

Foreword

The Pacific Press® Publishing Association has supplied for its constituents a very fine book entitled *Preparation for the Final Crisis* by Fernando Chaij. We believe that the study of this book is important to every Seventh-day Adventist in this late hour of earth's history. In order to make its study more meaningful, we strongly recommend the use of these study outlines by our churches—pastors and lay leaders alike. Elder C. J. Ritchie, a seasoned and competent Bible scholar, has prepared these studies to coincide with the pagination and the chapters in Dr. Chaij's book.

We are often asked by church elders for material that can be used in prayer meeting studies. We heartily recommend this outline to our church elders and pastors for prayer meeting studies and Bible conferences. Note the words of Ellen G. White: "As we near the close of this world's history, the prophecies relating to the last days especially demand our study."—*Testimonies to Ministers*, page 116. "The perils of the last days are upon us, and in our work we are to warn the people of the danger they are in. Let not the solemn scenes which prophecy has revealed be left untouched. If our people were half awake, if they realized the nearness of the events portrayed in the Revelation, a reformation would be wrought in our churches, and many more would believe the message."—*Ibid.*, p. 118.

Our General Conference president and the recent evangelistic councils emphasize a heart preparation for the finishing of God's work in all the world. A study of this outline with the book *Preparation for the Final Crisis* can be a spiritual blessing to each reader.

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Study Outlines for

Preparation for the Final Crisis

STUDY OUTLINE 1

Introduction—*A Panoramic View of the Final Crisis*

Knowing the Time (p. 13)

The end of the world is near.

God's people should know the time and prepare for it. Romans 13:11.

Stages Already Completed (pp. 13, 14)

Mileposts: 4 world empires; 10 kingdoms of Europe; 1,260 years of papal supremacy; deadly wound; wound healed; all the world wonders; 2,300 days; 1844—judgment hour.

God's last message on time.

Signs of Christ's coming.

A Panorama of the Future (pp. 15–25)

General summary of events just before close of probation.

Sealing—its meaning.

The latter rain, the loud cry, and the finishing of the work.

The shaking—its meaning.

The early time of trouble, before probation closes. Conditions in world; in church.

The persecution: begins before close of probation, ends after. Second beast of Revelation 13 (U.S.) first fulfills God's purposes:

1. Speaks as dragon.
2. Obliges all to worship first beast (Rome).
3. Works miracles through spiritualism.
4. Commands all on "the earth" to make an image to the beast. "Image" defined.
5. Enforces "mark of the beast." "Mark" defined. Major issue in final conflict—God's Sabbath vs. papal Sunday. National Sunday law. Sunday laws examined. Persecution result of enforcement.
6. After close of probation, death penalty.

Dragon, beast, and false prophet unite against God's people.

Armageddon—under sixth plague. Deliverance at height of persecution.

The time of trouble. Daniel 12:1. Beginning of—close of probation. Description

of:

1. for world
2. for God's people.

Last events.

Second Coming.

STUDY OUTLINE 2

Chapter 1—*Reform Movement Within the Church* (Part 1)

Introduction: Joel 2:1, 2—The divine summons to prepare for "the day of the Lord" by

Genuine repentance and seeking God with the whole heart.

Need for Reform (pp. 27, 28)

A revival of true godliness our greatest need.—1SM 121.

Reformation must accompany revival.—ChS 42.

Greatest revival since Pentecost predicted.—GC 464.

Characteristics of the Reform (pp. 28–32)

Satanic counterfeits of reform. Characteristics of false reformers:

Create spirit of discord and strife.—ChS 42; 2SM 64.

They act with energy and deceit.—GC 398.

Fanaticism.—2SM 16. Warning of going to opposite extreme.—GW 170.

Claiming new light.

Elements of genuine new light. (pp. 31, 32)

100 percent in harmony with Bible.—5T 295.

Not contradict basic truth.—5T 291.

Genuine reformers humble; false reformers egotistical.—Two quotations, top p. 32.

Additional characteristics of genuine reformation:

1. Spirit of prayer.
2. Sincere conversion.
3. Self-denying missionary work.
4. Praise and thanksgiving.—9T 126.

The Heart of the Reformation (pp. 32–37)

Proclamation of Laodicean message.

Message of justification by faith.

Acceptance of Laodicean message will bring genuine conversion, separation from world, and victory.

Rejection of Laodicean message will cause "shaking."—EW 270

Laodicean message. Severe message, but given in love. "Thou art lukewarm": we profess to love truth but—

1. We lack fervor and devotion.
2. Only half converted.
3. Not dedicated in service.
4. Work of grace in heart lacking.

"I will spew thee out of My mouth." Lukewarmness displeasing to God. We will be rejected if we do not change.

Spiritual infatuation and self-justification. Our condition one of self-deception. We have the truth but are in a poor spiritual condition. We have great light but do not walk in it.

The call of God is "Repent." Repentance defined. For self-righteousness we must take Christ's righteousness.

The message will do its work.—1T 186.

STUDY OUTLINE 3

Chapter 1—*Reform Movement Within the Church* (Part 2)

An Effective Remedy (pp. 37, 38)

The True Witness in the Laodicean message not only diagnoses trouble of church, but provides the remedy:

For poverty—true riches.

For spiritual nakedness—the white raiment.

For blindness—the heavenly eyesalve.—4T 88.

Faith and love—gold tried in the fire.—2T 36, 37.

Love—guiding principle in Christian life; power for transforming life; fruit of the Spirit, with faith, obtained from Christ; by His indwelling.

Faith—hand which clasps God's power; makes victory and God's promises ours.

Justification by faith (pp. 39–41)

White raiment—righteousness of Christ. Sin separates from God, results in sorrow and guilt.

Man seeks help. Two methods used to obtain help:

1. By his own efforts.
2. By faith in Christ.

Laodicean condition tends to self-righteousness.

Christ's robe our only hope, received on two conditions:

1. Repentance, surrender of self.
2. Acceptance of His gift by faith.

Two classes of righteousness (pp. 41–43)

Read MYP 35. The righteousness of Christ by which we are justified.

Enumerate 5 points, p. 42.

The righteousness of Christ by which we are sanctified.

Enumerate 4 points bottom of p. 42.

Draw attention to diagram, p. 43.

Imparted sanctification or righteousness (p. 44)

Christ's righteousness provides sanctification as well as justification.

Sanctification—a lifelong experience of growth.

Justification—our title to heaven; sanctification—our fitness for heaven.

The Secret of Victory (pp. 45, 46)

Faith brings both to us.

What we have not yet attained in perfection by the imparted righteousness is supplied by

Christ's imputed righteousness. See diagram, p. 45

Provision made for failure; but continual progress God's plan for us.

Read three quotations, p. 46.

A Message of Reformation (pp. 46–48)

Laodicean message also, therefore, a call to reformation.

Character only developed by battle with self. But victory promised.—COL 3:31

Pathway to victory: Renounce self; surrender fully to Christ; depend on Him moment by moment; by faith believe victory is yours. Read quotation, p. 48.

STUDY OUTLINE 4

Chapter 2—*The Sealing*

Synthesis (p. 48)

Sealing begins in conversion; ends at death or close of probation.

Defined as writing principles of God's law in our lives, including the fourth commandment.

Description of the Event (pp. 49–51)

Sealing a process now in progress. Closes when angel with writer's inkhorn returns to heaven. Sealing is the mark of allegiance to divine authority; also the mark of deliverance.

What Is the Seal of God? (pp. 51, 52)

Seal—two things:

1. The instrument used.
2. The mark made.

The Instrument—the law in general but fourth commandment in particular. It contains Lawgiver's name, title, and authority.

The Mark—the application of the instrument produces a Christlike life, a fixing of the law in the life.

The Holy Spirit is the agent of the sealing. Ephesians 4:30.

The Seal—a mark invisible to men but visible to angels.

—a mark placed on those who separate from sin.

—contained in fourth commandment.

—revealed in observance of fourth commandment.

When the Sealing Occurs (pp. 52, 53)

Sealing time short; will soon be over.—EW 58.

Angels holding winds of strife till sealing is completed.

Conditions in Order to Be Sealed (pp. 53, 54)

Submission to God's will essential.—5T 50.

Now time to prepare. Seal will not be placed on impure, ambitious, world-loving men and women of false tongues or deceitful hearts.

We must be victorious Christians.—5T 216.

Seal impressed when Jesus leaves sanctuary and our characters are fixed for eternity.

—EW 48.

Those receiving seal reflect image of Jesus fully.—EW 71.

They will not tolerate sin but exchange their filthy rags for Christ's robe of righteousness.

—5T 472.

We must work on the problem of remedying our defects of character—by God's methods.

—5T 214.

Process of purification difficult and painful.

Time now to make quick work; time short.

Read last quotation, p. 54.

Synthesis

The work of the Holy Spirit. Mention the six points on p. 55.

In addition, two extraordinary outpourings or demonstrations of His power in early and latter rain.

Description (p. 56)

Joel 2:23, 28-31; read last quotation, p. 56; AA 54, 55.

Analogy between two rainy seasons in Palestine and two outpourings of Holy Spirit.

Purpose (p. 57)

Gives power to third angel and prepares saints for time of trouble.—EW 86.

Ripens earth's harvest.—GC 611.

Importance and Necessity (p. 57)

Brings all other blessings in its train.

Holy Spirit needed all through our experience, but latter rain especially needed to ripen and gather harvest.
We need more of the Spirit.

Promises and Willingness of God (p. 58)

If we were willing, we would be filled.—AA 50.

We may have the Holy Spirit now if we seek for it and pray for it.—Ev 701.

At this very hour it may be ours if we will take God at His word.—8T 20.

Conditions (pp. 58–62)

General Conditions:

Claimed by faith, given according to our capacity to receive.—DA 672.

According to our desire and consent.—COL 411.

Follows revival of primitive godliness.—GC 464.

We must daily advance in exemplification of active Christian virtues and be in the right attitude to receive the latter rain.—TM 507, 508.

Specific conditions:

To feel the need of the Spirit and pray for His presence.

This need must receive priority in our spiritual life.—AA 50; ChS 253.

To experience first the early rain.

Meaning of this—forsaking sin, cleansing heart by confession, prayer and consecration; thus preparing for added power.—TM 507.

Growth in grace and walking in light already received.—AA 54.

To be willingly used and guided by the Spirit.

We cannot use Holy Spirit, we must surrender to Him.

To eliminate dissensions and misunderstandings.

All differences to be put away.—DA 827.

To surrender self.

Surrender of self opens way and opens our eyes.—6T 43.

When emptied of self, vacuum will be filled by inflowing of Spirit.

—GW 287.

Self-idolatry to be crucified.—GW 114.

We cannot empty ourselves of self; we must consent for Christ to do it.—COL 159. (Read prayer in quotation from COL 159, 160.)

No limit to our usefulness if we put self aside.—ChS 254.

Results of Latter Rain (pp. 63, 64)

Great power and glory attend closing work.

Revives and strengthens church.—7BC 984.

Bonds binding people broken, and they step out to obey truth.—EW 271.

Some leading men will accept truth.

Whole world enlightened.

Work similar to Day of Pentecost.

Message proclaimed by thousands of voices.

Miracles wrought, sick healed.—GC 611.

Latter rain more abundant than former rain.—COL 121.

STUDY OUTLINE 6

Chapter 4—*The Shaking*

Synthesis (pp. 65, 66)

Every member will be tested. Trial of faith called "the shaking" or sifting. Luke 22:31, 32.

Analogy from winnowing of grain to separate good grain from husks.

Description of the Process (p. 66)

Object of shaking to remove the chaff.

Read quotations from 4T 51; 1T 99; 8T 41.

Causes (pp. 66–69)

Carelessness and indifference.

Victorious have prayed and agonized to gain victory over sin.—EW 271.

Careless and indifferent shaken out of church.

Persecution because of enforcement of the Sunday law.

Large class not firm in faith abandon truth under persecution.—GC 608.

Members will be individually tested. Those loyal to God will boldly witness; others yield up faith.—5T 463.

Rejection of the Laodicean message.

Those unwilling to repent and conform their lives to Laodicean message will rise up against it and be shaken out.—EW 270.

Superficial knowledge that causes many to be deceived by false doctrines.

False doctrines, truth mixed with error, unbelief—lead those who have failed to study or who studied superficially to be deceived or to yield up their faith.—5T 80, 81; TM 112.

Subtle deceptions of spiritualism will cause many to yield.—2SM 368.

The Time (pp. 69, 70)

Now in shaking time.—1T 429.

It has commenced.—EW 50.

Directions on How to Avoid Falling (pp. 70, 72)

Take heed. 1 Corinthians 10:12.

By prayer, Bible study, service, and sacrifice maintain contact with heaven.

Romans 8:35-39.

In trial and perplexity, keep eyes fixed on Jesus.—EW 269.

Keeping in step and harmony with message.—EW 271.

No compromise of principle or doctrine along the way.

Yielding principle in daily life opens way to yield under pressure.—5T 80, 81.

We must love the truth.

Church Will Not Fall; Sinners Will Be Sifted Out (pp. 72, 73)

Read 2SM 380.

STUDY OUTLINE 7

Chapter 5—*The Finishing of God's Work—The Loud Cry*

Synthesis (pp. 74, 75)

God's program: revival, reformation, sealing, shaking, latter rain, loud cry.

God's last message. Revelation 14:6-12. "No more to follow."—5T 206, 207.

Message closes with great power—the loud cry. Revelation 18:1.

Whole church to witness.—8T 47.

Description (pp. 75, 76)

God cuts work short in righteousness. Romans 9:28.

Message to increase continuously in power.—5T 383.

Envelops world.—EW 277.

Loud cry—message of righteousness by faith.—1SM 363.

A Special Time for a More Clear Message (pp. 76–79)

A special time.

Fall of Babylon to be repeated.

Sins introduced since 1844.—GC 603.

The work of the Reformers cited as an example.

Consecrated workers, filled with Holy Spirit will fearlessly proclaim God's message.

—GC 606.

The message will arouse persecution.

False clergy will seek to shut out light. Papists and Protestants unite; appeal to civil power.

Law invoked; Adventists before courts.

Message brought before thousands.—GC 607.

Temporary consternation and dismay.

Proclaiming message brings persecution, fear.

In helplessness God's people flee to the Mighty One.

The message will be proclaimed with faith and power.

Contest grows sharper; faith and courage tested.

Faith triumphs.—GC 609, 610.

Great effort to save lost; many backsliders reclaimed; church united.—6T 401.

A Rapid and Miraculous Work (pp. 79–81)

Thousands of voices unite to proclaim truth. Light penetrates everywhere. Bonds broken; barriers overcome. Some rulers converted; large number take their stand for truth.

—GC 611, 612.

Benefits of the Controversy (p. 82)

Opposition to truth brings it to attention of people.

Sunday enforcement advertises truth.

Satan's Opposition to the Loud Cry (pp. 82, 83)

Satan seeks to oppose message. Becomes very active; uses spiritualism, war, pleasure to divert minds.

False Religious Revivals (p. 83)

Counterfeit revivals; great false religious fervor.

Spirits work miracles. Great deception. 1 Timothy 4:1.

Two Conditions Necessary for Finishing Work (pp. 84, 85)

Sanctification. Joshua 3:5; Zechariah 4:6. Spirit poured out when people ready.

Activity. Mark 16:15. Parable of talents.

STUDY OUTLINE 8

Chapter 6—*Persecution—The Confederate Powers* (Part 1)

Synthesis (pp. 86, 87)

Satan uses Sunday law and persecution against truth.

The Persecution in General (pp. 87–89)

Divine blessing on persecuted. Matthew 5:10-12.

God's service brings satanic opposition.—GC 610.

Persecution progressive.—5T 473.

Persecution and ridicule from all directions.—5T 450, 451.

A large group abandon faith.—GC 608.

Apostates, bitterest enemies of God's people.—5T 463; Revelation 12:17.

God watches over His people.—GC 634.

Final contest: commandments of God vs. commandments of men.

Legislation brings penalty to violators.—5T 712.

Divine Protection (pp. 90, 91)

Some martyred before close of probation; none die after.

Angels to protect God's people.—9T 17.

Divine presence in prison cells.—GC 627.

Experiences of Noah, Lot, Joseph, Elijah for our encouragement.—GC 626.

God prevents death of saints after close of probation.—EW 284.

The Rest Day as the Focal Point (pp. 91–94)

Sabbath sign of loyalty to God; Sunday under law, mark of beast.

Sabbath special point of controversy.

Noncompliance of minority excites strong opposition.—GC 615.

Sabbath keepers denounced as lawbreakers, cause of anarchy.—GC 592.

State and church unite to persecute.—GC 592.

Opposition maddened by spread of truth.—GC 607.

Present movements opening way for future persecution.

Protestants following footsteps of Rome.—GC 573.

Satan's plans:

Silence Sabbath keepers.—TM 473.

Repeat scenes of history.—GC 578.

Use spiritualism.—GC 591.

Charge national trouble upon Sabbath keepers.—GC 587.

Make Sabbath keeping a sign of disloyalty to governments.—PK 184.

The Crisis Will be Universal (pp. 95, 96)

United States—two-horned beast of Revelation 13.

Causes nation to "worship" first beast—Rome. Verse 12.

Uses deception. Verse 14.

Makes image to beast. Verse 14.

Other nations follow our example.—6T 18.

When apostasy (enforcement of Sunday laws) becomes universal, God rises up.—7T 141.

STUDY OUTLINE 9

Persecution—*The Confederated Powers* (Part 2)

The Beast With Horns Like a Lamb (pp. 96–98)

First beast of Revelation 13 (verses 1-10) symbolizes papacy.

Second beast of Revelation 13 (verses 11-18) represents United States of America.

United States came into existence with lamblike, that is, Christlike features.

Politically, a democratic nation; religiously, a country providing liberty of worship and separation of church and state.

God blessed the United States abundantly. World center of church here; base of world missions.

A change to take place. Speaks like the dragon.

Only one nation meets specifications of Revelation 13:11-18.—GC 441.

This nation to enforce papal Sunday by national legislation.—5T 451, 712.

Sunday law passed *by legislature*. 7BC 977.

National apostasy signal for national ruin.—2SM 373.

Sunday movement now making way in darkness.—5T 452.

Alliance of Powers: The Dragon, the Beast, the False Prophet, the State

(pp. 98–102)

Revelation 16:13, 14—The dragon, primarily Satan, Revelation 12:9.

Then agencies employed by him.

Pagan Rome. Revelation 14:4.

Papal Rome. Revelation 13:2.

Spiritualism (paganism). Revelation 16:13. Using spiritualism.

Satan works through:

1. Paganism

2. Modern spiritualism.

3. "Christian" spiritualism.

4. "Scientific" spiritualism. Par. 3, p. 98.

Spiritualism fully developed in "last remnant of time."—GC 561, 562.

The beast—the papacy (first beast of Rev. 13).—GC 439.

The false prophet—apostate Protestantism.

The alliance—Protestants join hands with Rome and both come under influence of spiritualism.—
5T 451.

The basis of unity: Two great errors

1. Sunday sacredness.

2. Natural immortality.—GC 588.

Image to beast defined.—GC 443.

How beast is worshiped.—GC 579.

Despite present propaganda, "Rome never changes."—GC 581.

Danger of Rome not now understood.—GC 564

New fair front deceiving—GC 571.

The Image to the Beast (pp. 102–104)

Beast—combination of church and state; image same.

Image—apostate Protestantism uniting with state to enforce Sunday and punish Sabbath keepers.—GC 445.

Sunday keeping, a mark of allegiance to Rome.—GC 443.

When Sunday law enforced.—GC 445.

How image formed.—GC 448, 449.

STUDY OUTLINE 10

Persecution—*The Confederated Powers* (Part 3)

The Mark of the Beast (pp. 104–107)

Mark of the beast received when Sunday observed after passage of Sunday law.

"Mark" enforced by "image"; that is apostate Protestantism.

Mark received only when truth fully understood and rejected.

Those who reject mark and observe God's Sabbath, sealed.

Seal and mark defined.—8T 117.

Comments of Mrs. E. G. White on Revelation 14:9-12.

Observance of Sunday (after passage of Sunday laws), mark of beast.—TM 133;

GC 449.

Sabbath great test of loyalty; draws line.—GC 605.

Sabbath, special object of Satan's attacks.—PK 183, 184.

To secure patronage, legislators yield to demand for Sunday law.—5T 451.

Many now sincere in Sunday observance accepted by God; but when Sunday enforced by law, they must decide.—GC 449.

Sunday Laws (p. 107)

Many states have Sunday laws of different types.

May 29, 1961, Supreme Court of United States affirmed Sunday laws civil, therefore constitutional. Picture confused at present.

Sunday as a Day of Missionary Work (pp. 107, 108)

Counsel of Mrs. E. G. White.

When Sunday enforced by law, devote the day to missionary work.—9T 232.

We do not receive mark of beast by using Sunday for God's work.—9T 232.

Schools to do same.—9T 233.

Only Two Classes (pp. 108, 109)

1. Those loyal to God's commandments.
2. Those who worship the beast and image and receive mark.—GC 450.

All not surrendered to God, allied to Satan.—TM 465.

Obedience or disobedience is the question.—DA 763.

Not one abiding in Christ will fail.—2SM 368.

The Death Decree (pp. 109–111)

Death decree promulgated after close of probation, during plagues.—EW 36, 37.

Unified time set for decree.—GC 635.

Leaving the Cities (pp. 111, 112)

Counsel to locate now where we can more easily keep the Sabbath.

Counsel to seek country location for rearing children and cultivating land.—2SM 359.

Counsel to get out of cities into rural areas to be free from labor union oppression.

—2SM 141.

Final sign to leave cities—decree enforcing Sunday.

Emergency Flight From the Cities (pp. 112, 113)

Stages: large cities, smaller cities, secluded places among the mountains.—5T 464, 465.

After decree:

People of God associate together in solitary places.

Many will be cast into prison.

Communion with Christ open—angels come to prison cells.—GC 626, 627.

Angels provide saints with food and water.—EW 282.

The Song of Victory (p. 113)

Those on the sea of glass have gained victory over beast and image and mark.

Revelation 15: 2, 3.

STUDY OUTLINE 11

Chapter 7—*The Work of Deception: Spiritualism*

Synthesis (p. 114)

Great growth in power of spiritualism in last days.

Deceitful Miracles (pp. 114–117)

Modern spiritualism started with "rappings" (1848).—EW 86, 87.

United States Protestants foremost in accepting spiritualism.

Spiritualism now imitates nominal Christianity.

Miracles will be wrought. Satan and his angles appear as angels of light; spirits profess faith in Bible and institutions of church.—GC 589.

While appearing as benefactor of grace, Satan promotes war, disaster, and disease to destroy multitudes unprepared.—GC 589.

Tampering with spiritualism dangerous.—DA 258.

Papists and Protestants deceived by miracles. God's people stand on Word of God.—9T 15, 16.

Satanic Delusions (pp. 117–120)

Two basic errors: immortality of soul and Sunday sacredness.—GC 588.

Deceptive miracles.—EW 60.

False concepts of God and His law.—GC 558.

Spiritualism Satan's last masterpiece of deception.—GC 561, 562.

Apostles to be impersonated.—GC 557.

False claims and interpretations of Scripture.—GC 558.

Near the end, revival of heathen power and deities.—TM 117, 118.

Deception adapted to all classes.—GC 553, 554.

Fearful sights (including fire called down from heaven).—GC 624.

Attempt to Imitate the Second Coming of Christ (pp. 120, 121)

Crowning act of the drama—Satan impersonates Christ.

Assumes appearance of Christ as described in Revelation 1:13-15.

Cry goes up, "Christ has come!" Satan worshiped. Heals diseases, preaches deceitfully, declares he has changed Sabbath.—GC 624.

He will cause fire to come down from heaven to prove he is God.—Sp.T, Series B, No. 6,

p. 33.

He will be received as Lord of lords.—5BC 1006.

He cannot duplicate Second Coming in clouds of heaven.

A Defense Against Deceptions (pp. 121, 122)

Only those safe who are kept by power of God through faith in His Word.—GC 562.

Those confirmed in the truth.

Diligent students of the Scriptures.

Safeguard Against Spiritualism (p. 122)

If we even once submit our minds, we are in danger.—GC 558.

God's Word rightly understood and applied, our safeguard.—1T 344.

STUDY OUTLINE 12

Chapter 8—The Early Time of Trouble

Two "times of trouble" mentioned by Mrs. E. G. White.

The time that ends at the close of probation. Luke 21:25, 26.

During this period—wars, earthquakes, pestilences, increasing immorality—preaching of the gospel.

The time which immediately follows the close of probation.

The early time of trouble—Holy Spirit poured out; Sabbath proclaimed more fully; war, famine in the land.—EW 33, 34.

Nations angry; held in check.—EW 85, 86.

Events today. We are in this early time of trouble.

Chapter 9—The Time of Trouble

Synthesis (pp. 126, 127)

Begins with decree of Revelation 22:11, 12—close of probation.

Angels loose winds; seven last plagues fall; persecution intensifies; death decree; time of Jacob's trouble; deliverance.

The Close of Probation (pp. 127–130)

Daniel 12:1—Christ (Michael) stands up—ceases to intercede for sinners.

Characters of all fixed. God's wrath, unmixed with mercy, begins to fall in seven last plagues.

Jesus cries, "It is done."—EW 279.

Investigative judgment ended.—GC 428.

Close of probation comes unknown to dwellers on earth.—GC 491, 615.

Life of pleasure, business, travel, proceeding as usual.—GC 38; ChS 51.

The Four Angles Loose the Winds (pp. 130, 131)

Winds of strife and destruction held until Jesus finishes work in sanctuary.—EW 36.

God's guarantee that work will be finished.—TM 444.

Angels control elements of nature and legislatures.—GC 610.

When angels let go, general confusion and destruction.—6T 14.

Description of the Time of Trouble (pp. 131, 132)

No intercessor and now shelter for impenitent. Spirit of God withdrawn. Satan plunges world into worst period of trouble in all its history. Human passion unleashed: elements let loose.—GC 614.

The Time of Jacob's Trouble (pp. 132, 133)

This time defined as occurring during plagues.—EW 36, 37.

After close of probation and after passage of death decree.

Physical and Mental Anguish (pp. 133–137)

The physical anguish: the persecution.

Like Jacob's when his brother came against him with 400 men.

The argument—small group of Sabbath keepers should be punished rather than whole nations experience confusion.

Death decree final result.—GC 615, 616.

Decisive blow on one selected night.—GC 635.

God's people suffer much. Fear destruction.—EW 283, 272.

The mental anguish.

Greater anxiety to know all sins repented of.—GC 619, 620.

Conscious of unworthiness; severely tempted by Satan; no condemning sins revealed—
all blotted out.—GC 620.

Why the Trouble Will Be Permitted (p. 137)

Those who have not made it a habit to trust God, have not learned the lessons of faith.

—GC 622.

To consume "earthliness"; to reflect Christ's image perfectly.—GC 630.

God's People Successfully Pass Through Time of Trouble

Read GC 649.

Many Will Go to Their Rest Before

Read CH 375.

No Material Provision Will Be of Value (p. 138)

No use to lay up food then.—EW 56.

Put all on altar—seek God's guidance and sell as God indicates before time of trouble.

—EW 56, 57.

Divine Refuge (pp. 138–141)

God's people trust in God's promises.—DA 122.

Not free from suffering but cared for and protected by God.—GC 629; EW 282.

Angel guard around God's people.—EW 283.

God's people wonderfully preserved during time of trouble.—1T 353.

Darkest hour before dawn.—PK 725.

No plague afflicts; covered by God.—GC 654.

STUDY OUTLINE 13

Chapter 10—*The Plagues*

Synthesis (pp. 142, 143)

Plagues fall when Jesus ceases to intercede. God's wrath unmixed with mercy.

Enumerate plagues as listed on pages 142, 143.

General Considerations on the Plagues (pp. 143–145)

Description: Revelation 16. Similar to plagues of Egypt but more terrible.—GC 627, 628.

Time: After close of probation; no intercessor to stay wrath of God.—EW 280.

Extent: Plagues not universal or all earth's inhabitants would die.—GC 628, 629.

Duration: Brief; possibly one year. Revelation 18:8. (Prophetic meaning of "one day.")

Protection of the sealed: Psalm 91 (Isaiah 33:15, 16; 41:17).—GC 629.

Hunger for the Word of God: Too late many seek Word of God and protection from His judgments. Amos 8:11, 12.—GC 629.

The Sixth and Seventh Plagues: Armageddon (pp. 145–148)

Some details uncertain; divergent views.

Revelation 16:13, 14. (See analysis on page 146.)

Three great powers—spiritualism, papacy, and apostate Protestantism—unite against God. They involve the kings of the earth. Directed by "spirits of devils" and Satan. Only two camps: the coalition on one side, God and His people on the other. The victory gained by Christ. Revelation 19:11-12. Read quotations on p. 147.

Despair of the Wicked (pp. 149, 150)

Utter despair as enemies of God realize they have lost all.—GC 654.

The great suffering caused by plagues leads many to turn on those who deceived them.

—EW 282.

Unfaithful ministers special object of attack.—GC 655.

Protection of God's people.—GC 656.

STUDY OUTLINE 14

Chapter 11—*The End of the Seventh Plague: Deliverance*

Important Events (p. 151)

Read list lower half of page.

An Account of Liberation (p. 152)

Liberation follows these events:

When defiance becomes universal.—RH, June 15, 1897.

When wicked seem about to destroy saints.—GC 635.

At Midnight (p. 152)

The chain of catastrophic events leading to deliverance begins at midnight—not actual Second Coming at this hour.—EW 285.

Mighty Manifestations of God's Power (pp. 152, 153)

Swords raised fall powerless; streams cease to flow; dark clouds clash; loud thunder; mountains shake; sea boils; cities fall. God's voice announces coming of Jesus. —EW 34.

A Crown of Immortal Glory (pp. 153, 154)

Christ announces His reward.—GC 633; Isaiah 26:20, 21.

A Sudden Change in the Scene (pp. 154, 155)

Read quotations.

Cataclysmic Events (pp. 155, 156)

Convulsions of nature terrify wicked.

Rainbow appears in the heavens; clear space in heavens; righteous look up; great hailstones falling destroy cities; all nature out of course. Special resurrection.

A Wonderful Star of Hope (pp. 156, 157)

Star shines through rift in clouds; speaks hope and deliverance. Saints raise voices in praise.

The Glorious Cloud (p. 157)

Small dark cloud in the east—sign of coming of Jesus. Draws nearer; brighter, more glorious. Becomes white cloud; rainbow above. Jesus rides forth.

Chapter 12—*From the Liberation to the Second Coming*

The events listed on pp. 158, 159, and top half of 160 have been covered already. This is a recapitulation; so start on p. 160, section 9, and proceed to read to end of chapter.

STUDY OUTLINE 15

Chapter 13—*Preparation for the Crisis*

Introductory Note (p. 162)

Theoretical knowledge insufficient.

Repentance, victory over sin, and consecrated service necessary.

Seriousness of the Time and Necessity for a Preparation (pp. 162–164)

Parable of ten virgins. Difference between wise and foolish. Wise prepared. Read first two quotations.—GC 622; 5T 716.

Need today: arouse from spiritual slumber and stupor.

Drawing nearer and nearer to the Lord.—EW 71.

No shelter without needed preparation.

Factors in the Preparation (pp. 164–170)

Study of the Bible and the spirit of prophecy.

Many do not understand the evidences of their faith; do not appreciate the truth and work of God; cannot give satisfactory reasons.—5T 707.

Need now to be diligent students of the Scriptures.—GC 625.

Must make Bible daily rule of our lives.—GC 602.

Fortify the mind with Bible truths.—GC 593, 594.

Closing events demand our study.—GC 594.

Place body, soul, and spirit under discipline to God.

We must love and obey truth and instructions of spirit of prophecy if we are to be protected from strong delusions.—8T 298.

Communion with God; fervent prayer. (This topic omitted on p. 166, first printing.)

Angels to come to aid of agonizing, praying believers.—EW 270.

"Mighty intercession" needed.—5T 454.

Cleansing from sin and victory over weaknesses.

Unconfessed sin hinders divine blessing and protection.

Must not gloss over unfaithfulness in "minor affairs."—GC 620.

Arouse from spiritual lethargy and repent.—GC 311.

Work till not one spot of sin remains.—5T 214.

A complete surrender to God.

Complete surrender, the pathway to victory.—DA 324.

A diligent work for Christ.

Work while waiting for Lord's return.—5T 452.

What we do not do now, to be done under very difficult conditions.—5T 463.

No time to lose—barriers constantly arising.—6T 22.

Our talents to be improved until Master comes.—4T 51.

Activity on behalf of religious liberty.

Work to avert threatened danger; remove prejudice against us; present real issue (loyalty to God or apostate power).—5T 452.

No room for complacency when Sabbath issue involved. Our duty to rouse to action. Prayer and work.—5T 713, 714.

Final events of outstanding importance presented in these studies.

Laodicean message produces reformation.

Sealing, latter rain, loud cry take place—sifting, too.

Persecution follows Sunday legislation. United States first; other nations follow.

Divine protection promised for true people of God.

Living in earth's last hours.

Challenge: short, glorious work of finishing gospel message.

Danger: apathy, unconcern, Laodicean lukewarmness.

Exchange garments; accept Christ's righteousness.

Prepare to meet crisis and receive crown of victory.

STUDY OUTLINE 16

Appendix—*Important Events That Fulfill Prophecies*

By M. E. Loewen,

Religious Liberty Secretary,

General Conference.

Bridging the Gulf (pp. 173–176)

Read GC 588.

Cardinal Cushing's pastoral letter—"a great gulf"—"gulf we set ourselves to bridge."

Statement by Francis Cornell, Catholic University of America—real object of ecumenism—"unity in faith"—"acknowledgement of the supreme spiritual authority of the bishop of Rome."

Note one or two Protestant moves as Methodist Bishop James K. Matthews's statement, or suggestion by Dr. Tamburro, or *Christian Beacon* statement.

Catholicism Does Not Change (pp. 176–178)

Read GC 571.

Statement of Father Gustave Weigel—*An American Dialogue*.

Statement from *Sunday Visitor*.

Read GC 563.

Repudiation of the Constitution (pp. 178, 179)

Read 5T 451.

Statement in *The Catholic News*.

State Support for Church Institutions (pp. 179, 180)

Read GC 573.

December 10, 1963—Congress authorized grants for educational institutions *including* church-affiliated colleges.

Mr. Justice Douglas's statement.

Sunday Laws Disguised (pp. 180–182)

Read 5T 452.

Supreme Court, May 29, 1961, declared Sunday laws constitutional because they are civil, not religious.

Dr. Forney's statement, March 1961.

Proclamation of the Sabbath Truth (pp. 182, 183)

Read MS 16, 1890.

Sunday legislation and agitation opportunity to proclaim Sabbath more fully.

Story of Pastor Merle Mills.

Statement of Rev. Frank Brassington.

An Opportunity for Evangelism (pp. 183, 184)

Read 9T 51.

Evangelist to go where Sunday issue agitated—e.g. Shreveport, Louisiana, referendum on Sunday ordinance.

Religious Amendment to the Constitution (pp. 184, 185)

Read quotations from Mrs. E. G. White.

Many bills following Supreme Court ruling on prayer in public schools.

Religious Observances Enforced by Law (p. 186)

Read GC 581.

Massachusetts amendment, 1962, permitting freedom of religion killed by Catholic pressure.

Children of God Called Enemies of Law and Order (p. 187)

Read GC 592.

Statements by Cardinal Cushing and Methodist Bishop Reed.

Satan Attempts to Make It Impossible to Keep the Sabbath (pp. 187, 188)

Read Satan's statement as quoted in PK 184.

Pope John's statement claiming Sunday a Roman institution.

Conclusion (p. 189)

This is the hour of fulfilled prophecy.

As God's heralds, let us give His message with a mighty voice.