

Events Before the General Close of Probation

THE THREEFOLD UNION AND THE COUNTERFEIT REVIVAL

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*W*hat is the threefold union?

It will appear to be a religious confederation of only two major groups: a majority or all of the Sundaykeeping Protestant churches (including the Orthodox Church), with the Roman Catholic Church. But satanic manifestations of spiritualistic power will soon add to its strength. These forces will unite in a common objective to enact legislation to strictly enforce a single, specific religious teaching. This corrupt confederation will first take shape in the United States. Having achieved success in that nation, they will then successfully press for similar governmental decrees in the other

nations of the earth. As soon as that strict law is enacted in a given nation, its government will have formed an image of/to the beast. (As the quotations will show, it is an image OF the beast, because Rome had a hand in its formation; it is an image TO the beast because Sunday sacredness is a child of the papacy and therefore is homage to it.)

But there remains a crucial question: What events will initially get this fervor for united action started? It appears that there will be two of them:

First, a Protestant-Catholic confederation will form the basis for the union. Not until 2004-2005, when *Christian Churches Together* was being formed, did such an official organization exist. (For more information, write to the publisher of this book for research articles on *Christian Churches Together*.)

Second, it appears that the second event will be a satanically inspired heightened excitement in the churches, which will focus attention on commonly held points of doctrine and galvanize them into the single goal of making the nation a religious one through enactment and rigorous enforcement of a single law.

The first step will be a common religious excitement in the Protestant and Catholic churches, which will bring them together on certain points. From the best that we can know, the excitement will start in

some of the churches and then spread to the others. We would expect that the first churches would be the ones which emphasize excitement and lowered morals. But the excitement which produces the law will be far less than the level of satanic intensity which follows its enactment.

In view of what is just ahead, it is urgent that we prepare our lives and warn others. Time is running out and so many are not ready!



A PROTESTANT-CATHOLIC CONFEDERATION WILL FORM THE BASIS FOR THIS UNION

Although it will be a threefold union, to human eyes, it will appear to be a twofold union. Spiritistic forces will empower that which is done; yet it will be human agencies, Protestant and Catholic, which will be used to do the work.

It appears that, when a majority of Sunday-keeping churches, through their delegated leaders, finally establish a confederated structure to achieve common objectives and begin moving forward in earnest to get the U.S. Congress to enact a strict Sunday worship law, that an empowering excitement will begin within local churches, which will propel the movement forward. This "excitement" will probably occur in religious gatherings which, raised to the highest pitch of excitement, will reveal a supernatural power at work. This excitement will have a twofold effect: (1) Convincing the laity and lower ranks of leadership that the move toward Sunday laws must be pushed through to success. (2) Through their united urgings and demands, Congress will be convinced it must enact such a law.

IT WILL APPEAR TO BE A TWOFOOLD UNION

1 - Protestantism will give the hand of fellowship to the Roman power. This is a key factor. Congress cannot be coerced into enacting the law until this happens.

"Protestantism shall give the hand of fellowship to the Roman power. Then there will be a law against the Sabbath of God's creation, and then it is that God will do His 'strange work' in the earth." 7 Bible Commentary, 910/2:0-1.

2 - Protestantism and Catholicism will form a confederacy.

"The professed Protestant world will form a confederacy with the man of sin, and the church and the world will be in corrupt harmony." 7 Bible Commentary, 975/2:2.

*"The Word of God teaches that these scenes [suppression of the Sabbath] are to be repeated as **Roman Catholics and Protestants shall unite** for the exaltation of the Sunday." *Great Controversy*, 578.*

*"How the Roman church can clear herself from the charge of idolatry we cannot see . . . And this is the religion which Protestants are beginning to look upon with so much favor, and **which will eventually be united with Protestantism.**" *Review*, June 1, 1886.*

3 - In using the state to achieve their objectives, papists and Protestants will unite.

*"The church appeals to the strong arm of civil power, and, **in this work, papists and Protestants unite.**"—*Great Controversy*, 607:1.*

*"The Christian world has sanctioned his [the pope's] efforts by adopting this child of the Papacy—the Sunday institution. They have nourished it, and will continue to nourish it, **until Protestantism shall give the hand of fellowship to the Roman power. Then there will be a law against the Sabbath of God's creation, and then it is that God will do His 'strange work' in the earth.**" 7 Bible Commentary, 910/2:0-1.*

4 - Two doctrines will unite them.

The first doctrine is the unifying error that men continue to live in spirit form after they die. This error unites the churches to Satan.

The second doctrine is the error that Sunday, the first day of the week, is sacred. This error unites the churches with one another.

*"When the leading churches of the United States, **uniting upon such points of doctrine as are held by them in common**, shall influence the state to enforce their decrees and to sustain their institutions, then Protestant America will have formed an image of the Roman hierarchy, and the infliction of civil penalties upon dissenters will inevitable result."—*Great Controversy*, 445:1.*

*"The wide diversity of belief in the Protestant churches is regarded by many as decisive proof that no effort to secure a forced uniformity can ever be made. But there has been for years, in churches of the Protestant faith, a strong and growing sentiment in favor of **a union based upon common points of doctrine.** To secure such a union, the discussion of subjects upon which all were not agreed—however important they might be from a Bible standpoint—must necessarily be waived." *Great Controversy*, 444:2.*

*"Through the two great errors, **the immortality of the soul and Sunday sacredness**, Satan will bring the people under his deceptions. While the former lays the foundation of spiritualism, the latter creates a bond of sympathy with Rome."—*Great Controversy*, 588:1.*



THIS UNION WILL GREATLY AFFECT PROTESTANTISM

1 - In coercing the government to pass this law, Protestantism will essentially have united with the papacy.

“When our nation [the United States] 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.” **5 Testimonies, 712:0.**

2 - It is Protestantism which will change, not Catholicism.

“How the Roman church can clear herself from the charge of idolatry we cannot see . . . And this is the religion which Protestants are beginning to look upon with so much favor, and *which will eventually be united with Protestantism*. This union will not, however, be effected by a change in Catholicism, for Rome never changes. She claims infallibility. *It is Protestantism that will change*. The adoption of liberal ideas on its part will bring it where it can clasp the hand of Catholicism.” **Review, June 1, 1886.**

3 - By entering this union, Protestantism will have emptied itself of God’s power and given the control into the hands of Satan.

“*What is it that gives its kingdom to this power? Protestantism*, a power which, while professing to have the temper and spirit of a lamb and to be allied to Heaven, *speaks with the voice of a dragon*. It is moved by a power from beneath.” **7 Bible Commentary, 983/2:1.**

4 - In voiding God’s law, Protestantism will have joined Catholicism and the world.

“When the law of God is made void; *when the Christian world is joined to the Catholic and the worldly*, in making of none effect the commandments of God, then God’s chosen people arise to defend the law of Jehovah.” **Evangelism, 226:5- 227:0.**

“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.” **6 Testimonies, 478:2.**

5 - This union will not only bring the world and the churches together, it will unite them under one head: the pope of Rome.

“As we approach the last crisis, it is of vital moment that harmony and unity exist among the Lord’s instrumentalities. The world is filled with storm and war and variance. *Yet under one head—the papal power—the people will unite* to oppose God in the person of His witnesses. *This union* is cemented by the great apostate.” **7 Testimonies, 182:2.**

“*Protestants . . . are opening the door* for the papacy to regain, in Protestant America, *the supremacy* which she has lost in the Old World.”— **Great Controversy, 573:1.**

6 - Many are blind to what they are doing.

“*There are many, even of those engaged movement for*

in this 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.” **5 Testimonies, 711:4.**

“They are working in blindness. They do not see that if a Protestant government sacrifices the principles that have made them a free, independent nation, and through legislation brings into the Constitution, *principles that will propagate papal falsehood* and papal delusion, they are plunging into the Roman horrors of the Dark Ages.”—**Review Extra, December 11, 1888.**

“*There is a satanic force propelling the Sunday movement, but it is concealed*. Even the men who are engaged in the work, are themselves blinded to the results which will follow their movement.”— **Review, January 1, 1889.**



SATANIC EXCITEMENT EMPOWERS THE CHURCH UNION TO TAKE ACTION

1 - It appears that a strange, but strong, excitement in the fallen churches will urge the union toward action. The loud cry, which will begin shortly afterward, will warn all the world that it must obey God's holy ten-commandment law and not hallow the Sunday, as commanded by the National Sunday

Law. *But, a little before the loud cry*, Satan will raise an excitement in the fallen churches which will unify them in their attainment of certain objectives.

"I saw that God has honest children among the nominal Adventists and the fallen churches, and before the plagues shall be poured out, ministers and people will be called out from these churches and will gladly receive the truth. Satan knows this; and *before the loud cry* of the third angel is given, *he raises an excitement in these religious bodies, that those who have rejected the truth may think that God is with them.* He hopes to deceive the honest and lead them to think that God is still working for the churches." *Early Writings, 261:1.*

2 - A counterfeit revival will occur. As we will discuss later, the latter rain comes at the beginning of the loud cry and just after the National Sunday Law. But the counterfeit revival, Satan's counterfeit of the latter rain, will precede the true latter rain upon God's people. It will appear to be God's blessing upon the disobedient churches. Satan will use it to extend his influence over the Christian world.

So the order of events will be: (1) The high-level union of representatives from leading Protestant, Catholic, and Orthodox denominations. (2) The counterfeit revival, consisting of intense excitement and low-level satanic wonders which will arouse the laity. (3) Under the combined pressure of both official and lay demands for its enactment, Congress will enact a strict Sunday worship law. (4) The latter rain will occur, followed by the loud cry—as Satan produces stupendous spiritualistic wonders to hold the masses in decep-

tion. The Final Crisis has begun!

"Before the final visitation of God's judgments upon the earth, there will be, among the people of the Lord, such a revival of primitive godliness as has not been witnessed since apostolic times. The Spirit and power of God will be poured out upon His children . . . Many, both of ministers and people, will gladly accept those great truths which God has caused to be proclaimed at this time, to prepare a people for the Lord's Second Coming. The enemy of souls desires to hinder this work; and before the time for such a movement shall come, he will endeavor to prevent it by introducing a counterfeit. In those churches which he can bring under his deceptive power, he will make it appear that God's special blessing is poured out; there will be manifest what is thought to be great religious interest. Multitudes will exult that God is working marvelously for them, when the work is that of another spirit. Under a religious guise, Satan will seek to extend his influence over the Christian world." **Great Controversy, 464:1.**

We are told, above, that this excitement occurs among the "fallen churches," the "nominal Adventists," "in those bodies which have rejected the truth," and "in those churches which he [Satan] can bring under his power."

What causes the excitement? A counterfeit outpouring of a spirit before the true latter rain. It will appear that God's special blessing is being given. It is imagined that a great new religious interest has occurred. They think God is working marvelously for them. Of course, all this reminds us of the Celebration and Pentecostal church services. *It is likely that this stupendous excitement will initially erupt from those churches which already emphasize excitement as the key to their faith.* The evidence of supernatural power, increased attendance, and emphasis on Sunday sanctity will spread to the other churches. Satanic music combined with satanic wonders will produce a powerful effect.

There will be shouting, drums, music, and dancing.

“The things you have described as taking place in Indiana, the Lord has shown me would take place just *before the close of probation*. Every uncouth thing will be demonstrated. *There will be shouting, with drums, music, and dancing*. The senses of rational beings will become so confused that they can- not be trusted to make right decisions . .

“*A bedlam of noise* shocks the senses and perverts that which if conducted aright might be a blessing. *The powers of satanic agencies blend with the din and noise* to have a *carnival* [i.e., a Celebration], and this is termed the Holy Spirit’s work- ing . . Those things which have been in the past will be in the future. Satan will make music a snare by the way in which it is conducted.” *2 Selected Mes- sages*, 36:2-3, 38:1.

When those words were penned, it seemed un- believable that such things could occur in our midst. Yet, today, we see such things rapidly increas- ing. Surely, the end is near!

COERCION OF THE GOVERN- MENT BY THE THREEFOLD UNION

1 - This threefold union will work toward one primary objective; and, in reaching that objective, it will succeed. The U.S. Government will be pressured into enacting the National Sunday Law. Coercion will be applied to force the people to accept a papal teaching. It will be the combined impact of the threefold union which will have brought this about. Passage of that law will lead to very evil results. In reaching across the gulf, the

U.S. Government will have taken an untraceable step to destroy liberty of conscience. (We will later learn that it will be the unleashing of spiritist fores

- by this enacted law which will render the situa- tion irreversible.)

“The *Protestants* of the United States will be foremost in stretching their hands across the gulf to grasp the hand of *spiritualism*; they will reach over the abyss to clasp hands with the *Roman power*; and under the influence of this *threefold union*,

this country will follow in the steps of Rome in trampling on the rights of conscience.” *Great Controversy*, 588:1.

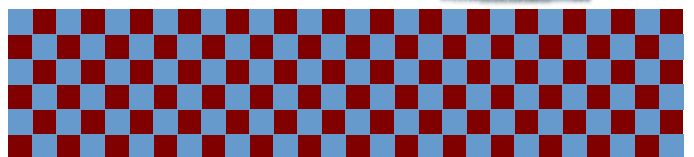
2 - By this union, Protestantism will have united with the secular power to support a false religion.

“*When Protestant churches shall unite with the secular power to sustain a false religion*, for opposing which their ancestors endured the fiercest persecution, *then will the papal sabbath be enforced* by the *combined* authority of church and state. Here will be a national apostasy, which will end only in national ruin.” *Evangelism*, 235:1.

3 - By enacting this law, the nation will have accepted the principles of Romanism.

“In the time of test- ing and trial the shield of Omnipotence will be

spread over those whom God has made the depositaries of His law. When legislators shall abjure the [religious liberty] principles of Protestantism, so as to give countenance and the right hand of fellowship to Romanism, then God will interpose in a special manner in behalf of His own honor and the salvation of His people.” **5 Testimonies**, 525:1.



7 - The result will be a common goal that is almost overwhelming in its power over the minds of the people.

‘These have one mind.’ There will be a *universal bond of union*, one great harmony, *a confederacy of Satan’s forces*. ‘And *shall give their power and strength unto the beast*.’ Thus is manifested the same arbitrary, oppressive power against religious liberty, freedom to worship God according to the dictates of conscience, as was manifested by the papacy, when in the past it persecuted those who dared to refuse to conform with the religious rites and ceremonies of Romanism.” *Maranatha, 187:4.*

8 - Satan will be leading in this union.

“There is one pointed out in prophecy as the man of sin. He is the representative of Satan . . . *Here is Satan’s right-hand man ready to carry on the work that Satan commenced in heaven*, that of trying to amend the law of God. And the Christian world has sanctioned his efforts by adopting this child of the Papacy—the Sunday institution.” *7 Bible Commentary, 910/1:3-2:0.*

“Not a move has been made in exalting the idol sabbath, in bringing around Sunday observance through legislation, but *Satan has been behind it*, and has been the chief worker.” *7 Bible Commentary, 977/1:1.*

“When the legislature frames laws which exalt the first day of the week, and put it in the place of the seventh day, *the device of Satan will be perfected*.” *7 Bible Commentary, 976/2:1.*

“This false sabbath is to be enforced by an oppressive law. *Satan and his angels are wide awake and intensely active*, working with energy and perseverance through human instrumentalities to bring about his purpose of obliteration from the minds of men the knowledge of God.” *7 Bible Commentary, 985/1:1-2.*

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4 - The religion of the papacy will be accepted by the rulers.

“Laws enforcing the observance of Sunday as the Sabbath *will bring about a national apostasy* from the principles of republicanism upon which the government has been founded. *The religion of the papacy* will be accepted by the rulers, and the law of God will be made void.” *7 Manuscript Releases, 192 (1906).*



5 - Rulers of the land will rank themselves with the man of sin.

“It is at the time of the national apostasy when, acting on the policy of Satan, *the rulers of the land will rank themselves on the side of the man of sin*—it is then the measure of guilt is full; the national apostasy is the signal for national ruin.” 2 Selected Messages, 373:0.

6 - It will place Catholic principles under the care and protection of the state.

“*Roman Catholic principles will be taken under the care and protection of the state.* This national apostasy will speedily be followed by national ruin.” Review, June 15,

7 - The result will be a common goal that is almost overwhelming in its power over the minds of the people.

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**EFFECT OF THE UNION
ON GOD’S PEOPLE
CAUSED BY HATRED OF
SABBATHKEEPERS**

1 - A hatred of Sabbathkeepers will lead the churches to coerce the government to enact the law. Initially, legislators will agree to do so only for political reasons. But that action will catapult God’s people into the final great conflict. What is that conflict? It is the last phase, before Christ returns, of the long-standing great controversy between Christ and Satan over the necessity of obedience to the law of God.

“*The same masterful mind* that plotted against the faithful in ages past *is still seeking to rid the earth of those who fear God and obey His law.* 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. And *we are not left in doubt as to the issue.* Now, as in the days of Mordecai, the Lord will vindicate His truth and His people.” 5 Testimonies, 450:2-451:0.

2 - In doing this, the nation will become a tool of Satan. It will also have the effect of more closely bringing the Protestant and Catholic churches under the delusive control of Satan, so he can use them to destroy commandment keepers.

‘He had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.’ Though professing to be followers of the Lamb of God, men become imbued with the spirit of the dragon. They profess to be meek and humble but they speak and legislate with the spirit of Satan, showing by their actions that they are the opposite of what they profess to be. This lamb-like power unites with the dragon in making war upon those who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ. And *Satan unites with Protestants and Papists*, acting in consort with them as the god of this world, dictating to men as if they were the subjects of his kingdom, to be handled and governed and controlled as he pleases. If men will not agree to trample underfoot the commandments of God, the spirit of the dragon is revealed. They are imprisoned, brought before the councils, and fined. ‘He causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand or in their foreheads.’ ‘He had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.’ Thus Satan usurps the prerogatives of Jehovah. The man of sin sits in the seat of God, proclaiming himself to be God, and acting above God.” *Maranatha, 191:1.*

3 - The Sabbath will be the basic issue; and, in opposition to it, all the wicked world will be united against God’s people.

“In the warfare to be waged in the last days there will be united, in opposition to God’s people, all the corrupt powers that have apostatized from allegiance to the law of Jehovah. In this warfare the Sabbath of the fourth commandment will be the great point at issue; for in the Sabbath commandment the great Lawgiver identifies Himself as the Creator of the heavens and the earth.” Maranatha, 187:5.

**INTENSE PERSECUTION
WILL RESULT**

Are you ready for what is soon to come upon the earth? Are you preparing your heart and life by the study of God’s Word, and obedience to it? Are you standing in defense of God’s Word and God’s law?

1 - Enactment of the Sunday Law will bring intense persecution to God’s people.

“There is a marked contrast between those who bear the seal of God and those who worship the beast and his image. The Lord’s faithful servants will receive the bitterest persecution from false teachers, who will not hear the Word of God, and who prepare stumbling blocks to put in the way of those who would hear.

“But God’s people are not to fear. Satan cannot go beyond his limit. The Lord will be the defense of His people. He regards the injury done to His servants for the truth’s sake as done to Himself. When the last decision has been made, when all have taken sides, either for Christ and the commandments or for the great apostate, God will arise in His power, and the mouths of those who have blasphemed against Him will be forever stopped. Every opposing power will receive its punishment.” Maranatha, 191:3.

2 - Papists and Protestants will unite in persecuting Sabbathkeepers.

“All who will not bow to the decree of the national councils and obey the national laws to exalt the sabbath instituted by the man of sin, to the disregard of God’s holy day, will feel, not the oppressive power of popery alone, but of the Protestant world, the image of the beast.” 2 Selected Messages, 380:1.



God’s people are not to fear.

“Those religious bodies who refuse to hear God’s messages of warning will be under strong deception and will unite with the civil power to persecute the saints. The *Protestant churches will unite with the papal power in persecuting* the commandment-keeping people of God.

“This **lamb-like** power unites with the dragon in making war upon those who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.” *14 Manuscript Releases, 161:4-162:1 (1899).*

3 - God’s commandment-keeping people should now draw together; for the wicked will later unite, under the papacy, to oppose them.

“As we approach the last crisis, it is of vital moment that harmony and unity exist among the Lord’s instrumentalities. The world is filled with storm and war and variance. Yet *under one head—the papal power—the people will unite to oppose God in the person of His witnesses.*” *7 Testimonies, 182:2.*

“God’s Sabbath will be trampled underfoot, and a false sabbath will be exalted. In a Sunday law there is possibility for great suffering to those who observe the seventh day. *The working out of Satan’s plans will bring persecution* to the people of God. But the faithful servants of God need not fear the outcome of the conflict.” *2 Selected Messages, 375:1.*

“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.” *5 Testimonies, 450:1.*

“God’s people will feel the hand of persecution *because* they keep holy the seventh day.” *7 Bible Commentary, 975/2:0; 9 Testimonies, 229:3.*

“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.” *Great Controversy, 48:3.*

“Before the warfare shall be ended and the

victory won, we as a people are to experience trials similar to those of Paul. We shall encounter the same hardness of heart, the same cruel determination, the same unyielding hatred . . . *Persecution will again be kindled* against those who are true to God; their motives will be impugned, their best efforts misinterpreted, their names cast out as evil . . . God would have His people prepared for the soon-coming crisis. Prepared or unprepared, we must meet it.” *Life of Paul, 251:0-252:1.*

“There will come a time when, because of our advocacy of Bible truth, *we shall be treated as traitors.*” *6 Testimonies, 394:2.*

“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.” *5 Testimonies, 450:2.*

“*If popery or its principles shall again be leg- islated into power, the fires of persecution* will be rekindled against those who will not sacrifice con- science and the truth in deference to popular errors. This evil is on the point of realization.” *5 Testimo- nies, 712:1.*

“Many will plead that there is no prospect that *popery* will ever be revived. If it *shall regain its lost ascendancy*, it will be *by Protestant-ism’s giv- ing it the right hand of fellowship.* If it shall be legislated into power by the concessions of time- serving men, the fires of per- secution will be re- kindled against those who will not sacrifice con- science and the truth for the errors of the papacy. Once let the minds of the Christian world be turned away from God; let His law be dishonored and His holy day trampled upon, and they will be ready to take any step where Satan may lead the way.”— *Review, January 1, 1889.*

“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.”—*Great Controversy, 607:0.*

“As we approach the last crisis, it is of vital moment that harmony and unity exist among the Lord’s instrumentalities. “

LAST DAYS

APPENDIX

THE UNION

When the Great Succession Has Taken Place, Deluded Men Will Rush into Superstitious Doctrines. “Then signs of dissolution will be plainly revealed to the God-fearing student of prophecy. The great succession . . . [will have] taken place—the world and [the] church united to tear down God’s great moral standard and erect a standard instituted by the man of sin. Then earnest, distinguished men, blinded and deluded with false doctrines, because they have taken a deep draught of [the] wine of Babylon, rush into superstitious doctrines, into the great apostasy, bearing the very stamp of that dress. God has plainly pointed out in prophecy, [that] they are drunk with the wine of Babylon, and the same spirit moves the whole.”—*Undated Manuscript 153, 1-4 (Copenhagen, Denmark, 1886)*.

America Can Become the Place of Greatest Peril Because of Light Neglected. “America, where the greatest light from heaven has been shining upon the people, can become the place of greatest peril and darkness, because the people do not continue to practice the truth and walk in the light.”—*Letter 23c, 1894, 2-3 (to I.H. Evans, July 20, 1894. See also 3 SM 387)*.

Satan Will Excite Apostate Christendom to Crush Liberty of Conscience.—“Satan will excite the indignation of apostate Christendom against the humble remnant who conscientiously refuse to accept their customs and traditions. Blinded by the prince of darkness, popular religionists will see only as he sees, and feel as he feels. They will determine as he determines, and oppress as he oppresses. Liberty of conscience, which has cost this nation so great a sacrifice, will no longer be respected. The church and the world will unite, and the world will lend to the church her power to crush out the right of the people to worship God according to His Word.”—*Manuscript 51, 1899, 6-12 (“The Seal of God,” April 2, 1899. See also EV 234-235)*.

If Satan Can Induce a Union of the Church and the World, Man-made Commandments Will Supplant the Sabbath.—“Men do not seem to understand that they are taken in

Satan’s snare when they attempt to tamper with the laws of God. Satan has them in just the position he wants them when they manufacture laws to control the world and place those laws where God’s laws should be. The enemy knows that, if the church can be controlled by political enactments, she will lose her garments of light as did Adam and Eve. If he can lead the church to unite with the world and accept worldly enactments, they virtually acknowledge him as their head. The authority of man-made commandments will work to oppose the rule of the government of heaven. Under the leadership of Satan, the knowledge of good and evil will work to dispense with the righteous, holy enactments of God concerning the Sabbath, the observance of which is to be a sign between God and His people forever.” *Manuscript 77, 1899, 12-15 (“God’s Law Immutible,” May 14, 1899)*.

The Threefold Union Will Be Satan’s Great Lat- ter-day System of Persecution.—“Satan will work miracles to deceive those who dwell on the earth. Spiritualism will do its work, by causing the dead to be personated. Those religious bodies that refuse to hear God’s message of warning will be under strong deception, and will unite with the civil power in persecuting the [true] church. The Protestant churches will unite with the pa- pal power in persecuting the commandment-keeping people of God. This union will constitute the great sys- tem of persecution that will exercise spiritual tyranny over the consciences of men.”—*Manuscript 16, 1899, 1-6, 10-11 (“The Word for This Time,” February 20, 1900)*.

God Will Bring Men from Various Churches to Combat the Sunday Law.—“Satan seems to have been permitted to gain many points of advantage. But the Lord will bring men of understanding from the various churches to combat the enforcement of a law, that the first day of the week shall be honored as a day when no business shall be transacted.”—*Letter 168, 1909, 2, 5 (“To the Officers of the General Conference,” December 1, 1909. See also Ev 33, 40, 71-72, 377, 388; MM 300, 308-310)*.