

Are You Ready?

Understanding and navigating the very tough times that lie ahead so we can arrive safely at our heavenly home.

3

Presenter Notes Setup

Hide presenter instructions in notes:

Font size for hidden notes:

Font size for restored notes:

1

◀▶

14

◀▶

Save Changes

Presentation Statistics:

Visible Slides (A):

Hidden Slides (B):

Total Slides (A + B):

Total animation clicks from all slides (C):

Total clicks to show all content (A + C):

63

28

91

69

132

Get Stats

3



Click the link under the video to watch the full **Armageddon and the Final Events of Bible Prophecy** video from Amazing Facts.

Are You Ready – Introductory Remarks

Objective and Plan

- Good morning class.
- That is quite a wakeup call.
- That was fiction but is an excellent representation of how Ellen White describes the tribulation which believers will have to navigate.
- That said, today's material is very serious relating to our eternal salvation.
- But Smile!! God loves us and wants His heaven to be full.
*“And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, **that my house may be filled.**” Luke 14:23*
- What does “**compel**” mean? A better word is “**convince** through sharing of the Gospel.
- Today we will study these tough times and how to navigate them to arrive at home.
- Furthermore, this tribulation will have its desired result. Consider Revelation Chapter 7:
“⁹ After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues... ¹⁴ These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.”
- Question: How many of you have close relatives that are not in the kingdom or, at least, not living a life worthy of heaven? **[Pause]** Thus, we should be excited because this tribulation may be the only way that they can be saved. So, can we thank God for these tough times? ... Do I hear an amen?
- But here's a question. Will all in our SDA churches be saved? **[Pause]** What does Ellen White say?
*“It is a solemn statement that I make to the church, that **not one in twenty** whose names are registered upon the church books are prepared to close their earthly history and would be as verily without God and without hope in the world as the common sinner!”*

- ***OUCH!*** Do you think that we have work to do? Want to guess my motive today? Of course! It is the same as the pastor and other speakers: that we will *all* march together into heaven!
- **Question:** if we must go through tough times in order to be saved, will heaven be worth it? [**Ask again if needed to get a response**].
- ***Summary so far:***
 - Unless the Lord chooses that we will sleep and not see those days of evil (See Isaiah 57:1-2), we will have to go through the toughest of times since time began..
 - Heaven is worth more than having to live through the tribulation.
- Thus, to best prepare us for this tribulation:
 - For some short term motivation, we should understand how difficult those days will be. Because “fore-warned” is “fore-armed.” We need to know what to expect.
 - We must know God’s plan on how we can stay true to Christ during those dark days.
- Outline of the message
 - A survey of the prophetic record on life during the tribulation
 - A look at some current events that give us a foretaste of the tribulation.
 - A survey of the prophetic record on how to stay with Jesus.
 - Appeal

Motivation: Internal and External

- When we lay out the characteristics of these last days, our response may be fear.
- Some would say that fear is good as it might motivate us to action.
- But does fear work? Does/did a threat of punishment really motivate your kids. If they were like mine, as long as they thought they could get away with it, there was no fear. We have laws yet very much crime!!
- But fear and any other external motivation **will not last!** It’s like taking a bath: you are clean only for a while.
- Motivation must be internal and internal motivation requires understanding and goals. For believers, this might include:

- Understanding the great price Christ paid for our salvation and a desire to not grieve Him or the Holy Spirit;
- Looking forward to the Lord's return; and more...
- **In summary, today's study is to plant in you thoughts that the Holy Spirit can use to motivate you.**
- **Make sense?**
- **Okay, let's roll**

Testimonies Volume One (White)

Chapter 54—Great Distress Coming

(Emphasis by Ken Culp)

I saw greater distress in the land than we have yet witnessed. I heard groans and cries of distress and saw large companies in active battle. I heard the booming of the cannon, the clash of arms, the hand-to-hand fight, and the groans and prayers of the dying. The ground was covered with the wounded and the dead. I saw desolate, despairing families, and pinching want in many dwellings. Even now many families are suffering want, but this will increase. The faces of many looked haggard, pale, and pinched with hunger.

I was shown that the people of God should be closely united in the bonds of Christian fellowship and love. **God alone can be our shield and strength in this time of our national calamities. The people of God should awake. Their opportunities to spread the truth should be improved, for they will not last long.** I was shown distress and perplexity and famine in the land. Satan is now seeking to hold God's people in a state of inactivity, to keep them from acting their part in spreading the truth, that they may at last be weighed in the balance and found wanting.

God's people must take warning and discern the signs of the times. The signs of Christ's coming are too plain to be doubted, and in view of these things everyone who professes the truth should be a living preacher. God calls upon all, both preachers and people, to awake. All heaven is astir. The scenes of earth's history are fast closing. We are amid the perils of the last days. Greater perils are before us, and yet we are not awake. This lack of activity and earnestness in the cause of God is dreadful. This death stupor is from Satan. He controls the minds of unconsecrated Sabbath keepers, and leads them to be jealous of one another, faultfinding, and censorious. It is his special work to divide hearts that the influence, strength, and labor of God's servants may be kept among unconsecrated Sabbath keepers and their precious time be occupied in settling little differences when it should be spent in proclaiming the truth to unbelievers.

I was shown God's people waiting for some change to take place—a compelling power to take hold of them. But they will be disappointed; for they are wrong. They must act; they must take hold of the work themselves and earnestly cry to God for a true knowledge of themselves. The scenes which are passing before us are of sufficient magnitude to cause us to arouse and urge the truth home to the hearts of all who will listen. The harvest of the earth is nearly ripe.

I was shown how important it is that the ministers who engage in the solemn, responsible work of proclaiming the third angel's message be right. The Lord is not straitened for means or instruments with which to do His own work. He can speak at any time, by whom He will, and His word is powerful and will accomplish the thing whereunto it is sent. But if the truth has not sanctified, made pure and clean, the hands and heart of him who ministers in holy things, he is liable to speak according to

his own imperfect experience; and when he speaks of himself, according to the decisions of his own unsanctified judgment, his counsel is not then of God, but of himself. As he that is called of God is called to be holy, so he that is approved and set apart of men must give evidence of his holy calling and show forth in his heavenly conversation and conduct that he is faithful to Him who hath called him.

There are fearful woes for those who preach the truth, but are [262] not sanctified by it, and also for those who consent to receive and maintain the unsanctified to minister to them in word and doctrine. I am alarmed for the people of God who profess to believe solemn, important truth, for I know that many of them are not converted nor sanctified through it. **Men can hear and acknowledge the whole truth, and yet know nothing of the power of godliness. All who preach the truth will not themselves be saved by it. Said the angel: "Be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the Lord."**

The time has come when those who choose the Lord for their present and future portion must trust in Him alone. Everyone professing godliness must have an experience of his own. The recording angel is making a faithful record of the words and acts of God's people. Angels are watching the development of character and weighing moral worth. **Those who profess to believe the truth should be right themselves and exert all their influence to enlighten and win others to the truth. Their words and works are the channel through which the pure principles of truth and holiness are conveyed to the world. They are the salt of the earth and the light thereof.** I saw that in looking heavenward we shall see light and peace, but in looking to the world we shall see that every refuge must soon fail us and every good soon pass away. **There is no help for us but in God; in this state of earth's confusion we can be composed, strong, or safe, only in the strength of living faith; nor can we be at peace, only as we rest in God and wait for His salvation.** Greater light shines upon us than shone upon our fathers. We cannot be accepted or honored of God in rendering the same service, or doing the same works, that our fathers did. In order to be accepted and blessed of God as they were, we must imitate their faithfulness and zeal,—improve our light as they improved theirs,—and do as they would have done had they lived in our day. We must walk in the light which shines upon us, otherwise that light will become darkness. God requires of us to exhibit to the world, in our character and works, that measure of the spirit of union and oneness which is in accordance with the sacred truths we profess and with the spirit of those prophecies that are fulfilling in these last days. The truth which has reached our understanding, and the light which has shone on the soul, will judge and condemn us, if we turn away and refuse to be led by them.

What shall I say to arouse the remnant people of God?

I was shown that dreadful scenes are before us; Satan and his angels are bringing all their powers to bear upon God's people. He knows that if they sleep a little longer he is sure of them, for their destruction is certain.

I warn all who profess the name of Christ to closely examine themselves and make full and thorough confession of all their wrongs, that they may go beforehand to judgment, and that the recording angel may write pardon opposite their names. My brother, my sister, if these precious moments of mercy are not improved, you will be left without excuse. If you make no special effort to arouse, if you will not manifest zeal in repenting, these golden moments will soon pass, and you will be weighed in the balance and found wanting.

Then your agonizing cries will be of no avail. Then will apply the words of the Lord: "Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out My hand, and no man regarded; but ye have set at nought all My counsel, and would none of My reproof: I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; when your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. Then shall they call upon Me, but I will not answer; they shall seek Me early, but they shall not find Me: for that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the Lord: they would none of My counsel: they despised all My reproof. Therefore, shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices. For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them. ***But whoso hearkens unto Me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.***"

Great Distress Coming.

9

- “God alone can be our shield and strength in this time of our national calamities. The people of God should awake. Their opportunities to spread the truth should be improved, for they will not last long...”



Great Distress Coming.

10

- “I was shown God’s people waiting for some change to take place—a compelling power to take hold of them. But they will be disappointed; for they are wrong. They must act; they must take hold of the work themselves and earnestly cry to God for a true **knowledge of themselves...**”



Great Distress Coming.

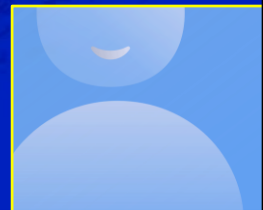
11

“I warn all who profess the name of Christ to closely examine themselves and make full and thorough confession of all their wrongs, that they may go beforehand to judgment, and that the recording angel may write “**pardon**” opposite their names. My brother, my sister, if these precious moments of mercy are not improved, you will be left without excuse. If you make no special effort to arouse, **if you will not manifest zeal in repenting, these golden moments will soon pass, and you will be weighed in the balance *and found wanting!*”**



Crises in Nature

The following slides show real and recent events.





Aerial footage reveals scale of destruction in La Guaira



00:00

00:30









1x



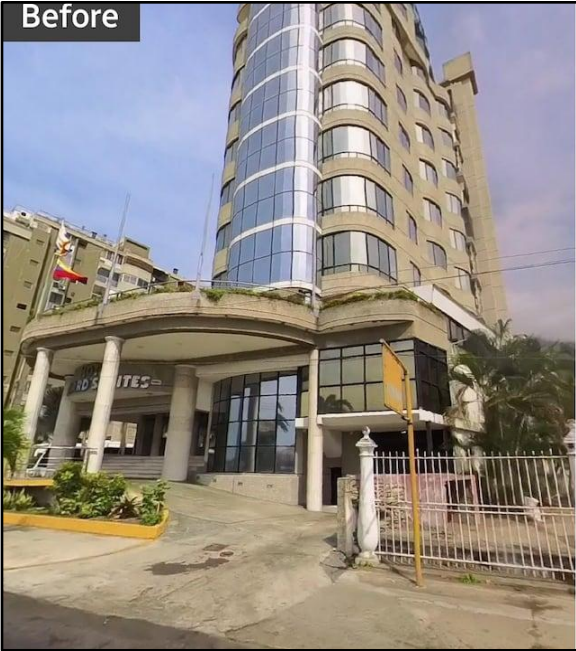




<https://www.bbc.com/news/videos/ce8k6rrz532o>







18





***** Take Note: *****

- One of the most frightening things about the last days is that hospitals and medical care will be destroyed and what remains will be severely overloaded. The wounded will be lying outside in the city crying for help and there is no one to help.
- It is easy to understand how men might seek death in this situation; might cry out for the rocks to fall on them.















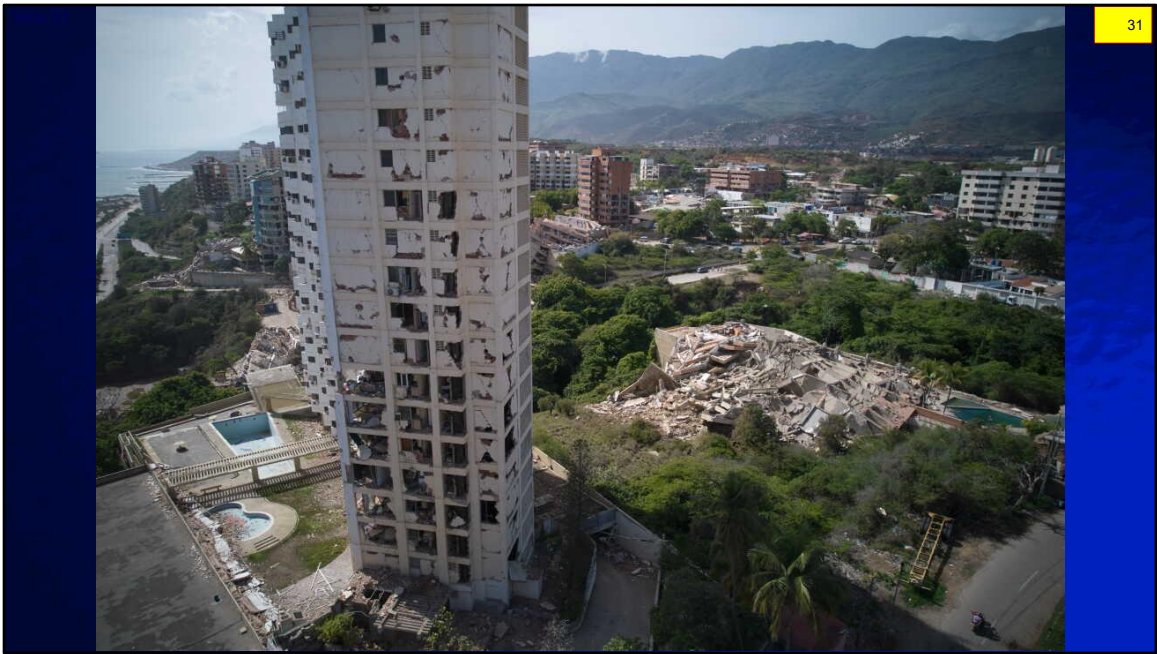
Venezuela

- Death toll: 6,500
- Missing: 40,000
- Damage/Loss: \$20 billion
- Years to normal again: 10-20













Colombia

- Death toll: 169
- Lives affected: 282,000
- Damage/Loss: \$13 billion
- Years to normal: 2-4 years







<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3sAJbsxhnbq>

WARNING!!

- We can watch this silent video which shows extremely violent images where the mud slide and flood kills about a 1000 people in Nepal.



















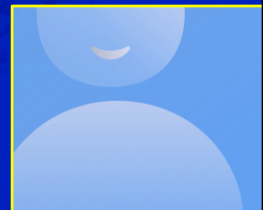
Nepal

- Death toll: 1252 and counting
- Missing: 4,200 and counting
- Damage/Loss: \$4-5 billion
- Buildings lost: 20,000
- Years to normal: 3-5 years



Totals Just These 3

- Death toll: 8,000 and counting
- Missing: 20,000 and counting
- Damage/Loss: \$36 billion
- Lives affected: >3 million



Rebuilding?

- Normal will not return from here on!
- Puerto Rico 9 years later
- Gulf Coast after Katrina
- The “Time of Little Jacob’s Trouble” appears to be upon us with disaster piled on disaster.











A Little Time of Jacob's Trouble

A Compilation of EGW's Writings About

Disasters Prior to the Close of Probation

(Created by the EGW Estate after 9/11/2001)

Conflicts in the Last Days (Notes from the EGW Estate)

The terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11, 2001, brought shock and horror to the citizens of the United States of America and to many others. The sympathies and prayers of Seventh-day Adventists are with all who have been affected by the tragic happenings of that day. In view of those events, we are reminded of what Ellen White wrote concerning the need to share the good news of the Gospel and Christ's soon return to the millions who live and work in our world's large cities--many of whom are spiritually unprepared for the troubles and destruction coming on the world in the last days.

Contrary to unsubstantiated reports, Ellen White made no prediction concerning the destruction of a twin-towered building in New York or any other place in the world. She did foresee great disasters of various kinds resulting in the loss of magnificent buildings and many lives in the large cities before Jesus' return. She spoke of demonic forces exercising their power in earthquakes, fires, and other calamities. She also warned that the time will come when defiant rejection of God's Spirit will result in the complete removal of His restraining power over such destructive elements in the earth.

Due to the many inquiries received by the Ellen G. White Estate since the devastating events of September 11, we have gathered some of Ellen White's statements on the general topic of conflicts in the last days, mostly as found in the compilation *Last Day Events* and the devotional book *Maranatha*. ***This collection has been prepared with no attempt to make any specific application to recent events, places, or individuals.*** But it should remind us of our own need to be ready continually for Christ's soon return and of our responsibility to help others also to be prepared. At the end of this document is a link to a chapter from *Last Day Events* which focuses on how to prepare spiritually for the end times.

Warning and Assurance from Jesus

Christ upon the Mount of Olives rehearsed the fearful judgments that were to precede His second coming: "Ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: . . . Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows" [Matt. 24:6-8]. While these prophecies received a partial fulfillment at the destruction of Jerusalem, they have a more direct application in the last days.--*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 753 (1899).

The terrible reports we hear of murders and robberies, of railway accidents and deeds of violence, tell the story that the end of all things is at hand. Now, just now, we need to be preparing for the Lord's second coming.--Letter 308, 1907 (*Last Day Events*, p. 23).

The nations are in unrest. Times of perplexity are upon us. Men's hearts are failing them for fear of the things that are coming upon the earth. But those who believe in God will hear His voice amid the storm, saying, "It is I; be not afraid."--*Signs of the Times*, Oct. 9, 1901.

Wars and Disasters

The tempest is coming and we must get ready for its fury by having repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord will arise to shake terribly the earth. We shall see troubles on all sides. Thousands of ships will be hurled into the depths of the sea. Navies will go down, and human lives will be sacrificed by millions. Fires will break out unexpectedly and no human effort will be able to quench them. The palaces of earth will be swept away in the fury of the flames. Disasters by rail will become more and more frequent. Confusion, collision, and death without a moment's warning will occur on the great lines of travel. The end is near; probation is closing. Oh, let us seek God while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near!--*Messages to Young People*, pp. 89, 90 (1890).

In the last scenes of this earth's history war will rage. There will be pestilence, plague, and famine. The waters of the deep will overflow their boundaries. Property and life will be destroyed by fire and flood. We should be preparing for the mansions that Christ has gone to prepare for them that love Him.--*Maranatha*, p. 174 (1897).

Calamities Serve as Warnings

We are not now able to describe with accuracy the scenes to be enacted in our world in the future, but we do know that this is a time when we must watch unto prayer, for the great day of the Lord is at hand. --*Selected Messages*, book 2, p. 35 (1901).

What means the awful calamities by sea-vessels hurled into eternity without a moment's warning? What means the accidents by land--fire consuming the riches that men have hoarded, much of which has been accumulated by oppression of the poor? The Lord will not interfere to protect the property of those who transgress His law, break His covenant, and trample upon His Sabbath, accepting in its place a spurious rest day.

The plagues of God are already falling upon the earth, sweeping away the most costly structures as if by a breath of fire from heaven. Will not these judgments bring professing Christians to their senses? God permits them to come that the world may take heed, that sinners may be afraid and tremble before Him.--*Manuscript Releases*, vol. 3, p. 311 (1902).

Coming Events Are in the Hands of the Lord

The world is not without a ruler. The program of coming events is in the hands of the Lord. The Majesty of heaven has the destiny of nations as well as the concerns of His church in His own charge.--*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 753 (1889).

These symbolical representations [the fiery serpents in the wilderness] serve a double purpose. From them God's people learn not only that the physical forces of the earth are under the control of the Creator, but also that under His control are the religious movements of the nations. Especially is this true with reference to the enforcement of Sunday observance.--*Manuscript Releases*, vol. 19, p. 281 (1902).

In the great closing work, we shall meet with perplexities that we know not how to deal with, but let us not forget that the three great Powers of heaven are working, that a divine hand is on the wheel, and that God will bring His purposes to pass.--*Evangelism*, p. 65 (1902).

In the annals of human history, the growth of nations, the rise and fall of empires, appear as if dependent on the will and prowess of man; the shaping of events seems,

to a great degree, to be determined by his power, ambition, or caprice. But in the Word of God the curtain is drawn aside, and we behold, above, behind, and through all the play and counterplay of human interest and power and passions, the agencies of the All-merciful One, silently, patiently working out the counsels of His own will.--*Prophets and Kings*, pp. 499, 500 (c. 1914).

Judgments Coming on the Cities

Terrible shocks will come upon the earth, and the lordly palaces erected at great expense will certainly become heaps of ruins.--*Manuscript Releases*, vol. 3, p. 312 (1891).

When God's restraining hand is removed, the destroyer begins his work. Then in our cities the greatest calamities will come.--*Manuscript Releases*, vol. 3, p. 314 (1897).

The end is near and every city is to be turned upside down every way. There will be confusion in every city. Everything that can be shaken is to be shaken and we do not know what will come next. The judgments will be according to the wickedness of the people and the light of truth that they have had.--*Manuscript Releases*, vol. 1, p. 248 (1902).

O that God's people had a sense of the impending destruction of thousands of cities, now almost given to idolatry.--*Evangelism*, p. 29 (1903).

The time is near when large cities will be swept away, and all should be warned of these coming judgments.--*Evangelism*, p. 29 (1910).

Catastrophe-proof Buildings Will Become Ashes

I have seen the most costly structures in buildings erected and supposed to be fireproof, and just as Sodom perished in the flames of God's vengeance so will these proud structures become ashes. The flattering monuments of men's greatness will be crumbled in the dust even before the last great destruction comes upon the world.--*Selected Messages*, book 3, p. 418 (1901).

Men will continue to erect expensive buildings, costing millions of money. Special attention will be called to their architectural beauty and the firmness and solidity with which they are constructed, but the Lord has instructed me that despite the unusual

firmness and expensive display, these buildings will share the fate of the temple in Jerusalem.--Ellen G. White Comments, *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 5, p. 1098 (1906).

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. .

The scene that next passed before me was an alarm of fire. Men looked at the lofty and supposedly fireproof 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 for the Church*, vol. 9, pp. 12, 13 (1909).

Specific Warnings Regarding New York City at the End of Time

I have no light in particular in regard to what is coming on New York, only that I know that one day the great buildings there will be thrown down by the turning and overturning of God's power. . . . Death will come in all places. This is why I am so anxious for our cities to be warned.--*Review and Herald*, July 5, 1906.

[God's] hand is stretched out [in mercy] still. His message must be given in Greater New York. The people must be shown how it is possible for God, by a touch of His hand, to destroy the property they have gathered together against the last great day.--*Manuscript Releases*, vol. 3, pp. 310, 311 (1902).

Angels are Holding the Winds

The prophet 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." Another angel, ascending from the east, cried to them, saying, "Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads." This points out the work we now have to do, which is to cry to God for the angels to hold the four winds until missionaries shall be sent to all parts of the world, and shall have proclaimed the warning against disobeying the law of Jehovah.--*Review and Herald* Extra, Dec. 11, 1888.

I asked my accompanying angel the meaning of what I heard, and what the four angels were about to do. He said to me that it was God that restrained the powers, and that He gave His angels charge over things on the earth; that the four angels had power from God to hold the four winds, and that they were about to let them go; but while their hands were loosening, and the four winds were about to blow, the merciful eye of Jesus gazed on the remnant that were not sealed, and He raised His hands to the Father and pleaded with Him that He had spilled His blood for them. Then another angel was commissioned to fly swiftly to the four angels and bid them hold, until the servants of God were sealed with the seal of the living God in their foreheads.--*Early Writings*, p. 38.

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.--*Early Writings*, p. 58.

God's Judgments are Coming

The signs of the times give evidence that the judgments of heaven are being poured out, that the day of the Lord is at hand. The daily papers are full of indications of an intense conflict in the future. Bold robberies are of frequent occurrence. Strikes are common. Thefts and murders are committed on every hand. Men possessed by demons are taking the lives of men, women, and little children. All these things testify that the Lord's coming is near.

The restraining Spirit of God is even now being withdrawn from the world. Hurricanes, storms, tempests, disasters by sea and by land follow one another in quick succession. The signs thickening around us, telling of the near approach of the Son of

God, are attributed to any other than the true cause.

The time is right upon us when there will be sorrow in the world that no human balm can heal. Even before the last great destruction comes upon the world, the flattering monuments of man's greatness will be crumbled in the dust. God's retributive judgments will fall on those who in the face of great light have continued in sin. Costly buildings, supposed to be fireproof, are erected. But as Sodom perished in the flames of God's vengeance, so will these proud structures become ashes. I have seen vessels which cost immense sums of money wrestling with the mighty ocean, seeking to breast the angry billows. But with all their treasures of gold and silver, and with all their human freight, they sank into a watery grave.... But amid the tumult of excitement, with confusion in every place, there is a work to be done for God in the world.--*Maranatha*, p. 175.

We Must Improve the Time

As yet the four winds are held until the servants of God shall be sealed in their foreheads. Then the powers of earth will marshal their forces for the last great battle. How carefully we should improve the little remaining period of our probation!

Minds that have been given up to loose thought need to change. . . . The thoughts must be centered upon God. Now is the time to put forth earnest effort to overcome the natural tendencies of the carnal heart.--*Maranatha*, p. 243.

We are standing on the threshold of great and solemn events. Prophecies are fulfilling. Strange and eventful history is being recorded in the books of heaven--events which it was declared should shortly precede the great day of God. Everything in the world is in an unsettled state. The nations are angry, and great preparations for war are being made. Nation is plotting against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. The great day of God is hasting greatly. But although the nations are mustering their forces for war and bloodshed, the command to the angels is still in force, that they hold the four winds until the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads--*Selected Messages*, book 1, pp. 221, 222.

This is the work that the Lord would have every soul prepared to do at this time, when the four angels are holding the four winds, that they shall not blow until the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads. There is no time now for self-pleasing. The lamps of the soul must be trimmed. They must be supplied with the oil of grace.

Every precaution must be taken to prevent spiritual declension, lest the great day of the Lord overtakes us as a thief in the night. Every witness for God is now to work intelligently in the lines which God has appointed. We should daily obtain a deep and living experience in the work of perfecting Christian character. We should daily receive the holy oil that we may impart to others. All may be light bearers to the world if they will. We are to sink self out of sight in Jesus. We are to receive the word of the Lord in counsel and instruction, and gladly communicate it. There is now need of much prayer. Christ commands, "Pray without ceasing;" that is, keep the mind uplifted to God, the source of all power and efficiency.--*Testimonies to Ministers*, pp. 510, 511.

Summer is Near!

This life at best is but the Christian's winter; and the bleak winds of winter--disappointments, losses, pain, and anguish--are our lot here; but our hopes are reaching forward to the Christian's summer, when we shall change climate, leave all the wintry blasts and fierce tempests behind, and be taken to those mansions Jesus has gone to prepare for those that love Him.--*Life Sketches of Ellen G. White*, pp. 239, 240.

There, immortal minds will contemplate with never-failing delight the wonders of creative power, the mysteries of redeeming love. There will be no cruel, deceiving foe to tempt to forgetfulness of God. Every faculty will be developed, every capacity increased. The acquirement of knowledge will not weary the mind or exhaust the energies. There the grandest enterprises may be carried forward, the loftiest aspirations reached, the highest ambitions realized; and still there will arise new heights to surmount, new wonders to admire, new truths to comprehend, fresh objects to call forth the powers of mind and soul and body.

All the treasures of the universe will be open to the study of God's redeemed. Unfettered by mortality, they wing their tireless flight to worlds afar--worlds that thrilled with sorrow at the spectacle of human woe and rang with songs of gladness at the tidings of a ransomed soul. With unutterable delight the children of earth enter into the joy and the wisdom of unfallen beings. They share the treasures of knowledge and understanding gained through ages upon ages in contemplation of God's handiwork. With undimmed vision they gaze upon the glory of creation--suns and stars and systems, all in their appointed order circling the throne of Deity. Upon all things, from the least to the greatest, the Creator's name is written, and in all are the riches of His

power displayed.

And the years of eternity, as they roll, will bring richer and still more glorious revelations of God and of Christ. As knowledge is progressive, so will love, reverence, and happiness increase. The more men learn of God, the greater will be their admiration of His character. As Jesus opens before them the riches of redemption and the amazing achievements in the great controversy with Satan, the hearts of the ransomed thrill with more fervent devotion, and with more rapturous joy they sweep the harps of gold; and ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands of voices unite to swell the mighty chorus of praise.

"And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying: Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, be unto Him that sits upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever." Revelation 5:13.

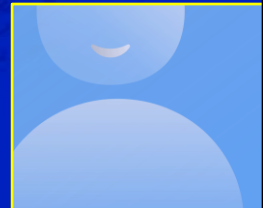
The great controversy is ended. Sin and sinners are no more. The entire universe is clean. One pulse of harmony and gladness beats through the vast creation. From Him who created all, flow life and light and gladness, throughout the realms of illimitable space. From the minutest atom to the greatest world, all things, animate and inanimate, in their unshadowed beauty and perfect joy, declare that God is love.--*The Great Controversy*, pp. 677, 678.

Updated Sept. 28, 2001

A Little Time of Jacob's Trouble

55

- Ellen White didn't specifically single out New York.
- She spoke of demonic forces exercising their power in earthquakes, fires, and other calamities.
- She also warned that the time will come when defiant rejection of God's Spirit will result in the complete removal of His restraining power over such destructive elements in the earth.



A Little Time of Jacob's Trouble

56

Some Excerpts from the article.



A Little Time of Jacob's Trouble

57

- The tempest is coming and we must get ready for its fury by having repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.
- The Lord will arise to shake terribly the earth.
- We shall see troubles on all sides.



A Little Time of Jacob's Trouble

58

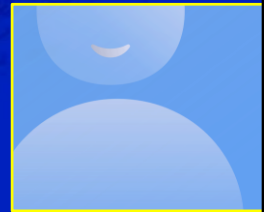
- “**Thousands** of ships will be hurled into the depths of the sea.”
- “Navies will go down, and human lives will be sacrificed by **millions.**”
- “Fires will break out unexpectedly and no human effort will be able to quench them.”
- “Palaces of earth are swept away in the flames.” --*Signs of the Times*, Oct. 9, 1901.



A Little Time of Jacob's Trouble

59

- “In the last scenes of this earth's history war will rage. There will be pestilence, plague, and famine. The waters of the deep will overflow their boundaries. Property and life will be destroyed by fire and flood.”
- “**We should prepare** for the mansions that Christ has gone to prepare for them that love Him.” --Maranatha, p. 174 (1897).

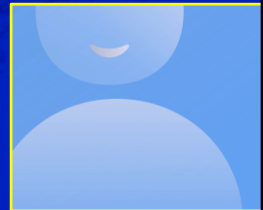


A Little Time of Jacob's Trouble

60

“The plagues of God are already falling upon the earth, sweeping away the most costly structures as if by a breath of fire from heaven. Will not these judgments bring professing Christians to their senses? **God permits them to come that the world may take heed**, that sinners may be afraid and tremble before Him.”

Manuscript Releases, vol. 3, p. 311 (1902).

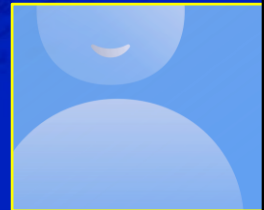


A Little Time of Jacob's Trouble

61

(*Early Writings*, p. 58.)

- “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.”
- “**Live and act wholly in reference to the coming of the Son of man.**”
- “**Now is the time**, while the four angels hold the four winds, to make our calling and election sure.”



Secure with Jesus through End Times

Adapted from *Last Day Events*, pp. 63-74

A Life of Thought and Action

In this age, just prior to the second coming of Christ in the clouds of heaven, such a work as that of John [the Baptist] is to be done. God calls for men who will prepare a people to stand in the great day of the Lord. . . . In order to give such a message as John gave, we must have a spiritual experience like his. The same work must be wrought in us. We must behold God, and in beholding Him lose sight of self.--*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 8, pp. 332, 333 (1904).

Communion with God will ennoble the character and the life. Men will take knowledge of us, as of the first disciples, that we have been with Jesus. This will impart to the worker a power that nothing else can give. Of this power he must not allow himself to be deprived. We must live a twofold life--a life of thought and action, of silent prayer and earnest work.--*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 512 (1905).

Prayer and effort, effort and prayer, will be the business of your life. You must pray as though the efficiency and praise were all due to God, and labor as though duty were all your own.--*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 4, p. 538 (1881).

No man is safe for a day or an hour without prayer.--*The Great Controversy*, p. 530 (1911).

He who does nothing but pray will soon cease to pray.--*Steps to Christ*, p. 101 (1892).

Firmly Rooted In Christ

The storm is coming, the storm that will try every man's faith of what sort it is. Believers must now be firmly rooted in Christ or else they will be led astray by some phase of error.--*Evangelism*, pp. 361, 362 (1905).

It would be well for us to spend a thoughtful hour each day in contemplation of the life of Christ. We should take it point by point and let the imagination grasp each scene, especially the closing ones.--*The Desire of Ages*, p. 83 (1898).

The only defense against evil is the indwelling of Christ in the heart through faith in His righteousness. Unless we become vitally connected with God, we can never resist the unhallowed effects of self-love, self-indulgence, and temptation to sin. We may leave off many bad habits, for the time we may part company with Satan; but without a vital connection with God, through the surrender of ourselves to Him moment by moment, we shall be overcome. Without a personal acquaintance with

Christ, and a continual communion, we are at the mercy of the enemy, and shall do his bidding in the end.--*The Desire of Ages*, p. 324 (1898).

Christ and Him crucified should be the theme of contemplation, of conversation, and of our most joyful emotion.--*Steps to Christ*, pp. 103, 104 (1892).

Molded By The Holy Spirit

Never will the human heart know happiness until it is submitted to be molded by the Spirit of God. The Spirit conforms the renewed soul to the model, Jesus Christ. Through its influence, enmity against God is changed into faith and love, and pride into humility. The soul perceives the beauty of truth, and Christ is honored in excellence and perfection of character.--*Our High Calling*, p. 152 (1896).

There is not an impulse of our nature, not a faculty of the mind or an inclination of the heart, but needs to be, moment by moment, under the control of the Spirit of God.--*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 421 (1890).

The Spirit illumines our darkness, informs our ignorance, and helps us in our manifold necessities. But the mind must be constantly going out after God. If worldliness is allowed to come in, if we have no desire to pray, no desire to commune with Him who is the source of strength and wisdom, the Spirit will not abide with us.--*Our High Calling*, p. 154 (1904).

The Necessity of Bible Study

No renewed heart can be kept in a condition of sweetness without the daily application of the salt of the Word. Divine grace must be received daily, or no man will stay converted.--*Our High Calling*, p. 215 (1897).

Let your faith be substantiated by the Word of God. Grasp firmly the living testimony of truth. Have faith in Christ as a personal Saviour. He has been and ever will be our Rock of Ages.--*Evangelism*, p. 362 (1905).

Christians should be preparing for what is soon to break upon the world as an overwhelming surprise, and this preparation they should make by diligently studying the Word of God and striving to conform their lives to its precepts.--*Prophets and Kings*, p. 626 (c. 1914).

None but those who have fortified the mind with the truths of the Bible will stand through the last great conflict.--*The Great Controversy*, pp. 593, 594 (1911).

Only those who have been diligent students of the Scriptures and who have received the love of the truth will be shielded from the powerful delusion that takes

the world captive.--The Great Controversy, p. 625 (1911).

Our people need to understand the oracles of God; they need to have a systematic knowledge of the principles of revealed truth, which will fit them for what is coming upon the earth and prevent them from being carried about by every wind of doctrine.--*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 273 (1885).

Commit Scripture to Memory

Several times each day precious, golden moments should be consecrated to prayer and the study of the Scriptures, if it is only to commit a text to memory, that spiritual life may exist in the soul.--*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 4, p. 459 (1880).

God's precious Word is the standard for youth who would be loyal to the King of heaven. Let them study the Scriptures. Let them commit text after text to memory and acquire a knowledge of what the Lord has said.--*My Life Today*, p. 315 (1887).

Build a wall of scriptures around you, and you will see that the world cannot break it down. Commit the Scriptures to memory, and then throw right back upon Satan when he comes with his temptations, "It is written." This is the way that our Lord met the temptations of Satan, and resisted them.--*Review and Herald*, April 10, 1888.

Hang in memory's hall the precious words of Christ. They are to be valued far above silver or gold.--*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 6, p. 81 (1900).

Keep a pocket Bible with you as you work, and improve every opportunity to commit to memory its precious promises.--*Review and Herald*, April 27, 1905.

The time will come when many will be deprived of the written Word. But if this Word is printed in the memory, no one can take it from us.--*Manuscript Releases*, vol. 20, p. 64 (1906).

Study the Word of God. Commit its precious promises to memory so that, when we shall be deprived of our Bibles, we may still be in possession of the Word of God.--*Manuscript Releases*, vol. 10, p. 298 (1909).

Revelation 14 an Anchor to God's People

In these last days it is our duty to ascertain the full meaning of the first, second, and third angels' messages. All our transactions should be in accordance with the Word of God. The first, second, and third angels' messages are all united and are revealed in the fourteenth chapter of Revelation from the sixth verse to the close.--*Manuscript Releases*, vol. 13, p. 68 (1896).

Many who embraced the third message had not had an experience in the two

former messages. Satan understood this, and his evil eye was upon them to overthrow them; but the third angel was pointing them to the most holy place, and those who had an experience in the past messages were pointing them the way to the heavenly sanctuary. Many saw the perfect chain of truth in the angels' messages and gladly received them in their order, and followed Jesus by faith into the heavenly sanctuary. These messages were represented to me as an anchor to the people of God. Those who understand and receive them will be kept from being swept away by the many delusions of Satan.--*Early Writings*, p. 256 (1858).

Educate the Mind to Believe God's Word

Those who feel at liberty to question the Word of God, to doubt everything where there is any chance to be unbelieving, will find that it will require a tremendous struggle to have faith when trouble comes. It will be almost impossible to overcome the influence that binds the mind which has been educated in the line of unbelief, for by this course the soul is bound in Satan's snare and becomes powerless to break the dreadful net that has been woven closer and closer about the soul.

In taking a position of doubt, man calls to his aid the agencies of Satan. But the only hope of one who has been educated in the line of unbelief is to fall all helpless upon the Saviour and, like a child, submit his will and his way to Christ that he may be brought out of darkness into His marvelous light. Man does not have the power to recover himself from the snare of Satan. He who educates himself in the line of questioning, doubting, and criticizing strengthens himself in infidelity.--Ms 3, 1895.

Preparation for Future Trials

The servants of Christ are to prepare no set speech to present when brought to trial for their faith. Their preparation is to be made day by day, in treasuring up in their hearts the precious truths of God's Word, in feeding upon the teaching of Christ, and through prayer strengthening their faith; then, when brought into trial, the Holy Spirit will bring to their remembrance the very truths that will reach the hearts of those who shall come to hear. God will flash the knowledge obtained by diligent searching of the Scriptures into their memory at the very time when it is needed.--*Counsels on Sabbath School Work*, pp. 40, 41 (1900).

When the time of trial shall come there are men now preaching to others who will find, upon examining the positions they hold, that there are many things for which they can give no satisfactory reason. Until thus tested they knew not their great ignorance. And there are many in the church who take it for granted that they understand what they believe, but, until controversy arises, they do not know their own weakness. When separated from those of like faith and compelled to stand singly

and alone to explain their belief, they will be surprised to see how confused are their ideas of what they had accepted as truth.--*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 707 (1889).

Control the Moral Powers

The ability to give a reason for our faith is a good accomplishment, but if the truth does not go deeper than this, the soul will never be saved. The heart must be purified from all moral defilement.--*Our High Calling*, p. 142 (1893).

Few realize that it is a duty to exercise control over their thoughts and imaginations. It is difficult to keep the undisciplined mind fixed upon profitable subjects. But if the thoughts are not properly employed, religion cannot flourish in the soul. The mind must be preoccupied with sacred and eternal things, or it will cherish trifling and superficial thoughts. Both the intellectual and the moral powers must be disciplined, and they will strengthen and improve by exercise.--*Our High Calling*, p. 111 (1881).

We greatly need to encourage and cultivate pure, chaste thoughts, and to strengthen the moral powers rather than the lower and carnal powers. God help us to awake from our self-indulgent appetites!--*Medical Ministry*, p. 78 (1896).

The Example of Enoch

Enoch walked with God three hundred years previous to his translation to heaven, and the state of the world was not then more favorable for the perfection of Christian character than it is today. And how did Enoch walk with God? He educated his mind and heart to ever feel that he was in the presence of God, and when in perplexity his prayers would ascend to God to keep him.

He refused to take any course that would offend his God. He kept the Lord continually before him. He would pray, "Teach me Thy way, that I may not err. What is Thy pleasure concerning me? What shall I do to honor Thee, my God?" Thus, he was constantly shaping his way and course in accordance with God's commandments, and he had perfect confidence and trust in his heavenly Father, that He would help him. He had no thought or will of his own. It was all submerged in the will of his Father.

Now Enoch was a representative of those who will be upon the earth when Christ shall come, who will be translated to heaven without seeing death.--*Sermons and Talks*, vol. 1, p. 32 (1886).

Enoch had temptations as well as we. He was surrounded with society no more

friendly to righteousness than is that which surrounds us. The atmosphere he breathed was tainted with sin and corruption the same as ours, yet he lived a life of holiness. He was unsullied with the prevailing sins of the age in which he lived. So may we remain pure and uncorrupted.--*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 2, p. 122 (1868).

Remember God's Past Blessings

In reviewing our past history, having traveled over every step of advance to our present standing, I can say, Praise God! As I see what the Lord has wrought, I am filled with astonishment, and with confidence in Christ as leader. We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history.--*Life Sketches of Ellen G. White*, p. 196 (1902).

A Time for Serious Reflection

If there ever was a time when serious reflection becomes everyone who fears God, it is now, when personal piety is essential. The inquiry should be made, "What am I, and what is my work and mission in this time? On which side am I working--Christ's side or the enemy's side?" Let every soul now humble himself or herself before God, for now we are surely living in the great Day of Atonement. The cases even now of many are passing in review before God, for they are to sleep in their graves a little season. Your profession of faith is not your guarantee in that day, but the state of your affections. Is the soul-temple cleansed of its defilement? Are my sins confessed and am I repenting of them before God, that they may be blotted out? Do I esteem myself too lightly? Am I willing to make any and every sacrifice for the excellency of the knowledge of Jesus Christ? Do I feel every moment I am not my own, but Christ's property, that my service belongs to God, whose I am?--*Ms 87*, 1886.

We should ask ourselves, "For what are we living and working? And what will be the outcome of it all?"--*Signs of the Times*, Nov. 21, 1892.

Living With Reference to the Judgment Day

I have questioned in my mind, as I have seen the people in our cities hurrying to and fro with business, whether they ever thought of the day of God that is just upon us. Every one of us should be living with reference to the great day which is soon to

come upon us.--*Sermons and Talks*, vol. 1, p. 25 (1886).

We cannot afford to live with no reference to the day of judgment; for though it is long delayed, it is now near, even at the door, and hastens greatly. The trumpet of the Archangel will soon startle the living and wake the dead.--*Child Guidance*, pp. 560, 561 (1892).

Ready for Christ's Return

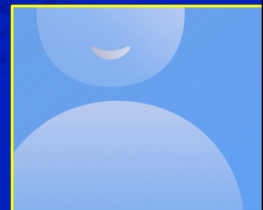
If we find no pleasure now in the contemplation of heavenly things; if we have no interest in seeking the knowledge of God, no delight in beholding the character of Christ; if holiness has no attractions for us--then we may be sure that our hope of heaven is vain. Perfect conformity to the will of God is the high aim to be constantly before the Christian. He will love to talk of God, of Jesus, of the home of bliss and purity which Christ has prepared for them that love Him. The contemplation of these themes, when the soul feasts upon the blessed assurances of God, the apostle represents as tasting "the powers of the world to come."--*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 745 (1889).

If you are right with God today, you are ready if Christ should come today.--*In Heavenly Places*, p. 227 (1891).

Secure with Jesus through End Times

63

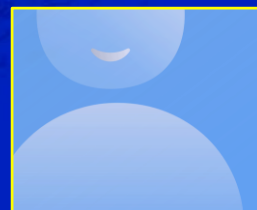
Some Excerpts from the article.



Secure with Jesus through End Times: An outline

64

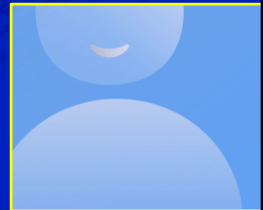
- Praying without ceasing
- You in the Word, the Word in you
- Humbling ourselves before God
- Searching our hearts diligently
- Repenting of all sins before God
- Holding the things of this life loosely
- Staying Prepared



Secure with Jesus through End Times

65

“In this age, just prior to the second coming of Christ in the clouds of heaven, such a work as that of John [the Baptist] is to be done. **God calls for men who will prepare a people to stand in the great day of the Lord.**” --*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 8, pp. 332, 333 (1904).



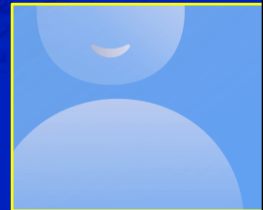
Staying Prepared

Secure with Jesus through End Times

66

“ In order to give such a message as John gave, **we must have a spiritual experience like his**. The same work must be wrought in us. We must behold God, and in beholding Him lose sight of **self.**”

--*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 8, pp. 332, 333 (1904).



Staying Prepared

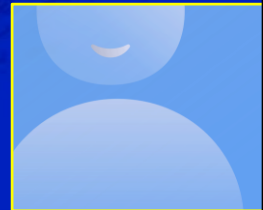
Secure with Jesus through End Times

67

“Prayer and effort, effort and prayer, will be the business of your life. You must pray as though the efficiency and praise were all due to God, and labor as though duty were all your own.”

--*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 4, p. 538 (1881).

Pray without ceasing



[Read Twice]

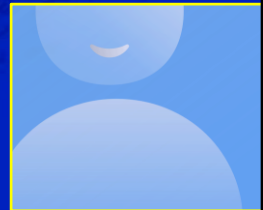
Secure with Jesus through End Times

68

“It would be well for us to spend **a thoughtful hour each day in contemplation of the life of Christ.**

We should take it point by point and let the imagination grasp each scene, especially the closing ones.” --*The Desire of Ages*, p. 83 (1898).

You in the Word, the Word in you



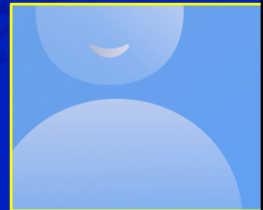
Secure with Jesus through End Times

69

“There is not an impulse of our nature, not a faculty of the mind nor an inclination of the heart, but needs to be, **moment by moment, under the control of the Spirit of God.**”

--*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 421 (1890).

Searching our hearts diligently

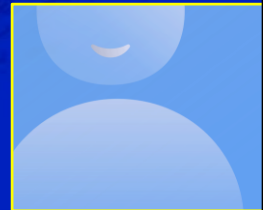


Secure with Jesus through End Times

70

“Never will the human heart know happiness until it is submitted to be molded by the Spirit of God. The Spirit conforms the renewed soul to the model, Jesus Christ. Through its influence, enmity against God is changed into faith and love, and pride into humility.” --*Our High Calling*, p. 152.

Searching our hearts diligently



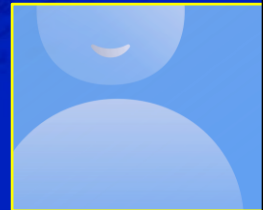
[Read Bold Only]

Secure with Jesus through End Times

71

“No renewed heart can be kept in a condition of sweetness without the **daily application of the salt of the Word. Divine grace must be received daily, or no man will stay converted.**” --*Our High Calling*, p. 215 (1897).

You in the Word, the Word in you



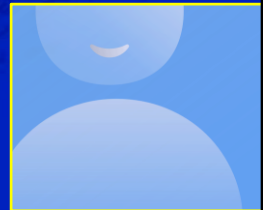
Secure with Jesus through End Times

72

“Christians should be preparing for what is soon to break upon the world **as an overwhelming surprise**, and this preparation they should make by **diligently studying the Word** of God and striving to conform their lives to its precepts.”

--*Prophets and Kings*, p. 626 (c. 1914).

You in the Word, the Word in you



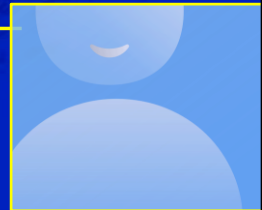
Secure with Jesus through End Times

73

“If there ever was a time when **serious reflection** becomes everyone who fears God, it is now, when personal piety is essential. The inquiry should be made, “What am I, and what is my work and mission in this time? On which side am I working—Christ's side or the enemy's side.”

--Manuscript 87, 1886.

Searching our hearts diligently

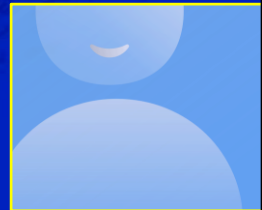


Secure with Jesus through End Times

74

“Let every soul now **humble himself or herself before God**, for now we are surely living in the great Day of Atonement. The cases even now of many are passing in review before God, for they are to sleep in their graves a little season. **Your profession of faith is not your guarantee in that day, but the state of your affections.**” --*Prophets and Kings*, p. 626 (c. 1914).

Humbling ourselves before God

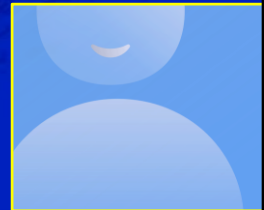


Secure with Jesus through End Times

75

“Is the soul-temple cleansed of its defilement? Are my sins confessed and am I repenting of them before God, that they may be blotted out? Do I esteem myself too lightly?”. --*Manuscript 87, 1886.*

Repenting of all sins before God



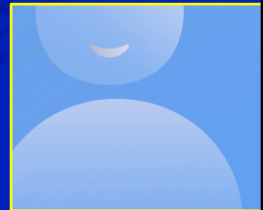
Secure with Jesus through End Times

76

“Am I willing to make any and every sacrifice for the excellency of the knowledge of Jesus Christ? Do I feel every moment I am not my own, but Christ's property, that my service belongs to God, whose I am.”

--*Manuscript 87*, 1886.

Holding things of this life loosely



Testimonies Volume One (White)

Chapter 32—The Shaking

November 20, 1857
(Emphasis by Ken Culp)

I was shown the people of God, and saw them mightily shaken. Some, with strong faith and agonizing cries, were pleading with God. Their countenances were pale, and marked with deep anxiety, expressive of their internal struggle. Firmness and great earnestness were expressed in their countenances, while large drops of perspiration fell from their foreheads. Now and then their faces would light up with the marks of God's approbation, and again the same solemn, earnest, anxious look would settle upon them. [*"Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly: gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders.... Let the priests the ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar and let them say, Spare Thy people, O Lord, and give not Thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, where is their God?"* Joel 2:15-17.

"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye doubleminded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up." James 4:7-10.

*"Gather yourselves together, yea, gather together, O nation not desired; before the decree bring forth, before the day pass as the chaff, before the fierce anger of the Lord come upon you, before the day of the Lord's anger come upon you. Seek ye the Lord, all ye meek of the earth, which have wrought his judgment; seek righteousness, seek meekness: **It may be ye shall be hid in the day of the Lord's anger.**"* Zephaniah 2:1-3.]

Evil angels crowded around them, pressing their darkness upon them, to shut out Jesus from their view, that their eyes might be drawn to the darkness that surrounded them, and they distrust God and next murmur against Him. **Their only safety was in keeping their eyes directed upward.** Angels of God had charge over His people, and as the poisonous atmosphere from the evil angels was pressed around these anxious ones, the heavenly angels were continually wafting their wings over them, to scatter the thick darkness.

Some, I saw, did not participate in this work of agonizing and pleading. They seemed indifferent and careless. They were not resisting the darkness around them, and it shut them in like a thick cloud. The angels of God left these, and I saw them hastening to the assistance of those who were struggling with all their energies to resist the evil angels, **and trying to help themselves by calling upon God with perseverance.** But the angels left those who made no effort to help themselves, and I lost sight of them. As the praying ones continued their earnest cries, a ray of light from Jesus would at times come to them, to encourage their hearts, and light up their

countenances.

I asked the meaning of the shaking I had seen, and was shown that it would be caused by the straight testimony called forth by the counsel of the True Witness to the Laodiceans. This will have its effect upon the heart of the receiver, and will lead him to exalt the standard and pour forth the straight truth. **Some will not bear this straight testimony. They will rise up against it, and this will cause a shaking among God's people.**

The testimony of the True Witness has not been half heeded. **The solemn testimony upon which the destiny of the church hangs has been lightly esteemed, if not entirely disregarded. This testimony must work deep repentance, and all that truly receive it will obey it and be purified.**

Said the angel: "List ye!" Soon I heard a voice that sounded like many musical instruments, all in perfect strains, sweet and harmonious. It surpassed any music I had ever heard. It seemed to be so full of mercy, compassion, and elevating, holy joy. It thrilled through my whole being.

Said the angel: "Look ye!" My attention was then turned to the company I had seen, who were mightily shaken. I was shown those whom I had before seen weeping and praying with agony of spirit. The company of guardian angels around them had been doubled, and they were clothed with an armor from their head to their feet. They moved in exact order, firmly, like a company of soldiers. Their countenances expressed the severe conflict which they had endured, the agonizing struggle they had passed through. Yet their features, marked with severe internal anguish, now shone with the light and glory of heaven. **They had obtained the victory, and it called forth from them the deepest gratitude, and holy, sacred joy.**

The numbers of this company had lessened. Some had been shaken out, and left by the way. [*"I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of My mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked."* Revelation 3:15-17.] **The careless and indifferent, who did not join with those who prized victory and salvation enough to perseveringly plead and agonize for it, did not obtain it, and they were left behind in darkness, but their numbers were immediately made up by others taking hold of the truth and coming into the ranks.** Still the evil angels pressed around them, but they could have no power over them. [*"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. [Or, "Wicked spirits in heavenly places," as in the*

margin.] *“Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: praying always with all prayer and supplication in the spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.”* Ephesians 6:12-18.]

I heard those clothed with the armor speak forth the truth in great power. It had effect. I saw those who had been bound; some wives had been bound by their husbands, and some children had been bound by their parents. The honest who had been held or prevented from hearing the truth, now eagerly laid hold of it. All fear of their relatives was gone. The truth alone was exalted to them. It was dearer and more precious than life. They had been hungering and thirsting for truth. **I asked what had made this great change. An angel answered: “*It is the latter rain, the refreshing from the presence of the Lord, the loud cry of the third angel.*”**

Great power was with these chosen ones. Said the angel: “Look ye!” My attention was turned to the wicked, or unbelievers. They were all astir. The zeal and power with the people of God had aroused and enraged them. Confusion, confusion was on every side. I saw measures taken against this company, who had the power and light of God. Darkness thickened around them, yet there they stood, approved of God, and trusting in Him. I saw them perplexed. Next I heard them crying unto God earnestly. Through the day and night their cry ceased not. [*“And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he should bear long with them? I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?”* Luke 18:7, 8. See also Revelation 14:14, 15.] I heard these words: “Thy will, O God, be done! If it can glorify Thy name, make a way of escape for Thy people! Deliver us from the heathen round about us! They have appointed us unto death; but Thine arm can bring salvation.” These are all the words that I can bring to mind. **All seemed to have a deep sense of their unworthiness, and manifested entire submission to the will of God. Yet like Jacob, everyone, without an exception, was earnestly pleading and wrestling for deliverance.**

Soon after they had commenced their earnest cry, the angels, in sympathy, would have gone to their deliverance. But a tall, commanding angel suffered them not. Said he: “The will of God is not yet fulfilled. They must drink of the cup. They must be baptized with the baptism.”

Soon I heard the voice of God which shook the heavens and the earth. [*“The Lord also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and*

the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the Lord will be the hope of His people, and the strength of the children of Israel.” Joel 3:16. See also Hebrews 12:26; Revelation 16:17.] There was a mighty earthquake. Buildings were shaken down, and fell on every side. I then heard a triumphant shout of victory, loud, musical, and clear. I looked upon this company, who, a short time before, were in such distress and bondage. Their captivity was turned. A glorious light shone upon them. How beautiful they then looked!

All weariness and marks of care were gone; health and beauty were seen in every countenance. Their enemies, the heathen around them, fell like dead men. They could not endure the light that shone upon the delivered, holy ones. This light and glory remained upon them until Jesus was seen in the clouds of heaven, and the faithful, tried company were changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, from glory to glory. The graves were opened and the saints came forth, clothed with immortality, crying: “Victory over death and the grave!” and together with the living saints they were caught up to meet their Lord in the air, while rich, musical shouts of glory and victory proceeded from every immortal tongue.

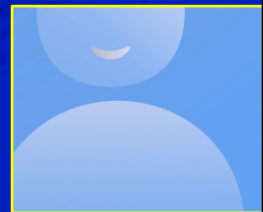
The Shaking

78

- “I was shown the people of God and saw them mightily shaken. Some, with strong faith and agonizing cries, were **pleading with God...**”
- “Firmness and great earnestness were expressed in their countenances...”
- “Their only safety was in keeping their eyes directed upward...”

Pray without ceasing

Searching our hearts diligently



The Shaking

79

- “All seemed to have a deep sense of their unworthiness, and **manifested entire submission to the will of God**. Yet like Jacob, everyone, without an exception, was **earnestly pleading and wrestling** for deliverance...”

Pray without ceasing

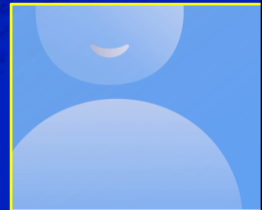
Humbling ourselves before God

Searching our hearts diligently

Great Distress Coming.

80

"I warn all who profess the name of Christ to closely examine themselves and make full and thorough confession of all their wrongs, that they may go beforehand to judgment, and that the recording angel may write pardon opposite their names. My brother, my sister, if these precious moments of mercy are not improved, you will be left without excuse. If you make no special effort to arouse, **if you will not manifest zeal in repenting, these golden moments will soon pass, and you will be weighed in the balance *and found wanting!***"





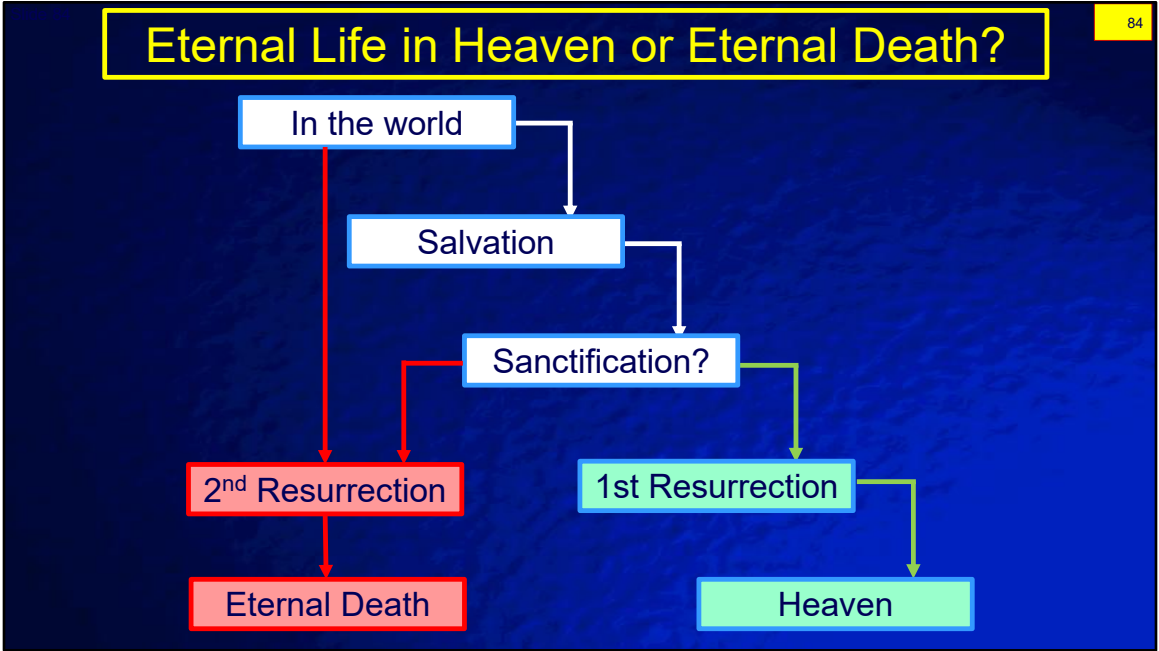
Spare blank slide



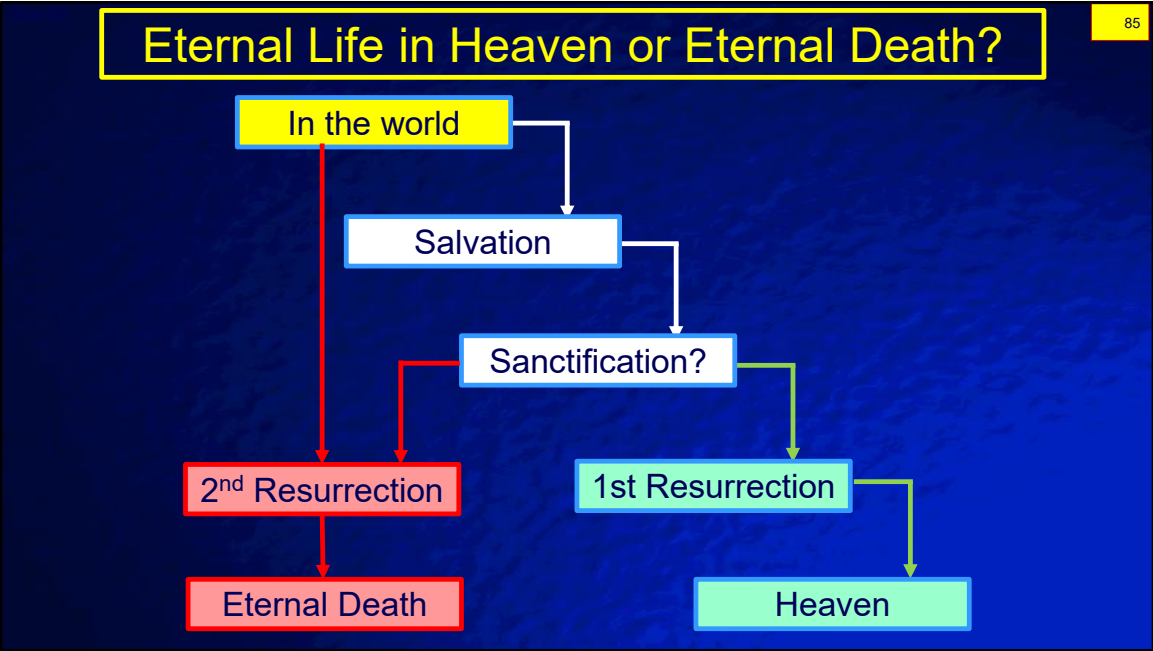
Spare blank slide

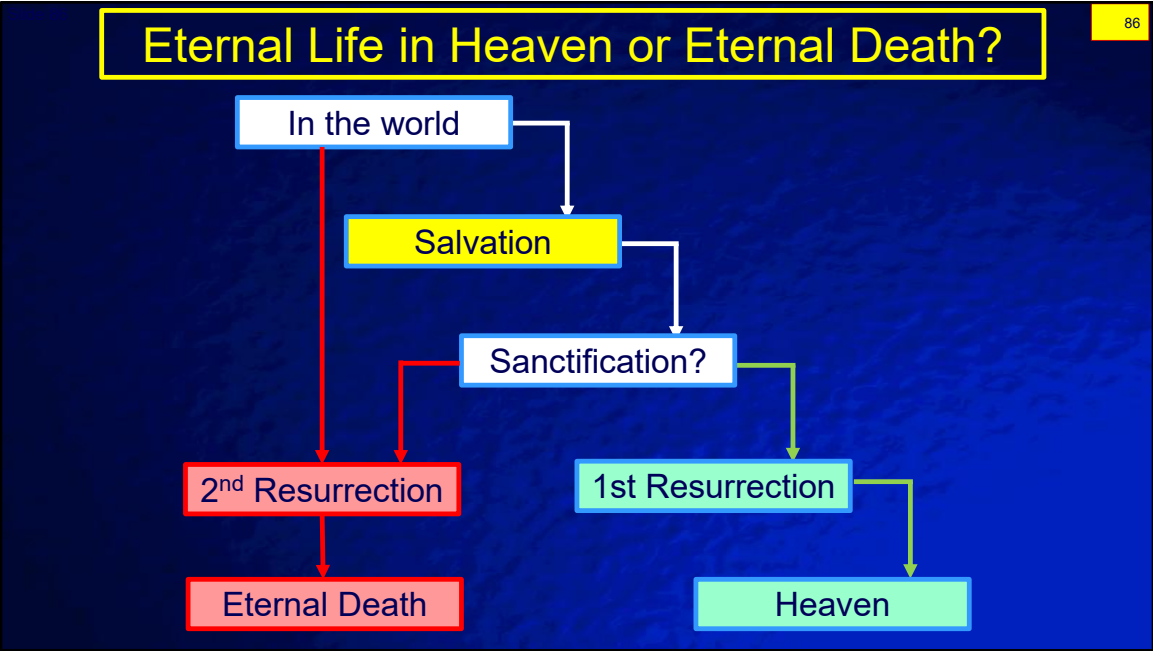
However, do not fear!
The time of tribulation
has an end.

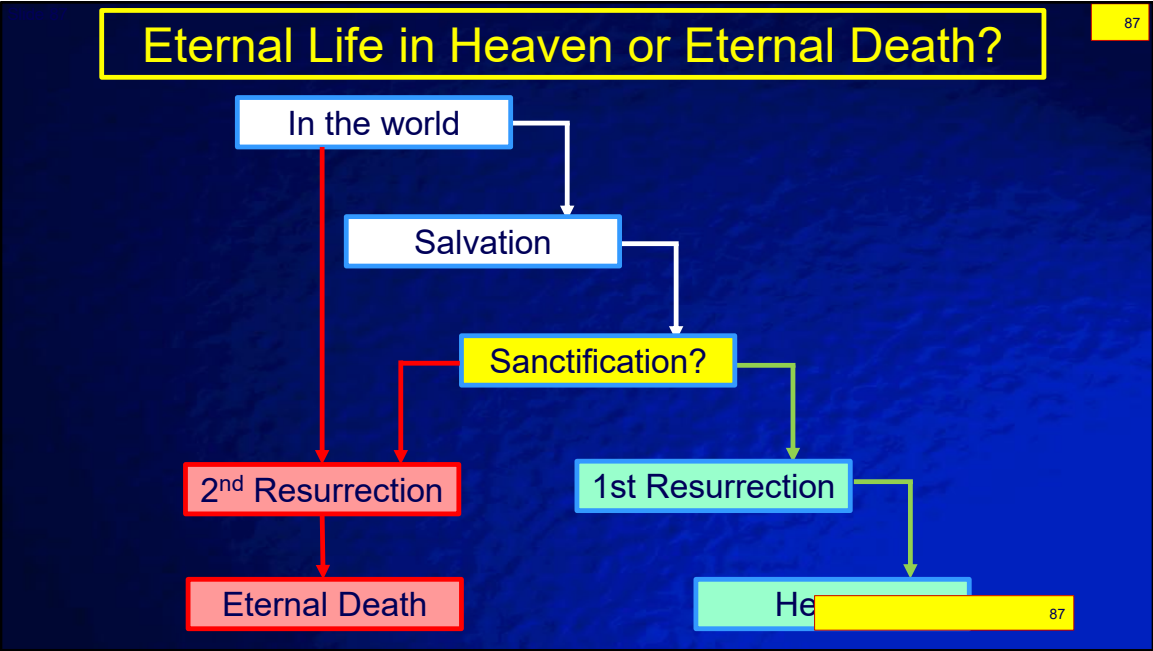
- It's time for a summary
- Shall I pull my punches, or shall I tell it like it is?
- Our motivation to continue is Ellen White's statement that only 1 in 20 of us will be ready if they keep doing what they have been doing all along!
- So, shall I proceed?
- I want all of us to be in heaven. What about you? **[Pause]**
- We have work to do to make that happen. Let's talk about it.



here shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation!”



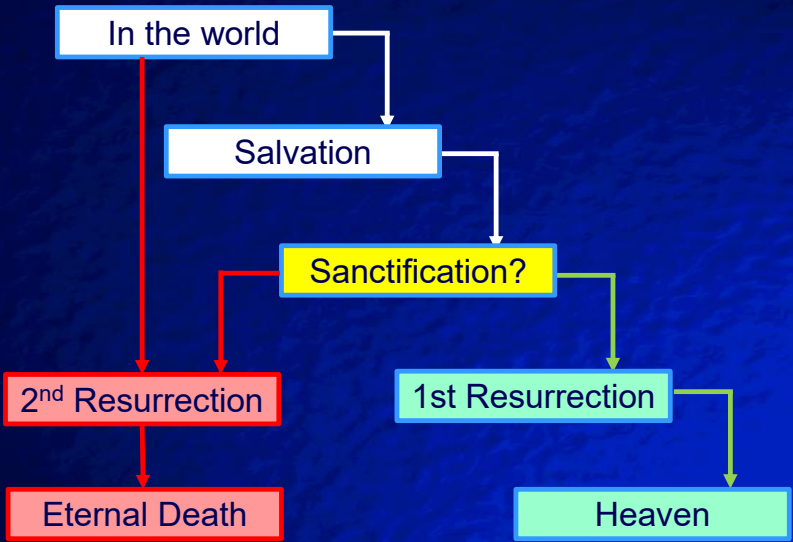




[Read Twice]

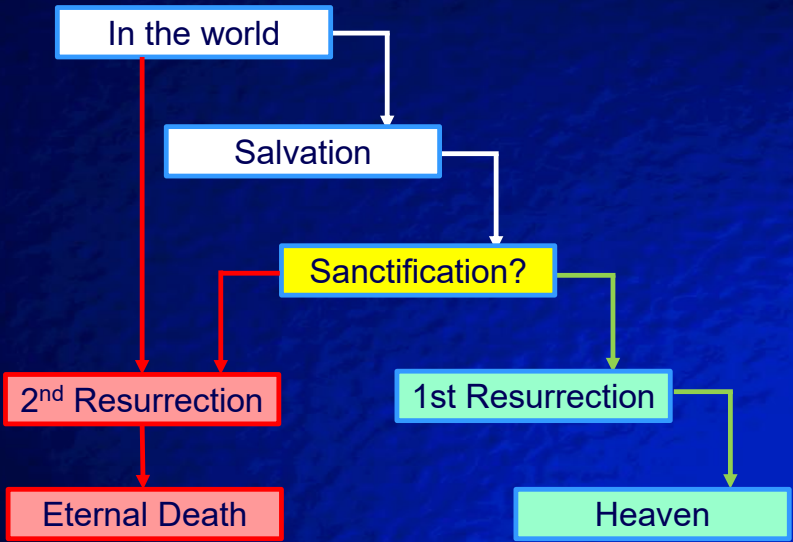
Eternal Life in Heaven or Eternal Death?

88



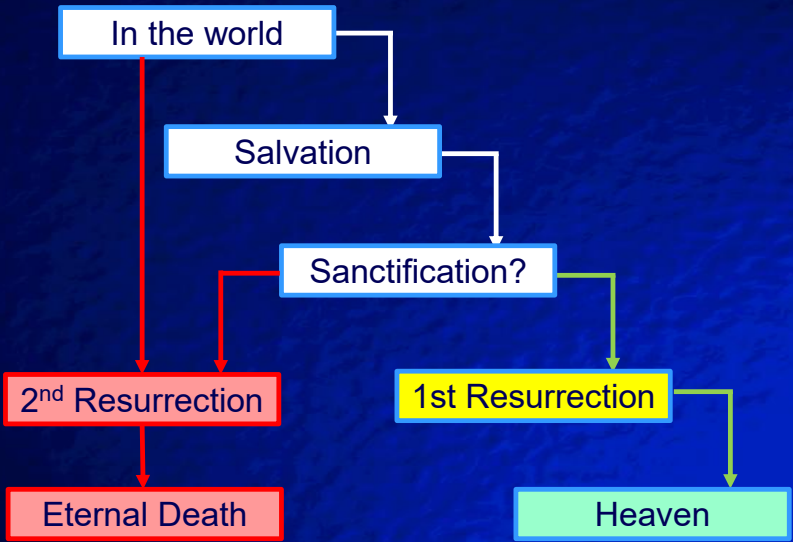
Eternal Life in Heaven or Eternal Death?

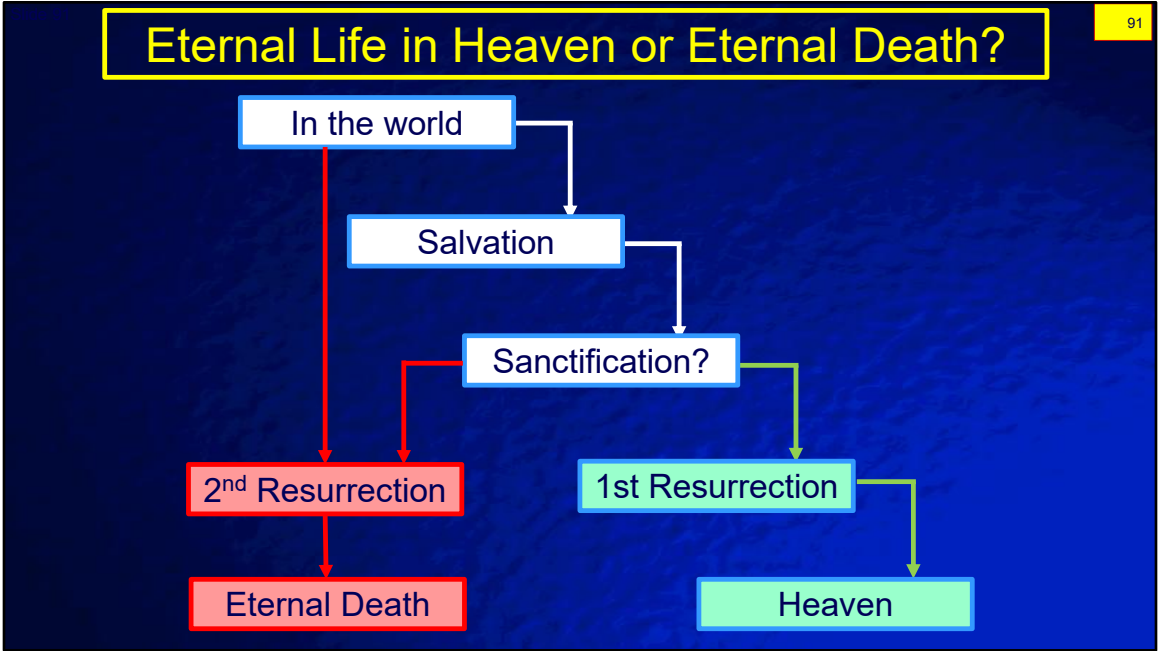
89



Eternal Life in Heaven or Eternal Death?

90







With thanks to AI, the creative team at Eden's Conflict, and Pastor Miles Kim