

Close of Probation

Revelation 22:11 He that is **unjust**, *let him be unjust still*: and he which is **filthy**, *let him be filthy still*: and he that is **righteous**, *let him be righteous still*: and he that is **holy**, *let him be holy still*.

Matthew 24:36 But of **that day and hour knoweth no man**, no, not the angels of heaven, **but My Father only**.

Matthew 24:37 But ***as the days of Noah*** were, ***so shall also the coming of the Son of man be***.

Matthew 24:38 For as **in the days** that were **before** the flood they were **eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark**,

Matthew 24:39 **and knew not until the flood came**, and took them all away; ***so shall also the coming of the Son of man be***.

Luke 19:41 Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it,

Luke 19:42 saying, "**If you had known**, even you, especially **in this your day, the things** that make for your peace! But ***now they are hidden from your eyes***.

Luke 19:43 For days will come upon you when **your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side,**

Luke 19:44 and **level you, and your children within you, to the ground**; and they will **not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation**."

- Jeremiah 5:21 Hear now this, O **foolish people**, and **without understanding**; which **have eyes**, and **see not**; which **have ears**, and **hear not**:
- Jeremiah 5:23 But **this people hath a revolting** and a **rebellious heart**; they are **revolted and gone**.
- Jeremiah 5:24 **Neither say they in their heart, Let us now fear the LORD our God, that giveth rain**, both the **former and the latter**, in His season: **He reserveth unto us the appointed weeks of the harvest**.
- Jeremiah 5:25 **Your iniquities have turned away these things**, and **your sins have withholden good things** from you.
- Matthew 13:39 ...the **harvest** is the **end of the world**...
- Luke 19:42 saying, **If you had known**, even you, especially in this your day, **the things that make for your peace!** But now they are hidden from your eyes.
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But the time comes when the last appeal of Noah is made to the guilty race. He bids them yet once again heed the message of warning and find refuge in the ark. He stretches out his hands in supplication with voice full of sympathy. With quivering lip and tearful eye, he tells them his work is done, but the loud, coarse mocking and scoffs and insults more determined are heaped upon Noah. Enthusiast, fanatic, crazy, falls upon his ear. He bids them all farewell, he and his family enter the ark, and **God shut the door. That door that shut Noah in, shut out the world.** It was a **shut door in Noah's time**. And the Lord shut him in. Up to that time, **God had opened a door whereby the inhabitants of the old world might find refuge if they believed the message sent to them from God**. But **that door was now shut and no man could open it.** **Probation was ended.** {TDG 235.3} August 14

- Revelation 3:7 And to the angel of the **church in Philadelphia** write; These things saith He that is holy... He that **openeth**, and **no man shutteth**; and **shutteth**, and **no man openeth**;
- Revelation 3:8 ***I know thy works***: behold, I have set before thee an **open door**, and **no man can shut it**...

There was a **shut door in Noah's time**. There was a **shut door to the unbelievers in the destruction of Sodom, but an open door to Lot**. There was a **shut door to the inhabitants of Tyrus, a shut door to the inhabitants of Jerusalem** ... who disbelieved, **but an open door to the humble, the believing, those who obeyed God. Thus it will be at the end of time.**

{TDG 235.5} August 14

But Judas was not yet wholly hardened. Even after he had twice pledged himself to betray the Saviour, there was opportunity for repentance. At the Passover supper Jesus proved His divinity by revealing the traitor's purpose. He tenderly included Judas in the ministry to the disciples. **But the last appeal of love was unheeded. Then the case of Judas was decided**, and the feet that Jesus had washed went forth to the betrayer's work. {DA 720.3} Chapter 76 Judas

Judas now cast himself at the feet of Jesus, acknowledging Him to be the Son of God, and entreating Him to deliver Himself. The Saviour did not reproach His betrayer. He knew that **Judas did not repent; his confession was forced from his guilty soul by an awful sense of condemnation and a looking for of judgment**, but **he felt no deep, heartbreaking grief** that he had betrayed the spotless Son of God, and denied the Holy One of Israel. Yet Jesus spoke no word of condemnation. He looked pityingly upon Judas, and said, **For this hour came I into the world**. {DA 722.2} Chapter 76 Judas

Luke 12:39 But know this, that if the **master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched** and not allowed his house to be broken into.

Luke 12:40 **Therefore you also be ready**, for the **Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect**.

1 Thessalonians 5:4 But **ye, brethren, *are not in darkness***, that **that day should overtake you as a thief**.

Luke 21:29 ...Look at the fig tree, and all the **trees**.

Luke 21:30 **When they are already budding, *you see and know*** for yourselves that **summer is now near**.

Luke 21:31 **So you also, when you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near**.

Jeremiah 8:20 The **harvest is past**, the **summer is ended**, and ***we are not saved***.

Many have in a great measure failed to receive the former rain. They have not obtained all the benefits that God has thus provided for them. They expect that the lack will be supplied by the latter rain. When the richest abundance of grace shall be bestowed, they intend to open their hearts to receive it. They are making a terrible mistake. The **work that God has begun in the human heart in giving His light and knowledge must be continually going forward.** Every individual must realize his own necessity. The **heart must be emptied of every defilement and cleansed** for the indwelling of the Spirit. It was **by the confession and forsaking of sin,** by **earnest prayer and consecration** of themselves to God, that the early disciples prepared for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost. **The same work, only in greater degree, must be done now.** Then the human agent had only to ask for the blessing, and wait for the Lord to perfect the work concerning him. It is **God who began the work,** and **He will finish His work, making man complete in Jesus Christ.** But there must be no neglect of the grace represented by the former rain. **Only those who are living up to the light they have will receive greater light. Unless we are daily advancing** in the exemplification of the active Christian virtues, **we shall not recognize the manifestations of the Holy Spirit in the latter rain. It may be falling on hearts all around us, but we shall not discern or receive it... If we do not progress, if we do not place ourselves in an attitude to receive both the former and the latter rain, we shall lose our souls,** and the **responsibility will lie at our own door.** {TM 507.1-2} Chapter 71
Pray for the Latter Rain

- Ezekiel 9:3 Now the glory of the **God** of Israel **had gone up** from the cherub, where it had been, **to the threshold of the temple.** And He called to the man clothed with linen, who had the writer's inkhorn at his side;
- Ezekiel 9:4 and the LORD said to him, "**Go through the midst of the city,** through the midst of **Jerusalem,** and **put a mark on the foreheads** of the men **who sigh and cry over all the abominations** that are done within it."
- Ezekiel 9:5 To the others He said in my hearing, "Go after him through the city and **kill; do not let your eye spare, nor have any pity.**
- Ezekiel 9:6 **Utterly slay old and young men, maidens and little children and women;** but **do not come near anyone on whom is the mark;** and **begin at My sanctuary.**" So **they began with the elders** who were before the temple.

1 Peter 4:17 For the **time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God**; and if it begins with us first, ***what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God?***

Revelation 14:9 And the **third angel** followed them, saying with a loud voice, **If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand**

I saw that God had children who do not see and keep the Sabbath. ***They have not rejected the light upon it.*** And **at the commencement of the time of trouble**, we were **filled with the Holy Ghost** as we went forth and **proclaimed the Sabbath more fully.** {EW 33.2}

The day of God is right upon us. The world has converted the church. *Both are in harmony,* and are acting on a short-sighted policy. **Protestants will work upon the rulers of the land to make laws** to restore the lost ascendancy of the man of sin, who sits in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. **Roman Catholic principles will be taken under the care and protection of the state.** This **national apostasy will speedily be followed by national ruin.**

{RH June 15, 1897, par. 10} The Two Classes

The **time of God's destructive judgments is the time of mercy for those who have no opportunity to learn what is truth.** Tenderly will the Lord look upon them. His heart of mercy is touched; ***His hand is still stretched out to save, while the door is closed to those who would not enter.*** **Large numbers will be admitted who in these last days hear the truth for the first time.** {7BC 979.3}

Matthew 25:1 Then the **kingdom of heaven** shall be likened to **ten virgins** who took their lamps and **went out to meet the bridegroom.**

Matthew 25:5 But while the **bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept.**

Matthew 25:6 And ***at midnight a cry was heard: 'Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!'***

We are fast approaching the close of our probation. Let every soul inquire, How do I stand before God? **We know not how soon our names may be taken into the lips of Christ, and our cases be finally decided.** {1SM 125.3} We Are in the Day of Atonement

The coming of Christ as our high priest to the most holy place, for the **cleansing of the sanctuary**, brought to view in Daniel 8:14; the coming of the Son of man to the Ancient of Days, as presented in Daniel 7:13; and the coming of the Lord to His temple, foretold by Malachi, are descriptions of the same event; and **this is also represented by the coming of the bridegroom to the marriage, described by Christ in the parable of the ten virgins**, of Matthew 25.

{GC 426.1} Chapter 24 In the Holy of Holies

Matthew 25:10 And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and *those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut.*

His hand is still stretched out to save, while the door is closed to those who would not enter.

{7BC 979.3}

We are living in the time of the end. The fast-fulfilling signs of the times declare that the coming of Christ is near at hand. The days in which we live are solemn and important. The **Spirit of God is gradually but surely being withdrawn from the earth. Plagues and judgments are already falling** upon the despisers of the grace of God. The calamities by land and sea, the unsettled state of society, the alarms of war, are portentous. They forecast approaching events of the greatest magnitude. The agencies of evil are combining their forces and consolidating. They are strengthening for the last great crisis. **Great changes are soon to take place in our world**, and the **final movements will be rapid ones**. {9T 11.1-2}

Matthew 24:6 And you will hear of **wars and rumors of wars**. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

Matthew 24:7 For **nation will rise against nation**, and **kingdom against kingdom**. And there will be **famines, pestilences, and earthquakes** in various places.

Matthew 24:8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.

Matthew 24:9 **Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you**, and you will be **hated by all nations for My name's sake**.

Revelation 14:1 And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Zion, and with Him an **hundred forty and four thousand**, **having His Father's name written in their foreheads**.

The condition of things in the world shows that troubulous times are right upon us. The daily papers are full of indications of a terrible conflict in the near future. **Bold robberies** are of frequent occurrence. **Strikes** are common. **Thefts and murders** are committed on every hand. **Men possessed of demons** are taking the lives of men, women, and little children. Men have become **infatuated with vice**, and **every species of evil prevails**. {9T 11.3}

Genesis 6:5 And GOD saw that the **wickedness of man was great in the earth**, and that **every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually**.

Matthew 24:37 But **as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be**.

The world is to be no criterion for us. **Great changes are very soon to take place in our world**, and the **final movements will be rapid ones**. Agencies from beneath have been set in operation by the powers of darkness, and they are working in secrecy and have advanced **faster than any of us have calculated**. Satan, with his whole confederacy of evil, is stirred to intense fervor, and **plans that have been made only wait a favorable moment for open development**. All things are getting into a state of readiness, and **while those who believe have been contending over little matters, drawing apart from each other**, each seeking to have and vindicate his own way, the powers of evil have been strengthening for the last great crisis. {Lt 21a, 1892, par. 10}

Zechariah 7:7 Should you not have **obeyed the words which the LORD proclaimed through the former prophets** when Jerusalem and the cities around it were inhabited and prosperous, and the South and the Lowland were inhabited?

Zechariah 7:11 But **they refused to heed, shrugged their shoulders, and stopped their ears so that they could not hear**.

Zechariah 7:12 Yes, they made their hearts like flint, refusing to hear the law and the words which the LORD of hosts had sent by His Spirit through the former prophets. Thus great wrath came from the LORD of hosts.

The Lord has shown me the danger of letting our minds be filled with worldly thoughts and cares. I saw that some minds are led away from present truth and a love of the Holy Bible by reading other exciting books; others are filled with perplexity and care for what they shall eat, drink, and wear. **Some are looking too far off for the coming of the Lord**. Time has continued a few years longer than they expected; therefore they think it may continue a few years more, and in this way **their minds are being led from present truth**, out after the world. In these things I saw great danger; for **if the mind is filled with other things, present truth is shut out, and there is no place in our foreheads for the seal of the living God**. I saw that the **time for Jesus to be in the most holy place was nearly finished** and that **time can last but a very little longer**. What *leisure time* we have should be spent in searching the Bible, which is to judge us in the last day. {EW 58.1} Duty in View of the Time of Trouble

Revelation 7:1 And after these things I saw **four angels** standing on the **four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth**, that the **wind should not blow** on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree.

Revelation 7:2 And I saw another angel ascending from the east, **having the seal of the living God**: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea,

Revelation 7:3 Saying, **Hurt not the earth**, neither the **sea**, nor the **trees**, **till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads**.

Ezekiel 9:4 and the LORD said to him, "**Go through the midst of the city**, through the midst of **Jerusalem**, and **put a mark on the foreheads** of the men **who sigh and cry over all the abominations** that are done within it."

Ezekiel 9:4 ...**put a mark on the foreheads** of the men **who sigh and cry over all the abominations** that are done...

Jeremiah 5:21 Hear now this, O **foolish people**, and **without understanding**; which **have eyes**, and **see not**; which **have ears**, and **hear not**:

Jeremiah 5:23 But **this people hath a revolting** and a **rebellious heart**; they are **revolted and gone**.

Jeremiah 5:24 **Neither say they in their heart**, Let us now **fear** the LORD our **God**, that giveth **rain**, both the **former and the latter**, in His season...

It may be falling on hearts all around us, but we shall not discern or receive it...

{TM 507.1-2} Chapter 71 Pray for the Latter Rain

Luke 19:42 ...**the things** that make for your peace! But **now they are hidden from your eyes**.

Jeremiah 5:25 **Your iniquities have turned away these things...**

My dear brethren and sisters, **let the commandments of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ be in your minds continually and let them crowd out worldly thoughts and cares.** When you lie down and when you rise up, let them be your meditation. **Live and act wholly in reference to the coming of the Son of man.** **The sealing time is very short,** and **will soon be over.** **Now is the time,** while the four angels are holding the four winds, **to make our calling and election sure.** {EW 58.2} Duty in View of the Time of Trouble

Rightly Dividing Example

- 1 Corinthians 2:13 These things we also speak, **not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.**
- Isaiah 28:9 "Whom will he **teach knowledge**? And whom will he make to **understand the message**? Those just weaned from milk? Those just drawn from the breasts?
- Isaiah 28:10 For **precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept, Line upon line, line upon line, Here a little, there a little.**"
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- 2 Timothy 4:6 For I am already being poured out as a **drink offering**, and the time of **my departure is at hand.**
- 2 Timothy 4:7 I have **fought the good fight**, I have **finished the race**, I have kept the faith.
- Genesis 35:14 So Jacob set up a pillar in the place where He talked with him, a pillar of stone; and he **poured a drink offering** on it, and **he poured oil** on it.

Genesis 35:10 And God said unto him, **Thy name is Jacob: thy name shall not be called any more Jacob, but Israel shall be thy name:** and He called his name **Israel**.

Genesis 35:11 And God said unto him, I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall be of thee, and ***kings shall come out of thy loins;***

Genesis 35:12 And the land which I gave Abraham and Isaac, to thee I will give it, and to thy seed after thee will I give the land.

Genesis 35:13 And God went up from him in the place where He talked with him.

Genesis 35:14 So Jacob set up a pillar in the place where He talked with him, a pillar of stone; and he **poured a drink offering** on it, and **he poured oil** on it.

Numbers 15:5 And the fourth part of an hin of **wine for a drink offering** shalt thou prepare with the burnt offering or sacrifice, for one lamb.

Genesis 49:11 Binding his **foal** unto the **vine**, and his **ass's colt** unto the choice **vine**; he washed his **garments** in **wine**, and his **clothes** in the **blood of grapes**:

Isaiah 49:26 And I will feed them that oppress thee with their own flesh; and they shall be drunken with their own **blood**, as with **sweet wine**

Deuteronomy 12:23 Only be sure that thou eat not the **blood**: for the **blood is the life**; and thou mayest not eat the **life** with the flesh.

Leviticus 17:11 For the **life of the flesh is in the blood**: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the **blood** that maketh an **atonement** for the soul.

1 Samuel 16:13 Then Samuel took the horn of **oil**, and **anointed** him in the midst of his brethren: and the **Spirit of the LORD** came upon David from that day forward.

Genesis 49:11 Binding his **foal** unto the **wine**, and his **ass's colt** unto the choice **wine**; he washed his **garments** in **wine**, and his **clothes** in the **blood of grapes**:

Genesis 49:10 The **sceptre shall not depart from Judah**, nor a **lawgiver from between his feet**, until **Shiloh come**; and unto Him shall the gathering of the people be.

Genesis 49:11 Binding his **foal** unto the **wine**, and his **ass's colt** unto the choice **wine**; he washed his **garments** in **wine**, and his **clothes** in the **blood of grapes**:

Genesis 35:10 ...and **He called his name Israel**.

Genesis 35:11 And God said unto him, I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall be of thee, and **kings shall come out of thy loins**;

John 6:53 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and **drink His blood**, ye have no **life in you**.

Luke 10:33 But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him,

Luke 10:34 And went to him, and **bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine**, and **set him on his own beast**, and **brought him to an inn**, and took care of him.

Daniel 7:23 Thus he said, The fourth **beast** shall be the fourth **kingdom** upon earth...

Matthew 24:37 But *as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.*

Matthew 24:38 For as in the days before the flood, **they** were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark,

Matthew 24:39 and **did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.**

Before His crucifixion the Saviour explained to His disciples that He was to be put to death and to rise again from the tomb, and *angels were present to impress His words on minds and hearts.* But the **disciples were looking for temporal deliverance** from the Roman yoke, and they **could not tolerate the thought** that He in whom all their hopes centered should suffer an ignominious death. **The words which they needed to remember were banished from their minds; and when the time of trial came, it found them unprepared.** The death of Jesus as **fully destroyed their hopes as if He had not forewarned them.** So in the prophecies the **future is opened before us as plainly as it was opened to the disciples by the words of Christ.** The events connected with the **close of probation** and the **work of preparation for the time of trouble, are clearly presented.** But *multitudes have no more understanding of these important truths than if they had never been revealed.* Satan watches to catch away every impression that would make them wise unto salvation, and the time of trouble will find them unready. {GC 594.1} Chapter 37 The Scriptures a Safeguard