

PROPHETIC TIME

Part #10: TIME SETTING 2-THE TIME OF THE END

The purpose of this series is to address the phenomenon going on in Adventism today from many places that are attempting to re-apply the time prophecies, particularly of Daniel 12, in the future. We looked at one quote where Sister White says we have no new message, and in connection with that sentence she said we are to continue to preach the message that brought us out of the churches in 1843-44.

“We have, as had John, a message to bear of the things which we have seen and heard. God is not giving us a new message. We are to proclaim the message that in 1843 and 1844 brought us out of the other churches.” *Review and Herald*, January 19, 1905.

The message that we are to continue to preach is what was preached in 1843-44 the foundation of Adventism. The very basic foundation of Adventism that was being preached in 1843-44 was the prophecies of Daniel.

At that point they had a misunderstanding on the sanctuary, so that was not the message at that time. At that point the Spirit of Prophecy was not recognized; at that point the health message was not recognized; all this was light that came after that. So when Sister White said that we need to continue to preach the message of 1843-44, she’s talking about the very message that the Millerites were presenting at that time.

We discussed the truth that after the Great Disappointment the greatest majority left—even beyond the word majority—from fifty thousand believers it went down to fifty. So you’re talking about 49,000 people that had been in the Advent movement and after the Great Disappointment suddenly, if they chose to continue as Christians, they felt they had to come up with a new understanding of those prophecies of Daniel, because they thought they were wrong about them. Many just left the truth altogether, but you had a great body of people at that time that began to re-evaluate these time prophecies in the book of Daniel.

This was in Ellen White’s words, fanaticism, and by far the main fanaticism, which she met over and over again, was the re-applying of the time prophecies of the book of Daniel. She’s the one that called it fanaticism, and she’s clear in more than one passage, that the same fanaticisms that came in at the beginning of the work will be repeated at the end of the work.

We’re going to look at some of the arguments that are used by some that are reapplying the time prophecies at the end of the world, and hopefully demonstrate their misuse of the Spirit of Prophecy.

“But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, *even to the time of the end*: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.” Daniel 12:4.

Many take that passage and suggest at the end of the world, at the time of the end of the world, there's going to be an understanding that comes from these time prophecies that you find in the following verses of Daniel 12. In order to do that they have to identify the time of the end as something that's going to come to pass in our day and age.

In our last study one of the quotes we read was Evangelism 613, where Sister White was talking specifically about people putting the time prophecies at the end of the world. Here's what she said;

“And **many are doing the same thing today**, in 1897 [2002], because they have not had experience in the testing messages comprehended in the **first, second, and third** angel's messages. **There are those who are searching the Scriptures for proof that these messages are still in the future.** They gather together the truthfulness of the messages, but **they fail to give them their proper place in prophetic history.** Therefore such are in danger of misleading the people **in regard to locating the messages. They do not see and understand the time of the end, or when to locate the messages.** The day of God is coming with stealthy tread, but the supposed wise and great men are prating about 'higher education.' They know not the signs of Christ's coming, or of the end of the world.” *Evangelism*, 613.

The Time of the End:

Now I would suggest that one of the techniques of those that are wrapped up in the fanaticism of reapplying the time prophecies at the end of the world today, is this phrase; 'the time of the end' from Daniel 12. They don't understand it. If you're going to apply that passage to the end of time then it would be good if you could find another passage in the Bible or in the Spirit of Prophecy that places it at the end of the world.

I'd like to begin here looking at what the Spirit of Prophecy says about the time of the end, so we can see an inconsistency here.

“The message itself sheds light as to the time when this movement is to take place. It is declared to be a part of the 'everlasting gospel;' and it announces the opening of the judgment. The message of salvation has been preached in all ages; but this message is a part of the gospel which could be proclaimed only in the last days, for only then would it be true that the hour of judgment *had come*. The prophecies present a succession of events leading down to the opening of the judgment. This is especially true of the book of Daniel. But that part of his prophecy which related to the last days, Daniel was bidden to close up and seal 'to the time of the end.' **Not till we reach this time could a message concerning the judgment be proclaimed, based on the fulfillment of these prophecies.** But at the time of the end, says the prophet, 'many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.' Daniel 12:4.” *The Great Controversy*, 255–256.

Sister White here is saying that the ‘time of the end’ is when the time prophecies were fulfilled in the 1843-44 time period; that’s the ‘time of the end’ according to the Spirit of Prophecy; that’s when the understanding of Daniel was awakened in the world. She places it 150 years ago, not some time in the near future.

Here’s another one:

“As the message of Christ’s first advent announced the kingdom of His grace, so the message of His second advent announces the kingdom of His glory. And **the second message, like the first, is based on the prophecies.** The words of the angel to Daniel relating to the last days were to be understood in **the time of the end.** At that time, ‘many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.’ ‘The wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.’ Daniel 12:4, 10.

“**We have reached the period foretold in these scriptures. The time of the end is come, the visions of the prophets are unsealed,** and their solemn warnings point us to our Lord’s coming in glory as near at hand.” *Desire of Ages*, 234–235.

If you’re trying to locate the phrase the ‘time of the end’ in verse 10 where it applies in history, it’s in the 1844, 1798 time period when the books of Daniel became understood. People will try to say that this is some prophetic issue at the end of the world but they’re not in agreement with the Spirit of Prophecy if they do so.

In part 1, we pointed out that the reason that the Jews rejected Christ in His first coming was from a misunderstanding of prophecy. When quoting that history, Sister White said that we are in danger of doing the same through a misunderstanding of prophecy.

And Sister White told us *how* we were prophetically in danger of misunderstanding the Second Coming of Christ. She was very specific. She said the temptation for us in our day, is that we will be attempting to take the time prophecies of Daniel 12 and place them at the end of the world.

Time no Longer:

That’s the parallel for us today and she was very clear about that. In that temptation, there are certain techniques that those who are falling into that fanaticism use; one of them used to set people up is this phrase, ‘the time of the end’. There’s another way to address this phrase ‘the time of the end’, and it’s in Revelation 10 where the angel says ‘there’ll be time no longer’. Sister White is clear that when the angel says ‘there’ll be time no longer’ that prophetic time has come to its end.

“The special light given to John which was expressed in the seven thunders was a delineation of events which would transpire under the first and second angels’ messages. It was not best for the people to know these things, for their faith must necessarily be tested. In the order of God most

wonderful and advanced truths would be proclaimed. The first and second angels' messages were to be proclaimed, but no further light was to be revealed before these messages had done their specific work. This is represented by the angel standing with one foot on the sea, proclaiming with a most solemn oath that **time should be no longer**.

“This time, which the angel declares with a solemn oath, is not the end of this world's history, neither of probationary time, **but of prophetic time**, which should precede the advent of our Lord. That is, **the people will not have another message upon definite time**. After this period of time, **reaching from 1842 to 1844**, there can be no definite tracing of the prophetic time. The longest reckoning reaches to the autumn of 1844.”

The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary, volume 7, 971.

In part 1, I read many quotes from the Spirit of Prophecy, because when you are confronted with this fanaticism in the third world countries where they don't have access to the Spirit of Prophecy, those presenting these false messages do not share the total information on re-applying the time prophecies that is found in the Spirit of Prophecy. They share one or two things out of context to try to make their case. I want us all to see that this wasn't just a minor subject in the Spirit of Prophecy; this was a large presentation in the Spirit of Prophecy.

This 'not having another message based on time' that we just looked at, there is a way that these people try to get around these clear testimonies in the Spirit of Prophecy that there is no more prophetic time. They say, “well, prophetic time, is the day for a year time, but at the end of the world, the prophetic time will not be a day for a year it's going to be a day for a day”. And by taking that position, they try to undermine these statements of the Spirit of Prophecy. But there's no logic in that.

A prophecy is a prophecy; it's a prediction about something that's going to happen—something that's going to take place. If it has no element of time in it then it's just simply a prophecy; if it has an element of time in it, it's a time prophecy! And if the element of time is day for a day, or day for a year, or day for a millennium, (the day of the Lord as a thousand years, there is a day for a millennium time prophecy) it's still a time prophecy. Even if it was a day for a day prophecy, it's still a time prophecy and Sister White here says that we'll never have another message of definite time.

She was a time setter herself and she admits to that:

“I was a firm believer in definite time in 1844, but this prophetic time was not shown me in vision, for it was some months after the passing of this period of time before the first vision was given me. **There were many proclaiming a new time after this, but I was shown that we should not have another definite time to proclaim to the people. All who are acquainted with me and my work will testify that I have borne but one testimony in regard to the setting of the time.**

“I have been shown that **our disappointment in 1844 was not because of failure in the reckoning of prophetic periods, but in the**

events to take place. The earth was believed to be the sanctuary. But the sanctuary which was to be cleansed at the end of the prophetic periods was the heavenly sanctuary and not the earth as we all supposed. The Saviour did enter the Most Holy Place in 1844 to cleanse the sanctuary and the investigative judgment had commenced for the dead. I have been repeatedly urged to accept the different periods of time proclaimed for the Lord to come. I have ever had one testimony to bear: **The Lord will not come at that period**, and you are weakening the faith of even Adventists, and fastening the world in their unbelief. There have been plainly set before me events of great and thrilling interest, which must transpire before Christ will come. Satan will move mightily from beneath, and will delude the world, while the Lord God Omnipotent will move from above and prepare a people to stand in the great day of His wrath.

“The time-setters have pronounced the curse of the Lord upon me as an unbeliever who said, My Lord delayeth His coming. But I have told them that the books of heaven would not make my record thus, for the Lord knows that I loved and longed for the appearing of Christ. **But their oft-repeated message of definite time was exactly what the enemy wanted, and it served his purpose well to unsettle the faith in the first proclamation of time, which was of heavenly origin.**

“The world placed all time-proclamation on the same level and called it a delusion, fanaticism and heresy. Ever since 1844 I have borne my testimony that we were now in a period of time in which we are to take heed to ourselves lest our hearts be overcharged with surfeiting and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon us unawares. **Our position has been one of waiting and watching, with no time-proclamation to intervene between the close of the prophetic periods in 1844 and the time of our Lord’s coming.** We do not know the day nor the hour, or when the definite time is, and yet the prophetic reckoning shows us that Christ is at the door.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 10, 270.

Sister White is clear that the purpose of prophecy is to bring about a specific experience in God’s people and the studying of time setting at the end of the world does not produce that experience. If you understand that principle in the Spirit of Prophecy, you can see her upholding that in this past quote.

She says our position today is one of waiting and watching; of making sure that we’re ready for His return. It’s watching the things that are confirming that prophecy is unfolding. The pope of Rome emphasizing Sunday sacredness and identifying that those who do not keep Sunday sacred need to be treated like heretics. Those kind of things are designed to show that we are in the time periods of Revelation 13 and the United States is about to speak as a dragon and force the whole world to worship Catholicism. If you understand what takes place in that time period, it’s a solemn message, a message that brings a conviction that we need to get ready, get ready, get ready!

When Sister White refers to the experience of setting time, she talks about a false excitement; it’s the opposite of bringing about a solemn experience.

“Those who so presumptuously preach definite time, in so doing gratify the adversary of souls; for they are advancing infidelity rather than Christianity. They produce Scripture and by false interpretation show a chain of argument which apparently proves their position. But their failures show that they are false prophets, that they do not rightly interpret the language of inspiration. The word of God is truth and verity, but men have perverted its meaning. These errors have brought the truth of God for these last days into disrepute. Adventists are derided by ministers of all denominations, yet God’s servants must not hold their peace. The signs foretold in prophecy are fast fulfilling around us. This should arouse every true follower of Christ to zealous action.

“Those who think they must preach definite time in order to make an impression upon the people do not work from the right standpoint. The feelings of the people may be stirred and their fears aroused, but they do not move from principle. An excitement is created; but when the time passes, as it has done repeatedly, those who moved out upon time fall back into coldness, darkness, and sin, and it is almost impossible to arouse their consciences without some great excitement.” *Testimonies*, volume 4, 308.

There’s a difference in the experience that comes from correctly analyzing prophecy from what comes with worrying about re-applying time prophecies at the end of the world.

We are not to Know Definite Time:

When Sister White’s talks about how we will never have a definite time, she says in some places we’ll never know the day or hour of Christ’s coming. In order to get around her presentations where she says we’ll never know a definite time, some of these people say, “Well, what she is saying is we’ll never know the day that Christ will return.” I want to read a couple passages here; she’s clearer than that:

“Again and again have I been warned in regard to time setting. There will never again be a message for the people of God that will be based on time. We are not to know the definite time either for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit or for the coming of Christ.” *Selected Messages*, book 1, 188.

So she doesn’t just say we’re never going to know the time when Christ returns, she says we’re not going to know the time of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Not Because they are Bad Men:

“Let all our brethren and sisters beware of anyone **who would set a time for the Lord to fulfill His word in regard to His coming, or in regard to any other promise** He has made of special significance.”

Now prophetically, is the Sunday Law of special significance prophetically? How about the world Sunday Law? These are some of the times that you mark out at the end of the world when you're reapplying these time prophecies and Sister White here says beware of anyone that can come up with those dates. We're never going to know those dates. Continuing on:

“It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in His own power.’ False teachers may appear to be very zealous for the work of God, and may expend means to bring their theories before the world and the church; but as they mingle error with truth, their message is one of deception, and will lead souls into false paths. They are to be met and opposed, not because they are bad men, but because they are teachers of falsehood and are endeavoring to put upon falsehood the stamp of truth.” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 55.

There is a man, a Latin brother from Cuba that spends a great deal of time presenting prophecy in Central and South America, and I have had the privilege of following him around to some countries and had to respond to his positions. When you go to these countries and see the condition of God's people, one country we were in, the conference there was supportive of continuing to eat meat and they were militantly aggressive against anyone who would say anything about it. There were other conditions in the church at large that were not in agreement at all with what we understand of God's people at the end of the world.

This brother that I am speaking of came from the United States with his message of time setting, but he also very courageously stood up for health reform, and he stood up against celebration type service and he stood up for many things that we would all say 'Amen' to. But nevertheless, if you go back to this passage it says speaking of these people who mix truth with error in regard to time setting, “They are to be met and opposed, not because they are bad men, but because they are teachers of falsehood and are endeavoring to put upon falsehood the stamp of truth.”

There are men in Adventism that are presenting these prophecies as applying at the end of the world and souls are going to be lost because of it, but at the same time, there are some works that they are doing that are worthy. Perhaps the most well known prophetic heretic in my understanding is responsible for getting more Great Controversies out in the world than any one else I know of. But if you buy into his prophetic understanding, chances are you're going to be lost!

Time Will Never be a Test Again:

“A copy of a vision the Lord gave Sister White, June 21, 1851, at Camden, N.Y. **The Lord showed me that the message must go, and that it must not be hung on time; for time will never be a test again.** I saw that some were getting a false excitement, arising from preaching time, that the third angel's message can stand on its own foundation, and

that it needs not time to strengthen it, and that it will go with mighty power, and do its work, and will be cut short in righteousness. . . .

“This was the document I came upon last Monday in searching over my writings, and here is another which was written in regard to a man who was setting time in 1884, and sending broadcast his arguments to prove his theories. The report of what he was doing was brought to me at the Jackson [Michigan] camp meeting, and I told the people they need not take heed to this man’s theory; for the event he predicted would not take place. The times and the seasons God has put in His own power. And why has not God given us this knowledge?—Because we would not make a right use of it if He did. A condition of things would result from this knowledge among our people that would greatly retard the work of God in preparing a people to stand in the great day that is to come. We are not to live upon time excitement. **We are not to be engrossed with speculations in regard to the times and the seasons which God has not revealed. Jesus has told His disciples to ‘watch,’ but not for a definite time.** His followers are to be in the position of those who are listening for the orders of their Captain; they are to watch, wait, pray, and work, as they approach the time for the coming of the Lord; but no one will be able to predict just when that time will come; for ‘of that day and hour knoweth no man.’ 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.” *Selected Messages*, book 1,189.

If we knew these things, if we knew these sequence of events, the times that they were going to take place, and these people that re-apply the time prophecies at the end of the world think they do—they have a starting point, and when this is fulfilled, 1260 days later this is going to take place, and 1290 days after the starting point this is going to take place and 1335 days after the starting point, this is going to take place and some will even get into the 2300 day time period that that’s going to take place. Sister White says we would not make the right use of it.

When you study the issues from prophecy for Seventh-day Adventists today, this is it—there’s a Sunday Law imminent in the United States, at which point probation closes for Seventh-day Adventists! That’s a solemn message but if I know that in 2 years, three months and seven days that Sunday Law is going to come, well I got a couple years at least to put off getting my character ready. That’s human nature and it’s been illustrated throughout Biblical history, if we knew that test is a couple years off, human nature doesn’t get ready.

As you look at the Spirit of Prophecy you find prophecy is designed to produce a specific result in God’s people, and rightly understood, if you believe the Sunday Law is imminent at which point your probation is about to close, it’s a fearful message. Sister White is clear that we’re to have a fearful message. We’re to repeat Wm. Miller’s message and that was a fearful message! The Lord’s going to return and the earth’s going to be destroyed!

Our fearful message today is the Sunday Law is imminent, Sister White says it’s going on in darkness and our character has to be prepared for the Seal

of God, or it will be prepared for the Mark of the Beast. It's a solemn and serious message that rightly received produces humility of heart, and that's the purpose of prophecy.

An Entirely Different Religious Experience:

“When the books of Daniel and Revelation are better understood, believers will have **an entirely different religious experience**. They will be given such glimpses of the open gates of heaven that heart and mind will be impressed with the character that all must develop in order to realize the blessedness which is to be the reward of the pure in heart.”
Testimonies to Ministers, 114.

When you understand the books of Daniel and Revelation correctly you realize that you need to finish the work of character preparation in your life if you want to go to heaven. That's what prophecy is designed to do.

“The Lord wants all to understand His providential dealings now, just now, in the time in which we live. **There must be no long discussions, presenting new theories in regard to the prophecies which God has already made plain.** Now the great work from which the mind should not be diverted is the consideration of our personal safety in the sight of God. Are our feet on the rock of ages? Are we hiding ourselves in our only refuge? The storm is coming, relentless in its fury. Are we prepared to meet it? Are we one with Christ as He is one with the Father? Are we heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ? Are we working in co-partnership with Christ?” *Evangelism*, 199.

Did you notice those questions? In connection with saying that we're not supposed to make new theories about prophecies that have already been fulfilled and plainly understood; prophecies that were fulfilled in the 1842-44 time period; in connection with that she says that what we are to understand is our personal safety in the sight of God. Are we ready to close our probation today? Are our feet on the Rock of Ages? Are we standing upon the Rock, Christ? Are we hiding ourselves in the only refuge?

I can think of one of the time setters in Adventism that has several books. One of the books is entitled, 'Warning, Warning, Warning!' It takes the title 'warning' from a quote out of the Spirit of Prophecy that virtually all the time setters use because it talks about a warning in Daniel 12.

I tell you, when you take this quote down to a country that doesn't have access to the Spirit of Prophecy and isn't familiar with what's going on or the history in a broad sense like we have the privilege to be if we've been studying; You can use it to open new ideas to people. Here it is and you can find it in a few places in the Spirit of Prophecy:

“Let us read and study the twelfth chapter of Daniel. It is a warning that we shall all need to understand before the time of the end.”

Now there is a warning in Daniel 12 that we all need to understand before the time of the end, and from reading those two sentences, if you're not familiar with the over-all end testimony of the Spirit of Prophecy that those time prophecies were already fulfilled in Daniel 12, you can be lead to believe that the warning in Daniel 12 is that these time prophecies at the end of the world are going to reapply.

Recently in Ecuador I had the privilege of reading what I am going to read to you here and a brother in that church stood up and made a public confession for being the one that has been bringing in this philosophy of reapplying time setting. He was very frustrated because this particular quote from the book, 'Last day events', that's all it says--what we just read. That's basically all that is in the book 'Last day events'.

But we're going to read it in context from the letter where it came from and it has nothing to do with time prophecies at all! There's no reason to use it as the title of a book that has to do with re-applying time prophecies at the end of the world.

I hope that we are all familiar with the first and second chapters of Colossians, and the theme of that; Christ in us the hope of glory, the mystery of godliness. Let's read this quote and see what the warning of Daniel 12 is:

"I am deeply moved by the unprepared condition of our churches. One thing we must do. We must keep our feet in the straight and narrow path that leads to eternal life. We must make no missteps now. The first and second chapters of Colossians have been presented to me as an expression of what our churches in every part of the world should be. The great apostle had many visions. The Lord showed him many things that it is not lawful for a man to utter. Why could he not tell the believers what he had seen? Because they would have made a misapplication of the great truths presented. They would not have been able to comprehend these truths. And yet all that was shown to Paul molded the messages that God gave him to bear to the churches.

"The people of God need to study what **characters they must form in order to pass through the test and proving of the last days.** Many are living in spiritual weakness and backsliding. They know not what they believe. **Let us read and study the twelfth chapter of Daniel. It is a warning that we shall all need to understand before the time of the end.** There are ministers claiming to believe the truth who are not sanctified through the truth. Unless a change comes in their lives, they will say, 'My Lord delayeth His coming.'

"Read the 21st chapter of Luke. In it Christ gives the warning, **'Take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.** For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things, and to stand before the Son of man' (Luke 21:34-36).

“The signs of the times are fulfilling in our world, yet the churches generally are represented as slumbering. Shall we not take warning from the experience of the foolish virgins, who when the call came, ‘Behold the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him,’ found that they had no oil in their lamps? And while they went to buy oil, the bridegroom went in to the marriage supper with the wise virgins, and the door was shut. **When the foolish virgins reached the banqueting hall, they received an unexpected denial. The master of the feast declared, ‘I know you not.’ They were left standing without in the empty street, in the blackness of the night.**” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 15, 228–229.

Sister White says that the illustration of the Advent experience is the parable of the 10 virgins. She says that parable was fulfilled in 1843-44 and will be fulfilled again to the very letter! As this last paragraph just illustrated, the parable of the 10 virgins includes a close of probation for God’s people and when that close of probation comes, this is teaching us that we better have the oil of a Spirit filled experience so that our character will be prepared to receive the Seal of God and not the Mark of the Beast!

In all four of these paragraphs that Sister White uses here she says study the 1st and 2nd chapters of Colossians, the mystery of godliness, study the parable of the 10 virgins, you better wake up and have your character prepared! Study Luke 21, don’t get caught sleeping! Then this other chapter—let all read and understand Daniel 12, the ‘warning’ of Daniel 12 has nothing to do with time setting. It’s speaking of the end of the world, speaking of people during the Millerite movement but also people at the end of the world:

“And **they that be wise** shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever. 4 But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.

“Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but **the wise shall understand.**” Daniel 12:3, 4, 10.

The warning of Daniel 12 is a warning to be among those that are going to shine! That are going to be filled with the Spirit of Christ and have His character, that are going to be about their business of warning a dying world. That’s the warning of the 10 virgins and the warning of Daniel 12, that we all must understand before the time of the end.

If we are awake, it’s easy to see that the Papacy is about ready to take the world captive. The letter that the pope came out with upholding Sunday observance, identifying those that will not keep Sunday ‘sanctified’ was his word, should be treated as heretics. The week before that letter, in a speech to some bishops in Texas, he talked about freedom of conscience. Freedom of conscience, we can all say AMEN to that! Right?

But his definition of ‘freedom of conscience’ is that your conscience must be tempered by the moral law. If you’re simply having a conscience that does whatever you want and it’s not in agreement with the moral law, well that isn’t really freedom because the ‘truth shall make you free!’ Your conscience, if it’s going to be free must be in agreement with the truth. But in his presentation to these bishops, he added one additional thing to this balance between your conscience and the moral law, and that’s this “It’s the holy Catholic Church that is the one that decides what the ‘moral law’ is!” So freedom of conscience is OK as long as it agrees with the Catholic Church.

Now, why am I saying that? Friends for over 150 years we knew this time period was coming and now on a weekly basis the pope is coming out with ‘new revelations’ that are in agreement with what we’ve been preaching for over 150 years. And ‘Protestant’ America, all they’re doing is saying ‘amen’. The newspaper reports that came out on his letter on Sunday observance, they weren’t downgrading his statement, they were uplifting his statement!

This country is ready! We’re at the end! And at the end the warning of Daniel 12 is whether you and I are going to ‘shine’ and share and be among those that have the character of Christ.

If you follow the things the pope says when he visited this country many of them are very provocative. One of the things he kept saying was that ‘freedom is not to be able to do what you want, but freedom is to be able do what you ought.’ That once again a Christian can say Amen to, because freedom is living in the truth; the truth shall make you free. And the truth defines what you ought to do. You ought to do things that are going to glorify your Heavenly Father; you ought to serve God and man. That’s what you ought to do and if you are doing that you will be free.

Freedom to do whatever you want is not liberty; it is license; so you can agree with what the pope says. But if you follow that series of presentations that he gave, he was very clear that it is the Catholic Church that determines what you ought to do!

During this time period that the pope has been developing all these themes in the United States and the world; the Protestant world is accepting it! They’re accepting the very premise of the Papacy. We’re at the very end! The message for us from prophecy is the very message that the pioneers preached. It’s the very foundation of our message. It’s not taking those messages and creating a false excitement at the end of the world. That false excitement is designed to not only make unbelievers reject the Advent message, but it gives you burnout. You get sort of ‘gospel-hardened’ after you pass through so many of these predictions over and over and they don’t come to pass.

I’ll close with one more statement that is often used by the time setters and they would make a case that Sister White says something in here that she doesn’t say and I think that I would almost grant them that linguistically you could argue in their favor on this, but what you have to do in order to do that is reject everything else she ever said. And we read previously in Early Writings 74, where Sister White endorsed the pioneer position of the ‘Daily’, those who gave the ‘Midnight Cry’, she endorsed that God had ordained the chart that they used in 1843, and in that passage she says that during that time period nearly all were

united on the 'Daily', but since that time confusion has come in. What I want you to understand here is that it was a common, clear understanding with Ellen White and the pioneers that the 'Daily' of Daniel was associated with the 1335 days of Daniel 12 and they all believed to a man, and it's in their charts and in their writings that that prophecy came to pass in 1843. And you can go to abundant sources of the pioneer writings to establish that they understood this. That's what I want you to remember as we read this quote, because when you understand that it's just automatic common reasoning with Sister White that the 1335 was fulfilled in 1843, and then there is only one possible way that you can understand this quote:

“One week ago, last Sabbath, we had a very interesting meeting. Brother Hewit from Dead River was there. He came with a message to the effect that the destruction of the wicked and the sleep of the dead was an abomination within a shut door that a woman Jezebel, a prophetess had brought in and he believed that I was that woman, Jezebel. We told him of some of his errors in the past, **that the 1335 days were ended**, and numerous errors of his. It had but little effect. His darkness was felt upon the meeting and it dragged.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 16, 208.

Now, it says we told him of some of his errors in the past, that the 1335 days were ended, and numerous errors of his. Some people will say that when they were telling him of his errors in the past, that one of the errors they told him about was that the 1335 days was ended and that's how the time-setters understand that passage. The reality of it is that Sister White clearly understood the 1335 days were ended, and what she was saying was 'we told him of many of his errors in the past and we told him that the 1335 days was ended, that it's not in the future, and numerous errors of his.

Maybe none of you are being tempted by this false application which Sister White called fanaticism of prophecy, maybe some are, but when we see this happening in Adventism and it is happening particularly in some of the areas outside of the United States. One of the things that it is a sign of is that Satan is working very diligently right now to undermine the true prophetic understanding because he knows that his time is short.

When you're seeing this message propagated, you know that we're at the end! You can understand it that way whether you want to stand against this fanaticism or not. He's not going to create these diversions if he has a lot of time, there's a diversion going on. We're going to be confronted by people that say that the time prophecies really are at the end of the world. It is happening more and more, demonstrating that Satan is trying to defuse the truth about prophecy.

The warning that we all need to understand from Daniel 12, is the warning that we must be among those that shine at the end of the world and give the final warning message to those around us. Whether disasters, wars, diseases, the economy, the pope, the Protestants, or the condition of God's church—the signs are everywhere. We need to be ready!

PROPHETIC TIME

Part #9: TIME SETTING-NO NEW MESSAGE

This presentation is going to address the idea of resetting time prophecy that has already come to pass.

It is my conviction that the return of the Lord is imminent, the Sunday Law is imminent and that God has a people that He needs to awaken. Prophecy is the tool that He will use to awaken His people. In an attempt to keep God's people asleep, Satan has brought in many different types of false prophetic understanding that they will not be aware of the imminent Sunday Law and their need for preparation. This isn't anything that wasn't clearly identified or warned about in the Spirit of Prophecy.

This presentation was primarily developed for the brethren that we work with in other countries who normally don't have access to the Spirit of Prophecy as we do here in the United States. Teachers from the United States go to other countries and share a few isolated passages from the Spirit of Prophecy and try to build a case for re-applying the time prophecies of Daniel 12 at the end of the world. But they don't share the abundant material from the Spirit of Prophecy that debunks that idea.

My heart is concerned about those in Adventism who haven't had, because of culture, finance or availability, the opportunity to test these false understandings to the law and to the testimony. In the United States we have this ability and yet in the United States there are many who cling to these ideas. I have less sympathy for those in the United States that cling to these ideas because they could resolve them for themselves if they were willing.

I am often reminded of what Sister White said was the reason the Holy Spirit was rejected in 1888s; it was one simple item that is very often associated with human beings, she said it was failure to set aside preconceived ideas.

Many times you can share clear testimony from the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy with men and women and they won't receive it and it is the failure to set aside preconceived ideas. That is probably the biggest problem in the United States, but not so with some in other countries as often their ideas aren't so preconceived, they just have a lack of resources to test these things.

I want to begin from a different direction. I have here an article written by Joseph Bates, one of the pioneers, and it isn't about time setting but you'll see where we're going. I am viewing this as a historical document; I'm not so convinced that I agree with all of Elder Bates' conclusions here on this particular subject. It's about Philadelphia and Laodicea:

Our Labors in the Philadelphian and Laodicean Churches: by Joseph Bates

He begins by saying those brethren that were together up to 1844 were the Philadelphians and that immediately thereafter, those who left and started a new organization were Laodicean. I can accept much of that, but some of his other conclusions along the way I'm not so sure of. But this presentation of his

gets to a certain point that I want to share. He goes through and he identifies the very date that the Laodicean church in his mind began, the 29th of April 1845, when there was a conference held in Albany NY and Joshua Himes and Wm. Miller were the main men holding this conference and at that point they separated from those that in 1844 continued to follow the Advent message as we understand it. He said that at that point the Laodicean church began with Himes and Miller the primary leaders in this movement and he's addressing in this article the further development of that and he gets to a point where he's speaking about what they continue to do.

“When they changed from the Philadelphia to the Laodicea state, we believe they influenced hundreds of honest souls to go with them,— These are the ones we are trying to seek out, by this article, and every other possible way, and show them their perilous and helpless condition, and utter destruction, if they do not forsake them and turn back immediately to the open door in the Philadelphia church; for there is no promise or hope for them where they are. See Revelation 3:16, 19.

(Now he's speaking about people who have left what we call Adventism at that time and started another organization.)

“Let us just take a general retrospect of the downward progress of the Laodiceans. For six successive years, viz: from the fall of 1844 to the spring and fall of 1850, the most of these leading members have been aiding and assisting each other in changing the chronology, i.e. the world's history; to prove that they were on the true position. What have they gained? Answer, nothing but disappointment and confusion.”

What among other things Joseph Bates was saying in this article is that immediately after the great disappointment of Oct 22, 1844, the men and women who were involved with the Advent movement prior to that time, refused or could not see that Christ moved into the Most Holy, and began to re-apply the time prophecies of Daniel. They had to do that; they were forced by logic to do that.

Now we're going to talk about this phenomenon that went on because this was a big phenomenon that Sister White dealt with quite a bit and the Spirit of Prophecy quote I'd like to begin with is *Selected Messages*, book 2, 390.

History Rehearsed:

“The Lord has declared that **the history of the past shall be rehearsed** as we enter upon the closing work. Every truth that He has given for these last days is to be proclaimed to the world. Every pillar that He has established is to be strengthened. We cannot now step off the foundation that God has established. We cannot now enter into any new organization; for this would mean apostasy from the truth.”

One of these new organizations that would apply here would be the organizations that Himes and Miller began right at the beginning of the work, if

you apply it to that time period. she says you can't get out of this Advent Movement because that would be apostasy to the truth and to leave this organization here at the end, no doubt you can apply this quote to that as well. I want to look at this sentence, "The Lord has declared that the history of the past shall be rehearsed"; the history of the pioneer movement needs to be re-evaluated, rehearsed by God's people at the end of the world in order that they can become familiar once again with the foundation of this movement.

If you're not familiar with the foundation of this movement, you're like a ship without a rudder because the waymarks that were established at the beginning were designed to take us all the way through.

God is not giving us a new message:

"We have, as had John, a message to bear of the things which we have seen and heard. **God is not giving us a new message.** We are to **proclaim the message that in 1843 and 1844** brought us out of the other churches. We need the Holy Spirit to kindle in our hearts the zeal and earnestness that were then seen among God's people. I thank the Lord that there are still living a few who can remember those days, and who know whereof they speak." *Review and Herald*, January 19, 1905.

She says we're not going to have a new message, the message that we're to proclaim is the message that we proclaimed in 1843, 1844. The message that was proclaimed in 1843, 1844 is the message that Wm. Miller and Joshua Himes had to re-invent after the disappointment of 1844. They had to re-apply those prophecies of Daniel in order to come up with a new prophetic understanding for the end of the world. Sister White says that we're to continue to present the message of 1843-44.

The message of 1843 and 1844 is not the health message, that came after; it's not the Sanctuary message, that came after; it's not the truth about the Spirit of Prophecy, that came after; it's not the truth about country living, it's not the truth about education; the message that took place in 1843-44 is the prophecies of the book of Daniel, particularly the time prophecies. Sister White says we're not to have a new message, so in order to understand what the message is today, we need to understand what the message was then. What were they saying about those prophecies of Daniel during that time?

The Platform of Truth:

"As a people, we are to stand firm on the platform of eternal truth that has withstood test and trial. We are to hold to the sure pillars of our faith. The principles of truth that God has revealed to us are **our only true foundation.** They have made us what we are. **The lapse of time has not lessened their value.** It is **the constant effort of the enemy to remove these truths from their setting, and to put in their place spurious theories.** He will bring in everything that he possibly can to carry out his deceptive designs. But the Lord will raise up men of keen perception, who will give these truths their proper place in the plan of God." *Selected Messages*, book 1, 201.

Now you notice that she's talking about the foundation and I know that we can bring in passages from the Spirit of Prophecy and identify the Spirit of Prophecy, the sanctuary, the Second Coming, as the pillars of Adventism and I don't have any problem with that, but the very foundation of Adventism is the message of 1843-44. That's the message that we are to repeat; it's the message of the prophecies of Daniel.

She's saying here that no matter how long time goes, that message that the pioneers proclaimed is not going to lessen, it's not going to change, it actually becomes stronger as it gets to the end. She tells us that Satan is constantly trying to attack these messages and she says that one of the specific things that he tries to attack is where their place is in the plan of God.

Now the prophetic messages of Daniel have a specific place that they are applied in history.

“While you hold the banner of truth firmly, proclaiming the law of God, let every soul remember that the faith of Jesus is connected with the commandments of God. The third angel is represented as flying through the midst of heaven, crying with a loud voice, ‘Here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus’ (Revelation 14:12). The first, second, and third angels’ messages are all linked together. The evidences of the abiding, ever-living truth of these grand messages, that mean so much to us, that have awakened such intense opposition from the religious world, cannot be extinguished. **Satan is constantly seeking to cast his hellish shadow about these messages, so that the remnant people of God shall not clearly discern their import, their time, and place**; but they live, and are to exert their power upon our religious experience while time shall last.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 117.

When you put these two quotes together, we see the foundation messages of Adventism are the first, second and third angel's message in relation to their historical fulfillment. What she says will be attacked, is their place and their time. The time when the first, second and third angel's messages were fulfilled, the place they were fulfilled in history was 1843-44. The focus of Satan's attacks is their location in history.

People may not recognize it but one of the premier teachings that Sister White has about our prophetic understanding is that Satan is going to attack these messages in this fashion. You can take the three angels' messages, and you can understand the theological truth of these messages, that the judgment is beginning in the heavenly sanctuary, that our work is to help the Lord bring people out of Babylon, that the Mark of the Beast is Sunday observance, there is an understanding of the three angels' messages that we need to proclaim.

There's also a personal experience of the three angels' messages that we must experience if we are to be saved. We need to receive all of the everlasting gospel into our own experience, enter into the Most Holy Place experience with Christ and allow Him to remove all sin and dress out of our character, take all of our Babylonish principles and ideas that we have out of our experience and be

prepared to glorify God during the Sunday Law testing time. The three angels' messages have a message for us experientially and individually.

When Sister White speaks about the attacks that Satan is going to make on the three angels' messages, she talks about their historical setting, where they came in history and she does it over and over again. Now remember, this is the foundation of Adventism. Notice this vision given for us at the end of the world.

“I saw a company who stood well guarded and firm, and would give no countenance to those who would unsettle the established faith of the body. God looked upon them with approbation.”

She sees a company and they are standing firm; they won't pay attention to another group that try to unsettle the faith of the body. So there's a controversy going on.

“I was shown three steps—**one, two and three**—the first, second and third angels' messages. Said the angel, **Woe to him** who shall move a block, or stir a pin in these messages. **The true understanding of these messages is of vital importance.** The destiny of souls hangs upon the manner in which they are received. I was again brought down through these messages, and saw how dearly the people of God had purchased their experience. It had been obtained through much suffering and severe conflict. Step by step had God brought them along, until he had placed them upon a solid, immovable platform. Then I saw individuals as they approached the platform, before stepping upon it examine the foundation. Some with rejoicing immediately stepped upon it. **Others commenced to find fault with the laying of the foundation of the platform. They wished improvements made, and then the platform would be more perfect, and the people much happier. Some stepped off the platform and examined it, then found fault with it, declaring it to be laid wrong.** I saw that nearly all stood firm upon the platform, and exhorted others who had stepped off to cease their complaints, for God was the master-builder, and they were fighting against him.” *Spiritual Gifts*, volume 1, 168.

This platform is the three angel's messages and prophecy tells us there is a group of people that are going to find fault with it. They are going to find fault with how it was laid. Now when do you lay a foundation? At the very beginning. So this is another way of saying that the historical fulfillment of the three angels' messages is where the attack is going to come. This is what Sister White says over and over again, that this is where the attack is going to come. We read that Satan is constantly seeking to cast his hellish shadow about these messages, in regards to location, their time, and place. That's the focus of the attack.

“The proclamation of the first, second, and third angels' messages has been **located** by the word of Inspiration. Not a peg or pin is to be

removed. No human authority has any more right to **change the location of these messages** than to substitute the New Testament for the Old. The Old Testament is the gospel in figures and symbols. The New Testament is the substance. One is as essential as the other. The Old Testament presents lessons from the lips of Christ, and these lessons have not lost their force in any particular. **The first and second messages were given in 1843 and 1844,**”

She says God has not given us a new message, and we need to continue to present the messages that were proclaimed in 1843-44. She says these messages were the first and second angels’ message and we know that the third angel’s message began in Oct. 22 1844. This is the historical location of these three messages and we need to continue to proclaim those historical locations.

“**The first and second messages were given in 1843 and 1844,** and we are now under the proclamation of the third; but **all three of the messages are still to be proclaimed.** It is just as **essential** now as ever before that they shall be repeated to those who are seeking for the truth. By pen and voice we are to sound the proclamation, showing **their order,** and **the application of the prophecies that bring us to the third angel’s message.** There cannot be a third without the first and second. These messages we are to give to the world in publications, in discourses, showing in the line of prophetic history the things that have been, and the things that will be.” *Counsels to Writers and Editors*, 26–27.

Now, Sister White says that understanding the fulfillment of the **first, second and third angels’ message in 1843 and 1844** is what we are still to tell the world. We are by pen and voice to proclaim this very message. She says no human has the right or authority to change these messages. We must demonstrate the application of the prophecies that bring us to the third angels’ message. What prophecies bring us to the third angel’s message? The third angel’s message begins when the 2300-day prophecy is fulfilled in 1844.

We need to continue to present the 2300-day prophecy and she’s talking about 1843 and 1844. Which prophecy brings you to 1843? Only one prophecy in the Bible brings you to 1843, which is the 1335 found in Daniel 12. That’s how the pioneers understood it; that’s how the pioneers presented it in 1843 and 1844. God hasn’t given us a new message; we are to continue to repeat them.

Now in Adventism today, some people aren’t aware of that. They aren’t aware of the 1335 calculation that the pioneers were proclaiming. They’re unaware that this was clearly identified on the pioneer chart that Sister White endorses in *Early Writings*, page 74.

“I have seen that the 1843 chart was directed by the hand of the Lord, and that it should not be altered; that the figures were as He wanted them; that His hand was over and hid a mistake in some of the figures, so that none could see it, until His hand was removed.” *Early Writings*, 74.

That 1335 brings you to 1843 and this last quotation says that we need to continue to present that. Sister White says that these three angels are the foundation of the platform of our work. She tells us over and over again that Satan is going to seek to destroy this platform, and the emphasis is always that he will attempt to destroy it by removing the historical fulfillment of these prophecies.

Immediately after the Great Disappointment, those who didn't follow on with the other fifty who followed Christ by faith into the Most Holy Place experience; they were forced—even Wm. Miller and Joshua Himes and the people that had been prominent in the movement before the Great Disappointment—were forced by logic to begin re-examining these time prophecies that brought them to the disappointment of 1844. Because they didn't follow on with the Lord, they were forced to start coming up with new ideas beginning immediately after the disappointment.

So what? Here is what we need to understand about 'so what?'

Fanaticism Repeated:

“I was instructed that **fanaticism similar** to that which we were called to meet after the passing of the time in 1844 would come in among us **again in the closing days of the message**, and that we must meet this evil just as decidedly now as we met it in our early experiences.” *Selected Messages*, book 1, 221.

In the earlier writings of Sister White, where she addresses the several fanaticisms that were part of her ministry to oppose, by far the main fanaticism, which she met over and over again, was the re-applying of the time prophecies of the book of Daniel. That began right at the very outset and it continued throughout her experience. She also said at the end of time this would happen again, this fanaticism would come back.

“In later years I have been shown that **the false theories advanced in the past** have by no means been given up. As favorable opportunities come, **they will have a resurrection**. Let us not forget that everything is to be shaken that can be shaken. The enemy will be successful in overthrowing the faith of some, but those who are true to principle will not be shaken. They will stand firm amid trial and temptation. The Lord has pointed out these errors; and those who do not discern where Satan has come in, will continue to be led in false paths. Jesus bids us be watchful, and strengthen the things that remain, which are ready to die.” *Life Sketches*, 92–93.

Among the false theories that are going to have a resurrection is re-applying the time prophecies of Daniel, the very thing she was dealing with after the passing of the time in 1844.

History of the Jewish Nation Repeated:

Sister White uses many illustrations to point to the end of the world and one of them that we need to understand is the history of the Jewish nation.

“Satan is working that the history of the Jewish nation may be repeated in the experience of those who claim to believe present truth. The Jews had the Old Testament Scriptures, and supposed themselves conversant with them. But they made a woeful mistake. The prophecies that refer to the glorious second appearing of Christ in the clouds of heaven they regarded as referring to His first coming. Because He did not come according to their expectations, they turned away from Him. Satan knew just how to take these men in his net, and deceive and destroy them. . . .”

Why didn't the Jews accept Christ? A misunderstanding of prophecy! The promise for us is that the Lord is going to wake us up and bring us to a revival through an understanding of Prophecy. If we are not correct in our prophetic understanding, we're destined to repeat the path the Jews took during the first appearing of Christ.

“The very same Satan is at work to undermine the faith of the people of God at this time. There are persons ready to catch up every new idea.”

She says the reason that the Jews rejected Christ was a false understanding of prophecy and she's applying it to our day.

“The prophecies of Daniel and the Revelation are misinterpreted. These persons do not consider that the truth has been set forth at the appointed time by the very men whom God was leading to do this special work. **These men followed on step by step in the very fulfillment of prophecy, and those who have not had a personal experience in this work, are to take the Word of God and believe on 'their word' who have been led by the Lord in the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels' messages.** These messages, received and acted upon, are doing their work to prepare a people to stand in the great day of God. If we search the Scriptures to confirm the truth God has given His servants for the world, we shall be found proclaiming the first, second, and third angels' messages.

“It is true that there are prophecies yet to be fulfilled. But very erroneous work has been done again and again, and will continue to be done by those who seek to find new light in the prophecies, and who **begin by turning away from the light that God has already given.** The messages of Revelation 14 are those by which the world is to be tested; they are the everlasting gospel, and are to be sounded everywhere. **But the Lord does not lay upon those who have not had an experience in His work the burden of making a new exposition of those prophecies**

which He has, by His Holy Spirit, moved upon His chosen servants to explain.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 110–113.

If you analyze this very important quote closely, she’s saying the reason the Jews rejected Christ was a false understanding of prophecy. Then she says, therefore modern Israel pay attention! The reason that you won’t be prepared for Christ to return is from a misunderstanding of prophecy. A very specific misunderstanding of prophecy; a misunderstanding of the three angels’ messages as the pioneers understood it!

If you’re not going to receive the testimony of the pioneers who were there when these prophecies were fulfilled, that is the point, that is the prophecy that will lead you to reject Christ and be unprepared for the second coming.

There are a lot of aspects to prophecy but the one that will parallel the Jews rejecting Christ is taking the fulfillment of the prophecies of Daniel and putting them someplace else in history. That is the most sinister attack from Satan. Here’s another passage where she speaks about the Jews as an example of modern Israel.

“In our day as in Christ’s day, there may be a misreading and misinterpreting of the Scriptures. If the Jews had studied the Scriptures with earnest, prayerful hearts, their searching would have been rewarded with a true knowledge of the time, and not only the time, but also the manner of Christ’s appearing. They would not have ascribed the glorious second appearing of Christ to His first advent. They had the testimony of Daniel; they had the testimony of Isaiah and the other prophets; they had the teachings of Moses; and here was Christ in their very midst, and still they were searching the Scriptures for evidence in regard to His coming. And they were doing unto Christ the very things that had been prophesied they would do. They were so blinded they knew not what they were doing.”

Now she draws another parallel, she’s not going to say that they are not upholding the health message or they aren’t involved with country living, she’s going to say something very specific.

“And many are doing the same thing today, in 1897 [2002], because they have not had experience in the testing messages comprehended in the **first, second, and third** angel’s messages. **There are those who are searching the Scriptures for proof that these messages are still in the future.** They gather together the truthfulness of the messages, but **they fail to give them their proper place in prophetic history.** Therefore such are in danger of misleading the people **in regard to locating the messages.** They **do not see and understand the time of the end, or when to locate** the messages. The day of God is coming with stealthy tread, but the supposed wise and great men are prating about ‘higher education.’ They know not the signs of Christ’s coming, or of the end of the world.” *Evangelism*, 613.

The three angels' message is the foundation of Adventism; the very laying of that foundation was an understanding of the three angels' message that was fulfilled in 1843-44. Then there was light added to those messages afterward. This is what Satan is attempting to sweep away, it's what he's attacking—the place that those messages are located in history. When he's attacking that position, he is paralleling how he misled the Jews at the time of Christ. We're talking about a very significant understanding we need if we're going to be prepared to receive prophecy correctly at the end of the world.

Time after Time:

“As the majority of Adventists rejected the truths concerning the sanctuary and the law of God, many also renounced their faith in the Advent movement, and adopted unsound and conflicting views of the prophecies which applied to that work. **Some were led into the error of repeated time-setting.** The light of the third message would have shown them that no prophetic period extends to the coming of Christ; that the exact time of his coming is not foretold. But, turning from the light, **they continued to set time after time for the Lord to come, and as often were disappointed.**” *The Spirit of Prophecy*, volume 4, 290.

This is the fanaticism that Sister White says would come back in at the end. There are many different manifestations of setting time in the future in Adventism today. In this particular quote it says they continue to set time after time for the Lord to come and I know of people in the United States and elsewhere that have ministries that focus on setting the time prophecies of Daniel 12 at the end of the world in connection with the feast days. Some have set time after time for certain events and they have failed. [Some have even set 2004 as the time for Christ's return]

So when Sister White talks about the people right after 1844 that continued to re-apply these time prophecies, they fall apart, they do it again, this is repeating here at the end of the world. Sadly, when you take this kind of information and send it to a third world country that doesn't have the access to the Spirit of Prophecy that we do, it can cause severe problems. It causes problems here also as many don't bother to test these things by the inspired word.

An Anchor to the People of God:

“Many who embraced the third message had not had an experience in the two former messages. Satan understood this, and his evil eye was upon them to overthrow them; but the third angel was pointing them to the most holy place, and those who had had an experience in the past messages were pointing them the way to the heavenly sanctuary. Many saw the perfect chain of truth in the angels' messages, and gladly received them in their order, and followed Jesus by faith into the heavenly sanctuary. **These messages were represented to me as an anchor to the**

people of God. Those who understand and receive them will be kept from being swept away by the many delusions of Satan.

“After the great disappointment in 1844, Satan and his angels were busily engaged in laying snares to unsettle the faith of the body. He affected the minds of persons who had had an experience in the messages, and who had an appearance of humility. **Some pointed to the future for the fulfillment of the first and second messages,”**

When were they fulfilled? 1843-44. So if they had a historical fulfillment, this means there was a time prophecy connected to them and she's saying some people were pointing into the future, they were taking those time prophecies out of Daniel and putting them into the future.

“Some pointed to the future for the fulfillment of the first and second messages, while others pointed **far back** into the past, declaring that they had been there fulfilled. These were gaining an influence over the minds of the inexperienced and unsettling their faith. Some were searching the Bible to build up a faith of their own, independent of the body. **Satan exulted in all this; for he knew that those who broke loose from the anchor he could affect by different errors and drive about with divers winds of doctrine.** Many who had led in the first and second messages now denied them, and there was division and confusion throughout the body.” *Early Writings, 256–257.*

Those of us who have the responsibility and privilege to present prophecy to people at the end of the world often run into these people that have been confused by the placing of these time prophecies in the end of the world.

The correct presentation of prophecy is going to lead you to humble your souls and get prepared for the close of probation.

I have seen a bumper sticker that said “sometimes I wake up Grumpy, and sometimes I just let her sleep.” The point is this; it's hard to wake people up. It's hard to arouse them. Here we are at the end of the world and what's designed to wake us up is prophecy.

According to the parable of the ten virgins, we are all asleep and it's hard to wake us up. And these false prophetic understandings have been invented by Satan to undermine the true prophetic understanding are not designed to awaken you! They're designed to lead you off without an anchor.

The subject we are presenting is the imminence of the Sunday Law and the warning of prophecy for us is that we must have a character prepared to stand *before* that event arrives, as probation closes for SDAs at that point.

But these people are out there in the crowd and all they want to think about is re-applying the time prophecies at the end, and they're waiting for the Sunday Law because when the Sunday Law comes then they can start counting the 1290 and the 1335 and they know that this will come this far down the road and that far down the road; those brethren leave the meeting and they're not fearful, they are not concerned.

I used to get quite a bit of criticism about the prophetic message being one that was 'doom and gloom and fear' so I put together a presentation out of the Spirit of Prophecy and Sister White is clear that we're to give a FEARFUL message! Like Noah did; like John the Baptist did; like Wm. Miller did. If you are hearing the true prophetic message, it needs to arouse you!

It's this fearful warning of prophecy that tells you; "Your probation is about up! You need to wake up and bring your life into agreement with present truth or you're lost forever!" And if all you're doing is studying prophecy to take those time prophecies at the end of the world and try to line up waymarks, there's nothing fearful about it. In fact it's kind of a joyful anticipation, "when's this going to happen so we can start ticking off the days." It is a false Peace and Safety Message.

This was what Sister White was dealing with as well that was bringing confusion and division into the body. There is a great deal of information in this quote on this subject:

The great waymarks of truth:

"I have not been able to sleep since half past one o'clock. I was bearing to Brother T a message which the Lord had given me for him. The peculiar views he holds are a mixture of truth and error. If he had passed through the experiences of God's people as He has led them for the past forty years, he would be better prepared to make the correct application of Scripture. **The great waymarks of truth, showing us our bearings in prophetic history, are to be carefully guarded, lest they be torn down, and replaced with theories that would bring confusion rather than genuine light.** I have been cited to the very erroneous theories that have been presented **over and over again.** Those who advocated these theories presented Scripture quotations, but they misapplied and misinterpreted them. The theories supposed to be correct were incorrect, and yet many thought them the very theories to be brought before the people. The prophecies of Daniel and John are to be diligently studied."

At this point she hasn't specified what is under attack here, but she sort of specifies what these erroneous views are.

"There are those now living who, in studying the prophecies of Daniel and John, received great light from God as they passed over the ground where special prophecies were in process of fulfillment in their order. **They bore the message of time** to the people. The truth shone out clearly as the sun at noonday. Historical events, showing the direct fulfillment of prophecy, were set before the people, and the prophecy was seen to be a figurative delineation of events leading down to the close of this earth's history. The scenes connected with the working of the man of sin are the last features plainly revealed in this earth's history. The people now have a special message to give to the world, the third angel's message. Those who, in their experience, have passed over the ground, and acted a part in the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels'

messages, are not so liable to be led into false paths as are those who have not had an experimental knowledge of the people of God. . . .

“There have been one and another who in studying their Bibles thought they discovered great light, and new theories, but these have not been correct. The Scripture is all true, but **by misapplying the Scripture men arrive at wrong conclusions**. We are engaged in a mighty conflict,”

Let me give you an example of this; we presented Revelation 17 in Ecuador and there was a brother who had been resisting the presentation all the way through and I honestly try to be gentle with every one of them because I knew that they get their information from pamphlets that come from the United States and just give them little bits and pieces of information, selected quotes from the Spirit of Prophecy.

But he hadn't noticed that as we presented Revelation 17 that we had used about four Spirit of Prophecy quotes that specifically addressed Revelation 17. He hadn't noticed that we had done that. All he was worried about was defusing what we were saying about Revelation 17, so he got up and from a pamphlet he had says, “How can you be so calm on your position on Revelation 17 when you know that Sister White never refers to Revelation 17 at any time in any of her writings?”

I said, “Well brother, we've just read four of them.” My point is this; he had a book by someone in the United States that said that falsehood and he had no way to prove it one way or the other.

“The Scripture is all true, but **by misapplying the Scripture men arrive at wrong conclusions**. We are engaged in a mighty conflict, and it will become more close and determined, as we near the final struggle. We have a sleepless adversary, and he is constantly at work upon human minds that have not had a personal experience in the teachings of the people of God for the past fifty years. [**Here's the erroneous attack that Satan uses!**] **Some will take the truth applicable to their time, and place it in the future. Events in the train of prophecy that had their fulfillment away in the past are made future**, and thus by these theories the faith of some is undermined.”

Brothers and sisters, you go to Latin America and you deal with these brethren that are hearing this information about placing the prophecies at the end of the world. They've never heard any of these quotes. They don't have them in front of them. The people that are pushing these ideas certainly wouldn't put something like that in their pamphlets!

“From the light that the Lord has been pleased to give me, you are in danger of doing the same work, presenting before others truths which have had their place and done their specific work for the time, in the history of the faith of the people of God. You recognize these facts in Bible history as true, but apply them to the future. They have their force still in their proper place, in the chain of events that have made us as a

people what we are today, and as such, they are to be presented to those who are in the darkness of error. . . .”

The people that set the prophecies at the end of the world have at least two different variations. There are some that teach that Ellen White understood truth for her time but she did not understand end time prophecy so she made errors about applying some of the prophecies at the end of the world because she didn't live during that time period.

Now that says a lot. It says that she's not on the same par as the prophets of the Bible. They would still say that Ellen White is a prophet but she just didn't have the prophetic insight at the end of the world. Therefore, these people will tell you that the understanding of the pioneers was wrong, because those time prophecies of Daniel were to apply to the end of the world. They were there in the book of Daniel so the pioneers had to think up some way to address them, but because it hadn't come time for them to be fulfilled, how the pioneers understood them was just wrong. So that's one group of people in Adventism today and they say, "What Sister White and the pioneers understood, was just plain wrong."

There's another group that says, "No; what Sister White and the pioneers understood was right, but it has a second application at the end of the world." This is what she is addressing here: **"You recognize these facts in Bible history as true, but apply them to the future."**

"Ok, yah, they were fulfilled in 1843-44, but they're going to happen again." And what does Sister White say to that? **"They have their force still in their proper place, in the chain of events that have made us as a people what we are today."**

Continuing on:

"From their voices and pens the truth in bright, warm rays has gone to all parts of the world, and that which was to them testing truth, as brought by the Lord's delegated messengers, is testing truth to all to whom this message is proclaimed.

"The burden of the warning now to come to the people of God, nigh and afar off, is the third angel's message. And those who are seeking to understand this message will not be led by the Lord to make an application of the Word that will undermine the foundation and remove the pillars of the faith that has made Seventh-day Adventists what they are today. . . .

"The leadings of the Lord were marked, and most wonderful were His revelations of what is truth. Point after point was established by the Lord God of heaven. That which was truth *then*, is truth today. But the voices do not cease to be heard—'This is truth. I have new light.' But these new lights in prophetic lines are manifest in misapplying the Word and setting the people of God adrift without an anchor to hold them. If the student of the Word would take the truths which God has revealed in the leadings of His people, and appropriate these truths, digest them, and bring them into their practical life, they would then be living channels of light. But those who have set themselves to study out new theories, have a

mixture of truth and error combined, and after trying to make these things prominent, have demonstrated that they have not kindled their taper from the divine altar, and it has gone out in darkness.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 101–104.

If we’re going to be awakened to what’s coming at the end of the world by prophecy, then we should have the discernment to know that Satan is trying to stop that from happening. And the premier way that’s identified in the Spirit of Prophecy is by taking the prophecies of Daniel and placing them at the end of the world. I know that there are many people that have at least minor fascinations with some of those concepts, and I’m here to tell you that according to the Spirit of Prophecy, you are on enchanted ground when you’re messing with that.

There’s no excuse for it. That’s undermining the very foundations of Adventism.

we read two different quotes and she said it a little bit different in each, but she said if we studied what the pioneers understood in the beginning if that’s what we make the focus of our study, then we will be found proclaiming the three angels’ messages. You want to proclaim the three angels’ message to the world? Go back and see what Sister White and the pioneers understood.

It’s a mine full of precious jewels that have not been gathered; and we in our Laodicean experience have not been digging into what they understood, to bring out some of the power that is still to be found in their messages.

Here we are specifically addressing people in Adventism that are applying these time prophecies at the end of the world. One of the techniques they use is to take passages out of the Spirit of Prophecy, out of context, and build a case. Sister White warned they would do this.

In our next presentation we’re going to look at some they use and it’s amazing how out of context these quotes are. I hope we will see that we need to be tested by these messages the same way the pioneers were tested and after we investigate them for ourselves, and understand why they are truth, we will know that this is the message that we are to take to the world.

The message that Wm. Miller and the pioneers brought to the world before 1844 was based on the prophecies of Daniel and it was set in the concept that human probation was about to close. Wm. Miller was telling the world that Jesus was about to return and destroy the world by fire. That message is still here today. Probation is about to close! We have more light on it and the Sunday Law is what’s going to do it. God’s church is going to be judged first. The message of prophecy demands that we bring our character in agreement with the fact that the Lord is about to return to the earth and take His own with Him.