

“In these last days many influences will arise to draw the worker from standing firmly for a ‘Thus saith the Lord.’ Men who themselves have departed from the faith, will seek to draw the workers into controversy, and by this method attempt to present heresies that will lead souls astray. My brethren, do not be enticed by such influences. Engage in no debate. Take no heed to the persuasions and challenges of those who would draw you from your legitimate work. You have no time to voice their sentiments or to repeat their words. Time is golden; truth is precious. We are to carry forward the work of God in the same spirit of simplicity that has marked our efforts for the past fifty years. But while our work is to be done in simplicity and meekness, we are to stand firmly for the principles of the faith.” *Australian Union Recorder*, December 30, 1907.

### THE THREE ANGELS MESSAGES

#### PARALLEL

“God has given the messages of Revelation 14 their place in the line of prophecy, and their work is not to cease till the close of this earth’s history. The first and second angel’s messages are still truth for this time, and are to run **parallel with this which follows**. The third angel proclaims his warning with a loud voice. ‘After these things,’ said John, ‘I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power, and the earth was lightened with his glory.’ In this illumination, the light of all the three messages is combined.” *The 1888 Materials*, 803–804.

#### TESTS

“**Many who heard the first and second angels’ messages** thought they would live to see Christ coming in the clouds of heaven. Had all who claimed to believe the truth acted their part as wise virgins, the message would ere this have been proclaimed to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. But five were wise and five were foolish. The truth should have been proclaimed by the ten virgins, but only five had made the provision essential to join that company who walked in the light that had come to them. The third angel’s message was needed. **This proclamation was to be made**. Many who went forth to meet the Bridegroom **under the messages of the first and second angels**, refused the third angel’s message, **the last testing message to be given to the world**.

“**A similar work will be accomplished when that other angel**, represented in Revelation 18, gives his message. **The first, second, and third angels’ messages will need to be repeated**. The call will be given to the church, [Revelation 18:2–5 quoted].” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 16, 269–270.

#### THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL

“The message proclaimed by the angel flying in the midst of heaven is the everlasting gospel, the same gospel that was declared in Eden when God said to the serpent, ‘I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.’” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 106.

## A SYMBOL

“I have had precious opportunities to obtain an experience. I have had an experience in the first, second, and third angels’ messages. The angels are represented as flying in the midst of heaven, proclaiming to the world a message of warning, and having a direct bearing upon the people living in the last days of this earth’s history. No one hears the voice of these angels, for **they are a symbol to represent the people of God who are working in harmony with the universe of heaven.** Men and women, enlightened by the Spirit of God, and sanctified through the truth, proclaim the three messages **in their order.**” *Life Sketches*, 429.

“John saw ‘Another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the whole earth was lightened with his glory.’ Revelation 18:1. **That work is the voice of the people of God proclaiming a message of warning to the world.**” *The 1888 Materials*, 926.

## WAYMARKS

“The proclamation of the **first, second, and third** angels’ messages has been **located** by the word of Inspiration. Not a peg or pin is to be removed. No human authority has any more right to change the **location** of these messages than to substitute the New Testament for the Old.” *Counsels to Writers and Editors*, 26–27.

“Again and again I have been shown that the past experiences of God’s people are not to be counted as dead facts. We are not to treat the record of these experiences as we would treat a last year’s almanac. **The record is to be kept in mind, for history will repeat itself.**” *Publishing Ministry*, 175.

“We should study the great **waymarks** that **point out the times in which we are living.**” *Last Day Events*, 14.

“The great **waymarks** of truth, **showing us our bearings in prophetic history**, are to be carefully guarded, lest they be torn down, and replaced with theories that would bring confusion rather than genuine light.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 101–102.

## THE SEVEN THUNDERS

“After these seven thunders uttered their voices, the injunction comes to John as to Daniel in regard to the little book: ‘Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered.’ These relate to **future events** which will be disclosed in their order. **Daniel shall stand in his lot at the end of the days.** John sees **the little book unsealed. Then Daniel’s prophecies have their proper place in the first, second, and third angels’ messages to be given to the world.** The unsealing of the little book was the message in relation to time.

“The books of Daniel and the Revelation are one. One is a prophecy, the other a revelation; one a book sealed, the other a book opened. John heard the mysteries which the thunders uttered, but he was commanded not to write them.

“The special light given to John which was expressed in the seven thunders was a **delineation of events which would transpire under the first and second angels’ messages.**” *The Seventh-day Adventists Bible Commentary*, volume 7, 971.

## A FIGURATIVE DELINEATION OF EVENTS

“There are those now living who, in studying the prophecies of Daniel and John, received great light from God as they passed over the ground where special prophecies were in process of fulfillment in their order. They bore the message of time to the people. The truth shone out clearly as the sun at noonday. **Historical events**, showing the direct fulfillment of prophecy, were set before the people, and the prophecy was seen to be a figurative delineation of events leading down to the close of this earth's history. The scenes connected with the working of the man of sin are the last features plainly revealed in this earth's history. The people now have a special message to give to the world, the third angel's message. Those who, in their experience, have passed over the ground, and acted a part in the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels' messages, are not so liable to be led into false paths as are those who have not had an experimental knowledge of the people of God.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 102.

## REFORM MOVEMENTS

“The work of God in the earth presents, from age to age, a striking similarity in every great reformation or religious movement. **The principles of God's dealing with men are ever the same.** The important movements of the present have their parallel in those of the past, and the experience of the church in former ages has lessons of great value for our own time.” *The Great Controversy*, 343.

## THE BEGINNING AND ENDING

I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty. . . . And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last. Revelation 1:8, 17.

Thus saith the Lord the King of Israel, and his redeemer the Lord of hosts; I *am* the first, and I *am* the last; and beside me *there is* no God. And who, as I, shall call, and shall declare it, and set it in order for me, since I appointed the ancient people? and the things that are coming, and shall come, let them show unto them. Isaiah 44:6, 7.

Remember the former things of old: for I *am* God, and *there is* none else; I *am* God, and *there is* none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times *the things* that are not *yet* done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure. Isaiah 46:9, 10.

“The trials of the children of Israel, and their attitude just before the first coming of Christ, **illustrate the position of the people of God** in their experience before the second coming of Christ.

“Satan's snares are laid for us as verily as they were laid for the children of Israel just prior to their entrance into the land of Canaan. **We are repeating the history of that people.**

“**Their history should be a solemn warning to us.** We need never expect that when the Lord has light for his people, Satan will stand calmly by and make no effort to prevent them from receiving it. Let us beware that we do not refuse the light God sends, because it does not come in a way to please us. . . . If there are any who do not see and accept the light themselves, let them not stand in the way of others.

“I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live; that thou mayest love the Lord thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him; for he is thy life, and the length of thy days; that thou mayest dwell in the land which the Lord sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.’

“**This song was not historical but prophetic.** While it recounted the wonderful dealings of God with his people in the past, **it also foreshadowed the great events of the future**, the final victory of the faithful when Christ shall come the second time in power and glory.

“The apostle Paul plainly states that **the experience of the Israelites in their travels has been recorded for the benefit of those living in this age of the world, those upon whom the ends of the world are come.** We do not consider that our dangers are any less than those of the Hebrews, but greater.” *Healthful Living*, 280–281.

“Satan is working that **the history of the Jewish nation** may be repeated in the experience of those who claim to believe present truth.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 111.

### THE PARABLE OF THE TEN VIRGINS

#### TO THE VERY LETTER

“I am often referred to the parable of the ten virgins, five of whom were wise, and five foolish. **This parable has been and will be fulfilled to the very letter**, for it has a special application to this time, and, like the third angel’s message, has been fulfilled and will continue to be present truth till the close of time.” *Review and Herald*, August 19, 1890.

“The parable of the ten virgins of Matthew 25 also illustrates the experience of the Adventist people.” *The Great Controversy*, 393.

“The state of the Church represented by the foolish virgins, is also spoken of as the Laodicean state.” *Review and Herald*, August 19, 1890.