

**“Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her ... Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.”**

④. The fall of Babylon is repeated. Here is the second distinct call that is made to the apostate churches. The time will come when those who love God supremely can no longer remain in connection with them. The people of God that are still in Babylon will heed the call to “come out of her.” This separation that is proclaimed will be the last message of mercy given to the world. Those who stay in Babylon will open themselves to receive “strong delusion, that they should believe a lie” (2 Thess. 2:11). Afterwards, when the cases of all have been decided, the seven last plagues shortly follow. The wicked will experience the wrath of God for refusing to receive “the love of the truth” (2 Thess. 2:10).

◆ “Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord;” “and I will be their God, and they shall be my people” (2 Cor. 6:17, 16). This is the arrangement of the everlasting covenant. “And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new” (Rev. 21:5).

**T**HE inhabitants of the world are to be warned that Jesus is about to finish His high priestly ministry in heaven. This life-and-death message will cause each person to make a decision for or against God. Truth will be seen in its clearness so that those who heed not the warning are found without excuse. Thereafter, human probation comes to a final end. No one on earth knows the moment of its closing.

Conversely, the cry of the ungodly is “Peace and safety” (1 Thess. 5:3). The world is deceived into believing that it is entering a golden era. That time will be short-lived because “sudden destruction cometh.” God’s vengeance, the seven last plagues, is poured out and followed shortly by the return of Jesus to “judge and make war” (Rev. 19:11). While the righteous are given immortality, He will destroy the wicked with “flaming fire” (2 Thess. 1:7-9).

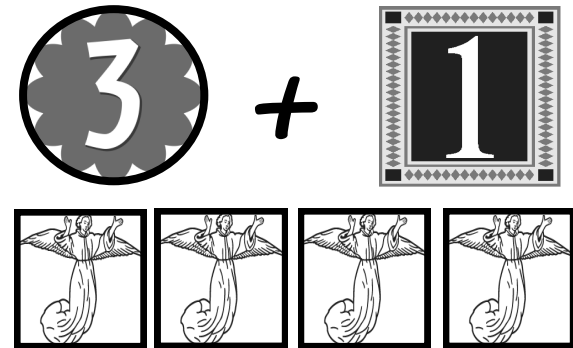
That great Day of reckoning is fast approaching. Now is the time of preparation. Repent in deep humility and live according to the expressed will of God. “Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh” (Mk. 13:35). ❖

**Published in 2019 by:**



**Adventist Laymen’s Foundation  
of Iowa, Inc.  
P.O. Box 665  
Nora Springs, IA 50458-0665**

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**WILL** the world end without any warning from God? Thanks to His mercy, that is not going to happen. Soon, the trio of angels that are presented in Revelation 14:6-12, will finish proclaiming their end-time, threefold message along with the fourth angel of Revelation 18:1-4. What each has to say is important to know. Before it’s too late, God’s faithful remnant people will alert earth’s inhabitants of the vital actions needed in order to be saved.

**NOAH**, a preacher of righteousness for 120 years to the antediluvian world, gives us a picture of what God did with a sinful generation when a period of probation was closing. In Noah’s time, wickedness, evil, corruption, and violence filled the land continually. Being told of God’s plan, Noah proceeded to build an ark. During its construction, he warned the people that God would bring a flood of water upon the earth to destroy the wicked. Noah’s message centered on repentance and reformation: follow God and seek refuge in the ark before its door is shut by Him. (Gen. 7:16).

**SINFULNESS** is reaching another historic level today. The messages of these angels are to prepare a people to stand in “that great day of God Almighty” (Rev. 16:14).

**“Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.”**

①. An important work is going on in the heavenly sanctuary – the antitypical Day of Atonement. There in the Most Holy Place, in preparation for His second coming to earth, Jesus as our Great High Priest is progressing with the pre-Advent judgment. He’s in the process of cleansing the sanctuary above from the record of sin and His people alive on earth from ongoing sin and its defilement. This is where the world’s focus needs to be placed. Every person’s case is to be decided either for salvation or destruction, so now is the moment to seek true repentance. The sins of all the truly penitent will be blotted from the books of heaven by virtue of the atoning blood of Christ and transferred upon Satan, the antitypical scapegoat (Lev. 16:9-10, 20-22).

■ The Ten Commandments of God, as exemplified in the life of Christ, are the standard of character in the judgment. One of those commandments is alluded to here with the words, “him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.” Part of the 4<sup>th</sup> commandment states, “the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day” (Ex. 20:11). Sunday is a spurious sabbath made by man. The seventh day Sabbath directs our worship to God as the Creator through Christ, the “Lord also of the sabbath” (Mk. 2:28).

**“Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.”**

②. Understanding what the city of “Babylon” represents is crucial to this prophecy. In Revelation 17:5, the word “mystery” is descriptive of Babylon, making it a mystical (symbolical) entity. This indicates that under the name (character) of Babylon it is a power like that of ancient Babylon. During the reign of King Nebuchadnezzar (605 - 562 BC), Babylon was the most magnificent city in the world. But something evil was going on in it that would bring about its destruction.

▶ Babylon served heathen deities. Nebuchadnezzar had a golden image of a man made that was 90 feet tall. He commanded “people, nations, and languages” to “worship” it. (Dan.3:4-5). Later, a new king reigned and blasphemed the true God. He ordered a great feast in the palace that turned into a massive orgy. While misusing the vessels of the Lord’s temple, they praised the gods of silver, gold, brass, iron, wood, and stone. Little did they know that Babylon was about to fall and be “weighed in the balances” (Dan. 5:27). “Babylon is fallen, is fallen” (Is. 21:9).

▶ The name “Babylon” in Revelation is figurative of all “fallen” denominational churches that have abandoned biblical truths. Babylon’s false doctrines, her “wine,” are intoxicating the world. God wants them to break their allegiance with Satan and all those united with him.

**“If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation.”**

③. This warning is to us individually – “If any man.” The “beast” signifies a power that is in direct opposition to the work of God. At an early date, the apostle Paul saw a human agency creeping into the Christian Church with gross errors. As it grew in strength, great apostasy (“a falling away”) would follow. The “man of sin ... Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God” (2 Thess. 2:3-4). History and the Bible identify this power as the Roman Papacy.

◆ The *Catholic National*, July 1895 remarked, “The pope is not only the representative of Christ, but he is Jesus Christ Himself, hidden under a veil of flesh.” The pope proudly proclaims to be the Vicar (in place) of Christ. For instance, to demonstrate its supremacy, the Papacy substituted Sunday for Saturday as the Lord’s Day. The papal power is not alone in committing abominations, it has daughters: “THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS” (Rev. 17:5). Many other religious bodies have endorsed this change, along with other wrong teachings, giving her their mark of allegiance. An individual is strongly warned not to become a part of this unholy alliance.