

## Bible Doctrines

For Further Study

1. How about the teaching that once a man finds salvation he cannot be lost?
9. The place of works in the judgment.

## 32. THE MESSAGE OF THE JUDGMENT HOUR

### 1. Warnings of Divine judgments.

God does not bring destruction upon men without first giving opportunity for repentance and escape. In the past He has sent a warning of impending judgment before bringing punishment upon evil-doers.

Amos 3: 7. "Surely the Lord God does nothing, without revealing His secret to His servants the prophets."

Genesis 6: 1-3. God gave the antediluvians 120 years notice of coming judgment. During this time Noah bore witness of the coming deluge.

Genesis 19:1-13. Sodom was given a message of warning before its overthrow.

Jonah 1:1,2; The people of Nineveh were given opportunity of [Jonah 3: 1-4] escape from impending destruction.

### 2. The Final Warning Message Preceding the Second Advent.

In harmony with God's working in the past in acquainting men of coming judgment a special message of warning is to be proclaimed to the whole world before the second coming of Christ.

Matthew 24: 14. The end will not come until the gospel of the kingdom has been preached in all the world.

Revelation 14: 6-14. A threefold message is to be heralded to the world prior to the Second Advent.

Revelation 18: 1-5. God's people are called to come out of Babylon before her destruction.

### 3. "The Hour of His judgment Is Come."

Revelation 14: 6, 7. The special proclamation of the First Angel's Message in Revelation 14 is an announcement that God's judgment hour "has come."

When the Adventists of the mid-nineteenth century arrived at the conclusion that the cleansing of the sanctuary at the close of the 2300 days of Daniel 8:14 referred to the commencement of the investigative judgment in heaven, they became convinced that the message of Revelation 14:6 7, which declared that "the hour of His judgment is come," was due to be given to the world. This conviction gave rise to a movement that has now spread all over the world. It warns men that the final phase of Christ's heavenly priesthood is rapidly drawing to a close, and that soon He is to return to this world as King to reap the harvest of the earth. (Revelation 14: 14.) It calls upon men to be prepared for the end of the world by repentance and sanctification of life.

Revelation 14: 12. The people who are developed by the judgment hour message possess certain distinct characteristics.

### 4. The Close of Man's Probation.

Revelation 14: 9, 10. The final message warns of judgment about to come that will be unmixed with mercy.

Revelation 15:1. The wrath of God's final judgment is contained in the seven last plagues.

Revelation 15: 8. During the outpouring of the plagues, ministry in the heavenly sanctuary has ceased. This would seem to indicate that the offer of mercy for the sinner has been withdrawn; his probation has closed.

Genesis 6: 3. Probation for the antediluvians closed at the end of 120 years.

Genesis 7: 1-10. There was a brief period between the close of probation for the antediluvians and the beginning of the Flood.

Daniel 12: 1. After Michael stands up, i.e., Christ commences His reign, there will be a time of trouble such as never was. This time of trouble is doubtless caused by the outpouring of the seven last plagues following the close of probation.

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- Revelation 16: 17-21.      The seventh plague will culminate in the Second Advent.  
(Compare Revelation 6: 14-17.)
- Matthew 25:1-13.          We must be prepared before the opportunity passes.

MEMORIZE: Matthew 25: 13.

### Questions on the Lesson

1. How does God seek to save men from coming judgment?
2. Give examples of warning messages in the past.
3. When did Jesus say the end of the world would occur?
4. Locate God's final message. Why could we call it the "judgment-hour message?"
5. What final call does God make to His people?
6. How did the Adventists of the nineteenth century come to apply Revelation 14:6,7 to themselves?
7. Characterize the people who heed the judgment-hour message.
8. What warning in the message of Revelation 14 indicates the close of probation?
9. What marks the close of probation?
10. Describe the close of probation in the antediluvian age.
11. How did Jesus emphasize the need of being prepared for the coming of Christ?

## 33. SATAN'S COUNTERFEIT GOSPEL

1. Satan is in Opposition of the Gospel of Christ.

Revelation 12: 9.            Satan is the arch-deceiver.

- 2 Corinthians 11:14, 15.    He disguises himself as an angel of light, as do also his followers.

We may be sure that the great enemy of truth would do his utmost to obscure the glorious truths of the gospel so as to keep men from acceptance of Jesus Christ. Especially would he endeavor to keep man in ignorance of the judgment-hour message of warning concerning the second coming of Christ.

"Satan invents unnumbered schemes to occupy our minds, that they may not dwell upon the very work with which we ought to be best acquainted. The arch-deceiver hates the great truths that bring to view an atoning sacrifice and all all-powerful Mediator. He knows that with him everything depends on his diverting minds from Jesus and His truth." – "Great Controversy," page 488.

- Revelation 14: 6-11.      The message that should engage the special attention of God's people in the last days is that of "the everlasting gospel," which declares that "the hour of His [God's] judgment is come." One method of obscuring the gospel, and keeping men in ignorance of the judgment, would be by giving a false application of the typical earthly sanctuary and its services.

2. Satan's Master System of Deception.

- 2 Thessalonians 2: 7.      Commencing in the first century, Satan began the erection of a counterfeit system of religion called in Scripture "the mystery of iniquity."

- Revelation 17: 1-6.      The mystery of iniquity is symbolized in the Book of Revelation as an impure woman.

As a pure woman is used in the same book to symbolize the Christian church (Revelation 12: 1-5), the corrupt woman of Revelation 17 doubtless represents an apostate church.

- Revelation 17: 18.      Satan's counterfeit church is said to be "that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth."

The symbolic name of the great city referred to is "Babylon" (See 14:8; 16:19; 18:10), which name John saw inscribed on the woman's forehead.

Just as Jerusalem, the holy city, was used as a symbol of the true Christian church (Revelation 11:2), so Babylon, the ancient enemy and oppressor of ancient Jerusalem, is used to symbolize the false church which opposed and oppressed the people of God during the Christian era.

In Old Testament times Satan's counterfeit system of religion centered in ancient Babylon In the