

An In-Depth Study Of Great Controversy
Chapter 38



This chapter discusses the experience of God's people in a general way, from the time of the National Sunday law, on down to just before the general close of probation.

After study this chapter you will be able to answer these questions:

- ✚ What is the message of Revelation 18 angel?
- ✚ When will it again be proclaimed?
- ✚ Why is the message given, “Come out of her My people”?
- ✚ First will come the decree that all must keep Sunday holy. This will be followed by civil penalties, and what else?
- ✚ When the National Sunday Law has been enacted and, understanding the issues, he chooses to keep Sunday holy,-What does he then receive?
- ✚ But if, instead, he determines to keep the Bible Sabbath, what will he receive?
- ✚ What will be the great test of loyalty?
- ✚ How will the message be given by humble men and women?
- ✚ What will Catholic and Protestant clergy do to try to stop God’s faithful ones from giving the truth about the Sabbath and the Law of God?
- ✚ When professed Sabbathkeepers, who are already compromisers, learn of harsh penalties for rejecting Sunday,-what will they do?
- ✚ How will God’s faithful ones experience many of the persecutions of former times?
- ✚ How will this message of the Sabbath go to all the world before probation closes?
- ✚ In the power of the Holy Spirit, the final message will be given. Why will the enabling given to the faithful be called “the later rain”?
- ✚ Will everyone on earth take a stand for one side or the other?
- ✚ Will a large number accept the truth?

GC 603:1-2 “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.” “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.” **Revelation 18:1, 2, 4.** Kemudian daripada itu aku melihat seorang malaikat lain turun dari surga. Ia mempunyai kekuasaan besar dan bumi menjadi terang oleh kemuliaannya. Dan ia berseru dengan suara kuat, katanya, ‘Sudah rubuh, sudah rubuh Babel, kota besar itu, dan ia telah menjadi kediaman roh-roh jahat dan tempat bersembunyi semua roh najis, dan tempat bersembunyi segala burung najis dan yang dibenci.’ Lalu aku mendengar suara lain dari surga berkata: ‘Pergilah kamu, hai umat-Ku, pergilah dari padanya, supaya kamu jangan mengambil bagian dalam dosa-dosanya, dan supaya kamu jangan turut ditimpa malapetaka-malapetakanya.’” (Wahyu 18:1,2,4).

This scripture points forward to a time when the announcement of the fall of Babylon, as made by the second angel of **Revelation 14 (verse 8)**, is to be repeated, with the additional mention of the corruptions which have been entering the various organizations that constitute Babylon, since that message was first given, in the summer of 1844. **A terrible condition of the religious world is here described.** With every rejection of truth the minds of the people will become darker, their hearts more stubborn, until they are entrenched in an infidel hardihood. In defiance of the warnings which God has given, they will continue to trample upon one of the precepts of the Decalogue, until they are led to persecute those who hold it sacred. Christ is set at nought in the contempt placed upon His word and His people. As the teachings of spiritualism are accepted by the churches, the restraint imposed upon the carnal heart is removed, and the profession of religion will become a cloak to conceal the basest iniquity. A belief in spiritual manifestations opens the door to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils, and thus the influence of evil angels will be felt in the churches. **Ayat-ayat ini menunjuk ke depan kepada suatu waktu bilamana peng-umuman mengenai rubuhnya kota Babel yang disiarkan oleh malaikat yang kedua dalam Wahyu 14:8, akan diulang, dengan pemberitahuan tambahan mengenai kejahatan yang telah memasuki berbagai organisasi yang membentuk Babel, sejak pekabaran itu pertama kali disampaikan pada musim panas tahun 1844. Keadaan dunia keagamaan yang mengerikan diterangkan di sini. Setiap penolakan kepada kebenaran, pikiran orang menjadi lebih gelap, hati mereka semakin degil, sehingga mereka**

terjerumus ke da lam kekerasan hati kefasikan. Dalam menentang amaran yang telah diberikan oleh Allah, mereka akan terus menginjak-injak salah satu dari perintah-perintah hukum yang sepuluh itu, sampai mereka dituntun untuk menganiaya orang-orang yang menyucikan hari Sabat hari ketujuh. Kristus dianggap tidak ada melalui penghinaan yang dilancarkan terhadap firmanNya dan umat-Nya. Sementara ajaran-ajaran Spiritisme diterima oleh gereja-gereja, pembatasan-pembatasan yang dikenakan kepada hati duniawi manusia itu dihapuskan dan pengakuan agama menjadi seperti jubah yang menyembunyikan kejahatan yang paling keji. Kepercayaan kepada manifestasi spiritual membuka pintu kepada roh-roh yang menggoda dan ajaran-ajaran Setan, dan dengan demikian pengaruh malaikat-malaikat Setan akan terasa di dalam gereja.

What is this passage in Revelation 18 talking about?

The First Angel's Message was first given in 1840 (7BC 971). You can read more about it in GC 355-374. It proclaimed the nearness of the Judgment and the Second Advent of Christ. It was also a call to worship the Creator. That message brings to our attention the twin truths of the Bible Sabbath and the Creatorship of God (as opposed to evolution).

The Second Angel's Message was first given in 1843 and later swelled into a midnight cry in the summer of 1844. You can read about it in EW 237-240. It was initially a call to come out from the fallen churches which rejected the truth about the nearness of Christ's Second Advent. But it will later be a powerful call, after the National Sunday Law is enacted, to leave the churches which cling to Sunday sacredness.

The Third Angel's Message is a loud cry call to return to God and fully obey His Law. It will be given from the start of the National Sunday law to the general close of probation, -and is the subject of this chapter (GC Chapter 38). The angel of Revelation 18:1 will united with it (GC 390, 611).

"It is on the law of God that the last great struggle of the controversy between Christ and His angels and Satan and his angels will come, and it will be decisive for all the world.... Men in responsible positions will not only ignore and despise the Sabbath themselves, but from the sacred desk will urge upon the people the observance of the first day of the week, pleading tradition and custom in behalf of this man-made institution. **They will point to calamities on land and sea—to the storms of wind, the floods, the earthquakes, the destruction by fire—as judgments indicating God's displeasure because Sunday is not sacredly observed.** These calamities will increase more and more, one disaster will follow close upon the heels of

another; and those who make void the law of God will point to the few who are keeping the Sabbath of the fourth commandment as the ones who are bringing wrath upon the world. This falsehood is Satan's device that he may ensnare the unwary."—The Southern Watchman, June 28, 1904 / Christian Service, Page 155

GC 604:1 Of Babylon, at the time brought to view in this prophecy, it is declared: "Her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities." Revelation 18:5. She has filled up the measure of her guilt, and destruction is about to fall upon her. But God still has a people in Babylon; and before the visitation of His judgments these faithful ones must be called out, that they partake not of her sins and "receive not of her plagues." Hence the movement symbolized by the angel coming down from heaven, lightening the earth with his glory and crying mightily with a strong voice, announcing the sins of Babylon. In connection with his message the call is heard: "Come out of her, My people." These announcements, uniting with the third angel's message, constitute the final warning to be given to the inhabitants of the earth.

Mengenai Babel, pada waktu dimunculkan di dalam nubuatan ini, di-nyatakan, "Sebab dosa-dosanya telah bertimbun-timbun sampai ke langit, dan Allah telah mengingat segala kejahatannya." (Wahyu 18:5). Ia telah memenuhi cawan kejahatannya dan kebinasaan sudah hampir dijatuhkan kepadanya. Tetapi masih ada umat Allah di Babel; dan sebelum penghakiman-Nya dilaksanakan, orang-orang yang setia ini harus dipanggil keluar agar mereka "jangan mengambil bagian dalam dosa-dosanya" dan supaya mereka "jangan turut ditimpa malapetaka-malapetakanya." (Wahyu 18:4). Sejak pergerakan yang dilambangkan oleh malaikat yang turun dari langit. menerangi dunia ini dengan kemuliaannya, dan berseru dengan suara yang kuat, mengumumkan dosa-dosa Babel. Sehubungan dengan pekabarannya, panggilan ini terdengar, "Pergilah kamu, hai umat-Ku, pergilah dari padanya." Pengumuman ini, yang disatukan dengan pekabaran malaikat yang ketiga, menjadi amaran terakhir yang akan diberikan kepada penghuni dunia ini.

What is Babylon?

Babylon is the Roman Catholic Church, which teaches a mass of pagan confusion, in place of the pure teaching of the Bible.

The daughters of Babylon are the fallen Protestant churches which have accepted the primary error of Rome-which is Sunday sacredness.

“Babylon is fallen and has become the cage of every foul and hateful bird! The most revolting sins of the age find shelter beneath the cloak of Christianity. **Many proclaim the law of God abolished, and surely their lives are in keeping with their faith. If there is no law, then there is no transgression, and therefore no sin; for sin is the transgression of the law.**” Testimonies for the Church, vol. 4, Page 13

“**The woman (Babylon) of Revelation 17 is described as “arrayed in purple and scarlet color, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls,** having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness:...and upon her forehead was a name written, Mystery, Babylon the Great, the mother of harlots.” Says the prophet: “I saw the woman drunk with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus.” Babylon is further declared to be “that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.” Revelation 17:4-6, 18. **The power that for so many centuries maintained despotic sway over the monarchs of Christendom is Rome. The purple and scarlet color, the gold and precious stones and pearls, vividly picture the magnificence and more than kingly pomp affected by the haughty see of Rome.** And no other power could be so truly declared “drunken with the blood of the saints” as that church which has so cruelly persecuted the followers of Christ. Babylon is also charged with the sin of unlawful connection with “the kings of the earth.” **It was by departure from the Lord, and alliance with the heathen, that the Jewish church became a harlot; and Rome, corrupting herself in like manner by seeking the support of worldly powers, receives a like condemnation.**” The Great Controversy, Page 382

GC 604:2 Fearful is the issue to which the world is to be brought. The powers of earth, uniting to war against the commandments of God, will decree that “all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond” (Revelation 13:16), shall conform to the customs of the church by the observance of the false sabbath. All who refuse compliance will be visited with civil penalties, and it will finally be declared that they are deserving of death. On the other hand, the law of God enjoining the Creator's rest day demands obedience and threatens wrath against all who transgress its precepts. Sungguh mengerikan keadaan yang akan dihadapi oleh dunia ini. Kuasa-kuasa duniawi, yang disatukan melawan perintah-perintah Allah, akan memutuskan bahwa baik “kecil atau besar, kaya atau miskin, merdeka atau hamba,” (Wahyu 13:16) harus menyesuaikan diri dengan kebiasaan-kebiasaan gereja dengan cara memelihara hari Sabat palsu. Semua yang menolak menyesuaikan diri akan dikenakan hukuman sipil, dan

akhirnya akan dinyatakan bahwa mereka pantas dihukum mati. Sebaliknya, terhadap hokum Allah yang memerintahkan hari perhentian, Pencipta menuntut penurutan, dan mengancam dengan murka Allah bagi semua yang melanggar ajaranajaran hukum itu.

What is the special issue requiring a decision from everyone?

Either obey or disobey the moral law of Ten Commandments. Men disobey it because they want to remain in their sins. Other choose to obey it, and do so by the enabling grace of Christ their Saviour. No one is able to obey it in his own strength.

“Every indignity, reproach, and cruelty that Satan could instigate human hearts to devise, has been visited upon the followers of Jesus. And it will be again fulfilled in a marked manner; for the carnal heart is still at enmity with the law of God, and will not be subject to its commands. The world is no more in harmony with the principles of Christ today than it was in the days of the apostles. **The same hatred that prompted the cry, “Crucify Him! crucify Him!” the same hatred that led to the persecution of the disciples, still works in the children of disobedience.** The same spirit which in the Dark Ages consigned men and women to prison, to exile, and to death, which conceived the exquisite torture of the Inquisition, which planned and executed the Massacre of St. Bartholomew, and which kindled the fires of Smithfield, is still at work with malignant energy in unregenerate hearts. **The history of truth has ever been the record of a struggle between right and wrong.** The proclamation of the gospel has ever been carried forward in this world in the face of opposition, peril, loss, and suffering.” **The Acts of the Apostles, Page 85**

GC 604:3 With the issue thus clearly brought before him, whoever shall trample upon God's law to obey a human enactment receives the mark of the beast; he accepts the sign of allegiance to the power which he chooses to obey instead of God. The warning from heaven is: “If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of His indignation.” Revelation 14:9, 10. Dengan masalah yang telah begitu jelas dibukakan di hadapan mereka, maka barangsiapa yang menginjak-injak hukum Allah dan menuruti peraturan-peraturan manusia, menerima tanda binatang; ia

menerima tanda kesetiaan kepada kuasa yang dipilihnya untuk diturut sebagai pengganti Allah. Amaran dari surga ialah, “Jika seorang menyembah binatang dan patungnya itu, dan menerima tanda pada dahinya atau pada tangannya, maka ia akan minum dari anggur murka Allah, yang disediakan tanpa campuran dalam cawan murka-Nya.” (Wahyu 14:9, 10).

What will be the penalty, during the loud cry, for rejecting obedience to God’s moral code?

The mark of the beast will be applied.

- We should study to learn what it is (7BC 979)
- It is Sunday observance (GC 448-449)
- The highest human authorities will enforce it (5T 213)
- No one has yet received it (Ev 234)

The beast is the leopard beast of Revelation 13. It represents the papacy (GC 439, 443, 445, 578).

7BC 979-981 - World Drunk With Wine of Babylon—God denounces Babylon “because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.” This means that she has disregarded the only commandment which points out the true God, and has torn down the Sabbath, God's memorial of creation.

God made the world in six days and rested on the seventh, sanctifying this day, and setting it apart from all others as holy to Himself, to be observed by His people throughout their generations.

But the man of sin, exalting himself above God, sitting in the temple of God, and showing himself to be God, *thought* to change times and laws. This power, thinking to prove that it was not only equal to God, but above God, changed the rest day, placing the first day of the week where the seventh should be. And the Protestant world has taken this child of the papacy to be regarded as sacred. In the Word of God this is called her fornication.

God has a controversy with the churches of today. They are fulfilling the prophecy of John. “All nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.” They have divorced themselves from God by refusing to receive His sign. They have not the spirit of God’s true commandment-keeping people. And the people of the world, in giving their sanction to a false sabbath, and in trampling under their feet the Sabbath of the Lord, have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication (Letter 98, 1900).

9-12 (ch. 13:11-17; see EGW on chs. 12:17; 18:1; Isaiah 58:12-14). The Real Issue in the Final Conflict—[Revelation 14:9, 10 quoted.] It is for the interest of all to understand what the mark of the beast is, and how they may escape the dread threatenings of God. Why are men not interested to know what constitutes the mark of the beast and his image? It is in direct contrast with the mark of God. [Exodus 31:12-17 quoted.]

The Sabbath question will be the issue in the great conflict in which all the world will act a part. [Revelation 13:4-10 quoted.] This entire chapter is a revelation of what will surely take place [Revelation 13:11, 15-17 quoted] (Manuscript 88, 1897).

What Is the Mark of the Beast?—John was called to behold a people distinct from those who worship the beast and his image by keeping the first day of the week. The observance of this day is the mark of the beast (Letter 31, 1898).

(Ch. 13:16, 17.) Warning Against Mark of the Beast—The third angel's message has been sent forth to the world, warning men against receiving the mark of the beast or of his image in their foreheads or in their hands. To receive this mark means to come to the same decision as the beast has done, and to advocate the same ideas, in direct opposition to the Word of God. Of all who receive this mark, God says, “The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb.” ...

If the light of truth has been presented to you, revealing the Sabbath of the fourth commandment, and showing that there is no foundation in the Word of God for Sunday observance, and yet you still cling to the false sabbath, refusing to keep holy the Sabbath which God calls “My holy day,” you receive the mark of the beast. When does this take place? When you obey the decree that commands you to cease from labor on Sunday and worship God, while you know that there is not a word in the Bible showing Sunday to be other than a common working day, you consent to receive the mark of the beast, and refuse the seal of God.

If we receive this mark in our foreheads or in our hands, the judgments pronounced against the disobedient must fall upon us. But the seal of the living God is placed upon those who conscientiously keep the Sabbath of the Lord (The Review and Herald, July 13, 1897).

A Life and Death Question—This message embraces the two preceding messages. It is represented as being given with a loud voice; that is, with the power of the Holy Spirit. Everything is now at stake. The third angel's message is to be regarded as of the highest importance. It is a life and death question. The impression made by this message will be proportionate to the earnestness and solemnity with which it is proclaimed (Manuscript 16, 1900).

(Vs. 1-4.) Not a Visible Mark—In the issue of the great contest two parties are developed, those who “worship the beast and his image,” and receive his mark, and those who receive “the seal of the living God,” who have the “Father's name written in their foreheads.” This is not a visible mark (The Signs of the Times, November 1, 1899).

(Ch. 18:1-18; 2 Thessalonians 2:7-12.) Guard Against Mystery of Iniquity—The third angel's message increases in importance as we near the close of this earth's history....

God has presented to me the dangers that are threatening those who have been given the sacred work of proclaiming the third angel's message. They are to remember that this message is of the utmost consequence to the whole world. They need to search the Scriptures diligently, that they may learn how to guard against the mystery of iniquity, which plays so large a part in the closing scenes of this earth's history.

There will be more and still more external parade by worldly powers. Under different symbols, God presented to John the wicked character and seductive influence of those who have been distinguished for their persecution of His people. The eighteenth chapter of Revelation speaks of mystic Babylon, fallen from her high estate to become a persecuting power. Those who keep the commandments of God and have the faith of Jesus are the object of the wrath of this power [Revelation 18:1-8 quoted] (Manuscript 135, 1902).

The Time of Test Makes the Issue Clear—The work of the Holy Spirit is to convince the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. The world can only be warned by seeing those who believe the truth sanctified through the truth, acting upon high and holy principles, showing in a high, elevated sense, the line of demarcation between those who keep the commandments of God and those who trample them under their feet. The sanctification of the Spirit signalizes the difference between those who have the seal of God and those who keep a spurious rest day.

When the test comes, it will be clearly shown what the mark of the beast is. It is the keeping of Sunday. Those who, after having heard the truth, continue to regard this day as holy bear the signature of the man of sin, who thought to change times and laws (Letter 12, 1900).

The Last Act in the Drama—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 Review and Herald, April 23, 1901).

(Vs. 1-4; chs. 7:2, 3; 13:13, 16; Exodus 31:13-17; 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4.) The Mark of Distinction—We are nearing the close of this earth's history. Satan is making desperate efforts to make himself god, to speak and act like God, to appear as one who has a right to control the consciences of men. He strives with all his power to place a human institution in the position of God's holy rest day. Under the jurisdiction of the man of sin, men have exalted a false standard in complete opposition to God's enactment. Each Sabbath institution bears the name of its author, an ineffaceable mark showing the authority of each. The first day of the week has not one particle of sanctity. It is the production of the man of sin, who strives in this way to counterwork God's purposes.

God has designated the seventh day as His Sabbath. [Exodus 31:13, 17, 16 quoted.]

Thus the distinction is drawn between the loyal and the disloyal. Those who desire to have the seal of God in their foreheads must keep the Sabbath of the fourth commandment. Thus they are distinguished from the disloyal, who have accepted a manmade institution in place of the true Sabbath. The observance of God's rest day is a mark of distinction between him that serveth God and him that serveth Him not (The Review and Herald, April 23, 1901).

It is for the interest of all to understand what the mark of the beast is, and how they may escape the dread threatenings of God. Why are men not interested to know what constitutes the mark of the beast and his image? It is in direct contrast with the mark of God. [Exodus 31:12-17 quoted.]

The Sabbath question will be the issue in the great conflict in which all the world will act a part. [Revelation 13:4-10 quoted.] This entire chapter is a revelation of what will surely take place [Revelation 13:11, 15-17 quoted] (Manuscript 88, 1897). **7BC 797**

GC 447-449 - Roman Catholics acknowledge that the change of the Sabbath was made by their church, and declare that Protestants by observing the Sunday are recognizing her power. In the *Catholic Catechism of Christian Religion*, in answer to a question as to the day to be observed in obedience to the fourth commandment, this statement is made: “During the old law, Saturday was the day sanctified; but *the church*, instructed by Jesus Christ, and directed by the Spirit of God, has substituted Sunday for Saturday; so now we sanctify the first, not the seventh day. Sunday means, and now is, the day of the Lord.”

As the sign of the authority of the Catholic Church, papist writers cite “the very act of changing the Sabbath into Sunday, which Protestants allow of; ... because by keeping Sunday, they acknowledge the church's power to ordain feasts, and to command them under sin.”—Henry Tuberville, *An Abridgment of the Christian Doctrine*, page 58. What then is the change of the Sabbath, but the sign, or mark, of the authority of the Roman Church—“the mark of the beast”?

The Roman Church has not relinquished her claim to supremacy; and when the world and the Protestant churches accept a sabbath of her creating, while they reject the Bible Sabbath, they virtually admit this assumption. They may claim the authority of tradition and of the Fathers for the change; but in so doing they ignore the very principle which separates them from Rome—that “the Bible, and the Bible only, is the religion of Protestants.” The papist can see that they are deceiving themselves, willingly closing their eyes to the facts in the case. As the movement for Sunday enforcement gains favor, he rejoices, feeling assured that it will eventually bring the whole Protestant world under the banner of Rome.

Romanists declare that “the observance of Sunday by the Protestants is an homage they pay, in spite of themselves, to the authority of the [Catholic] Church.”—Mgr. Segur, *Plain Talk About the Protestantism of Today*, page 213. The enforcement of Sundaykeeping on the part of Protestant churches is an enforcement of the worship of the papacy—of the beast. Those who, understanding the claims of the fourth commandment, choose to observe the false instead of the true Sabbath are thereby paying homage to that power by which alone it is commanded. But in

the very act of enforcing a religious duty by secular power, the churches would themselves form an image to the beast; hence the enforcement of Sundaykeeping in the United States would be an enforcement of the worship of the beast and his image.

“Religious powers, allied to heaven by profession, and claiming to have the characteristics of a lamb, will show by their acts that they have the heart of a dragon and that they are instigated and controlled by Satan. **The time is coming when God's people will feel the hand of persecution because they keep holy the seventh day.** Satan has caused the change of the Sabbath in the hope of carrying out his purpose for the defeat of God's plans. He seeks to make the commands of God of less force in the world than human laws. The man of sin, who thought to change times and laws, and who has always oppressed the people of God, will cause laws to be made enforcing the observance of the first day of the week. **But God's people are to stand firm for Him. And the Lord will work in their behalf, showing plainly that He is the God of gods.”** 9T 229-230

GC 605:1 **“But not one is made to suffer the wrath of God until the truth has been brought home to his mind and conscience, and has been rejected. There are many who have never had an opportunity to hear the special truths for this time. The obligation of the fourth commandment has never been set before them in its true light. He who reads every heart and tries every motive will leave none who desire a knowledge of the truth, to be deceived as to the issues of the controversy. The decree is not to be urged upon the people blindly. Everyone is to have sufficient light to make his decision intelligently.”**
”Tetapi tak seorang pun dibiarkan menderita murka Allah sebelum kebenaran dinyatakan ke dalam pikiran dan hati nuraninya, dan ditolakinya. Banyak yang tidak pernah mempunyai kesempatan mendengar kebenaran khusus zaman ini. Kewajiban hukum keempat belum pernah dibukakan di hadapan mereka dalam terang yang sesungguhnya. Dia yang dapat membaca setiap hati, dan yang menguji setiap motif, tidak akan membiarkan mereka yang rindu akan pengetahuan kebenaran tertipu mengenai masalah pertentangan ini. Perintah itu tidak dipaksakan secara membabi buta. Setiap orang harus mempunyai cukup terang untuk mengambil keputusan dengan baik.”

Is an understanding of the issues important before the mark is applied?

The mark of the beast is not applied until the National Sunday Law is enacted, people understand the issues, and choose to remain with Sunday worship.

“Sundaykeeping is not yet the mark of the beast, and will not be until the decree goes forth causing men to worship this idol sabbath. The time will come when this day will be the test, but that time has not come yet.” (Manuscript 118, 1899). 7BC 977

“If the light of truth has been presented to you, revealing the Sabbath of the fourth commandment, and showing that there is no foundation in the Word of God for Sunday observance, and yet you still cling to the false sabbath, refusing to keep holy the Sabbath which God calls “My holy day,” you receive the mark of the beast. When does this take place? **When you obey the decree that commands you to cease from labor on Sunday** and worship God, **while you know that there is not a word in the Bible showing Sunday to be other than a common working day, you consent to receive the mark of the beast,** and refuse the seal of God.

If we receive this mark in our foreheads or in our hands, the judgments pronounced against the disobedient must fall upon us. **But the seal of the living God is placed upon those who conscientiously keep the Sabbath** of the Lord (The Review and Herald, July 13, 1897).” 7BC 980

“The remnant church will be brought into great trial and distress. **Those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus will feel the ire of the dragon and his hosts.** Satan numbers the world as his subjects, he has gained control of the apostate churches; but here is a little company that are resisting his supremacy. **If he could blot them from the earth, his triumph would be complete.** As he influenced the heathen nations to destroy Israel, so in the near future he will stir up the wicked powers of earth to destroy the people of God. **All will be required to render obedience to human edicts in violation of the divine law.** Those who will be true to God and to duty will be menaced, denounced, and proscribed. They will be betrayed “both by parents, and brethren, and kinsfolks, and friends.” [Luke 21:16](#). [\[Testimonies for the Church 5:472, 473.\] 9T 231.](#)

GC 605:2 “The Sabbath will be the great test of loyalty, for it is the point of truth especially controverted. When the final test shall be brought to bear upon men, then the line of distinction will be drawn between those who serve God and those who serve Him not. While the observance of the false sabbath in compliance with the law of the state, contrary to the fourth commandment, will be an avowal of allegiance to a power that is in opposition to God, the keeping of the true Sabbath, in obedience to God's law, is an evidence of loyalty to the Creator. ”While one class, by accepting the sign of submission to earthly powers, receive the mark of the beast, the other, choosing the token of allegiance to divine authority, receive the seal of God.” Hari Sabat akan merupakan ujian terbesar kesetiaan, karena itulah pokok kebenaran yang terutama dipertentangkan. Bilamana ujian terakhir dilakukan ke atas manusia, maka garis pemisah akan ditarik antara mereka yang melayani Allah dan yang tidak melayani-Nya. Sementara pemeliharaan sabat palsu yang sesuai dengan hukum negara yang bertentangan dengan hukum yang keempat, adalah suatu pengakuan kesetiaan kepada suatu kuasa yang menentang Allah, maka pemeliharaan Sabat yang benar, dalam penurutan kepada hukum Allah, adalah suatu bukti kesetiaan kepada Pencipta. Sementara satu golongan, oleh

menerima tanda penurutan kepada kuasanya duniawi, menerima tanda binatang, maka yang satu golongan yang memilih tanda kesetiaan kepada kekuasaan Ilahi, menerima meterai Allah.”

And, what is the basic issue that will lead to receiving or rejecting the mark of the beast?

The Sabbath is the basic issue. Men will rise or fall in relation to their acceptance or rejection of it.

“History will repeat itself. **In this age the great test will be upon the point of Sabbath observance....** A rival sabbath is exalted, as was the great golden image in the plain of Dura. Leaders claiming to be Christians will call upon the world to observe the spurious sabbath that they have made. **All who refuse will be put under oppressive laws.** This is the mystery of iniquity, the devising of satanic agencies, carried into effect by the man of sin....” **Christ Triumphant, 178**

“**The time is not far distant when the test will come to every soul. The observance of the false sabbath will be urged upon us.** The contest will be between the commandments of God and the commandments of men. **Those who have yielded step by step to worldly demands and conformed to worldly customs will then yield to the powers that be, rather than subject themselves to derision, insult, threatened imprisonment, and death.** At that time the gold will be separated from the dross. True godliness will be clearly distinguished from the appearance and tinsel of it. **Many a star that we have admired for its brilliance will then go out in darkness.** Those who have assumed the ornaments of the sanctuary, but are not clothed with Christ's righteousness, will then appear in the shame of their own nakedness.” **Prophets and Kings, 188**

GC 605:3 “Heretofore those who presented the truths of the third angel's message have often been regarded as mere alarmists. Their predictions that religious intolerance would gain control in the United States, that church and state would unite to persecute those who keep the commandments of God, have been pronounced groundless and absurd. It has been confidently declared that this land could never become other than what it has been—the defender of religious freedom. But as the question of enforcing Sunday observance is widely agitated, the event so long doubted and disbelieved is seen to be approaching, and the third message will produce an effect which it could not have had before.” **“Sejauh ini mereka yang menyampaikan pekabaran malaikat yang ketiga sering dianggap sebagai sekadar menakut-nakuti saja. Ramalan-ramalan mereka bahwa sikap tidak toleran terhadap agama akan berkuasa di Amerika**

Serikat, bahwa gereja dan negara akan bersatu untuk menganiaya mereka yang memelihara hukum-hukum Allah, telah dinyatakan sebagai tidak beralasan dan tidak masuk akal. Telah dinyatakan dengan meyakinkan bahwa negara ini tidak akan pernah menjadi sesuatu yang lain selain daripada tetap seperti yang sudah-sudah—pembela kebebasan beragama. Tetapi sementara masalah pemaksaan pemeliharaan hari Minggu menghangat secara luas, peristiwa yang begitu lama diragukan dan tidak dipercayai tampaknya sedang mendekat, dan pekabaran malaikat yang ketiga akan memberikan suatu pengaruh yang tidak bisa terjadi sebelumnya.”

Why do so many refuse to believe the third angel’s message now?

Before the crisis of the Sunday Law occurs, many will refuse to believe that it is coming.

“Such action would be directly contrary to the principles of this government, to the genius of its free institutions, to the direct and solemn avowals of the Declaration of Independence, and to the Constitution. The founders of the nation wisely sought to guard against the employment of secular power on the part of the church, with its inevitable result—intolerance and persecution. **The Constitution provides that “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof,”** and that “no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States.” **Only in flagrant violation of these safeguards to the nation’s liberty, can any religious observance be enforced by civil authority.** But the inconsistency of such action is no greater than is represented in the symbol. It is the beast with lamblike horns—in profession pure, gentle, and harmless—that speaks as a dragon.” **GC, 442**

“Let me emphasize the importance of making Christ our hope and refuge every day of our lives. It is a pleasing fable that is presented to us in this age, that if we only believe in Christ, that is all that is required; works have nothing to do with our acceptance with God. **Many trample the law of God under their feet, cherishing in their hearts the delusive thought that it is not binding on them.** This is not the truth. In the resurrection all will come forth, they that have done good and they that have done evil, and the fate of each will be decided according as his works have been. All good works spring from genuine faith, and the fruits in the works show the character of the faith. Hence it is by our works that we shall be judged.” **Bible Echo, January 15, 1889**

“There is a prospect before us of a continued struggle, at the risk of imprisonment, loss of property, and even of life itself, to defend the law of God, which is made void by the laws of men.” 5T, 712

GC 606:1 “In every generation God has sent His servants to rebuke sin, both in the world and in the church. But the people desire smooth things spoken to them, and the pure, unvarnished truth is not acceptable. Many reformers, in entering upon their work, determined to exercise great prudence in attacking the sins of the church and the nation. They hoped, by the example of a pure Christian life, to lead the people back to the doctrines of the Bible. But the Spirit of God came upon them as it came upon Elijah, moving him to rebuke the sins of a wicked king and an apostate people; they could not refrain from preaching the plain utterances of the Bible—doctrines which they had been reluctant to present. They were impelled to zealously declare the truth and the danger which threatened souls. The words which the Lord gave them they uttered, fearless of consequences, and the people were compelled to hear the warning.”

Pada setiap generasi Allah telah mengirimkan hamba-hamba-Nya untuk menegur dosa, baik di luar maupun di dalam gereja. Tetapi orang-orang ingin perkara-perkara yang menyenangkan yang disampaikan kepada mereka, dan kebenaran yang murni dan yang tidak dipoles tidak berterima kepada mereka. Banyak pembaharu, yang memasuki pekerjaan mereka, bertekad untuk bertindak bijaksana dalam menyerang dosa-dosa gereja dan bangsa. Mereka berharap, oleh teladan kehidupan Kristen yang murni, menuntun orang-orang kembali kepada ajaran-ajaran Alkitab. Tetapi Roh Allah turun ke atas mereka sebagaimana turun ke atas Elia, menggerakkannya menegur dosa-dosa seorang raja yang jahat dan suatu umat yang murtad. Mereka tidak bisa menahan diri dari mengkhotbahkan kata-kata Alkitab—doktrin-doktrin yang tadinya mereka enggan untuk menyampaikannya. Mereka didorong untuk dengan bersemangat menyatakan kebenaran, dan menyatakan bahaya yang mengancam jiwa-jiwa. Perkataan yang Tuhan berikan kepada mereka, mereka ucapkan, tidak takut apa pun akibatnya, dan orang-orang terdorong untuk mendengar amaran itu.

When the crisis begins, why will many of God’s people hesitate to speak up and boldly defend the faith? What will compel them to do so?

They recognize the enormity of the task, and their own frailty. But the Holy Spirit will impel them to speak, and in the keeping power of God, they will proclaim the truth widely!

“Satan will excite indignation against the humble minority who conscientiously refuse to accept popular customs and traditions. **Men of position and reputation will join with the lawless and the vile to take counsel against the people of God.** Wealth, genius, education, will combine to cover them with contempt. **Persecuting rulers, ministers, and church members will conspire against them.** With voice and pen, by boasts, threats, and ridicule, they will seek to overthrow their faith. By false representations and angry appeals they will stir up the passions of the people. **Not having a “Thus saith the Scriptures” to bring against the advocates of the Bible Sabbath, they will resort to oppressive enactments to supply the lack.** To secure popularity and patronage, legislators will yield to the demand for a Sunday law. Those who fear God cannot accept an institution that violates a precept of the Decalogue. **On this battlefield comes the last great conflict of the controversy between truth and error.”** 5T 450-451

GC 606:2 **“Thus the message of the third angel will be proclaimed. As the time comes for it to be given with greatest power, the Lord will work through humble instruments, leading the minds of those who consecrate themselves to His service. The laborers will be qualified rather by the unction of His Spirit than by the training of literary institutions. Men of faith and prayer will be constrained to go forth with holy zeal, declaring the words which God gives them.** The sins of Babylon will be laid open. The fearful results of enforcing the observances of the church by civil authority, the inroads of spiritualism, the stealthy but rapid progress of the papal power—all will be unmasked. By these solemn warnings the people will be stirred. Thousands upon thousands will listen who have never heard words like these. **In amazement they hear the testimony that Babylon is the church, fallen because of her errors and sins, because of her rejection of the truth sent to her from heaven. As the people go to their former teachers with the eager inquiry, Are these things so? the ministers present fables, prophesy smooth things, to soothe their fears and quiet the awakened conscience. But since many refuse to be satisfied with the mere authority of men and demand a plain “Thus saith the Lord,” the popular ministry, like the Pharisees of old, filled with anger as their authority is questioned, will denounce the message as of Satan and stir up the sin-loving multitudes to revile and persecute those who proclaim it.”** Demikianlah pekabaran malaikat yang ketiga itu dikabarkan. Pada waktu saatnya tiba untuk mengabarkannya dengan kuasa yang paling besar, Tuhan akan bekerja melalui alat-alat yang sederhana, untuk menuntun pikiran mereka yang menyerahkan dirinya kepada pelayanan-Nya. Para pekerja akan disanggupkan oleh urapan Roh-Nya, bukan oleh pelatihan di dalam institusi pendidikan. Orang-orang yang beriman dan yang tekun berdoa akan terdorong

untuk pergi dengan sungguh-sungguh menyatakan firmanfirman yang diberikan Allah kepada mereka. Dosa-dosa Babel akan dinya takan. Akibat-akibat yang menakutkan dari pemaksaan menuruti upacaraupacara gereja oleh kekuasaan sipil, jalan menuju Spiritisme, kemajuan kekuasaan kepausan yang diam-diam tetapi pesat,—semuanya ditelanjangi. Orang-orang akan digerakkan oleh amaran-amaran yang sungguh-sungguh ini. Ribuan orang akan mendengarkan perkataan-perkataan yang sebelumnya tidak pernah mendengar perkataan seperti itu. Dengan heran mereka mendengar kesaksian bahwa Babel adalah gereja, jatuh oleh karena kesalahan-kesalahan dan dosa-dosanya, oleh karena penolakannya akan kebenaran yang telah dikirim dari surga. Sementara orang-orang pergi kepada guru-guru mereka yang sebelumnya dengan pertanyaan yang sungguhsungguh ingin mendapat jawabannya, Apakah perkara-perkara ini demikian? Para pendeta memberikan cerita-cerita dongeng, menubuatkan perkara-perkara yang enak untuk meredakan ketakutan mereka dan untuk men-diamkan hati nurani mereka yang telah bangkit. Tetapi oleh karena banyak orang yang menolak hanya dipuaskan dengan otoritas manusia saja, dan menuntut kalimat sederhana, “Demikianlah firman Tuhan,” maka para pendeta populer, seperti para orang Farisi zaman dahulu, dipenuhi dengan amarah oleh karena otoritas mereka diragukan, akan mengatakan bahwa pekabaran itu datangny dari Setan, dan membangkitkan sikap orang banyak yang cinta dosa untuk mencaci maki dan menganiaya mereka yang mengabarkan pekabaran itu.

Who will lead out at that time in giving the third angel's message?

It will be the humble people that you had not noticed before. Many on the “great ones” among us will abandon the truth and join the enemy.

“An apostate church will unite with the powers of earth and hell to place upon the forehead or in the hand, the mark of the beast, and prevail upon the children of God to worship the beast and his image. **They will seek to compel them to renounce their allegiance to God's law, and yield homage to the papacy.** Then will come the times which will try men's souls; **for the confederacy of apostasy will demand that the loyal subjects of God shall renounce the law of Jehovah,** and repudiate the truth of his word.”

“Then will the gold be separated from the dross, and it will be made apparent who are the godly, who are loyal and true, and who are the disloyal, the dross and the tinsel. **What clouds of chaff will then be borne away by the fan of God! Where now our eyes can discover only rich floors of wheat, will be**

chaff blown away with the fan of God. Every one who is not centered in Christ will fail to stand the test and ordeal of that day. While those who are clothed with Christ's righteousness will stand firm to truth and duty, those who have trusted in their own righteousness will be ranged under the black banner of the prince of darkness. Then it will be seen whether the choice is for Christ or Belial." The Review and Herald, November 8, 1892

"The time is hastening on when who stand in defense of the truth will know by experience what it means to be partakers in Christ's sufferings. The great oppressor sees that he has but a short time in which to work, that soon he will lose his hold upon man and his power be taken from him, and he is working with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish. Superstition and error are trampling upon truth, justice, and equity. Every power that is antagonistic to truth is strengthening." The Southern Watchman, October 31, 1905 (The Review and Herald, May 29, 1900).

GC 607:1 "As the controversy extends into new fields and the minds of the people are called to God's downtrodden law, Satan is astir. The power attending the message will only madden those who oppose it. The clergy will put forth almost superhuman efforts to shut away the light lest it should shine upon their flocks. By every means at their command they will endeavor to suppress the discussion of these vital questions. The church appeals to the strong arm of civil power, and, in this work, papists and Protestants unite. As the movement for Sunday enforcement becomes more bold and decided, the law will be invoked against commandment keepers. They will be threatened with fines and imprisonment, and some will be offered positions of influence, and other rewards and advantages, as inducements to renounce their faith. But their steadfast answer is: "Show us from the word of God our error"—the same plea that was made by Luther under similar circumstances. Those who are arraigned before the courts make a strong vindication of the truth, and some who hear them are led to take their stand to keep all the commandments of God. Thus light will be brought before thousands who otherwise would know nothing of these truths." **"Sementara pertikaian meluas ke ladang-ladang baru, dan pikiran orang banyak dialihkan kepada hukum Allah yang telah diinjak-injak, maka Setan pun tersentak. Kuasa yang membantu pekabaran ku hanya akan mendatangkan amarah mereka yang menentangnya. Para alim-ulama akan berusaha sekuat tenaga untuk menutupi terang dari kawanan domba mereka. Dengan segala sarana yang di bawah perintahnya mereka akan berusaha untuk melarang memperbincangkan masalah-masalah penting ini. Gereja mengimbau tangan kuat kekuasaan sipil, dan dalam pekerjaan ini, para pengikut kepausan**

dan Protestan bersatu. Sementara gerakan bagi pemaksaan hari Minggu semakin berani dan tegas, maka undang-undang itu akan dipaksakan kepada para pemelihara hukum Allah. Mereka akan diancam dengan denda dan hukuman penjara, dan sebagian akan ditawari kedudukan-kedudukan yang berpengaruh, dan hadiah-hadiah serta keuntungan-keuntungan lainnya sebagai bujukan untuk menyangkal iman mereka. Tetapi jawaban teguh dan tegas mereka adalah, “Tunjukkanlah kepada kami dari firman Allah kesalahan kami,”—permohonan yang sama yang di buat oleh Luther dalam keadaan yang sama. Mereka yang dihadapkan ke pengadilan, membuat suatu pembuktian yang kuat mengenai kebenaran itu, dan beberapa orang yang mendengarnya dituntun untuk mengambil sikap mereka untuk memelihara semua perintah-perintah Allah. Demikianlah terang akan dibawa di hadapan ribuan orang yang tadinya tidak mengetahui kebenaran-kebenaran ini.”

As the loud cry of the third angel spreads into new fields,
how will the wicked react against this small group opposing
them?

They will reviled and some will be arrested, brought into court and imprisoned.

“The work which the church has failed to do in a time of peace and prosperity she will have to do in a terrible crisis under most discouraging, forbidding circumstances. The warnings that worldly conformity has silenced or withheld must be given under the fiercest opposition from enemies of the faith. And **at that time the superficial, conservative class, whose influence has steadily retarded the progress of the work, will renounce the faith and take their stand with its avowed enemies, toward whom their sympathies have long been tending. These apostates will then manifest the most bitter enmity,** doing all in their power to oppress and malign their former brethren and to excite indignation against them. This day is just before us. **The members of the church will individually be tested and proved. They will be placed in circumstances where they will be forced to bear witness for the truth.** Many will be called to speak before councils and in courts of justice, perhaps separately and alone. The experience which would have helped them in this emergency they have neglected to obtain, and their souls are burdened with remorse for wasted opportunities and neglected privileges.” 5T, 463

GC 608:1 “Conscientious obedience to the word of God will be treated as rebellion. Blinded by Satan, the parent will exercise harshness and severity toward the believing child; the master or mistress will oppress the commandment-keeping servant. Affection will be alienated; children will be

disinherited and driven from home. The words of Paul will be literally fulfilled: "All that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." 2 Timothy 3:12. As the defenders of truth refuse to honor the Sunday-sabbath, some of them will be thrust into prison, some will be exiled, some will be treated as slaves. To human wisdom all this now seems impossible; but as the restraining Spirit of God shall be withdrawn from men, and they shall be under the control of Satan, who hates the divine precepts, there will be strange developments. The heart can be very cruel when God's fear and love are removed." **Penurutan yang teliti kepada firman Allah akan dianggap sebagai pem-berontakan. Dibutakan oleh Setan, orangtua akan berlaku kasar dan kejam kepada anak-anak mereka yang percaya, para majikan akan menindas hambanya yang memelihara hukum Allah. Hubungan kasih sayang menjadi renggang. Anak-anak akan dihilangkan hak warisnya dan diusir dari rumah. Perkataan-perkataan Rasul Paulus akan digenapi, "Memang setiap orang yang mau hidup beribadah di dalam Kristus Yesus akan menderita aniaya." (2 Timotius 3:12). Sementara para pembela kebenaran menolak menghormati sabbat hari Minggu, sebagian dari mereka akan dijebloskan ke dalam penjara, sebagian dibuang, dan sebagian lagi diperlakukan sebagai budak. Kepada hikmat manusia, hal-hal ini tampaknya tidak mungkin, tetapi sementara Roh Allah yang menahan semua ini ditarik dari manusia, dan mereka akan berada di bawah pengendalian Setan yang membenci ajaran-ajaran ilahi, maka akan terjadi perkembangan-perkembangan yang aneh. Hati dapat menjadi sangat kejam bilamana takut dan kasih akan Allah disingkirkan.**

At that time, will even some of the closest friends and loved ones of the faithful turn against them?

Tragically, this will happen.

"The Protestant world today see in the little company keeping the Sabbath a Mordecai in the gate. His character and conduct, expressing reverence for the law of God, are a constant rebuke to those who have cast off the fear of the Lord and are trampling upon His Sabbath; the unwelcome intruder must by some means be put out of the way." 5T, 450

GC 608:2 “As the storm approaches, a large class who have professed faith in the third angel's message, but have not been sanctified through obedience to the truth, abandon their position and join the ranks of the opposition. By uniting with the world and partaking of its spirit, they have come to view matters in nearly the same light; and when the test is brought, they are prepared to choose the easy, popular side. Men of talent and pleasing address, who once rejoiced in the truth, employ their powers to deceive and mislead souls. They become the most bitter enemies of their former brethren. When Sabbathkeepers are brought before the courts to answer for their faith, these apostates are the most efficient agents of Satan to misrepresent and accuse them, and by false reports and insinuations to stir up the rulers against them.”

“Apabila topan mendekat, suatu golongan besar orang yang mengaku percaya kepada pekabaran malaikat yang ketiga, tetapi belum disucikan oleh penurutan kepada kebenaran, meninggalkan kedudukan mereka dan bergabung dengan barisan penentang. Oleh bersatu dengan dunia dan meng-ambil bagian dalam rohnya, mereka telah memandang hal-hal itu dalam terang yang hampir sama. Dan bilamana ujian diberikan mereka telah siap memilih pihak yang pemurah dan populer. Orang-orang berbakat serta yang mempunyai tutur kata yang menarik, yang pada suatu waktu bersukacita di dalam kebenaran, akan menggunakan kuasa mereka untuk menipu dan menyesatkan jiwa-jiwa. Mereka menjadi musuh yang paling sengit dari saudara-saudara mereka dahulu. Bilamana para pemelihara hari Sabat diha-dapkan ke depan mahkamah pengadilan untuk mempertanggungjawabkan iman mereka, orang-orang yang murtad ini adalah agen-agen Setan yang paling efisien untuk memberikan gambaran yang salah dan menuduh me-reka, dan oleh laporan-laporan palsu dan sindiran-sindiran menghasut para penguasa untuk melawan mereka.”

Some of our brightest lights will abandon the faith at that time. Why will they do this?

They were not solidly grounded in the faith, had secret cherished sins, and in the crisis decide to go over to the enemy in order to save themselves from imprisonment and possible death.

“Not all who profess to keep the Sabbath will be sealed. There are many even among those who teach the truth to others who will not receive the seal of God in their foreheads. They had the light of truth, they knew their Master's will, they understood every point of our faith, but they had not corresponding works.... Everyone must now search the Bible for himself upon his knees before God, with the humble, teachable heart of a child, if he would know what the Lord requires of him. However high any minister may have stood in the favor of God, if he neglects to follow out the light given him of God, if he refuses to be taught as a little child, he will go into darkness and satanic delusions and will lead others in the same path.” 5T,213-214

“Those who have been self-distrustful, who have been so circumstanced that they have not dared to face stigma and reproach, will at last openly declare themselves for Christ and His law; while many who have appeared to be flourishing trees, but who have borne no fruit, will go with the multitude to do evil, and will receive the mark of apostasy in the forehead or in the hand.: Maranatha,204/The Review and Herald, November 8, 1892.

When the storm of persecution really breaks upon us, the true sheep will hear the true Shepherd's voice. Self-denying efforts will be put forth to save the lost, and many who have strayed from the fold will come back to follow the great Shepherd.—Australasian Signs of the Times, January 26, 1903, Supplement (Testimonies for the Church 6:401).

GC 608:3-610-2 “In this time of persecution the faith of the Lord's servants will be tried. They have faithfully given the warning, looking to God and to His word alone. God's Spirit, moving upon their hearts, has constrained them to speak. Stimulated with holy zeal, and with the divine impulse strong upon them, they entered upon the performance of their duties without coldly calculating the consequences of speaking to the people the word which the Lord had given them. They have not consulted their temporal interests, nor sought to preserve their reputation or their lives. Yet when the storm of opposition and reproach bursts upon them, some, overwhelmed with consternation, will be ready to exclaim: “Had we foreseen the consequences of our words, we would have held our peace.” They are hedged in with difficulties. Satan assails them with fierce temptations. The work which they have undertaken seems far beyond their ability to accomplish. They are threatened with destruction. The enthusiasm which animated them is gone; yet they cannot turn back. Then, feeling their utter helplessness, they flee to the Mighty One for strength. They remember that the words which they have spoken were not theirs, but His who bade them give the warning. God put the truth into their hearts, and they could not forbear to proclaim it.” **Pada masa penganiayaan ini iman hamba-hamba Allah akan diuji. Me-reka telah dengan setia memberikan amaran, memandang kepada**

Allah dan kepada firman-Nya. Roh Allah, yang menggerakkan hati mereka, telah mendorong mereka untuk berbicara. Dirangsang oleh semangat yang suci, dan oleh dorongan ilahi yang kuat atas mereka, mereka memasuki pelaksanaan tugas-tugas mereka tanpa memperhitungkan akibat-akibat dari mem-bicarakan kepada orang-orang firman Allah yang telah diberikan kepada mereka. Mereka tidak membicarakan kepentingan-kepentingan duniawi mereka, atau berusaha mempertahankan reputasi atau hidup mereka. Namun, pada waktu topan perlawanan dan celaan menimpa mereka, beberapa orang dari mereka, karena dipenuhi rasa takut, akan bersedia ber-seru, "Seandainya kami telah melihat lebih dahulu akibat-akibat dari per-kataan-perkataan kami, kami akan diam saja." Mereka dikelilingi oleh ber-bagai kesulitan. Setan menyerang mereka dengan percobaan-percobaan yang hebat. Pekerjaan yang mereka jalankan kelihatannya jauh di atas ke-mampuan mereka untuk melakukannya. Mereka diancam dengan kebinasaan. Semangat yang menggerakkan mereka sudah hilang namun mereka tidak dapat berbalik. Kemudian, karena merasa sama sekali tidak berdaya, mereka lari kepada Yang Mahakuasa untuk mendapatkan kekuatan. Mereka ingat, bahwa kata-kata yang telah mereka ucapkan bukan kata-kata mereka, melainkan kata-kata Dia yang menyuruh mereka memberikan amaran itu. Allah menaruh kebenaran itu ke dalam hati mereka, dan mereka tidak bisa menahan untuk tidak mengabarkannya.

"The same trials have been experienced by men of God in ages past. Wycliffe, Huss, Luther, Tyndale, Baxter, Wesley, urged that all doctrines be brought to the test of the Bible and declared that they would renounce everything which it condemned. Against these men persecution raged with relentless fury; yet they ceased not to declare the truth. Different periods in the history of the church have each been marked by the development of some special truth, adapted to the necessities of God's people at that time. Every new truth has made its way against hatred and opposition; those who were blessed with its light were tempted and tried. The Lord gives a special truth for the people in an emergency. Who dare refuse to publish it? He commands His servants to present the last invitation of mercy to the world. They cannot remain silent, except at the peril of their souls. Christ's ambassadors have nothing to do with consequences. They must perform their duty and leave results with God."

"Ujian-ujian yang sama telah dialami oleh umat Allah di masa yang lalu.

Wycliffe, Huss, Luther, Tyndale, Baxter, Wesley, mengatakan agar semua doktrin diuji dengan Alkitab, dan menyatakan akan menolak segala sesuatu yang disalahkan oleh Alkitab. Terhadap orang-orang ini penganiayaan keji menimpa tanpa berpengasihan, namun mereka tidak berhenti menyiarkan kebenaran itu. Berbagai kurun waktu atau periode dalam sejarah gereja telah ditandai oleh perkembangan beberapa kebenaran khusus, yang disesuaikan dengan keperluan umat Allah pada masa itu. Setiap kebenaran baru telah melalui kebencian dan perlawanan. Mereka yang diberkati dengan terang itu telah dicobai dan diuji. Tuhan memberikan kebenaran khusus bagi orang-orang dalam suatu keadaan darurat. Siapakah yang berani menolak untuk menyiarkannya? Ia memerintahkan hamba-hamba-Nya untuk menyampaikan undangan rahmat terakhir kepada dunia ini. Mereka tidak bisa tinggal diam, kecuali jiwa mereka dibinasakan. Duta-duta Kristus tidak ada urusan dengan akibat-akibat. Mereka harus melaksanakan tugastugas dan menyerahkan hasilnya kepada Allah.”

“As the opposition rises to a fiercer height, the servants of God are again perplexed; for it seems to them that they have brought the crisis. But conscience and the word of God assure them that their course is right; and although the trials continue, they are strengthened to bear them. The contest grows closer and sharper, but their faith and courage rise with the emergency. Their testimony is: “We dare not tamper with God's word, dividing His holy law; calling one portion essential and another nonessential, to gain the favor of the world. The Lord whom we serve is able to deliver us. Christ has conquered the powers of earth; and shall we be afraid of a world already conquered?”

“Sementara perlawanan semakin meningkat, hamba-hamba Allah kembali bingung, oleh karena mereka menyangka merekalah yang mendatangkan krisis itu. Tetapi hati nurani dan firman Allah meyakinkan mereka bahwa jalan-jalan mereka adalah benar. Dan meskipun percobaan itu berlanjut, mereka dikuatkan untuk menanggungnya. Pertarungan semakin dekat dan semakin sengit, tetapi iman dan semangat mereka bangkit bersama keadaan darurat itu. Kesaksian mereka adalah, “Kami tidak berani memalsukan firman Allah, membagi-bagi hukum-Nya yang kudus, mengatakan sebagian penting dan sebagian yang lain tidak penting, demi memperoleh persetujuan dunia ini. Tuhan yang kami layani sanggup melepaskan kami. Kristus telah mengalahkan

kuasa-kuasa dunia ini, dan akankah kita takut kepada dunia yang sudah dikalahkan?”

“Persecution in its varied forms is the development of a principle which will exist as long as Satan exists and Christianity has vital power. No man can serve God without enlisting against himself the opposition of the hosts of darkness. Evil angels will assail him, alarmed that his influence is taking the prey from their hands. Evil men, rebuked by his example, will unite with them in seeking to separate him from God by alluring temptations. When these do not succeed, then a compelling power is employed to force the conscience.” **“Penganiayaan dalam berbagai bentuknya adalah perkembangan suatu prinsip yang akan terus ada selama Setan masih ada dan Kekristenan mem-punyai kuasa vital. Tak seorang pun dapat melayani Allah tanpa melawan pasukan kegelapan. Malaikat-malaikat jahat akan menyerang mereka, takut kalau-kalau pengaruh mereka dirampas dari tangan mereka. Orang-orang jahat, yang dicela oleh teladannya, akan bersatu dengan mereka dalam usaha untuk memisahkan umat-Nya dari Allah dengan percobaan yang memi-kat. Bilamana ini tidak berhasil, maka tindakan kekerasan akan digunakan untuk memaksa hati nurani.”**

What other difficulties will God’s faithful ones encounter at that time?

As the people of God continue giving that final message. Satan will try to press great discouragement upon them. But they must cling all the most closely to Christ and keep pushing forward!

“In this life we must meet fiery trials and make costly sacrifices, but the peace of Christ is the reward. There has been so little self-denial, so little suffering for Christ's sake, that the cross is almost entirely forgotten. We must be partakers with Christ of His sufferings if we would sit down in triumph with Him on His throne... **Those who have yielded to circumstances rather than engage in this conflict will not know how to stand in that day when anguish will be upon every soul,** when, though Noah, Job, and Daniel were in the land, they could save neither son nor daughter, for everyone must deliver his soul by his own righteousness.

No one need say that his case is hopeless, that he cannot live the life of a Christian. Ample provision is made by the death of Christ for every soul. Jesus is our ever-present help in time of need. **Only call upon Him in faith, and He has promised to hear and answer your petitions.**" 5T, 215

"When they were scattered by persecution they went forth filled with missionary zeal. They realized the responsibility of their mission. They knew that they held in their hands the bread of life for a famishing world; and they were constrained by the love of Christ to break this bread to all who were in need." AA, 106

"God means that testing truth shall be brought to the front and become a subject of examination and discussion, even if it is through the contempt placed upon it. The minds of the people must be agitated. Every controversy, every reproach, every slander, will be God's means of provoking inquiry and awakening minds that otherwise would slumber." 5T, 453

"The apostle Paul declares that "all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." 2 Timothy 3:12. Why is it, then, that persecution seems in a great degree to slumber? The only reason is that the church has conformed to the world's standard and therefore awakens no opposition. The religion which is current in our day is not of the pure and holy character that marked the Christian faith in the days of Christ and His apostles. It is only because of the spirit of compromise with sin, because the great truths of the word of God are so indifferently regarded, because there is so little vital godliness in the church, that Christianity is apparently so popular with the world. Let there be a revival of the faith and power of the early church, and the spirit of persecution will be revived, and the fires of persecution will be rekindled." GC, 48

"Many will not search the Scriptures for themselves. They remain in willing ignorance of the origin and perpetuity of the law of the ten commandments. They trust to the researches of others to settle this matter for them. Blind leaders say, "You need not keep the law of God, for it is not binding. It is a yoke of bondage." And the willingly ignorant are blind, led by the blind. Neither are guiltless. God has provided for them in his law a mirror, that they may see their true character. Does it improve their condition to break this faithful looking-glass, because it reveals to them their defects? The work they should engage in is to put away sin, and every impurity, and work righteousness. Their remaining in willing ignorance of the claims of the law of God will not shield them from the penalty to be inflicted in consequence of its violation." Review, March 8, 1870

"The largest number brace their souls with prejudice against new truths, and also against the clearest light which shows the correct application of an old truth, the law of God, which is as old as the world. The intemperate and licentious delight in the oft repeated assertion that the law of the ten commandments is not binding in this dispensation. Avarice, thefts, perjuries, and crimes of every description, are carried on under the cloak of Christianity." Review, March 4, 1875

GC 610:3 "But so long as Jesus remains man's intercessor in the sanctuary above, the restraining influence of the Holy Spirit is felt by rulers and people. It still controls to some extent the laws of the land. Were it not for these laws, the condition of the world would be much worse than it now is. While many of our

rulers are active agents of Satan, God also has His agents among the leading men of the nation. The enemy moves upon his servants to propose measures that would greatly impede the work of God; but statesmen who fear the Lord are influenced by holy angels to oppose such propositions with unanswerable arguments. Thus a few men will hold in check a powerful current of evil. The opposition of the enemies of truth will be restrained that the third angel's message may do its work. When the final warning shall be given, it will arrest the attention of these leading men through whom the Lord is now working, and some of them will accept it, and will stand with the people of God through the time of trouble.” **“Akan tetapi selama Yesus tetap menjadi pengantara di dalam bait suci di surga, pengaruh Roh Suci yang mengekang akan dirasakan oleh para penguasa dan orang-orang banyak. Roh itu masih mengendalikan undangundang negara, sampai batas-batas tertentu. Kalau bukan karena undangundang yang seperti ini, keadaan dunia akan lebih buruk daripada yang sekarang. Walaupun banyak pemimpin kita adalah agen-agen aktif Setan, Allah juga mempunyai agen-agen-Nya di antara orang-orang terkemuka bangsa itu. Musuh menggerakkan hamba-hambanya untuk mengusulkan tindakan yang sangat menghalangi pekerjaan Allah, tetapi negarawan-negarawan yang takut akan Allah dipengaruhi oleh malaikat-malaikat suci Allah untuk melawan usul-usul seperti itu dengan argumen-argumen yang tidak bisa dijawab. Demikianlah beberapa orang akan membendung arus kejahatan itu. Perlawanan musuh-musuh kebenaran akan ditahan agar peka-baran malaikat yang ketiga dapat melakukan tugasnya. Bilamana amaran terakhir diberikan, amaran itu akan menawan perhatian orang-orang terkemuka ini melalui siapa Tuhan bekerja sekarang, dan sebagian mereka akan menerimanya, dan akan berdiri bersama umat Allah melalui masa kesukaran itu.”**

What is another reason why everything will become so wild and terrible at that time?

At the present time, we are protected by the laws of the land in America. But at that time, the United States will have repudiated the Religious Liberty Clause of its First Amendment, by enacting the National Sunday Law.

“There are many, even of those engaged in this movement for Sunday enforcement, who are blinded to the results which will follow this action. They do not see that they are striking directly against religious liberty. There are many who have never understood the claims of the Bible Sabbath and the false foundation upon which the Sunday institution rests. Any movement in favor of religious legislation is really an act of concession to the papacy, which for so many ages has steadily warred against liberty of conscience. Sunday observance owes its existence as a so-called Christian institution to “the mystery of iniquity;” and its enforcement will be a virtual recognition of the principles which are the very cornerstone of Romanism. When our nation shall so abjure the principles of its government as to enact a Sunday law, Protestantism will in this act join hands with popery; it will be nothing else than giving life to the tyranny which has long been eagerly watching its opportunity to spring again into active despotism.” 5T 711-712

“It is our duty to do all in our power to avert the threatened danger. We should endeavor to disarm prejudice by placing ourselves in a proper light before the people. We should bring before them the real question at issue, thus interposing the most effectual protest against measures to restrict liberty of conscience.” 5T 452

GC 611:1 “The angel who unites in the proclamation of the third angel's message is to lighten the whole earth with his glory. A work of world-wide extent and unwonted power is here foretold. The advent movement of 1840-44 was a glorious manifestation of the power of God; the first angel's message was carried to every missionary station in the world, and in some countries there was the greatest religious interest which has been witnessed in any land since the Reformation of the sixteenth century; but these are to be exceeded by the mighty movement under the last warning of the third angel.” **Malaikat yang bergabung dalam penyiaran pekabaran malaikat yang ketiga, menerangi seluruh dunia ini dengan kemuliaannya. Suatu pekabar-an yang mencakup seluruh dunia dan kuasa yang luar biasa diramalkan di sini. Pergerakan Advent pada tahun 1840-1844 adalah manifestasi mulia dari kuasa Allah. Pekabaran malaikat yang pertama telah disampaikan ke setiap pos-pos misionaris di dunia ini, dan di beberapa negara ada perhatian besar terhadap agama yang telah disaksikan di setiap negeri sejak Pemba-ruan pada abad keenambelas. Tetapi ini akan dilampaui oleh pergerakan yang luar biasa pekabaran malaikat yang ketiga.”**

Will everyone on earth be brought to the point of making his or her decision in this matter?

Through the influence of the United States, the crisis will extend to every nation on earth.

“Foreign nations will follow the example of the United States. Though she leads out, yet the same crisis will come upon our people in all parts of the world.” 6T 395

“In both the Old and the New World, the papacy will receive homage in the honor paid to the Sunday institution, that rests solely upon the authority of the Roman Church.” GC, 579

“Among earth's inhabitants, scattered in every land, there are those who have not bowed the knee to Baal. Like the stars of heaven, which appear only at night, these faithful ones will shine forth when darkness covers the earth and gross darkness the people. **In heathen Africa, in the Catholic lands of Europe and of South America, in China, in India, in the islands of the sea, and in all the dark corners of the earth, God has in reserve a firmament of chosen ones that will yet shine forth amidst the darkness, revealing clearly to an apostate world the transforming power of obedience to His law. Even now they are appearing **in every nation, among every tongue and people**; and in the hour of deepest apostasy, when Satan's supreme effort is made to cause “all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond,” to receive, under penalty of death, the sign of allegiance to a false rest day, these faithful ones, “blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke,” will “shine as lights in the world.” Revelation 13:16; Philippians 2:15. **The darker the night, the more brilliantly will they shine.**” PK, 188-189**

GC 611:2 “The work will be similar to that of the Day of Pentecost. As the “former rain” was given, in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at the opening of the gospel, to cause the upspringing of the precious seed, so the “latter rain” will be given at its close for the ripening of the harvest. “Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord: His going forth is prepared as the morning; and He shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.” Hosea 6:3. “Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God: for He hath given you the former rain moderately, and He will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain.” Joel 2:23. “In the last days, saith God, I will pour out of My Spirit upon all flesh.” “And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” Acts 2:17, 21.” **Pekerjaan itu akan mirip dengan pekerjaan pada hari Pentakosta. Sebagaimana “hujan awai” telah diberikan dengan kecurahan Roh Kudus pada pembukaan pekabaran Injil yang menyebabkan benih berharga itu bertumbuh, demikian juga “hujan akhir” akan diberikan pada penutupannya, untuk mematangkan tuaian. “Marilah kita mengenal dan berusaha sungguh-sungguh mengenal Tuhan; Ia pasti muncul seperti fajar, Ia akan datang kepada kita seperti hujan, seperti hujan pada akhir musim yang mengairi bumi.” (Hosea**

6:3). “Hai bani Sion, bersorak -soraklah dan bersukacitalah karena Tuhan, Aliahmu! Sebab telah diberikan-Nya kepadamu hujan pada awal musim dan hujan pada akhir musim seperti dahulu.” (Yoel 2:23). “Akan terjadi pada hari-hari ter-akhir—demikianlah firman Tuhan - bahwa Aku akan mencurahkan RohKu ke atas semua manusia; maka anak-anakmu laki-laki dan perempuan akan bernubuat, dan teruna-terunamu akan mendapat penglihatan-penglihatan, dan orang-orangmu yang tua akan bermimpi.” “Dan barangsiapa yang berseru kepada nama Tuhan akan diselamatkan.” (Kisah 2:17, 21).

Will the latter rain occur at that time?

The Latter Rain will occur after the National Sunday Law is enacted and end at the general close of probation. This will be an immense empowering of God’s faithful ones to give the true message to all the world. But it will be done amid heavy persecution.

“At that time, while the work of salvation is closing, trouble will be coming on the earth, and the nations will be angry, yet held in check so as not to prevent the work of the third angel. 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.” EW, 85

“Near the close of earth's harvest, a special bestowal of spiritual grace is promised to prepare the church for the coming of the Son of man. This outpouring of the Spirit is likened to the falling of the latter rain; and it is for this added power that Christians are to send their petitions to the Lord of the harvest” AA, 55

GC 611:3 “The great work of the gospel is not to close with less manifestation of the power of God than marked its opening. The prophecies which were fulfilled in the outpouring of the former rain at the opening of the gospel are again to be fulfilled in the latter rain at its close. Here are “the times of refreshing” to which the apostle Peter looked forward when he said: “Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; and He shall send Jesus.” Acts 3:19, 20.” **“Pekerjaan besar pengabaran Injil tidak akan ditutup dengan manifestasi kuasa Allah yang kurang dari yang menandai pembukaan penyiarnya. Nubuatan-nubuatan yang telah digenapi pada pencurahan hujan awai pada pembukaan penyiaran Injil, sekali lagi akan digenapi pada hujan akhir**

pada penutupan penyiaran Injil itu. Inilah “waktu kelegaan” yang dinantikan Rasul Petrus pada waktu ia berkata, “Karena itu sadarlah dan bertobatlah supaya dosamu dihapuskan, agar Tuhan mendatangkan waktu kelegaan, dan mengutus Yesus, yang dari semula diuntukkan bagimu sebagai Kristus.” (Kisah 3:19, 20).”

How urgent that we now prepare for what is soon to come on all the earth?

Just ahead of us is the most dramatic, powerful, final crisis ever to occur on this planet! We must prepare now for what is ahead.

“We as a people have not accomplished the work which God has committed to us. **We are not ready for the issue to which the enforcement of the Sunday law will bring us. It is our duty, as we see the signs of approaching peril, to arouse to action.** Let none sit in calm expectation of the evil, comforting themselves with the belief that this work must go on because prophecy has foretold it, and that the Lord will shelter His people. **We are not doing the will of God if we sit in quietude, doing nothing to preserve liberty of conscience.** Fervent, effectual prayer should be ascending to heaven that this calamity may be deferred until we can accomplish the work which has so long been neglected. **Let there be most earnest prayer, and then let us work in harmony with our prayers.”** 5T, 713-714

“They listen eagerly to popular discourses, hoping to learn how they may be justified before God. But too often they hear only a pleasing speech, an eloquent declamation. There are sad and disappointed hearts in every religious gathering. **The minister tells his hearers that they cannot keep the law of God. “It is not binding upon man in our day,” he says. “You must believe in Christ; he will save you; only believe.” Thus he teaches them to make feeling their criterion, and gives them no intelligent faith.”** Review, March 8, 1881

“When God has given us light showing the dangers before us, how can we stand clear in His sight if we neglect to put forth every effort in our power to bring it before the people? Can we be content to leave them to meet this momentous issue unwarned?.” 5T 712

GC 612:1 “Servants of God, with their faces lighted up and shining with holy consecration, will hasten from place to place to proclaim the message from heaven. By thousands of voices, all over the earth, the warning will be given. Miracles will be wrought, the sick will be healed, and signs and wonders will follow the believers. Satan also works, with lying wonders, even bringing down fire from heaven in the sight of men. Revelation 13:13. Thus the inhabitants of the earth will be brought to take their stand.” **”Hamba-hamba Allah, dengan wajah yang bersinar dengan pengabdian kudus, akan mempercepat penyiaran**

pekabaran dari surga itu dari satu tempat ke tempat yang lain. Melalui ribuan suara amaran itu akan disampaikan ke seluruh dunia. Mukjizat-mukjizat akan diadakan, orang sakit disembuhkan, dan tanda-tanda ajaib akan menyertai orang-orang yang percaya. Setan juga bekerja dengan tanda-tanda ajaib untuk menipu, bahkan mendatangkan api dari langit di hadapan manusia. (Wahyu 13:13). Demikianlah penduduk bumi harus menentukan kedudukan mereka.”

How massive will this proclamation of the third angel's message be?

Through the providences of God, it will extend to the entire earth, and will involve miracles of healing by God's people, and apparent wonders by Satan's agents.

“Are we prepared for the trial which awaits us when the lying wonders of Satan shall be more fully exhibited? Will not many souls be ensnared and taken? **By departing from the plain precepts and commandments of God, and giving heed to fables, the minds of many are preparing to receive these lying wonders.** We must all now seek to arm ourselves for the contest in which we must soon engage. **Faith in God's word, prayerfully studied and practically applied, will be our shield from Satan's power and will bring us off conquerors through the blood of Christ.**” Testimonies for the Church 1:301/Counsels for the church, 332

“Skepticism may treat the claims of God's law with jest, scoffing, and denial. The spirit of worldliness may contaminate the many and control the few, **the cause of God may hold its ground only by great exertion and continual sacrifice, yet in the end the truth will triumph gloriously.**” PK, 186

GC 612:2 “The message will be carried not so much by argument as by the deep conviction of the Spirit of God. The arguments have been presented. The seed has been sown, and now it will spring up and bear fruit. The publications distributed by missionary workers have exerted their influence, yet many whose minds were impressed have been prevented from fully comprehending the truth or from yielding obedience. Now the rays of light penetrate everywhere, the truth is seen in its clearness, and the honest children of God sever the bands which have held them. Family connections, church relations, are powerless to stay them now. Truth is more precious than all besides. Notwithstanding the agencies combined against the truth, a large number take their stand upon the Lord's side.” **“Pekabaran ini disiarkan bukan dengan banyak argumen, tetapi dengan keyakinan yang mendalam dari Roh Allah. Argumen-argumen telah disampaikan. Benih telah ditaburkan, dan sekarang ia akan tumbuh dan ber-buah.**

Risalah-risalah yang dibagikan oleh pekerja-pekerja misi telah mem-berikan pengaruhnya, namun banyak orang yang pikirannya terkesan telah dicegah untuk mengerti sepenuhnya kebenaran itu atau untuk penurutan yang sempurna. Sekarang sinar-sinar terang menerusi ke mana-mana; ke-benaran terlihat dengan jelas dan anak-anak Allah yang setia memutuskan ikatan-ikatan yang menahan mereka. Hubungan keluarga, hubungan jemaat, tak berdaya menahan mereka sekarang. Kebenaran adalah jauh lebih berharga dari segala sesuatu yang ada di sekitarnya. Walaupun agen-agen bergabung melawan kebenaran, suatu kelompok besar orang-orang berdiri di pihak Tuhan.”

Will missionary publications and books be given out at that time?

We are told that the colporteur work will continue till the close of probation, so therefore, publishing houses—with God’s books—will continue to make the available.

“Let us have faith in God. In His name let us carry forward His work without flinching. The work He has called us to do He will make a blessing to us....

And as long as probation continues, there will be opportunity for the canvasser to work. When the religious denominations unite with the papacy to oppress God's people, places where there is religious freedom will be opened by evangelistic canvassing. If in one place the persecution becomes severe, let the workers do as Christ has directed. **“When they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another.”** If persecution comes there, go to still another place. God will lead His people, making them a blessing in many places. **Were it not for persecution they would not be so widely scattered abroad to proclaim the truth.** And Christ declares: “Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come.” Matthew 10:23. **Until in heaven is spoken the word, “It is finished,”** [at the close of probation] **there will always be places for labor, and hearts to receive the message.”** 6T, 478

“In the closing work of God in the earth, the standard of His law will be again exalted. False religion may prevail, iniquity may abound, the love of many may wax cold, the cross of Calvary may be lost sight of, and darkness, like the pall of death, may spread over the world; **the whole force of the popular current may be turned against the truth;** plot after plot may be formed to overthrow the people of God; **but in the hour of greatest peril the God of Elijah will raise up human instrumentalities to bear a message that will not be silenced.** In the populous cities of the land, and in the places where men have gone to the greatest lengths in speaking against the Most High, **the voice of stern rebuke will be heard. Boldly will men of God's appointment denounce the union of the church with the world.** Earnestly will they call upon men and women to turn from the observance of a man-made institution to the observance of the true Sabbath.” **PK, 186-187**

“What are you doing, brethren, in the great work of preparation? Those who are uniting with the world are receiving the worldly mold and preparing for the mark of the beast. Those who are distrustful of

self, who are humbling themselves before God and purifying their souls by obeying the truth—these are receiving the heavenly mold and preparing for the seal of God in their foreheads. **When the decree goes forth and the stamp is impressed, their character will remain pure and spotless for eternity.**

Now is the time to prepare. **The seal of God will never be placed upon the forehead of an impure man or woman. It will never be placed upon the forehead of the ambitious, world-loving man or woman.** It will never be placed upon the forehead of men or women of false tongues or deceitful hearts. **All who receive the seal must be without spot before God—candidates for heaven.** Go forward, my brethren and sisters. I can only write briefly upon these points at this time, merely calling your attention to the necessity of preparation. Search the Scriptures for yourselves, that you may understand the fearful solemnity of the present hour.” **5T, 216**

Reviewing:

Pause for a moment and ask yourself:

First, what were the most important lessons that you learned in this chapter?

Second, what was the primary source of encouragement?

Third, what was the biggest danger?