

The King of the North
Part 6 – Caught Unprepared, A Thief in the Night

There is a lot of discussion today about the identity of the king of the north in Daniel 11:40-45. Many have heard that the current idea of the papacy as the king of the north is the real pioneer position. But as we saw in part 1, this is not true. We have carefully examined the history of the Ottoman Empire and found every specification of the prophecy fulfilled. This leaves us with the conclusion that the time of trouble began when the Ottoman Empire, as the king of north, came to his end in 1922. We have also looked at the statements in the Spirit of Prophecy indicating that the time of trouble was beginning around 1904. The history of the 20th century is in complete agreement with our conclusions. In fact, if you don't put the beginning of the time of trouble at the beginning of the 20th century, you will be hard pressed to find anything in prophecy to explain the humanitarian catastrophe of the last century.

As you can see from this, the identity of the king of north is of vital importance in understanding where we are in history in relation to the close of probation. So why haven't we understood this before? Could it be that Satan has blinded our eyes? Yes, this is exactly what we were warned was going to happen. "We want to understand- the time in which we live. We do not half understand it. We do not half take it in. My heart trembles in me when I think of what a foe we have to meet, and how poorly we are prepared to meet him. The trials of the children of Israel, and their attitude just before the first coming of Christ, have been presented before me again and again to illustrate the position of the people of God in their experience before the second coming of Christ – how the enemy sought every occasion to take control of the minds of the Jews, and today he is seeking to blind the minds of God's servants, that they may not be able to discern the precious truth." *Selected Messages Vol. 1 page 406*

"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." *Selected Messages Vol. 2 page 111.*

"There was a present truth – truth at that time of special importance – in the days of Christ, of Paul, of Luther; there is a present truth for the church today. But truth is no more desired by the men of today than it was by the Jews in the time of Christ, or by papists in the days of Luther. Therefore Satan, working now with tenfold greater power, succeeds as of old in blinding the eyes of men and darkening their understanding" *Signs of the Times, June 21, 1883.*

What was the attitude of the Jews that we were told would be repeated today? "While the Jews desired the advent of the Messiah, they had no true conception of His mission... They had studied the prophecies, but without spiritual insight. Thus they overlooked those scriptures that point to the humiliation of Christ's first advent, and misapplied those that speak of the glory of His second coming. Pride obscured their vision. They interpreted prophecy in accordance with their selfish desires." *The Desire of Ages, page 29-30.*

"The angels from Heaven behold with astonishment the indifference of the people, and their ignorance in regard to the advent of the Prince of Life. The proud Pharisees, claiming to be God's

chosen people, in their hypocritical devotions, are proclaiming the law, and exalting traditions, while men of other nations are dealing in fables, and are worshiping false gods. All alike were ignorant of the great event which prophecy had foretold would transpire...

“As there are none among the sons of men to herald the advent of the Messiah, angels must now do that work which it was the honored privilege of men to do. But the angels, with the glad tidings of the birth of the Saviour, are sent to the humble shepherds, and not to the learned Jews, who profess to be the expounders of prophecy; for they have no heart to receive it.” *Spirit of Prophecy Vol. 2, page 16-17.*

“The Jews had separated themselves so far from God by their wicked works, that angels could not communicate to them the tidings of the advent of the infant Redeemer. God chooses the wise men of the East to do his will.” *Spirit of Prophecy Vol. 2, page 19*

“The Jewish nation followed their own standard, and, walking in the sparks of their own kindling, they perished in their delusion. They did not respond to the wonderful works of Christ, or appreciate the words of him who spake as never man spake. They followed the imagination of their own hearts, and they were given up to be cursed by their own ambition, and to be destroyed with the falsehoods and delusions upon which they had built.” *Sabbath-School Worker, January 1, 1895*

“Before his crucifixion, the Saviour explained to his disciples that he was to be put to death, and to rise again from the tomb; and angels were present to impress his words on minds and hearts. But the disciples were looking for temporal deliverance from the Roman yoke, and they could not tolerate the thought that he in whom all their hopes centered should suffer an ignominious death. The words which they needed to remember were banished from their minds; and when the time of trial came, it found them unprepared. The death of Jesus as fully destroyed their hopes as if he had not forewarned them. So in the prophecies the future is opened before us as plainly as it was opened to the disciples by the words of Christ. The events connected with the close of probation and the work of preparation for the time of trouble, are clearly presented. But multitudes have no more understanding of these important truths than if they had never been revealed. Satan watches to catch away every impression that would make them wise unto salvation, and the time of trouble will find them unready.” *Review and Herald June 7, 1906*

We have seen clearly in the previous parts of this study the positive testimony that the latter rain, loud cry and time of trouble began together at the beginning of the 20th century. But Adventists have been taught all their lives that these three events are future, after the Sunday Law. But how does the Sunday law fit into this?

“The substitution of the laws of men for the law of God, the exaltation, by merely human authority, of Sunday in place of the Bible Sabbath, is the **last act in the drama**. When this substitution becomes universal, God will reveal Himself. He will arise in His majesty to shake terribly the earth. He will come out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the world for their iniquity, and the earth shall disclose her blood and shall no more cover her slain.” *Testimonies Vol. 7, page 141*

“**The substitution of the false for the true is the last act in the drama.** When this substitution becomes universal, God will reveal himself. When the laws of men are exalted above the laws of God, when the powers of this earth try to force men to keep the first day of the week, know that the time has come for God to work. He will arise in His majesty, and will shake terribly the earth. He will come out

of His place to punish the inhabitants of the world for their iniquity. The earth shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.” *Review and Herald April 23, 1901.*

If the Sunday law is the last act of the drama, occurring just prior to the close of probation and the pouring out of the plagues, and the time of trouble begins before the close of probation, how can the Sunday law be the beginning of the time of trouble? Many are waiting for the Sunday law to get ready because they think that the time of trouble is a future event. This thinking is a fatal mistake.

“It is in a crisis that character is revealed. When the earnest voice proclaimed at midnight, ‘Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him,’ and the sleeping virgins were roused from their slumbers, it was seen who had made preparation for the event. Both parties were taken unawares; but one was prepared for the emergency, and the other was found without preparation. **So now, a sudden and unlooked-for calamity, something that brings the soul face to face with death, will show whether there is any real faith in the promises of God.** It will show whether the soul is sustained by grace. **The great final test comes at the close of human probation, when it will be too late for the soul’s need to be supplied.**” *Christ’s Object Lessons page 412.*

The calamity is sudden and unlooked for. This is not the Sunday law, for it is expected and looked forward to by Adventists as the time they think they will receive the latter rain and be able to get ready. But the Sunday law is the great final test, at which time all will be decided, there will be no time then to get ready. The preceding calamity, the crisis sudden and unlooked for is the “time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation” that precedes the Sunday law. This is a calamity no one expected to come so early and for which little preparation was made. This is the calamity that we call the 20th century, that historians call the greatest humanitarian disaster in the history of mankind. Just when the world thought they were on the verge of the millennium of temporal peace, the world plunged into the worst destruction ever seen in history.

“I saw that many were neglecting the preparation so needful and were looking to the time of ‘refreshing’ and the ‘latter rain’ to fit them to stand in the day of the Lord and to live in His sight. Oh, how many I saw in the time of trouble without a shelter! They had neglected the needful preparation; therefore they could not receive the refreshing that all must have to fit them to live in the sight of a holy God. Those who refuse to be hewed by the prophets and fail to purify their souls in obeying the whole truth, and who are willing to believe that their condition is far better than it really is, will come up to the time of the falling of the plagues, and then see that they needed to be hewed and squared for the building. But there will be no time then to do it and no Mediator to plead their cause before the Father. Before this time the awfully solemn declaration has gone forth, ‘He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.’ I saw that none could share the ‘refreshing’ unless they obtain the victory over every besetment, over pride, selfishness, love of the world, and over every wrong word and action. We should, therefore, be drawing nearer and nearer to the Lord and be earnestly seeking that preparation necessary to enable us to stand in the battle in the day of the Lord. Let all remember that God is holy and that none but holy beings can ever dwell in His presence.” *Early Writings page 71.*

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

passing before us are of sufficient magnitude to cause us to arouse and urge the truth home to the hearts of all who will listen. The harvest of the earth is nearly ripe.” *Testimonies Vol. 1 page 261*

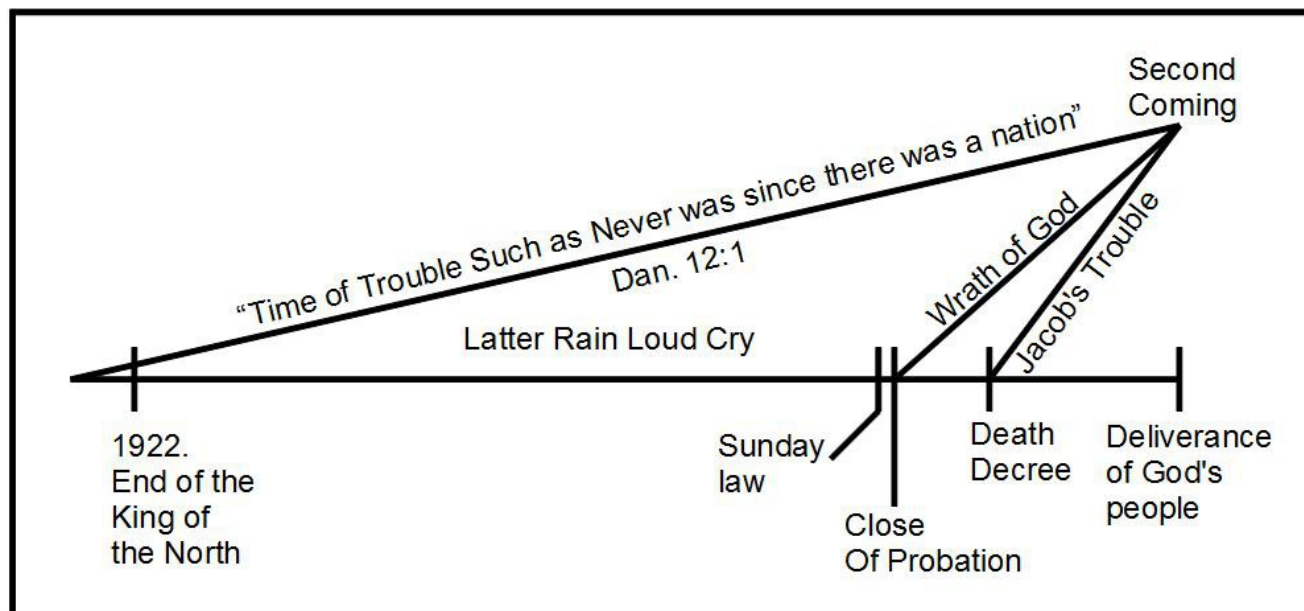
“While the work of salvation is closing, trouble will be coming on the earth, and the nations will be angry, yet held in check so as not to prevent the work of the third angel. At that time the ‘latter rain,’ or refreshing from the presence of the Lord, will come, to give power to the loud voice of the third angel, and prepare the saints to stand in the period when the seven last plagues shall be poured out.”

Maranatha page 259

“As the members of the body of Christ approach the period of their last conflict, ‘the time of Jacob's trouble,’ they will grow up into Christ, and will partake largely of his Spirit. As the third message swells to a loud cry, and as great power and glory attends the closing work, the faithful people of God will partake of that glory. It is the latter rain which revives and strengthens them to pass through the time of trouble. Their faces will shine with the glory of that light which attends the third angel.”

Review and Herald May 27, 1862

We saw in part 4 how the Spirit of Prophecy statements about the time of trouble beginning in the early 20th century correspond with the statements about the loud cry beginning in the same time frame. Let's consider the Latter rain and Loud Cry a little further. We know from the statements we just quoted that the latter rain falls at the beginning of the time of trouble of nations. Remember our chart of the three phases of the time of trouble? Let's add the latter rain and the Sunday law to that chart.



What is the latter rain? “Give ear, O ye heavens, and I will speak; and hear, O earth, the **words of my mouth. My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew**, as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass:” *Deuteronomy 32:1-2*.

We gather from this passage and others that the rain is the words of God, or His message. The latter rain is to come as a message to the people, accompanied by the Holy Spirit. So, what is this message?

“The Lord in His great mercy sent a most precious message to His people through Elders Waggoner and Jones. This message was to bring more prominently before the world the uplifted Saviour, the sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. It presented justification through faith in the Surety; it invited the people to receive the righteousness of Christ, which is made manifest in obedience to all the commandments of God. Many had lost sight of Jesus. They needed to have their eyes directed to His divine person, His merits, and His changeless love for the human family. All power is given into His hands, that He may dispense rich gifts unto men, imparting the priceless gift of His own righteousness to the helpless human agent. This is the message that God commanded to be given to the world. It is the third angel's message, which is to be proclaimed with a loud voice, and attended with the outpouring of His Spirit in a large measure.” *Testimonies to Ministers* page 91-92.

“The whole earth is to be lightened with the glory of God’s truth. The Lord will not close up the period of probation until the warning shall be more distinctly proclaimed. The trumpet must give a certain sound. The law of God is to be magnified, its claims must be presented in their true, sacred character, that the people may be brought to decide for or against the truth. Yet the work will be cut short in righteousness. **The message of Christ’s righteousness is to sound from one end of the world to the other. This is the glory of God which closes the work of the third angel...**” *Last Day Events* page 79, (Non Conference Edition) Letter 2C, 1892.

“In the closing work of God in the earth, the standard of His law will be again exalted... in the hour of greatest peril the God of Elijah will raise up human instrumentalities to bear a message that will not be silenced... ‘Fear God, and give glory to Him...’ Rev.14:7-10. At the judgment this covenant will be brought forth, plainly written with the finger of God, and the world will be arraigned before the bar of Infinite Justice to receive sentence... **And the message for today is: ‘Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen... Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.’** Revelation 18:2, 4, 5.” *Prophets and Kings* page 186-187.

“God designs that the plan of redemption shall come to His people as the latter rain: for they are fast losing their connection with God. They are trusting in man, and glorifying man, and their strength is proportionate to the strength of their dependence. Some matters have been opened before me which will be fulfilled ere long. We are to know more than we do at the present time. We are to comprehend the deep things of God... We need to study the Scriptures with humble, contrite hearts. Those who will devote their powers to the study of God's Word, and **especially the prophecies referring to these last days, will be rewarded by the discovery of important truths.**” *Ms 75, 1899, pp. 4, 5 Untitled Manuscript, May 11, 1899, Manuscript Releases* page 195.

So, the latter rain comes as a message. This message is the doctrine of Christ, the plan of salvation, righteousness by faith, the law of God, the Sabbath, a call to come out of Babylon, and a clearer understanding of the prophecies. This message is to be given at the beginning of the time of trouble, which we have proved began at the beginning of the 20th century. This means that while the Lord has been pouring out the latter rain, we have been waiting for the Sunday law to receive and give it!

“The third angel's message is swelling into a loud cry, and you must not feel at liberty to neglect the present duty, and still entertain the idea that at some future time you will be the recipients of great blessing, when without any effort on your part a wonderful revival will take place. Today you are to give yourselves to God, that He may make of you vessels unto honor, and meet for His service.” *The*

Review and Herald, March 22, 1892.

“Many have in a great measure failed to receive the former rain. They have not obtained all the benefits that God has thus provided for them. They expect that the lack will be supplied by the latter rain. When the richest abundance of grace shall be bestowed, they intend to open their hearts to receive it. **They are making a terrible mistake.** The work that God has begun in the human heart in giving His light and knowledge must be continually going forward. Every individual must realize his own necessity. The heart must be emptied of every defilement and cleansed for the indwelling of the Spirit. It was by the confession and forsaking of sin, by earnest prayer and consecration of themselves to God, that the early disciples prepared for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost. The same work, only in greater degree, must be done now. Then the human agent had only to ask for the blessing, and wait for the Lord to perfect the work concerning him. It is God who began the work, and He will finish His work, making man complete in Jesus Christ. But there must be no neglect of the grace represented by the former rain. **Only those who are living up to the light they have will receive greater light.** Unless we are daily advancing in the exemplification of the active Christian virtues, we shall not recognize the manifestations of the Holy Spirit in the latter rain. **It may be falling on hearts all around us, but we shall not discern or receive it.**” *Testimonies to Ministers* page 507

It is obvious that the latter rain, loud cry, and time of trouble began together right around the turn of the 20th century. But Adventists have been taught all their lives that these three events are future, after the Sunday Law. Could it be that we have been deceived by our leaders? Just as the Jews were deceived by their leaders? Not only is it possible, it has happened! What the whole thing boils down to is this. Do you believe the testimonies of God's Spirit or don't you?

Do you remember Raymond Cottrell? We talked about him in Part 1. He lied to the church about what the pioneers taught on the king of the north. He also said that the sanctuary doctrine could not be proved from Daniel 8:14 using Biblical Exegesis and Hermeneutic principles, and on this he was right, it is impossible to prove the truth using Greek Philosophy.

It used to be that Adventists were very clear in their presentations of prophecy. The sincere and logical mind could easily see the truth and clearness of what they taught. But this is not the case anymore. Many of the prophetic presentations are confusing and circular, with no clear purpose or reason. This is because our methods of interpretation have become confused. In the Christian world there are two methods of interpreting prophecy. They are the Catholic and Protestant methods. The Catholic method can be divided into three, the spiritual, the preterist, and the futurist. The protestant method, used by all the reformers, and the Advent pioneers, is known as the historicist method. The reason there is so much confusion today is that these four methods are being blended.

The Catholic method views all prophecy and, in fact, all the Bible as a mystical book with a primarily spiritual meaning and little or no literal meaning. This school of thought was brought into the church by Origen in the third century. He attempted to blend pagan philosophy with Christian doctrine. He taught the idea that there were many levels of spiritual meaning in the scriptures that were of far greater importance than the literal surface meaning. In this way the scriptures could be made to teach the pagan philosophies and its literal reading was discouraged. See *Rome – The Great Apostasy* pages 387-391 by A.T. Jones.

Origen and his mentor, Clement, a converted pagan, took the hermeneutic principles used by the

Greek philosophers in interpreting their mythological oracles, or holy stories, and applied them to the study of the scriptures. Remember, the word Hermeneutics comes from the Greek god Hermes. He was the god of travelers, shepherds, thieves, and literature. One of his exceptional traits was deception and falsehood. Using these methods Origen was able to make the Bible say anything he wanted it to and often could make a text mean the exact opposite of what it literally said. He did not view the Bible as the inerrant Word of God. But as a collection of stories similar to the mythology and oracles of the Greeks, they were interesting stories of how the gods interacted with man in the past but could be viewed with skepticism in a modern world.

Some of Origen's doctrines, such as reincarnation and the final conversion of everyone, including Satan, became so controversial, even in the Catholic church, that he was never sainted and is regarded with some skepticism in the church, even today. But other doctrines he invented, such as the Eucharist (transubstantiation- the actual presence of the blood and body of Christ in the bread and wine), became part and parcel of Catholic doctrine.

But this mixing of Greek philosophy with the Scriptures was not isolated to the Catholic Church of the Christian era. It was actually begun much earlier, during the centuries just prior to Christ's first advent. The Jews of Alexandria in Egypt began to mix this Greek philosophy and methodology with their interpretation of scripture. During this time, some of these scholars produced the Septuagint, a Greek translation of the Hebrew prophets. It was this mixing of the pagan philosophy with the true Word of God that led directly to the rejection of Jesus by the Jews. Origen made use of this work of the Hellenized Jews and it became the basis of the Old Testament of the Latin Vulgate in the Catholic Church.

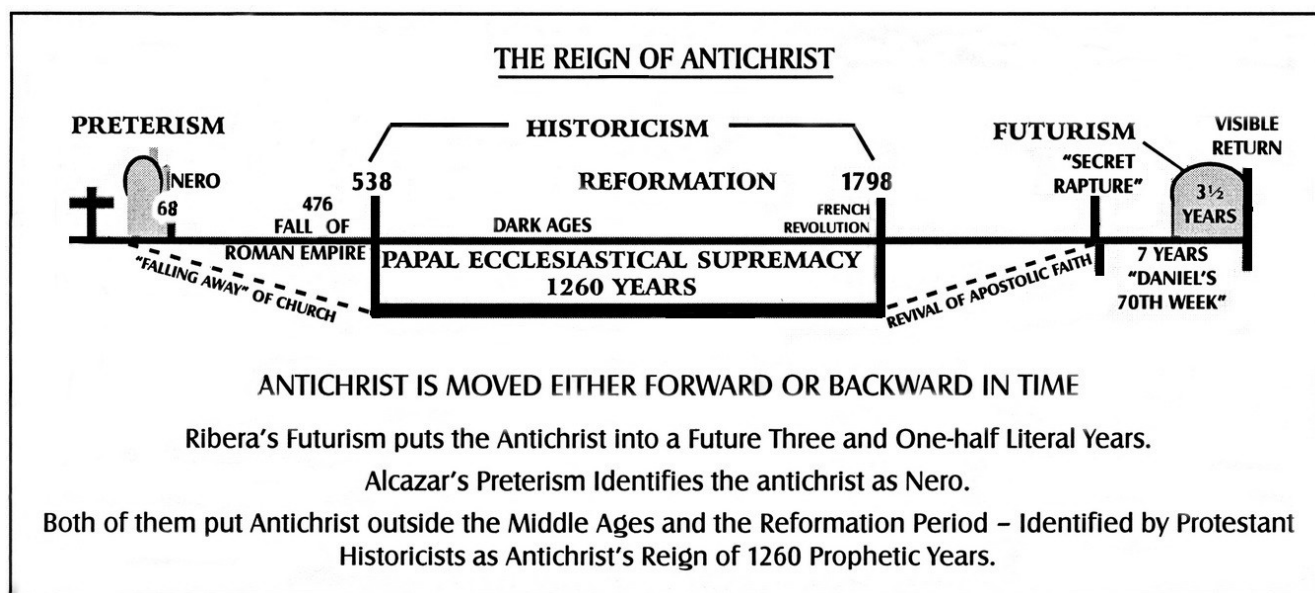
This spiritual method of Origen became the basis of all Catholic methods of interpretation. Using this method the prophecies are not to be literally fulfilled but have only a spiritual application. The other two Catholic methods were developed by Jesuit priests as a part of the counter-reformation. They were developed to counteract the protestant charge that the Catholic church was the beast of Revelation. One method puts all the prophecies of Revelation in the past (the preterist method). This is the method preferred by Catholics of the old school. The futurist method puts it all in the future and is the preferred method of evangelicals and liberal Catholics today. This is the method that the seven year tribulation is based on.

The preterist method was consolidated and developed by the Spanish Jesuit Alcazar and is based on the idea that all prophecy had its literal fulfillment in the early Christian church and that none of it remains to be fulfilled or to concern us today. In this view even Christ's second coming is construed to have taken place during the first two or three centuries of the Christian church, which is a difficult position to prove from either history or the scriptures.

The futurist method was also developed by a Spanish Jesuit whose name was Francisco Ribera. According to this view, most of the prophecy will take place in the future and from this view we get some interesting interpretations of a seven year tribulation, a three and half year reign of the anti-Christ, a secret rapture, and other ideas that are just as difficult to prove from scripture as the preterist idea.

Admittedly not all the current ideas derived from these three methods were presented by these three men. The work they did was to establish a prophetic interpretation framework that others have worked

upon. They developed the hermeneutic principles for Biblical interpretation. Once established and believed, these hermeneutic principles of interpretation lead to some very unlikely conclusions from the point of reason and conscience. However, theology students are taught to put complete trust in principles of this kind and are consequently left wandering in a maze of darkness.



The Jesuit order was established for the purpose of destroying the reformation and returning all Christians to an allegiance to the Pope. To this end they brought in the counter reformation. The preterist and futurist methods were brought in as a means of derailing the protestant idea that the papacy was a fulfillment of prophecy. Some protestants liked the futurist idea very much and ran with it adding to and embellishing it as they went. Jesuits love to do this. They insert an idea and when the protestant preachers run with it, they sit back and laugh and point out to all that these are protestant ideas and not Jesuit at all. While the seven year tribulation and the secret rapture may not have been ideas that Ribera came up with, he laid down the framework from which these ideas have sprung.

But the protestant method views prophecy as history written in advance. It is called the historicist model of interpretation. Prophecy is a revelation to the true believer of the events, both political and religious, that are going to transpire literally in this world. The prophecy begins at the time of the prophet who receives it and covers history from that time forward to whichever point is the climax that God wishes us to know about. It seems that in both the prophetic books of Daniel and Revelation the climax of almost every prophecy is the second coming of Christ in glory to gather His people home. Which is the great climax of history, is it not? From this view point all we have to do is to look at the prophecy and compare it with history and see where we are in relation to this final climax. All we have to find out is, how much has been fulfilled? And we will see how much is left to be fulfilled. It is a simple and straight forward method, taking all things to be literal unless they are obviously symbolic. All the spiderweb of serpentine windings used by the Hermeneutic, Catholic methods of interpretation are not needed in the historicist method. There is no need of confusion or heated argument. All we need do is look and see. Was this not what was said to Nathanael under the fig tree when he asked "Can any good thing come from Nazareth?" Philip responded, "Come and see." *John 1:45,46*

The historicist method was the method of the reformers from Wycliff to Luther. It gave rise to the greatest revival and reformation in Christian history and is the method on which William Miller based his interpretation of prophecy. The Seventh-day Adventist church was built on a solid foundation of historicist prophetic interpretation. While the protestants were a people of the Bible, the Adventists were solidly a people of Bible Prophecy. To Adventists the books of Daniel and Revelation were no longer a mystery but were open books. Their message was powerful and it demonstrated that we are at the very climax of prophecy and they proved it by saying “look and see.” There was not any portion of these two books that were considered to be a mystery.

So, what happened? Why are so many Adventists today confused about what some of these prophecies mean? Why is Adventism now considered irrelevant by many, even Adventists themselves?

Today, Adventist interpretation of prophecy is a strange mix of the historic, the futurist, the preterist, and the spiritual. This change began when the message of 1888 was rejected by the Adventist leadership. The first attack on interpretation came in the 1890's with the “new view” of the daily. This was followed in the early 1900's with the “new view” of the king of the north and by the 1950's many in Adventist theology circles had repudiated the idea that Daniel 8:14 referred to the heavenly sanctuary and the entire Adventist concept of the investigative judgment was held in question. *See, Raymond Cottrell, taped Recollections on the Investigative Judgment.*

The “new view” of the daily, introduced by Conradi in the 1890's, was a spiritual interpretation. According to this view the daily was the daily ministration of Christ in the heavenly sanctuary. (As opposed to the old, literal, interpretation of Miller and the Adventist pioneers that it was paganism.) It was presented as a reasonable view in light of the Adventist understanding of the sanctuary message but followed to it's logical conclusion it removed the Adventist understanding of Daniel 8:14. Without Daniel 8:14 the very reason for the existence of the Adventist church is removed. And Adventists wonder why their church's message is now irrelevant?

The “new view” of the king of north was finally removed from being a vague interpretation that it must be the Papacy into a seemingly reasonable, detailed presentation by Luis Were in the late 1940's and early 1950's. To do this he used a spiritual application of the last 5 verses of Daniel 11. Using the Spirit of Prophecy extensively in his presentation he formed an end times scenario based on these verses that firmly places the the loud cry and latter rain after the national Sunday law. His presentation was immediately hailed as the correct view held by the Adventist pioneers, completely ignoring the fact that those pioneers who did hold the view that the king of the north was the Papacy were looking for a literal fulfillment in accordance with the historicist method, not a spiritual one.

Who was Luis Were? To date, I have found no information about him, except that he was an Australian Adventist evangelist who had some connection with the inner circle of Adventist leadership and that he was ousted from the church sometime in the 1940's. He wrote a total of 17 books. In all of them he works constantly on a principle of prophetic interpretation that is found nowhere in either the pioneers' writings or in the Spirit of Prophecy. This principle is that all prophecy fulfilled before Christ's first advent is to be understood literally, but all prophecy fulfilled after the first advent is to be understood in a spiritual sense. But if we carry this supposed principle through logically, it wipes out Josiah Litch's interpretation of the seven trumpets and the Ottoman fall of 1840. It boils down to the fact that this principle is only used when it is convenient, such as Daniel 11, Revelation 16, 17 and 18. We immediately recognize the subtle insinuation of Origin's Greek philosophy here, where we can

make a text say anything we want by making use a Hermeneutic principle that we don't use when it isn't convenient.

But what of those who call themselves Historic Adventists? Surely they must stick to the historic method. Unfortunately we find this not to be the case. The historic position on prophecy is itself a mix of spiritual and historicist interpretation. While rejecting the “new view” of the daily and resurrecting the 1843 and 1850 prophecy charts, reviving the 2520 time prophecy, the leading Historic Adventist prophecy expositors follow explicitly the “new view” of the king of the north and the spiritual application developed by Luis Were. They also follow Were in the presentation of Revelation 17. In his presentation of Revelation 17, Were uses a conglomeration of Spiritual, Preterist, Futurist, and historicist interpretations to prove his point that the Papacy will reach it's zenith of power in the future and that the message of Revelation 18 is a warning against the unity of church and state. In light of this, we are forced to ask the question, how historic is Historic Adventism? It seems to be a strange mix of 1920's and 1950's doctrines that are sincerely believed to be what the pioneers themselves taught. We can sincerely believe error, but our sincerity does not make it truth.

An interesting note on the use of the 2520 is that James White himself repudiates the use of the seven times as a prophecy in an article in the Review in 1864. *See Review and Herald, January 26, 1864.* Uriah Smith also tells us that the seven times of Leviticus 26 are not prophetic. *See Daniel and the Revelation pp. 784-785.* We are supposedly upholding James White's views on prophecy by presenting the spiritual application of the Papacy being the king of the north, while at the same time presenting a pioneer position on the 2520 that James White spoke against.

The current Adventist and Historic Adventist presentations of prophecy leave out as insignificant most of the events of the 20th century. You are left with the impression that the last century was one of peace, when any historian will tell you the exact opposite. Historians tell us that the 20th century was a humanitarian disaster. The world wars were the worst wars in the history of this world. To interpret prophecy by the historicist method and include a gap that leaves out the worst century in the history of mankind is not reasonable. God always warns His people of what is going to happen and to think that He failed to tell us about the last century is an absurd notion.

The problem does not lie with the prophecy. It lies with the interpretation of the prophecy. If the historicist methods of the Adventist pioneers are followed to their logical conclusion the events of the 20th century are truly included in prophecy. They have not been left out at all. Any prophetic interpretation that leaves out the last 100 to 200 years of history is not reasonable. It simply does not make sense to use a historicist method to bring us to 1844 and then jump to a futuristic, spiritualist idea of an end time scenario beginning with a Sunday law more than on hundred and fifty years later. History did not stop in 1844 to then resume at some future time, but rather moves on in a continuous line from then to now. Prophecy does the same. While the future Sunday law is definitely there in prophecy, it is not the beginning event that starts the end time scenario that culminates in the second coming. It is the final act in the drama.

In one of his booklets, copyrighted 1949, titled “The Truth about Ellen G. White, Uriah Smith and the King of the North,” Were suggests that Smith's mistake in rejecting the message of 1888 proves that he is wrong on the King of the North. He even goes so far as to claim that all who believe that the Ottoman Empire is the King of the North will be found on the side of the Jesuits. He completely ignores the fact that the 1888 message had nothing to do with Daniel 11 and that both Waggoner and

Jones preached that the king of the north was the Ottoman Empire. If we are to reject Uriah Smith's presentation of prophecy, which Ellen White strongly endorses, because he erred ten years later on the 1888 message, why not reject the 1888 message, because ten years later both Waggoner and Jones joined Kellogg in teaching pantheism? Were is not being consistent with himself at all. In the end he urges all his readers to trust to the "Godly leaders" of the General Conference, who had determined that the Pioneers taught that the king of the north was the Papacy.

Do you know who these "Godly Leaders" were that Were urges us to trust? These were the men who published "Questions on Doctrine." These were the men who wrote the Bible Commentary, using new methods of interpretation. These were the men who told Wieland and Short that there was no Biblical example of a need to repent for the sins of our forefathers. These were the men who declared Andreasen to be on the "lunatic fringe" and removed his credentials for preaching the need to overcome sin and for telling the General Conference that they were in the wrong. These were the men who decided that there was no Biblical basis for the Sanctuary doctrine of Daniel 8:14. These are the men we are urged to trust, and unfortunately, most Adventists are still trusting them with their views of prophecy, their understanding of where we are in relation to the loud cry and latter rain and ultimately with their very salvation.

We are reminded of Isaiah 9:16 "For the leaders of this people cause them to err; and they that are led of them are destroyed."

Also Hosea 4:16 "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children."

"Then the LORD said unto me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart. Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning the prophets that prophesy in my name, and I sent them not, yet they say, **Sword and famine shall not be in this land**; By sword and famine shall those prophets be consumed." *Jeremiah 14:14-15*

What happens when you mix the fermentation of Pagan philosophy with the pure milk of God's word? You get the wine of Roman Babylon and there is only one message in the Bible for Babylon. "And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities." *Revelation 18:1-5*

The Jews erred by mixing Greek philosophy with their interpretations of the scriptures. Thus they interpreted prophecy according to their own selfish desires and completely missed the Messiah when he came. Today the church is doing the same thing. Satan has lead us to misinterpret Daniel 11 and place the loud cry, latter rain, and time of trouble after the National Sunday law, and you can be sure he will keep us sleeping on until it is too late. If you think that you can wait till the Sunday law to get ready,

His second coming will take you unawares, as a thief in the night, and you will be weeping with the Synagogue of Satan, at the saints' feet.

"Satan is working that the history of the Jewish nation may be repeated in the experience of those who claim to believe present truth... Satan knew just how to take these men in his net, and deceive and destroy them." *Selected Messages Vol. 2, page 111*

"I saw that many of these shepherds had denied the past teachings of God; they had denied and rejected the glorious truths which they once zealously advocated and had covered themselves with mesmerism and all kinds of delusions. I saw that they were drunken with error and were leading on their flock to death. Many of the opposers of God's truth devise mischief in their heads upon their beds, and in the day they carry out their wicked devices to put down the truth and to get something new to interest the people and divert their minds from the precious, all-important truth.

"I saw that the priests who are leading on their flock to death are soon to be arrested in their dreadful career. The plagues of God are coming, but it will not be sufficient for the false shepherds to be tormented with one or two of these plagues. God's hand at that time will be stretched out still in wrath and justice and will not be brought to Himself again until His purposes are fully accomplished, and the hireling priests are led to worship at the feet of the saints, and to acknowledge that God has loved them because they held fast the truth and kept God's commandments, and until all the unrighteous ones are destroyed from the earth." *Early Writings pages 123-124*

The apostasy of Rome began in the same manner as that of the Jews. We have now seen how the leaders of the Seventh-day Adventist church did the exact same thing in the 1940's and 50's. Can her ruin be any less certain? The leaders are still proclaiming loudly that the 20th century has little place in prophecy, that the world wars are not to be found there. That destruction is coming, but is not here yet. "Look to the future for persecution and trial, but the present is a time of peace," they say. "Wait for the latter rain that will fit you up for the battle." But God says something different.

"Only those who are living up to the light they have will receive greater light. Unless we are daily advancing in the exemplification of the active Christian virtues, we shall not recognize the manifestations of the Holy Spirit in the latter rain. It may be falling on hearts all around us, but we shall not discern or receive it." *Testimonies to Ministers page 507.*

"The descent of the Holy Spirit upon the church is looked forward to as [being something to be bestowed] in the future, but it is the privilege of the church to have it now. Seek for it, pray for it, believe for it. We must have it and heaven is waiting to bestow it..." *Last Day Events (Non Conference Edition) page 61.*

So, is the king of the north important to understand? Does it matter at all who this power is? Yes, it does. If this power is the papacy, it has not come to its end yet and the time of trouble, loud cry and latter rain are still future. If Uriah Smith was right and this power was the Ottoman Empire, then we have no time left, we must have the latter rain now! It is time NOW to give the loud cry of Revelation 18. We must separate physically from the Babylonian structure, but we must also separate ourselves from Babylonian thinking and philosophy.

"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.’” *Manuscript Releases Vol. 15 page 228.*

What is that warning that we need to understand? “And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. 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.” *Daniel 12:1-3.*

Will you heed the warning, abandon all false methods and teachings, come out of Bablyon, physically, mentally, and spiritually? If you will, then God will place His seal upon you, but if not, you are in danger of being destroyed right along with the wicked. “I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:” *Deuteronomy 30:19.*