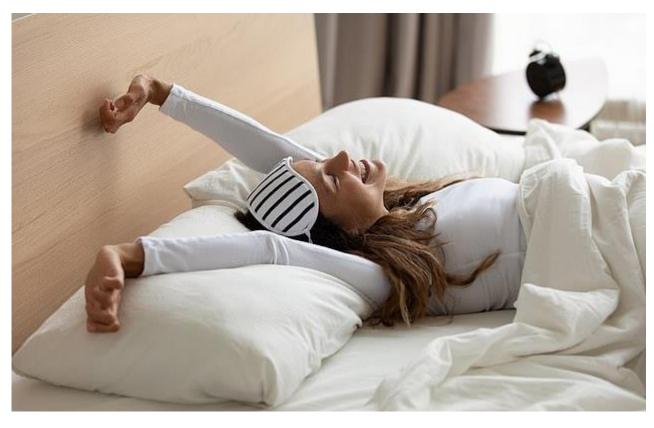
Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time. Rev. 12:12





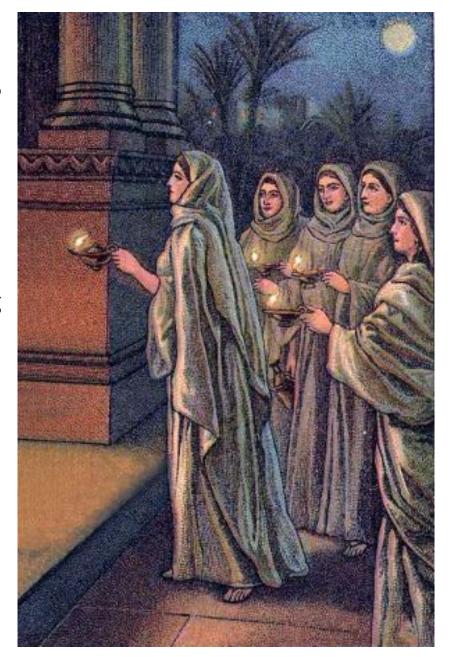
And that, *knowing* the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed.

Rom. 13:11

Then all those virgins arose, and *trimmed their lamps*. Matt. 25:7

Trim [trim] verb (used with object), trimmed, trimming to put into a neat or orderly condition by clipping, paring, pruning, etc.:

Proof [proof] noun evidence sufficient to establish a thing as true, or to produce belief in its truth.



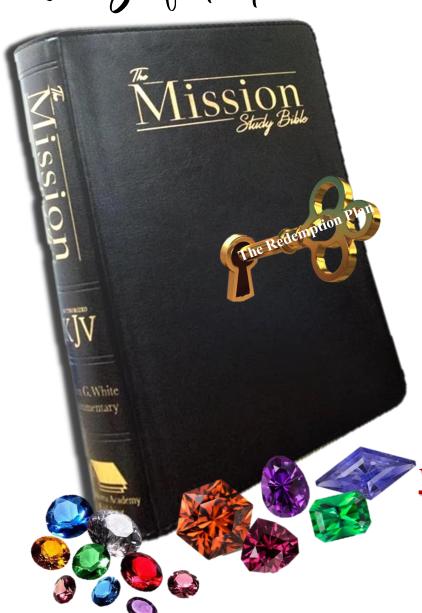
Recipe For Studying God's Word



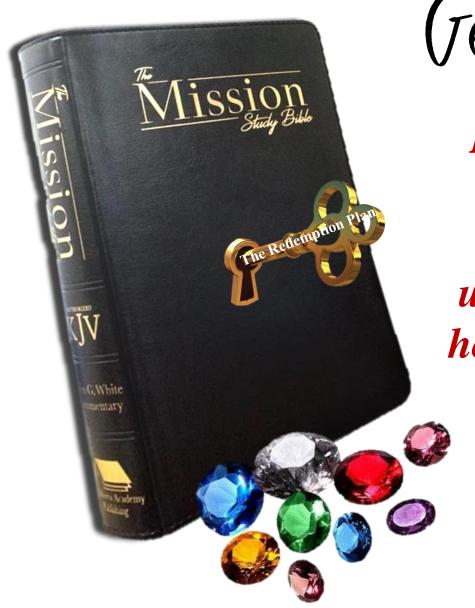
Isa. 28:9, 10, & 13

It is too late in the day to feed with milk. If souls a month or two old in the truth, who are about to enter the time of trouble such as never was, cannot hear all the straight truth, or endure the strong meat of the straightness of the way, how will they stand in the day of battle? Truths that we have been years learning must be learned in a few months by those who now embrace the Third Angel's Message. We had to search and wait the opening of truth, receiving a ray of light here and a ray there, laboring and pleading for God to reveal truth to us. But now the truth is plain; its rays are brought together. The blazing light of truth when it is presented as it should be can be now seen and brought to bear upon the heart.

Genz of Truth



The *central theme of the Bible*, the theme about which every other in the whole book clusters, is the redemption plan, the RESToration in the human soul of the image of God. From the first intimation of hope in the sentence pronounced in Eden to that last glorious promise of the Revelation, "They shall see His face; and His name shall be in their foreheads" (Revelation 22:4), the burden of every book and every passage of the Bible is the unfolding of this wondrous theme,—man's uplifting,—the power of God, "which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Corinthians 15:57.



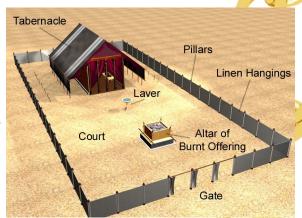
Genz of Truth

He who grasps this thought has before him an infinite field for study. He has the key that will unlock to him the whole treasure house of God's word. {Ed, p. 126}



But such subjects as the sanctuary, in connection with the 2300 days, the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, are perfectly calculated to

- (1) explain the past Advent movement
- (2) show what our present position is,
- (3) establish the faith of the doubting,
- (4) give certainty to the glorious future.





These, I have frequently seen, were <u>the</u>
principal subjects on which the
messengers should dwell. (EW 63)

principal: first in order of importance; main



LET'S DIG INTO THIS STUDY

The Precepts of the Decalogue





The ten commandments, Thou shalt, and Thou shalt not, are ten promises, assured to us if we render obedience to the law governing the universe. "If ye love me, keep my commandments." Here is the sum and substance of the law of God. The terms of salvation for every son and daughter of Adam are here outlined (Manuscript 41, 1896).

The Lord has given His holy commandments to be a wall of protection around His created beings, and those who will keep themselves from the defilement of appetite and passion may become partakers of the divine nature.

The first four are pertaining to man's relationship to God



and the last six are pertaining to man's relationship with each other. (John 14:15 & 21; John 15:14)

The precepts of the Decalogue are adapted to all mankind, and they were given for the instruction and government of all. Ten precepts, brief, comprehensive, and authoritative, cover the duty of man to God and to his fellowman; and all [are] based upon the great fundamental principle of love. {1MCP 248}

1st

This command promises to protect us from "false god worship/Idolatry" in our minds. God vows to be our God as long as we are obedient to His commands, statues, and judgments.

2nd

This command promises to protect us from "false god worship/Idolatry" outwardly. God vows to be our God as long as we are obedient to His commands, statues, and judgments.

3rd

This command promises to protect us from misrepresenting Christ with our words.

4th

This command promises to protect us from the "mark of the beast." It is a sign (or seal) between God and His worshippers.



The first four are pertaining to man's relationship to God

5th

This command promises to protect the children if they honor and respect their elders as God's representatives.

It a promise with a promise.

Kth

This command promises to teach us how to not harm our brethren physically as well as how to not harm our brethren's spiritual soul, which is their character.

フ $^{ ext{th}}$

This command promises to preserve the pure and sacred union of marriage between a husband and wife.

This union is to mirror the relationship of Christ and His people.

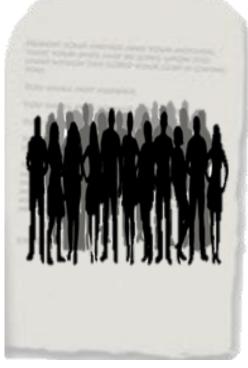
7th

This command promises to unite us in justice, honesty, and trustworthiness when dealing with each other.

 $\mathbf{O}^{ ext{th}}$

This command promises exact truth and transparency when dealing with one another.





The last six are pertaining to man's relationship with each other.

Commandment #10

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's. Ex. 20:17

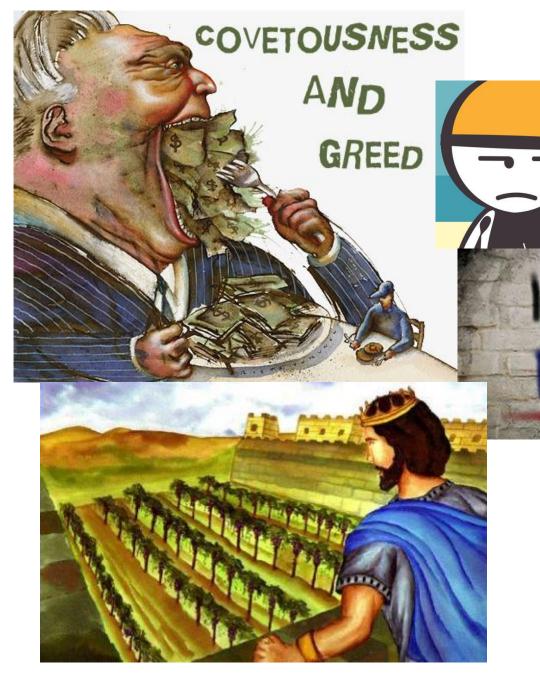
The tenth commandment strikes at the very root of all sins—it prohibits the selfish desire, from which springs the sinful act. The person who refuses to indulge even a sinful desire for something that belongs to another will not be guilty of a wrong act toward anyone else. {Beginning Of The End, p. 149}

The last commandment condemns covetousness.

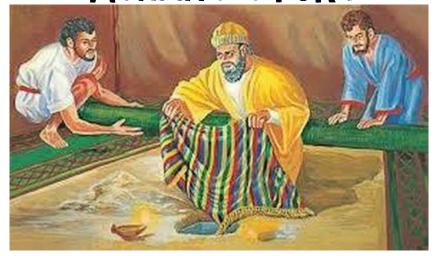
Every *selfish desire*, every

degree of discontent, every act of overreaching, every selfish gratification works to the strengthening and developing of a character which will *destroy the* **Christlikeness** of the human agent, and *close the gates* of the city of God against him.

{SD 65}



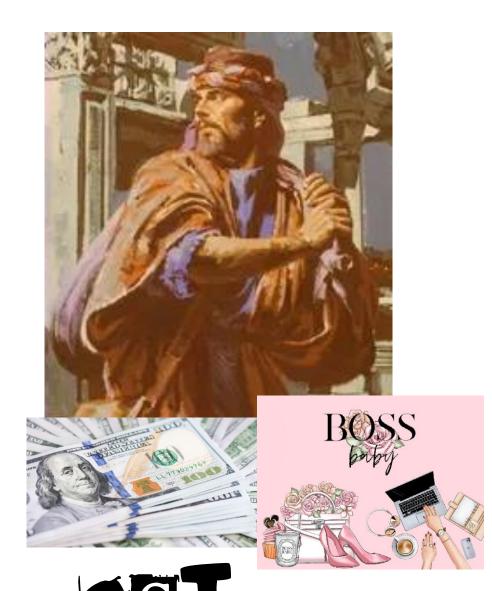
ACHAN'S STORY



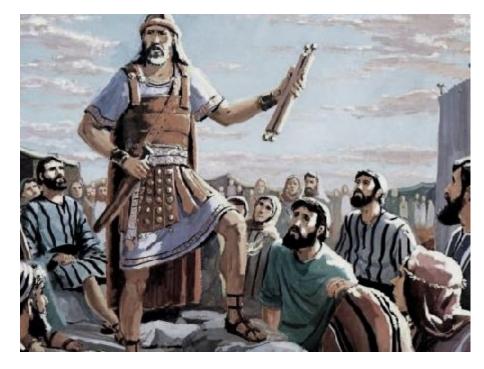
GOVeT

Everywhere its slimy track is seen. It creates discontent and dissension in families; it excites envy and hatred in the poor against the rich; it prompts the grinding oppression of the rich toward the poor. And this evil exists not in the world alone, but in the church. How common even here to find selfishness, avarice, overreaching, neglect of charities, and robbery of God "in tithes and offerings." Among church members "in good and regular standing" there are, alas! many Achans. Many a man comes statedly to church, and sits at the table of the Lord, while among his possessions are hidden unlawful gains, the things that God has cursed. {PP 497}

For a goodly Babylonish garment, multitudes sacrifice the approval of conscience and their hope of heaven. Multitudes barter their integrity, and their capabilities for usefulness, for a bag of silver shekels (money). The cries of the suffering poor are unheeded; the gospel light is hindered in its course; the scorn of worldlings is kindled by practices that give the lie to the Christian profession; and yet the covetous professor continues to heap up treasures. "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed Me" (Malachi 3:8), saith the Lord. {PP 497}



God's command had been disregarded by one of those appointed to execute His judgments. And the nation was held accountable for the guilt of the transgressor: "*They* have even taken of the accursed thing, and have also stolen, and dissembled also."



Instruction was given to Joshua for the discovery and punishment of the criminal. The lot was to be employed for the detection of the guilty. The sinner was not directly pointed out, the matter being left in doubt for a time, that the people might feel their responsibility for the sins existing among them, and thus be led to searching of heart and humiliation before God. Early in the morning, Joshua gathered the people together by their tribes, and the solemn and impressive ceremony began.

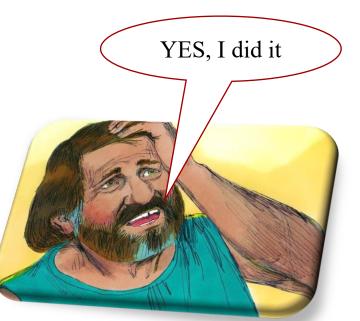
Step by step the investigation went on. Closer and still closer came the fearful test. First the tribe, then the family, then the household, then the man was taken, and Achan the son of Carmi, of the tribe of Judah, was pointed out by the finger of God as the troubler of Israel. To establish his guilt beyond all question, leaving no ground for the charge that he had been unjustly condemned, Joshua solemnly adjured Achan to acknowledge the truth. The wretched man made full confession of his crime: "Indeed I have sinned against the Lord God of Israel....



- 1. The Tribe
- 2. The Family
- 3. The Household
- 4. The Man

IT WAS ACHAN

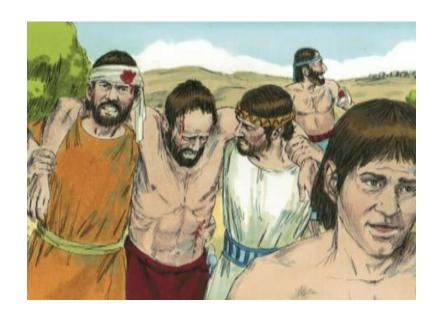


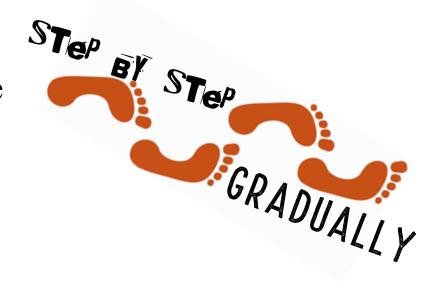


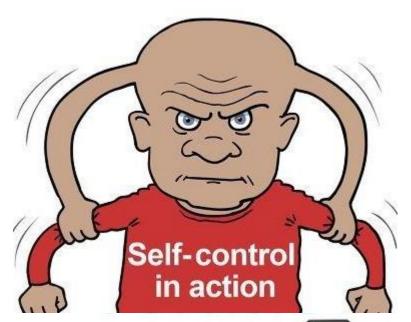
When I saw among the spoils a goodly Babylonish garment, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold of fifty shekel's weight, then I coveted them, and took them; and, behold, they are hid in the earth in the midst of my tent." Messengers were immediately dispatched to the tent, where they removed the earth at the place specified, and "behold, it was hid in his tent, and the silver under it. And they took them out of the midst of the tent, and brought them unto Joshua, ... and laid them out before the Lord." Achan acknowledged his guilt, but when it was too late for the confession to benefit himself. He had seen the armies of Israel return from Ai defeated and disheartened; yet he did not come forward and confess his sin.

He had seen Joshua and the elders of Israel bowed to the earth in grief too great for words. Had he then made confession, he would have given some proof of true penitence; but he still kept silence. He had listened to the proclamation that a great crime had been committed, and had even heard its character definitely stated. But his lips were sealed. {PP 495}

Covetousness is an evil of gradual development. Achan had cherished greed of gain until it became a habit, binding him in fetters well-nigh impossible to break. While fostering this evil, he would have been filled with horror at the thought of bringing disaster upon Israel; but his perceptions were deadened by sin, and when temptation came, he fell an easy prey. {PP 496}







I. Stop



2. Think



3. Act



The tenth commandment strikes at *the* very root of all sins, prohibiting the selfish desire, from which springs the sinful act. He who in obedience to God's law refrains from indulging even a sinful desire for that which belongs to another will not be guilty of an act of wrong toward his fellow creatures. {PP 309}



Lucifer might have remained in favor with God, beloved and honored by all the angelic host, exercising his noble powers to bless others and to glorify his Maker. But, says the prophet, "Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness." Verse 17. Little by little (gradually), Lucifer came to indulge a desire for self-exaltation. "Thou hast set thine heart as the heart of God." "Thou hast said,I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation.... I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the Most High." Verse 6; Isaiah 14:13, 14. Instead of seeking to make God supreme in the affections and allegiance of His creatures, it was Lucifer's endeavor to win their service and homage to himself. And coveting the honor which the infinite Father had bestowed upon His Son, this prince of angels aspired to power which it was the prerogative of Christ alone to wield. {DD 2.1}



All heaven had rejoiced to reflect the Creator's glory and to show forth His praise. And while God was thus honored, all had been peace and gladness. But a note of discord now marred the celestial harmonies. The service and exaltation of self, contrary to the Creator's plan, awakened forebodings of evil in minds to whom God's glory was supreme. The heavenly councils pleaded with Lucifer. The Son of God presented before him the greatness, the goodness, and the justice of the Creator, and the sacred, unchanging nature of His law. God Himself had established the order of heaven; and in departing from it, Lucifer would dishonor his Maker, and bring ruin upon himself. But the warning, given in infinite love and mercy, only aroused a spirit of resistance. Lucifer allowed jealousy of Christ to prevail, and he became the more determined.... {Darkness Before Dawn, p. 2.2}

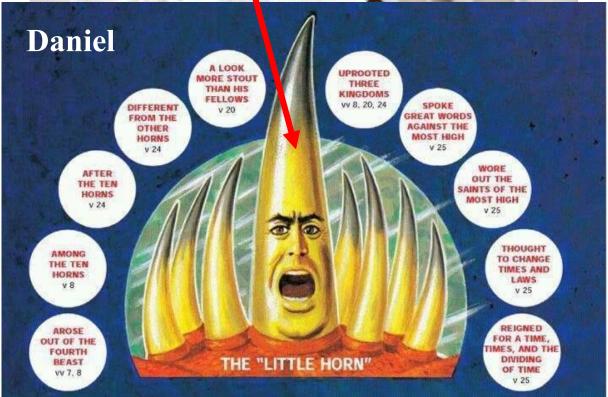
But though honored above all the heavenly host, Lucifer was not content with his position. He ventured to covet the homage due alone to the Creator. He *cherished* feelings of envy, and these feelings he communicated to the other angels. It was his endeavor to secure to himself their service and loyalty. In so deceptive a way did he work that the sentiments that he inculcated could not be dealt with until they had developed in the minds of those who received them.... {4MR 84}



Prophecy had declared that the **Papacy** was to "think to change times and laws." Daniel 7:25. This work it was not slow to attempt. To afford converts from heathenism a substitute for the worship of idols, and thus to promote their nominal acceptance of Christianity, the adoration of images and relics was gradually introduced into the Christian worship. The decree of a general council finally established this system of popish idolatry. To complete the sacrilegious work, Rome presumed to expunge from the law of God the second commandment, forbidding image worship, and to divide the tenth commandment, in order to preserve the number. {The Story of Redemption 328}







And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and *think to change times and laws*: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time. Dan. 7: 25

This power has

- removed the 2nd Commandment,
- changed the day of worship in the 4th Commandment from the seventh day of the week to the first day of the week,
- and divided the 10th Commandment into two.

It had to remove the 2nd Commandment in order to mingle paganism with Christianity.

...the son of perdition; who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshiped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. (2 Thess. 2:3-4)

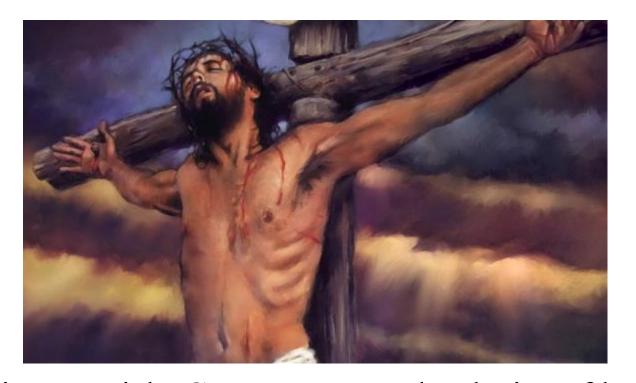
Satan appeared to be by the throne, trying to carry on the work of God. I saw them look up to the throne, and pray, "Father, give us Thy Spirit." Satan would then breathe upon them an unholy influence; in it there was light and much power, but no sweet love, joy, and peace. Satan's object was to keep them deceived and to draw back and deceive God's *children.* { EW 56.1}





The tempter is ever presenting worldly gain and honor to entice men from the service of God. Thus many are induced to venture out of the path of strict integrity.

One wrong step makes the next easier, and they become more and more presumptuous. They will do and dare most terrible things once they have given themselves to the control of avarice and desire for power. Many flatter themselves that they can depart from strict integrity for a time and change their course when they please. Such are entangling themselves in the snare of Satan, and it is seldom that they escape. {From Eternity Past, p. 310}



To live for self is to perish. Covetousness, the desire of benefit for self's sake, cuts the soul off from life. It is the spirit of Satan to get, to draw to self. It is the spirit of Christ to give, to sacrifice self for the good of others. "And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life." 1 John 5:11, 12.



Wherefore He says, "Take heed, and beware of covetousness; for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth." Luke 12:15

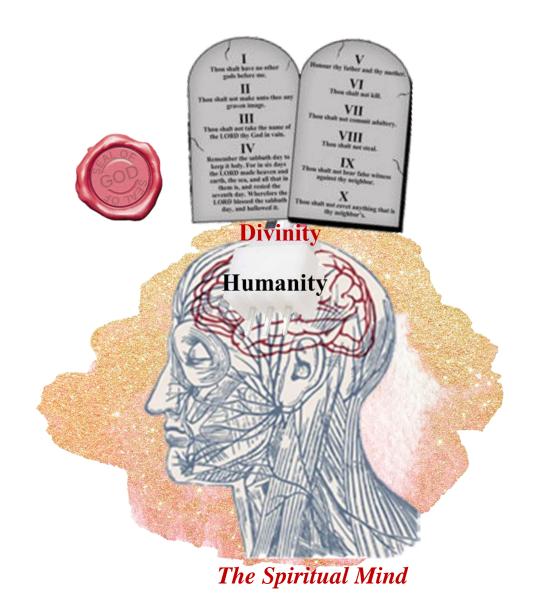
Commandment #10

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's. Ex. 20:17

This command when obeyed bind our hearts to each other. For it protects us from indulging even a sinful desire for something that belongs to our brother or sister.



The law of God is an expression of His character, love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance, and as we receive the principles of the law into our hearts, the image of God would be traced on mind and soul.

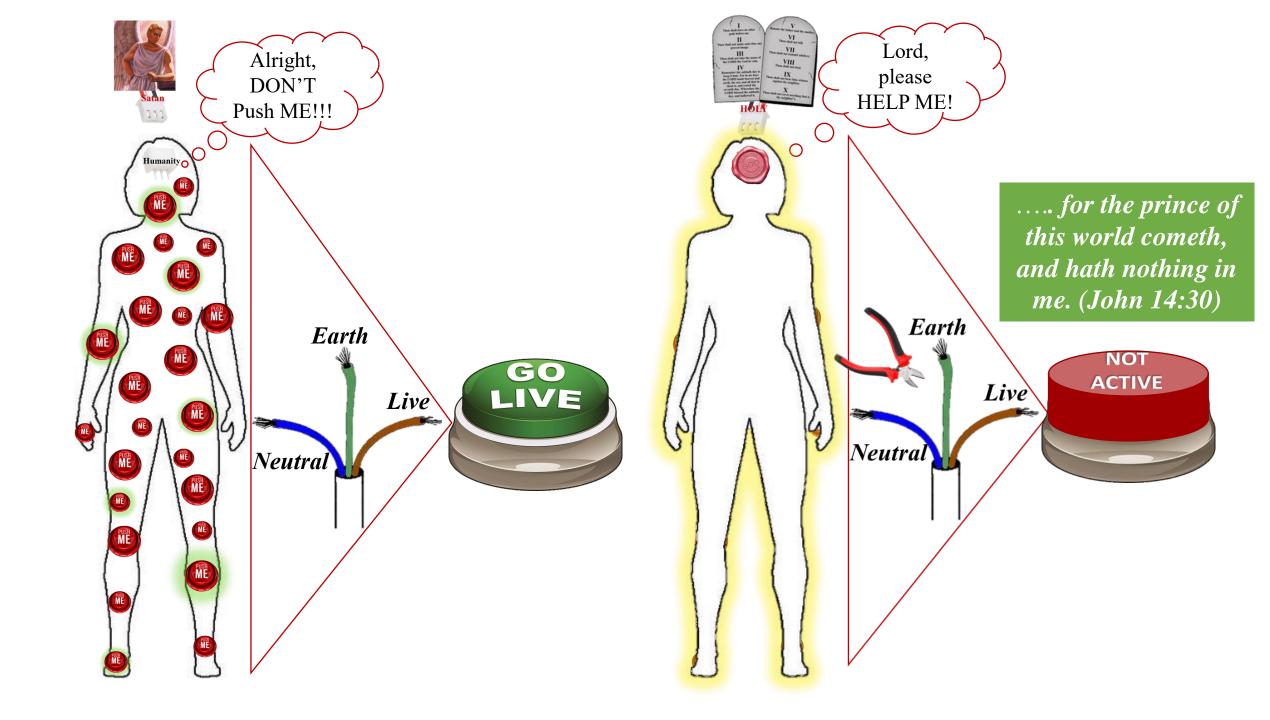




The law of God, from its very nature, is unchangeable. It is a revelation of the will and the character of its Author. God is love, and His law is love. Its two great principles are love to God and love to man. "Love is the fulfilling of the law." Romans 13:10. The character of God is righteousness and truth; such is the nature of His law. Says the psalmist: "Thy law is the truth:" "all Thy commandments are righteousness." Psalm 119:142, 172. And the apostle Paul declares: "The law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good." Romans 7:12. Such a law, being an expression of the mind and will of God, must be as enduring as its Author. {GC 467}

As Seventh-day Adventists, we must offer men something better than that which they possess, even the peace of Christ, which passeth all understanding. We must tell them of God's holy law the transcript of His character, and an expression of that which He wishes them to become.





Dan. 8:14 High Priest Anti-Type Heb. 9:11

Most Holy Place

Rev 20:12

Most Holy Place

Righteous Dead being Judged

Matt. 13:24-30

Rev. 20:12

Mal. 3:16

God's Book

Dan. 7:10

God's purpose in giving the third angel's message to the world is to prepare a people to stand true to Him during the investigative judgment.

- *Identifies* the Law of God
- *Identifies* the Judgment
- *Identifies* True Worship (Victory Over Sin)
- *Identifies* True Worshippers (the Remnant)
- Identifies God's Prophet (Spirit of Prophecy written by Ellen G. White)



Rev 14:7 & 12

"militant Remnant church" TWO CLASSES

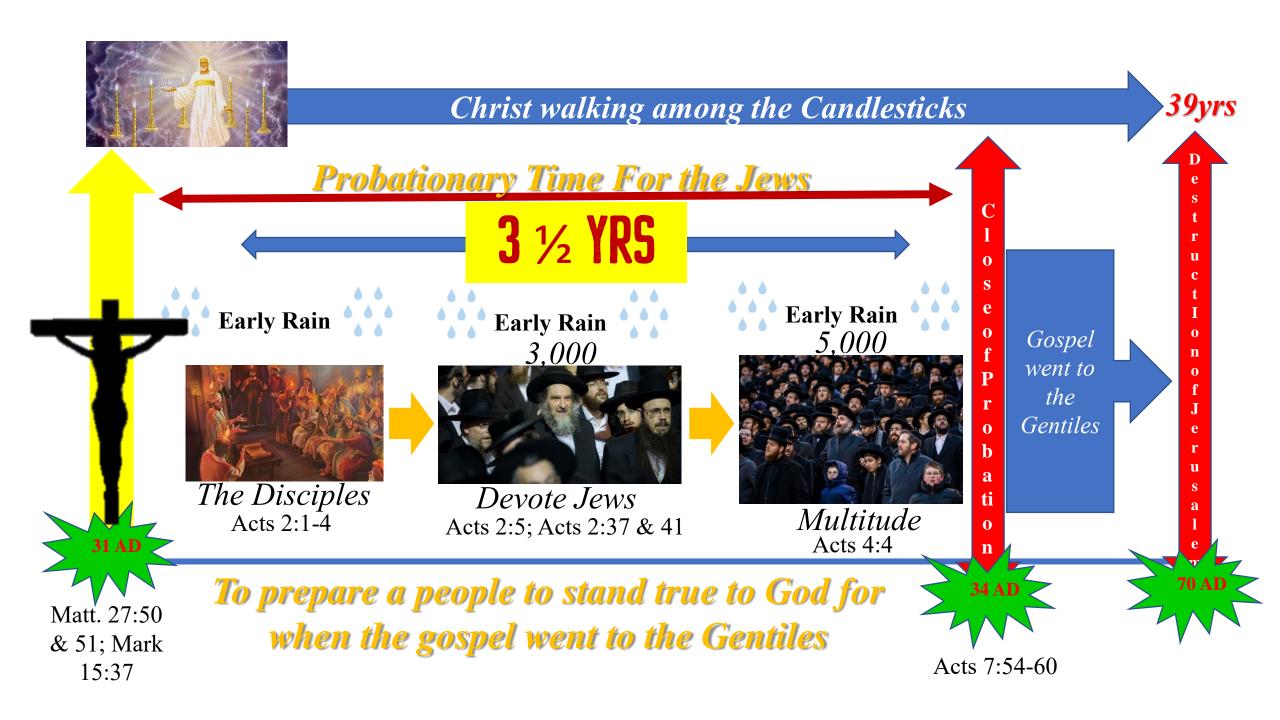
National Sunday Law

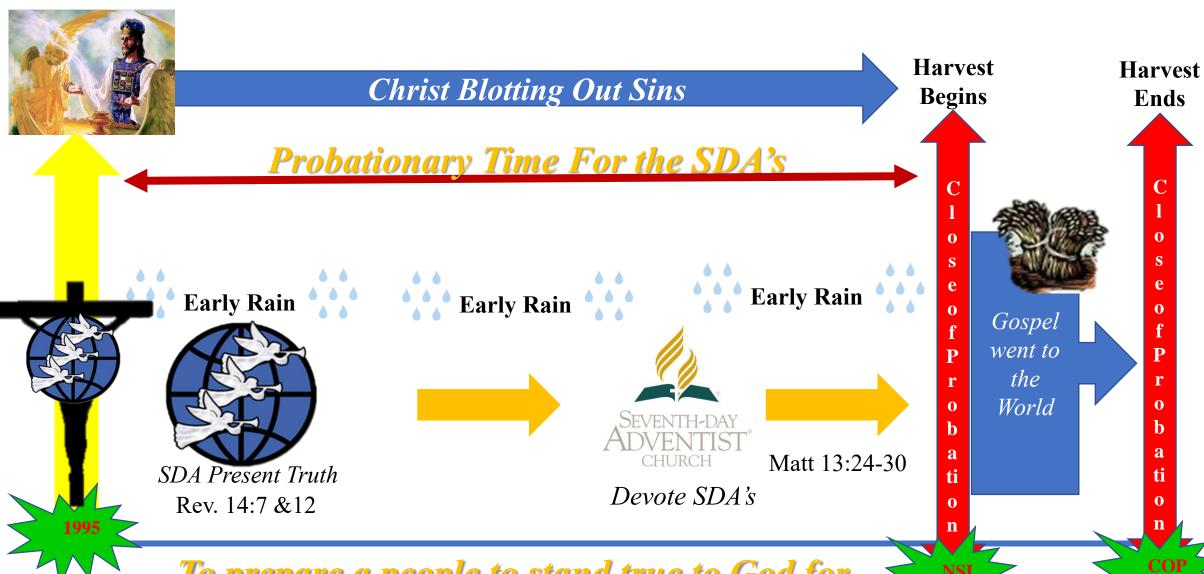
Wheat & Tares Growing Together – Matt. 13:24-30 5 Wise & 5 Foolish Virgins – Matt. 25:2



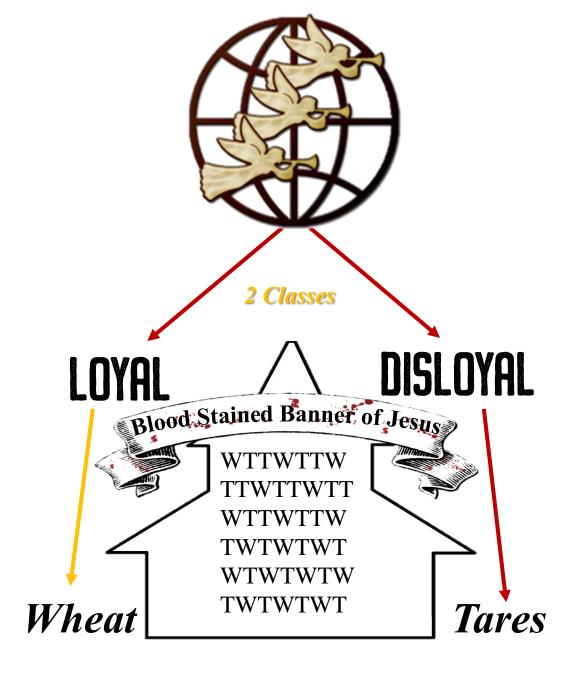


Early Rain

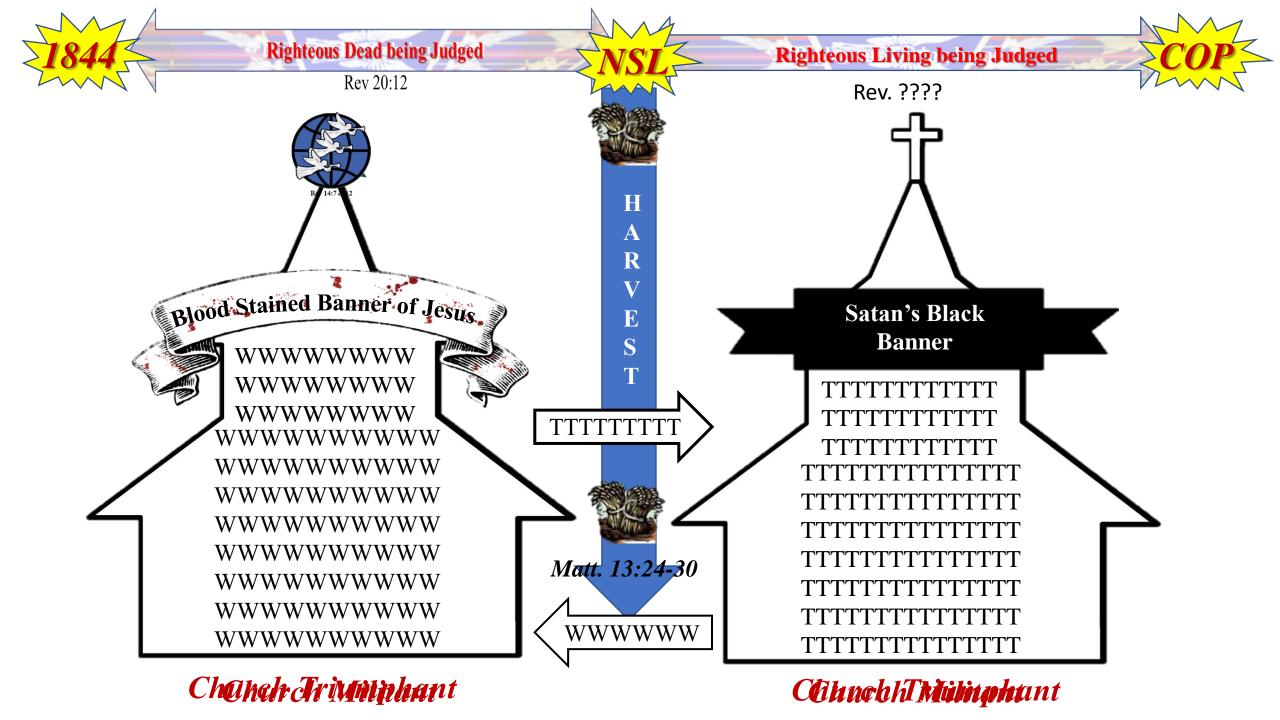




To prepare a people to stand true to God for when the gospel goes to the World



When the nations are gathered before the judgment seat of Christ, but two classes will be represented—those who have identified their interest with *Christ* and suffering humanity; those who have ignored their God-given obligations, done injury to their fellow men, and dishonor to God. *Their eternal destiny* will be decided on the ground of what they did and what they did not do to Christ in the person of His saints.



Dan. 8:14 High Priest Anti-Type Heb. 9:11

Most Holy Place

Rev 20:12

Most Holy Place

Righteous Living being Judged



ENDS

Probationary Time IS CLOSING

Rev. 20:12

Mal. 3:16

BEGINS

God's Book of

Rev 14:7 & 12

Final Testing/Shaking (Rev. 13:16-17)

"...a time and times and the dividing of time." Dan. 7: 25

- The Sealing in God's Remnant Church (Rev. 14:1)
- The Latter Rain Falls on the Sealed (Rev. 18:1) 3.
- The Sealed Gives the Loud Cry (Rev. 18:2-5)
- Other Sheep Hears the Loud Cry (John 10:16)
- Lives Are lost Due To The Message (Rev. 6:11)

TEST of Loyalty

National Sunday Law Little Time of Trouble (EW. p. 33, 34, 85)

"Triumphant Remnant church"



Matt. 13:30



b

