

THE NASHVILLE STUDY – FINISH THE WORK

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To the Law and to the Testimony – A Prophet Must Agree

- **Isaiah 8:20** (KJV) 20 To the **law and to the testimony**: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.
 - The test of a true prophet is illustrated by **2** things, that their words claiming to be from God, do not contradict or make void the Law of God, for his Law is neverchanging (Isa 66:22-23, Matt 5:17-18, Luke 16:17, Romans 13:12), and their words do not speak of themselves or puff themselves up, but rather speak of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Cor 4:4-5, Gal 1:8-9).
- The prophets of the Old Testament were given over **333** literal prophecies and visions concerning the coming of the Messiah and things He would do in his life while on this earth: from his birth, how he would be born, the town he would be born in, the year he would be born, to the various miracles he would perform, and also the order of events concerning his crucifixion and resurrection 3 days later. The Savior endorses this in **Matt. 4:4** when He states, "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God." **Deut. 8: 3**. In this way all God's inspired writings are different from any other books in the world. He simply develops, or magnifies His own word by inspiration, and this is the test of every true prophet. They give the same thought that is in the mind of God but express it in their own words. God does not take individuality out of men, but He inspires them to write, and their own words become His words filled with an infinite, far-reaching significance. God "guided the mind in the selection of what to speak, and what to write. The treasure was entrusted to earthen vessels, yet it is, nonetheless, from Heaven."

The Gift of Prophecy in the New Testament – A Sign of a True Church

One of the most important subjects in the New Testament is the doctrine of Spiritual Gifts. Paul gives it equal rank with the great question of the state of the dead, and says, "Now, **concerning spiritual gifts**, brethren, I would not have you ignorant." **1 Cor 12: 1**. He then proceeds to explain himself by saying that there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit; that is, there are various operations produced by the Spirit of God, and a variety of manifestations that result from its presence; but all are wrought by the self-same Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will."

There are **5 lists** of the **gifts of the Spirit** mentioned in the New Testament:

1. **Romans 12:6-8** "6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether **prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith**; 7 Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching; 8 Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness."
2. **Ephesians 4:11-12** "11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, **prophets**; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:"
3. **1 Corinthians 12:28** "28 And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily **prophets**, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues."
4. **1 Corinthians 13:1-2** "1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. 2 And though I have the **gift of prophecy**, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing."
5. **1 Corinthians 14:1-4** "1 Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may **prophesy**. 2 For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries. 3 **But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort**. 4 He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but **he that prophesieth edifieth the church**."

- The 5 lists of the gifts of the Spirit all differ in relation to the Holy Spirit's power and authority; however, all 5 lists contain one single common denominator: *The Gift of Prophecy*. The single most important indicator of a New Testament church therefore is that church's presence and use of the gift of prophecy. People can fake many of the gifts or acquire them through manual effort, i.e. churches fake speaking in tongues or people can study by their own intellect to be knowledgeable teachers. However, man cannot fake predicting the future, for if he is a false prophet, any prediction he makes will not come true. For this reason, the most important gift of a true church is the gift of prophecy because it is the only gift Satan cannot replicate through his agents. Only the Spirit of Truth, which is the Holy Spirit, can reveal the things which are to come that have not come to pass and lead God's people into all truth (John 16:13-14).

The Lord reveals these things through His Prophets...

- Amos 3:7 (KJV) “Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but He **revealeth** his **secret** unto his servants the **prophets.**” ○ A Prophet’s message = prophecy
- Therefore, a prophet’s message = God’s secret ○ **SECRET** is not what you might think it is:
- H5475 *cowd* - a session, i.e. company of persons (in close deliberation); by implication, intimacy, consultation, a secret — **Assembly**, counsel, inward, secret (counsel).
- What “**session**” is being referred to?
 - **Psalms 89:7** “God is greatly to be feared in the **ASSEMBLY** (H6475) of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are around him.”
 - Same word for “secret” in Amos 3:7. The secret to whom God reveals things to, is the assembly of the brethren; the church/remnant.
- What message is given to God’s last day church?
 - **Revelation 10:11** “And he said unto me, you **must prophesy again** before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings.”
- Habakkuk 2:2-3 (KJV) 2 “And the Lord answered me, and said, ‘**Write the vision, and make it plain** upon tables, that he may run that reads it. 3 For the **vision** is yet for an appointed time, but **at the end it shall speak**, and not lie: though it tarry, **wait for it**; because **it will surely come**, it will not tarry.’” ○ The context of Habakkuk 2 is laid in Habakkuk 1:
 - **Habakkuk 1:5** “Behold ye among the heathen, and regard, and wonder marvelously: for **I will work a work in your days, which ye will not believe, though it be told you.**”
- God was going to cause something to happen among the heathen that had never happened before and though the vision was told to them, they did not believe the Lord’s prophet. Habakkuk 2 is all about God encouraging His faithful prophet that the vision God gave him will come to pass – which was their destruction by the Chaldeans (modern day Muslims of Iraq) in Habakkuk 1:6.
- What is the result of God’s end time people faithfully answering the call to warn the people of the coming judgment of God, in other words, what happens when we begin to prophecy again? ○ **Habakkuk 3:16-19** (KJV) “16 When I heard, my belly **trembled**; my lips **quivered** at the voice: **rottenness** entered into my bones, and I **trembled** in myself, that I might **rest** in the **day of trouble**: when he cometh up unto the people, he will invade them with his troops. 17 Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labor of the olive shall fail, and the

fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: 18 **Yet I will rejoice** in the Lord, **I will joy** in the God of my salvation. 19 The **Lord God is my strength**, and He will make my feet like

hinds' feet, and **he will make me to walk upon mine high places.** To the chief singer on my stringed instruments."

When we see a day of trouble approach, it concerns us to prepare. A good hope through grace is founded in holy fear. The prophet looked back upon the experiences of the church in former ages and observed what great things God had done for them, and so was not only recovered, but filled with holy joy. He resolved to delight and triumph in the Lord; for when all is gone, his God is not gone. Destroy the vines and the fig-trees, and you make all the happiness of a carnal heart to cease. But those who, when full, enjoyed God in all, when emptied and poor, can enjoy all in God. They can sit down upon the heap of the ruins of their creature-comforts, and even then, praise the Lord, as the God of their salvation, the salvation of the soul, and rejoice in him as such, in their greatest distresses. Joy in the Lord is especially seasonable when we meet with losses and crosses in the world. Even when provisions are cut off, to make it appear that man lives not by bread alone, we may be supplied by the graces and comforts of God's Spirit. Then we shall be strong for spiritual warfare and work, and with enlargement of heart may run the way of his commandments and outrun our troubles. And we shall be successful in spiritual undertakings. Thus, the prophet, who began his prayer with fear and trembling, ends it with joy and triumph. And thus, faith in Christ prepares for every event. The name of Jesus, when we can speak of Him as ours, is balm for every wound, a cordial for every care. It is as ointment poured forth, shedding fragrance through the whole soul. In the hope of a heavenly crown, let us sit loose to earthly possessions and comforts, and cheerfully bear up under crosses. Yet a little while, and He that shall come will come, and will not tarry; and where he is, we shall be also.

The Vision of Nashville – A Prophetic Study

- “**While I was in Nashville**, a scene was opened before me. A **great ball of fire** seemed to fall from heaven, and from it went forth flashes of light. When these flashes of light would strike a building, the building would burn like tinder. And then I heard someone say, “I knew that this was coming. These are the judgments of God that I knew were coming.” “You knew!” said another. “You were my neighbor. Why did you not tell me that these things were coming? Why did you not warn others?” **Ms 154, 1904, par. 36**
- “**When I was at Nashville**, I had been speaking to the people, and in the night season, there was an **immense ball of fire** that came right from heaven and **settled in Nashville**. There were **flames going out like arrows** from that ball; houses were being consumed; houses were tottering and falling. Some of our people were standing there. “It is just as we expected,” they said, “we expected this.” Others were wringing their hands in agony and

crying unto God for mercy. "You knew it," said they, "you knew that this was coming, and never said a word to warn us!" They seemed as though they would almost tear them to pieces, to think they had never told them or given them any warning at all." **Ms 188, 1905, par. 13**



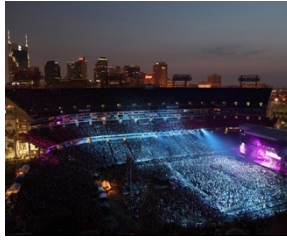
- "There was a scene presented to me. It was the night before the Sabbath. That is when that scene was presented. I looked out of the window, and there was an **immense ball of fire** that had come from heaven, and **it fell where they were casting buildings with pillars, especially the pillars were presented to me. And it seemed as if the ball came right to the building and crushed it**, and they saw that it was branching out, branching out, enlarging, and they began to cry and mourn and mourn, and wring their hands; and I thought some of our people stood by there, saying, "Well, it is just what we have been expecting; it is just what we have been talking about; it is just what we have been talking about." "You knew it?" said the people. "You knew it, and never told us about it?" I thought there was such an agony in their face, such an agony in their appearance." **Ms 152, 1904, par. 21**



The Nashville Parthenon

- **From it came flames going forth like ARROWS may suggest a terrorist attack...** ○
Genesis 16:15-16 (KJV) 15 "And Hagar bare Abram a son: and Abram called his son's name, which Hagar bare, **Ishmael**. 16 And Abram was fourscore and six years old, when Hagar bare **Ishmael** to Abram."
 - Genesis 16:12 (KJV) 12 "And **Ishamel will be a wild man**; his hand will be against every man, and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren."
 - Genesis 21:19-20 (KJV) 19 "And God opened Hagar's eyes, and she saw a well of water; and she went, and filled the bottle with water, and gave the **Ishmael** drink. 20 And God was with the lad; and he grew, and dwelt in the wilderness, and **became an archer**."
 - **Ishmael** is the father of **Islam**. In the Bible, Islam is always associated as having arrows, or tails that sting, or bringing war and persecution. Ishmael was the first archer. And in the vision, God showed Mrs. White that the fire ball that attacks Nashville will shoot out arrows and destroy the homes. Could this be eluding to a terrorist attack by Islam on American soil, like 9/11 was? Or was her vision of the arrows used only as an adjective to describe this heavenly-originated fireball? *Only time will tell.*

"Why Nashville?"

- Why Nashville? ○ Nashville's nickname is the "*Athens of the South*" ○ They built the Parthenon in 1897 to honor the Greek mythological goddess, Athena. **This is the largest PAGAN Temple in North America**, standing over 5 stories in height and featuring the largest Pagan idol in North America, Athena, standing 42 feet tall. The pagan statue is a counterfeit antithetical image of the description of the Bride of Christ in Revelation 12.
 - Performed Greek plays in the Parthenon such as "*The Fire Regained*", a Greek play write about a virgin who is caught in adultery and seeks the help of demon from Hades to save her from her death. They shot fire out of the stage inside the Parthenon where it was performed in the early 1900s.
 - Nashville is **the music capital** of the world. ○ The largest record labels ever signed are in Nashville and it is the home of the Grand Ole Opry – country music is often about sex, alcohol, and divorce – music that makes you feel good, but it is not Biblical.
 - Satan was the chief musician in heaven, had golden pipes, the seal of perfection (Ezek 28:1215).
 - Nashville is the headquarters for the **Southern Baptist General Conference**. The city itself identifies stoutly as a strong Protestant town in the middle of the Bible Belt in North America, and yet it is one of the most sex-trafficked and illegal drug operating hubs in America.

- It is highly probable that the Baptist Convention in Nashville will play a pivotal role in advocating a National Sunday Law.
- Some of the **largest (and wealthiest) companies** also have their headquarters in Nashville:

Corporate Headquarters in Nashville Region

- HCA Holdings
- Nissan North America HQ
- Dollar General Corp
- Mars Petcare
- Caterpillar Financial
- Asurion
- Community Health Systems
- Tractor Supply
- Jackson National Life
- Vanderbilt University

*note- not all listed

ADD TO REPORT

Fortune 1000 Headquarters in the Nashville Region

- HCA (#63)
- Community Health Systems (#125)
- Dollar General (#139)
- Tractor Supply (#415)
- LifePoint Health Inc. (#430)
- Delek US Holdings, Inc. (#445)
- Brookdale Senior Living (#515)
- Iasis Healthcare (#697)
- Genesco (#721)
- Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, Inc. (#763)
- AmSurg Corporation (#766)

Corporate Operations in Nashville Region

- Deloitte
- Bank of New York Mellon
- Dell Computer
- Emdeon
- ServiceSource
- TRG Customer Solutions
- State Farm Insurance
- Verizon Wireless
- Cigna Government Services
- AT&T

*note- not all listed

As in the days of Lot... (Luke 17:28-30) The

Type/Antitype Fulfillment of Sodom and Gomorrah

- Luke 17:28-30 (KJV) 28 “Likewise also **as it was in the days of Lot**; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; 29 But **the same day** that Lot went out of Sodom it rained **fire and brimstone from heaven**, and destroyed them all. 30 Even **thus shall it be** in the day when the Son of man is revealed.”
- The **destruction** of Sodom and Gomorrah in Genesis 18 & 19 had 6 players that need to be understood that apply to us living in the day that the Son of Man will be revealed:
- **1. God** – God has not changed and is still the same player today, which is to say, if He allowed fire to rain down from heaven to wake his people up in the Old Testament, it is not outside of the realm of possibility today as He prepares to return again. So, Jesus said it would be like the days of Lot when Jesus returns at His second coming.
 - **Malachi 3:6** “For I am the Lord, **I change not**;”
 - **Hebrews 13:8** “Jesus Christ **is the same** yesterday, today, and forever.”
- **2. Abraham** – God gave Abraham the message of judgment first. ○ Genesis 18:20 (KJV) 20 “And the Lord said [to Abraham], Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and **because their sin is very grievous**; ... 23 And Abraham drew near, and said [to God], Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked? ... 32 Peradventure ten shall be found there. And the Lord said,

- **I will not destroy it for ten's sake.** 33 And the Lord went his way, as soon as He had finished communing with Abraham.”
 - Abraham had friends in the city that needed warned (Lot).
- **Abraham** represents the Christians who are the understanding friends of God (John 15:15). A friend of God knows the will of God ~~for him~~ in his life and does it. A fool is someone who does not understand the will of God and lives in error/sin (Eph 5:17). ○ John 15:14-15 (KJV) 14 “Ye are my friends, **if** ye do whatsoever I command you. 15 Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but **I have called you friends; for** all things that I have heard of my Father **I have made known unto you.**” ○ James 2:23 (KJV) 23 “And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, **Abraham believed God**, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and **he was called the Friend of God.**”
- Ephesians 5:17 (KJV) 17 “Wherefore be ye not unwise, but **understanding what the will of the Lord is.**”
- Matthew 6:9-10 (KJV) 9 “After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. 10 **Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth,** as it is in heaven.”
- Matthew 7:21 (KJV) 21 “Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but **he that doeth the will of my Father** which is in heaven”
 - We see here that Abraham received the message of the fire from heaven that was to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah because he was God’s friend and not only knew the will of God, but also obeyed it. Abraham lived in the countryside, he did not seek the luxuries of city life, where the temptations of Sodom could affect him and his children’s decision making.
- **3. The Two Angels** – God sent 2 angels to warn the city of Sodom. The 2nd Angel’s Message is one of “Get out of that City!” (Rev 14:8, Rev 18) God also sends his messengers 2 by 2 (Mark 6:7). The 2 angels represent God’s end-time messengers who will prophecy again (Rev 10:17) and give the trumpet a certain sound (1 Cor 14:8), warning Nashville and other cities as time permits. God has a limit to sin and has given his people on earth a message of warning to give to those living in open rebellion against God.
 - Genesis 19:1 (KJV) 1 “And there came **two angels** to Sodom at sunset; and **Lot** sat in the gate of Sodom: and Lot seeing them **rose up to meet them;**”
 - Lot was a Christian, he believed in God. So, when he saw 2 of God’s messengers coming to his town, he went out to welcome them and brought them to his home (a symbol of his church).
 - Genesis 19:3 (KJV) “And Lot did bake **unleavened bread**, and they did eat.
 - The message the angel’s brought was a solemn one, one of death and destruction, the meal they ate represented a meal of soul affliction preparing for a time of trouble.”

- Genesis 19:12-15 (KJV) 12 “And the men said unto Lot, **Hast thou any [family] here besides?** son in law, and thy sons, and thy daughters, and whatsoever thou hast in the city, **bring them out of this place:** 13 For we will destroy this place, because the cry of them is waxen great before the face of the Lord; and the Lord hath sent us to destroy it. 14 And Lot went out, and spake unto his sons in law, which married his daughters, and said, Up, get you out of this place; for the Lord will destroy this city. But he seemed as one that mocked unto his sons in law. 15 And **when the morning arose, then the angels hastened Lot, saying, Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters, which are here; lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city.**
 - The 2 angels’ message also included Lot going and warning his own family and telling them to leave, placing the burden of responsibility on Lot.
 - Revelation 18:4-5 (KJV) 4 “And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, **Come out of her, my people,** that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. 5 For **her sins have reached unto heaven,** and God hath remembered her iniquities.”
 - Revelation 14 and 18 shows a pattern of *repeat and enlarge* concerning an end-time prophetic message for God’s people to be giving. Revelation 14 has 3 angels’ messages that come to the earth as rays of light and truth waking up God’s people. In Revelation 18 those messages are repeated with a certain sound (1 Cor 14:8) and that sound is to call God’s people out of the wicked cities which are soon to receive their own plagues and destruction because their sins, like Sodom’s, reached unto heaven.
 - Matthew 10:11, 14-15 (KJV) 11 “**Now whatever city or town you enter, inquire who in it is worthy, and stay there till you go out.** 14 **And whoever will not receive you nor hear your words, when you depart from that house or city, shake off the dust from your feet.** 15 **Assuredly, I say to you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city!**”
 - So, as it was in the days of Lot...God sent messengers into Sodom to inquire who was worthy (God was looking for 10 righteous men), so shall it be in the days of the coming of the Son of Man. Jesus has sent us 2 by 2 to go to the cities and warn them of what is coming. Those who refuse to listen now will receive worse fire and brimstone from heaven upon their city than did Sodom and Gomorrah.
- **4. Lot** – Lot was the low hanging fruit who was sitting at the gate in Sodom looking for truth. God still has those that are His children (Lot and his family) in the cities **who are waiting to hear** the present truth message for them to get out of the city when they hear the message of warning given in the right light of Scripture. Jesus says, “**other sheep I have that are not of this fold, them also I must bring.**” (John 10:16) Lot represents the true Christians who have not heard the present truth warning message but who are waiting to be told, who welcome God’s messengers in their churches and homes to hear the message and call to action.

- **5. Lot's Children** – When the angel's warned Lot, they said go and tell this to thy children, (Gen 19:12-15) and so Lot went and told his sons, his sons-in-law, and his daughters. Only 2 of his daughters received the message of warning and left with Lot. The remaining children stayed in the city. In the 3 visions of Nashville by Mrs. White she saw some wringing their heads and crying saying, "**We KNEW this was coming, we were JUST talking about this.**"
 - Those who knew the destruction was coming but were left in the city to experience the devastating wrath of God represent the children of Lot who heard the Gospel warning but did not love the Lord enough to leave and do His Will. Because of their love of the city-life and love of the world, they did not have the Faith of Jesus to live up to the light they were given when the time came for them to make a commitment to God.
 - *Thinking deeper: In Sodom, only 2 groups of people knew the city was going to be destroyed:*
 1. Lot and his wife.
 2. Lot's children who did not live with him and stayed even after being warned.
 - *In the vision of Nashville, 2 groups are seen after the city is destroyed:*
 1. Those who were taken completely off guard – this group represents the wicked.
 2. Those who said, "We knew this was going to happen". They represent the only ones left in the city who knew destruction was coming but did not leave – the family/children of the Adventists who did leave before it was too late.
- **6. The Wicked** – In Genesis 19, the wicked try to attack the messengers but Lot stands up to protect them. Then the wicked come after Lot, but the Lord gives the angels power to blind the wicked. When the warning message comes to Nashville, the wicked Gentiles of the city will not want to hear the message that God is going to destroy their city and that they must sell their homes and leave. Regardless of their repentance, God had for-ordained the destruction of Sodom and the only solution was for His people to get out while God tarried for them to leave. So, it was with Belshazzar's kingdom, "**I have numbered your days...**" (Dan 5:26), and so it was with Jerusalem when Jesus cursed the fig tree and said one generation will not pass once the budding of the fig tree occurs (Matt 24:32).
 - 1 Thessalonians 5:6-7 (KJV) 6 "Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. **7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.**"
 - What time did the warning message come to Sodom? At Even, which is to say, at sundown.
 - 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12 (KJV) 10 "And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness **in them that perish;** because **they received not** the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11 And for this cause God shall send them **strong**

- delusion**, that they should **believe a lie**: 12 That they **all might be damned** who believed not the truth, but **had pleasure in unrighteousness.**" ■ Do we love pleasure more than conviction?
- 2 Thessalonians 1:8 (KJV) "**In flaming fire taking vengeance** on them that **know not God**, and that **obey not** the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:"
 - God's judgment of choice for the wicked has always been fire from heaven. Those who will die in any judgment, plague, or at the very end – hell itself, will all be consumed by fire, as a purging, cleansing flame, as sin is consumed by the fire of God (Heb 12:29, Deut 4:24, Isaiah 33:1415).
 - Proverbs 10:8 (Berean Bible) "A wise heart will receive commandments, but **foolish lips will come to ruin.**"
 - The wicked will not listen to the Commandments of God, which is how God measures sin, for sin is transgression of the Law (1 John 3:4).
 - Job 20:5 "That the **triumphing of the wicked is short**, And the **joy of the godless is only momentary.**"
 - Psalm 92:7 "That when the **wicked** sprouted up like grass and all who did iniquity flourished, it was only that **they might be destroyed** forevermore."
- Genesis 18:23, 32-33 (KJV) 23 "And Abraham drew near, and said [to God], Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked? ... 32 Peradventure ten shall be found there. And the Lord said, **I will not destroy it for ten's sake.** 33 And the Lord went his way, as soon as He had finished communing with Abraham." ○ God would not destroy the city as long as He might find 10 righteous men in the city. What do you think will happen to Nashville as righteous men and their families begin to move out of Nashville and there are less than 10 righteous left in the city?!
 - What is the power of a righteous man? James 5:16 (KJV) 16 "... **The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.**" For the righteous' sake, the wicked are yet living and prosper.

What we are looking at here is an end-time parallel or antitypical fulfillment of the destruction of various cities where God's people are called out of not only spiritual Babylon, but also out of these large cities which will be visited with the Judgments of God first. The prophetic evidence suggests **Nashville** will be the *first* of many cities that will be devastated by such a visitation from the Wrath of God being poured out without mixture.

Putting It All Together – The Drone Perspective

“Our first interest should be to see that the work begun at **Nashville** is firmly established. **This city** is to be a **center** for the work in the South. If the **work** anywhere must be **deferred**, **let it be in places not so important.**” Ms 167a, 1902, par. 13.

Exhibit 1: Sodom and Gomorrah

26 “And as it was **in the days of Noah**, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. 27 They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all. 28 Likewise also **as it was in the days of Lot**; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; 29 **But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone** from heaven, and destroyed them all. 30 Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.” Luke 17:26-30

Outline of events leading up to the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah from Genesis

- Gen 13:13 Their wickedness grew
- Gen 18:20-21 God **measured** their sinfulness and recorded it in heaven
- Gen 18:32-33 God **warned** Abraham of coming judgments.
- *God would save it for 10 righteous...*
- Gen 19:21-22 God **waited** until His people were safely out of the city.
- Gen 19:23-25 God **destroyed** the city with fire and brimstone at sunrise, and all wicked lost their lives. ○ **The Pattern in Scripture when Judgments of**

God fall on the cities:

1. God measures sin (See also 1 Thess 2:16)
2. God warns
3. God waits
4. God destroys

Matthew 10:11-15 “11 And into whatsoever city or town ye shall enter, **enquire who in it is worthy**; and there abide till ye go thence. 14 And **whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words**, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet. 15 Verily I say unto you, it shall be more tolerable for the land of **Sodom and Gomorrha** in the **day of judgment**, than for that city.”

*This verse shows the same **pattern** of Judgment will be repeated again at the end of time.*

Our Mission to Warn Nashville (and then other cities)

"The **wrath of God** will come upon **all cities**, upon dwellings, upon large buildings, **so suddenly** that they who have the slightest intimation have no safety in dallying at all. They are to flee at once." (Ms233-1902.3)

"We are living amid the perils of the last days. **The wrath of God is preparing to come upon all the cities—not all at once but one after another.** And if the terrible punishment in **one city** does not cause the inhabitants of other cities to be afraid and seek repentance, their time will come. When the Lord ariseth to shake terribly the earth, **He will not cease until His work in punishment is done.** The **destruction will begin in certain places**, and the destruction of life will be sudden and but few will escape. There is not to be given an encouraging thought that the gospel of Jesus Christ will be accepted by the large majority of men prior to His coming again the second time with power and great glory. I am instructed by revelation to say that most solemn and overwhelming judgments are determined upon all people who have the light before them in the Word of God, [but who do not follow it]." (Ms233-1902.4)

- First of all, it is noteworthy to understand, destruction will come upon the cities **ONE** at a time. That means it must start with one city. Namely, a city that Mrs. White had a vision for 3 years in a row that was going to be visited by the Judgment of God upon it – **Nashville.**

"The time is near when large cities will be swept away, and all should be warned of these coming judgments." (Ms53-1910.4)

"We must make **wise** plans to warn the cities." (Country Living 31.4)

- Proverbs 11:30, "**The wise winneth souls**" – our work to warn the cities is to be centered around soul-winning. The soul is the most precious thing we can handle in dealing with individuals' salvation.

"The Lord God of heaven will **NOT** send upon the world His **judgments** for disobedience and transgression **UNTIL** He has sent His watchmen to give the warning. He will not close up the period of probation until the message shall be **more distinctly proclaimed.**" (6T 19.1)

- Until clear and distinct warning is given, where the trumpet warning is given with a certain sound (**1 Cor 14:8**), will the city be destroyed, just as we saw with the message of warning given by the 2 angels in Genesis 19 in warning Sodom and Gomorrah. Prophetic warning must be given with 2 dimensions, both the event and the relative timing of the event.

"The message presented at this time is the **LAST message of mercy** for a fallen world. **This** is the glory of God, which **closes the work of the third angel.**" (6T 19.2)

- The judgments of God that begin to fall on the cities mark the finishing of the work of the third angel. Note the first angel's message going forward in the Fall of 1833 by the preaching of William Miller was confirmed by the falling of the stars from heaven on November 13th, 1833, so shall the finishing of the 3 angel's messages be confirmed by a mighty "star" falling from heaven as a ball of fire showing the judgment of God upon the wicked who have rejected the 3 angel's messages of warning to the earth.

"While the angels hold the four winds, **we are to work** with **all** our capabilities. We must bear our message without any delay...the LORD will give us FAVOR before the world **UNTIL** our work **IS** done." (6T 20.3)

"**Out of the cities**, is our message at this time. Be assured that the call is for our people to locate miles away from the large cities." (Lt158-1906.1; LDE 95)

"The Lord calls for His people to locate away from the cities, for in such an hour as ye think not, **fire and brimstone** will be rained from heaven upon these cities. When **ONE city** is destroyed, let not our people regard this matter as a light affair, and think that they may, if favorable opportunity offers, build themselves homes in **that same destroyed city.**" (Lt158-1906.3; LDE 95)

This is before the No Buy, No Sell Law of Revelation 13:17

"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." (Lt158-1906.8; LDE 95).

- **Revelation 11** ends with the finishing the **3rd woe** and then the sounding of the **7th Trumpet**. Note that the 1st woe dealt with the rise of Islam through King Othman for 150 years from July 27th, 1299 to July 27th, 1449 and the 2nd woe dealt with the reign of the Ottoman Empire for 391 years and 15 days with the 4 Sultan Generals from July 27th, 1449 to August 11th, 1840. The 3rd woe will follow the Biblical pattern dealing with Islam. Since 2001, we have been in constant warfare with Islam.

What is to follow the Judgments of God falling on the Earth?

"As the **crowning act** in the great drama of deception, **Satan himself will personate Christ**. Satan will manifest himself among men as a majestic being of dazzling brightness, **resembling the description of the Son of God given in Revelation 1:13-15**. The glory that surrounds him is unsurpassed by anything that mortal eyes have yet beheld. In his assumed character of Christ, **Satan claims to have changed the Sabbath to Sunday**, and **commands** all to hallow the day

which he has blessed...the multitudes, from the least to the greatest, give heed to these sorceries, saying: This is "the great power of God." Acts 8:10. (GC 624.2)

"We are warned that in the last days **Satan** will work with signs and lying wonders and **he will continue these wonders UNTIL the close of probation.**" (2SM 50.4)

Satan appears before the close of Probation (Before Dan 12:1)

"There is a satanic force propelling the **Sunday movement**, but it is **concealed.**" (RH January 1, 1889, par. 4)

"While men are sleeping, **Satan** is actively arranging matters so that the Lord's people may not have mercy or justice. **The Sunday movement is now making its way in darkness.** The leaders are concealing the true issue." (5T 452.1)

Relative Order of Events of End Time Eschatology based on the heretofore mentioned texts:

1. God raises up a **People** to give the **Last Call** to get out of the cities (4th Angel repeated).
2. God's people **leave** the cities. 3. **One city** is destroyed **first**
 - Sister White's visions suggest Nashville, (followed by other cities, one at a time.)
 - The destruction of the city is a *Sign of finishing of the work of the 3rd Angel (6T 19)*
4. This city's destruction occurs **before** the No-Buy, No-Sell law (aka a National Sunday Law (NSL)), per Mrs. White's warning **not to buy the land after** the city is destroyed (LDE 95).
5. The time of the **3rd Woe** of Revelation 11 is fulfilled after Nashville is destroyed, followed by the sounding of the 7th trumpet with the finishing of the mystery of God.
6. **National Sunday Law** implemented any time after Nashville destroyed, catches whole world by surprise.
 - The death and destruction of a Protestant City in North America would capitulate the propagation of a movement within Protestantism to lobby for a National Sunday Law to bring America back into "favor" with God for our sinfulness as a Nation.
7. **Satan Appears** as an Angel of Light enforcing/giving power to the NSL → Death Decree (Rev 17:15)
8. God's people are **Sealed** and the Loud Cry of Revelation 18 fills the whole Earth.
 - NYC Falls as Sign of Finishing 4th Angel → Probation Closed (RH July 5th, 1906)
9. **7 Last Plagues Fall**, the *Sins of Babylon have reached unto Heaven* (Rev 18:5).

Further study from a single letter (#176) written by Ellen White the same year she had the first vision of Nashville being destroyed regarding the events that are to come upon the earth as travail upon a woman (1 Th 5:3):

“I have said, as I looked at the great buildings going up there, story after story, “What terrible scenes will take place when the Lord shall arise to shake terribly the earth. Then the words of (Revelation 18:1-3) will be fulfilled. **The whole of the eighteenth chapter of Revelation is a warning of what is coming on the earth.** (Lt176-1903.11)

The destroying angels are today executing their commission. **Death will come in all places.** This is why I am so anxious for our cities to be warned. There is a work to be done by canvassing in our cities that has not yet been done. (Lt176-1903.16)

In His teaching Christ has given lessons of great value in regard to the last days. O that men and women would learn their danger before it is everlastingly too late. (Lt176-1903.17) **The day of the Lord is coming as a thief, not on those who are spiritually awake, but on those who are half-asleep, listless and indifferent.** The blessing of God rests on the workers who warn those that are unready to meet Him. Holiness is connected with mercy, as the effect is connected with its cause. (Lt176-1903.18)

True believers are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works. This result is accomplished through the consecration of the whole being, body, soul, and spirit, to God. As man submits to the molding and fashioning of God, his life reveals good works. He works on the plan of addition, and God works for him on the plan of multiplication. (Lt176-1903.19) The truth fills the believing soul with overflowing gratitude and at the same time keeps him low in the deepest humiliation. Constantly the language of his heart is, “Not unto us, not unto us, but unto Thy name be the glory.” [Psalm 115:1.] (Lt176-1903.20)

“In a special sense **Seventh-day Adventists** have been set in the world as **watchmen and lightbearers.** To them has been entrusted **the last warning** for a perishing world. On them is shining wonderful light from the Word of God. They have been given a work of the most solemn import—the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels’ messages. There is no other work of so great importance. They are to allow nothing else to absorb their attention. (Ms53-1910.6)

“The most solemn truths entrusted to mortals have been given us to proclaim to the world. The proclamation of these truths is to be our work. **The world is to be warned,** and God’s people are to be true to the trust committed to them. They are not to engage in speculation, neither are they to enter into business enterprises with unbelievers; for this would hinder them in their God-given work.” (Ms53-1910.7)

“Whenever man accomplishes anything, whether in spiritual or in temporal lines, he should bear in mind that he does it through co-operation with his Maker...“We are laborers together with God.” 1 Corinthians 3:9. Immeasurably inferior is the part which the human agent sustains; but if he is linked with the divinity of Christ, he can do all things through the strength that Christ imparts.” (COL 82)

The Experience of Mrs. Ellen White when in Vision

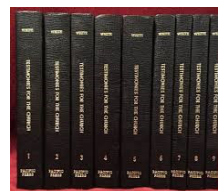
- **1 John 4:1** (KJV) 1 “Beloved, believe not every spirit, but **try the spirits** whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.”
 - *When Mrs. White was in vision, she manifested impossible physiological signs that could not be faked or gimmicked by any person.*

- “While praying, the power of God came upon me, as I never had felt it before. I was surrounded with light and was rising higher and higher from the earth.” Her condition in vision may be described as follows:
 - 1. **She was utterly unconscious of everything transpiring around her**, as has been proved by the most rigid tests, but views herself as removed from this world, and in the presence of heavenly beings.
 - 2. **She did not breathe.** During the entire period of her continuance in vision, which has at different times ranged from fifteen minutes to three hours, there is no breath, as has been repeatedly proved by pressing upon the chest, and by closing the mouth and nostrils.
 - 3. Immediately on entering vision, **her muscles become rigid, and joints fixed, so far as any external force can influence them.** At the same time her movements and gestures, which are frequent, are free and graceful, and cannot be hindered nor controlled by the strongest person.
 - 4. **On coming out of vision**, whether in the daytime or in a well-lighted room at night, **all she could see was total darkness, until her vision readjusted.** Her power to distinguish even the most brilliant objects, held within a few inches of the eyes, returns but gradually, sometimes not being fully established for three hours. This has continued for the past twenty years; yet her eyesight is not in the least impaired, few persons having better than she now possesses.
 - Ellen White has had, during the past 23 years, **between one and two hundred visions.** These have been given under almost every variety of circumstance yet maintaining a wonderful similarity; the most apparent change being, that of late years they have grown less frequent, but more comprehensive. She has been taken off in vision most frequently when bowed in prayer.

—Taken from "*Life Incidents*," by James White, Vol. I, pp. 271-273, ed.1868.

Ellen White and Her Vision of 9/11 and the World Trade Centers Falling

“On one occasion, **when in New York City**, I was in the night season called upon to behold **buildings rising story after story toward heaven. These buildings were warranted to be fireproof, and they were erected to glorify their owners and builders.** Higher and still higher these buildings rose, and in them the most costly material was used. Those to whom these buildings belonged were not asking themselves: “How can we best glorify God?” The Lord was not in their thoughts. I thought: “Oh, that those who are thus investing their means could see their course as God sees it! They are piling up magnificent buildings, but how foolish in the sight of the Ruler of the universe is their planning and devising. They are not studying with all the powers of heart and mind how they may glorify God. They have lost sight of this, the first duty of man.” As **these lofty buildings went up**, the owners rejoiced with ambitious pride that they had money to use in gratifying self and provoking the envy of their neighbors. Much of the money that they thus invested had been obtained through exaction, through grinding down the poor. They forgot that in heaven an account of every business transaction is kept; every unjust deal, every fraudulent act, is there recorded. The time is coming when in their fraud and insolence men will reach a point that the Lord will not permit them to pass, and they will learn that there is a limit to the forbearance of Jehovah. **The scene that next passed before me was an alarm of fire. Men looked at the lofty and supposedly fire-proof buildings and said: “They are perfectly safe.” But these buildings were consumed as if made of pitch. The fire engines could do nothing to stay the destruction. The firemen were unable to operate the engines.** I am instructed that when the Lord's time comes, should no change have taken place in the hearts of proud, ambitious human beings, men will find that **the hand that had been strong to save will be strong to destroy. No earthly power can stay the hand of God.** No material can be used **in the erection of buildings that will preserve them from destruction** when God's appointed time comes to send retribution on men for their disregard of His law and for their selfish ambition.” (Testimonies to the Church, Volume 9, pages 11 and 12)



Volume 9, p11

New York City was attacked by Islamic terrorists on 9/11/2001 along with 2 other planes that tried to attack other locations on the east coast. God tried to warn us through his prophet in the last days that this event would occur such that His people would not get caught in the cross hairs of the Judgments of God as this terrible event occurred and changed the American Republic forever. We have more visions of warning yet to be fulfilled by Mrs. Ellen White. Will we listen and heed their counsel or make them null and void and be just as devastated when these things fulfill as millions of people were the morning of 9/11?

More Evidence: The Chicago Fire, The San Francisco Earthquake & Other Visions fulfilled

E. G. White, like Jesus, prophesied about destruction by earthquakes, as we have recently seen in Haiti, where thousands upon thousands will be killed: "The earthquakes will come; the floods will come," she said, and accurately predicted the 1906 earthquake in San Francisco a mere two days before the horrific event:

- "While at Loma Linda, California, **April 16, 1906**, there passed before me a most wonderful representation. During a vision of the night, I stood on an eminence, from which I could see houses shaken like a reed in the wind. Buildings, great and small, were falling to the ground. Pleasure resorts, theaters, hotels, and the homes of the wealthy were shaken and shattered. Many lives were blotted out of existence, and the air was filled with the shrieks of the injured and the terrified." (Country Living, p. 8).
- Wikipedia says of **the San Francisco earthquake of April 18th, 1906**: "Shaking was felt from Oregon to Los Angeles, and inland as far as central Nevada. The earthquake and resulting fire is remembered as one of the worst natural disasters in the history of the United States. The death toll from the earthquake and resulting fire, estimated to be above 3,000, is the greatest loss of life from a natural disaster in California's history." "A study completed by Yuri Fialko of Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California, San Diego, has demonstrated that the San Andreas Fault has been stressed to a level sufficient for the next 'big one,' as it is commonly called, that is, an earthquake of magnitude 7.0 or greater. The study also concluded that the risk of a large earthquake may be increasing faster than researchers had previously believed. Fialko also emphasized in his study that, while the San Andreas Fault had experienced massive earthquakes in 1857 at its central section and in 1906 at its northern segment (the great San Francisco earthquake).
"If such an earthquake were to occur, Fialko's study stated, it would result in substantial damage to Palm Springs and a number of other cities in San Bernardino, Riverside and Imperial counties in California, and Mexicali municipality in Baja California. Such an event would be felt throughout much of Southern California, including densely populated areas of metropolitan Los Angeles, Orange County, San Diego and Tijuana, Baja California. 'The information available suggests that the fault is ready for the next big earthquake but exactly when the triggering will happen and when the earthquake will occur we cannot tell,' Fialko said. 'It could be tomorrow or it could be 10 years or more from now,' he concluded in

September of 2005." (1906 San Francisco Earthquake; San Andreas Fault–wikipedia.com).

- E. G. White did predict future judgments of God for San Francisco: "Through the liquor traffic Satan is at work to corrupt with his deceiving policies the rulers and the people. As this work is carried on from city to city, the guilt of the whole world will be made manifest, and it will be plainly seen why God permits His judgments to fall on the earth. Because of the pride of the heart, the falsehood, the dishonesty, the profanity that is manifest, the Lord will soon come out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain. **The people of San Francisco must answer at the judgment bar of God for the reopening of the liquor saloons in that city.** O that our cities might reform!" (Signs of the Times, December 4, 1907 par. 10).

- She also prophesied: "Scenes that would soon take place in **Chicago** and other large cities also passed before me. As wickedness increased and the protecting power of God was withdrawn there were destructive winds and tempests. Buildings were destroyed by fire and shaken down by earthquakes:

- "Some time after **this I was shown that the vision of buildings in Chicago** ... and their destruction, was an object lesson for our people, warning them not to invest largely of their means in property in **Chicago**, or any other city... A similar caution was given in regard to building in **Los Angeles**. Repeatedly I have been instructed that we must not invest means in the erection of expensive buildings in cities." (Last Day Events, p. 113).

One interesting observation is that while in **Loma Linda on July 5, 1906**, three months after the **San Francisco Earthquake**, Ellen White refers again to the vision: "It was while we were still at **Loma Linda**, the second night after the dedication of the sanitarium, that there passed before me an awful scene of buildings shaken down and destroyed, with great loss of life. I have already described this scene, in the article, 'The San Francisco Earthquake.'" (RH, July 5, 1906, par. 1). I make no predictions, nor did she confirm it, but I find it interesting that she had this vision while in Loma Linda, and since she wrote about the coming destruction of buildings in Los Angeles, I wonder if the vision will have another application in the future? Again, we will have to wait and see.

- Now, please, notice the words of E. G. White's in the following statement regarding the judgments of God: "Those who choose to remain disloyal must be visited in mercy with judgments, in order that, if possible, they may be aroused to a realization of the sinfulness of their course." (RH, July 5, 1906 par. 2).

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Friends, the judgments of God are part of His mercy! Did not God send warning after warning of coming judgments to the wicked cities to repent and ward off the impending doom, as with Lot in Sodom and Gomorrah, Moses and Egypt, Daniel and Babylon, and **Jonah and Nineveh**, Jesus warning Jerusalem? Which one repented and thwarted His judgments?

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Ellen White continues: "The cities must be worked. The millions living in these congested centers are to hear the third angel's message. This work should have been developed rapidly during the past few years. A beginning has been made, for which we praise God. Outpost centers are being established, from whence, like Enoch of old, our workers can visit the cities and do faithful service." (RH, July 5, 1906 par. 8).

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"Out of the cities; out of the cities!"—this is the message the Lord has been giving me. The earthquakes will come; the floods will come; and we are not to establish ourselves in the wicked cities... The Lord desires that we shall have clear spiritual eyesight. We must be quick to discern the peril that would attend the establishment of institutions in these wicked cities. We must make wise plans to warn the cities, and at the same time live where we can shield our children and ourselves from the contaminating and demoralizing influences so prevalent in these places." (Country Living, p. 31). "Before the overflowing scourge shall come upon the dwellers of the earth, the Lord calls upon all who are Israelites indeed to prepare for that event. To parents He sends the warning cry: Gather your children into your own houses; gather them away from those who are disregarding the commandments of God, who are teaching and practicing evil. Get out of the large cities as fast as possible." "My warning is: Keep out of the cities. Build no sanitariums in the cities. Educate our people to get out of the cities into the country, where they can obtain a small piece of land, and make a home for themselves and their children." (Adventist Home 139; Country Living 10).

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"The time is at hand when there will be sorrow in the world that no human balm can heal. The Spirit of God is being withdrawn. Disasters by sea and by land follow one another in quick succession. How frequently we hear of earthquakes and tornadoes, of destruction by fire and flood, with great loss of life and property! Apparently, these calamities are capricious outbreaks of disorganized, unregulated forces of nature, wholly beyond the control of man; but in them all, God's purpose may be read. They are among the agencies by which He seeks to arouse men and women to a sense of their danger." (PK 277).

“At this time money is greatly needed in the work of the Lord. God calls upon His people to place their means in the bank of heaven, beside His throne. Do not allow your means to be buried up now, when there is so much need of it in the Lord’s work. And if you know of others who have money to spare, ask them to place it in the bank of heaven. The Lord will bless them in helping to get the truth before those who know it not.” (Lt217-1904.11)

The people of God will not be free from suffering; but while persecuted and distressed, while they endure privation and suffer for want of food they will not be left to perish. That God who cared for Elijah will not pass by one of His self-sacrificing children. He who numbers the hairs of their head will care for them, and in time of famine they shall be satisfied. While the wicked are dying from hunger and pestilence, angels will shield the righteous and supply their wants. To him that "walketh righteously" is the promise: "Bread shall be given him; his waters shall be sure." "When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I the Lord will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them." [Isaiah 33:15, 16; 41:17](#). {GC 629.2}

Yet to human sight it will appear that the people of God must soon seal their testimony with their blood as did the martyrs before them. They themselves begin to fear that the Lord has left them to fall by the hand of their enemies. It is a time of fearful agony. Day and night they cry unto God for deliverance. The wicked exult, and the jeering cry is heard: "Where now is your faith? Why does not God deliver you out of our hands if you are indeed His people?" But the waiting ones remember Jesus dying upon Calvary's cross and the chief priests and rulers shouting in mockery: "He saved others; Himself He cannot save. If He be the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him." [Matthew 27:42](#). Like Jacob, all are wrestling with God. Their countenances express their internal struggle. Paleness sits upon every face. Yet they cease not their earnest intercession. {GC 630.1}

Could men see with heavenly vision, they would behold companies of angels that excel in strength stationed about those who have kept the word of Christ's patience. With sympathizing tenderness, angels have witnessed their distress and have heard their prayers. They are waiting the word of their Commander to snatch them from their peril. But they must wait yet a little longer. The people of God must drink of the cup and be baptized with the baptism. The very delay, so painful to them, is the best answer to their petitions. As they endeavor to wait trustingly for the Lord to work they are led to exercise faith, hope, and patience, which have been too little exercised during their religious experience. Yet for the elect's sake the time of trouble will be shortened. "Shall not God avenge His own elect, which cry day and night unto Him? ... I tell you that He will avenge them speedily." [Luke 18:7, 8](#). The end will come more quickly than men expect. The wheat will be gathered and bound in sheaves for the garner of God; the tares will be bound as fagots for the fires of destruction. {GC 630.2}

The heavenly sentinels, faithful to their trust, continue their watch. Though a general decree has fixed the time when commandment keepers may be put to death, their enemies will in some cases anticipate the decree, and before the time specified, will

endeavor to take their lives. But none can pass the mighty guardians stationed about every faithful soul. Some are assailed in their flight from the cities and villages; but the swords raised against them break and fall powerless as a straw. Others are defended by angels in the form of men of war. {GC 631.1}

In all ages, God has wrought through holy angels for the succor and deliverance of His people. Celestial beings have taken an active part in the affairs of men. They have appeared clothed in garments that shone as the lightning; they have come as men in the garb of wayfarers. Angels have appeared in human form to men of God. They have rested, as if weary, under the oaks at noon. They have accepted the hospitalities of human homes. They have acted as guides to benighted travelers. They have, with their own hands, kindled the fires at the altar. They have opened prison doors and set free the servants of the Lord. Clothed with the panoply of heaven, they came to roll away the stone from the Saviour's tomb. {GC 631.2}

In the form of men, angels are often in the assemblies of the righteous; and they visit the assemblies of the wicked, as they went to Sodom, to make a record of their deeds, to determine whether they have passed the boundary of God's forbearance. The Lord delights in mercy; and for the sake of a few who really serve Him, He restrains calamities and prolongs the tranquillity of multitudes. Little do sinners against God realize that they are indebted for their own lives to the faithful few whom they delight to ridicule and oppress. {GC 631.3}

Though the rulers of this world know it not, yet often in their councils' angels have been spokesmen. Human eyes have looked upon them; human ears have listened to their appeals; human lips have opposed their suggestions and ridiculed their counsels; human hands have met them with insult and abuse. In the council hall and the court of justice these heavenly messengers have shown an intimate acquaintance with human history; they have proved themselves better able to plead the cause of the oppressed than were their ablest and most eloquent defenders. They have defeated purposes and arrested evils that would have greatly retarded the work of God and would have caused great suffering to His people. In the hour of peril and distress "the angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear Him, and delivereth them." **Psalm 34:7.** {GC 632.1}

With earnest longing, God's people await the tokens of their coming King. As the watchmen are accosted, "What of the night?" the answer is given unflatteringly, "The morning cometh, and also the night.' **Isaiah 21:11, 12.** Light is gleaming upon the clouds above the mountaintops. Soon there will be a revealing of His glory. The Sun of Righteousness is about to shine forth. The morning and the night are both at hand—the opening of endless day to the righteous, the settling down of eternal night to the wicked." {GC 632.2}

As the wrestling ones urge their petitions before God, the veil separating them from the unseen seems almost withdrawn. The heavens glow with the dawning of eternal day, and like the melody of angel songs the words fall upon the ear: "Stand fast to your allegiance. Help is coming." Christ, the almighty Victor, holds out to His weary soldiers a

crown of immortal glory; and His voice comes from the gates ajar: "Lo, I am with you. Be not afraid. I am acquainted with all your sorrows; I have borne your griefs. You are not warring against untried enemies. I have fought the battle in your behalf, and in My name you are more than conquerors." {GC 632.3}

The precious Saviour will send help just when we need it. The way to heaven is consecrated by His footprints. Every thorn that wounds our feet has wounded His. Every cross that we are called to bear He has borne before us. The Lord permits conflicts, to prepare the soul for peace. The time of trouble is a fearful ordeal for God's people; but it is the time for every true believer to look up, and by faith he may see the bow of promise encircling him. {GC 633.1}