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necessary, was not sufficient of itself. Faith was indispensable, and could not in his case be developed until confidence in riches had been shaken.

The young man went away sorrowful, not willing to make the surrender asked of him. Though he knew it not, the greatest opportunity of his life had passed. He held on to his money, but lost eternal riches. Instead of becoming a great leader in God's cause and championing the fortunes of the early Christian church, he faded out of the picture, and all that remains is the record of his tragic failure.

THE CALL OF THE LORD

By His Holy Spirit God is speaking to the youth of today. Beholding them, He loves them. To every young lad He is saying, "My son, give Me your heart." [Proverbs 23:26] With every girl He is pleading: "Come unto Me. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me." [Matthew 11:28,29] He desires to save them from the evil that is in the world and to preserve them from the judgments that so soon must fall upon it. He wants them to give their lives to Him that He may make of them strong men and women after His own heart. He calls them that He may send them to lift up His fallen standard in the dark places of the earth. He waits to use them to prepare a people to meet Him at His coming.

Money or position makes no difference with Him. He found David with the sheep, Gideon at a winepress, and Paul on the Damascus road. It is not place or social standing that matters in His sight, but willingness to listen and obey. Amos was only a herdsman, a gatherer of sycamore fruit, the poorest of the poor, yet the Lord took him as he followed the flock and said: "Go, prophesy to My people Israel." To him also was given the stirring message: "The end is come. Prepare to meet thy God." [Amos 7:12, 8:2, 5:15]

Once in a time of Israel's trouble, when God sought for a leader who might deliver them, He found a lad who worked as a helper in the temple courts. In the dead of night He called to this boy with the God-ward heart: "Samuel, Samuel!" And he replied, "Speak, Lord, for Thy servant hears." Then, though but a child, God opened his mind that He might understand His purposes, and ere many years had passed "all Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the Lord." [1 Samuel 3:20]

Have you, dear boy or girl, heard the call of the Lord? Perhaps He is speaking even now. If so, it is a moment of supreme opportunity. Listen with all care. Tell Him that you want to do His will, that you desire His help. And if He asks you to be His champion in this mighty hour, accept His commission. Say to Him, as Isaiah in his youth, "Here am I, send me." Such an act of surrender will bring you immediately into the company of His chosen ones and open out the widest possibilities of rich and joyous fellowship and service with Him. You will become something far greater than you could ever have been without Him, a living power for good, a constant source of blessing. As F. B. Meyer once wrote: "There is no limit to the possibilities of the life that is fully surrendered to God, that has become the aperture, or channel, through which God can pour Himself forth to the world."

24. HISTORY'S CLIMAX

CONTEMPLATING all the vital issues of this mighty hour the conclusion becomes more and more irresistible that world events are moving towards some stupendous climax. The universal depression, the international dissension, the strivings after peace, the preparations for war, the writhing of restless races, the developments in the Far East, the rumblings of revolution, and the groaning of creation, all betoken the approach of some epochal change in the course of history. The increase of lawlessness, the lowering of moral standards, and the growth of godlessness, give warning of the coming collapse of civilization. The fading of Christendom's faith, the revival of the great apostasy, and the spread of Spiritualism, announce that the great controversy of the ages between good and evil, Christ and Satan, is nearing its final and decisive encounter.

All these stirring happenings are indeed the writing on the wall of modern Babylon. As at Belshazzar's feast a mysterious hand appeared before the assembled guests, proclaiming the imminent doom of the golden city, so the solemn events of today signal the passing of our golden age. They say to this evil and adulterous generation, as they said to that idolatrous king and his drunken lords: "God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it. Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting." [Daniel 5:26,27]

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CONVERGING PROPHECIES

As we have seen, the issues of this great hour are all subjects of prophecy. Divinely inspired men, centuries ago, described them in surprising detail. The curtain that hides the future from human eyes was drawn back by the Spirit of God, and they were privileged to see the course of history to the end of time.

Jeremiah beheld the great depression that has fallen upon the world, with calamity spreading “from race to race.” Daniel saw the divisions and dissension of the nations lasting until the setting up of the kingdom of God. To him also was shown the coming of a time of trouble such as never was, coincident with the intellectual enlightenment of mankind. Isaiah beheld the world peace movement and Joel the arming of the nations for the final war.

Paul predicted the spiritual apostasy of the latter days, the moral failure, and the defiance of law; while Peter recorded in advance the destructive work of the higher critics. John saw the revival of the Papacy, the coming activities of demonic forces, the awakening in the East, the preparations for Armageddon, and God’s last call for a commandment-keeping people. Our Lord Himself told of the world distress and perplexity, the return of days like those of Lot and Noah ‘ and the preaching of His gospel as a witness in all the world.

Like rays of light through a lens all these prophecies converge upon this mighty hour with arresting accuracy, burning the conviction into the soul that the end of the age must surely be at hand. Indeed, could the men who tittered these predictions speak to us today, they would cry in chorus across the centuries: “You are living in time’s greatest hour; the climax of history is upon you; the coming of the Lord draws nigh.”

THE HOPE OF THE AGES

These prophets of old were indeed unanimous in their assertion that the age would end with a divine visitation, and that God, when His hour was come, would openly intervene in the affairs of men. One can trace this confident expression in all their writings from the dim beginnings of time. We are told that Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, to execute judgment upon all.” [Jude 1:14,15]

The patriarch Job expressed the faith and hope of God’s servants in those early days in the following inspiring terms: “Oh that my words were now written! Oh that they were printed in a book! That they were graven with an iron pen and lead in the rock for ever! For I know that my Redeemer lives, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God.” [Job 19:23,26]

“Behold, the Lord God will come with strong hand,” said Isaiah, “and His arm shall rule for Him: behold, His reward is with Him, and His work before Him.” [Isaiah 40:10]

And in another place, referring to the ultimate conquest of death, he said: “He will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering cast over all people, and the veil that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces. And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for Him, and He will save us.” [Isaiah 25:7-9]

“In the days of these kings,” said Daniel, “shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed.” [Daniel 2:44] And again: “At that time shall Michael stand up, the great Prince which stands for the children of thy people: ... and many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.” [Daniel 12:1,2]

APOSTOLIC EXPECTATIONS

The same hope burned in the heart of the Apostle Paul. In his letter of instruction to Titus he revealed the deep convictions of his soul on this matter, saying that he was “looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus, Christ. Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.” [Titus 2:13,14]

The Apostle Peter had a similar understanding as to the end of the Christian dispensation. He

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wrote: “The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to us ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.” [2 Peter 3:9,10]

John adds this testimony: “Behold, He comes with clouds; and every eye shall see Him.” [Revelation 1:7] And in his record of the opening of the sixth seal he describes the upheavals of that solemn day in the following graphic language: “And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every freeman, hid themselves in the dens and the rocks of the mountains. And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: for the great day of His Wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?” [Revelation 6:14-17]

CHRIST’S OWN PROMISE

In this connection it is of vital importance to recall Christ’s own promise to return. To His discouraged followers He said on one occasion: “Let not your heart be troubled: you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.” [John 14:1-3]

Later, when speaking with them again on this subject, after telling of the signs that would indicate the approach of His second advent, He said: “Then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.” [Luke 21:27]

When brought before Caiaphas and asked definitely whether or not He Was the Christ, the Son of God, He replied: “Thou has said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall you see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.” [Matthew 26:64]

There can be no doubt as to Christ’s own promise and anticipation. He certainly expected to return, and gave His disciples definite assurances that He would do so. They in turn accepted His pledged word and built all the teaching of the church around this central theme. Christ crucified, risen, and coming again, was the powerful gospel with which they roused the world of their time.

HIS PRESENT ATTITUDE

As to Christ’s present attitude concerning His promised return we have this word from the writer of the Epistle to the Hebrews: “Every priest stands daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But this Man after He had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God; from henceforth expecting till His enemies be made His foot stool.” [Hebrews 10:11-13]

What a world of meaning is contained in those words, “henceforth expecting”! They suggest that the same Christ who died upon Calvary, who rose from the dead and ascended to heaven as the great High Priest of humanity, is not only alive today, but is also watching with profound interest the course of events through the passing years. They reveal Him waiting with undisguised eagerness for the hour to strike when He may return to the scene of His sufferings, to gather His people to Himself, and make an end of sin.

One catches a further glimpse of this divine yearning in the last chapter of the Epistle of James, where we read: “Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waits for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it. Be you also patient; establish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draws nigh.” [James 5:7,8]

“I am the true Vine,” said Jesus on one occasion, “and MY Father is the Husbandman.” [John 15:1] And “the Husbandman waits for the precious fruit of the earth!” How reminiscent is this of the longing of the Lord for His own uttered through the prophet Malachi: “And they shall be Mine, said the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up My special treasure. And I will spare them, as a man spares his own son that serves him.” [Malachi 3:17]

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SECOND ADVENT CERTAIN

It would appear, therefore, that the second coming of Jesus Christ is a certainty, for in no other way could His promise be kept, His purpose achieved, and the hopes both of Himself and His people realized. It is unthinkable that the faith cherished by patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and Christians of every generation since, should have been held in vain. Surely all these noble men and women could not have been deceived. It is impossible. If Christ lives and reigns He must return. He cannot dishonor the promise He has made, nor disappoint the eager expectations of the multitudes who have trusted in Him. The promises, the hopes, and all the sacrifices based upon them, demand His reappearance.

Bearing all these considerations in mind, it becomes progressively clearer that the climax of the ages towards which we are moving so rapidly, and of which present world events are the dread harbingers, must be none other than “the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ.”

A SANE SOLUTION

The material mind recoils at first from such a suggestion, considering that it is impractical and visionary. Yet, when all is said against it, is it not the only hopeful solution of the world’s problems? Everything else has been tried and has failed miserably. Conferences, leagues, pacts, wars, tariffs, and what not have been explored to the limit, but all in vain. So muddled and twisted have human perplexities become that only one with more than human wisdom could unravel this Gordian knot. Man has been caught in an evil net and the more he struggles to liberate himself, the more entangled he becomes. His desperate plight calls for a divine deliverer.

It is important also that due weight be given to Heaven’s viewpoint. The old struggle between the powers of light and darkness, that began among the angels and reached its climax at the cross, has not ended yet. And it cannot end until Satan has been finally vanquished and destroyed. Indeed, not until Jesus Christ has returned to the scene of His humiliation in the glory that rightly belongs to Him will His honor be fully vindicated before all creation. Not till then will justice be done to those champions of righteousness who have suffered for His sake. Not till then will death be swallowed up in victory and the redeemed of the Lord enter their eternal inheritance.

Truly Christ’s glorious return is the only sane solution of the world’s tremendous problems, the only way out of the chaos caused by sin.

THE COMING KING

Looking out over all the sorrows that have fallen upon mankind in this tragic hour, what brighter hope could one cherish than that Jesus should come back? Is He not the Carpenter needed to rebuild the waste of ruin around us? Is He not called “Wonderful” because of His amazing capacity for helpfulness? Does He bear the name “Counselor” in vain? As “the mighty God” does He not hold the key to a treasury with eternal riches sufficient to banish all poverty? As the “Everlasting Father” has He not the understanding sympathy, the undying affection, to melt the hardest hearts and break down the walls of partition that men have erected against each other? As Prince of Peace is He not the only One able to banish the curse of war and make it cease to the ends of the earth?

He is all this and much more: for He is the Comforter the world needs in its sorrows, the Physician to heal its diseases, the Savior who alone can save men from their sins. And because He is so all-sufficient “the government shall be upon His shoulder” and of the increase thereof and of peace “there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon His kingdom, to order it and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever.” [Isaiah 9:6,7]

That is the government the world needs today. It is that under which redeemed mankind will thrive through the eternal years of Christ’s unending reign. It will be the government of the next universal empire whose inauguration is to be the stupendous climax of this mighty hour.

25. TIME’S GRANDEST PAGEANT

AN event involving such mighty issues as our Lord’s return will not occur “in a corner.” Heaven’s

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triumph day will afford no paltry spectacle. When Christ is revealed as King of kings and Lord of lords, Conqueror of sin and death, there will be witnessed a manifestation of the might of the eternal majesty that will stir the universe to wonder.

This earth may be but a minor planet of the solar system, a speck of dust in the vast immensity of space, yet it holds a unique relationship to the rest of creation. For six thousand years it has been the center of interest for all created intelligences. Hither came the arch-rebel of heaven when cast out of the courts of glory. Here the great controversy between good and evil has raged. Here the Son of God flung Himself into the fray to bring deliverance to the lost race. Here His cross was upraised. On one of earth's hills He died. In a tomb cut from its side He lay in death's awful stillness. From this rock-hewn grave He strode forth in triumph, returning to His Father, but bearing the marks of His earthly sufferings upon His Person for ever.

Upon no other world in all God's great creation has been enacted such mighty drama as this. None other has witnessed such prodigies of valor, such unexampled heroism, such self-effacing sacrifice. None other has been so signally favored of Heaven nor tasted so freely of the divine munificence. Like the one lost sheep of the parable it has been the object of more loving care and devotion than ninety-nine others that needed no repentance.

For all these reasons Christ's return to this world will be no mean episode in its history. As the climax of the age-long conflict, as the consummation of the divine purpose, it will be the most brilliant spectacle of His power and glory ever beheld by created eyes. It will surpass the dreams of angels and the most fervent imaginings of men. The sufferings and death of Christ upon this planet demand that His second advent shall be indeed time's grandest pageant.

No SECRET COMING

During His earthly pilgrimage our Lord endeavored to impress upon His disciples that this would indeed be the manner of His coming. Foreseeing the danger that impostors might arise claiming to fulfil His promise, He cautioned them with these words:

"For there shall arise false christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. Behold, I have told you before. Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, He is in the desert; go not forth: behold, He is in the secret chambers; believe it not. For as the lightning comes out of the east, and shines even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." [Matthew 24:24-27]

Men may arise and claim that Christ has appeared among India's millions, or in a Tibetan monastery, or in the Mormon temple of Salt Lake City; but their assertions, however supported by signs and wonders, are not to be accepted. Spiritualists may state that He has been seen at a séance, and that this was the second advent He intended, but their story is to be rejected as spurious. Still others may affirm that He returned unseen many years ago, or that He is coming secretly in the near future, but these assumptions also are contrary to His clear declaration. No such coming was ever in His plan.

VISIBLE AND AUDIBLE

Describing in further detail the nature of His return, and the effect it would have upon those alive at the time, He said: "And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven. And then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory." [Matthew 24:30]

No secret coming was in His mind when He used such words as these. His will be a glorious return, and the majestic scene will be visible to all the tribes of earth. "They shall see the Son of man coming."

His next statement was even more definite on this point: "He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." [Matthew 24:31]

So His coming will not only be visible, but audible. With this agree the words of the Psalmist: "Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: a fire shall devour before Him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about Him." [Psalm 50:1-3]

It was such an advent as this that the Apostle Paul proclaimed. Writing to the Thessalonians, he said: "The Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking

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vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.” [2 Thessalonians 1:7,8]

A BRILLIANT SPECTACLE

The Apostle John, who wrote sixty years after the ascension of his beloved Lord, and to whom was given the privilege of recording the Revelation of Jesus Christ concerning the consummation of His purpose for this world, has given us this definite word: “Behold, He comes with clouds and every eye shall see Him, and they also which pierced Him. And all kingdoms of the earth shall wail because of Him.” [Revelation 1:7]

Later he was shown in vision the stupendous scene that will burst upon the world in that great day. “I saw heaven opened,” he writes, “and behold a white horse; and He that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He does judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns; and He had a name written, that no man knew, but He Himself. And He was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed Him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, and out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should smite the nations: and He shall rule them with a rod of iron: and He treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He hath on His vesture and on His thigh a name written, King of kings, and Lord of lords.” [Revelation 19:11-16]

Stupendous spectacle! Far in the distant depths of space the prophet sees the approach of the shining hosts. Paling the light of sun, moon, and stars, the glorious procession sweeps earthwards, spreading ever wider and wider, till it fills the mighty vault above. In the forefront is Jesus, crowned as King, but with the scars of Calvary still upon Him. Behind and around Him are the armies of heaven, battalion upon battalion, phalanx upon phalanx, of glistening forms innumerable, “ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands,” filling the air with their songs of joy and triumph.

Thus will He come again. As He said Himself: “The Son of man shall come in the glory of His Father with His angels; and then He shall reward every man according to his works.” [Matthew 16: 27]

“THIS SAME JESUS”

Yet though Christ is coming amid such effulgent glory, it will not be as a stranger that He will appear. He will not have changed since He went away. Time will have left no marks upon His face. Age will not have wearied Him, nor bent His form. Centuries may have elapsed by human reckoning, but He will be just the same; for a thousand years, in His sight, “are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night.” [Psalm 90:4]

At the time of Christ’s ascension, as His disciples were gazing up in wonder and astonishment at His retreating form, suddenly “two men stood by them in white apparel; which also said, You men of Galilee, why stand you gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as you have seen Him go into heaven.” [Acts 1:11]

Could any more comforting promise have been brought by angelic messengers to those disconsolate and perplexed disciples? “This same Jesus shall so come.” This Jesus whom they had loved so dearly. This Jesus, to whose words they had listened with such rapture, whose miracles had captured their hearts. This Jesus, who had healed the sick, opened the eyes of the blind, and raised the dead, who had shown such affection for little children, and championed the cause of the poor. This Jesus, who had witnessed before His enemies with such sublime courage, who had gone to the cross without a murmur against His tormentors and had asked forgiveness for them with His dying breath. This Jesus, who had triumphed gloriously over death, and yet had remembered to go back to Galilee to meet His friends and help them again in their fishing. This Jesus—this same Jesus, unaltered in any respect, as kind, as wise, as strong, as helpful, as friendly, as “full of grace and truth,” would surely come again.

RAISING THE DEAD

When the Lord Jesus Christ returns in His glory those disciples will be thereto meet Him. It could not be otherwise, for Christ’s promises to them were so definite. Yet, obviously, such a meeting would not

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be possible without a resurrection of the dead. Peter, James, and John and all the rest of those pioneers of the Christian church “fell on sleep,” many of them suffering a martyr’s death. They have not yet met their Lord, for even “David is not ascended into the heavens.” [Acts 2:34] With all the saints “who from their labors rest” they await, in unconscious sleep, the resurrection morning.

This was the Apostle Paul’s understanding of the matter. Writing to the Thessalonians, he said: ‘I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that you sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the Archangel, and with the trump of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.’ [1 Thessalonians 1:16,17]

The reader will recall also how, in Daniel’s startling prophecy of this mighty hour, he foretold that the time of trouble such as never was would terminate in a resurrection of the dead. “Many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake,” he wrote, “some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. [Daniel 12:2]

THE GRAND REUNION

On the day of Christ’s appearing, therefore, the friends of His earthly pilgrimage will be raised to meet Him—and not only they, but the righteous dead of every age will live again. Then from their dusty beds all who have died in fellowship with God will rise in the glory of immortality. Those who perished in dark dungeons, or by cruel torture, or the sword, for His sake, will awaken to share His unending life. Those who passed away, aged and weary, after a lifetime of service for Him, will leap forth with the bloom of eternal youth upon them. Patriarchs, prophets, apostles, martyrs, and faithful souls from every clime will be there. No one who has served God loyally will be forgotten. No one who has permitted his life to be molded by the heavenly Potter will be overlooked. As Job says: “Thou shall call, and I will answer Thee: Thou wilt have a desire to the work of Your hands.” [Job 14:15]

That will be a day of glad reunion for the saints of God, with their Lord, and with each other. God’s champions of the last days, delivered now from its snares and perils, their faithfulness rewarded with glorious immortality, will greet with joyous acclamations His heroic witnesses of all generations. In happy chorus they will cry: “Lo, this is our God; we have waited for Him, and He will save us: this is the Lord; we have waited for Him, we will be glad and rejoice in His salvation.” [Isaiah 25:9]

Then “He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that He may judge His people. Gather My saints together unto Me; those that have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice.” [Psalm 50:4,5] Angel hosts will sweep down to do His bidding and bring His people to His presence from the four corners of the earth. Godly families long separated will be reunited. Mothers will see their dead brought to life again, and with swelling joy will catch their long-lost children in their arms. Fathers will clasp their sons, and sons their fathers. Crowning all their bliss will be the meeting with their Savior, and the knowledge that, through Him, they will never part again.

THE PENALTY OF DISOBEDIENCE

Yet such happiness will not be for all. Only those who have loved the Lord in sincerity can hope to share in such high privilege. For the rest that day will be a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasting and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, “a day of clouds and thick darkness.” [Zephaniah 1:15]

As the ever-increasing light in the sky arrests the attention of the world’s inhabitants, the faces of the wicked will grow pale. From lips that have too often blasphemed His name the cry will be raised, “Christ is coming! Christ is coming!” Panic will seize the unsaved multitudes as they pour out from their homes to behold the majestic approach of the glittering hosts of heaven. Terrified and ashamed, all who have despised the commandments of God and refused to listen to the pleadings of His Holy Spirit will rush for whatever cover may be nearest. In their frenzy of fear they will call “to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb. For the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?” [Revelation 6:16,17]

As the sound of the last trump shatters the tombs of God’s sleeping saints, the whole earth will be convulsed by the severest shock in its history, “a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon