

## THE SHEKINAH THRONE

Isaiah 6:1

“I saw that there was a cherub **sitting on either end of the mercy seat with their wings spread over the ark**. There **also stood two angels**, one by either end of the ark, **with their wings spread out on high and touching each other, while their other wings reached to each side of the apartment**. I saw that the wings of the angels **did not reach above the Father**, for that would bring Him too low. I saw that the **Father was in the midst above the cherubims, and His glory is shed down upon the ark**, and the train of His glory fills the temple.” *Manuscript 15*, October 23, 1850.

## 9/11 TO SUNDAY LAW

Revelation 10:1–7; Daniel 12:5–13; 10:4; 8:2

“The light that Daniel received direct from God was given especially for these last days. The visions he saw by the banks of the Ulai and the Hiddekel, the great rivers of Shinar, are now in process of fulfillment, and all the events foretold will soon have come to pass. . . .

“**The revealed will of God** must stand forth distinct as **a lamp that burneth**.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 16, 335.

## THE MYSTERY OF GODLINESS

Revelation 10:5–7; Revelation 11:19; 9

And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, **seen of angels**, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory. 1 Timothy 3:16.

**Seen**—G3700: to gaze—that is, with wide open eyes, as at something remarkable.

## MEN WONDERED AT

“God’s commandment-keeping people are described by the prophet as ‘men wondered at.’ We are to be a people distinct from the world. The eyes of the world are upon us, and we are observed by many of whom we have no knowledge. There are those who know something of the doctrines we claim to believe, and they are noting the effect of our faith upon our characters. They are waiting to see what kind of influence we exert, and how we carry ourselves before a faithless world. **The angels of heaven are looking upon us**. ‘We are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men’ (1 Corinthians 4:9).” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 386.

“**In the time of the end** the people of God will **sigh and cry for the abominations done in the land**. With tears they will warn the wicked of their danger in trampling upon the divine law, and with unutterable sorrow they will humble themselves before the Lord in penitence. The wicked will mock their sorrow and ridicule their solemn appeals. But the anguish and humiliation of God’s people is unmistakable evidence that they are regaining the strength and nobility of character lost in consequence of sin. It is because they are drawing nearer to Christ, because their eyes are fixed on His perfect purity, that they discern so clearly the exceeding sinfulness of sin. Meekness and lowliness are the conditions of success and victory. A crown of glory awaits those who bow at the foot of the cross.

“God’s faithful, praying ones are, as it were, shut in with Him. They themselves know not how securely they are shielded. Urged on by Satan, **the rulers of this world are seeking to destroy them**; but could the eyes of God’s children be opened as were the eyes of Elisha’s servant at Dothan, they would see angels of God encamped about them, holding in check the hosts of darkness.

“As the people of God afflict their souls before Him, pleading for purity of heart, the command is given, ‘Take away the filthy garments,’ and the encouraging words are spoken, ‘Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment.’ Zechariah 3:4. The spotless robe of Christ’s righteousness is placed upon the tried, tempted, faithful children of God. The despised remnant are clothed in glorious apparel, nevermore to be defiled by the corruptions of the world. Their names are retained in the Lamb’s book of life, enrolled among the faithful of all ages. They have resisted the wiles of the deceiver; they have not been turned from their loyalty by the dragon’s roar. Now they are **eternally secure** from the tempter’s devices. Their sins are transferred to the originator of sin. A ‘fair miter’ is set upon their heads.

“While Satan has been urging his accusations, holy angels, unseen, have been passing to and fro, placing upon the faithful ones **the seal of the living God**. These are they that stand upon Mount Zion with the Lamb, having the Father’s name written in their foreheads. They sing the new song before the throne, that song which no man can learn save the hundred and forty and four thousand which were redeemed from the earth. ‘These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the first fruits unto God and to the Lamb. And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.’ Revelation 14:4, 5.

“Now is reached **the complete fulfillment** of the words of the Angel: ‘Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for **they are men wondered at**: for, behold, I will bring forth My Servant the Branch.’ Zechariah 3:8. Christ is revealed as the Redeemer and Deliverer of His people. Now indeed are the remnant ‘men wondered at,’ as the tears and humiliation of their pilgrimage give place to joy and honor in the presence of God and the Lamb. ‘In that day shall the branch of the Lord be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth shall be excellent and comely for them that are escaped of Israel. And it shall come to pass, that he that is left in Zion, and he that remaineth in Jerusalem, shall be called holy, even everyone that is written among the living in Jerusalem.’ Isaiah 4:2, 3.” *Prophets and Kings*, 590–592.

## THE INCARNATION

“Those who commune with God walk in the light of the Sun of Righteousness. They do not dishonor their Redeemer by corrupting their way before God. Heavenly light shines upon them. As they near the close of this earth’s history, their knowledge of Christ, and of the prophecies relating to him, greatly increases. They are of infinite worth in God’s sight; for they are in unity with his Son. To them the word of God is of surpassing beauty and loveliness. They see its importance. Truth is unfolded to them. **The doctrine of the incarnation is invested with a soft radiance**. They see that the Scripture is the key that unlocks all mysteries and solves all difficulties. Those who have been unwilling to receive the light and walk in the light **will be unable to understand the mystery of godliness**, but those who have not hesitated to take up the cross and **follow Jesus**, will see light in God’s light.” *The Southern Watchman*, April 4, 1905.

**REVELATION 14:1-5**

Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so *let the wives be* to their own husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, even **as Christ also loved the church**, and gave himself for it; That **he might sanctify and cleanse it** with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself **a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.**

So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and **shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.** Ephesians 5:22–32.

#### HIDDEN

*Even* the mystery **which hath been hid from ages and from generations**, but now is made manifest to his saints: To whom God would make known what *is* the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is **Christ in you, the hope of glory**: Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man **perfect** in Christ Jesus: Colossians 1:26–28.

“When we approach the subject of Christ’s divinity clothed with the garb of humanity, we may appropriately heed the words spoken by Christ to Moses at the burning bush, ‘Put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.’ We must come to the study of this subject with the humility of a learner, with a contrite heart. And the study of the incarnation of Christ is a fruitful field, and will repay the searcher who digs deep for hidden truth.” *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, volume 7, 904.

#### TURNING POINTS

Gilgal: H1537—The same as H1536. H1536: wheel.

Galilee: H1551—same as H1550; a circle. H1551: a *valve* of a folding door (as *turning*); also a *ring* (as *round*): - folding, ring.

“... the tables of stone which folded together like a book . . .”

“There are periods which are **turning points in the history of nations and of the church**. In the providence of God, when **these different crises arrive, the light for that time is given**. If it is received, there is spiritual progress; if it is rejected, spiritual declension and shipwreck follow. **The Lord in His word has opened up the aggressive work of the gospel as it has been carried on in the past, and will be in the future, even to the closing conflict, when Satanic agencies will make their last wonderful movement.**” *Bible Echo*, August 26, 1895.

Joshua 6; Nehemiah 2:11–15

“Choosing a few men whom he knew to be worthy of confidence, Nehemiah told them of the circumstances that had led him to come to Jerusalem, the object that he wished to

accomplish, and the plans he proposed to follow. Their interest in his undertaking was at once enlisted and their assistance secured.

“On the third night after his arrival Nehemiah rose at midnight and with a few trusted companions went out to view for himself the desolation of Jerusalem. Mounted on his mule, he passed from one part of the city to another, surveying the broken-down walls and gates of the city of his fathers. Painful reflections filled the mind of the Jewish patriot as with sorrow-stricken heart he gazed upon the ruined defenses of his beloved Jerusalem. Memories of Israel's past greatness stood out in sharp contrast with the evidences of her humiliation.

“In secrecy and silence Nehemiah completed his circuit of the walls. ‘The rulers knew not whither I went,’ he declares, ‘or what I did; neither had I as yet told it to the Jews, nor to the priests, nor to the nobles, nor to the rulers, nor to the rest that did the work.’ The remainder of the night he spent in prayer; for he knew that the morning would call for earnest effort to arouse and unite his dispirited and divided countrymen.” *Prophets and Kings*, 636.

### A MEAT OFFERING

Even unto the morrow after the seventh sabbath shall ye number fifty days; and ye shall **offer a new meat offering** unto the Lord. Ye shall bring out of your habitations two wave loaves of two tenth deals: they shall be of fine flour; they shall be baked with leaven; *they are* the firstfruits unto the Lord. Leviticus 23:16–17.

“The Jews had always prided themselves upon their divinely appointed services, and many of those who had been converted to the faith of Christ still felt that since God had once clearly outlined the Hebrew manner of worship, it was improbable that He would ever authorize a change in any of its specifications. They insisted that the Jewish laws and ceremonies should be incorporated into the rites of the Christian religion. They were slow to discern that **all the sacrificial offerings had but prefigured the death of the Son of God**, in which type met antitype, and after which the rites and ceremonies of the Mosaic dispensation were no longer binding.” *Acts of the Apostles*, 190.

### TWO WAVE LOAVES

And Jesus said unto them, **I am the bread of life**: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst. John 6:35.

### LEAVEN

1 Corinthians 5:6–8

### BAKED

“The purification of God’s people cannot be accomplished without suffering. God permits **the fire of affliction to consume the dross, to separate the worthless from the valuable, in order that the pure metal may shine forth**. He passes us from one fire to another, testing our true worth. True grace is willing to be tried. If we are loath to be searched by the Lord, our condition is one of peril. God is the refiner and purifier of souls. He places us in **the heat of the furnace**, that the dross may be forever separated from the true gold of Christian character. Jesus watches the test. He knows just what fire of temptation and trial is needed to purify the precious metal, in order that the radiance of divine love may be reflected.

“It is by close, testing trials that God brings his people near to himself; for in trial and temptation he discovers to them their weakness, and teaches them to lean upon him as their only help and safeguard. When this result is attained, his object is accomplished, and his tried servants are prepared to be used in every emergency, to fill important positions of trust, and to accomplish the grand purposes for which their powers were given them. God takes men upon trial, and he proves them upon the right hand and upon the left, until they are educated, trained, and disciplined for his use.” *Review and Herald*, April 10, 1894.

### FIRST FRUITS

And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred *and forty and four* thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are **virgins**. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, *being* **the first fruits** unto God and to the Lamb. Revelation 14:3–4.

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

### WAVE OFFERING—AN ENSIGN

**Ensign:** a *flag*; also a *sail*; by implication a *flagstaff*; generally a *signal*; figuratively a *token*: - banner, pole, sail, (en-) sign, standard.

And **he will lift up an ensign to the nations** from far, and will hiss unto them from the end of the earth: and, behold, they shall come with speed swiftly. Isaiah 5:26.

All ye inhabitants of the world, and dwellers on the earth, **see ye, when he lifteth up an ensign on the mountains;** and when **he bloweth a trumpet, hear ye.** Isaiah 18:3.

### THE FLOCK OF HIS PEOPLE

And the Lord their God shall save them in that day as **the flock of his people:** for they *shall be as* **the stones of a crown, lifted up as an ensign** upon his land. Zechariah 9:16.

### YE WOULD NOT

For thus saith the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel; In **returning and rest shall ye be saved;** in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength: and **ye would not.**

But ye said, No; for we will flee upon horses; therefore shall ye flee: and, We will ride upon the swift; therefore shall they that pursue you be swift. One thousand *shall flee* at the rebuke of one; at the rebuke of five shall ye flee: **till ye be left as a beacon upon the top of a mountain, and as an ensign on an hill.** Isaiah 30:16–17.

Psalms 147:1, 2; Isaiah 11:2; Isaiah 56

## A MANIFESTATION OF GOD'S POWER

“Christ’s ascension to heaven was **the signal** that His followers were to receive the promised blessing. For this they were to wait before they entered upon their work. When Christ passed within the heavenly gates, He was enthroned amidst the adoration of the angels. As soon as this ceremony was completed, the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples in rich currents, and Christ was indeed glorified, even with the glory which He had with the Father from all eternity. **The Pentecostal outpouring was Heaven’s communication that the Redeemer’s inauguration was accomplished.** According to His promise He had sent the Holy Spirit from heaven to His followers as a token that He had, as priest and king, received all authority in heaven and on earth, and was the Anointed One over His people.” *Acts of the Apostles*, 38.

## A JUBILEE IN HEAVEN

“But **the time had now come.** The Spirit had been waiting for the crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension of Christ. **For ten days** the disciples offered their petitions for the outpouring of the Spirit, and Christ in heaven added His intercession. This was the occasion of His ascension and inauguration, **a jubilee in heaven.** He had ascended on high, leading captivity captive, and He now claimed the gift of the Spirit, that He might pour it out upon His disciples.” *Signs of the Times*, December 1, 1898.

“When Christ, the Mediator, burst the bands of the tomb, and ascended on high to minister for man, He first entered the holy place, where, by virtue of His own sacrifice, He made an offering for the sins of men. With intercession and pleadings He presented before God the prayers and repentance and faith of His people, purified by the incense of His own merits.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 11, 54.

“During His ministry, Jesus had raised the dead to life. He had raised the son of the widow of Nain, and the ruler’s daughter and Lazarus. But these were not clothed with immortality. After they were raised, they were still subject to death. But those who came forth from the grave at Christ’s resurrection were raised to everlasting life. They ascended with Him as trophies of His victory over death and the grave. These, said Christ, are no longer the captives of Satan; I have redeemed them. I have brought them from the grave as **the first fruits of My power**, to be with Me where I am, nevermore to see death or experience sorrow.” *The Desire of Ages*, 786.

## JUBILEE

Leviticus 25:8–11

## THE YEAR OF RELEASE

“**Every seventh year** the whole law was to be read in the assembly of all Israel, as Moses commanded: ‘At **the end of every seven years, in the solemnity of the year of release, in the feast of tabernacles**, when all Israel is come to appear before the Lord thy God in the place which He shall choose, **thou shalt read this law** before all Israel in their hearing.’” *Patriarchs and Prophets*, 503.

## THE JUBILEE—THE GREAT YEAR OF RELEASE

“After ‘seven sabbaths of years,’ ‘seven times seven years,’ came that **great year of release—the jubilee.**” *Patriarchs and Prophets*, 533.

## THE JUBILEE— THE YEAR OF RESTORATION

“Every fiftieth year, the year of jubilee, every inheritance in the land was to be restored to its original owner. ‘In the year of jubilee ye shall return every man unto his possession,’ God declared.” *The Seventh-day Adventists Bible Commentary*, volume 1, 1112.

## FIFTY DAYS (PENTECOST) AND THE FEAST OF WEEKS

“**Fifty days** from the offering of first fruits, came the **Pentecost**, called also the **feast of harvest** and the **feast of weeks**. As an expression of gratitude for the grain prepared as food, two loaves baked with leaven were presented before God. **The Pentecost occupied but one day**, which was devoted to religious service.” *Patriarchs and Prophets*, 540.

“Not one of us **will ever receive the seal of God** while our characters have one spot or stain upon them. It is left with us to remedy the defects in our characters, to cleanse the soul temple of every defilement. **Then the latter rain will fall upon us as the early rain fell upon the disciples on the Day of Pentecost.** . . .

“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.**” *Testimonies*, volume 5, 214, 216.

## COVENANT CONFIRMED

Daniel 9:27