

A vital rule in prophetic interpretation is to prayerfully examine the immediate context where the word or phrase is used. Expanding the context to surrounding material is the second step, followed by the whole book of either Daniel and/or Revelation. The use of the word or phrase in other inspired prophets, including Ellen White, is then to be examined.

This glossary is set forth with as brief a description as possible with the goal of including all relevant sources from scripture and the writings of Ellen White to assist the reader in their personal studies.

Interpretations of Revelation 17 must comprehensively and consistently satisfy every one of the following symbols, keeping in mind the foundational context of the heavenly sanctuary. Revelation 17:1-11 appear to expand on Revelation 13:1-10 and Revelation 17:11-17 appear to expand on Revelation 13:11-17. On the study of Revelation in connection with Daniel inspiration tells us:

{GC88 341.2} “In view of the testimony of Inspiration, how dare men teach that the Revelation is a mystery beyond the reach of human understanding? It is a mystery revealed, a book opened. **The study of the Revelation directs the mind to the prophecies of Daniel, and both present most important instruction, given of God to men, concerning events to take place at the close of this world’s history.**” {AA 585.1} 1911 {17MR 6.3} 1896 “**In the Revelation all the books of the Bible meet and end. Here is the complement of the book of Daniel. One is a prophecy; the other a revelation.** The book that was sealed is not the Revelation, but that portion of the prophecy of Daniel relating to the last days. The angel commanded, “But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end.” Daniel 12:4.”

{Ms32-1896.14} 1 “All that God has in prophetic history specified to be fulfilled in the past has been, and all that is yet to come in its order will be. Daniel, God’s prophet, stands in his place. John stands in his place. **In the Revelation the Lion of the tribe of Judah has opened to the students of prophecy the book of Daniel, and thus is Daniel standing in his place. He bears his testimony, that which the Lord revealed to him in vision of the great and solemn events which we must know as we stand on the very threshold of their fulfillment.**”

{Ms107-1897.2} “Revelation is a sealed book, but it is also an opened book. It records marvelous events, that are to take place in the last days of this earth’s history. **The teachings of this book are definite, not mystical and unintelligible. In it the same line of prophecy is taken up as in Daniel. Some prophecies God has repeated, this showing that importance must be given to them.** The Lord does not repeat things that are of no great consequence.”

{RH August 31, 1897, par. 2-4} “Many have entertained the idea that the book of Revelation is a sealed book, and they will not devote time and study to its mysteries. They say that they are to keep looking to the glories of salvation, and that the mysteries revealed to John on the Isle of Patmos are worthy of less consideration than these.

But God does not so regard this book. ...

The book of Revelation opens to the world what has been, what is, and what is to come; it is for our instruction upon whom the ends of the world are come. It should be studied with reverential awe.”

{Lt211-1903.4-7} 1 {8T 302.1} “To John the Lord Jesus opened the subjects that He saw would be needed by His people in the last days. **The instruction that He gave is found in the book of Revelation. Those who would be co-workers with our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ will show a deep interest in the truths found in the book of Revelation.** With pen and voice they will strive to make plain the wonderful things that Christ came from heaven to reveal.” The first chapter of the book of Revelation was then read with great solemnity. ... **Our Instructor presented the solemn messages that have been given in their**

order in Revelation and that are to occupy the first place in the minds of God's people. Nothing else is to be allowed to engross our attention."

Iron of the feet and the toes* [Dan 2:34-35, 40-45; 4:15, 23; 7:7, 19]: Iron and metals represent nations/civil powers until Christ's return; iron of the feet the nations directly influenced by the Papacy; the iron of the toes the nations directly influenced by apostate Protestantism.

{Ms 63, 1899, par. 31} **"The mingling of churchcraft and statecraft is represented by the iron and the clay.** This union is weakening all the power of the churches. This **investing the church with the power of the State** will bring evil results. **Men** have almost passed the point of God's forbearance. **They have invested their strength in politics, and have united with the papacy.** But the time will come when God will punish those who have made void His law, and their evil work will recoil upon themselves."

Miry Clay-Feet* [Dan 2:41-43]: Roman Catholic Church.

Potters (Brittle) Clay-Toes* [Dan 2:41-43]: Primarily apostate Protestant Churches along with all other religious ideologies existing at the end.

Job 33:6 "Behold, I am according to thy wish in God's stead: I also am formed out of the clay."

Psa 40:2 "He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings."

Lam 4:2 "The precious sons of Zion, comparable to fine gold, how are they esteemed as earthen pitchers, the work of the hands of the potter!"

Isa 29:16 "Surely your turning of things upside down shall be esteemed as the potter's clay: for shall the work say of him that made it, He made me not? or shall the thing framed say of him that framed it, He had no understanding?"

Isa 45:9 "Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth. Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou? or thy work, He hath no hands?"

Isa 64:8 "But now, O LORD, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand."

{1T 360.3} "Our kingdom is not of this world. We are waiting for our Lord from heaven to come to earth to put down all authority and power, and set up His everlasting kingdom. Earthly powers are shaken. We need not, and cannot, expect union among the nations of the earth. Our position in the image of Nebuchadnezzar is represented by the toes, in a divided state, and of a crumbling material, that will not hold together. Prophecy shows us that the great day of God is right upon us. It hasteth greatly."

***All political and ecclesiastical powers must be consistently explained and fit into the iron and miry clay of the feet and the iron and potters clay of the toes because the stone strikes them simultaneously at the end.**

Man of Sin [Dan 7:25; 11:31-36; 2Th 2:3]: The leaders of the Catholic Church, the popes.

{GC 356.1} "The apostle Paul warned the church not to look for the coming of Christ in his day. "That day shall not come," he says, "except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed." 2

Thessalonians 2:3. **Not till after the great apostasy, and the long period of the reign of the "man of sin," can we look for the advent of our Lord. The "man of sin," which is also styled "the mystery of iniquity," "the son of perdition," and "that wicked," represents the papacy, which, as foretold in prophecy, was to maintain its supremacy for 1260 years. This period ended in 1798.** The coming of Christ could not take place before that time. Paul covers with his caution the whole of the Christian dispensation down to the year 1798. It is this side of that time that the message of Christ's second coming is to be proclaimed."

{GC 443.4 - 444.1} "It was apostasy that led the early church to seek the aid of the civil government, and this prepared the way for the development of the **papacy—the beast.** Said Paul: "There" shall "come a

falling away, ... and that man of sin be revealed.” 2 Thessalonians 2:3. So apostasy in the church will prepare the way for the image to the beast.

The Bible declares that before the coming of the Lord there will exist a state of religious declension similar to that in the first centuries...[1 Timothy 4:1; 2 Thessalonians 2:9-11]. When this state of ungodliness shall be reached, the same results will follow as in the first centuries.”

{RH March 9, 1886, par. 21-22} {7BC 910.5} **“There is one pointed out in prophecy as the man of sin. He is the representative of Satan. Taking the suggestions of Satan concerning the law of God, which is as unchangeable as his throne, this man of sin comes in and represents to the world that he has changed that law, and that the first day of the week instead of the seventh is now the Sabbath. ...here is Satan’s right-hand man ready to carry on the work that Satan commenced in heaven, that of trying to amend the law of God. ... God keeps a record with the nations: the figures are swelling against them in the books of heaven; and when it shall have become a law that the transgression of the first day of the week shall be met with punishment, then their cup will be full.”**

{RH April 15, 1890, par. 10-11} **“There will be an effort made to unsettle the faith of every believer in present truth. Since Satan fell from heaven, he has been trampling underfoot the word of God, and putting something of his own devising in its place. His work has been accepted as the work of God. When the legislature frames laws which exalt the first day of the week, and put it in the place of the seventh day, the device of Satan will be perfected.**

...Satan has come in, and shown himself the decided enemy of man, and he seeks to make of none effect the work of God, and get in every conceivable thing of human origination, to hide God and his glory from our sight. **The man of sin**, it is declared in Daniel, “shall think to change times and laws,” And is not this very work done now? Is he not seeking to change times and laws?”

{Lt 123, 1897, par. 32} **“We are now making our choice, and we shall soon discern between him that serveth God, and him that serveth Him not. Read the fourth chapter of Malachi, and think about it seriously. The day of God is right upon us. The world has converted the church. Both are in harmony, and are acting on a short-sighted policy. Protestants will work upon the rulers of the land to make laws to restore the lost ascendancy of the man of sin, who sits in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. The Roman Catholic principles will be taken under the care and protection of the state. This national apostasy will speedily be followed by national ruin. The protest of Bible truth will be no longer tolerated by those who have not made the law of God their rule of action. Then will the voice be heard from the graves of martyrs, represented by the souls which John saw slain for the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ which they held; then the prayer will ascend from every true child of God, “It is time for thee, Lord, to work, for they have made void thy law.” [Psalm 119:126.]”**

{Lt 123, 1898, par. 7} **“The light that we have upon the third angel’s message is the true light. The mark of the beast is exactly what it has been proclaimed to be.** All in regard to this matter is not yet understood, and will not be understood **until the unrolling of the scroll**; but a most solemn work is to be accomplished in our world. “Cry aloud; spare not; life up thy voice like a trumpet, and show my people their transgressions, and the house of Jacob their sin.” [Verse 1.] A message is to be given to arouse the churches. Every effort is to be made to give the light not only to our people, but to the world. I have been given light that the prophecies of Daniel and the Revelation are to be printed in small books, with the necessary explanations, and sent all through the world. Our own people need to have the light in clearer lines before them.”

{Ms 82, 1899, par. 20} **“But the great apostate says, ‘I will work at cross-purposes with God. I will empower my delegate, the man of sin, to take down God’s memorial, the seventh-day Sabbath.** Thus I will show the world that the day sanctified and blessed by God has been changed. That day shall not live in the minds of the people. I will obliterate the memory of it. I will place in its stead a day bearing not the credentials of God, a day that cannot be a sign between God and His people. I will lead the people who accept this day to place upon it the sanctity that God placed upon the seventh day. **Through my vicegerent**

I will exalt myself. The first day will be extolled, and the Protestant world will receive this spurious sabbath as genuine.”

{Ms 27, 1899, par. 3} {RH April 23, 1901, par. 3} “We are nearing the close of this earth’s history. Satan is making desperate efforts to make himself God, to speak and act as God, to appear as one who has a right to control the consciences of men. He strives with all his power to place a human institution in the position of God’s holy rest day. Under the jurisdiction of the man of sin, men have exalted a false standard in complete opposition to God’s enactment. But God has put His seal upon His royal requirement. Each Sabbath institution bears the name of the Author, an ineffaceable mark that shows the authority of each. The first day of the week has not one particle of sanctity. **It is the production of the man of sin, who strives in this way to counterwork God’s purposes.**”

Bottomless Pit [Rev 9:1-3, 11; 11:7; 17:8; 20:1-3]: Prison house of the dead. According to Rev 20:1-3, the bottomless pit refers to earth where Satan will be restricted. Demonic activity is released in a remarkable way at the fifth trumpet (first woe) to deceive all nations, potentially the very elect, before the second advent. What is the “key” that will unleash gross spiritualism to the point where SDAs could be deceived?

Isaiah 14:16-17 “They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms; ¹⁷That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that **opened not the house of his prisoners?**”

Mat 24:24 “For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, **they shall deceive the very elect.**”

Rom 10:7 “Or, Who shall **descend into the deep?** ^[G12] (that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead.)”

Eph 4:9-10 “(Now that he ascended, what is it but that **he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?** ¹⁰He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)”

2Th 2:11 “And for this cause **God shall send them strong delusion**, that they should **believe a lie:**”

Rev 9:2 “And he opened the bottomless pit; and there **arose** ^[G305] **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.**”

Rev 11:7 “And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that **ascendeth** ^[G305] out of the **bottomless pit** shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them.”

{GC 659.3-660.1} “For six thousand years, Satan’s work of rebellion has “made the earth to tremble.” He has “made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof.” And he “opened not the house of his prisoners.” **For six thousand years his prison house has received God’s people**, and he would have held them captive forever; but Christ has broken his bonds and set the prisoners free.

Even the wicked are now placed beyond the power of Satan, and alone with his evil angels he remains to realize the effect of the curse which sin has brought. “The kings of the nations, even all of them, lie in glory, everyone in his own house [the grave]. But thou art cast out of thy grave like an abominable branch.... Thou shalt not be joined with them in burial, because thou hast destroyed thy land, and slain thy people.” Isaiah 14:18-20.”

{HF 398.2} “The “bottomless pit” represents the earth in confusion and darkness. Looking forward to the great day of God, Jeremiah declares: “I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void* and the heavens, and they had no light. I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down.” Jeremiah 4:23-26.”

Key (that opens or locks the bottomless pit) [Rev 1:18; 3:7; 9:1; 11:7; 20:1]: Resurrection, the return to life.

Rev 1:18 “I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, **I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.**”

Rev 20:1-3 “And I saw an angel come down from heaven, **having the key of the bottomless pit** and a great chain in his hand. ²And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, ³And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him...”

2Th 2:11 “And for this cause **God shall send them strong delusion**, that they should believe a lie” {GC88 624.1} “**As the crowning act in the great drama of deception, Satan himself will personate Christ.** The church has long professed to look to the Saviour’s advent as the consummation of her hopes. Now the great deceiver will make it appear that Christ has come. In different parts of the earth, Satan will manifest himself among men as a majestic being of dazzling brightness, resembling the description of the Son of God given by John in the Revelation. [Revelation 1:13-15.] The glory that surrounds him is unsurpassed by anything that mortal eyes have yet beheld. The shout of triumph rings out upon the air, “Christ has come! Christ has come!” The people prostrate themselves in adoration before him, while he lifts up his hands, and pronounces a blessing upon them, as Christ blessed his disciples when he was upon the earth. His voice is soft and subdued, yet full of melody. In gentle, compassionate tones he presents some of the same gracious, heavenly truths which the Saviour uttered; he heals the diseases of the people, and then, in his assumed character of Christ, he claims to have changed the Sabbath to Sunday, and commands all to hallow the day which he has blessed. He declares that those who persist in keeping holy the seventh day are blaspheming his name by refusing to listen to his angels sent to them with light and truth. **This is the strong, almost overmastering delusion.** Like the Samaritans who were deceived by Simon Magus, the multitudes, from the least to the greatest, give heed to these sorceries, saying, This is “the great power of God.” [Acts 8:10.]”

Crowns [Rev 12:3 & 13:1; 17:12]: The granting of proxy powers by a higher authority, Satan. The movement from heads to horns indicates the fall and rise to power. Crowns indicate kingly power; the ultimate power of life or death.

{GC88 592.3} “The dignitaries of church and State will unite to bribe, persuade, or compel all classes to honor the Sunday. **The lack of divine authority will be supplied by oppressive enactments.** Political corruption is destroying love of justice and regard for truth; and even in free America, rulers and legislators, in order to secure public favor, will yield to the popular demand for a law enforcing Sunday observance. **Liberty of conscience, which has cost so great a sacrifice, will no longer be respected.** In the soon-coming conflict we shall see exemplified the prophet’s words: “The dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.” [Revelation 12:17.]”

Forty two months [Rev 13:4-8; 11:2-3; 12:6, 14; Dan 7:25; 12:7]: Day for a year time prophecy triggered by Sunday “rest” legislation by the Third Council of Orléans in 538 and literal time prophecy triggered by Sunday “rest” legislation beginning in the U.S. then spanning the globe.

{RH September 25, 1883, par. 6} “In the Scriptures are presented truths that relate especially to our own time. **To the period just prior to the appearing of the Son of man, the prophecies of Scripture point, and here their warnings and threatenings pre-eminently apply. The prophetic periods of Daniel, extending to the very eve of the great consummation, throw a flood of light upon events then to transpire.** The book of Revelation is also replete with warning and instruction for the last generation. The beloved John, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, portrays the fearful and thrilling scenes connected with the close of earth’s history, and presents the duties and dangers of God’s people. None need remain in ignorance, none need be unprepared for the coming of the day of God.”

{Ms88-1897.15-17} “**The Sabbath question will be the issue in the great conflict in which all the world will act a part. “They worshiped the dragon which gave power to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemy; and power was given unto him to continue**

forty and two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them; and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.” [Revelation 13:4-8.] “If any man have ears to hear, let him hear.” [Verse 9.] This warning is given to every son and daughter of Adam; and it is repeated over and over again. “He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity; he killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and faith of the saints.” **This entire chapter is a revelation of what will surely take place.**” {Ms153-1902.8-9} “**In the last days** Satan will appear as an angel of light, with great power and heavenly glory, and claim to be the lord of the whole earth. He will declare that the Sabbath has been changed from the seventh to the first day of the week; and as lord of the first day of the week he will present this spurious sabbath as a test of loyalty to him. **Then will take place the final fulfilment of the Revelator’s prophecy:** “They worshiped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshiped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and **power was given unto him to continue forty and two months.** And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, and His tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.” [Revelation 13:4-8.]”

They that dwell on the earth [Rev 17:8; 13:8, 12, 14]: This phrase identifies the unrighteous.

Them that dwell in heaven [Rev 13:6; 12:12]: God’s people who reside on earth.

Psa 91:9 “Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation”

Woman Clothed with the Sun [Rev 12:1, 2, 4-6, 14-17]: God’s pure people, standing on the moon representing the reflection of the sun, symbolizing types in the Old Testament that became realities in the ministry, death, and resurrection of Christ.

Mal 4:2 “But unto you that fear my name shall the **Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings;** and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.”

2Pe 1:19 “We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and **the day star arise in your hearts**”

Great Whore [Rev 17:1, 5, 15, 16; Rev 19:2; Isa 1:21; 23:16-17; Eze 16:15-49; Hos 4:6-11]: Roman Catholic Church.

Many Waters [Rev 17:1, 15; 16:12; 19:6; Isa 17:12-13; Jer 51:13, 36, 63]: “Peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.”

Wine [Rev 14:8, 10; 16:19; 17:2; 18:3, 13; 19:15; Deu 32:32; Isa 28:7; Jer 51:7]: False doctrines, specifically immortality of the soul and Sunday sacredness..

{6T 317.3} “Canvassers, remember that in the books you handle you are presenting, **not the cup containing the wine of Babylon, doctrines of error dealt to the kings of the earth,** but the cup full of the preciousness of the truths of redemption. Will you yourselves drink of it? Your minds can be brought into captivity to the will of Christ, and He can put upon you His own superscription. By beholding, you will become changed from glory to glory, from character to character. God wants you to come to the front, speaking the words He will give you. He wants you to show that you place a high estimate upon humanity, humanity that has been purchased by the precious blood of the Saviour. When you fall upon the Rock and are broken, you will experience the power of Christ, and others will recognize the power of the truth upon your hearts.”

{GC88 588.1} **“Through the two great errors, the immortality of the soul, and Sunday sacredness, Satan will bring the people under his deceptions.** While the former lays the foundation of Spiritualism, the latter creates a bond of sympathy with Rome. The Protestants of the United States will be foremost in stretching their hands across the gulf to grasp the hand of Spiritualism; they will reach over the abyss to clasp hands with the Roman power; and under the influence of this threefold union, this country will follow in the steps of Rome in trampling on the rights of conscience.”

Purple/Scarlet/Pearls/Gold [Rev 17:4; Isa 1:9]: Temporal wealth attributed to powers with ungodly characters. The apparel of earthly priests counterfeiting our true, atoning High Priest.

Golden Cup [Rev 14:10; 16:5; 17:4, 6; 18:6; Jer 51:7; Eze 23:32-33; Mat 26:39]: Often associated with wickedness and wrath of God.

Kings of the Earth [Rev 17:2, 18; 18:3, 9; 19:19; 6:15; 16:14; Isa 24:21-22]: Leaders of all political powers on earth.

Wilderness [Rev 12:6, 14; 17:1, 3]: A place of seclusion and obscurity. The woman [RCC] is seen initially seated [ruling] via the scarlet beast [persecution of God’s people sponsored by various nations of Europe] and concurrently seated on [ruling] upon many waters [538-1798]. After 1798, the wilderness phase of the RCC, the woman is seated on the seven heads [the lines of popes] until the persecuting beast arises under rule of “the eighth,” when Sunday “rest” is enforced by the nations of earth.

{GC88 54.2} **“In the sixth century the papacy had become firmly established.** Its seat of power was fixed in the imperial city, and the bishop of Rome was declared to be the head over the entire church.

Paganism had given place to the papacy. The dragon had given to the beast “his power, and his seat, and great authority.” [Revelation 13:2; See Appendix, note 2.] And **now began the 1260 years of papal oppression foretold in the prophecies of Daniel and the Revelation.** [Daniel 7:25; Revelation 13:5-7.] Christians were forced to choose, either to yield their integrity and accept the papal ceremonies and worship, or to wear away their lives in dungeons or suffer death by the rack, the fagot, or the headsman’s ax. Now were fulfilled the words of Jesus, “Ye shall be betrayed both by parents, and brethren, and kinsfolks, and friends; and some of you shall they cause to be put to death. And ye shall be hated of all men for my name’s sake.” [Luke 21:16, 17.] Persecution opened upon the faithful with greater fury than ever before, and the world became a vast battle-field. **For hundreds of years the church of Christ found refuge in seclusion and obscurity. Thus says the prophet:** “The woman fled into the **wilderness**, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.” [Revelation 12:6.]”

{Lt 232, 1899, par. 20-22} **“In the seventeenth of Revelation is foretold the destruction of all the churches** who corrupt themselves **by idolatrous devotion to the service of the Papacy**, those who have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. John writes, “And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will show unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: with whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication. So he carried me away in the spirit into the **wilderness**; and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet colored beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet color, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornications.” [Verses 1-4.]

Thus is represented the papal power, which with all deceivableness of unrighteousness, by outside attraction and gorgeous display, deceives all nations, promising them, as did Satan our first parents, all good to those who receive its mark, and all harm to those who oppose its fallacies. The power which has the deepest inward corruption will make the greatest display, and will clothe itself with the most elaborate

signs of power. The Bible plainly declares that this covers a corrupt and deceiving wickedness. “Upon her forehead was a name written, Mystery, Babylon the Great, the mother of harlots and abominations of the earth.” [Verse 5.]

What is it that gives its kingdom to this power? Protestantism, a power which while **professing to have the temper and spirit of a lamb, and to be allied to heaven, speaks with the voice of a dragon**. It is moved by a power from beneath.”

Beast(s) (when exclusively used as a symbol for *earthly, human* powers) [Dan 7; 8:4; Rev 11:7; 13-20]: Either political or ecclesiastical power(s) that persecute God’s people.

The beast the ascendeth out of the bottomless pit [Rev 11:7; 9:1-11; 20:1-3; Isa 14:12-19]:

Satan and his demonic angels initially espousing paganism, esoteric religions, atheism and gross immorality regressing to the form of gross spiritualism.

{GC88 269.3-4} “According to the words of the prophet, then, a little before the year 1798 some power of Satanic origin and character would rise to make war upon the Bible. And in the land where the testimony of God’s two witnesses should thus be silenced, there would be manifest the atheism of the Pharaoh, and the licentiousness of Sodom.

This prophecy has received a most exact and striking fulfillment in the history of France.”

{Lt 158, 1906, par. 8} “Let all who would understand the meaning of these things **read the eleventh chapter of Revelation. Read every verse, and learn the things that are yet to take place in the cities.**

Read also the scenes portrayed in the eighteenth chapter of the same book.”

A great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads

[Rev 12:3, 9]: Satan working through an earthly, ecclesiastical powers, paganism.

{RH April 14, 1853, par. 2-3} “Mr. S. then asserts that I stated that I saw “Satan by the throne that the Father had left.” Here I will give my own words. “Satan appeared to be by the throne, trying to carry on the work of God.” I will give another sentence from the same page. “Then I turned to look at the company who were still bowed before the throne.” Now, this praying company was in this mortal state, on the earth, yet represented to me as bowed before the throne. I never had the idea that these individuals were actually in the New Jerusalem. **Neither did I ever think that any mortal could suppose that I thought that Satan was actually in the New Jerusalem. This Mr. S. is disposed to put in the worst light, and then goes on to ridicule the idea of Satan being in the New Jerusalem.**

But did not John see the great red dragon in heaven?—Certainly. “And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns.” Revelation 12:3. **Here seems to be as good a chance for Mr. S. to ridicule, as that which he has taken. What a monster to be in heaven!”**

{4SP 276.2} 1884 “**Through the great powers controlled by paganism and the papacy, symbolized by the dragon and the leopard-like beast**, Satan for many centuries destroyed God’s faithful witnesses. Under the dominion of Rome, they were tortured and slain for more than a thousand years; but the papacy was at last deprived of its strength, and forced to desist from persecution. [Revelation 13:3, 10.] At that time the prophet beheld a new power coming up, represented by the beast with lamb-like horns. The appearance of this beast and the manner of its rise seem to indicate that the power which it represents is unlike those brought to view under the preceding symbols. The great kingdoms that have ruled the world obtained their dominion by conquest and revolution, and they were presented to the prophet Daniel as beasts of prey, rising when the “four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea.” [Daniel 7:2.] But the beast with horns like a lamb is seen “coming up out of the earth;” [Revelation 13:11.] signifying that instead of overthrowing other powers to establish itself, the nation thus represented arose in territory previously unoccupied, and grew up gradually and peacefully.”

Editor footnotes: {4SP 502.1-3} “1. The beast of Revelation 13:1-10 is understood to refer to the papal power. This has been the general opinion of Protestants. 2. “The sea” out of which this beast arose is the

same as “the waters” of Revelation 17:15, explained to be “peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.” The papacy was upheld by many nations. 3. **This beast has the characteristics of the four beasts of Dan 7, which represent the four empires of Babylon, Persia, Greece, and Rome. It is the inheritor of the power held by these four empires successively.**

{ST November 1, 1899, par. 3-4} **“Under the symbols of a great red dragon, a leopard-like beast, and a beast with lamblike horns, the earthly governments which would especially engage in trampling upon God’s law and persecuting His people, were presented to John. The war is carried on till the close of time.** The people of God, symbolized by a holy woman and her children, were represented as greatly in the minority. In the last days only a remnant still existed. Of these John speaks as they “which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Through paganism, and then through the Papacy, Satan exerted his power for many centuries in an effort to blot from the earth God’s faithful witnesses. **Pagans and papists were actuated by the same dragon spirit. They differed only in that the Papacy, making a pretense of serving God, was the more dangerous and cruel foe.** Through the agency of Romanism, Satan took the world captive. The professed church of God was swept into the ranks of this delusion, and for more than a thousand years the people of God suffered under the dragon’s ire. **And when the Papacy, robbed of its strength, was forced to desist from persecution, John beheld a new power coming up to echo the dragon’s voice, and carry forward the same cruel and blasphemous work. This power, the last that is to wage war against the church and the law of God, was symbolized by a beast with lamblike horns. The beasts preceding it had risen from the sea, but this came up out of the earth,** representing the peaceful rise of the nation which is symbolized. The “two horns like a lamb” well represent the character of the United States Government, as expressed in its two fundamental principles, Republicanism and Protestantism. These principles are the secret of our power and prosperity as a nation. Those who first found an asylum on the shores of America rejoiced that they had reached a country free from the arrogant claims of popery and the tyranny of kingly rule. They determined to establish a government upon the broad foundation of civil and religious liberty.”

{ST February 8, 1910, par. 3-4} **“Under the symbols of the great red dragon, a leopard-like beast, and a beast with lamblike horns, the earthly governments which would be especially engaged in trampling upon God’s law and persecuting His people,** were presented to John. Their war is to be carried on till the close of time. **The people of God, symbolized by a holy woman and her children,** are represented as greatly in the minority. In the last days, only a remnant still exists. John speaks of them as those that “keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.”

For many centuries, **first through paganism and then through the Papacy,** Satan exerted his powers to blot from the earth God’s faithful witnesses. Both heathen and papists were actuated by the same dragon spirit. They differed only in that the Romish apostate, making a pretense of serving God, was the more dangerous and cruel foe. **Through the agency of Romanism., Satan took the world captive. The professed church of God was swept into the ranks of this delusion, and for more than a thousand years the true people of God suffered under the dragon’s ire.”**

Tail [Rev 12:4; 13:1; 17:3]: The configuration of symbolic beasts represents the continuum of time. The original false prophet is Satan who as a puppet master works through earthly proxies. The three views of the seven-headed, ten horned beasts of Revelation depict the various stages of power Satan grants to his ecclesiastical “beast” who sits in the temple of God.

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

2Th 2:4 “Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.”

A beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns [Rev 13:1; Dan 11:30-36]:

This view marks the rise of the Holy Roman empire (RCC) enabled by enforcement powers

(initially the Code of Justinian) granted by the nations of Europe for matters of conscience, from 538 to 1798.

{4SP 279.1} “The beast with lamb-like horns commands “all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads; and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.” [Revelation 13:16, 17.] This is the mark concerning which the third angel utters his warning. **It is the mark of the first beast, or the papacy, and is therefore to be sought among the distinguishing characteristics of that power. The prophet Daniel declared that the Roman Church, symbolized by the little horn, was to think to change times and laws, [Daniel 7:25.] while Paul styled it the man of sin, [2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4.] who was to exalt himself above God. Only by changing God’s law could the papacy exalt itself above God;** whoever should understandingly keep the law as thus changed would be giving supreme honor to that power by which the change was made. Such an act of obedience to papal laws would be a mark of allegiance to the pope in the place of God.”

{GC88 443.2} “But what is the “image to the beast”? and how is it to be formed? The image is made by the two-horned beast, and is an image to the first beast. It is also called an image of the beast. Then to learn what the image is like, and how it is to be formed, **we must study the characteristics of the beast itself,—the papacy.** When the early church became corrupted by departing from the simplicity of the gospel, and accepting heathen rites and customs, she lost the Spirit and power of God; and in order to control the consciences of the people she sought the support of the secular power. The result was the papacy, a church that controlled the power of the State, and employed it to further her own ends, especially for the punishment of “heresy.” In order for the United States to form an image of the beast, the religious power must so control the civil government that the authority of the State will also be employed by the church to accomplish her own ends.”

Scarlet Coloured Beast...having seven heads and ten horns [Rev 17:3, 8; 12:3; 13:1]: A retrospective description of the persecutory phase of Roman Catholic Church from its current, wilderness phase, now depicting “names of blasphemy” which include the nations who fornicated (consorted with) the papacy in persecuting God’s people from 538-1798.

{Lt 232, 1899, par. 20-22} “In **the seventeenth of Revelation is foretold the destruction of all the churches** who corrupt themselves **by idolatrous devotion to the service of the Papacy**, those who have drunk of the wine of the wrath of **her fornication**. John writes, “And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will show unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: with whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication. So he carried me away in the spirit into the **wilderness**; and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet colored beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet color, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornications.” [Verses 1-4.]

Thus is represented the papal power, which with all deceivableness of unrighteousness, by outside attraction and gorgeous display, deceives all nations, promising them, as did Satan our first parents, all good to those who receive its mark, and all harm to those who oppose its fallacies. The power which has the deepest inward corruption will make the greatest display, and will clothe itself with the most elaborate signs of power. The Bible plainly declares that this covers a corrupt and deceiving wickedness. “Upon her forehead was a name written, Mystery, Babylon the Great, the mother of harlots and abominations of the earth.” [Verse 5.]

What is it that gives its kingdom to this power? Protestantism, a power which while **professing to have the temper and spirit of a lamb, and to be allied to heaven, speaks with the voice of a dragon**. It is moved by a power from beneath.”

Another beast coming up out of the earth [Rev 13:11-17; 16:13; Dan 11:37-39]: The United States of America.

{Ms15-1850.5} {SpM 1.4} (October 23, 1850) “I saw that the two-horned beast had a dragon mouth, and that **his power was in his head**, and that **the decree would go out of his mouth**. Then I saw the mother of harlots, that the mother was not the daughters, but separate and distinct from them. She has had her day, and it is past, and **her daughters, Protestant sects, were next to come on the stage and act out the same mind that the mother had when she persecuted the saints**. I saw that as the mother has been declining in power the daughters have been growing, and soon they will exercise the power once manifested by the mother.”

{GC88 440.2} “What nation of the New World was in 1798 rising into power, giving promise of strength and greatness, and attracting the attention of the world? The application of the symbol admits of no question. One nation, and only one, meets the specifications of this prophecy; **it points unmistakably to the United States of America.**”

{Ms139-1903.12} “**The churches, represented by Babylon, are represented as having fallen from their spiritual state to become a persecuting power** against those who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ. To John **this persecuting power is represented as having horns like a lamb, but as speaking like a dragon.**”

{GC 578.3} “**It has been shown that the United States is the power represented by the beast with lamblike horns, and that this prophecy will be fulfilled when the United States shall enforce Sunday observance, which Rome claims as the special acknowledgment of her supremacy.** But in this homage to the papacy the United States will not be alone. The influence of Rome in the countries that once acknowledged her dominion is still far from being destroyed.”

Name(s) of Blasphemy [Rev 13:1, 5, 6; 17:3]: An ecclesiastical power claiming the power and authority of God by directly persecuting God’s people and claiming to change God’s calendar and His law.

Dan 7:25 “**And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws:** and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.”

2Th 2:3-4 “Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and **that man of sin** be revealed, the son of perdition; **‘Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.’**”

{GC88 439.1-2} “In chapter 13 [Verses 1-10.] is described another beast, “like unto a leopard,” to which the dragon gave “his power, and his seat, and great authority.” **This symbol, as most Protestants have believed, represents the papacy**, which succeeded to the power and seat and authority **once possessed** by the ancient Roman Empire. Of the leopard-like beast it is declared: “There was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies.... And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in Heaven. And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them; and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.” This prophecy, which is nearly identical with the description of the little horn of Daniel 7, unquestionably points to the papacy.

“Power was given unto him to continue forty and two months.” And, says the prophet, “I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death.” And again, “He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity; he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword.” The forty and two months are the same as the “time and times and the dividing of time,” three years and a half, or 1260 days, of Daniel 7,—the time during which the papal power was to oppress God’s people. This period, as stated in preceding chapters, began with the establishment of the papacy, A. D. 538, and terminated in 1798. At that time, when the

papacy was abolished and the pope made captive by the French army, the papal power received its deadly wound, and the prediction was fulfilled, “He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity.””
 {ST June 18, 1894, par. 10} “The remnant people of God are to endure persecutions. “And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.” **They are to give the warning message against the power represented by “the beast.” The prophet says of this power, which represents the Papacy:**
 “There was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them; and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.” The remnant church of God are to give the warning of the third angel to the world: “If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation.”

THE MOTHER/Woman [Rev 17:1, 5, 15, 16, 18; 18:7; 19:2] and **Harlots** [Rev 13:11-17; 17:5, 12-14, 16]: Roman Catholic Church and apostate Protestant churches

{Lt 232, 1899, par. 20-22} “In the seventeenth of Revelation is foretold the destruction of all the churches who corrupt themselves by idolatrous devotion to the service of the Papacy, those who have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. John writes, “And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will show unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: with whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication. So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness; and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet colored beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet color, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornications.” [Verses 1-4.]

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Forehead(s) [Rev 17:5; 7:3; 9:4; 13:16; 14:1, 9; 20:4; 22:4; Jer 3:3; Eze 3:8-9; 9:4]: Individual character, the seat of learning.

Prophetic Mystery [Rev 10:7, 17:5, 7, 18]: Specific to context, the unveiling of the mystery of symbolic Babylon to the final generation on earth.

2Th 2:7 “For the **mystery of iniquity** doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.”

Rev 10:7 “But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, **the mystery** of God should be finished, **as he hath declared to his servants the prophets.**”

Rev 17:5 “And upon her forehead was a name written, **MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.**”

Rev 17:7 “And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the **mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns.**”

Heads [Dan 7:6; Rev 12:3; 13:1; 17:3, 9]: Popes leading the Roman Catholic Church (RCC) following 1798, synonymous with symbolic mountains. The identity of the seven heads is dependent on the identity of the “sea beast.” Since this beast with seven heads and ten horns arises from the “many waters” of the sea, the whole beast is a representation of Satan’s ecumenical strategy (Daniel provides Satan’s political strategies) to corrupt the pure woman of Rev 12 from within. The configuration of the beast represents the phases in this strategy, precisely represented in the animals designating political powers in Daniel. The various prophetic beasts, including their bodies, heads and horns, are either political or ecclesiastical. Therefore, the harlot seated on the seven heads in the wilderness phase of the RCC points to the seven lines of popes since 1798 as represented by the seven heads; literally, the church rule via the popes only applies within. Rev 13:3b-10 must have dual application to 538-1798 and again when Sunday “rest” legislation is adopted by all nations on earth.

RCC phase 1: 538-1798;

RCC phase 2: 1798-2026[likely], and

RCC phase 3: regaining persecutory power granted by the nations for adherence to cease working and rest on Sundays.

{Ms70-1886.25} {5MR 318.1} “We looked upon the bust of Pius VI. The marble statue beneath the bust contained the heart of the pope. **This is the pope specified in prophecy, which received the deadly wound.** He was carried captive to Valence, and we looked upon the tower where he was confined and where he died. From this tower he could look upon the beautiful waters of the Rhone, and this gave him much delight. It was a gratification to look upon this representation of **the pope which prophecy has so faithfully described.**”

{Lt110-1886.5} {8MR 354.1} {Ms70-1886.25} “That afternoon he had us accompany him to the cathedral and look upon the bust of **Pius VI who was noted in prophecy**, who was led into captivity and died in captivity. Here was **the one marked in history who received the deadly wound**. His heart is encased in the marble monument beneath where the bust is placed. We felt rather solemn as we looked upon the monument of **this man noted in prophecy.**”

Mountain(s)(contextually symbolic) [Dan 2:34, 35, 44, 45; Rev 8:8; 17:9]: Symbolic of multiple gods, lines of popes taking the same names, synonymous with symbolic kings. Symbolic mountains are sites of worship and also are synonymous with the Godhead, strongly implied in Daniel 2. Satan has constructed counterfeit “mountains” throughout the history of religions. His ecclesiastical strategic pinnacle is the RCC with its lines of popes claiming to be infallible gods on earth.

Jer 51:25 “Behold, I am against thee, O **destroying mountain**, saith the LORD, which destroyest all the earth: and I will stretch out mine hand upon thee, and roll thee down from the rocks, and will make thee a burnt mountain.”

Kings [Rev 17:10]: Lines of popes indicating concurrent rule over Vatican City and the Roman Catholic Church. The principle here made is that while Nebuchadnezzar was the “head of gold”, the head also represented the line of kings [Nebuchadnezzar, Amel-Marduk, Neriglissar, Labashi-Marduk, and Nabonidus] that ruled Babylon, as well as the entire empire until the time of Cyrus. The popes’ rule over the RCC concurrent with his position as monarch over the country

recognized by the United Nations as Vatican City shows dual kingship of a political power and an ecclesiastical power. The term “king” conveys *kingly powers* of life and death over his subjects either directly or through enforcement overseen by political powers.

Dan 2:37-38 “Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory. And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. **Thou art this head of gold.**”

Ten [Rev 12:3; 13:1; 17:3, 7, 12, 16]: When paired with symbolic language, Nave’s Topical Bible definition is “Used for an Indefinite Number.”

Horns [Rev 12:3; 13:1; 11-17; 17:12-17]: Apostate Protestant churches receive power from the U.S.A. in legislating Sunday “rest.”

Rev 17:17 “For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and **to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast**, until the words of God shall be fulfilled.”

{4SP 232.2} 1884 “The term Babylon, derived from Babel,¹ and signifying confusion, is applied in Scripture to the various forms of false or apostate religion. **But the message announcing the fall of Babylon must apply to some religious body that was once pure, and has become corrupt. It cannot be the Romish Church which is here meant; for that church has been in a fallen condition for many centuries. But how appropriate the figure as applied to the Protestant churches, all professing to derive their doctrines from the Bible, yet divided into almost innumerable sects.** The unity for which Christ prayed does not exist. Instead of one Lord, one faith, one baptism, there are numberless conflicting creeds and theories. Religious faith appears so confused and discordant that the world know not what to believe as truth. God is not in all this; it is the work of man,—the work of Satan.”

{GC 383.1-2} “Many of the Protestant churches are following Rome’s example of iniquitous connection with “the kings of the earth”—the state churches, by their relation to secular governments; and other denominations, by seeking the favor of the world. And **the term “Babylon”—confusion—may be appropriately applied to these bodies, all professing to derive their doctrines from the Bible, yet divided into almost innumerable sects, with widely conflicting creeds and theories. Besides a sinful union with the world, the churches that separated from Rome present other of her characteristics.**”

{Ms24-1891.14-17} “[Rev 18:3-7; 17:13-14] ‘**These have one mind.**’ There will be a universal bond of union, one great harmony, a confederacy of Satan’s forces. ‘And shall give their power and strength unto the beast.’ Thus is manifested the same arbitrary, oppressive power against religious liberty, freedom to worship God according to the dictates of conscience, as was **manifested by the papacy, when in the past it persecuted** those who dared to refuse to conform with the religious rites and ceremonies of Romanism. In the warfare to be waged in the last days there will be united, in opposition to God’s people, **all the corrupt powers that have apostatized** from allegiance to the law of Jehovah. In this warfare the Sabbath of the fourth commandment will be the great point at issue, for in the Sabbath commandment the great Law-giver identifies Himself as the Creator of the heavens and the earth.”

{ST June 12, 1893, par. 12} “The mystery of iniquity, which had already begun to work in Paul’s day, will continue its work until it be taken out of the way at our Lord’s second coming. The climax of the working of iniquity will soon be reached. When the land which the Lord provided as an asylum for his people, that they might worship him according to the dictates of their own consciences, the land over which for long years the shield of Omnipotence has been spread, the land which God has favored by making it the depository of the pure religion of Christ,—**when that land shall, through its legislators, abjure the principles of Protestantism, and give countenance to Romish apostasy in tampering with God’s law,—it is then that the final work of the man of sin will be revealed. Protestants will throw their whole influence and strength on the side of the Papacy;** by a national act enforcing the false Sabbath,

they will give life and vigor to the corrupt faith of Rome, reviving her tyranny and oppression of conscience. Then it will be time for God to work in mighty power for the vindication of his truth.”

{5T 451.1-3} **“By the decree enforcing the institution of the papacy in violation of the law of God, our nation will disconnect herself fully from righteousness. When Protestantism shall stretch her hand across the gulf to grasp the hand of the Roman power, when she shall reach over the abyss to clasp hands with spiritualism, when, under the influence of this threefold union, our country shall repudiate every principle of its Constitution as a Protestant and republican government, and shall make provision for the propagation of papal falsehoods and delusions, then we may know that the time has come for the marvelous working of Satan and that the end is near.**

As the approach of the Roman armies was a sign to the disciples of the impending destruction of Jerusalem, so may **this apostasy be a sign to us that the limit of God’s forbearance is reached, that the measure of our nation’s iniquity is full, and that the angel of mercy is about to take her flight, never to return.**

The people of God will then be plunged into those scenes of affliction and distress which prophets have described as the time of Jacob’s trouble. The cries of the faithful, persecuted ones ascend to heaven. And as the blood of Abel cried from the ground, there are voices also crying to God from martyrs’ graves, from the sepulchers of the sea, from mountain caverns, from convent vaults: “How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost Thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?”

The Lord is doing His work. All heaven is astir. **The Judge of all the earth is soon to arise and vindicate His insulted authority.** The mark of deliverance will be set upon the men who keep God’s commandments, who revere His law, and who refuse the mark of the beast or of his image.”

{Lt 232, 1899, par. 20-22} **“In the seventeenth of Revelation is foretold the destruction of all the churches** who corrupt themselves **by idolatrous devotion to the service of the Papacy**, those who have drunk of the wine of the wrath of **her fornication**. John writes, “And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will show unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: with whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication. So he carried me away in the spirit into the **wilderness**; and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet colored beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet color, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornications.” [Verses 1-4.]

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666 [Rev 13:18; 17:9]: A literal reading of Rev 13:18 yields a call to make a count; a calculation that will require wisdom of those having understanding. Matching up Rev 17:9, “And here is the mind which hath wisdom,” the application of the call to calculate is directed here. This process matches with the prophetic pattern of introducing a topic then providing explanation and/or context in the future.

Job 38:32 “Canst thou bring forth Mazzaroth (Strong’s: Mazzaroth: “the 12 signs of the Zodiac and their 36 associated constellations” $1+2+3+...33+34+36 = 666$.) in his season? or canst thou guide Arcturus with his sons?”

Ezr 2:13 “The children of Adonikam, **six hundred sixty and six.**” (Adonikam ^[H140] means “my lord arose” linking the mark of the beast to worship, Sunday, and 666).

Luk 14:28 “For which of you, **intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth** ^[G5585] **the cost**, whether he have sufficient to finish it?”

Rev 13:18 “Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding **count** ^[G5585] **the number** of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.”

{WLF 19.1} “I saw 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. [Revelation 13:15-17.] **I saw that the number (666) of the Image Beast was made up;** [Revelation 13:18.] and that it was the Beast that changed the Sabbath, and the Image Beast had followed on after, and kept the Pope’s, and not God’s Sabbath. And all we were required to do, was to give up God’s Sabbath, and keep the Pope’s, and then we should have the mark of the Beast, and of his image.” (note: this statement suggests a secondary calculation applying to the “Image.”)

Beast, The Eighth [Rev 17:8-11; 19:20]: The final, individual pope with the calculated number of 666 leading the Roman Catholic Church when Christ returns.

One hour [Rev 17:12; 18:10, 17, 19]: Coupled with surrounding symbolic language, this is to be computed as “day for a year” prophetic time, calculated as 15 literal days suggesting the legislative power to kill for matters of individual conscience.

Jer 30:7 “Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.”

One Mind [Rev 17:13; Rom 12:16; 15:6]: Unified in thought, voice, and action.

Lamb [Rev 17:15; 5:6-14; 13:11; 14:1, 4, 10]: Jesus Christ.

Babylon [Rev 11:8; 14:8; 16:19; 17:5, 18; 18:2, 10, 16, 18, 19, 21]: A consortium of fallen, apostate Protestant churches and the restored Papacy empowered by all the nations of the world. Twice fallen representing both the Roman Catholic Church (538-1798) and apostate Protestantism. Synonymous with “great city,” harlot, and harlot daughters.

{4SP 233.1} 1884 “In Revelation 17, Babylon is represented as a woman, a figure which is used in the Scriptures as the symbol of a church. A virtuous woman represents a pure church, a vile woman an apostate church. **Babylon is said to be a harlot;** and the prophet beheld her drunken with the blood of saints and martyrs. The Babylon thus described represents Rome, that apostate church which has so cruelly persecuted the followers of Christ. **But Babylon the harlot is the mother of daughters who follow her example of corruption. Thus are represented those churches that cling to the doctrines and traditions of Rome and follow her worldly practices, and whose fall is announced in the second angel’s message.**”

{ST December 29, 1890, par. 6} “**Babylon is a symbol of the world at large.**”

{PP 124.1} 1890 “**The existing confusion of conflicting creeds and sects is fitly represented by the term “Babylon,” which prophecy (Revelation 14:8; 18:2) applies to the world-loving churches of the last days.**”

{Lt 57, 1893, par. 10} “It is our individual duty to walk humbly with God. We are not to seek any strange, new message. We are not to think that the chosen ones of God who are trying to walk in the light, compose Babylon. **The fallen denominational churches are Babylon.** Babylon has been fostering poisonous doctrines, the wine of error. **This wine of error is made up of false doctrines, such as the natural immortality of the soul, the eternal torment of the wicked, the denial of the pre-existence of Christ prior to His birth in Bethlehem, [and] the advocating and exalting of the first day of the week above God’s holy, sanctified day.** These and kindred errors are presented to the world by the various churches,

and thus the Scriptures are fulfilled that say, ‘For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.’ [Revelation 18:3.]”

{Ms 93, 1903, par. 21} “Under the proclamation of the third angel, great power is to come to the church. This is represented in the description given by John in Revelation 18. “And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lighted with his glory.” [Verse 1.]

This is the last call to Babylon, the fallen churches; it is the loud cry to be given at the closing up of the last message of mercy to a fallen world.”

{Ms139-1903.12} “**The churches, represented by Babylon,** are represented as having fallen from their spiritual state to become a persecuting power against those who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ. **To John this persecuting power is represented as having horns like a lamb, but as speaking like a dragon.**”

Abomination of Desolation [Mat 24:15; Mar 13:14; Dan 8:13, 22-25; 9:27; 11:31; 12:11-12; Rev 13:5; 21:27; Eze 7-9; 16:2, 22; Psa 24:3]: The Sunday “rest” edict by the Third Council of Orléans in 538, enforced through the newly enabling Code of Justinian, triggered the 1260 years ended in 1798. When accompanied by all the signs in Matthew 24, the process beginning with Sunday “rest” legislation by the U.S.A. will progress to the last closing work, Satan personating Christ.

“Canon 31 of the Third Council of Orléans (Gaul, AD 538) decrees that those who work on Sunday should be punished by the priest and not the lay authority.”

https://www.presbytersproject.ihuw.pl/index.php?id=6&SourceID=1328#:~:text=The%20council's%20Canon%2031%20states%20that%20*,they%20can%20go%20to%20church%20more%20easily.

{Ms 16, 1884, par. 11} “One effort more, and then Satan’s last device is employed. He hears the unceasing cry for Christ to come, for Christ to deliver them. This last strategy is to personate Christ and make them think their prayers are answered. But this answers to the last closing work, **the abomination of desolation standing in the holy place.** [Text ends here.]” (This is the only usage of the term by Ellen White outside of her quoting Matthew 24:15 in relationship to the fall of Jerusalem in A.D. 70).

{RH December 18, 1888, par. 25} “Satan came as an angel of light in the wilderness of temptation to deceive Christ; and he does not come to man in a hideous form, as he is sometimes represented, but as an angel of light. He will come personating Jesus Christ, working mighty miracles; and men will fall down and worship him as Jesus Christ. **We shall be commanded to worship this being, whom the world will glorify as Christ.** What shall we do?—Tell them that Christ has warned us against just such a foe, who is man’s worst enemy, yet who claims to be God; and that when Christ shall make his appearance, it will be with power and great glory, accompanied by ten thousand times ten thousand angels and thousands of thousands; and that when he shall come, we shall know his voice.”