

Future NEWS

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THE SECRET OF ROME'S POWER

“It is not without reason that the claim has been put forth in Protestant countries that Catholicism differs less widely from Protestantism than in former times. There has been a change; but the change is not in the papacy. Catholicism indeed resembles much of the Protestantism that now exists, because Protestantism has so greatly degenerated since the days of the Reformers.

“As the Protestants churches have been seeking the favor of the world, false charity has blinded their eyes. They do not see but that it is right to believe good of all evil, and as the inevitable result they will finally believe evil of all good. Instead of standing in defense of the faith once delivered to the saints, they are now, as it were, apologizing to Rome for their uncharitable opinion of her, begging pardon for their bigotry.

“A large class, even of those who look upon Romanism with no favor, apprehend little danger from her power and influence. Many urge that the intellectual and moral darkness prevailing during the Middle Ages favored the spread of her dogmas, superstitions, and oppression, and that the greater intelligence of modern times, the general diffusion of knowledge, and the increasing liberality in matters of religion forbid a revival of intolerance and tyranny. The very thought that such a state of things will exist in this enlightened age is ridiculed. It is true that great light, intellectual, moral, and religious, is shining upon this generation. In the open pages of God's Holy Word, light from heaven has been shed upon the world. But it should be remembered that the greater the light bestowed, the greater the darkness of those who pervert and reject it.

“... [the papacy] is prepared for two classes of mankind, embracing nearly the whole world—those who would be saved by their merits, and those who would be saved in their sins. Here is the secret of its power. A day of great intellectual darkness has been shown to be favorable to the success of the papacy. It will yet be demonstrated that a day of great intellectual light is equally favorable for its success.” *The Great Controversy*, 572–573

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MISSION STATEMENT

The ministry of *Future for America* is to proclaim the final warning message of Revelation 14 as identified within the prophecies of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. The end-time fulfillment of Bible prophecy is no longer future—for it is taking place before our eyes. The historic, prophetic understanding of Seventh-day Adventism is now present truth. We are the final generation. Our emphasis on the prophetic word includes all the counsel of God's Word. To know what lies ahead is useless if we do not possess the experience to stand during these solemn times. Through obedience to God's law, and faith in the promises of God's Word, we are to receive that experience.

Coupled with the prophetic message, *Future for America* emphasizes all aspects of the medical missionary work. The "entering wedge"—medical missionary work—must be practiced by those who are to finish God's work in these final hours.

During this time period, country living becomes more essential with each passing moment. *Future for America* upholds and promotes this end-time truth. God's people must prepare for the coming storm, and that preparation includes the experience of learning how to survive in a simple fashion, away from the great centers of population.

Future for America intends to print and distribute truth-filled literature, while helping to establish lay-printing operations in parts of the Lord's vineyard where faithful brethren do not have the means to raise up a printing operation with their own resources.

Our first evangelistic series of 2003 has been finished in Dalaguete, Philippines and the Lord led 79 souls into baptism. Bert Leverett presented the gospel, while Jamal Sankey presented the health message. This is the second series that Bert has spoken for *Future for America* in the Philippines. This time his ministry also raised the funds to hold a second series as well, so he followed our series with another that reaped an additional 62 baptisms. We worked together by covering his travel expenses in exchange for his gospel presentation, so *Future for America* also had a part in the results of his series as well. Our series was held in a “dark” town with only Catholics and no Seventh-day Adventists. The brethren are praising the Lord that the series raised up enough souls to establish a congregation. There are other souls who attended the series that will be baptised soon as well. Bert’s series consisted of two weeks of morning meetings in the Adventist academy in Cebu, followed with the evening evangelistic meetings. Seventy percent of the baptisms were Catholic youth who are attending the Adventist academy. A friend of Berts, David Roberson helped with these meetings. David is eighteen and his age seemed to help meet the youth in the right way and time. Much praise is ascending to the Lord for these two series. Please accept our deep appreciation for the financial support that allows us to have a part in end-time evangelism while we continue to promote the study of Bible prophecy.

Our next series begins in Masbate on April 27 through May 10. We solicit your prayers for this series. Dean Ferrell will present the gospel message and his wife Blanca will present the health message. Bill and Delores Gamblin, who we have worked with twice before in the Philippines, will also hold meetings in a few men and woman prisons in the Cebu area. The Gamblins and the Ferrells raised their own travel expenses, and the Gamblins are handling the expenses of the prison ministry. Our budget for this series is six thousand dollars. At this point we lack twenty-three hundred and thirty-five dollars for the April series. We also have a third series planned in the July time frame, but need to wait to see if the Lord opens the way for this by providing funding.

We have chosen to continue our evangelistic efforts with the Central Visayan Conference for a variety of reasons. One of those reasons is identified by Sister White:

“Go where you may be a blessing to others. Go where you can be a help in some weak church. Shake off your spiritual lethargy. Work with all your powers to save perishing souls; and the heavenly benediction will fall upon you; and you will finally hear the words, ‘Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.’” *Review and Herald*, December 18, 1888.

The brethren we work with in the Central Visayan Conference have a “weakness” in the area of finances. Their economic situation restricts their ability to accomplish all they would had they the finances that are so easily available here in the US. As we look back over the last five years of working with these brethren we count over two thousand baptisms that we have been involved with and the average cost of each of these souls is from fifty to one hundred dollars per soul. This is also one of the reasons we are convicted to work here. The dollar goes so much farther!

Another of our reasons for continuing the evangelistic work in this Conference is that we have come to know the brethren there. The reality is that should a ministry or individual who possesses the necessary finances to hold an evangelistic series, they can find Conferences all around the world who are willing to allow those US dollars to enrich their part of the Lord's vinyard. We find that being familiar with those we are working with allows us to be more productive in the part we play. This is not saying there are not problems and obstacles in this work, but those problems are more easily handled when you have an ongoing working relationship with those who you are serving with. Of course the primary reason we even attempt the work of evangelism is found in Second Timothy:

I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry. 2 Timothy 4:1-5.

We believe we are in the time when most of God's people are turning the ears from the truth. And according to Paul in this passage, during that time if you are going to prove your ministry you need to "do the work of an evangelist".

We are watching to see if the Lord provides the funds to finish off the budget for the May series, but we are also watching to see if the finances arrive to commit to the July series. Once again, that series' budget is six thousand dollars.

When we hold these series we attempt to provide Bibles and other literature for distribution beyond the six thousand dollar budget. We believe we see the Lord's hand opening the way for the July series in the providential way literature was supplied for the May series. We began asking some friends if they could supply additional literature for the May series and within a few weeks we had thirteen different pieces of literature for thirteen nightly meetings. Ron and Pat Goss at *Project Restore* provided seven of their very excellent high quality magazines along with the shipping expense. Charlie and Dolly Thompkins, who produce the *Ellen White Comments* Sabbath School quarterly provided several boxes of those very quarterlies that had never been used. They also covered the shipping cost. Marnell and Mary Ann Mcneilus provided several cases of Dr. Mary Ann's excellent book, *God's Healing Way* and the Barnes family, who do the printing of this newsletter, provided several of the tracts that they have written and produced primarily to reach the "plain people", ie. Amish, Menonites, ect. Though prepared for the "plain people" these tracts are very clear and informative on Bible truth. The Barnes also provided the shipping expenses. We thank all four of these ministries for the willingness to serve.

When it was all said and done we realized that we have a different piece of literature each night, for each soul at the May meetings, and more than enough for a July meeting. This abundance of literature leads us to believe the Lord intends to finance the July meetings. We are waiting to see. Right now we need the two thousand three-hundred and thirty-five dollars to finish the May meetings, but by May, we would need three thousand to finance the Bible workers who begin their work three months before the July meetings begin.

If the Lord impresses you to help, please mark your funds—Philippines 2003.

“‘The commencement of that time of trouble,’ here mentioned, does not refer to the time when the plagues shall begin to be poured out, but to a short period just before they are poured out, while Christ is in the sanctuary. At that time, while the work of salvation is closing, trouble will be coming on the earth, and the nations will be angry, yet held in check so as not to prevent the work of the third angel.” *Early Writings*, 85–86.

SMALLPOX

A person previously vaccinated with the smallpox vaccine, then exposed to smallpox, can get a mild case of smallpox if his vaccination is so old it doesn't give him full protection. He may not even know he's sick, he will be able to walk around fine, he will have few symptoms, perhaps a light rash, but he will then be capable of passing on full-blown smallpox to someone else, especially to children who, almost without exception, have never been vaccinated. But if enough jihad volunteers with waning smallpox vaccinations (and that includes half the human race since most vaccinations stopped in the '70's) were to expose themselves to smallpox so that a few of them got a mild but contagious case of smallpox, they could then walk among us and bring smallpox back again to plague humanity, and we wouldn't even know we had been attacked until two weeks later when our symptoms started showing up. By that time the jihad attackers could have traveled to dozens of cities and infected hundreds. And the attackers wouldn't even have to commit suicide; they would recover and escape. We wouldn't even know how we had been attacked. Even if an attack of this type produced only a handful of smallpox cases it would virtually shut down our society. *Backwoods Home Magazine*, March/April 2003.

SCIENCE & RELIGION NOW

The clash between science and religion was supposed to be a defining characteristic of the modern age. But today's distinctive terror is modern science in the service of religious fanatics. *The Federalist Chronicle*, January 8, 2003.

DESTABILIZED ASIA

A destabilized Asia—the likeliest place for America to be drawn into a major war decades hence. Bush officials privately concede that North Korea appears only steps away from declaring itself a nuclear power. That in turn could provoke South Korea, already questioning America as an ally, to go nuclear, which could make Japan rethink its non-nuclear posture. [There is] Nothing likelier to make China rush into an arms race—it is now only slowly building up its forces—than a nuclear-armed Japan. Kim Jong Il can do more harm to more people more quickly and in more ways than Saddam Hussein. *Newsweek*, January 13, 2003.

“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*, 174.

THE NEW “UFO’S”—UNIDENTIFIED FLOATING OBJECTS

The case for putting anti-missile defenses into place was underscored by this sobering fact: A ship like the North Korean vessel that was covertly carrying Scud B missiles and forcibly intercepted in the Arabian Sea . . . [last month] could be steaming off the coast of the United States at this very moment. There are some 25,000 ships plying the world's oceans at any given time. Who are the real owners of many of these vessels is often unclear, as is the true nature of their cargoes. Is it possible, therefore, that one could be transporting a Scud-type missile—loaded, not in its hold under sacks of concrete, but onto a transporter-erector-launcher—and remain undetected as it moved within range of one of America's many littoral population centers?” *The Federalist Digest*, January 3, 2003.

“The issues of the press teem with records of murder—crimes so cold-blooded and causeless that it seems as though every instinct of humanity were blotted out. And these atrocities have become of so common occurrence that they hardly elicit a comment or awaken surprise. The spirit of anarchy is permeating all nations, and the outbreaks that from time to time excite the horror of the world are but indications of the pent-up fires of passion and lawlessness that, having once escaped control, will fill the earth with woe and desolation. The picture which Inspiration has given of the antediluvian world represents too truly the condition to which modern society is fast hastening. Even now, in the present century, and in professedly Christian lands, there are crimes daily perpetrated as black and terrible as those for which the old-world sinners were destroyed.

“As the time of their probation was closing, the antediluvians gave themselves up to exciting amusements and festivities. Those who possessed influence and power were bent on keeping the minds of the people engrossed with mirth and pleasure, lest any should be impressed by the last solemn warning. Do we not see the same repeated in our day? While God’s servants are giving the message that the end of all things is at hand, the world is absorbed in amusements and pleasure seeking. There is a constant round of excitement that causes indifference to God and prevents the people from being impressed by the truths which alone can save them from the coming destruction.” *Patriarchs and Prophets*, 102–103.

NUKES MAY MULTIPLY

The Chinese should be told that if they will not assist us in keeping Pyongyang out of the Nuclear Club, the United States will no longer seek to restrain South Korea, Japan or Taiwan from joining that club. Let us withdraw our troops from Asia and let Asia’s democracies acquire the same weapons as Asia’s communist dictators. Nuclear weapons have raised the price of empire too high. *The Conservative Chronicle*, January 15, 2003.

Hi guys,

As Adventists we believe Michael to be Christ. But I read something the other day that I did not understand. Can you help? In Daniel ten, starting at verse five, we see that Christ is talking to Daniel. Verse nine confirms that it is indeed Christ, as it says, “I heard the voice of his words”, referring to the Man in verse five and six. To see that this is a description of Christ, see Ezekiel and Revelation. So Christ is talking to Daniel, and what does He say in verse thirteen? “Michael... came to help me”. So Christ is saying that Michael came to help Him? How is that so if Christ is Michael? AS—England

Brother AS:

You need to read chapter ten a little more carefully, (although I believe it is easily missed), there are three personages there: Gabriel, Daniel, and Michael. Verse ten is where Gabriel enters the vision. Jeff

Dear Jeff & Kathy,

I thank the Lord for the way he is using you to help his people in these final hours of our probation. I believe that the stage is set for the Sunday law. Your presentation of Daniel 11:40 to 45 have been most helpful to me. I believe you are being led by the Holy Spirit. May the Lord continue to bless you and Kathy in your ministry for Him. Your Brother in Christ, EJ

Dear Jeff:

I'll let you know up front that I'm not a firm believer in a "national Sunday law." As a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, I have always been taught that this country will pass some type of national Sunday law. The problem is that there is so much misinformation floating around.

One of our Sabbath School teachers initiated a discussion about a national Sunday law. He mentioned that there are Sunday blue laws currently on the books in many states. Those states could enforce those laws at any time. Moreover, he stated that Jews would be exempt from a national Sunday law.

Attached is a state-by-state list of all the Sunday blue laws. Here are a few things to note:

1) Thirty three states have no Sunday blue laws on their books.

2) Kentucky's blue laws exempt persons who celebrate one Sabbath day other than Sunday.

3) Arkansas' blue law allows the showing of motion picture shows on Sunday.

4) The courts have struck down Sunday blue laws in Connecticut, New York and Pennsylvania as being unconstitutional.

5) Massachusetts permits retail businesses to be open on Sundays.

6) South Carolina's blue laws don't apply after 1:30PM. Moreover, counties have the option of suspending the blue laws.

7) In Virginia and West Virginia, local governments have the power to suspend application of the blue laws.

8) In Oklahoma, Louisiana and Colorado, one can't purchase a vehicle on Sunday. Obviously, this is not too much of a threat to Sabbath keepers. Most people buy a vehicle about once every eight to ten years.

Assuming that the blue laws are currently being enforced (most are probably not), only those residing seven states may be subject to some inconvenience.

Also, many Sabbath keepers, including myself, are confused as to whether this purported Sunday law will apply to people who worship on the Sabbath or refuse to worship on Sunday. Will Jews and Catholics that attend mass on Saturday be exempt if the law will apply to Sabbath worshipers? If the purported law applies to only Sabbath worshipers, we are talking about 8 to 10 million people. If the law applies to people to refuse to worship on Sunday, we are talking about 60 to 70 million people being affected by the law.

I think one needs to come up with some more hard evidence of a purported national Sunday law. The fact that certain politicians talk about it doesn't mean much. Yours in Christ, KB

Dear KB:

I do not support your Sabbath School teacher's idea about states enforcing the Sunday laws, for Inspiration identifies an amendment to the Constitution of the USA as the Sunday law that fulfills Bible prophecy. But for you to profess to be a Seventh-day Adventist and "not a firm believer in a national Sunday law" is an oximoron as far as I am concerned. The Sunday law of Bible prophecy is the message that Seventh-day Adventists have been raised up to clarify before the entire world. To not believe that, is to not understand what the final warning message is, or the role God's people have in both experiencing, defending and proclaiming that message. How many people watched the animals getting on the ark, yet still denied the message of the hour?

There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death. Proverbs 14:12.

“We as a people have not accomplished the work which God has committed to us. **We are not ready for the issue to which the enforcement of the Sunday law will bring us.** It is our duty, as we see the signs of approaching peril, to **arouse** to action. Let none sit in calm expectation of the evil, comforting themselves with the belief that this work must go on because prophecy has foretold it, and that the Lord will shelter His people. We are not doing the will of God if we sit in quietude, doing nothing to preserve liberty of conscience. Fervent, effectual prayer should be ascending to heaven that this calamity may be deferred until we can accomplish the work which has so long been neglected. Let there be most earnest prayer, and then let us work in harmony with our prayers. It may appear that Satan is triumphant and that truth is overborne with falsehood and error; the people over whom God has spread His shield, and the country which has been an asylum for the conscience-oppressed servants of God and defenders of His truth, may be placed in jeopardy. But God would have us recall His dealings with His people in the past to save them from their enemies. He has always chosen extremities, when there seemed no possible chance for deliverance from Satan’s workings, for the manifestation of His power. Man’s necessity is God’s opportunity. It may be that a respite may yet be granted for God’s people to awake and let their light shine. If the presence of ten righteous persons would have saved the wicked cities of the plain, is it not possible that God will yet, in answer to the prayers of His people, hold in check the workings of those who are making void His law? Shall we not humble our hearts greatly before God, flee to the mercy seat, and plead with Him to reveal His mighty power?”

“If our people continue in the listless attitude in which they have been, God cannot pour upon them His Spirit. They are unprepared to co-operate with Him. **They are not awake to the situation and do not realize the threatened danger.** They should feel now, as never before, their need of vigilance and concerted action.

“The peculiar work of the third angel **has not been seen in its importance.** God meant that His people should be far in advance of the position which they occupy today. But now, when the time has come for them to spring into action, they have the preparation to make. When the National Reformers [**Editor’s note:** today’s, Religious Right] began to urge measures to restrict religious liberty, our leading men should have been alive to the situation and should have labored earnestly to counteract these efforts. It is not in the order of God that light has been kept from our people—**the very present truth which they needed for this time. Not all our ministers who are giving the third angel’s message really understand what constitutes that message.** The National Reform movement has been regarded by some as of so little importance that they have not thought it necessary to give much attention to it and have even felt that in so doing they would be giving time to questions distinct from the third angel’s message. **May the Lord forgive our brethren for thus interpreting the very message for this time.**

“**The people need to be aroused** in regard to the dangers of the present time. The watchmen are **asleep.** We are years behind. Let the chief watchmen feel the urgent necessity of taking heed to themselves, lest they lose the opportunities given them to see the dangers.” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 713–715.

Brother KB, you need to wake up. Jeff

SUNDAY LAW NOT SUPPORTED BY DOBSON

James Dobson, author and founder/president of *Focus on the Family*, is trying to quell rumors that he is advocating a national Sunday law in the United States. His letter to the Seventh-day Adventist Church said, "I have taken no such position, and have no intention of doing so in the future."

Dobson indicated that similar rumors have persisted for years, and asked the church to help make his position known. He said he "would not under any circumstance try to undermine [Adventist's] designated day of worship." *Adventist News Network*, January 7, 2003.

"[The Ten Commandments] are the charter and guide of human liberty, for there can be no liberty without the law."—Cecil B. DeMille

THE COMMANDMENTS ON TRIAL

Seventh-day Adventists have long expected the day when the Ten Commandments would become the subject of national attention. Although the dire warnings of an independent ministry about Sunday laws on the agenda of the Christian Coalition did not pan out, the Ten Commandments are the focus of increased activity around the country. In response to propaganda touting America as a Christian nation, people have been erecting monuments displaying the Ten Commandments in public places in many states. Several state legislatures have debated bills to promote the posting of the Ten Commandments. Most recently, a Federal appeals court struck down the placement of a large granite monument in the center of Alabama's Supreme Court house as unconstitutional, infuriating the good Christian folk of Alabama.

Several points deserve comment. The monuments invariably omit the text of the Sabbath commandment. So the monuments don't really contain the Ten Commandments, they contain an alteration of the Commandments, an alteration that may have prophetic significance. Evident in the legislative debate is the fact that the three major biblical faiths disagree about how to word and/or number the commandments, as legislators have grappled with whether to post a Catholic, Protestant or Jewish version. This debate highlights a very good reason why government should stay out of the religion business: inevitably one religion will be favored.

It seems terribly ironic to find churches promoting the public posting of those very same Commandments that, as they have taught for generations, were nailed to the cross, and no longer legally or morally binding upon believers.

It is equally ironic that the revival of interest in the Ten Commandments takes an "old covenant" form, involving the public posting of the Commandments literally on stone monuments, rather than preaching the necessity of having the law written upon the heart, which is the new covenant.

The final irony to be observed here is that those defending the public posting of the Ten Commandments have tried to minimize their religious significance, in order to get them approved as constitutional, while those attacking their public posting have insisted that the Ten Commandments are, first and foremost, religious.

How did the court rule? That the Ten Commandments are religious. No surprise there. Consistent with long established constitutional precedent, the Court also held that government must act for secular, not religious purposes. Supporters of the monument predict a backlash against the court's decision. Translate: supporters are actively stirring up mob passions, and no doubt expect to reap bountiful results in both moral and financial support. This is an important issue that may well morph into something more ominous and prophetically significant. *Pacific Union Conference Recorder*, February, 2003.

OBSERVE THE LORD'S DAY

Pope John Paul met this morning with prelates from Brazil's Southern Region I . . . [and] went on to emphasize the need to observe the Lord's Day . . ." *Vatican Information Service*, January 23, 2003.

“A FAITH BASED CONFEDERACY”

BY DEAN FERRELL

This message will address constitutional and Christian concerns that were again awakened by our president’s State of the union address. I believe the speech was masterfully written and delivered well. Yet human approval ratings do not insure that God approves. For such we seek and seek to a thus sayeth the Lord. Let us examine the principles.

Should the church, the people of God, seek political alignment or confederacy with the kings (civil powers) of the earth for either financial or military security? How has God prophetically portrayed His position regarding such an alliance?

Associate yourselves, O ye people, and ye shall be broken in pieces; and give ear, all ye of far countries: gird yourselves, and ye shall be broken in pieces; gird yourselves, and ye shall be broken in pieces. Take counsel together, and it shall come to nought; speak the word, and it shall not stand: for God is with us. For the Lord spake thus to me with a strong hand, and instructed me that I should not walk in the way of this people, saying, Say ye not, A confederacy, to all them to whom this people shall say, A confederacy; neither fear ye their fear, nor be afraid. Sanctify the Lord of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. And he shall be for a sanctuary; but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. And many among them shall stumble, and fall, and be broken, and be snared, and be taken. Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples. Isaiah 8:9-16.

It appears He knows that such would result in trusting in the arm of flesh and a departure from His law. Compare Jeremiah 17:5–7; Isaiah 2:22; Psalm 118:8, 9; 146:3–7.

Strong’s #7195—confederacy-(keh’-sher); an (unlawful) alliance: King James Version: confederacy, conspiracy, treason.

Look at what Jesus suggested. Luke 20:22–25: Is it lawful for us to give tribute unto Caesar, or no? But he perceived their craftiness, and said unto them, Why tempt ye me? Shew me a penny. Whose image and superscription hath it? They answered and said, Caesar’s. And he said unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which be Caesar’s, and unto God the things which be God’s.

Is Jesus promoting the principle of paying offerings to Uncle Sam? Did our nations founders express similar views, regarding government support of religion and separation of church and state? Benjamin Franklin stated on October 9, 1780, “When a religion is good, I conceive that it will support itself; and, when it cannot support itself, and God does not take care to support, so that its professors are obliged to call for the help of the civil power, it is a sign, I apprehend, of its being a bad one.” Is that a favorable view as to civil support of the church?

What about intermingling the affairs and authority of the state with matters of faith and the church? Thomas Jefferson stated in the *Thomas Jefferson Writings, Library of America*, page-510: “Believing with you that religion is a matter which lies solely between man and his God, that he owes account to none other for his faith or his worship, that legislative powers of government reach actions only, and not opinions, I contemplate with sovereign reverence that act of the whole American people which declare that their legislature should ‘make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof,’ thus building a wall of separation between church and state.”

Where is the authoritative voice of the nation to be found? *The Great Controversy*, 442 states: “The ‘speaking’ of the nation is the action of its legislative and judicial authorities”, while also identifying the US as the lamb-like beast of Revelation 13.

Has time changed the voice that speaks for the nation? Decide for yourself. In 1984, Supreme Court Justice William Rehnquist in the case of *Wallace vs. Jaffree* stated: “The ‘wall of separation between church and State’ is a metaphor based on bad history, a metaphor which has proved useless as a guide to judging. It should be frankly and explicitly abandoned.”

President Bush said the following in his State of the Nation address: “Our fourth goal is to apply the compassion of America to the deepest problems of America. For so many in our country—the homeless and the fatherless, the addicted—the need is great. Yet there’s power, wonder-working power, in the goodness and idealism and faith of the American people.” I always thought “the wonder working power” was “in the precious blood of the Lamb, not the lamb-like beast. A friend told me he could never sing Power in the blood quite the same after this.

Bush continued: “Americans are doing the work of compassion every day—visiting prisoners, providing shelter for battered women, bringing companionship to lonely seniors. These good works deserve our praise; they deserve our personal support; and when appropriate, they deserve the assistance of the federal government. I urge you to pass both my faith-based initiative and the Citizen Service Act, to encourage acts of compassion that can transform America, one heart and one soul at a time.”

Do not pass this by! This identifies the function of our federal government as the miracle working power of soul transformation. That is God’s department!

Bush continued: “Another cause of hopelessness is addiction to drugs. Addiction crowds out friendship, ambition, moral conviction, and reduces all the richness of life to a single destructive desire. As a government, we are fighting illegal drugs by cutting off supplies and reducing demand through anti-drug education programs. . . . Too many Americans in search of treatment cannot get it. So tonight I propose a new \$600 million program to help an additional 300,000 Americans receive treatment over the next three years. Our nation is blessed with recovery programs that do amazing work. One of them is found at the Healing Place Church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.”

In having spent close to 20 years addicted to drugs, I’ve experienced the need of wonder working power to deliver me. But I went direct to God and Jesus set me free, for free! Imagine that, without charging me one dollar, especially not a tax dollar!

For the moment, a Sunday law is not openly connected with the new faith based initiative and temperance movement, (As it was the *Blair Bill* {S. 2983} 50th Congress, 1st Session, May 21, 1888). Yet, notice how good things like temperance and reform are used to unite people in promoting Sunday sacredness, contrary to Gods commandments.

The Great Controversy, 586–588 states:

“The teachings of religious leaders have opened the door to infidelity, to spiritualism, and to contempt for God’s holy law; and upon these leaders rests a fearful responsibility for the iniquity that exists in the Christian world.

“Yet this very class put forth the claim that the fast-spreading corruption is largely attributable to the desecration of the so-called ‘Christian Sabbath,’ and that the enforcement of Sunday observance would greatly improve the morals of society. This claim is especially urged in America, where the doctrine of the true Sabbath has been most widely preached. Here the temperance work, one of the most prominent and important of moral reforms, is often combined with the Sunday movement, and the advocates of the latter represent themselves as laboring to promote the highest interest of society; and those who refuse to unite with them are denounced as the enemies of temperance and reform. But the fact that a movement to establish error is connected with a work which is in itself good, is not an argument in favor of the error. We may disguise poison by mingling it with wholesome food, but we do not change its nature. On the contrary, it is rendered more dangerous, as it is more likely to be taken unawares. It is one of Satan’s devices to combine with falsehood just enough truth to give it plausibility. The leaders of the Sunday movement may advocate reforms which the people need, principles which are in harmony with the Bible; yet while there is with these a requirement which is contrary to God’s law, His servants cannot unite with them. Nothing can justify them in setting aside the commandments of God for the precepts of men.”

Bush’s “Compassionate Conservatism” appears to be Catholic Church/State governance.

[In the *Washington Post*, January 8, 2001 it was written: (The article is about a dialog between President Bush and Jim Wallis, editor of *Sojourners* magazine and the convener of *Call to Renewal*, a national federation of churches and faith-based organizations). When the phone call came from Austin, I was surprised. Just two days after his election was assured, President-elect Bush wanted a meeting with religious leaders to discuss faith-based initiatives in solving poverty. He was reaching well beyond his base of conservative evangelicals; would I come and suggest others who should be invited? He asked us how to speak to the nation’s soul? . . . I noted that churches across a broad spectrum are finding remarkable unity on these issues [hunger and homelessness in US cities being the topic], and maybe it was time to try it on a political level. Evangelical and liberal, Catholic and Protestant, black and white church leaders have been motivated by prosperity’s contradictions and united by the biblical imperatives of compassion and justice. . . . Bush asked theological questions such as, “What is justice?” . . . We [the religious leaders] told him that, “in forging new partnerships to reduce poverty, the religious community will not only be service providers but prophetic interrogators.”

There is nothing new under the sun, what happened before, in the early church, is happening now. Prophetic interrogators will become inquisitors. *The Great Controversy*, 443:

“When the early church became corrupted by departing from the simplicity of the gospel and accepting heathen rites and customs, she lost the Spirit and power of God; and in order to control the consciences of the people, she sought the support of the secular power. The result was the papacy, a church that controlled the power of the state and employed it to further her own ends, especially for the punishment of “heresy.” In order for the United States to form an image of the beast, the religious power must so control the civil government that the authority of the state will also be employed by the church to accomplish her own ends. Whenever the church has obtained secular power, she has employed it to punish dissent from her doctrines. Protestant churches that have followed in the steps of Rome by forming alliance with worldly powers have manifested a similar desire to restrict liberty of conscience.”

Why might the religious community want to become “prophetic interrogators”? *Testimonies*, volume 5, 452 states:

“While men are sleeping, Satan is actively arranging matters so that the Lord’s people may not have mercy or justice. The Sunday movement is now making its way in darkness.”

An article (echoing Justice Rehnquist’s comments above) in the *St. Louis Dispatch*, October 29, 1991 portrayed why state churches might want that power. “As the second century of the *Bill of Rights* draws to a close, the Supreme Court is redefining what religious liberty will mean in the third century. Broadly, the court’s new approach helps conventional religions, while hurting unconventional ones.” Can you imagine what might make a religion “unconventional”?

The presidents’ “faith based initiatives” (through the promise of cash flow) is as sticky glue that will attach almost every religious organization in the US, to the ecumenical movement. Amos 3:3, asks:

“Can two walk together, except they be agreed?”

Certainly, for this mixed multitude to come together the pure doctrine of Christ must be put aside as it is divisive. What will be the cost of this union to all who support it?

Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds. 2 John 1:9–11.

While promoting the “unconstitutional” faith based initiatives during his State of the Union Speech, President Bush said: “there’s power, wonder-working power, in the goodness and idealism and faith of the American people.” Yet the goodness, ideals and faith of most Americans, rejects one or all of God’s Commandments. Proverbs 28:9 says:

He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination.

What or who is to be recognized as the source of the “wonder working power” in these federally funded ministries, seeing God says their prayers are abominable?

The Great Controversy, 588 states:

“Through the agency of spiritualism, miracles will be wrought, the sick will be healed, and many undeniable wonders will be performed. And as the spirits will profess faith in the Bible, and manifest respect for the institutions of the church, their work will be accepted as a manifestation of divine power. The line of distinction between professed Christians and the ungodly is now hardly distinguishable. Church members love what the world loves and are ready to join with them, and Satan determines to unite them in one body and thus strengthen his cause by sweeping all into the ranks of spiritualism. Papists, who boast of miracles as a certain sign of the true church, will be readily deceived by this wonder-working power; and Protestants, having cast away the shield of truth, will also be deluded. Papists, Protestants, and worldlings will alike accept the form of godliness without the power, and they will see in this union a grand movement for the conversion of the world and the ushering in of the long-expected millennium.”

In the presidents’ speech, he sought to assure us that the established churches, through “the assistance of the federal government.” and by passing his “faith-based initiative” we would see a movement that could “transform America, one heart and one soul at a time.” Will this union evolve into the grand movement for the conversion of the world? I believe Revelation 13:11–18 says, “Yes!” The pen of Inspiration agrees that it will—except for a few:

“They charged us with taking an independent position from all the rest of the world. They had cut off our resources so that we could not buy or sell, and referred to our abject poverty and stricken condition. They could not see how we could live without the world; we were dependent upon the world, and we must concede to the customs, practices, and laws of the world, or go out of it. If we were the only people in the world whom the Lord favored, the appearances were awfully against us. They declared that they had the truth, that miracles were among them, that angels from heaven talked with them and walked with them, that great power and signs and wonders were performed among them, and this was the temporal millennium that they had been expecting so long. The whole world was converted and in harmony with the Sunday law, and this little feeble people stood out in defiance of the laws of the land and the law of God, and claimed to be the only ones right on the earth.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 21, 325–326.

All the world will be converted and wonder after the beast, except those whose names are written in the Lamb’s book of life.

Please do not misunderstand, there was much about this president and his speech I appreciated. I do not dislike him, I pray for him. We all should. Even as Daniel prayed for the kings of Babylon and Medo Persia. I’m very much in favor of churches doing the work God calls them to do. But why pay Caesar to get it done? We return tithes and offerings to God, and it is He that accomplishes that work for those who receive Him. My question: “Why pay Caesar to get it done?” This message is not an effort to incite a tax revolt. It is meant to be a call to prayer and action. Call and or write to your government representatives. Let them know that voting to approve the “faith based initiative” is a violation of their constitutional oath. It is illegal. It is unlawful for the president to press Congress to make a law forcing us to support the establishment of religion. It is a violation of his own oath of office to protect, preserve and defend the Constitution against all enemies. In a spiritual sense, to go along with it incurs a curse. Thus saith the Lord;

Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord. Jeremiah 17:5.

Would it be fair or constitutional to force American Catholics, Jews, atheists, Baptists, Muslims or Adventists to pay to send addicts to a religious institution or rehab center to inculcate views inimical to his own and that his conscience can not abide by?

Again, it strikes at the heart of the 1st amendment of the Constitution (See Jefferson’s quote above) and the Lords own counsel in Luke 20:22–25. As good as it may at first sound, the confederacy that is formed through the faith based initiative, proves (with a little thought and study) to be both anti-American and antichrist in nature. Say ye not “a confederacy.”

“Your love of liberty—your respect for the laws—your habits of industry—and your practice of the moral and religious obligations, are the strongest claims to national and individual happiness.”—George Washington

BUSH’S CONSTITUTIONALLY UNLAWFUL PROPOSALS, AND OTHER OBSERVATIONS

By our reading of the Constitution, much of what President Bush proposed domestically is unlawful—that is to say, many of his proposals do not comport to the letter of our Constitution’s mandates and restrictions on the central government, or to its subsequent Amendments. As our Constitution’s author, James Madison, noted in Federalist No. 45, “The powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the federal government are few and defined. Those which are to remain in the State governments are numerous and indefinite.”

Introduction: Bush said: "You and I serve our country in a time of great consequence. During this session of Congress, we have the duty to reform domestic programs vital to our country."

Federalist Comments: President Bush makes plain the theme of reform. Of course, since most "domestic programs" now conducted by the central government are not constitutional, real reform would mean eliminating these programs by the bushel. As James Madison noted, "I cannot undertake to lay my finger on that article of the Constitution which granted a right to Congress of expending, on objects of benevolence, the money of their constituents."

Economic Measures: Bush said: "The best way to address the deficit and move toward a balanced budget is to encourage economic growth—and to show some spending discipline in Washington, D.C."

Federalist Comments: As for "spending discipline," Mr. Bush has not demonstrated much of that. The day after his speech, the *Congressional Budget Office* revised its deficit forecast upward by 30% to \$199 billion for this fiscal year. The only way Mr. Bush can authentically demonstrate "discipline" is, as we noted above, by terminating social programs by the bushel.

Health Care: Bush said: "Health care reform must begin with Medicare, because Medicare is the binding commitment of a caring society."

Federalist Comments: Medicare, welfare, Social Security, et al., are extra-constitutional socialized central government programs. Thomas Jefferson warned, "Congress has not unlimited powers to provide for the general welfare but only those specifically enumerated." These New Deal and Great Society boondoggles assume that the several states, local communities, families and individuals can't take care of their own. To the extent Mr. Bush is able to reduce centralized control over these behemoths through privatization and exposing them to free market forces, he will have succeeded.

Energy Policy: Bush said: "Our third goal is to promote energy independence for our country, while dramatically improving the environment. . . . the greatest environmental progress will come about, ...through technology and innovation."

Federalist Comments: The President's proposed "comprehensive energy plan" has many good elements to encourage reduced dependence on foreign energy sources, but his "Clear Skies legislation" does not qualify as a free enterprise approach to reducing power-plant emissions. As for "hydrogen-powered automobiles," when the market requires them, they will be developed and produced without government subsidies. If we examine the world around us, it becomes evident that government subsidies and interference have, over the decades, stifled and not enhanced technological development.

Faith-Based Initiatives: Bush said: "Our fourth goal is to apply the compassion of America to the deepest problems of America. . . . Americans are doing the work of compassion every day. . . . These good works deserve our praise . . . our personal support . . . and, when appropriate, they deserve the assistance of our government."

Federalist Comments: As long as the central government continues to fund a plethora of social programs, we believe that faith-based organizations should be able to compete for those dollars. (Don't bother trying to make that "wall of separation" argument. The popular interpretation of those words today have little bearing on what Mr. Jefferson meant when he wrote them.) **[Editor's note:** Interesting observation.]

Abortion and Cloning: Bush said: "We must not overlook the weakest among us. I ask you to protect infants at the very hour of birth, and end the practice of partial-birth abortion. And because no human life should be started or ended as the object of an experiment, I ask you to set a high standard for humanity and pass a law against all human cloning."

Federalist Comments: Killing children is wrong, and experimenting with them is equally wrong. Enough said.

AIDS in Africa: Bush said: "Our Founders dedicated this country to the cause of human dignity . . . Today, on the continent of Africa, nearly 30 million people have the AIDS virus . . . I ask the Congress . . . to turn the tide against AIDS in the most afflicted nations of Africa and the Caribbean."

Federalist Comments: To the extent Mr. Bush can make the case that treating AIDS patients in Africa is critical to US national interest, we support this measure. And . . . we believe that argument can be made.

The case against Iraq: Bush said: "Today, the gravest danger in the war on terror—the gravest danger facing America and the world—is outlaw regimes that seek and possess nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons. They could also give or sell those weapons to their terrorist allies, who would use them without the least hesitation. . . . All free nations have a stake in preventing sudden and catastrophic attack. We are asking them to join us, and many are doing so."

And, in a line intended as a declaration of US resolve to a heretofore, hesitant UN, the President continued, "Yet the course of this nation does not depend on the decisions of others. Whatever action is required, whenever action is necessary, I will defend the freedom and security of the American people."

Federalist Comments: The National Security Presidential Directive 17 (HSPD 4) signed by President Bush in September [says]: "The United States will continue to make clear that it reserves the right to respond with overwhelming force—including potentially nuclear weapons."

[**Editor's note:** This fits with the USA's unilateral power descriptions given in Revelation 13:12–13.]

Continuing, Mr. Bush said: "It would take just one vial, one canister, one crate slipped into this country to bring a day of horror like none we have ever known." *The Federalist Digest*, January 31, 2003.

[**Editor's note:** With the sieve-like borders of the US, release of a biological agent, or detonation of a nuclear device, in some urban area is no difficulty for terrorists. The resulting public horror and popular fear may fuel a "back-to-God movement" that could hound Congress for enforcement by law.]

John Adams advised: "Statesmen . . . may plan and speculate for Liberty, but it is Religion and Morality alone, which can establish the Principles upon which Freedom can securely stand. . . . The only foundation of a free Constitution, is pure Virtue, and if this cannot be inspired into our People, in a great Measure, than they have it now, They may change their Rulers, and the forms of Government, but they will not obtain a lasting Liberty." *The Federalist Digest*, November 20, 2002.

WHO SAID WHAT

Mr. Bush said: "The March for Life upholds the self-evident truth of that Declaration—that all are created equal, given the unalienable rights of life, and liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. And that principle of America needs defenders in every place and every generation. . . . And this self-evident truth calls us to value and to protect the lives of innocent children waiting to be born."

But, the *Roe v. Wade* court apparently took little heed of our nation's founding basis from the Declaration of Independence. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia recently said of the Left judiciary's penchant for interpreting the Constitution as if it were a "living, breathing, evolving" foundation: "It is a Constitution that morphs while you look at it, like Plasticman." *The Federalist Digest*, January 24, 2003.

"To educate a person in mind and not in morals is to educate a menace to society."—Theodore Roosevelt

RELIGIOUS GROUPS ISSUE "SHARED VISION" STATEMENT

The first *Shared Vision* statement was issued in 1994 and signed by six religious and civil liberties groups. The new version, issued in October, was signed by five organizations: the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, the American Jewish Committee, the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism and The Interfaith Alliance Foundation.

The document notes that America is confronted by “two strikingly different and equally invalid views about religion in public life.” One view, the document says, suggests that the United States was founded as a Christian or Judeo-Christian nation and that church-state separation was never intended. The other view holds that religion and religious groups should have a “minimal role in—perhaps even being barred from—the vital public discourse we carry on as a democracy.”

The statement calls for a third approach: It says the government should remain neutral on matters of religion, and it advocates an interpretation of the First Amendment that maximizes religious freedom under the Free Exercise Clause but prevents government from endorsing or funding religion under the Establishment Clause.

Specifically, *A Shared Vision* opposes state-sponsored worship in public schools, voucher aid to religious schools and tax aid to religions through “faith-based initiatives.”

Reacting to the Supreme Court’s decision in June upholding voucher aid for religious schools, *A Shared Vision* comments, “What may be constitutional is not always wise or good public policy. Therefore, we oppose direct and indirect government funding of parochial schools at primary and secondary levels, and of pervasively religious colleges and universities.” The entire document can be read online at the Baptist Joint Committee’s website: www.bjcpa.org *Church & State*, December 2002.

Editor’s note: It is encouraging to see that at least a few religious bodies can tell the difference between true religious liberty principles and the two extreme views held by those who gain most of the media attention.

“Do all the good you can, By all the means you can, In all the ways you can, In all the places you can, At all the times you can, To all the people you can, As long as you ever can.”—John Wesley

“Notwithstanding the spiritual darkness and alienation from God that exist in the churches which constitute Babylon, **the great body of Christ’s true followers are still to be found in their communion.** There are many of these who have never seen the special truths for this time. Not a few are dissatisfied with their present condition and are longing for clearer light. They look in vain for the image of Christ in the churches with which they are connected. As these bodies depart further and further from the truth, and ally themselves more closely with the world, the difference between the two classes will widen, and it will finally result in separation. The time will come when those who love God supremely can no longer remain in connection with such as are “lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof.” *The Great Controversy*, 390.

NOT A NATION OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

The choices within our political system make a difference, but the difference they make isn’t much more than marginal. When even the good guys equivocate on an issue like partial-birth abortion; when even the good guys gorge themselves on pork-barrel spending; when even the good guys are overly beholden to their political donors—then we’re a long way from being able to call ourselves a nation adorned by righteousness. *WORLD*, September 28, 2002.

SELF-GOVERNMENT

We Americans think we enjoy self-government. We have all the trappings of self-government, like elections. But in reality, we have gradually lost many of our rights to govern ourselves. We have the form of self-government, but only some of the substance. We are, in a sense, a nation run by a handful of judges who often enforce, not the law, but their personal opinions. *The Federalist Brief*, February 3, 2003.

CAPITAL CRIMES, CAPITOL CRONIES

. . . what makes the corporate crime wave not just a business scandal but a political one is precisely the fact that there is simply no consistent institutional opposition to the corporate takeover of our politics—certainly not from the Democratic Party. All but two Democratic senators have accepted campaign contributions from WorldCom, Enron, or Arthur Andersen. Unfortunately, no public interest group is able to match the relentless lobbying and contributing by corporate heavy-hitters. And until we have such a populist countervailing force, we are doomed to live in a less and less democratic society. Adapted from *Pigs at the Trough* by Arianna Huffington, published by *Crown Publishers*, a division of *Random House*, quoted in *U.S. News & World Report*, January 20, 2003.

THE LOW MORALITY/BIG GOVERNMENT CONNECTION

The more libertine the society becomes, the more laws and rules are needed to govern individual behavior. Ever notice that Leftists, who are the biggest advocates for the all-intrusive government, also are the biggest advocates of anything-goes morality? Some see an inconsistency between those two positions. But this is no anomaly. The more people misbehave and are incapable of taking care of themselves and their families, the more government has a pretext to enter every part of the individual's life. Rampant sexual immorality leads to broken families, which in turn undermines the main bulwark against the state—the nuclear family. The more people live like hedonists, the more social programs we'll need to pay their bills and pick up the pieces. The less people obey the laws of nature and the laws of God, the more they will be beholden to the laws of the state, and to those who control the state's apparatus. As I see it, the dual liberal programs of increasing government and undermining virtue are interconnected, with the absence of virtue leading directly to the goal of bigger government." *The Federalist Brief*, February 3, 2003.

Editor's note: When the masses depend on the state, and vice-versa, Sunday laws can happen suddenly.

“Political corruption is destroying love of justice and regard for truth; and even in free America, rulers and legislators, in order to secure public favor, will yield to the popular demand for a law enforcing Sunday observance. Liberty of conscience, which has cost so great a sacrifice, will no longer be respected.” *The Great Controversy*, 592.

Dear bother Jeff,

Why is your interpretation on Daniel 11: 40 King of the south (Egypt), Egypt in verse 42, and Egypt in verse 43, not consistently atheism? Only By God's Grace, MKL—an email from Asia

Dear MKL,

The king of the south in verse forty is atheistic France at the beginning and ultimately Russia, later to be the Soviet Union. This is established by identifying the power that dominates or controls Egypt. The rule in Daniel eleven is the power that controls Egypt is the king of the south. Another rule identifies that after the period of the cross, prophecy is understood in a spiritual application. Verse forty begins in 1798, “the time of the end”, according to Daniel and the Spirit of Prophecy, and therefore we look for the power that controls spiritual, not literal, Egypt.

In the passage of Daniel eleven, verse forty to forty-five there is a distinction between the “countries” in verse forty that identifies the geographical area controlled by the king of the south and Egypt. This distinction is recognized by seeing the king of the north sweep over the countries of the king of the south in verse forty, and then after entering into the “glorious land” the king of the north then stretches out his hand against Egypt. If Egypt were the countries of verses forty, she would already be under the authority of the king of the north—before verses forty-two and forty-three, where Egypt is conquered.

When Egypt is conquered by the king of the north (the Papacy, in alliance with and empowered by the USA, as symbolized by chariots, ships, and horsemen in verse forty)—Egypt is symbolizing the entire world. The conquering of the countries of the world as symbolized by Egypt in verses forty-two and forty-three is identifying when the USA forces the whole earth to receive the mark of the beast in Revelation thirteen. It is also when the ten kings of Revelation seventeen join together with the beast for one hour. In that scene, prophecy is describing the world as being divided up into ten districts. This is exactly how the United Nations divides the world. It (the UN) has divided the world into ten districts, each with a capitol. This is the one-world government of Revelation seventeen that will eventually be forced by the USA to come into a union with the papacy to govern the world. When the ten kings agree to govern the world with the papacy, then the king of the north (the papacy) will have conquered Egypt in verses forty-two and forty-three.

The United Nations was established as a socialistic or atheistic form of government. Egypt is the entire world in verses forty-two and forty-three, and the one-world government that is in place when the papacy takes control of it is an atheistic form of government. Revelation seventeen says that the ten kings, (the United Nations) will rule one hour (a short space) with the beast, and it could be assumed that the papacy and the UN have equal power in their arrangement, but Sister White says that this final system will be under one head—the papacy. The system of government for the one-world UN is atheistic (Egyptian) but the philosophical principles that it is guided by are Catholic, and the entire system is sustained by the apostate Protestantism of the USA with its military and economic might.

Verse forty is identifying the powers that primarily dominated spiritual Egypt from the 1798 time period until the end. Those powers being first France then Russia. They were the last kings of the south. In verses forty-two and forty-three Egypt is being used to identify the one-world system that controls the entire world through the force of the USA. There is a close relationship, for the one-world system is built upon atheistic principles, but the message of verse forty-two and forty-three is about the conquering of the entire world by the king of the north in fulfillment of the complete healing of the deadly wound.

Brother Jeff,

I appreciate your response. Please explain to me how & what basis do you have to substantiate your interpretation on Libya & Ethiopia. Libya representing third world and Ethiopia first world? Only By God's Grace, MKL—an email from Asia

Dear MKL,

As in the previous answer to your first question, much of the understanding comes from the context of the verse. In the previous answer the king of the south and Egypt have a close relationship, but within the context of the verse we see a distinction made between them. To identify Ethiopia and Lybia we must see that they are used in connection with Egypt. In verse forty-two and forty-three the king of the north is conquering Egypt and taking control of her wealth. In the description given in these two verses Ethiopia and Lybia are identified. You must ask the question then: What is the relationship of these three countries?

Egypt symbolizes atheism in some passages of prophecy by incorporating Pharaoh into its definition, but most often Egypt symbolizes the world in Bible prophecy. To identify Lybia and Ethiopia we should look for their relationship in Biblical history to Egypt, while applying Egypt as symbolizing the entire world.

In relation to Egypt, Ethiopia was a wealthy and prosperous nation that took a cut on all the wealth that came into Egypt through lower Africa. Lybia though, was always a poor downtrodden country in the history of Egypt. These two countries primary relationship to Egypt, when Egypt is symbolizing the entire world, is their economic relationship with Egypt. One is poor and one is rich. Remember, the verses are describing how the king of the north takes control of the silver and gold and precious things of Egypt. Economics is definitely part of the meaning conveyed, and these two countries symbolize how the world is divided in a general sense at the end of time. In modern language the speak of the western world (rich) and the third world (poor).

Another consideration is found when we remember that we have been told several times in Inspiration that the books of Daniel and Revelation are the same book. In Revelation thirteen, when John is recording the identical time period in history when the king of the north takes control of the entire world, or as John identifies it, when the entire world is forced to receive the mark of the beast. At that time period—describing the same event, John also divides the world into rich and poor:

And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by *the means of* those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, [earth here meaning—the entire world, or as Daniel symbolized the entire world with the word Egypt.] that they should make an image to the beast, [image of the beast having only one definition! That being the combination of church and state, or, when the religious power so dominates or controls the state, that the state is employed by the religion to enforce its decrees and sustain its institutions. By the definition of the image of the beast—to force the entire world to make an image of the beast, identifies that the USA will force a one-world government upon the inhabitants of the earth.] which had the wound by a sword, and did live.

And he [the USA] had power to give life unto the image of the beast, [the one-world government is empowered by the USA] that the image of the beast should both speak, [“speaking” in Bible prophecy is the action of the legislative and judicial authorities, see *The Great Controversy* page 442. Clearly then this is a one-world government: by the definition of the image of the beast and by recognizing “speaking” as pointing out a legislature and judicial power. Note three things: 1. image to the beast: the state is enforcing the wishes of the religion upon the whole world. 2. This image consists of a legislature and judiciary power if it is to “speak”. 3. The whole process is set up and empowered by the USA.] and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.

And he causeth all, [“all” being Daniel’s Egypt with all its countries] both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, [“small, great—rich, poor—free, bond” is John’s way of saying Lybia and Ethiopia] to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:

And that no man might buy or sell, [John as did Daniel identifying economics in this passage.] save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Revelation 13:14–17.

Hope this helps. Jeff

Dear Jeff and Co-laborer in Christ, I have been sharing with everyone the present truths God has indeed given you, but once in a while I run into a problem, and this one comes up now and then, can you help?

I am meeting a rebuttal in Daniel 8:11. What I am being told is that normally number 7311, "ruwm" means to be lifted up, magnified, extolled, but that when "ruwm" is in the "hophal" tense, it's meaning becomes altered to "abolished", "destroyed" "removed". When I searched this out, to my dismay, my lexicons seemed to support this. Yet I know that somehow they are wrong, because after much prayer, I believe God showed me that he has indeed given you a message of truth. Is there some way that I can use to show them perhaps by literal example of "ruwm" in the Old Testament Hebrew in other passages where it is in the "hophal" tense that it does mean as you teach? Please help me. Thank you. GC—PA

Brother PA: I can recommend to you the study titled *The Mystery of the Daily*. This study arrives at the correct position in a very theological fashion. The argument you have been confronted with seems to be a theological dilemma which is many times a dilemma that should not even be brought into the discussion. I have a hard time getting motivated to dig into the Greek and Hebrew if I do not sense I am working with someone who is subject to the simple truth as located in the Scriptures. I am not speaking at you, but about those who you are hearing this challenge from. Personally I have had several men oppose some simple truths of prophecy using their understanding of theology and very unoften does our interaction seem to move either of us. Let me give you a couple of examples of what I mean.

There are *some* who correctly understand the "glorious holy mountain" of Daniel eleven verse forty-five as symbolizing God's church. This is a correct understanding. Yet these same men will insist that in verse forty-one, within the same narrative, the "glorious land" is also God's church. The Bible has been written for the most simple man—not the most intellectual. When we leave the simplicity of a passage and seek to develop something beyond simplicity, we are not imitating Christ, for He is the author of the Bible, and He kept it simple. My point is this: Why would Daniel identify God's church within five verses of one another, within the same narrative of history, and use two different symbols to do it. The simple truth is that the very fact that Daniel made a distinction between the glorious land and the glorious holy mountain demonstrates they are different.

When it comes to the word that your theologians are challenging you with, the question is not resolved in the sense of the Hebrew words, it is resolved with simple reasoning. Your theologians will tell you that in Daniel eleven thirty-one, when it reads "they shall **take away** the daily *sacrifice*", that the Hebrew word translated as "take away" is the same Hebrew word translated as "**taken away**" in Daniel twelve verse eleven. The Hebrew word (*sur*) in both verses conveys the sense of something that is removed. They want to teach and uphold a position about what the "daily" symbolizes in Daniel, that Sister White stated was "from Satan" and would "bring in confusion". See *Manuscript Releases*, volume 20, 17–22.

One of their many problems in trying to build this false doctrine is that in Daniel eight verse eleven, when once again the "daily" is being addressed, they want to insist the "take away" of that verse has the same definition as the "take away" of Daniel eleven verse thirty-one and chapter twelve verse eleven. Their dilemma is that the word translated as take away in Daniel eight verse eleven is a different Hebrew word than "sur". Here it is "rum". They therefore dig deep into the sense of the Hebrew to establish the definition they are seeking, in order to uphold their erroneous ideas. But just as with the glorious land and the glorious holy mountain: If Daniel was seeking to convey the identical symbol, or thought, or idea—then Daniel uses the same word. The fact that he chose a different word demonstrates a different meaning.

My answer to your request is to seek to understand truth as if you were seeking for the pearl of great price, but do not spend too much time running down an answer for those who choose to disbelieve the simple truth. Even if they style themselves as theologians.

“While God has given ample evidence for faith, He will never remove all excuse for unbelief. All who look for hooks to hang their doubts upon will find them. And those who refuse to accept and obey God’s word until every objection has been removed, and there is no longer an opportunity for doubt, will never come to the light.” *The Great Controversy*, 527.

Let me present a very brief overview of the “daily” for your consideration. William Miller and the pioneers identified the “daily” as paganism. Just read their recorded messages. Sister White stated they were correct:

“Then I saw in relation to the ‘daily’ Daniel 8:12 that the word ‘sacrifice’ was supplied by man’s wisdom, and does not belong to the text, and that the Lord gave the correct view of it to those who gave the judgment hour cry. When union existed, before 1844, nearly all were united on the correct view of the ‘daily’; but in the confusion since 1844, other views have been embraced, and darkness and confusion have followed. Time has not been a test since 1844, and it will never again be a test.” *Early Writings*, 74.

William Miller symbolizes those who gave the judgment hour cry. He discovered and identified the “daily” as paganism.

“To William Miller and his collaborators it was given to preach the warning in America. . . . Far and wide spread the message of the everlasting gospel: ‘Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come.’” *The Great Controversy*, 368.

Sister White identifies the history of the “daily” as a pattern for the final fulfillment of Daniel eleven:

“We have no time to lose. Troublous times are before us. The world is stirred with the spirit of war. Soon the scenes of trouble spoken of in the prophecies will take place. The prophecy in the eleventh of Daniel has nearly reached its complete fulfillment. Much of the history that has taken place in fulfillment of this prophecy will be repeated. In the thirtieth verse a power is spoken of that ‘shall be grieved, and return, and have indignation against the holy covenant: so shall he do; he shall even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant.’ [Verses 31–36, quoted.]

“Scenes similar to those described in these words will take place. We see evidence that Satan is fast obtaining the control of human minds who have not the fear of God before them. Let all read and understand the prophecies of this book, for we are now entering upon the time of trouble spoken of: [Daniel 12:1–4, quoted.]. *Manuscript Releases*, volume 13, 394.

There is no way to align the identification that your theologian friends make of their idea of the history of the “daily” with the final fulfillment of Daniel eleven. Those who teach their false position, [That error being: the “daily” symbolizes Christ work in the Heavenly Sanctuary], teach that His work was removed by the papacy. This removal of Christ’s work in the sanctuary supposedly continued until 1844, when Christ entered the Most Holy Place. In their own false publications they teach that Christ’s work in the Sanctuary is to never be obscured or removed again after 1844.

Yet Sister White teaches that the history represented by the “daily” is repeated! She says: “Scenes similar to these will be repeated”.

Brother PA, you state in your own words that “I believe God showed me that he has indeed given you a message of truth”. I believe He has given us a message of truth, and that our understanding of the “daily” is sound. There are many who are seeking for a clearer understanding of truth, but they are not always those who are right in front of us. To often those nearest aren’t seeking. If God has shown you that your understanding of the “daily” is correct, then do not let those who reject your understanding put you on the defensive. Have them explain why Daniel chose two different Hebrew words in order to teach the identical truth, before you worry about identifying what senses the words are written in. If they can’t give a simple answer for why Daniel chose different words, then don’t get down off the wall to attack the windmills they are erecting in front of you. Jeff

“God has given in his Word sufficient evidence of its divine character. The great truths which concern our redemption are clearly presented. By the aid of the Holy Spirit, which is promised to all who seek it in sincerity, every man may understand these truths for himself. God has granted to men a strong foundation upon which to rest their faith.

“Yet the finite minds of men are inadequate fully to comprehend the plans and purposes of the Infinite One. We can never by searching find out God. We must not attempt to lift with presumptuous hand the curtain behind which he veils his majesty. The apostle exclaims, ‘How unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!’ Romans 11:33. We can so far comprehend his dealings with us, and the motives by which he is actuated, that we may discern boundless love and mercy united to infinite power. Our Father in Heaven orders everything in wisdom and righteousness, and we are not to be dissatisfied and distrustful, but to bow in reverent submission. He will reveal to us as much of his purposes as it is for our good to know, and beyond that we must trust the Hand that is omnipotent, the Heart that is full of love.

“While God has given ample evidence for faith, he will never remove all excuse for unbelief. All who look for hooks to hang their doubts upon, will find them. And those who refuse to accept and obey God’s Word until every objection has been removed, and there is no longer an opportunity for doubt, will never come to the light.

“Distrust of God is the natural outgrowth of the unrenewed heart, which is at enmity with him. But faith is inspired by the Holy Spirit, and it will flourish only as it is cherished. No man can become strong in faith without a determined effort. Unbelief strengthens as it is encouraged; and if men, instead of dwelling upon the evidences which God has given to sustain their faith, will permit themselves to question and cavil, they will find their doubts constantly becoming more confirmed.

“But those who doubt God’s promises, and distrust the assurance of his grace, are dishonoring him; and their influence, instead of drawing others to Christ, tends to repel them from him. They are unproductive trees, that spread their dark branches far and wide, shutting away the sunlight from other plants, and causing them to droop and die under the chilling shadow. The life-work of these persons will appear as a never-ceasing witness against them. They are sowing seeds of doubt and skepticism that will yield an unfailing harvest.

“There is but one course for those to pursue who honestly desire to be freed from doubts. Instead of questioning and caviling concerning that which they do not understand, let them give heed to the light which already shines upon them, and they will receive greater light. Let them do every duty which has been made plain to their understanding, and they will be enabled to understand and perform those of which they are now in doubt.

“Satan can present a counterfeit so closely resembling the truth that it deceives those who are willing to be deceived, who desire to shun the self-denial and sacrifice demanded by the truth; but it is impossible for him to hold under his power one soul who honestly desires, at whatever cost, to know the truth. Christ is the truth, and the ‘light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.’ John 1:9. The Spirit of truth has been sent, to guide men into all truth. And upon the authority of the Son of God it is declared, ‘Seek, and ye shall find.’ ‘If any man will do His will, he shall know of the doctrine.’ Matthew 7:7; John 7:17.

“The followers of Christ know little of the plots which Satan and his hosts are forming against them. But He who sitteth in the heavens will overrule all these devices for the accomplishment of his deep designs. The Lord permits his people to be subjected to the fiery ordeal of temptation, not because he takes pleasure in their distress and affliction, but because this process is essential to their final victory. He could not, consistently with his own glory, shield them from temptation; for the very object of the trial is to prepare them to resist all the allurements of evil.

“Neither wicked men nor devils can hinder the work of God or shut out his presence from his people, if they will, with subdued, contrite hearts, confess and put away their sins, and in faith claim his promises. Every temptation, every opposing influence, whether open or secret, may be successfully resisted, ‘not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.’ Zechariah 4:6. *The Great Controversy*, 527–529.

“Now I am to tell them [that] when I was shown this matter, when Elder Daniells was lifting up his voice like a trumpet in advocating his ideas of the ‘Daily,’ the after results were presented. Our people were becoming confused. I saw the result, and then there were given me cautions that if Elder Daniells without respect to the outcome should thus be impressed and let himself believe he was under the inspiration of God, skepticism would be sown among our ranks everywhere, and we should be where Satan would carry his messages. Set unbelief and skepticism would be sown in human minds, and strangecrops of evil would take the place of truth.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 20, 17–22.

Quotes of Wisdom

In the context of theological controversy:

“An appeaser is one who feeds a crocodile hoping it will eat him last.”—Winston Churchill.

“If everyone is thinking alike then somebody isn’t thinking.”—George S. Patton.