

CLOSING EVENTS CHART – by Gordon Collier (bottom panel)

1. THE PLAN OF SALVATION IS ILLUSTRATED BY THE OLD TESTAMENT SANCTUARY SERVICE

Psalm 77:13 (KJV)

Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary: who is so great a God as our God?

The Earthly Sanctuary with its two apartments

The Priests

The Sacrifices

The Daily Service

The Yearly Service

The Earthly Sanctuary was Cleansed

Daniel 8:14 (KJV)

And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.

Dan. 7:9

Acts 3:19 (KJV)

Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.

Rev. 14:6-12

2. Type and Antitype

What the Earthly Sanctuary was to the Israel, the Heavenly Sanctuary is to us.

What the Daily and Yearly were to them, the Daily and Yearly Services of the Heavenly Sanctuary are to us.

What the Day of Atonement was to them, the antitypical Day of Atonement is to us.

What the cleansing of the Earthly Sanctuary was to them, the cleansing of the Heavenly Sanctuary is to us.

What the blotting out of sins was to them, the Blotting out of sins in the Heavenly Sanctuary is to us.

3. The Investigative Judgement

In the typical system, which was a shadow of the sacrifice and

priesthood of Christ, the cleansing of the sanctuary was the last service performed by the high priest in the yearly round of ministration. It was the closing work of the Atonement—a removal or putting away of sin from Israel. It prefigured the closing work in the ministration of our High Priest in heaven, in the removal or blotting out of the sins of His people, which are registered in the heavenly records. This service involves a work of investigation, a work of judgement; and it immediately precedes the coming of Christ . . . GC 352.

4. The Blotting out of Sin

by virtue of the atoning blood of Christ, the sins of all the truly penitent will be blotted from the books of heaven. Thus the sanctuary will be freed, or cleansed, from the record of sin. PP 357-58.

In the type, this great work of atonement, or blotting out of sins, was represented by the services of the Day of Atonement—the cleansing of the earthly sanctuary, which was accomplished by the removal, by virtue of the blood of the sin offering, of the sins by which it had been polluted. . . .

As in the final atonement the sins of the truly penitent are to be blotted from the records of heaven PP 358.

5. OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE

It is of the utmost importance that all should thoroughly investigate these subjects [the Heavenly Sanctuary and the Investigative Judgement]. GC 488.

The subject of the sanctuary will give us correct views of the importance of the work for this time. 5T 421.

The minds of all who embrace this message are directed to the most holy place EW 254-256

6. Our Constant Study

We are in the great day of atonement, and the sacred work of Christ for the people of God that is going on at the present time in the heavenly sanctuary should be our constant study. 5T 520

As a people, we should be earnest students of prophecy; we should not rest until we become intelligent in regard to the subject of the Sanctuary. Ev 222

All need to become more intelligent in regard to the work of the atonement, which is going on in the sanctuary above. 5T 575.

The subject of the sanctuary and the investigative judgment should be clearly understood by the people of God. GC 488.

ARE YOU READY FOR THE CRISIS OF THE AGES - PREPARE TO MEET THY GOD, O, ISRAEL

A "Our Firm Foundation" Editorial, Apr. 1987

"Recently I took part in a meeting in northern California.

Sabbath afternoon, with an audience of about 200, I spent an hour answering questions that were submitted in writing. One question which kept coming up was, "Is the [SDA] church Babylon? and should we leave the church?"

Since there is a strong separation movement across North America, and it is getting stronger by the day, I felt I should deal with this subject in my editorial.

"First of all, God's church is not Babylon. Let us read from inspiration: "'There is but one church in the world who are at the present time standing in the breach, and making up the hedge, building up the old waste places; and for any man to call the attention of the world and other churches to this church, denouncing her as Babylon, is to do a work in harmony with him who is the accuser of the brethren.'" (Testimonies to Ministers, 50)

"Those who assert that the Seventh-day Adventist churches constitute Babylon, or any part of Babylon, might better stay at home." Ibid., 36, 37

"Finite man is likely to misjudge character, but God does not leave the work of judgment and pronouncing upon character to those who are not filled for it. We are not to say what constitutes the wheat, and what the tares.

The time of the harvest will fully determine the character of the two classes specified under the figure of the tares and the wheat. The work of separation is given to the angels of God, and not committed into the hands of any man." Ibid., 47

Let us remember that two parties will develop in the [SDA] church as we draw near the end and there will be both separation and unity in our midst. (1)

This sign of the end given to us nearly 100 years ago is now being fulfilled, telling us the end of our world and the return of our blessed Lord is very near. The last-day movements will be very rapid ones.(2)

Let us remember that in the shaking now in process, the majority will be shaken out, but the angels of God will do the separating, not man. And everything that can be shaken will be shaken, so that only that which cannot be shaken will remain.(3)

Let us remember that God's remnant church are those who are faithful and loyal and obedient to God's orders.(4)

These faithful leaders, pastors and laity, will compose His church purified when the church militant becomes the church triumphant. The Seventh-day Adventist Church will go through to the end, but we may not recognize it then as the church we see today.

The institutions, reserves, and investments may be gone, and all church properties may be taken by the state. "The whole world is to be stirred with enmity against Seventh-day Adventists, because they will not yield homage to the Papacy, by honoring Sunday, the institution of this anti-Christian power.

It is the purpose of Satan to cause them to be blotted from the earth, in order that his supremacy of the world may not be disputed." Ibid., 37

Remember that the doctrines of Babylon are clearly enumerated: "It is our individual duty to walk humbly with God. We are not to seek any strange, new message. We are not to think that the chosen ones of God who are trying to walk in the light compose Babylon.

The fallen denominational churches are Babylon. Babylon has been fostering poisonous doctrines. . . . such as the natural immortality of the soul, the eternal torment of the wicked, the denial of the pre-existence of Christ prior to His birth in Bethlehem, and advocating and exalting the first day of the week above God's holy and sanctified day." Ibid., 61

If this church (the Seventh-day Adventist) should begin to adopt these false doctrines, the wine of Babylon, it would become part of Babylon. Let us remember that the shaking will reveal those who are faithful, loyal and obedient, and many of our laity, pastors and leaders will join Babylon to be the accusers of the faithful remnant.(5)

Our counsel from the Lord is, stay with the church; if you are obedient you are the church. If you leave where will you go? The reformation and revival will come from within, not from without.

This revival is now in process. It will grow in intensity until it has offered every church and every member the opportunity of understanding and experiencing victory over every sin—Righteousness by Faith.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church will then be transformed into the church triumphant. Don't become discouraged and leave. Hold fast your confidence, for you—the loyal and faithful, are the church."

1. See Selected Messages. Book 2, 114; Testimonies, vol. 6, 400, 401

2. See Testimonies, vol. 9, II, 13; vol. 8, 28, 37; Fundamentals Of Christian Education, 356, 357

3. See Testimonies, vol. 9. 15, 16; vol. 5, 136; vol. 7. 219; vol. 8,41

4. See Acts Of the Apostles, 11, 12; Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary, vol. 7, 931; Upward Look, 315

5. See The Great Controversy. 608; Selected Messages. Book I, 122; Testimonies, vol. 5, 463. 477

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6. Our Constant Study

We are in the great day of atonement, and the sacred work of Christ for the people of God that is going on at the present time in the heavenly sanctuary should be our constant study. 5T 520

As a people, we should be earnest students of prophecy; we should not rest until we become intelligent in regard to the subject of the Sanctuary. Ev 222

All need to become more intelligent in regard to the work of the atonement, which is going on in the sanctuary above. 5T 575.

The subject of the sanctuary and the investigative judgment should be clearly understood by the people of God. GC 488.

The solemn scenes of the judgment, the great day of atonement, should be kept before the people, and urged upon their consciences with earnestness and power. 5T 421

God's people are now to have their eyes fixed on the heavenly sanctuary, where the final ministration of our great High Priest in the work of the judgment is going forward,—where He is interceding for His people. Ev 223

7. THE VERY CENTER

The Sanctuary in heaven is the very center of Christ's work in behalf of men. GC 488

8. THE FOUNDATION OF OUR FAITH

The Sanctuary Truth -

The Foundation of Our Faith—The correct understanding of the ministration in the heavenly sanctuary is the foundation of our faith. Ev 221.

9. As Essential as Death

The intercession of Christ in man's behalf in the sanctuary above is as essential to the plan of salvation as was His death upon the cross. GC 489.

10. Explains Past, Present and Future

Light from the sanctuary illumined the past, the present, and the future. GC 423.

11. We Must Co-Operate With Christ

Unless we enter the sanctuary above, and unite with Christ in working out our own salvation with fear and trembling, we shall be weighed in the balances of the sanctuary, and shall be pronounced wanting. 7BC 933-934

The third angel's message was to be given, the minds of believers were to be directed to the heavenly sanctuary, where Christ had entered to make atonement for His people. 1SM 67.

Our faith must pierce beyond the veil, seeing things that are invisible. No one else can look for you. You must behold for yourself. 7BC 930.

We must by faith enter within the veil, “whither the forerunner is for us entered.” GC 489.

12. Christ's Closing Work

The announcement, “The hour of His judgment is come,” points to the closing work of Christ's ministration for the salvation of men. GC 435.

13. Christ's Work and Our Work

Now, while our great High Priest is making the atonement for us, we should seek to become perfect in Christ. GC 623

14. Encouragement

When tempted to sin, let us remember that Jesus is pleading for us in the Heavenly Sanctuary. 4BC 1143

15. The Judgement Begins

“When the 2300 day-years ended in 1844, then was the time for the actual cleansing of the Sanctuary to begin. This ‘cleansing’ brings to view the last aspects of the great work of atonement, and the time for the investigative or pre-Advent judgement.

“Thus in 1844 the message of Revelation 14:6 was due to be preached to the whole world – to every nation, kindred, tongue and people. It was a special message for our day and our generation.

“Through the centuries different emphases have been given to God’s saving message to men, emphases particularly relating to time. In the days of Noah it was, In 120 years the Flood is coming; in the days of Jonah it was, In 40 days Nineveh shall be overthrown, except you repent. In the days of John the Baptist it was, The time is fulfilled, the kingdom of God is at hand. Now, in our day, it is, The Hour of His Judgement is Come.’ Paul preached of judgement to come – something future in his day, but in our day, it is now.” RH Sept. 21, 1967 – not an EGW quotation.

16. The Judgement of the Dead

In 1844, the judgement began with the righteous dead.

17. The Judgement of the Living

“The Judgement is now . . . in progress. Soon – None know how soon – it will pass to the cases of the living. In the awful presence of God our lives are to come up in review.” GC 490; 5T 692.

“Now when the great work of judging the living is about to begin . . . “ 6T 130.