



RESTORATION & REVELATION OF THE IMAGE OF GOD

A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE BOOKS OF
DANIEL AND THE REVELATION

ROBERT D. BRINSMEAD

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Foreword

DURING the time that Robert Brinsmead led the Awakening message/movement, from the late 1950's to the late 1960's, he tackled the subject of *Daniel* and the *Revelation* on a few different occasions. This particular work is a very short (less than 20 pages) summary of the two books, and repeats a few of the thoughts that are in his other longer works, such as *The Vision by the Hiddekel*.

However, it also contains some new and very precious thoughts, and these alone make the work worth republishing. One thought I particularly appreciate is that these two prophetic books are about the restoration and revelation of the image of God in man.

In a lot of commentaries on the prophecies, too much time is spent on the rise and fall of nations. While these details have their place, especially to show the futility of man's attempts to rule himself, the larger message is the recovery of the moral image of God in man.

The thoughts about the revelation of Christ given through the church during the time of the latter rain (in the section on the 144,000) are also very precious.

As always, with the Brinsmead material, I have to notify the reader that the Awakening had a few misunderstandings in their interpretation of prophetic events. The main one, is that they placed the final sealing work (which is the final atonement, and the judgment of the living) before the latter rain. They understood that a group of "sealed" believers would go out under the power of the latter rain, to call in the rest of the "guests" to the "marriage supper of the Lamb."

This is not correct. The latter rain contains those showers of grace which are needed to complete "the work of God's grace in the soul." (*Testimonies to Ministers*, p. 506). While the qualification for the latter rain does include living up to the light given thus far, and overcoming those sins revealed by the light, there is still a

further work that takes place under the latter rain, and during the conflict over the image of the beast, which will perfect those who go through it.

Without spending a lot of time spelling that out here, I simply point the reader to the book, *Last Day Events*, by F. T. Wright, in particular Chapters 16 to 19. Fred's booklet, *The 144,000* also contains a discussion on the sealing.

It is not quite correct therefore, to call those who give the loud cry under the latter rain power, "the 144,000." It is not until the latter rain is finished, and the final test (the death decree) passed, that the 144,000 are officially made up. Nevertheless, there is a mighty revelation of Christ's character given during the latter rain, and so the thoughts that are shared in this booklet are still applicable to that time; but even more so are they applicable to the time after the close of probation, when God's children will find themselves fleeing to the hills, or locked up in dark dungeons.

In spite of these few minor flaws, there is a lot of light packed into this small booklet. Many of the proof references are not quoted in the text, but are footnoted. The reader will be benefited by taking the time to look up those footnote references.

We are living in the time of the end, when the book of Daniel is especially to be unsealed.

Daniel 12

⁴ ...many shall run to and fro, and knowledge [of Daniel's prophetic book] shall be increased.

This is part of that increasing "knowledge". May God bless you as you "run to and fro" through it.

Frank Zimmerman
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Editorial Preface

THE message of the Advent Movement is particularly centered in the great prophetic books of *Daniel* and *Revelation*. Looking forward to the time when this message should come into prominence, Christ declared that there should be time no longer. He saw that this mighty message would so fully reveal His love and purpose for His people that His kingdom would be ushered in for eternity.

Yet, as a people, we have studied and preached from *Daniel* and *Revelation* for a century and a quarter,—and yet time still lingers. Why? Clearly, we have not discerned the messages of these prophetic books as we should have. Our minds have been blinded to their full import.

It is time that God's people seek to more fully appreciate the truths of these two great books, But in order to do so, it is most helpful to understand the theme of each.

The following article has been prepared with this in mind. It unlocks the messages of *Daniel* and *Revelation* in such a way that your heart will burn within you. And as surely as the truths of these Scriptures become clear to our minds, just so surely may we know that truly there will soon be time no longer.

Norman Jarnes, Editor
1969

1. The Message of Daniel

THE key to the Message of *Daniel* is simple but wonderfully illuminating:

Testimonies to Ministers, p. 113:

Consider the circumstances of the Jewish nation when the prophecies of Daniel were given.

God had called the Jewish nation to be His chosen people and instrument upon earth. Through them He purposed to reveal His power, subdue the nations, and conquer the national foes.¹ But through disobedience the Jewish nation forfeited divine protection. Instead of the enemy being overcome, the enemy overcame Israel. The armies of Babylon swept in from the north and overthrew the kingdom of Judah, removed the king, destroyed the sanctuary, and carried God's people into captivity.

The book of *Daniel* opens upon this tragic note: God's people had no kingdom, no king, and no sanctuary; and many of them, like Daniel, were captives in a heathen land.

Through a series of four prophetic outlines given to Daniel, God unfolds His purpose of *restoration*—restoration of all that was lost in the Babylonian captivity—restoration of:

- The Kingdom
- The King
- The Sanctuary
- The People.

Daniel 2 presents, in the symbol of the stone smiting the metallic image, the *restoration* of the kingdom:

Daniel 2

⁴⁴ And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall

¹ *Numbers* 23:21-24; *Deuteronomy* 7:24; *Psalms* 18:34-40; 47:3; 149:5-9.

not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

⁴⁵ Forasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God has made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

Daniel 7 presents the time when One “whose right it is”² will be *restored* as King of the Israel of God:

Daniel 7

⁹ I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of His head like the pure wool: His throne was like the fiery flame, and His wheels as burning fire...

¹³ I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought Him near before Him.

¹⁴ And there was given Him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve Him: His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

Daniel 8 and *9* show the very time when the true sanctuary will be *restored*:

Daniel 8

¹⁴ Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.

Daniel 10 to *12* concerns the *restoration* of the people. This last prophetic outline is a necessary climax to the divine plan of restoration. When the angel visited Daniel in his last vision, he explicitly stated the point of the vision:

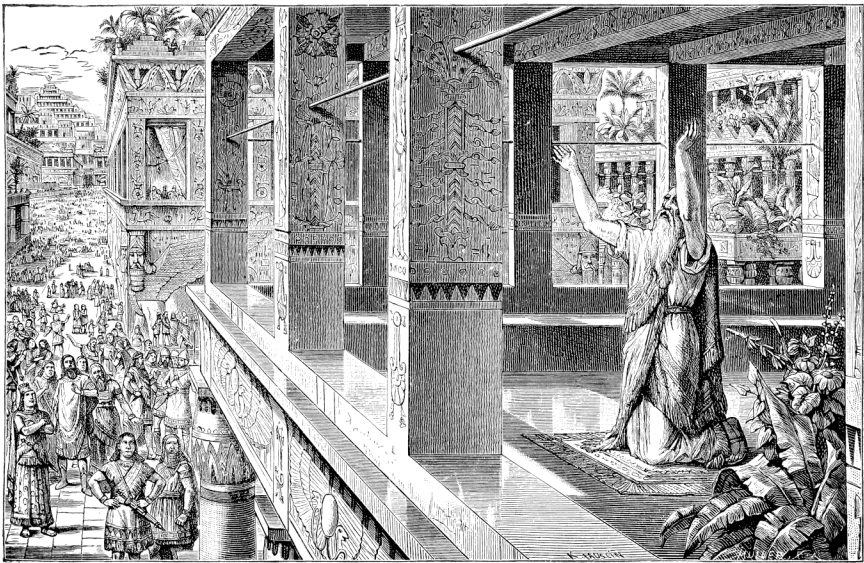
Daniel 10

¹⁴ Now I am come to make you understand what shall befall your people in the latter days.

² *Ezekiel 21:27.*

We may summarize the book of *Daniel* as follows:

KEY	MESSAGE
Consider the circumstances of the Jewish nation when the prophecies were given.	Restoration
Kingdom destroyed	Restored (Daniel 2)
King dethroned	Restored (Daniel 7)
Sanctuary desolate	Restored (Daniel 8-9)
People captives	Restored (Daniel 10-12)



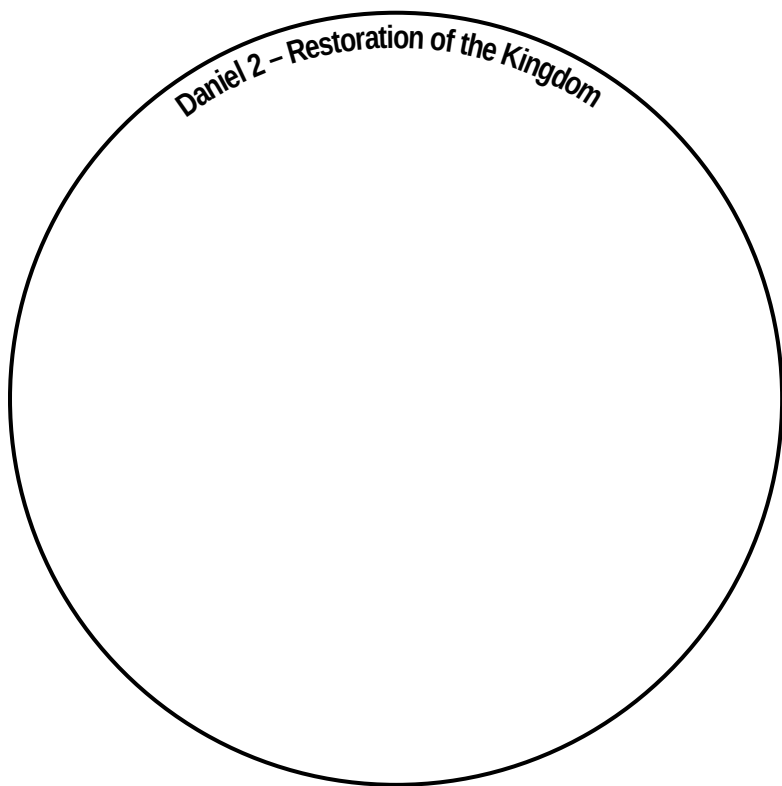
As Daniel directed his prayers in the direction of the earthly Sanctuary,
so should we direct our prayers to the heavenly Sanctuary.

(Bible Readings, 1888)

2. The Interdependence of the Fourfold Restoration

THE prophetic chapters of *Daniel* are marvelously arranged. It is not possible to get the impact of the message of restoration unless we see how each outline is related to the others.

Daniel 2 is the foundation prophecy. Here is presented the restoration of the kingdom, never again to be overthrown as it was in 605 BC. Let us illustrate *Daniel 2* by a circle:



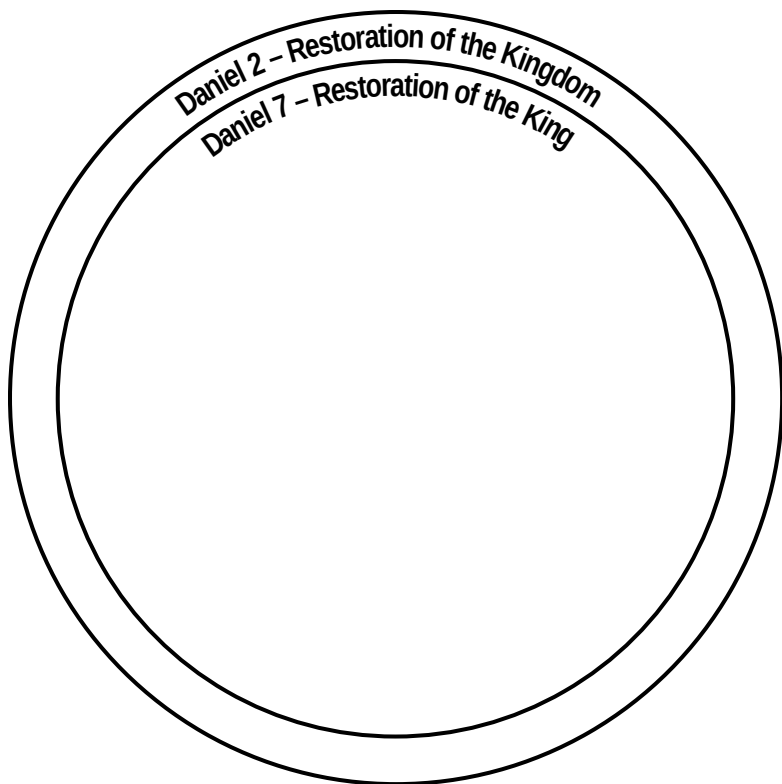
Jesus included the restoration of the kingdom in His model prayer for the disciples:

Matthew 6

¹⁰ Your kingdom come.

But we must realize that the restoration of the kingdom depends on the restoration of the King. The kingdom cannot come until the King comes into the judgment and is restored to His rightful place.

Hence we may illustrate the relationship of *Daniel 2* and *Daniel 7* by two circles:



But we must press further. Just as the restoration of the kingdom (*Daniel 2*) depends on the restoration of the King (*Daniel 7*), so the restoration of the King depends upon the restoration of His sanctuary (*Daniel 8:14*). Until the sanctuary is cleansed, Jesus must remain in His high-priestly attire.

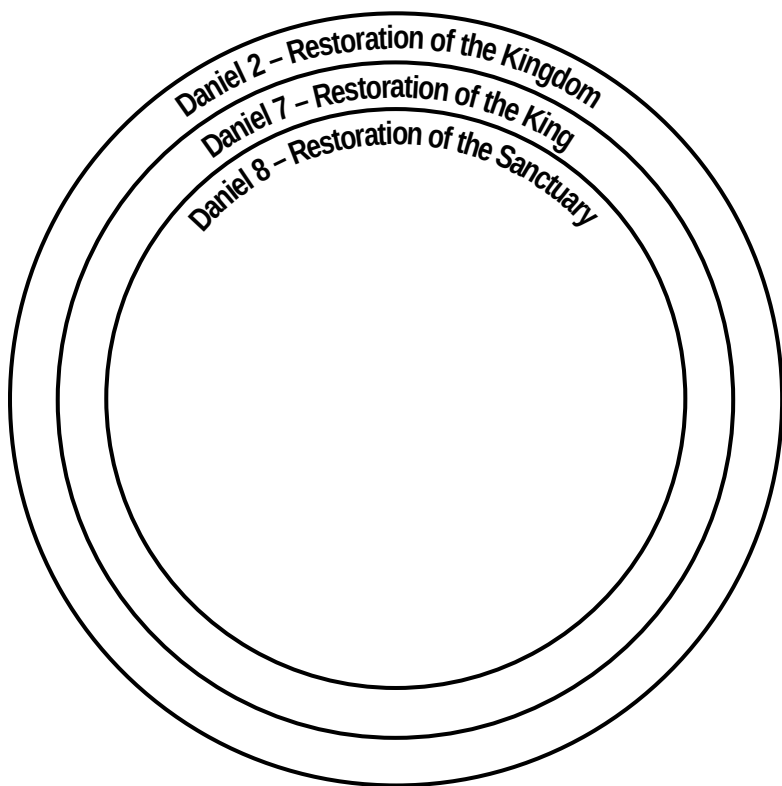
Oh, that we might realize that Jesus cannot receive His kingdom until His sanctuary is cleansed. May we realize that He is still the...

Early Writings, p. 79:

Lamb all mangled and bleeding,

–the One who still endures the pain and agony of Calvary as He bears the sins of His people in the sanctuary above.³ Then we will come into sympathy with Jesus in His work of cleansing the sanctuary from the sins of the people.

So we may illustrate the relationship of *Daniel 2*, *Daniel 7*, and *Daniel 8* by three circles:



³ *Education*, p. 263; *Numbers* 18:1.

How strange it is how Satan has blinded the minds of God's people to the meaning of Daniel's last prophecy. While the Advent people have been relatively familiar with *Daniel 2*, *Daniel 7*, and *Daniel 8* to 9, there has been a definite failure to study or understand the last prophecy. Yet this is the climax, the capstone, of the book of *Daniel*.

The central point of *Daniel 10* to 12 is not Turkey, Russia, or the Papacy. It is God's people! That is exactly what the angel said to Daniel:

Daniel 10

¹⁴ Now I am come to make you understand what shall befall *your people* in the latter days.

The restoration of the kingdom (*Daniel 2*) depends on the restoration of the King (*Daniel 7*). The restoration of the King depends on the restoration of the sanctuary (*Daniel 8*).

But the climactic, concluding point is that the restoration of the sanctuary depends upon the restoration of the people of God (*Daniel 10-12*).

The sanctuary is inseparable from the saints.⁴ The saints are those who worship and dwell in the temple in heaven.⁵ It is their minds (thoughts, affections) that enter the heavenly sanctuary;⁶ and it is the sinfulness of their minds which causes its defilement.

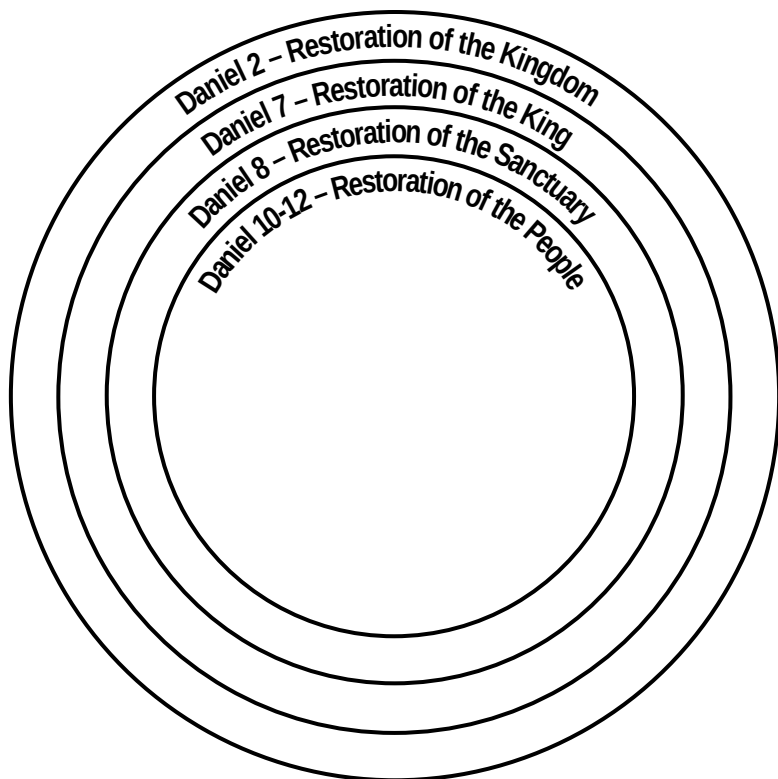
Therefore it must be clear that the sanctuary cannot be cleansed until those who dwell therein are restored to the full moral image of God in the moral character.

So we illustrate the message of *Daniel* by four concentric circles:

⁴ *Daniel 8:10-14.*

⁵ *Revelation 11:1; 13:6.*

⁶ *Early Writings*, p. 254.



Now it becomes apparent that the restoration of God's people is the heart of the whole program of restoration. When God's people are restored to the full moral image of God, then the sanctuary will be cleansed, Jesus will be able to put on His kingly robes, and the prayers of the saints will be answered, "Your kingdom come."



3. The Place of the Judgment

“DANIEL” means “God is my Judge.” The judgment is presented as the focal point of history.

- It is in the judgment that the stone of *Daniel 2* is cut out of the mountain without hands before it smites the image upon its feet.
- It is in the judgment that Christ receives His kingdom. *Daniel 7:9-14*
- It is in the judgment that the sanctuary is cleansed. *Daniel 8:14*

So also it is in the judgment that each saint may rejoice saying, “God is my Judge.” Here Jesus blots out the sins of His people and places upon them the seal of the living God. In the time of the church’s final conflict with the man of sin, Jesus is the Judge of His people.⁷ He seals them with the perfecting latter rain,⁸ and causes them to sound the...

Early Writings, p. 271:

...loud cry of the third angel.

These are the...

Daniel 11

⁴⁴ ...tidings out of the east and out of the north,

—which trouble the man of sin.

The judgment is the focal point of history because it is through the judgment that the long-looked-for restoration is able to take place. Here Jesus asks that His people be restored as if they had never fallen.⁹ Here Jesus himself can end His continual sin bearing in the sanctuary above and become the King of the lost dominion.

⁷ *Daniel 11:40-44.*

⁸ *Testimonies to Ministers*, p. 506.

⁹ *The Great Controversy*, p. 484.

“Judgment” means *restoration*, and God’s people should swell the cry,

Revelation 14

⁷ Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come.

This time of the judgment and this time of the blotting out of sins is indeed...

Acts 3

²¹ ...the times of restitution of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His prophets since the world began.



4. The Message of Revelation

THE key to the message of *Revelation* is to consider God's eternal purpose for His people, to realize...

Testimonies to Ministers, p. 114:

...that the connection between God and His people is close and decided.

In creating man in His own image, God purposed to reveal the glory of His character of love through the human race.¹⁰ God and man were to be partners in a plan to secure the universe against apostasy. When Satan fell, man was to be God's instrument for the devil's overthrow.¹¹

The fall of man did not change that divine plan for the human race. Israel was chosen to fulfill the glorious purpose for humanity. It failed. Then the Christian Church was established to display the manifold wisdom of God to the universe. It failed. Finally, in the hour of judgment, God has raised up the Advent Movement,

Testimonies to Ministers, p. 18:

...in which the wealth of His mercy, His love, His grace, is to appear in full and final display.

To illustrate the close connection between the divine and the human in the fellowship of the mystery, the Scriptures call the church...

1 Corinthians 12

²⁷ ...the body of Christ.

Now the body is the medium through which the head (mind) finds expression. Just so, God purposes that the church, His body, give a full and final expression of Jesus Christ.

The message of *Revelation* is summarized in the first five words of the book:

¹⁰ *Isaiah* 43:7; *Ephesians* 3:10.

¹¹ *Genesis* 3:15.

Revelation 1

¹ The Revelation of Jesus Christ.

From the time of the first advent of the Saviour, all history has been waiting for the body of Jesus to give that full and final revelation of the love, mercy, and grace of Christ.¹² Nothing but this revelation of Jesus through the church can fulfill the divine plan. The book of *Revelation* shows how all history moves forward to the time when God will have such a people. Only after the church has given that revelation of Jesus Christ will Jesus come forth...

Hebrews 9

²⁸ ...the second time without sin unto salvation.

Christ's Object Lessons, p. 69:

When the character of Christ shall be perfectly reproduced in His people, than He will come to claim them as His own.

In this light we may see how the book of *Revelation* complements the book of *Daniel*. The theme of *Daniel* is restoration,—the heart of this being the restoration of the saints, in the hour of judgment, to the full moral image of God. When the restoration of God's image takes place in the minds of the saints, then the earth will be lightened with "the revelation of Jesus Christ." Thus we may summarize the books of *Daniel* and *Revelation* in two words: *restoration* and *revelation*.



¹² *Testimonies to Ministers*, pp. 18, 50.

5. The Outline of Revelation

AS WITH the prophecies of *Daniel*, *Revelation* is divided into four distinct prophetic sections:

1. The Seven Churches (chapters 1-3),
2. The Seven Seals (chapters 4-8:1),
3. The Seven Trumpets (chapters 8-11), and
4. The Conflict between the Dragon and the Lamb (chapters 12-20).

In carrying forward His purpose, the church is God's instrument and weapons of war.¹³ All history moves forward to the time when God's instrument of conquest will be ready for the last great battle.

The Seven Churches

In the first prophetic outline we see Jesus walking in the midst of the seven candlesticks. These represent the seven phases of the true church. With unsleeping vigilance Jesus cares for His church. He trims the lamps, fills her with oil, and longs for her to shed forth the light of His love in clear, steady rays.

In His hand are the seven stars, the ministers of the seven churches. He upholds them and fills them with light. In the messages given to the seven churches we see that the church is weak and defective, needing warnings, counsel, and entreaties; but it is the object of Christ's supreme regard.

The Seven Seals

In the second prophetic outline we see a book in the right hand of God. This is the book of truth—the Word of God.¹⁴ No man can unfold it but Jesus, the Lamb as it had been slain; for He is the Book of life, the Truth, the Father's thought made audible. As He opens the seals, one at a time, horses appear. A horse is a symbol

¹³ *Zechariah* 9:12-15.

¹⁴ E. G. White in *Spaulding-Magan Collection*, p. 58.

of the church.¹⁵ The church is called to give to the world the revelation of Jesus Christ.

The first horse was white and its rider a conqueror, representing the apostolic church which went further than any other church in giving the revelation of Jesus Christ. But as further seals were opened, a red, black, and a deathly pale horse go forth into the world.

Under these symbols we see that the church not only fails to give a revelation of Jesus but actually gives a false representation of the Lamb, for the church has a sword and it takes peace from the earth. Then it makes merchandise of the gospel; and finally it kills the fourth part of the earth (the saints) with sword, hunger, and death. The blood of souls cries unto God.

Nothing is more terrible than the wrath of the Lamb. The signs reveal His coming is near, but:

Revelation 6

¹⁷ Who shall be able to stand?

Chapter 7 provides the answer. The 144,000 sealed saints are prepared to stand before the Son of man, for they reflect His image fully.¹⁶

The Seven Trumpets

In the third prophetic outline we see Jesus punishing an apostate Christendom and restraining the anger of nations until the mystery of God is finished, i.e., until Christ is fully formed in His saints.

The 144,000

In the fourth and most important prophetic outline we see the Dragon and the Lamb in deadly conflict. The Dragon works through his instruments: nations, governors, kings, and the apostate church. The Lamb's instrument of war is His church. In the

¹⁵ *Zechariah* 10:3.

¹⁶ *Revelation* 14:15; *Early Writings*, p. 71.

time of the final conflict with the beast and his image,¹⁷ the time of mighty shaking of God's people,¹⁸ indeed the darkest hour for the church of God—Jesus stands for His living saints in judgment and seals the 144,000 with the perfect moral image of God.¹⁹

The 144,000 are nothing more or less than “the revelation of Jesus Christ in full and final display.”²⁰ God created Adam to give this revelation. He failed. He chose Israel to give this revelation. It failed. Likewise, the early church has failed. Finally, God has called the Advent Movement into existence, and in it He will fulfill all that He has purposed on this earth for the human race.

God intends to display His “manifold wisdom” unto the entire universe through the church.²¹ “Manifold” means “many-fold,” “many-phased,” “many aspects.” History will not be complete until God has a people to reveal the many aspects of His character of love. How many revelations of Jesus Christ are to be given? Evidently, 144,000! The 144,000 are the revelation of Jesus Christ, —144,000 revelations of as many aspects of Divine Love.

One believer by himself could not possibly display the full spectrum of the character of Christ; for while he may copy the pattern, he will never equal it.²² It will require an entire community of saints. The 144,000 are the final generation who experience the full restoration of the divine image in the moral character. They are the supplement of Christ's glory,—“the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

It is utterly erroneous to say that God has limited the number of people who may receive the seal of the living God, for “whosoever will”²³ may have victory over the beast and his image in the final conflict. But there will be 144,000 character types of Jesus

¹⁷ *Revelation* 13:14-17.

¹⁸ *Daniel* 11:40.

¹⁹ *Daniel* 11:44; *Ezekiel* 43:2; *Revelation* 7:2; 18:1.

²⁰ *The Desire of Ages*, p. 680.

²¹ *Ephesians* 3:10.

²² *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 2, p. 549.

²³ *Revelation* 22:17.

Christ. The 144,000 are sealed in little bundles.²⁴ It makes no difference whether each bundle contains one soul or twenty.

It will require a period of unprecedented test to bring out the full display of Jesus Christ in the saints.

Some will be placed in prison, in dungeons, or in torture chambers where they will pass long and weary days waiting for deliverance. In them the patience of Jesus will be on full display.

Others will boldly proclaim the truth before thousands at the risk of life itself. Here the courage of the Lion of the tribe of Judah will be on display.

Some will stand before kings and rulers and astonish judicial authorities by their words of grace. In them the wisdom and tact of Jesus will be on display.

Others will be used to heal the sick. Here the mercy and compassion of Jesus will be on display.

And all together the final generation, the remnant, will give the full and final display of the love, mercy, and grace of Jesus Christ.

The sealing time of the 144,000 is likened to the rising of the sun;²⁵ and Ezekiel declares,

Ezekiel 43

² The earth shined with His glory.

John also said,

Revelation 18

¹ I saw another angel come down from heaven,...and the earth was lightened with his glory.

The latter rain, sealing the saints, causes the third angel's message to swell to a "loud cry."²⁶ The glory of God rests upon the

²⁴ *Early Writings*, p. 89.

²⁵ *Revelation 7:2; Ezekiel 43:2.*

²⁶ *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 6, p. 401; *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 1, p. 353; *Early Writings*, p. 277.

sealed saints, and through this purified company the many colors of the Sun of Righteousness are put on display.



At Pentecost, a mighty power was poured out in the Early Rain.
The Latter Rain, which closes the gospel work, is to be greater.

(Dore – The Bible Illustrated, 1951)

6. The Battle of Armageddon

WHEN the saints are sealed and the earth is lightened by the divine glory seen upon them,²⁷ the principalities and powers in heavenly places will look upon the miracle they have waited 6,000 years to behold.

Revelation 19

⁶ And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigns.

⁷ Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to Him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and His wife has made herself ready.

⁸ And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

The sealed community of saints, reflecting the image of Jesus fully, constitute the New-Jerusalem bride of Christ. At last the church is without spot or wrinkle or any such thing.

Now the symbolism changes, and Christ is seen sitting upon a white horse, ready to wage the final battle with the beast and his image.²⁸ That horse is the sealed church. God's promise through Zechariah is realized:

Zechariah 10

¹ Ask of the Lord rain in the time of the latter rain...

³ The Lord of hosts has visited His flock the house of Judah, and has made them His goodly horse in the battle.

So also, in Solomon's love song, the bridegroom likens his bride to a company of warhorses.

Song of Solomon 1

⁹ I have compared you, O my love, to a company of horses in Pharaoh's chariots.

²⁷ *Isaiah* 60:1.

²⁸ *Revelation* 19:11-20.

This is another figure to show how close and decided is the connection between God and His people. God created Adam to be His war horse in the battle with Satan, but Adam failed. He called Israel to be His horse in the conflict with evil, but Israel failed. Then the early church began as a white horse, but soon it degenerated to a red, then a black, and finally a deathly pale horse. But in the Advent Movement God has a steed that will not fail Him one jot or tittle of all that He desires.

Against the Man and His beautiful “white horse” are gathered...

Revelation 19

¹⁹ ...the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies.

Revelation 17

¹⁴ These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for He is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with Him are called, and chosen, and faithful.

The beast and false prophet are cast into a lake of fire.

Obadiah

¹⁸ And the house of Jacob shall be a fire, and the house of Joseph a flame, and the house of Esau for stubble, and they shall kindle in them, and devour them; and there shall not be any remaining of the house of Esau; for the Lord has spoken it.

Zechariah 12

⁶ In that day will I make the governors of Judah like an hearth of fire among the wood, and like a torch of fire in a sheaf; and they shall devour all the people round about, on the right hand and on the left: and Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place, even in Jerusalem.

This is fulfilled at the outpouring of the seventh plague when the saints are glorified by the outpouring of the Holy Ghost.²⁹ Satan and his angels cannot endure the presence of the glorified

²⁹ *Early Writings*, pp. 15, 286.

saints. The wicked give up the struggle and worship at their feet.³⁰
The battle of Armageddon is won.

Then the Scripture is fulfilled:

Revelation 20

¹ And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

² And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years.

An angel coming down from heaven is a symbol of the work of the church.³¹ The church finally becomes the antitype of the “fit man” who lays hold of the scapegoat and leads it away as captive. When the captivity of the saints is turned, they bind the king of Babylon and rule over their oppressors.³² The seed of the woman bruises the head of the serpent.³³ With man as His instrument, God wins the battle against evil. They are one in the conflict. They shall be one in the earth made new:

Revelation 21

³ Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

Revelation 22

⁴ And they shall see His face; and His name shall be in their foreheads.



³⁰ *Revelation* 3:9.

³¹ See also *Revelation* 18:1; 14:6-9.

³² *Isaiah* 14:1-4; *Psalms* 149:5-9; *Revelation* 2:26-27; *Daniel* 7:22.

³³ *Genesis* 3:15; *Romans* 16:20.

