

MAY 10

“The scribes and Pharisees professed to explain the Scriptures, but they explained them in accordance with **their own ideas and traditions**. Their **customs** and **maxims** became more and more exacting. In its spiritual sense, the sacred Word became to the people as **a sealed book**, closed to their comprehension.” *Signs of the Times*, May 17, 1905.

And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals.

And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof?

And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon.

And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon.

And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.

And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.

And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne. Revelation 5:1–7.

“When Christ came to this earth, the **traditions** that had been **handed down from generation to generation**, and **the human interpretation of the Scriptures**, hid from men the truth as it is in Jesus. The truth was buried beneath a mass of **tradition**. The spiritual import of **the sacred volumes** was lost; for in their unbelief men locked the door of the heavenly treasure. Darkness covered the earth, and gross darkness the people. Truth looked down from heaven to earth; but nowhere was revealed the divine impress. A gloom like the pall of death overspread the earth.

“But **the Lion of the tribe of Judah** prevailed. He opened **the seal that closed the book of divine instruction**. The world was permitted to gaze upon pure, unadulterated truth. Truth itself descended to roll back the darkness and counteract error. A Teacher was sent from heaven with the light that was to light every man that comes into the world. There were men and women who were eagerly seeking for **knowledge, the sure word of prophecy**, and when it came, it was as a light shining in a dark place.” *Spalding Magan*, 58.

“Let everyone who has been blessed with reasoning faculties take up the Bible and search its pages, that he may understand the will of God concerning him. In this Book **divine instruction** is given to all. The Bible is addressed to every one—to every class of society, to those of every clime and age.” *Signs of the Times*, July 11, 1906.

MAY 17

And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow *was* upon his head, and his face *was* as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire:

And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and *his* left *foot* on the earth,

And cried with a loud voice, as *when* a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices.

And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not. Revelation 10:1–4.

“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. . . .

“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.

And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand.

He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. Revelation 22:10, 11.

“What Daniel was commanded to seal up and close, (Daniel 12:4) is now, through the all-powerful mediation of the Lion of the tribe of Judah, revealed unto us. Revelation 5:5. Hence ‘many run to and fro, and knowledge is increased.’ Never, since the days of our Lord’s first advent, was the prophetic word so much studied; so many of the ambassadors of Christ engaged in this pursuit; or so much written on this subject. ‘The Revelation of Jesus Christ,’ contained in the Apocalypse, showing the coming of the Just One, with all his saints, to the destruction of the apostate nations, is now made so plain to the church, that none can, or, at least, ought to be ignorant of it. This, however, is a privilege belonging only to the faithful; for it is written that, ‘none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand.’ Daniel 12:10. So St. Paul speaks: ‘But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that the day should overtake you as a thief; ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day; we are not of the night, nor of darkness.’ 1 Thessalonians 4:4–5. Though ‘the true light now shineth,’ it enlighteneth only those who believe. Those who are paying a prayerful attention to these things, ‘have,’ like the Israelites of old, ‘light in their dwellings,’ whilst the rest of the world are sitting in darkness, even ‘darkness such as may be felt.’ The opening, then, and unfolding of the prophetic word, is another convincing proof that we are arrived at the end of the age; the unsealing of prophecy, and the revelation of the ‘mystery of God,’ being reserved unto ‘the time of the end.’ Daniel 12:9; Revelation 10:7.” James White, *Review and Herald*, November 1, 1853.