroborated by the fact that the symbolical locusts, which came up at the sounding of the fifth trumpet, hurt only those men which had "not the seal of God in their foreheads." All this shows not only that each trumpet follows its sealing period, but also that the nature of the trumpet reveals the punishment of those who failed to receive the seal in their particular periods.

Thus the trumpets culminate with those who reject His message to them today. whose probation closed consequent to their rejecting God's respective message to them. cessive generations of the wicked, each of

possible, though, to smite the heavenly luminaries, then those here recorded as "smitten" are manifestly symbolical. This is made doubly plain in the light of the knowledge that even were they literal, and one part of them actually was smitten, the two parts of them remaining unsmitten would still emit more than enough light to prevent darkness.

Out of the "smoke" which, at the sounding of the fifth trumpet, rose from the "bottomless pit," came fabulous "locusts" the like of which do not exist. The locusts, the "smoke," and the "pit," therefore, must also stand for something else. And furthermore as the personal pronoun "he" applies to the "star," the star, consequently, is figurative of a male person.

That a horse, as in the sixth trumpet, should have a tail of serpents, a lion's head, and a mouth belching fire, smoke, and brimstone—how utterly and fantastically impossible! These unnatural and grotesque combinations therefore reveal that the truth of the seven trumpets is to be unlocked only by the key of symbolical interpretation, and that hence the Bible Itself must explain

The Nature of the Trumpets.

That singular parallelism exists between the several effects of the seven trumpets and the several effects of the seven last plagues, is clearly to be seen in the following collocations:

Just as the seven plagues, therefore, reveal the judgments to be visited upon the wicked living after they reject the message so the seven trumpets reveal, as will be seen, the sequent destructions of the suc-

opened and the throne occupied. before the door of the Most Holy was sounding of this trumpet had to take place therein, where the throne is. Hence, the "voice" would necessarily have come from opened for use. For had it been in use, the trumpet, proves that the trumpet sounded sanctuary at the sounding of the sixth altar's being in the holy apartment of the of the golden altar." Rev. 9:13, 14. The Euphrates," came "from the four horns sixth trumpet, saying, "Loose the four spoke to the angel at the sounding of the last plagues, for such a conclusion is made impossible by the fact that the voice which subject of the seven trumpets must be one and the same in time and event with the corresponding destructions of the seven Let it not, however, be understood that the respective destructions revealed in the

tion has closed. and that of the wicked after their proba- pose of the seven last plagues: destructive; the same in kind as the nature and the purpose of the seven trumpets are the slightest peradventure that the nature These coincidences demonstrate beyond

(1) Both the elements of the first trumpet ("hail and fire mingled with blood") and the contents of the vial of the first plague are cast upon the "earth" (Rev. 8:7; 16:2).

(2) The "mountain" at the sounding of the second trumpet and the contents of the "vial" at the pouring out of the second plague find their point of coincidence in falling alike into the "sea" (Rev. 8:8; 16:3).

(3) "Upon the rivers and fountains of waters" (Rev. 8:10; 16:4) fall both the "star" of the third trumpet and the contents of the "vial" of the third plague.

(4) Just as at the sounding of the fourth trumpet, so likewise at the pouring out of the "vial" of the fourth plague, the sun is affected (Rev. 8:12; 16:8).

(5) Darkness (Rev. 9:2; 16:10) ensues in common at the sounding of the fifth trumpet and at the pouring out of the fifth plague.

(6) As with the sixth trumpet just so with the sixth plague, the "river Euphrates" is the focal point (Rev. 9:14; 16:12).

(7) And bringing up the seventh parallel, the seventh trumpet and the seventh plague exhibit the identical components: the temple in heaven the voices and thunderings and lightnings therefrom, the earthquake and the hail (Rev. 11:15; 16:17-21)—the second coming of Christ.

in their work of proclaiming the message angelic host who lead and direct the saints matically follows, are figurative of the beings), then the "horsemen," it auto-trolled and guided by their riders (divine gospel messengers, and as they are con-

So as the horses are representative of *Warning Paradox of Zechariah 6.*) the horses, read Tract No. 2, *The* treatment of this symbolical meaning of different circumstances. (For more ample represent the messengers of God, but under vation. Like the "locusts," therefore, they the alarm of warning, the message of sal- preachers, those who sound "the bells" — There, horses are used to symbolize further borne out by Zechariah 14:20. interpreted to represent gospel workers is That the symbol, horses, is correctly in-

workers who proclaim the final message. "army" of "horses" is figurative of the graphs. Unmistakably, therefore, the sage brought to view in preceding para- also that they symbolize the fourfold mes- angels" were to "slay a third part of men," remembered that likewise the "four In answering this question, it is to be

of men?" "the army" which is to "slay the third part "horses," numbering 200,000,000 each, question, Who are these "horsemen" and These verses immediately evoke the do hurt." serpents, and had heads, and with them they

and, subsequently, in killing the third part of men who reject it. But since riders, not horses, do the killing when engaged in battle, these supernatural beings, the angelic horsemen, are the ones who actually do the slaying. Hence, their having "breastplates of fire [protection of the Spirit], and of jacinth, and brimstone."

What, then, we may ask, is the "power" of the horses? These 200,000,000 horses, we have learned, symbolize a great army of gospel workers, from whose lips go a message which means life or death. That, therefore, must be the power in their mouth. Consequently, the "fire," "smoke," and "brimstone," which issue "out of their mouths," are figurative of the message which they proclaim: the power of the Holy Spirit (the "fire"), the sacrifices of Christ ("the smoke"), and the destructive judgments of God ("the brimstone"). By this three-fold message "was the third part of men killed." Rev. 9:18.

"The nation and kingdom that will not serve thee shall perish; yea, those nations shall be *utterly* wasted." Isa. 60:12.

"Lift ye up a banner," saith the Lord, "upon the high mountain [God's holy church], exalt the voice [the proclamation of the gospel] unto them, shake the hand, that they may go into the gates of the nobles. I have commanded My sanctified ones [the ministry—"two hundred thousand thousand" "horses"], I have also

and coming "at a month" is "the latter rain in the *first month*" (Joel 2:23)—the light of the angel who is to lighten the earth with his glory (Rev. 18:1; *Early Writings*, pp. 277, 278). Then "afterward," says the Lord, "I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh." Joel 2:28. Glorious prophetic promise, it envisages the power that God is to bestow upon His messengers who are to proclaim the message that is revealed in the time "of the latter rain." "At the right time" says the Spirit of Prophecy, "He sends His faithful messengers to do a work similar to that of Elijah."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 5, p. 254. (For further study on the latter rain, see *The Shepherd's Rod*, Vol. 2, pp. 256, 257.)

(4) And, finally, the only revelation pertaining to and coming "at a year," and preparing the four angels "for to slay the third part of men" is, says the Lord, "*the year of My redeemed*." Isa. 63:4. And this "year" at which His people are redeemed is, of course, the time of the sealing and of the deliverance of the 144,000,—those who are redeemed, who escape the slaughter decreed in Ezekiel 9. Of these, the Lord says: "I will set a sign among them, and I will send those that escape of them unto the nations, . . . to the isles afar off, that have not heard My fame, neither have seen My glory; and they shall declare My glory among the Gentiles. And they shall bring all your brethren for an offering unto the Lord out of all nations

the Turks to terms on the date predicted by Litch, in order to forestall and discredit this wonderful truth of the Trumpets, and thereby to firmly entrench his deceptions in the church?

As to that, we do not know, but this we do know: that despite the fact that Litch unintentionally misapplied the Scriptures, yet on the very day which he predicted for "the fall of the Ottoman empire," some power brought the empire under the "protection of the allied powers of Europe."

Thus though it is certain that on the set date something happened to Turkey, it is even more certain that this happening was not in fulfillment of the Biblical prophecy. Let it suffice, however, that the Lord turned Litch's prediction into a blessing:

"When it became known, multitudes were convinced of the correctness of the principles of prophetic interpretation [of the 2300 days] 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 publishing his views, and from 1840 to 1844 the work rapidly extended."—*The Great Controversy*, p. 335.

Once men fought the astronomical findings of Galileo. They even forced him to recant his position that the earth was round. But their fighting the truth did not make the earth flat. Likewise anyone's

four beasts was given to show in particular that the "little horn" (Dan. 7:8) of the fourth beast was to wear out the saints of the Most High (Dan. 7:25), and not especially to predict the development of the Babylonian, Medo-Persia, Grecian, and Roman empires. For these empires were already made known in the vision of the great image of chapter two which, in turn, is intended principally to show that the kingdoms of this world are to deteriorate and finally be broken by Christ's kingdom, which is to rule the whole world. To help us, though, more readily to see the truth of these latter events, the prophecy starts away back with Babylon, then in its sweep forward embraces the rise and fall of the great historical kingdoms, and terminates with the setting up of Christ's kingdom and with the end of this world (Dan. 2:44).

Again: the eleventh chapter of Daniel, though not given chiefly to show what has taken place during the long period of time therein covered, beginning with the Medo-Persian empire and culminating in the "time of the end," does nevertheless call our attention to that long line of prophetic history in order to identify to us the "king of the north" "in the time of the end," he who "shall come to his end, and none shall help him."

So, though all such prophecies necessarily bring to our attention things which took place centuries ago, yet they are de-

(For exposition of "the seals," read *The Breaking of The Seven Seals*.)

Just as the alphabet lends itself to the fabrication of words, phrases, and sentences into a predetermined pattern of thought, sustained and coherent, likewise the Bible, when made wholly self-defining, marvelously builds its richly varied materials (types, symbols, parables, alliterations, numerics, etc.) into a towering revelation, life-saving truth. Accordingly, as every letter, word, and phrase of a sentence has its appointed part to play in giving coherent expression to the thought intended, just so has every scripture its appointed part in unfolding Bible truths. When each is carefully joined in its right relation in the picture of revealed truth, one leading on to and illuminating another, the great over-all design stands out in all the solemn majesty of its mountainous finality and grandeur.

each period of destroying, it was necessary
 quence, each period of sealing preceding
 Because, therefore, of their logical se-
 "torment" and whom not to torment.
 have the seal, and hence knew whom to
 "locusts" knew who did and who did not
 ing trumpets, and how, as a result, the
 seals precede the events of the correspond-

Thuswise is seen how the events of the
 must precede all seven trumpets.
 shuttles, rather than that all seven seals
 pet, and so on, like the needle and the
 trumpet, the second seal, the second trum-
 then, the first seal must precede the first
 who did not receive the seal. Naturally,
 trumpet-periods of destruction of those
 necessarily precede the matching several
 periods of the sealing of the saints, which
 they reveal in the judgment the several
 trumpets. The seals come first because
 of the seals, then the particulars of the
 Thus John first recorded the particulars

one, then the other, in their logical order.
 corded at the same time, but first is the
 another, the events of both cannot be re-
 with one subject and the trumpets with
 simply shows that because the seals deal
 events portrayed in the seals. Rather it
 trumpets must necessarily occur after the
 clusion that the events portrayed in the
 was opened, that does not warrant the con-
 did not sound until the last of the seals
 pared themselves to sound." Though they
 angels which had the seven trumpets pre-
 take up the statement that "the seven

signed, like The Revelation, to "shew" to
 God's people "things which must shortly
 come to pass." Fulfilled prophecies are
 seen therefore to be employed by the Scrip-
 tures only as groundwork for that part of
 prophecy which is yet to be fulfilled.

In the main, however, the trumpets and
 the seals portray an event which is future
 from John's time, and which takes place
 in heaven, although they also portray kin-
 dred events. Of these related events, some
 are contributory and some are consequent
 to the main prophetic event. The former
 naturally precede and the latter naturally
 follow it, historically.

This twofold truth is pointedly eluci-
 dated in connection with the latter phase
 of it, in the fact that when the door was
 opened in the sanctuary above and the
 Judgment was begun,—the event which
 was to be "hereafter" from John's time,—
 then all the historical developments con-
 nected with the trumpets and the seals
 were unfolded one after another as each
 successive period came in review before
 the judgment tribunal. In other words,
 when the door was opened in the sanctu-
 ary, the periods represented by the trum-
 pets and the seals came into review before
 the One Who sat on the throne, and Who
 held in His right hand the book in which
 were revealed the events of the trumpets
 and of the seals.

Resuming with the trumpets proper, we

day, and a month, and a year, for to
 "which were prepared for an hour, and a
 to the truth concerning the four angels,
 Now to continue, we direct our attention

Testimonies to Ministers, p. 106.
 leading brethren do not accept them." —
 sages God sends to His people, if these
 and thus many will reject the very mes-
 men, and accept the decisions they make;
 evidence, have confidence in the leading
 ing the Bible for themselves, or weighing
 who have not been in the habit of search-
 men, and making flesh their arm. Those
 of truth, "has been that of depending upon
 danger with our people," says the Spirit
 fecting that which is truth. For "the great
 peril of such a course, and beware of re-
 welfare, be warned away from the deadly
 but who are concerned about their eternal
 to permit others to think for them,
 Let those, therefore, who have been accus-
 statement concerning Litch's prediction.
 tract and with *The Great Controversy*
 today will doubtless do likewise with this
 teaching, the adversaries of Present Truth
 of the lathy by misconstruing the Rod's
 their cherished ideas, confused the minds
 But having all along, in the interest of

darken and doom himself.
 will in no whit darken or doom it, but only
 obscure the light on any other Bible truth,
 in 1840, or, as a matter of fact, trying to
 Revelation 9:15 did not meet its fulfillment
 fighting against the clear-cut evidences that

slay the third part of men." Rev. 9:15, last
 part.

The marginal rendering gives the prepo-
 sition "at" for the preposition "for," mak-
 ing the verse read: "At an hour, and a
 day, and a month, and a year." Still more
 exactly rendered, it would read: "At an
 hour, at a day, at a month, and at a year."
 Thus are designated four points in time
 "at" which the four angels were to prepare
 "for to slay the third part of men." And
 as the "third part" in the trumpets repre-
 sents, as we have seen, those who reject
 God's appeals to them to repent and be
 saved, then, accordingly, the angels' pre-
 paring themselves on four successive
 occasions for the eventual execution of
 death upon "the third part of men," shows
 that the men are to reject a four-phase
 (four-doctrine) message, each phase being
 revealed successively:

- (1) The only revelation of truth per-
 taining to and coming "at an hour" is the
 proclamation of the angel's announcement:
 "Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the
 hour of His judgment is come." Rev. 14:7.
- (2) The only revelation of truth per-
 taining to and coming "at a day" is the
 warning of "the day of vengeance" (Isa.
 63:4), "the great and dreadful day of the
 Lord," which is to be heralded by the
 promised "Elijah the prophet." Mal. 4:5;
Testimonies to Ministers, p. 475.
- (3) The only revelation pertaining to

and a year, for to slay the third part of men.”

VERSE 15, last part, “. . . which were prepared for an hour, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men.”

VERSE 15, first clause, “And the four angels were loosed.”

Furthermore, the statement made by the four angels which *are bound*, conclusively shows that when the “voice” spoke, the church (the angels) was already in captivity and was *to be loosed*.

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

which the horsemen slay the “third part of men.”

Since “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” (Rev. 9:20), the object in slaying a third part of men is manifestly not to accomplish some selfish end, but rather to help men repent.

Resuming with Litch’s prediction, it is plain to see that *The Great Controversy* is not attempting in what it says concerning the prediction, to explain the subject of the trumpets. It is merely recording an historical event. Therefore its statement, “in the year 1840, another remarkable fulfilment of prophecy excited wide-spread interest,” must not be construed as advocating Josiah Litch’s interpretation of the Revelator’s prophecy, but instead recording the fulfilment of his prediction based on *The Revelation*. Thus, it was the latter’s, not the Bible’s or *The Great Controversy’s* position that “exactly fulfilled the prediction.”

But one may ask, If Revelation 9:15, upon which Josiah Litch’s prediction of the date in question was built up, did not meet its fulfilment at the time he pointed to, then what made the Turks on the very date set accept the Christian nations as a protectorate? Did Satan cunningly bring

“trees” and by the “green grass” (verse 7)

Thus it is that the victims of the flood are symbolized by the third part of the flood tagging waters.

When Noah knew that his God-given work was finished because the wicked multitude had “slighted” his message, he and his family moved into the ark. Then the flood came, and all who had not sought the ark’s shelter were carried away by the tagging waters.

So by these three elements (hail, fire, and blood) is figuratively described the message which Noah preached: namely, the destruction by water (hail); the building of the ark to preserve mortal life (blood); and the power of the Spirit of Truth (fire), by which the message was brought and proclaimed. To state the facts in other words, the Spirit of Truth (fire) in Noah’s message provided the ark to preserve the lives (blood) of all who heard His voice and entered therein. To all, though, who did not accept His voice and enter in, the message brought destruction by the flood (hail).

And hail’s being frozen water denotes a liquid form, because fluid water symbolically stands for “life,” or “people.” (See John 4:14 and Revelation 17:15.) Hail, therefore, is the only element that can perfectly symbolize a destruction by water.

“The number seven,” says the Spirit of Prophecy, in duly regarding the significance of this basic numeral in the Bible, “indicates completeness.”—*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 585.

The truth of the seven trumpets must, consequently, comprehend all the destruction following each sealing since the world began. Moreover, its being true that they came in review before the heavenly judicial tribunal when the judgment was set and the books were opened, and that they begin with those who first lived upon the earth, doubly clear is it, then, that, though unfolding during the judgment, they span in their connection, just as do the seals in theirs, the whole of human history.

These preliminary observations having cleared the way for a connected study of the trumpets, we shall now take them in their recorded order one by one, beginning with

The First Trumpet.

Revelation 8:7.

VERSE 7. “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.”

Seeing that the trumpets symbolically record the destruction of the wicked after their rejection of God’s messages to them, and that the number “seven,” denoting completeness, embraces the entire period

of probationary time and on to the second coming of Christ, the sounding of the first trumpet must therefore be sought as far back in history as the first destruction of a wicked multitude, resulting from their rejection of God's message to them. And the flood being the first such destruction, then obviously the first trumpet, as it came in review before the judgment, reveals Noah's preaching, his purpose in building the ark, and God's reason for flooding the old world.

Bringing up reason, now, as mouthpiece for the symbolism, that it might speak for itself, it tells us that the "hail and fire mingled with blood" and "cast upon the earth," denote something which necessarily originated outside the earth itself. Otherwise it could not be said that "they were cast upon the earth." The three elements (the hail, the fire, and the blood), moreover, represent something which is comprised of three parts, and which not being limited to any particular part or parts of "the earth," were therefore "cast" earthwide.

Going on now to understand the symbolism as it thus basically defines itself, the student will see as he proceeds that its subject not only becomes clearer and clearer, one truth dovetailing with another, and all reinforcing the whole, but also that it holds a stirring present truth lesson. Seeing this, he will know that heaven's appointed time for the unfolding of the trumpets has come, bringing the momentous truth set

"month," and "year," Biblically denotes a period of "391 years, 15 days," ending in 1840 A. D., is not permissible. Moreover, the event which took place in 1840 did not fulfil the Biblical prediction, for the very simple reason that at the end of the "hour, and . . . day, and . . . month, and . . . year," the four angels were "to slay the third part of men." In actual fact, though, at the date when Litch's prediction was fulfilled, no slaying took place, and Turkey, instead of being overthrown, was without bloodshed placed under protection of the European nations! Furthermore, the "four angels," and not a nation (for a nation is never symbolized by angels), were to be made free, and then they were to kill "the third part of men," whereas the Turks killed none, but instead of being made free, they were really placed under mandate. Still further, John heard that the number of them who were to do the slaying was exactly 200,000,000 cavalymen ("horsemen"), but Turkey never had that many cavalymen in all her lifetime!

Having already seen that the "fire," "smoke," and "brimstone" are symbolical, not literal, and that hence they do not come forth as a volley from a firearm in the hand of a Turk, we are in consequence led to probe further for their significance. In doing so, we find that verse 20 reveals that the symbolical fire, smoke, and brimstone result in "plagues." Not firearms, but plagues, therefore, are the means with

forth herein. Then as he proceeds, in the light of this realization, to inquire into the significance of the "fire" (taking it first because of its being the commonest of the three elements involved), he will be guided by the three-fold fact that God's presence in the "bush" was manifested to Moses by a flame of fire (Ex. 3:2; 19:18); that the Lord likens His Word to a fire (Jer. 23:29); and that on the day of Pentecost, the Holy Ghost appeared as "tongues like as of fire." Acts 2:3.

In the light of these three occurrences, the casting of fire upon the earth is seen to be symbolical of the descending of the Holy Ghost with the words of Truth, in which are the Father and the Son, even as the Father is in the Son (John 14:9). Thus through the Spirit, Whose ubiquitous influence cannot be circumscribed, our Lord "went and preached" to the inhabitants before the flood came. Through Him, too, our Lord was "quickened." I Pet. 3:18, 19, 20.

Next, as the Word declares that "the life of the flesh is in the blood" (Lev. 17:11), "the blood" is seen therefore to be symbolical of mortal life.

And the simple question which God puts to Job, "hast thou seen the treasures of the hail, which I have reserved against the time of trouble?" (Job 38:22, 23), reveals that the "hail" is symbolical of destruction.

The fulfillment of Josiah Litch's prediction (calculating the "an hour, and a day, and a month and a year" of Revelation 9:15 to total 391 years and 15 days, reckoning a day for a year, as in Ezekiel 4:6) is found in Uriah Smith's interpretation of the trumpets. Little wonder, then, that its advocates are doing their best to keep the people believing in it by stoutly maintaining that *The Great Controversy* lends support to the position established by Litch's prediction.

"In the year 1840," reads the record in mention, "another remarkable fulfillment of prophecy excited widespread interest. Two years before, Joseph 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;

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."—*The Great Controversy*, pp. 334, 335.

To say what *The Great Controversy* says, is perfectly permissible, but to say that it is supporting the idea that Josiah Litch's interpretation of the "hour," "day,"

In thus pursuing a course against all earthly favor (by proclaiming the message of the "hour"), they will be going "forth as sheep in the midst of wolves" (Matt. 10:16)—"seeking death." And although Revelator puts it, though they "shall desire to die," the promise is that "death shall flee from them," making it impossible for them to die. Even the sword of the wicked that is raised to kill them, shall break and

O what a promise and what assurance! Who can comprehend God's mighty power, and the glory of this long awaited deliverance? Those who at all do, and who fully trust in the Lord, will, for the good of His people, "go forth therefore unto Him with- out the camp, bearing His reproach." Heb. 13:13.

Though God's people today shall go through a "time of trouble such as never was" (Dan. 12:1), when earthly tribunals shall cause to come to pass "that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed" (Rev. 13:15), yet the Word declares: ". . . at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book." Dan. 12:1.

Christians in Paul's time were indeed *seeking death*. Esteeming it the greatest privilege and honor to die for Him, they desired to do so if others might by their death obtain eternal life.

time in which the "two witnesses" of Revelation 11:3 were to "prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth," must occur during the sounding of the sixth trumpet. And being in the future tense, the phrase, "shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days" (Rev. 11:3), shows that at the time the trumpet began sounding, this period of 1260 days was yet future.

The voice which came from the golden altar, said "to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates." In order to identify "the four angels," we must first understand the literal meaning of the river Euphrates.

The capital city of ancient Babylon was built on either side of the Euphrates, thus dividing the city in two parts. The river was also the source of water supplying a fortifying mote about the city. So because the ancient Babylonians were the first to build on the banks of the Euphrates, and because the original application must attach to the original settlers there, the "great river Euphrates" emerges as a type of "the waters . . . where the whore sitteth" (Rev. 17:15)—modern Babylon. And this important truth is amplified by the fact that the ancient city, Babylon, does not now exist, whereas prophecy calls for a Babylon today.

Now in order for there to be a modern

As the fulfillment of the first trumpet brings us up to and including the flood, the time of the second trumpet must therefore be sought in the first post-flood destruction preceded by a message. And to locate its beginning, we need only to reason that since Scripturally a mountain represents a church or a kingdom (Zech. 8:3; Isa. 2:3), then the "great mountains" being enveloped in fire, as was the bush from which God spoke to Moses (Ex. 3:2,

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 in 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 Second Trumpet.

Thus, as in one short verse of Scripture the whole story of the flood is told, there is seen in the symbolism of the first trumpet, not only a marvelous simplicity and accuracy in telling the past but also a great economy of time and of writing material, the latter being a commodity which was then at a great premium. And this same supreme wisdom runs through- out, continuing with

long life. Grass would not, accordingly, either logically or Scripturally symbolize the inmates of the ark as the progenitors of all post-diluvian nations.

which were burned (doomed by the power of the Spirit against Whom they sinned), and which distinguish two classes of people.

But why "burnt" instead of "drowned"? Let us not forget that we are herein studying truth by means of symbols. The act of destruction denoted by the literal acceptance of the word "drowned," would be actual instead of symbolical, and would thus twist the key of interpretation: for if every term is not symbolical, how shall we differentiate those which are from those which are not? And how shall we know by which to define the truth? The word "drowned" would not symbolically signify destroyed, but rather immersed in life—submerged among great masses of people (Rev. 17:15).

And "fire" being symbolical of the Spirit of Truth, it follows therefore that those who sinned against Him in rejecting Noah's message, were figuratively "burnt," and that therefore the wicked suffered His vengeance ("fire") for sinning against Him.

To illustrate: should one commit murder and be convicted by a law which demands capital punishment, then his life would be in forfeit to an instrument of death. But is the crime or the implement of execution the *cause* of his death?—The crime, of course; for if the accused is found guiltless, the law cannot impose the penalty.

Why were all the people who were in the ark symbolized by trees? Why not by grass?—Because grass as compared with trees lacks the fitting characteristics, such as stature, sturdiness, stability, and

number. always means the wicked irrespective of because a figurative "third" in the trumpets would have been symbolically incorrect instead of the converse, the statement that two thirds were burnt and a third left, are symbolical of the righteous who survived the flood. Had Inspiration stated parts of the "trees" which were not burned or angels, remaining in heaven were the righteous ones. Correspondingly, the two or angels, remaining in heaven were the righteous ones. Correspondingly, the two parts of the stars, the two parts of the antediluvian world. The third part of trees is seen to denote the wicked rulers of the antediluvian world. The third part of trees is seen to denote the wicked rulers of the antediluvian world. The third part of trees is seen to denote the wicked rulers of the antediluvian world.

Such conclusions are reached only by setting aside the rule of interpretation. Ever remember that we are studying prophetic events through symbols. Let not the mind be diverted from a symbolical to a literal enumeration of those who perished and of those who lived.

And inasmuch as there were just eight saved, shall we then conclude that only four souls (trees) were lost? were left, must we therefore believe that twice as many were spared as were lost? And inasmuch as there were just eight saved, shall we then conclude that only four souls (trees) were lost?

Just so with the antediluvians: they did not perish because the flood came, for any who would, could have gone into the ark. Indeed, had all repented, they would have thereby given God cause even to withhold the flood. But they committed the unpardonable sin against the Holy Ghost, rejected Noah's message, refused to get into the ark—a sin which brought upon them the penalty of divine law (the flood).

That the "green grass" and the "trees" are symbolical of two classes of living beings, is quickly seen from Nebuchadnezzar's dream in which he saw himself likened to a "tree," and the common people of his kingdom, to the "tender grass of the field." Dan. 4:10, 14, 15, 20, 22; Isa. 40:6, 7. And Jesus, speaking of men in responsible positions, said that "every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire." Matt. 3:10. Plainly, therefore, the common people destroyed by the flood, were symbolized by the "green grass"; and their leaders, by a third part of the "trees." "And every living substance," reads the record, "was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping things, and the fowl of the heaven; and they were destroyed from the earth: and Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark." Gen. 7:23.

Simply because a third part's being burned gives the inference that two parts

In coming from the "golden altar," the command, "Loose the four angels," shows that the sixth trumpet sounded sometime before the vail to the Most Holy apartment of the heavenly sanctuary was lifted. Otherwise the voice would have come from the throne—the Most Holy place. (For detailed treatment of the lifting of the vail, see Tract No. 3, *The Harvest*.) But as has been shown, we are still in the period of the fifth trumpet, a fact which evokes the question: How, then, could the sixth trumpet have sounded before the

CHAPTER 9, VERSES 13, 14. "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 to 11:14.

THE SIXTH TRUMPET.

"One woe [fifth trumpet] is past; and, behold, there come two woes more hereafter" (Rev. 9:12), the next being in "In that day," saith the Lord, "whosoever shall seek to save his life shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his life shall preserve it." Luke 17:31, 33. In short, only those who "desire to die" for Christ's sake shall obtain eternal life.

"as powerless as a straw" (*Early Writings*, p. 34), making them utterly invincible.

events of the fifth had expired?

It will be observed that though each of the trumpets begin at a definite time, yet one overlaps the other, and all seven extend to the second coming of Christ. This is seen in the coexistence of the truths of all seven. The flood (first trumpet), the Exodus movement (second trumpet), the giving of the Old Testament Scriptures (third trumpet), the church's going into captivity (fourth trumpet), Christ's first advent and subsequent events (fifth trumpet), are all sounding louder today than ever before. And as these truths constitute the gospel for today, it is evident that though the trumpets run in consecutive order, each beginning at a different time, they all continue in force to the end of the world, terminating therewith. Thus the rejection of one being tantamount to the rejection of all seven, the lesson is sharply drawn that to reject one truth is to reject the whole truth.

With the fourteenth verse of Revelation 9 begins the description of the sixth trumpet, and it ends with the fourteenth verse of Revelation 11, which announces: "The second woe [sixth trumpet] is past; and, behold, the third woe cometh quickly." Accordingly, each prophetic event recorded between Revelation 9:14 and 11:14 must find its fulfillment in the period of the sixth trumpet—between the first and the second woes.

In the light of this fact, we see that the

“five months” are in consequence figura-
flee any men, but still reigns over all, the
furthermore, that death does not as yet
therefore, began at that time. And seeing,
to resist their enemies, the “five months,”
of the followers of Christ after the cruci-
fixion, and that they were commanded not
Seeing that the “locusts” are symbolical
shall flee from them.”

not find it; and shall desire to die, and death
in those days shall men seek death, and shall
should be tormented five months: . . . and
that they should not kill them, but that they
VERSSES 5, 6. “And to them it was given

Him.” Acts 4:16-18; John 12:19.
not to speak at all nor teach in the name
of Jesus,” for “the world is gone after
they called them, and commanded them
henceforth to no man in his name. And
us straitly threaten them, that they speak
it spread no further among the people, let
saalem; and we cannot deny it. But that
is manifest to all them that dwell in Jeru-
a notable miracle hath been done by them
despair, “do to these men? for that indeed
“What shall we,” they cried in consequent
was a stinging, a torment, to the wicked.
disciples to the religion of Christ, there
then, obviously, in the rapid accession of
and at the same time having stings in them,
Their tails representing their converts,
were stings in their tails.”

VERSE 10, second clause, “And there
ing as he had need.” Acts 4:34, 35.

tribution was made unto every man accord-
them down at the apostles’ feet: and dis-

will explain why that, after the expiration
of the “five months,” men will desire to
die, but cannot. Despite great persecution
against the faithful of the primitive Chris-
tian church, their vision of the world’s
great need urged them on to preach the
gospel of Christ at the cost of their lives.
And notwithstanding cruelest death await-
ing them, they in faith and courage in God
held the light of the gospel before the
people as constantly as the sun holds its
rays over the earth.

“I came into Asia,” testifies the death-
bound apostle, “after what manner I have
been with you at *all* seasons, serving the
Lord with all humility of mind, and with
many tears, and temptations, which befell
me by the lying in wait of the Jews: . . .

“And now, behold, I know that ye all,
among whom I have gone preaching the
kingdom of God, shall see my face no
more. Wherefore I take you to record this
day, that I am pure from the blood of all
men. For I have not shunned to declare
unto you all the counsel of God. . . .

“And when we heard these things, both
we, and they of that place, besought him
not to go up to Jerusalem. Then Paul
answered, What mean ye to weep and to
break mine heart? for I am ready not to
be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem
for the name of the Lord Jesus.” Acts
20:18, 19, 25-27; 21:12, 13.

By preaching in the name of Christ, the

even the king of Assyria.” Isa. 8:7.) The
“the waters of the river, strong and many,
fact with the Bible. (These are such as
sents the nations which came in close con-
and “fountains.” The former one repre-
hands of two classes of people—“rivers”
the Old Testament Scriptures fell into the
fountains of waters.” This fact shows that
on the third part only, it lit upon all “the
Though upon the “rivers,” the star fell

not actual, third part) of them.
earth, but only to a portion (a symbolical,
Scriptures that were not at that time acces-
sible to all the nations (rivers) of the
Old Testament Scriptures, for it was the
self as symbolical of the Old Testament
rivers (nations)—Rev. 17:15), it reveals it-
falls only upon the “third part” of the
path.” Ps. 119:105. And since the star
lamp unto my feet, and a *light* unto my
Word, corroborates the Psalmist, “is a
coming from heaven is the Word: “Thy
and the only such light-bearing object
object having intrinsic power to give light,
of heavenly object descending to earth. Its
burning as a “lamp” is indicative of an
shows that it can only represent some sort
Falling from heaven, the “star” clearly

third part of the rivers, and upon the foun-
tains of waters.”
and there fell a great star from heaven, burn-
ing as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the
VERSE 10. “And the third angel sounded,

The Third Trumpet. Revelation 8:10, 11.

4), can mean only that God’s presence was
then in the midst of and round about His
people. And at that time they were, we
know, the Israelite movement, the first post-
flood church with a message—the cere-
monial system. Leading this mighty army
of the Lord, went the pillar of fire before;
and shielding it, followed the pillar of
cloud behind.

After the mountain was afire, it was
“cast into the sea.” The sea, the storehouse
of the waters, represents the original abode
of “peoples, and multitudes, and nations,
and tongues” (Rev. 17:15). Hence, while
it stands for the world as a whole, the
place wherein the nations (waters) reside,
it definitely localizes the place wherein
the church (mountain) appears. This is
borne out by the prophet’s words: “Sing
unto the Lord a new song, and His praise
from the end of the earth, ye that go down
to the sea [where the world originated—
Palestine], and all that is therein.” Isa.
42:10.

Bear in mind that only the third part of
the “sea [world] became blood,” also that
the Israelite movement reached only a part
of the world (in symbolical terms, the
“third part” of the “sea”)—those heathen
with whom the movement came into close
contact, especially in the promised land.
Very obviously, then, the “mountain” is
symbolical of the Old Testament church.

When the “mountain” (the church) was

In their perfectly fitting respectively the first two periods of the ancient world, the first two trumpets give warrant that the succeeding periods are also perfectly symbolized by the succeeding trumpets. The truth therefore concerning the third period, is symbolized by

In another instance, under a different set of circumstances, when the church is figuratively passing over land instead of over water, chariots in place of ships are used to symbolize the church. (See Tract No. 2, *The Warning Paradox*.)

In another instance, under a different set of circumstances, when the church is figuratively passing over land instead of over water, chariots in place of ships are used to symbolize the church. (See Tract No. 2, *The Warning Paradox*.)

cast into the "sea," and "the third part of the sea became blood," "the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died." The "blood" again, of course, represents mortal life. This being so, then it follows that the third part of the "sea" (world) which became "blood" (life), was that portion into which the "mountain" was "cast," into which God's people were brought. Accordingly, that portion, Palestine, became a life-saving refuge to those who fully united with the movement, but a shambles for those who did not, just as Noah's ark was a life-saving refuge to those who entered in, but an agent of destruction to those who remained out.

Concerning the third part of the creatures which died, the Bible would be in guilt of gross superfluity to say that they "had life" if by that it meant mortal life, for how could they have died unless they had mortal life? Hence they were figurative only of those living who were privileged to have eternal life, and who once embraced it, but who later, through wickedness, lost it. Thus, only a symbolical "third part" of all who had eternal life, but who sinned it away ("died"), were destroyed.

VERSE 9, last part. "And the third part of the ships were destroyed."

The "sea" being symbolical of the old world, the "ships" must accordingly be figurative of objects which were supposed

During the five figurative months, the "locusts" were commanded to torment those who had not the seal of God, but not to kill them. This command implies that after the expiration of this period, the

time from the baptism of Christ to the close of probation is shown to be illustrated by twelve figurative months—six from Christ's baptism to His crucifixion, five from the crucifixion to the ingathering of the first fruits (the 144,000—Rev. 14:4), leaving one month for the ingathering of the second fruits (the great multitude—Rev. 7:9).

In Tract No. 3, *The Harvest*, the time from the baptism of Christ to the close of probation is shown to be illustrated by twelve figurative months—six from Christ's baptism to His crucifixion, five from the crucifixion to the ingathering of the first fruits (the 144,000—Rev. 14:4), leaving one month for the ingathering of the second fruits (the great multitude—Rev. 7:9).

VERSE 10, third clause. "And their power was to hurt men five months."

will be made invulnerable to death. some men; that is, to the time when some to a time when "death shall flee" from five time, and extend from the crucifixion

killing restriction will cease, and that from then on the wicked will be killed rather than tormented only. At that time "the four angels" of Revelation 9:15 will have prepared themselves "for to slay the third part of men."

These several linked facts present a solid chain of evidence that in the Christian era, during the five figurative months, God has deferred His vengeance to grace. And hence it follows inescapably that such Christians as executed the death penalty upon those who disagreed with them, were working against Christ rather than for Him. For, as Christians (locusts), they were commanded not to kill, but to bless even those who "despitefully" used them. Indeed, to him who would smite them on the "one cheek," they were to turn "the other" cheek. And if he should take away their "cloak," they were to let him have their "coat" also. Luke 6:28, 29.

After the expiration of the five figurative months of restriction during which they were not to kill, some will be made invulnerable to death for the finishing of the gospel work, and will, if necessary to the discharging of their responsibility, be

Glad to Die, But Cannot.

CHAPTER 9, VERSE 6. "And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them."

The experience of Christ's first disciples

Genuine Christians, as subjects of the name Apollyon.”

Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon.”

VERSE 11. “And they had a king over them, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is

VERSE 10 will be explained after Verse 11).

Him in word and in deed.

ward, are even ashamed openly to confess their duty and to the recompense of re-protect, and because of their blindness to of Christ’s majesty and of His power to for. And some, because of their ignorance birds’ nests for them to hatch and to care the cuckoo who lays her eggs in other by proxy as it were, they are not unlike themselves. In thus serving by substitute, Lord calls to be done than to go do it a missionary to do the work which the proclamation of the gospel? Even in time would knowingly risk their lives for the things that shall befall me.” Acts 20:20-22.

How many of today’s disciples of Christ and also to the Greeks . . . not knowing the house to house, testifying both to the Jews, and have taught you *publicly*, and from profitable unto you, but have shewed you, Paul says: “I kept back nothing that was rival sample of their fearless efforts, gospel of Christ. And in giving an indi-swarm to the battle-line to proclaim the and killed, yet they openly and fearlessly early disciples were mercifully persecuted the fifth trumpet show that though the

on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great.” Rev. 19:15-18.

To those, therefore, who accept Christ as their King, He is a Saviour, while to those who refuse to have Him rule over them (Luke 19:14), He is a destroyer. Hence, accordingly, the curses, or judgments, fall (as the trumpets reveal) upon those who reject the teachings and the authority of the Bible, and who as a result do not have the seal.

These solemn facts gravely admonish us not to forget the Bible’s warning that our treatment of It will bring one of two results—death or life.

VERSE 10, first clause. “And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails.”

We have seen that the “locusts” are symbolical of the soldiers of the cross; we know that the tail of an animal is the hinder member of its body; in other words, its rearguard. So we have no choice but to conclude that the tails of the locusts symbolize the church’s rearguard—its followers. Furthermore, the tail’s being a connected part of the body shows that both the ministry and the laity of the early Christian church were bound together inseparably in Christ (Rom. 12:5), one contributing to another. So reads the record: “for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, and laid

of the church membership. And hence the then the “stars” are obviously figurative service—was reflected. This being true, the light of the message—the sacrificial the tabernacle and of the temple, by which the “moon” is therefore symbolical of not be carried on without a special struc-was the ceremonial system, which could from the Word, sun, here symbolized shine upon earth. And since the light without the church, the Word itself cannot pendence between moon and sun shows that this dark world. This symbolical interde-message (light) from the Word (sun) to symbolizes the church sending forth the sun cannot emit it, the moon accordingly Reflecting the light of the sun where the

The Smitten Moon and Stars.

essentially in the symbolism to sequentially in the symbolism to being was dimmed. And this leads us on shows that the church’s light for the time the world. Consequently, its being smitten light-giving and life-sustaining force in of God in the church—the great spiritual the sun obviously figures forth the Word physical force of the entire solar system, The great illuminating and vitalizing

The Smitten Sun.

by parts, the first of which is here symbolized are figurative of the church of God in three proof that the sun, the moon, and the stars and the twelve sons comprised the church at that time, is conclusive evidence in the

latter represents His chosen people (the twelve tribes of Israel), in whom His Word was the waters of life, making them living fountains. Thus “he that believeth on Me,” declared the Lord Himself, “. . . out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water” (John 7:38); and: “the fountain of Jacob shall be upon a land of corn and wine.” Deut. 33:28.

VERSE 11. “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.”

A bitter and aromatic herb, wormwood acts both as a cathartic and as a tonic—qualities and virtues the significance of which must discover the symbolic meaning of the name “Wormwood.” A cathartic being something possessing purging and cleansing virtue, the name “Wormwood” must, therefore, first of all, denote a purging agent. And as the Word of God has the power to purge away the cause and effects of spiritual debility and to restore healthy functions and tone to the sin-sick soul, it obviously is the only such agent which, in this connection, the name “Wormwood” fittingly symbolizes.

Consequently, the bitter’s cathartic and tonic virtues denote that the Word of God, though indeed a bitter to one’s carnal taste, is to the honest, who love It for the good It will do them (purify the heart and soul), their sweetest joy; whereas to the dishonest, whose carnal taste is their god, and

In Jacob's time, his family was (1) the repository of the unwritten Word of God, (2) the holy temple, and (3) the congregation of the saints. Being all three, it was therefore the living church of God. Jacob accordingly interpreted the sun, moon, and stars as symbolical of his household—the light of the world then.

Seeing, however, that the interpretation herein is based not only upon logic but also upon the Scriptures themselves, hence to Them we turn for final word in the present connection. And this we find in Joseph's dream and its interpretation: "And, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars," said Joseph, "made obeisance to me . . . and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What is this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I come to bow down ourselves to thee to the Greek name, Apollyon, is also the name of the Old Testament Scriptures, and His Hebrew name, Abaddon, is also the name Word" (the Bible in human form), His both the Hebrew and the Greek. And from periods, and Author of the Scriptures in in both the Old and the New Testament is clearly seen to be King of His people devised or thus rightly interpreted, Christ intensifying the illumination from the whole series of symbols of which it is a part, and in the blazing light of this symbol, in-

kingdom of Christ, have over them Christ, their King. Ruling over them in Old Testament time (1 Cor. 10:1-4) as well as in New Testament time, He is therefore King over them in both periods. Consequently, the Old Testament Scriptures, being originally written in the Hebrew tongue, give Him the name Abaddon, whereas the New Testament Scriptures, being originally written in the Greek, give Him the name Apollyon.

Showing that he recognized Christ's sovereignty over the church not only in the New Testament period but also in the Old Testament period, Paul, in his epistle to the Corinthians, declared: "Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea: . . . and did all drink the same

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who love not the truth, the Word is as gall to their taste. And doubly so it is because they love, above the ways of salvation, the ways of the world, and these It condemns.

The herb's aromatic quality reveals that those who eat the Word of God, be It ever so bitter to their carnal taste, will find in It the surpassing aroma of heavenly influence, which will cause them to breathe out "a savor of life unto life."

Each revealing progressively momentous truths, the first three trumpets indicate that the remaining four trumpets, approaching nearer in turn the period for the benefit of which the cumulative lessons of the entire symbolism were given, ought to reveal increasingly still more momentous lessons. And precisely this is what the student of the subject will find as he now enters upon the study of

The Fourth Trumpet.

Revelation 8:12.

VERSE 12. "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."

Having affected the stars, the moon, and the sun, a symbolization of an entire solar system, upon which life depends for its existence, the action disclosed in these verses shows that these heavenly objects represent something without which all

spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ." 1 Cor. 10:1-4.

Woe to him who accepts the one Testament and casts aside the other, pays no attention to either, or exalts tradition above both!

Abaddon, Christ's name in the Hebrew, signifying Him as a "destroyer," shows that in the Old Testament period He simply destroyed many of His enemies; whereas Apollyon, His name in the Greek, signifying Him as an "exterminator," shows that in the New Testament period He will exterminate all the wicked. (What beautiful precision of connotation in these symbolic appellations!) And this exterminatory work is vividly pictured in the climactic scene:

"And out of His mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it He should smite the nations: and He shall rule them with a rod of iron: and He treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He hath on His vesture and on His thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; that ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit

Then, too, locusts can neither be them appear to be swarming like "locusts." the Christians, after the crucifixion, made sudden great increase in numbers among Lord added to the church daily such as thousand souls! And following that "the day of Pentecost alone—"about three Just think how many were converted on

woe." time allowed, thus fulfilling "the first persecuted and killed as many of them as gospel that both the Jews and the Romans great a torment by the preaching of the (Rev. 11:2), just so the locusts became so wicked during the "forty and two months" I(0),—were so great a torment to the olive trees,"—"two prophets" (Rev. 11:3, the "two witnesses," which are the "two as the Old and New Testament Scriptures, vexation to their antagonists. Indeed, just sequentially became a great nuisance and Him and His people. The Christians con- they loved sin and despised reproof, hated a bitter cup for quaff for those who, because Preaching Christ and Him crucified was

Matt. 5:38, 39. right cheek, turn to him the other also." evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy but I say unto you, That ye resist not: An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: "Ye have heard that it hath been said, joined in this change, Christ enunciated in His sermon on the mount:

this reason it was necessary to command the "locusts" not to kill.

A demonstration of the power which they possessed is seen in the fate of Ananias and Sapphira, who instantly, upon Peter's exposing their sin of dissimulation, fell dead at the apostle's feet (Acts 5:1-11). Clearly, then, if Peter, without exertion on his part, had sufficient power to destroy hypocrites who came into his presence, he most certainly had as much power to destroy the heathen who attempted to retard the advancement of the gospel.

VERSE 9, first clause. "And they had breastplates, as it were breastplates of iron."

The Scriptural significance of "breastplate" is "faith and love" (1 Thess. 5:8)—the Christian's only defense. And the locusts' breastplates were "as it were breastplates of iron," the strongest metal known. The faith, therefore, of those fearless soldiers of the cross was so invincible, and their love for Christ and for His people so pure and unconquerable, that "daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ" (Acts 5:42), though for so doing they were killed like locusts. O what a contrast between these heroic love-slaves of Christ and most professed Christians of today!

VERSE 9, second clause. "And the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle."

As has been seen so far, the symbols of

symbolism reveals, for anyone to injure planets, so likewise it is impossible, the aside from God to injure the heavenly Just as it is impossible for any being

God May Smite Whereas Men Cannot.

to hear His voice, remember that appointed it." Mic. 6:9. And for failure name: hear ye the rod, and Who hath city, and the man of wisdom shall see thy 37, 38. "The Lord's voice crieth unto the house is left unto you desolate." Mart. 23:- wings, and ye would not! Behold, your gathered thy children together, even as a are sent unto thee, how often would I have est the prophets, and stonest them which "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that kill-

the Lord's pitying plea: therefore open wide our hearts as we read with the most anguishing remorse! Let us enough to stab one through and through self instead plunged in hell, would be Paradise but falling short and finding one-being on the very verge of stepping into moreover, simply of the disappointment of parallel in any age. A full realization, 24:51), would fail to find in intensity its weeping and gnashing of teeth" (Mart. ment decreed in the words, "there shall be the mistakes of the Jews, then the punish- Should God's people at this time repeat before the whole world.

but rather in course of time exposed their utter ignorance and uncovered their shame

smiting of them along with the sun and the moon symbolically reveal a punishment upon ancient Israel.

But only a third part of them was smitten. So it follows that the Israelite nation falls into three parts, one of which was smitten. And as the nation's history embraces three distinct periods (first, from the exodus from Egypt to the possession of the promised land, second, from the occupation of the promised land to the captivity in Babylon; and third, from the deliverance from Babylon to the Advent of Christ), therefore during one of these periods they were "smitten."

From the interpretation of these solar symbols ("sun," "moon," and "stars"), not to be gainsaid, the fourth trumpet is seen to reveal the punishment which came upon the Jewish nation in the period of the kings. For it was in these days that the temple, its service, and its people were "smitten"; that is, the nation (stars) was taken into Babylonian captivity, the temple (moon) destroyed, and the service (sun) abolished for a period of time. Thus resulted spiritual darkness in the earth, as is depicted by the "darkness" of the "third part" of the "day" and of the "night."

This great ruin was brought about by the Jewish leaders because "they mocked the messengers of God, and despised His words, and misused His prophets, until the wrath of the Lord arose against His peo-

the earth as a prison house at another

time.

This implicitly Biblical interpretation

of the "star," the "key," and the "bottom-

less pit," reveals that the earth, at Christ's

first advent, had become a prison house

(a pit) for God's people and that Christ

came to open it in order to save them.

The very fact that God's people are

vested with the power to keep open the

bottomless pit, then should they be de-

feared, the pit would be shut, and would

become a prison house from which there

would be no escape unless it be reopened.

And so Satan in the latter days of the Jews,

as sacred history records, attacked them,

took them captive, and thus shut the

pit. And knowing that when the Saviour

should come, He would open it, the dragon

therefore stood ready to devour the "child

as soon as it was born." Rev. 12:4. But

losing sight of the infant Christ, he incited

Herod to slay "all the children that were

in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof,

from two years old and under" (Matt. 2:16),

in the hope of making rid of the

Saviour. Under the protection of Provi-

dence, however, Christ was kept from the

bloody hand of Herod. Then subsequently

with the gospel key, He opened the "pit"

and freed His people. This, He Himself

avowed:

"The Spirit of the Lord," He declared,

is upon Me, because He hath anointed

Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He

The idea that the locusts are symbolical of the "Saracen" warriors is both unscriptural and illogical, for, unlike the locusts, the Saracens killed as many as opposed their way. Especially did they trouble the Christians—those who had the "seal of God in their foreheads." And such precisely is Satan's business, that he might kill all who have the seal of God. To those, though, whom the "locusts" represent, the restraining order "was given that they should not kill" (Rev. 9:5) anyone, their business instead being to hurt "only those men which *have not* the seal of God in their foreheads." Verse 4. For this reason, also the one prior, the "locusts" cannot symbolize the followers of Mohammed or of any other of Satan's agents.

Had the Christians not been told "that they should not kill," they naturally would not have known that they were entering into the period of grace, and so would have followed the example of the Jewish nation when, as a theocracy charged to execute God's judgments, they were commanded to kill and to drive out of the land (as was revealed by the first three trumpets) both those who were departed from Him and those who did not acknowledge Him as the only true God. His command, however, to the locusts "that they should not kill," inaugurates a significant change in His people's dealings with His enemies. The great principle of non-resistance en-

the church when she is fully surrendered to God and consequently under His protection. Thus, symbolically, He assures His people that He does not allow to come upon them any evil but that which they themselves invite and which, for their good, He may permit. "Behold," says the Psalmist, "He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep." Ps. 121:4. ". . . for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of His eye." Zech. 2:8.

By many of God's servants were these promises realized. Notably there was the instance when the exodus movement reached the Red Sea, and later the river Jordan, and both bodies of waters "rose up upon an heap" to afford the people a safe passage, and to destroy their enemies; also when the three Hebrews were delivered from the fiery furnace; Daniel, from the lion's den; Mordecai and his people, from the execution instigated by Haman; and Elijah, from the hand of Ahab and Jezebel.

Indeed, "if ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed," as the Saviour declares, "ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you" (Matt. 17:20) although the wicked bring

The Woes.

Revelation 8:13.

VERSE 13. "And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven,

Christ's mission being to bring deliverance from the prison house of sin and of death (the bottomless pit), and to do so through the preaching of the gospel, the key, therefore, must be figurative of the gospel, the only power that is able to set free those who are imprisoned in

As Christ is the one who secures Satan's captivity, thereby ushering in the millennium, He alone can be fittingly symbolized by the "angel" . . . having the key of the bottomless pit, and by the "star" to whom the "key" was given. And as the "giving" of a thing to any certain one must precede the "having" of it by that one, the verbs "given" (Rev. 9:1) and "having" (Rev. 20:1; 1:18) point, of course, to two different times. Obviously, therefore, Christ received the "key" at the sounding of the fifth trumpet—sometime before the millennium. Hence at the commencement of the millennium He already has it.

Since the "bottomless pit" of Revelation 20:3 is symbolical of the earth as a prison house during the millennium, then the "bottomless pit" of Revelation 9:1, being identical, must likewise be symbolical of

The "Bottomless Pit."

saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound."

The last three of the seven trumpets being woe trumpets, unlike the first four, some great change, obviously is to take place between the first four and the last three.

Having up to this point brought us to the destruction of the first temple and on to the building of the second, the prophetic Word of God leads us on now to the first advent of Christ and to His crucifixion, the next great events associated with the trumpets. And these events, ushering the Old Testament era out and the New one in, disclose that the last three trumpets embrace the history of the New Testament period. The woes, consequently, point first to Satan's persecuting the faithful in his endeavor to keep them from embracing Christianity, and second to his persecuting the heathen in his endeavor to Christianize them! The first woe comes with

The Fifth Trumpet.

Revelation 9:1-12.

VERSES 1-4. "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

opened to His captive people, the way of deliverance from the prison house—the "bottomless pit" of sin and death.

Thus we see, to recapitulate in brief, that the "star" is symbolical of Christ; the "key," of the gospel; the "pit," of the earth; the "smoke," of His sacrifice; and the darkening of the "sun and the air," of the "darkness" that covered the world during His crucifixion. Perfect symbols.

VERSES 3, 4. "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."

With the smoke symbolizing the crucifixion, and the locusts coming out of the smoke, the only admissible conclusion is that they are symbolical of the Christians who came as a consequence of the sacrificial blood that was shed on Calvary. And the fact that they were to hurt "only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads," makes this conclusion even more inescapable. For only a true Christian, one who has a personal experience with God, a perfect knowledge of His Word, and who is filled with His Spirit, can discriminate saint from sinner. He, only, can recognize who has the seal and who does not have it, when the latter is cloaked in a counterfeit robe of righteousness.

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." Taking in order the parts (the "star," the "key," the "pit," the "smoke," the darkness, and the locusts) of this fifth trumpet symbolism, we come first to

The Star.

Just as did the star of the third trumpet, so this fifth-trumpet star descended from heaven to earth. And as the third-trumpet "star" has been conclusively identified as representing the advent of the Bible, then this latter one, since it is similar to the former, must stand for something the equivalent of it.

The Bible and Christ being complementary affinites, each the Word of God (John 1:1-14), then the fact that the descent of the first "star" is symbolical of the advent of the Bible, compels the conclusion that the descent of the second star is symbolical of the first advent of Christ. Moreover, the star is personified as "Him" (masculine in gender), thus being limited to a male person. And finally Christ Himself gives testimony that He is "the bright and morning star." Rev. 22:16. To Him, be it remembered, was given

"*The Key of the Bottomless Pit.*"

"And I saw an angel come down from

This clear sequence of facts shows that with the gospel key (the good news of salvation through His shed blood) Christ

hath sent Me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord." Luke 4:18, 19. And as a result of opening the pit, there came

VERSE 2. "And He opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit."

For the significance of the "smoke," we need look no further than to the ceremonial system, which was "a compacted prophecy of the gospel."—*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 14. There we behold the ascending smoke of the ceremonial offerings which, as we know, prefigured Christ's great sacrifice in behalf of the human race. Accordingly, the smoke which came from the "pit" is symbolical of Christ's crucifixion, and the "darkened sun" and "air" are symbolical of the "darkness" over the whole land" from "the sixth hour . . . until the ninth hour" (Mark 15:33)—while He was dying on the cross. And the darkness covering the land for the period of these three hours shows that at the moment the sixth hour struck, the "pit" was opened.

This clear sequence of facts shows that with the gospel key (the good news of salvation through His shed blood) Christ