LAST DAY PREDICTIONS

JESUS COULD HAVE COME LONG AGO

Mt. 24:3.

"In this age of the world, as the scenes of earth's history are soon to close and we are about to enter upon the time of trouble such as never was, the fewer the marriages contracted, the better for all, both men and women." 5T 366, 1885...

"The Lifegiver's voice has not yet called the sleeping saints from their gloomy prisons, but we have not lost faith, because the predicted hour has not yet arrived... The hour will come; it is not far distant, and some of us who now believe will be alive upon the earth, and shall see the prediction verified, and hear the voice of the archangel, and the trump of God echo from mountain and plain and sea, to the uttermost parts of the earth. All creation will hear that voice, and those who have lived and died in Jesus, will respond to the call of the Prince of Life." RH 7-31-1888, p. 482.

"... The loud cry of the third angel has already begun ..." 1SM 363; 7BC 984; RH 11-22-1892.

"You will not be able to say that He will come in one, two, or five years, neither are you to put off His coming by stating that it may not be for ten or twenty years." RH 3-22-1892, p. 178. 1891. Ev. 221.

"Had the church of Christ done her appointed work as the Lord ordained, the whole world would before this have been warned, and the Lord Jesus would have come to our earth in power and great glory." DA 633-4, 1898. 6T 450, 1900.

"... if they had obeyed His Word, they could today be in the heavenly Canaan." GCB 3-30-1903 (See also Ev 694).

"We may have to remain here in this world <u>because of insubordination</u> <u>many more years</u>, as did the children of Israel; but for Christ's sake, His people should not add sin to sin by charging God with the consequence of their own wrong course of action." Ev 696, 1901.

What does Ellen White mean by "insubordination"? That means we haven't done what the Lord has asked us to do. As an example: We were told years ago we should evangelize the large cities. We did not do it. In fact we were told the ministers alone are not equal to this task. MM 248. We were told they should have "medical evangelists" do this work with them. Now the church has stopped using medical evangelists. These were doctors trained as doctors but practicing in sanitariums without use of drugs, paid for from the tithe and ordained for this special type of work.

"Every city is to be entered by workers trained to do medical missionary work. As the right hand of the third angel's message, God's methods of treating disease will open doors for the entrance of present truth."—Testimonies for the Church 7:59. CME 8.4

"My brethren, the Lord calls for unity, for oneness. We are to be one in the faith. I wish to tell you that when the gospel ministers and the medical missionary workers are not united, there is placed on our churches the WORST EVIL that can be placed there." MM 241. That is the state that we are in now.

"A great work will be done in our cities when more earnest plans are laid for the furtherance of the cause of present truth in these places." 12MR 165; 17MR 35. But how can the Lord bless plans that have not been made?

We don't even seem to understand what sin is. It is just as much sin to violate God's laws of nature as to break one of the ten commandments. CDF 45. God's health laws made in heaven are moral laws and unchangeable.

Health reform is to purify the church. 9T. 162-3. When have you last heard that preached from the pulpit?

FULFILLED PREDICTION

1)FALSE DOCTRINES

"The enemy will bring in false theories, such as the doctrine that there is no sanctuary. This is one of the points on which there will be a departing from the faith." CWE 53, 1905.

"He (Satan) is constantly seeking to deceive the followers of Christ with his fatal sophistry that it is impossible for them to overcome." GC 489.

2) LUXURY OF WORLD BECOMES LUXURY OF THE CHURCH

"When the professed people of God are uniting with the world, living as they live, and joining with them in forbidden pleasures; when the luxury of the world becomes the luxury of the church; when the marriage bells are chiming, and all are looking forward to many years of worldly prosperity,--then, suddenly as the lightning flashes from the heavens, will come the end of their bright visions and delusive hopes." GC 338-9.

3) AMUSEMENTS

"Amusements are doing more to counteract the working of the Holy Spirit than anything else, and the Lord is grieved..." MYP 371.

"Those who believed when Noah began to build the ark, lost their faith through associations with unbelievers who aroused all the old passion for amusement and display." RH Sept. 15, 1904.

4) FASHION

"Obedience to fashion is pervading our Seventh-day Adventist churches and is doing more than any other power to separate our people from God." 4T 647.

5) A CHURCH SUPERIOR TO ALL IN ITS FACILITIES TO TEACH THE TRUTH

"God has a distinct people, a church on earth, second to none, but superior to all in their facilities to teach the truth, to vindicate the law of God...." LDE 43.

Our laity taking hold of the work. The ASI, Maranatha, Gospel Outreach, etc. Roofs on churches in Africa. Radio, TV, publications (Go 1 Million, Sow 1 Billion)

Resulting in a church of less than half a million in 1900 to over 20 million now. In Jamaica one in ten are SDAs.

School system

Medical system - Sir Run, Run Shaw Hospital in China, Congress funds helping hospital in Afghanistan. Proton, Adventist Health Study (\$18 million), etc. First to discover many things.

Health work - Stop smoking program Administrative system vs. other churches. Tithing system.

6) LOMA LINDA MEDICAL SCHOOL LEADING SCHOOL ON WEST COAST

"The Southern California Conference president then stated that Sister White had said that this sanitarium should be the principal training school on this coast. At this point Sister White interrupted him and said, 'This will be.'" Minutes of Southern California Conference, June 20, 1905. Our Health Message p. 298.

- 7) In China from about 1902 until 1948 we had 21000 Chinese members. From then until the present we have now 472000 members without any foreign missionaries.
- 8) Ellen White said, "There are living upon earth men who have passed the age of fourscore and ten. The natural results of old age are seen in their feebleness. But they believe God, and God loves them. The seal of God is upon them..." 7BC 983. Those sealed are "nevermore to be defiled by... the tempter's devices." 5T. 475.

REASONS FOR PROMOTION OF NATIONAL SUNDAY LAW

CIRCUMSTANCES OF ADVERSITY

The basis for the promotion of Sunday laws is the lack of prosperity and disasters. GC 589-590; 445. However, the Sunday law means national apostasy which results in national ruin. There also must be a union of the churches to promote Sunday. This could happen very quickly.

"Satan works through the elements also to garner his harvest of unprepared souls. He has studied the secrets of the laboratories of nature, and he uses all his power to control the elements as far as God allows. When he was suffered to afflict Job, how quickly flocks and herds, servants, houses, children, were swept away, one trouble succeeding another as in a moment. It is God that shields His creatures and hedges them in from the power of the destroyer. But the Christian world have shown contempt for the law of Jehovah; and the Lord will do just what He has declared that He would--He will withdraw His blessings from the earth and remove His protecting care from those who are rebelling against His law and teaching and forcing others to do the same. Satan has control of all whom God does not especially guard. He will favor and prosper some in order to further his own designs, and he will bring trouble upon others and lead men to believe that it is God who is afflicting them.

"While appearing to the children of men as a great physician who can heal all their maladies, he will bring disease and disaster, until populous cities are reduced to ruin and desolation. Even now he is at work. In accidents and calamities by sea and by land, in great conflagrations, in fierce tornados and terrific hailstorms, in tempests, floods, cyclones, tidal waves, and earthquakes, in every place and in a thousand forms, Satan is exercising his power. He sweeps away the ripening harvest, and famine and distress follow. He imparts to the air a deadly taint, and thousands perish by the pestilence. These visitations are to become more and more frequent and disastrous. Destruction will be upon both man and beast. 'The earth mourneth and fadeth away,' 'the haughty people . . . do languish. The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken

the everlasting covenant.' Isaiah 24:4, 5.

"They will charge all their troubles upon those whose obedience to God's commandments is a perpetual reproof to transgressors. It will be declared that men are offending God by the violation of the Sunday sabbath; that this sin has brought calamities which will not cease until Sunday observance shall be strictly enforced; and that those who present the claims of the fourth commandment, thus destroying reverence for Sunday, are troublers of the people, preventing their restoration to divine favor and temporal prosperity. Thus the accusation urged of old against the servant of God will be repeated and upon grounds equally well established: 'And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel? And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that we have forsaken the commandments of the Lord, and thou hast followed Baalim.' 1 Kings 18:17, 18. As the wrath of the people shall be excited by false charges, they will pursue a course toward God's ambassadors very similar to that which apostate Israel pursued toward Elijah."

<u>SUMMARY – Lack of prosperity, disease, calamities</u>

PREDICTIONS YET TO BE FULFILLED

1. UNIONS

"The trade unions will be one of the agencies that will bring upon the earth a time of trouble such as has not been since the world began..."

LDE 116)

"The time is fast coming when the controlling power of the labor unions will be very oppressive." 2SM 141; LDE 117.

After the Sunday law is the time of trouble. The trade unions will have to become a lot stronger before the Sunday law to cause all the trouble later. At present they are quite weak with the right to work laws, etc.

2. A WORK WILL HAVE TO BE DONE UNDER TERRIBLE CIRCUMSTANCES

"The work which the church has failed to do in a time of peace and prosperity, she will have to do in a terrible crisis, under the most discouraging, forbidding circumstances." EV 31; 5T 463.

"We have no time to lose. The end is near. The passage from place to place to spread the truth will soon be hedged up with dangers on the right hand and on the left. Everything will be placed to obstruct the way of the Lord's messengers, so that they will not be able to do that which it is possible for them to do now." CS 79; 6T 22.

This could occur when we are persecuted or possibly after the Sunday law is enacted.

3. RIGHTEOUS TO EXPECT PERSECUTION

"Of those who honor Jesus, and keep the commandments of the Lord, Christ has said, 'Marvel not if the world hate you.' We can expect no better treatment from the world than the treatment given to the law of God. Those who vindicate the law of God by keeping the commandments, will be targets for the wrath of the dragon, and opposition to righteousness will not end until evil is destroyed; for as long as human nature is under the control of the enemy of all

righteousness, enmity to the righteous will be manifested through the children of men. The offense of the cross has not ceased by any means. Satan has his most efficient batteries masked under pretensions to godliness, and he will cause them to open fire upon the followers of Jesus Christ. The servants of God must expect that they will be reviled, misrepresented, maligned, persecuted, and oppressed; for all who 'will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.'" ST. November 14, 1895.

"The only reason why we do not now suffer greater persecution is, we do not in our lives more faithfully exemplify the life of Christ. I assure you, brethren and sisters, if you walk as he walked, you will know what it is to be persecuted and reproached for his sake." RH, August 28, 1883.

"The apostle Paul declares that "all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." Why is it, then, that persecution seems in a great degree to slumber? The only reason is, that the church has conformed to the world's standard, and therefore awakens no opposition. The religion which is current in our day is not of the pure and holy character that marked the Christian faith in the days of Christ and His apostles. It is only because of the spirit of compromise with sin, because the great truths of the Word of God are so indifferently regarded, because there is so little vital godliness in the church, that Christianity is apparently so popular with the world. Let there be a revival of faith and power of the early church, and the spirit of persecution will be revived, and the fires of persecution will be rekindled." GC 48.

The latter rain is poured out before the National Sunday Law as it is to cause a revival and strengthen us for the time of trouble which comes right after the Sunday law. The Church has been praying for the latter rain and therefore we do expect it before the Sunday law. This revival of the Church will result in persecution.

4. MANY OF OUR PEOPLE WILL BE SCATTERED

"The time is soon coming when God's people, because of persecution, will be scattered in many countries. Those who have received an allround education will have the advantage where they are." LDE 152.

Elder Arthur White stated he believed this occurred when our people were scattered from Mountain View, CA. I believe this still could be in the future.

5. "More than one thousand will soon be converted in one day, most of whom will trace their first conviction to the receiving of our publications." RH Nov. 10, 1865. CM 151.

Some will be "unwilling converted."

"I have been shown how reading matter on present truth is sometimes treated by many people in Europe and in other countries. A person receives a tract or paper. He reads a little in it, finds something that does not agree with his former views, and throws it aside. But the few words he did read are not forgotten. Unwelcome though they are, they remain in the mind until an interest is awakened to read further on the subject. Again the paper is taken up, again the reader finds something in it that is opposed to his long cherished opinions and customs, and he angrily flings it aside. But the rejected messenger says nothing to increase his opposition or arouse his combativeness, and when his anger dies away and the paper is again brought out, it tells the same, simple, straightforward story, and drinks in it precious gems. Angels of God are near to impress the unspoken word upon his heart and, although loth to do so, he at last yields, and light takes possession of his soul. Those who are thus UNWILLINGLY CONVERTED, often prove to be among the most substantial believers, and their experience teaches them to labor perseveringly for others." Historical Sketches 150, 1886.

SPIRITUAL CONDITION OF THE CHURCH

1. MASS OF PEOPLE JOIN THE CHURCH; ADVERSITY PURGES MANY OUT

"Prosperity multiplies a mass of professors. Adversity purges them out of the church." LDE 173. Prosperity cannot happen after the national Sunday law. The national Sunday law represents or is national apostasy which is followed by national ruin. The persecution that follows and the Sunday law could be the adversity that purges many out.

"The church may appear as about to fall, but it does not fall. It remains, while the sinners in Zion will be sifted out..." LDE 180. Because many of their standards are left to fall in the dust.

"As the storm approaches (Sunday law followed by the time of trouble), a large class who have professed faith in the third angel's message, but have not been sanctified through obedience to the truth, abandon their position and join the ranks of the opposition." LDE 180-1.

"Standard after standard was left to trail in the dust as company after company from the Lord's army joined the foe and tribe after tribe from the ranks of the enemy united with the commandment-keeping people of God." LDE 182; 8T 41 (1904).

It's persecution which purges the church. Yet, on the other hand, it appears that more come in than go out.

2. MANY LEADERS WILL LEAVE THE CHURCH

"Many a star that we have admired for its brilliance will then go out in darkness." LDE 178. Resulting from persecution after the revival of the church from the latter rain both before and after the Sunday law. "Many will stand in our pulpits with the torch of false prophecy in their hands, kindled from the hellish torch of Satan..." LDE 179. Does this not mean "Standard after standard are left to trail in the dust"?

3. MANY WHO FIRST GIVE UP THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY WILL THEN LEAVE THE CHURCH

"One thing is certain: Those Seventh-day Adventists who take their stand under Satan's banner will first give up their faith in the warnings and reproofs contained in the Testimonies of God's Spirit." LDL 177.

"The very last deception of Satan will be to make of none effect the testimony of the Spirit of God. 'Where there is no vision, the people perish.' Satan will work ingeniously, in different ways and through different agencies, to unsettle the confidence of God's remnant people in the true testimony." LDE 177-8.

"It is Satan's plan to weaken the faith of God's people in the Testimonies. Next follows skepticism in regard to the vital points of our faith, the pillars of our position, then doubt as to the Holy Scriptures and then the downward march to perdition." LDL 178

It is obvious to the students who study the Spirit of Prophecy that many in the Church even today are not real believers in the Spirit of Prophecy.

4. MEAT EATERS LEAVE THE CHURCH

"Among those who are waiting for the coming of the Lord, meat eating will eventually be done away; flesh will cease to form a part of their diet." CDF 380-1.

"Many who are now only half converted on the question of meat eating will go from God's people to walk no more with them." CDF 382.

"Those who are in a position where it is possible to secure a vegetarian diet, but who choose to follow their own preferences in this matter, eating and drinking as they please, will gradually grow careless of the instruction the Lord has given regarding other phases of the present truth, and will lose their perception of what is truth; they will surely reap as they have sown." CDF 403.

"God demands that the appetites be cleansed (regarding flesh foods, tea, and coffee, and rich and unhealthful food preparations), and that self-denial be practiced in regard to those things which are not good. This is a work that will have to be done before His people can stand before Him a perfected people." CDF 161.

This is just one small test for God's people although many in the Church have yet to learn how the Lord looks at the diet question.

5. MUSIC BEFORE PROBATION CLOSES

"The things you have described as taking place in Indiana, the Lord has shown me would take place just before the close of probation. Every uncouth thing will be demonstrated. There will be shouting, with drums, music, and dancing. The senses of rational beings will become so confused that they cannot be trusted to make right decisions.... A bedlam of noise shocks the senses and perverts that which if conducted aright might be a blessing. The powers of satanic agencies blend with the din and noise to have a carnival, and this is termed the Holy Spirit's working.... Those things which have been in the past will be in the future, Satan will make music a snare by the way in which it is conducted." LDE 159.

Is it speaking about people of the world or is it talking about our Church people? Yes, it is talking about our Church people. There are youth today who are not too far from this. In contrast we have the youth in the GYC who are converted youth.

DISASTERS AND ECONOMIC SITUATION

1. ATMOSPHERE

"Satan is working in the atmosphere; he is poisoning the atmosphere, and here we are dependent upon God for our lives--our present and eternal lives." LDE 26.

"God has not restrained the powers of darkness from carrying forward their deadly work of vitiating the air, one of the sources of life and nutrition with a deadly miasma. Not only is vegetable life affected but man suffers from pestilence. . . . These things are the result of drops from the vials of God's wrath being sprinkled on the earth, and are but faint representations of what will be in the near future." LDE 27.

Scientifically it has been shown that a bad atmosphere increases disease.

2. NAVIES GO DOWN; MANY DISASTERS; MILLIONS DIE

"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!"

MYP 89-90. 1890. LDE 24.

This could well occur in its greatest extent after the Sunday law but we do know that the reason for promoting the Sunday law is because of the great disasters which are occurring.

3. WE WILL HEAR THE SHRIEKS OF EXPIRING NATIONS

"'As It Was In the Days of Noah.' We are living in the very last days of this earth's history. The terrible calamities that have recently visited our

country show that the judgments of the Lord are falling on the world. The destruction of these cities is a warning to us to prepare for what is coming upon the earth. In the future there will be broken thrones and great distress of nations, with perplexity. Satan will work with intense activity. The earth will be filled with the shrieks of suffering, expiring nations. There will be war, war. The places of the earth will be in confusion, as from its bowels pours forth its burning contents, to destroy the inhabitants of the world who, their wickedness, resemble the inhabitants of the antediluvian world." 18MR 92.

This is likely to occur after the Sunday law and in the time of trouble.

4. SCHOOLS AMONG US TO B E CLOSED UP

"The wants of the cause will continually increase as we near the close of time. Means is needed to give young men a short course of study in our schools, to prepare them for efficient work in the ministry and in different branches of the cause. We are not coming up to our privilege in this matter. All schools among us will soon be closed up. How much more might have been done had men obeyed the requirements of Christ in Christian beneficence! What an influence would this readiness to give all for Christ have had upon the world! It would have been one of the most convincing arguments in favor of truth we profess to believe--an argument which the world could not misunderstand nor gainsay. The Lord would have distinguished us with His blessing even before the eyes of the world." 5T 156.

Soon there will be no more talk of higher education. It appears the reason for this is financial. With a lack of prosperity and poor economy as a major reason for promoting Sunday observance this could readily occur before the Sunday law.

5. ATTEMPT TO PLACE BUSINESS ON A SOUND BASIS

"There are large hearted men and women who are anxiously considering the condition of the poor and what means can be found for their relief. How the unemployed and the homeless can be helped to secure the common blessings of God's providence and to live the life He intended man to live, is a question to which many are earnestly

endeavoring to find an answer. But there are not many, even among educators and statesmen, who comprehend the causes that underlie the present state of society. Those who hold the reins of government are unable to solve the problem of poverty, pauperism, and increasing crime. They are struggling in vain to place business operations on a more secure basis." MH 183.

It appears this is even occurring in the U.S. now.

What Economists Tell Us Now — Our debt nationally has doubled since 2008. We spend \$200 million dollars every hour that we don't have. We are more in debt than all the countries in Europe combined. We print billions of dollars every month (was 85 billion and then reduced to 65 billion). The U.S. dollar has decreased in value 10% since 2010. 15 of the population are on food stamps (a 60% increase since 2008). When employments benefit end you are no longer considered as unemployed. Highest tax rate on corporations of any country in the world. The gap between the rich and the poor is getting greater because the printing of money increases the stock market and it is the rich that have more stocks so their wealth has increased but it didn't come from the poor. The U.S. dollar is presently the world's reserve currency. It used to be Britain's sterling was. Already many countries are agreeing not to deal in U.S. currency. Soon we will not be the printers of the world's reserve currency, then printing money will not help us and suddenly the stock market will drop 50%. This means the prices of bread, milk gasoline, and everything else will increase not just a little but many fold. Riots, martial law, etc. will likely result. Your 401K could be nationalized. Advice: Don't be in debt, live in the country here you can grow your food.

GOD WORKS IN THESE TIMES

1. CHILDREN TO PROCLAIM THE TRUTH

"When properly conducted, church schools will be the means of lifting the standard of truth in the places where they are established; for children who are receiving a Christian education will be witnesses for Christ. As Jesus in the temple solved the mysteries which priests and rulers had not discerned, so in the closing work of this earth children who have been rightly educated will in their simplicity speak words which will be an astonishment to men who now talk of 'higher education.' As the children sang in the temple courts, 'Hosanna; Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord,' so in these last days children's voices will be raised to give the last message of warning to a perishing world. When heavenly intelligences see that men are no longer permitted to present truth, the Spirit of God will come upon the children, and they will do a work in the proclamation of the truth which the older workers cannot do, because their way will be hedged up." 6T 202.

Children preached in years past in Sweden. Such will occur again. This could well be after the Sunday law when more stringent rules are made to keep adults from speaking on this subject.

2. MIRACLES AND HEALING FOLLOW GOD'S PEOPLE

"In visions of the night representations passed before me of a great reformatory movement among God's people. Many were praising God. The sick were healed, and other miracles were wrought. A spirit of intercession was seen, even as was manifested before the great day of Pentecost. Hundreds and thousands were seen visiting families, and opening before them the word of God. Hearts were convicted by the power of the Holy Spirit, and a spirit of genuine conversion was manifest. On every side doors were thrown open to the proclamation of the truth. The world seemed to be lightened with the heavenly influence. Great blessings were received by the true and humble people of God." 9T 126.

This evidently occurs after the latter rain is poured out and the Church is revived. This could well be before the Sunday law.

SUNDAY PROMOTION

1. COMBINED WITH THE TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT

"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." GC88 587.

The WCTU (World Christian Temperance Organization) will promote both temperance and the Sunday law.

2. BUT STILL LEGALIZING LIQUOR

"Behold the well-nigh universal disregard of the Sabbath commandment. Behold also the daring impiety of those who, while enacting laws to safeguard the supposed sanctity of the first day of the week, at the same time are making laws legalizing the liquor traffic." PK 186.

3. ECONOMIC AND GENERAL PROSPERITY PROMOTED AS BASIS FOR SUNDAY LAW

"While appearing to the children of men as a great physician who can heal all their maladies, he (Satan)will bring disease and disaster, until populous cities are reduced to ruin and desolation. Even now he is at work. In accidents and calamities by sea and by land, in great conflagrations, in fierce tornadoes and terrific hail-storms, in tempests, floods, cyclones, tidal waves, and earthquakes, in every place and in a thousand forms, Satan is exercising his power. He sweeps away the ripening harvest, and famine and distress follow. He imparts to the air a deadly taint, and thousands perish by the pestilence. These visitations are to become more and more frequent and disastrous. Destruction will be upon both man and beast. "The earth mourneth and fadeth away," "the haughty people . . . do languish. The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant." [ISA. 24:4, 5.]

"And then the great deceiver will persuade men that those who serve God are causing these evils. The class that have provoked the displeasure of Heaven will charge all their troubles upon those whose obedience to God's commandments is a perpetual reproof to transgressors. It will be declared that men are offending God by the violation of the Sunday-sabbath, that this sin has brought calamities which will not cease until Sunday observance shall be strictly enforced, and that those who present the claims of the fourth commandment, thus destroying reverence for Sunday, are troublers of the people, preventing their restoration to divine favor and temporal prosperity." GC 589-90.

OTHER INTERESTING ASPECTS OF GOD'S PEOPLE IN THESE DAYS

1. COUNTRY LIVING

"The time is fast coming when the controlling power of the labor unions will be very oppressive. Again and again the Lord has instructed that our people are to take their families away from the cities, into the country, where they can raise their own provisions; for in the future the problem of buying and selling will be a very serious one. We should now begin to heed the instruction given us over and over again: Get out of the cities into rural districts, where the houses are not crowded closely together, and where you will be free from the interference of enemies." AH 141.

"We are to be missionaries having OUR CHIEF AIM THE WINNING OF SOULS TO CHRIST." 3TT. 60. So if you do move to the country have a plan for winning souls.

"O that God's people had a sense of the impending destruction of thousands of cities, now almost given to idolatry." LDE 111.

"The time is near when large cities will be swept away, and all should be warned of these coming judgments." LDE 111.

"God calls upon His people to get out of the cities, isolating themselves from the world. The time will come when they will have to do this. God will care for those who love Him and keep His commandments." Ltr. 5, Jan. 5, 1903.

Avoid disasters of the cities, avoid wickedness of the cities, grow own food, have better health, improve spiritual health.

2. MARRIAGE

"In this age of the world, as the scenes of earth's history are soon to close and we are about to enter upon the time of trouble such as never was, the fewer the marriages contracted, the better for all, both men and women." 5T 366. 1885.

3. GOD'S PEOPLE "WILL" OR "MAY" HAVE TO GIVE UP USING MILK

"In a short time the milk of cows will also be excluded from the diet of God's commandment-keeping people." CDF 411.

"The people everywhere should be taught how to cook without milk and eggs so far as possible, and yet have their food wholesome and palatable." CDF 470.

"The Lord would bring His people into a position where they will not touch or taste the flesh of dead animals. Then let not these things be prescribed by any physicians who have a knowledge of the truth for this time. There is no safety in the eating of the flesh of dead animals, and in a short time the milk of the cows will also be excluded from the diet of God's commandment-keeping people. In a short time it will not be safe to use anything that comes from the animal creation." CDF 411

4. HEALTH

"The reason why many of us will fall in the time of trouble is because of laxity in temperance and indulgences of appetite." RH Oct. 23, 1884, par. 1.

"I wish to tell you that soon there will be no work done in ministerial lines but medical missionary work." CH 533.

"All heaven was represented to me as beholding and watching upon the Sabbath those who acknowledge the claims of the fourth commandment and observing the Sabbath. Angels were marking their interest in, and high regard for the divine institution. Those who sanctified the Lord God in their hearts by a strictly devotional frame of mind, and who sought to improve the sacred hours in keeping he Sabbath to the best of their ability, and to honor God by calling the Sabbath a delight—these the angels were specially blessing with light and health, and special strength was given them." 2T. 704.

5. Spiritual Situation of God's People

"Many have in a great measure failed to receive the former rain. They have not obtained all the benefits that God has thus provided for them. They expect that the lack will be supplied by the latter rain. When the richest abundance of grace shall be bestowed, they intend to open their hearts to receive it. They are making a terrible mistake. . . . If we do not progress, if we do not place ourselves in an attitude to receive both the former and the latter rain, we shall lose our souls, and the responsibility will lie at our own door." TM 507-8.

"I was shown that if God's people make no effort on their part, but wait for the refreshing to come upon them and remove their wrongs and correct their errors; if they depend upon that to cleanse them from filthiness of the flesh and spirit, and fit them to engage in the loud cry of the third angel, they will be found wanting." 1T. 619.

"It is left with us to remedy the defects in our characters, to cleanse the soul temple of every defilement. Then the latter rain will fall upon us as the early rain fell upon the disciples on the Day of Pentecost." 5T. 214.

THE NATIONAL SUNDAY LAW AND AFTER

"When our nation, in its legislative councils, shall enact laws to bind the consciences of men in regard to their religious privileges, enforcing Sunday observance, and bringing oppressive power to bear against those who keep the seventh-day Sabbath, the law of God will, to all intents and purposes, be made void in our land, and national apostasy will be followed by national ruin." LDE 133-4.

"Whenever it is possible, let religious services be held on Sunday. . . . Let the teachers in our schools devote Sunday to missionary effort." 9T 232-3.

"Slavery will be revived in the Southern states, for the spirit of slavery still lives. Therefore it will not do for those who labor among the colored to preach the truth as boldly and openly as they would be free to do in other places, even Christ clothed His lessons in figures and parables to avoid the opposition of the Pharisees. When the colored people feel that they have the Word of God (on their side) in regard to the Sabbath and the sanction of those who have brought them the truth, some who are impulsive will take the opportunity to defy the Sunday laws, and by presumptuous defiance of their oppressors they will bring to themselves much sorrow. Very faithfully the colored people must be instructed to be like Christ, to patiently suffer wrongs that may help their fellow men to see the light of truth." Ms 22a, Nov. 20, 1895 (3SM 233-4; SW 66-71).

PROBATION CLOSES

Will we know when probation closes? Some have suggested because at that time darkness covers the earth we will know. However, this could mean spiritual darkness and not necessarily literal darkness. There is no Spirit of Prophecy backup to suggest we would know. Because when Jesus stands up to leave the Most Holy place the bells on the hem of His garment ring, some have suggested we will hear this. Again there is no Spirit of Prophecy evidence for this.

TWO CLOSES OF PROBATION

LDE 182. "The time of God's destructive judgments is the time of

Mercy for those who had no opportunity to learn what is truth. Tenderly will the Lord look upon them. His heart of mercy is touched; his hand is still stretched out to save, while the door is closed to those who would not enter." 9T. 97.

SATAN IMPERSONATES CHRIST

"Satan will come personating Jesus Christ, working mighty miracles; and men will fall down and worship him as Jesus Christ. We shall be commanded to worship this being. . . . " LDE 165. If this is after probation closes won't the righteous be in hiding? How would it be a test if the righteous are already sealed? But Satan doesn't know that probation has closed. There are EGW statements which suggest it is after the plagues have started which means it would be after probation has closed. "It is stated in the Word that the enemy will work through his agents who have departed from the faith, and they will seemingly work miracles, even to the bringing down of fire out of heaven in the sight of men [Rev. 13:13, 14]. By means of 'lying wonders' Satan would deceive, if possible, the very elect. 2SM 53-4; 19MR 372.