

If popery or its principles shall again be legislated into power, the fires of persecution will be rekindled against those who will not sacrifice conscience and the truth in deference to popular errors. This evil is on the point of realization. ... There is a prospect before us of a continued struggle, at the risk of imprisonment, loss of property, and even of life itself, to defend the law of God, which is made void by the laws of men. ST 712.1,3 (Testimonies, Vol.5)

The two armies will stand distinct and separate, and this distinction will be so marked that many who shall be convinced of truth will come on the side of God's commandment-keeping people. When this grand work is to take place in the battle, prior to the last closing conflict, many will be imprisoned, many will flee for their lives from cities and towns, and many will be martyrs for Christ's sake in standing in defense of the truth. Manuscript 6, 1889, par. 40

As the decree issued by the various rulers of Christendom against commandment keepers shall withdraw the protection of government and abandon them to those who desire their destruction, the people of God will flee from the cities and villages and associate together in companies, dwelling in the most desolate and solitary places. GC 626.1 (Great Controversy)

Says the great deceiver, ... We led the Romish Church to inflict imprisonment, torture, and death upon those who refused to yield to her decrees, and now that we are bringing the Protestant churches and the world into harmony with this right arm of our strength, we will finally have a law to exterminate all who will not submit to our authority. When death shall be made the penalty of violating our sabbath, then many who are now ranked with commandment-keepers will come over to our side. 4SP 337.2, 338.2 (Spirit of Prophecy, vol.4)

God would not suffer (allow) the wicked to destroy those who were expecting translation and who would not bow to the decree of the beast or receive his mark. I saw that if the wicked were permitted to slay the saints, Satan, and all his evil host, and all who hate God, would be gratified. And oh, what a triumph it would be for his satanic majesty to have power, in the last closing struggle, over those who had so long waited to behold Him whom they loved! Those who have mocked at the idea of the saints' going up will witness the care of God for His people and behold their glorious deliverance. EW 284.1 (Early Writings)

But those who forsake God in order to save their lives, will be forsaken by Him. In seeking to save their lives by yielding the truth, they will lose eternal life. 15LtMs, Ms.9, 1900 par.9 (Manuscript)

Q: IN THE FOLLOWING QUOTE, HOW MANY CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SUNDAY LAW CAN WE IDENTIFY??

An idol sabbath has been set up as the golden image was set up in the plains of Dura. And as Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, issued a decree that all who would not bow down and worship this image should be killed, so a proclamation will be made that all who will not revere the Sunday institution will be punished with imprisonment and death. Thus the Sabbath of the Lord is trampled underfoot. But the Lord has declared, "Woe unto them that decree unrighteous decrees, and write grievousness which they have prescribed." [Isaiah 10:1.] ... Gather yourselves together, yea, gather together, O nation not desired; before the decree bring forth, before the day pass as the chaff, before the fierce anger of the Lord come upon you, before the day of the Lord's anger come upon you. [Zephaniah 2: 1, 2] Manuscript 7a, 1896 par. 7-9

Q: WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF DECEPTION OR CONCEALMENT REGARDING THE PANDEMIC, WHICH RESEMBLE OR TYPIFY THE TIMES OF THE SUNDAY LAW??

14. DECEPTION/CONCEALING/FALSE PRETENSES:

Mat. 24:4, 11, 24: And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. **11)** And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. **24)** For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

2 Cor. 11:14: And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

2 Tim. 3:13: But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

Satan's policy in this final conflict with God's people is the same that he employed in the opening of the great controversy in heaven. He professed to be seeking to promote the stability of the divine government, while secretly bending every effort to secure its overthrow. And the very work which he was thus endeavoring to accomplish he charged upon the loyal angels. The same policy of deception has marked the history

of the Roman Church. ... While Satan seeks to destroy those who honor God's law, he will cause them to be accused as lawbreakers, as men who are dishonoring God and bringing judgments upon the world. GC 591.1 (Great Controversy)

Satan is preparing his deceptions that in his last campaign against the people of God, they may not understand that it is he. 2 Cor. 11:14: "And no marvel, for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light." RH May 13, 1862 par. 1 (Review and Herald)

As the crowning act in the great drama of deception, Satan himself will personate Christ. ...The people prostrate themselves in adoration before him, while he lifts up his hands and pronounces a blessing upon them, as Christ blessed His disciples when He was upon the earth. His voice is soft and subdued, yet full of melody. In gentle, compassionate tones he presents some of the same gracious, heavenly truths which the Saviour uttered; he heals the diseases of the people, and then, in his assumed character of Christ, he claims to have changed the Sabbath to Sunday, and commands all to hallow the day which he has blessed. GC 624.2 (Great Controversy)

Satan has worked through deception to institute a spurious sabbath that the worship of God's people might become an offense to the Creator. RH Sep.13, 1898 par. 2 (Review and Herald)

Satan is a master-worker and he is laying his plans, disguised under a pretense of godliness, to take the world captive. His agents are numerous and disguised, subtle and persevering and untiring, resisting every restraining influence and employing every instrumentality and working with a promptitude and energy that are marvelous. ... Letter 15, 1889 par. 9, 10

Satan can present a counterfeit so closely resembling the truth that it deceives those who are willing to be deceived, who desire to shun the self-denial and sacrifice demanded by the truth; but it is impossible for him to hold under his power one soul who honestly desires, at whatever cost, to know the truth. GC 528.2 (Great Controversy)

There is a satanic force propelling the Sunday movement, but it is concealed. RH Jan. 1, 1889 par. 4 (Review and Herald)

Q: WHAT BIBLICAL EXAMPLES DO WE HAVE OF DECEPTIVE DECREES PROPOSED BY THE ENEMIES OF GOD'S PEOPLE??

The decree which is to go forth against the people of God in the near future is in some respects similar to that issued by Ahasuerus against the Jews in the time of Esther. The Persian edict sprang from the malice of Haman against Mordecai. Not that Mordecai had done Haman harm, but he had refused to flatter his vanity by showing him the reverence which is due only to God. The king's decision against the Jews was secured under false pretenses. Satan instigated this scheme in order to rid the earth of those who preserved a knowledge of the true God. ST Nov. 8, 1899 par.9 (Signs of the Times)

The honors bestowed upon Daniel excited the jealousy of the leading men of the kingdom, and they sought for occasion of complaint against him. But they could find none, "forasmuch as he was faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him." Daniel's blameless conduct excited still further the jealousy of his enemies. "We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel," they were constrained to acknowledge, "except we find it against him concerning the law of his God." Thereupon the presidents and princes, counseling together, devised a scheme whereby they hoped to accomplish the prophet's destruction. They determined to ask the king to sign a decree which they should prepare, forbidding any person in the realm to ask anything of God or man, except of Darius the king, for the space of thirty days. A violation of this decree should be punished by casting the offender into a den of lions.

Accordingly, the princes prepared such a decree, and presented it to Darius for his signature. Appealing to his vanity, they persuaded him that the carrying out of this edict would add greatly to his honor and authority. Ignorant of the subtle purpose of the princes, the king did not discern their animosity as revealed in the decree, and, yielding to their flattery, he signed it. ... For an entire day the princes watched Daniel. Three times they saw him go to his chamber, and three times they heard his voice lifted in earnest intercession to God. ... Exultantly they now informed Darius of the conduct of his most trusted adviser. "That Daniel, which is of the children of the captivity of Judah," they exclaimed, "regardeth not thee, O king, nor the decree that thou hast signed, but maketh his petition three times a day." When the monarch heard these words, he saw at once the snare that had been set for his faithful servant. He saw that it was not zeal for kingly glory and honor, but jealousy against Daniel, that had led to the proposal for a royal decree. PK 539.2—543.1 (Prophets and Kings)

Q: IS THERE SUCH A THING AS AN HONEST DECEPTION??

The Lord does not bid you separate from the Women's Christian Temperance Union. They need all the light you can give them. ... There is no need to broach (open the subject for discussion) the Sabbath question, for this would close the door to many hearts; but come close to them, unite with them in labor wherever it is wise to do this. This will open points of difference in regard to the Sunday Law. Then explain by reading a plain "Thus saith the Lord." The eyes of many of them are blinded. They are in honest deception. They need light upon this great question. 13LtMs, Ms.74, 1898 par. 3, 4 (Manuscript)

Q: DO WE SEE RELIGIOUS FEATURES CONCEALED IN THE CLIMATE CHANGE AGENDA??

Acting in harmony with a resolution adopted at the second quadrennial meeting of the Federal Council of the Churches, held in Chicago last December, the Commission on the Church and Social Service, a department of that organization, is urging in every State the passage of what it terms the "Standard Bill for One Day of Rest in Seven." While *purporting in its title to be an act for the promotion of the public health, this bill mentions Sunday five times, and the secretary of the commission has frankly admitted that it "means the strengthening of Sunday." This bill has already been introduced in quite a number of States, and its religious features are so successfully concealed, that it seems to meet with general favor. GCB, May 21, 1913, pg. 69, par. 11 (General Conference Bulletin)

Webster's Dictionary: *Purporting, (purport): to give the appearance of intending, to imply, usually with the intent to deceive

The Sunday movement is now making its way in darkness. The leaders are concealing the true issue, and many who unite in the movement do not themselves see whither the undercurrent is tending. RH Dec. 11, 1888 par.8 (Review and Herald)

Q: IS THE SIMILAR CHARACTERISTIC OF FAMILY DISCORD AND BETRAYAL SEEN IN BOTH THE PANDEMIC AND SUNDAY LAW CRISIS??

Q: WHY IS THERE SUCH FAMILY DISCORD BECAUSE OF THE PANDEMIC AND "INNOCULATION" MANDATES??

15. FAMILIES SEPARATED/BETRAYAL:

Luke 21:16: And ye shall be betrayed both by parents, and brethren, and kinsfolks, and friends; and some of you shall they cause to be put to death.

Mat. 10: 36: And a man's foes shall be they of his own household.

Mat. 24:10: And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.

To meet the trials, perplexities, and persecution that are sure to come in various ways in regard to the (false) sabbath law, and to distinguish the path of duty clearly, will require intelligent knowledge of the Scriptures, much faith, and divine wisdom, for righteousness and truth will be darkened by error and false theories. We shall find that we must let loose of all hands except the hand of Jesus Christ. Friends will prove treacherous, and will betray us. Relatives, deceived by the enemy, will think they do God service in opposing us and putting forth the utmost efforts to bring us into hard places, hoping we will deny our faith. But we may trust our hand in the hand of Christ amid darkness and peril. Ms. 21, 1899 par. 12 (Manuscript)

The determination of antichrist to carry out the rebellion he began in heaven will continue to work in the children of disobedience. Their envy and hatred against those who obey the fourth commandment will wax more and more bitter. ...

Natural affection for relatives and friends should not lead any soul who sees the light to reject the light, to dishonor God the Father and Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son. Every possible excuse for disobedience will be framed by men who choose, as many did in Christ's day, the favor of men rather than the favor of God. If one chooses wife or children, father or mother, before Christ, that choice will stand through eternal ages, with all its weight of responsibility. ... All who have genuine faith will be tested and tried. They may have to forsake houses and lands, and even their own relatives, because of bitter opposition. Manuscript 9, 1900 par. 8, 10, 13

All will be required to render obedience to human edicts in violation of the divine law. Those who will be true to God and to duty will be menaced, denounced, and proscribed. They will "be betrayed both by parents, and brethren, and kinsfolks, and friends." 5T 472.2 (Testimonies, Vol. 5)

If they (servants of Christ) work the works of Christ, relatives and friends will rise up against them. They will persecute, forsake, and betray them. BE Mar. 19, 1894 par. 8 (Bible Echo)

Q: WHY DO SOME CHRISTIANS LIVE IN FEAR OF THE VIRUS OR IN FEAR OF DEATH??

Q: CAN WE SEE THE CORRELATION OF FEAR DURING THE PANDEMIC, WITH THE FEAR DURING THE SUNDAY LAW??

16. FEAR:

Luke 21:25, 26: And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; **26)** Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.

Mat. 10: 28: And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear Him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Isa.51:7: Harken unto me, ye that know righteousness, the people in whose heart is my law; fear ye not the reproach of men, neither be ye afraid of their revilings.

Hebrews 13:6: So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

God never forces the will or the conscience; but Satan's constant resort—to gain control of those whom he cannot otherwise seduce—is compulsion by cruelty. Through fear or force he endeavors to rule the conscience and to secure homage to himself. To accomplish this, he works through both religious and secular authorities, moving them to the enforcement of human laws in defiance of the law of God. GC 591.2 (Great Controversy)

Say ye not, A confederacy, to all them to whom this people shall say, A confederacy; neither fear ye their fear, nor be afraid.” (Isa. 8:12) What is their fear?—It is that if they obey the commandments of God, they will be despised and ridiculed; if they come out from the world, they will be left to suffer want. Such a fear reveals unbelief in Him who provides all our blessings. RH Jan. 24, 1899 par. 13 (Review and Herald)

The eye of God, looking down the ages, was fixed upon the crisis which His people are to meet, when earthly powers shall be arrayed against them. Like the captive exile, they will be in fear of death by starvation or by violence. GC 634.1 (Great Controversy)

He (Satan) says: “I will make the observance of the seventh day a sign of disloyalty to the authorities of earth. Human laws shall be made so stringent that men and women will not dare to observe the seventh-day Sabbath. For fear of wanting food and clothing, they will join with the world in transgressing God's law; and the earth will be wholly under my dominion.” RH Apr. 17, 1900 par. 4 (Review and Herald)

Q: HOW HAS THE WORLD WITNESSED FORCE OR COERCION DURING THE PANDEMIC AS A PARALLEL TO THE TIME OF THE SUNDAY LAW??

17. FORCE/COMPEL/COMPULSION/COERCION:

Rev. 13:12: And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.

Rev. 13:15-17: And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. **16)** And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: **17)** And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

Webster's Dictionary: Sanction: the detriment, loss of reward, or coercive intervention annexed to a violation of a law, as a means of enforcing a law; an economic or military coercive measure

Coercion, Coercive, (Coerce): to restrain or dominate by nullifying individual will; to compel (force) to an act or choice; to enforce or bring about by force or threat

Trial and persecution will come to all who, in obedience to the Word of God, refuse to worship this false sabbath. Force is the last resort of every false religion. ... The Papacy has exercised her power to compe men to obey her, and she will continue to do so. ST May 6, 1897 par. 16 (Signs of the Times)

God never forces the will or the conscience; but Satan's constant resort—to gain control of those whom he cannot otherwise seduce—is compulsion by cruelty. Through fear or force he endeavors to rule the conscience and to secure homage to himself. To accomplish this, he works through both religious and secular authorities, moving them to the enforcement of human laws in defiance of the law of God. GC 591.2 (Great Controversy)

The dignitaries of church and state will unite to bribe, persuade, or compe all classes to honor the Sunday. GC 592.3 (Great Controversy)

In striking contrast to the wrong and oppression so universally practiced, were the mission and work of Christ. Earthly kingdoms are established and upheld by physical force, but this was not to be the of the Messiah's kingdom. In the establishment of his government, no carnal weapons were to be used; no coercion practiced; no attempt would be made to force the consciences of men. These are the principles used by the prince of darkness for the government of his kingdom. His agents are actively at work, seeking in their human independence to enact laws which are in direct contrast to Christ's mercy and loving-kindness. RH Aug. 18, 1896 par. 2 (Review and Herald)

Every soul who will now evade, through sophistry, the plain "Thus saith the Lord," and misinterpret and evade the plainest conclusions of the written inspired Word, will become instruments to tempt and coerce, and stirred with a satanic spirit, purpose to afflict and oppress and compe the human agents to dishonor God's law and accept and advocate Satan's legislation and revere his enactments with a zeal proportionate to their blinding delusions. Letter 60, 1893 par. 10

Q: HAS THERE BEEN ANY INSTANCES OF GOD INTERVENING OR INTERPOSING FOR HIS PEOPLE DURING THE PANDEMIC??

Q: HOW WILL THE LORD INTERVENE FOR HIS PEOPLE IN THE SUNDAY LAW CRISIS??

18. GOD'S INTERVENTION/INTERPOSITION:

Psalms 119:126: It is time for Thee, Lord, to work, for they have made void Thy law.

Rom. 12:19: Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

In this time of prevailing iniquity, we may know that the last great crisis is at hand. When the defiance of God's law is almost universal, when His people are oppressed and afflicted by their fellow men, the Lord will interpose. COL 178.3 (Christ's Object Lessons)

In the time of trouble just before the coming of Christ, the righteous will be preserved through the intervention of angels, but there will be no security for the person who breaks God's law. BoE 123.2 (Beginning of the End, EGW)

When the law of God has been made void and apostasy becomes a national sin, the Lord will work in behalf of His people. Their extremity will be His opportunity. He will manifest His power in behalf of His church. Manuscript 18, 1888 par.8

When the defiance of the law of Jehovah shall be almost universal, when His people shall be pressed in affliction by their fellow men, God will interpose. The fervent prayers of His people will be answered; for He loves to have his people seek Him with all their heart, and depend upon Him as their Deliverer. He will be sought unto to do these things for His people, and He will arise as the Protector and Avenger of his people. The promise is, "Shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto Him? ... I tell you that He will avenge them speedily." RH June 15, 1897 par.12 (Review and Herald)

As the wheel like complications were under the guidance of the hand beneath the wings of the cherubim, so the complicated play of human events is under Divine control. Amidst the strife and tumult of nations, He that sitteth above the cherubim still guides the affairs of the earth. Ed 178.1 (Education)

But the Lord did not forget His own. As His witnesses (three Hebrew youth) were cast into the furnace, the Saviour revealed Himself to them in person, and together they walked in the midst of the fire. In the presence of the Lord of heat and cold, the flames lost their power to consume. PK 508.3 (Prophets and Kings)

The substitution of the false for the true is the last act in the drama. When this substitution becomes universal, God will reveal Himself. When the laws of men are exalted above the laws of God, when the powers of this earth try to force men to keep the first day of the week, know that the time has come for God to work. He will arise in His majesty, and will shake terribly the earth. He will come out of His place to punish the

inhabitants of the world for their iniquity. The earth shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain. RH Apr.23, 1901 par.7 (Review and Herald)

God's faithful, praying ones know not how securely they are shielded. Urged on by Satan, the rulers of this world seek to destroy them, but could the eyes of God's children be opened, they would see angels encamped about them. SS 305.1 (From Splendor to Shadow, EGW)

But God would have us recall His dealings with His people in the past to save them from their enemies. He has always chosen extremities, when there seemed no possible chance for deliverance from Satan's workings, for the manifestation of His power. Man's necessity is God's opportunity. 5T 713.4 (Testimonies, Vol.5)

Q: IS THERE A RESEMBLANCE OF THE HATRED TOWARD THE MINORITY IN THIS TIME, AS IT WILL BE IN THE SUNDAY LAW TIME??

Q: HAS ANYONE WITNESSED OR READ ABOUT THE HATRED TOWARDS THE NON-VACCINATED PEOPLE??

19. HATRED/ENMITY AGAINST NON-COMPLIANT MINORITY:

Gen. 3:15: And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Rev.12:17: And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Mat. 24:9, 10: Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. 10) And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.

Luke 21:17: And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake.

John 15:18: If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you.

Ps. 25:19: Consider mine enemies; for they are many; and they hate me with cruel hatred.

Ps. 69:4: They that hate me without a cause, are more than the hairs of mine head; ...

As Christ was hated without cause, so will His people be hated because they are obedient to the commandments of God. If He who was pure, holy, and undefiled, who did good, and only good, in our world, was treated as a base criminal, and condemned to death, His disciples must expect but similar treatment, however faultless may be their life and blameless their character. RH Dec. 26, 1899, Art. A par. 14 (Review and Herald)

The reverence of God's people for His law is a constant rebuke to those who have cast off the fear of the Lord and are trampling on His Sabbath. Satan will arouse indignation against the minority who refuse to accept popular customs and traditions. Men of position and reputation will join with the lawless and the vile to take counsel against the people of God. PK 605.2, 3 (Prophets and Kings)

Satanic agencies have been moved from beneath, and they have inspired men to unite in a confederacy of evil, that they may perplex, harass, and cause the people of God great distress. 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. RH Aug. 22, 1893 par. 8 (Review and Herald)

Many who profess to be Christians have divorced themselves from Christ. ... They are inspired with hatred and malice against those who will not receive the lies of the great apostate, who will not bow down to worship an idol sabbath. RH Sep. 6, 1898 par.5 (Review and Herald)

Soon the Sunday laws will be enforced, and men in positions of trust will be embittered against the little handful of God's commandment-keeping people. Letter 143, 1909 par.7

And at that time (in a terrible crisis) the superficial, conservative class, whose influence has steadily retarded the progress of the work, will renounce the faith and take their stand with its avowed enemies, toward whom their sympathies have long been tending. These apostates will

then manifest the **most bitter enmity**, doing all in their power to **oppress and malign** their former brethren and to **excite indignation** against them. 5T 463.2 (Testimonies, Vol. 5)

Q: CAN WE RECOGNIZE THE COMPARISON WITH HUMAN LAWS IN OPPOSITION TO GOD'S LAW IN OUR DAY AND IN THE IMPENDING CRISIS AHEAD??

Q: HOW DO THE PANDEMIC MANDATES VIOLATE THE PRINCIPLES OF GOD'S LAW??

20. HUMAN LAWS VS. GOD'S LAW:

Psa. 119:126: It is time for Thee, Lord, to work: for **they have made void Thy law**.

Dan.7:25: 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. 8:12: And an host was given him against the daily sacrifice by reason of transgression, and it **cast down the truth to the ground**; and it practised, and prospered.

Isa. 10:1: Woe unto them that **decree unrighteous decrees**, and that **write grievousness** which they have **prescribed**.

Psa. 94:20, 21: Shall the throne of iniquity have fellowship with thee, which **frameth mischief by a law**? 21) They **gather themselves together** against the soul of the righteous, and **condemn** the innocent blood.

Hab. 1:4: Therefore the **law is slacked**, and judgment doth never go forth: for the **wicked doth compass about the righteous**; therefore **wrong judgment proceedeth**.

Psa. 118:8: It is better to **trust in the Lord**, than to put **confidence in man**.

Acts 5:29: Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, **We ought to obey God rather than men**.

Acts 4:19: But Peter and John answered and said unto them, **Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye**.

Mat.22:21: They say unto Him, Caesar's. Then saith He (Jesus) unto them, **Render therefore** unto Caesar, the things which are Caesar's; and **unto God, the things that are God's**.

Everyone that accepts the **rival sabbath**, in the place of the true, exalts the man of sin. The divine government of God is thus **assailed by human power**. But the man of sin cannot annul that which God has said shall stand fast forever. **The work now to be done in our world is to exalt the law of the Lord**, and **call the attention of the people to it**; because the world has accepted the falsehood of Satan. The time has come when the **truth is to be proclaimed** against falsehood and error. Manuscript 147, 1897 par.44

All those who in our day **turn the truth of God into a lie by their human traditions**, will surely set up their **human laws to counteract the laws of God**. ... **Oppressive laws**, which have not in them a particle of the Spirit of God, are being enacted. And the less men submit themselves in obedience to the law of God, the more zealously will they try to **enforce human laws**. They will teach for doctrine the **commandments of men**. ST Jan.17, 1900 par. 18, 19 (Signs of the Times)

When the **laws of men are exalted above the laws of God**, when the **powers of this earth try to force** men to keep the first day of the week, know that the time has come for God to work. RH Apr.23, 1901 Art. A, par.7 (Review and Herald)

We are to recognize human government as an ordinance of divine appointment, and teach obedience to it as a sacred duty, **within its legitimate sphere**. But when its **claims conflict with the claims of God**, we **must obey God** rather than men. **God's word must be recognized as above all human legislation**. A "Thus saith the Lord" is not to be set aside for a "Thus saith the church" or a "Thus saith the state." The crown of Christ is to be lifted above the diadems of earthly potentates. AA 68.2 (Acts of the Apostles)

Choose poverty, separation from friends, losses, reproaches, or any suffering, **rather than to defile the soul with sin**. **Death before dishonor or the transgression of God's law** should be the motto of every Christian. Manuscript 9, 1880 par.54

Those who trample upon God's law, make human laws which they will force the people to accept. Men will devise and counsel and plan what they will do. The whole world keeps Sunday, they say, and why should not this people, who are so few in number, do according to the laws of the land? Manuscript 163, 1897 par. 24

The observance of the false sabbath will be urged upon us. The contest will be between the commandments of God and the commandments of men. PK 188.1 (Prophets and Kings)

Human enactments, laws manufactured by satanic agencies under a plea of goodness and restriction of evil, will be exalted, while God's holy commandments are despised and trampled underfoot. RH Dec. 26, 1899, Art. A, par. 14

The laws and traditions of men are exalted above the law of God, and those who are true to God's commandments suffer reproach and persecution. COL 170.3 (Christ's Object Lessons)

By consenting to break one precept, men are brought under Satan's power. By substituting human law for God's law, Satan will seek to control the world. ... Men will surely set up their laws to counterwork the laws of God. ... All will be called to choose between the law of God and the laws of men. DA 763.1-3 (Desire of Ages)

"Thou shalt not kill." All acts of injustice that tend to shorten life: the spirit of hatred and revenge, or the indulgence of any passion that leads to injurious acts toward others, or causes us even to wish them harm (for "whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer"); a selfish neglect of caring for the needy or suffering; all self-indulgence or unnecessary deprivation or excessive labor that tends to injure health—all these are, to a greater or less degree, violations of the sixth commandment. PP 308.4,5 (Patriarchs and Prophets)

Q: IS THERE INJUSTICE HAPPENING IN OUR CIVILIZED NATIONS OF NORTH AMERICA AND THE WORLD DURING THIS CRISIS, AS IT WILL BE IN ITS COUNTERPART, THE SUNDAY LAW??

21. INJUSTICE:

Isa. 10:1: Woe unto them that decree unrighteous decrees, and that write grievousness which they have prescribed;

Hab. 1:4: Therefore the law is *slacked, and judgment doth never go forth: for the wicked doth compass about the righteous; therefore wrong judgment proceedeth.

Strong's Concordance: ***Slacked**: H6313: A primitive root; to be sluggish: - cease, be feeble, faint, be slacked.

Isa. 59:4: None calleth for justice, nor any pleadeth for truth: they trust in vanity, and speak lies: they conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity.

Isa. 59:14: And judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street and equity cannot enter.

In legislative halls and courts of justice, commandment keepers will be misrepresented and condemned. A false coloring will be given to their words; the worst construction will be put upon their motives. ... Political corruption is destroying love of justice and regard for truth; and even in free America, rulers and legislators, in order to secure public favor, will yield to the popular demand for a law enforcing Sunday observance. GC 592.1,3 (Great Controversy)

Those who live during the last days of this earth's history will know what it means to be persecuted for the truth's sake. In the courts, injustice will prevail. The judges will refuse to listen to the reasons of those who are loyal to the commandments of God, because they know that arguments in favor of the fourth commandment are unanswerable. ST May 26, 1898, par. 10 (Signs of the Times)

While men are sleeping, Satan is actively arranging matters so that the Lord's people may not have mercy or justice. The Sunday movement is now making its way in darkness. RH Dec.11, 1888 par.8 (Review and Herald)

Courts of justice are corrupt. Rulers are actuated by desire for gain and love of sensual pleasure. Intemperance has beclouded the faculties of many so that Satan has almost complete control of them. Jurists are perverted, bribed, deluded. Drunkenness and revelry, passion, envy,

dishonesty of every sort, are represented among those who administer the laws. “Justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter.” (Isaiah 59:14) GC 586.1 (Great Controversy)

Q: HOW CAN WE BE AN EXAMPLE OF OUR PEACE-LOVING SAVIOUR DURING THIS UNSETTLED AND CHAOTIC PANDEMIC??

22. **KEEP THE PEACE/NO DEFIANCE OR ANTAGONISM:**

Rom. 12:18: If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live **peaceably** with all men.

Rom. 13:1: Let every soul be subject to the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained (margin, ordered) of God.

Mat.22:21: They say unto Him, Caesar’s. Then saith He (Jesus) unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar, the things which are Caesar’s; and unto God, the things that are God’s.

Mat. 10:34: Think not that I am come to send **peace** on earth: I came **not to send peace**, but a sword.

Ecc. 3: 1, 7: To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: 7) ... **a time to keep silence, and a time to speak.**

We are to recognize human government as an ordinance of divine appointment, and teach obedience to it as a sacred duty, within its legitimate sphere. But when its claims **conflict with the claims of God**, we must obey God rather than men. God’s word must be recognized as **above all human legislation**. AA 68.2 (Acts of the Apostles)

The government under which Jesus lived was **corrupt and oppressive**; on every hand were crying abuses,—extortion, intolerance, and grinding cruelty. Yet the Saviour **attempted no civil reforms**. He **attacked no national abuses, nor condemned the national enemies**. He did not interfere with the authority or administration of those in power. He who was our example, **kept aloof from earthly governments**. Not because He was indifferent to the woes of men, but because the remedy did not lie in merely human and external measures. To be efficient, the cure must reach men individually, and must regenerate the heart. DA 509.3 (Desire of Ages)

Advance new principles, and crowd in the clear-cut truth. It will be as a sword working both ways. But **do not be too ready to take a controversial attitude**. There will be times when we must stand still and see the salvation of the Lord. Present the truth as it is in Jesus. Let Daniel speak, let Revelation speak, and tell what is truth. But whatever phase of the subject is presented, **uplift Jesus as the center of all hope**, “the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.” Letter 87, 1896 par.13

Walk not rashly. Let none boast unwisely of their liberty, (to work on Sunday) using it for a cloak of maliciousness, but as the servants of God. “Honor all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.” This advice is to be of real value to all who are to be brought into strait places. **Nothing that shows defiance, or that could be interpreted as maliciousness**, must be shown. Manuscript 46, 1898 par.19, 20

There should be a constant walking in all humility. There should be no just occasion to our enemies to **charge us with being lawless and defying the laws through any imprudence of our own**. We should not feel it enjoined upon us to **irritate our neighbors who idolize Sunday** by making determined efforts to **bring labor on that day before them purposely to exhibit an independence**. Our sisters need not select Sunday as the day to exhibit their washing. There should be **no noisy demonstration**. Let us consider how fearful and terribly sad is the delusion that has taken the world captive and by every means in our power **seek to enlighten those who are our bitterest enemies**. Manuscript 6, 1889 par.68

“To **defy** the Sunday laws will but **strengthen in their persecution the religious zealots** who are seeking to enforce them. **Give them no occasion to call you lawbreakers**. RH Apr. 20, 1911 par.9 (Review and Herald)

“By some of our brethren, many things have been spoken and written that are interpreted as expressing **antagonism to government and law**. It is a mistake thus to **lay ourselves open to misunderstanding**. It is **not wise to find fault continually** with what is done by the rulers of government. **It is not our work to attack individuals or institutions**. We should exercise great care lest we be understood as putting ourselves in **opposition to the civil authorities**. It is true that our warfare is aggressive, but our weapons are to be those found in a plain ‘**Thus saith the Lord.**’ Our work is to **prepare a people to stand in the great day of God**. We should **not** be turned aside to **lines that will encourage controversy, or arouse antagonism** in those not of our faith. ... **There will come a time** when, because of our advocacy of Bible truth, we shall be **treated as traitors**; but let not this time be hastened by **unadvised movements that stir up animosity and strife**. RH Mar. 30, 1911 par. 2, 3 (Review and Herald)

We are not required to defy authorities. Our words, whether spoken or written, should be carefully considered, lest we place ourselves on record as uttering that which would make us appear antagonistic to law and order. We are not to say or do anything that would unnecessarily close up our way. AA 69.1 (Acts of the Apostles)

Yet he (Jacob) leaves nothing undone on his own part to atone for the wrong to his brother and to avert the threatened danger. So should the followers of Christ, as they approach the time of trouble, make every exertion to place themselves in a proper light before the people, to disarm prejudice, and to avert the danger which threatens liberty of conscience. GC 616.2 (Great Controversy)

There may be large mountains of difficulties in regard to how to meet the claims of God and not stand in defiance of the laws of the land. He [the believer] must not be making ample provisions for himself to shield himself from trial, for he is only God's instrument, and he is to go forward in singleness of purpose with his mind and soul garrisoned day by day, that he will not sacrifice one principle of his integrity; but he will make no boasts, issue no threats, or tell what he will or will not do, for he does not know what he will do until tested. He will just go forward in a contrite spirit with an eye single to the glory of God, depending on the Word of God and the grace promised through Christ, and the mountains may become molehills. Manuscript 6, 1889 par.65

In this time of persecution the faith of the Lord's servants will be tried. They have faithfully given the warning, looking to God and to His word alone. God's Spirit, moving upon their hearts, has constrained them to speak. Stimulated with holy zeal, and with the divine impulse strong upon them, they entered upon the performance of their duties without coldly calculating the consequences of speaking to the people the word which the Lord had given them. They have not consulted their temporal interests, nor sought to preserve their reputation or their lives. Yet when the storm of opposition and reproach bursts upon them, some, overwhelmed with consternation, will be ready to exclaim: "Had we foreseen the consequences of our words, we would have held our peace." They are hedged in with difficulties. Satan assails them with fierce temptations. The work which they have undertaken seems far beyond their ability to accomplish. They are threatened with destruction. The enthusiasm which animated them is gone; yet they cannot turn back. Then, feeling their utter helplessness, they flee to the Mighty One for strength. They remember that the words which they have spoken were not theirs, but His who bade them give the warning. God put the truth into their hearts, and they could not forbear to proclaim it. GC 608.3 (Great Controversy)

Q: IS FREEDOM OF CHOICE AND FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE A RELIGIOUS ISSUE, DURING THIS PANDEMIC??

Q: IS THE DENIAL OR RESTRICTION OF FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE IN OUR TIME, A PARALLEL CHARACTERISTIC OF THE SUNDAY LAW CRISIS??

23. LIBERTY OF CONSCIENCE/RELIGIOUS LIBERTY DENIED:

1 Tim. 3:9: Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.

Acts 24:16: And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men.

Heb. 10:16: This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them.

1 Chr. 16:15: Be ye mindful always of His covenant; the word which He commanded to a thousand generations;

Acts 4:19: But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye.

Rev. 13:15: And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.

The "speaking" of the nation is the action of its legislative and judicial authorities. GC 442.1 (Great Controversy)

Strong's Concordance: **cause**: G4160: to make or do, appoint, commit, execute, etc.

The authorities will make laws to restrict religious liberty. They will assume the right that is God's alone. They will think they can force the conscience, which God alone should control. DA 630.1 (Desire of Ages)

But if we maintain our loyalty to God, it must be at the sacrifice of our rights among men. For the enemies of God's law have leagued together to crush out independent judgment in matters of religious faith, and to control the consciences of men. HM Nov.1, 1893 par. 18 (Home Missionary [EGW])

When our nation shall so abjure (reject or renounce) the principles of its government as to enact a Sunday law, Protestantism will in this act join hands with popery; ... 5T 711.4 (Testimonies, Vol.5)

When Protestantism shall stretch her hand across the gulf to grasp the hand of the Roman power, when she shall reach over the abyss to clasp hands with spiritualism, when, under the influence of this threefold union, our country shall repudiate (reject or refuse) every principle of its Constitution as a Protestant and republican government, and shall make provision for the propagation of papal falsehoods and delusions, then we may know that the time has come for the marvelous working of Satan and that the end is near. 5T 451.1 (Testimonies, Vol. 5)

The (U.S.) Constitution provides that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof," and that "no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States." Only in flagrant violation of these safeguards to the nation's liberty, can any religious observance be enforced by civil authority. But the inconsistency of such action is no greater than is represented in the symbol. It is the beast with lamb-like horns—in profession pure, gentle, and harmless—that speaks as a dragon. GC 442.2 (Great Controversy)

"The framers of the Constitution recognized the eternal principle that man's relation with his God is above human legislation and his rights of conscience inalienable. Reasoning was not necessary to establish this truth; we are conscious of it in our own bosoms. It is this consciousness which, in defiance of human laws, has sustained so many martyrs in tortures and flames. They felt that their duty to God was superior to human enactments, and that man could exercise no authority over their consciences. It is an inborn principle which nothing can eradicate."—Congressional documents (U.S.A.), serial No. 200, document No. 271. GC 295.3 (Great Controversy)

Political corruption is destroying love of justice and regard for truth; and even in free America, rulers and legislators, in order to secure public favor, will yield to the popular demand for a law enforcing Sunday observance. Liberty of conscience, which has cost so great a sacrifice, will no longer be respected. GC 592.3 (Great Controversy)

Men in authority will enact laws controlling the conscience, after the example of the papacy. ... Thus is manifested the same arbitrary, oppressive power against religious liberty—freedom to worship God according to the dictates of conscience—as was manifested by the papacy, when in the past it persecuted those who dared to refuse to conform with the religious rites and ceremonies of Romanism. 3SM 392.1 (Selected Messages, Vol. 3)

The doctrine that God has committed to the (Catholic) church the right to control the conscience, and to define and punish heresy, is one of the most deeply rooted of papal errors. GC 292.3 (Great Controversy)

"These have one mind." There will be a universal bond of union, one great harmony, a confederacy of Satan's forces. "And shall give their power and strength unto the beast." Thus is manifested the same arbitrary, oppressive power against religious liberty, freedom to worship God according to the dictates of conscience, as was manifested by the papacy, when in the past it persecuted those who dared to refuse to conform with the religious rites and ceremonies of Romanism. Manuscript 24, 1891 par.16

He (Nebuchadnezzar) seemed to be ignorant of the fact that men could have a conscience stronger even than a king's command. He did not think that they could refuse to obey when the alternative was so dreadful, and when to obey would bring them honor. But the Hebrew children calmly but decidedly refused to obey, declaring that they could not worship the image. They would not violate their conscience, even to obey the word of a great king. Conscience in regard to the things of God, is a sacred treasure, which no human beings, whatever be their position, have a right to meddle with. Letter 90, 1897 par. 19, 20

Q: HAVE YOU HAD ANY CHANCE TO WITNESS FOR YOUR FAITH REGARDING HEALTH DURING THIS PANDEMIC?

Q: IS MEDICAL MISSIONARY WORK IN OUR CURRENT CRISIS, A SIMILAR CHARACTERISTIC OF THE WORK IN SUNDAY LAW TIME??

24. MEDICAL MISSIONARY OPPORTUNITIES:

Psa. 139:14: I will praise Thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made, ...

3 John 2: Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

Ex. 15: 26: And (the Lord) said, If thou wilt diligently harken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in His sight, and wilt give ear to His commandments, and keep His statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the Lord that healeth thee.

1Cor. 6: 19, 20: What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? **20)** For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

Rom. 12:1: I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

The medical missionary work is to be regarded as the pioneer work. It is to be the means of breaking down prejudice. As the right arm, it is to open doors for the gospel message. Manuscript 43, 1901 p.37

The gospel ministry, medical missionary work, and our publications are God's agencies. One is not to *supersede the other. But you (J.H. Kellogg) have sought to make the medical missionary work the whole body, instead of the arm and hand. Letter 54, 1903 par.12

*Supersede: to take the place of, or to set aside

He (God) designs that the medical missionary work shall prepare the way for the presentation of the saving truth for this time—the proclamation of the third angel's message. If this design is met, the message will not be eclipsed nor its progress hindered. CH 518.1 (Counsels on Health)

I wish to tell you that soon there will be no work done in ministerial lines but medical missionary work. Manuscript 150, 1901 par.18

When the Sunday laws were being enforced in Australia, our brethren who were connected with the school came to me for counsel. "Sister White," they inquired, "what shall we do? Shall we work on Sunday just the same as heretofore?" I replied, "Sunday is the best day of the week on which to do missionary work. Let teachers and students devote this day to God. Divide the surrounding country into districts, assign a company to every district, and then visit the people every Sunday. Do medical missionary work. Such work will not excite opposition, and no one can prosecute you for doing it on Sunday." Manuscript 93, 1902 par. 52

God calls upon all who claim to believe advanced truth to exert every power to the uttermost in gaining knowledge. If we would elevate the moral standard in any country where we may be called to go, we must begin by correcting their physical habits. Virtue of character depends upon the right action of the powers of the mind and body. ... As religious aggression subverts the liberties of our nation, those who would stand for freedom of conscience will be placed in unfavorable positions. For their own sake, they should, while they have opportunity, become intelligent in regard to disease, its causes, prevention, and cure. And those who do this, will find a field of labor anywhere. There will be suffering ones, plenty of them, who will need help, not only among those of our own faith, but largely among those who know not the truth. CH 505.1, 506.1 (Counsels on Health)

At one time those in charge of our school at Avondale inquired of me, saying: "What shall we do? The officers of the law have been commissioned to arrest those working on Sunday." I replied: "It will be very easy to avoid that difficulty. Give Sunday to the Lord as a day for doing missionary work. Take the students out to hold meetings in different places, and to do medical missionary work. They will find the people at home and will have a splendid opportunity to present the truth. This way of spending Sunday is always acceptable to the Lord." Manuscript 38, 1903 par. 6

The work of health reform is the Lord's means for lessening suffering in our world and for purifying His church. Teach the people that they can act as God's helping hand, by co-operating with the Master Worker in restoring physical and spiritual health. This work bears the signature of Heaven and will open doors for the entrance of other precious truths. There is room for all to labor who will take hold of this work intelligently. CH 443.4 (Counsels on Health)

"Thou shalt not kill." All acts of injustice that tend to shorten life; the spirit of hatred and revenge, or the indulgence of any passion that leads to injurious acts toward others, or causes us even to wish them harm (for "whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer"); a selfish neglect of caring for the needy or suffering; all self-indulgence or unnecessary deprivation or excessive labor that tends to injure health—all these are, to a greater or less degree, violations of the sixth commandment. PP 308.4, 5 (Patriarchs and Prophets)

Q: WILL OUR NATIONS (CAN. & U.S.) APOSTATIZE FROM RIGHTEOUSNESS BY ENACTING A VACCINATION MANDATE TO COERCE THE MINORITY TO GET THE SHOT??

Q: HAVE WE ALREADY BEEN SEEING SOME NATIONAL RUIN IN THIS CURRENT CRISIS??

25. NATIONAL APOSTASY/NATIONAL RUIN:

Mat. 23:38: Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.

Rev. 13:3, 4, 21: And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. 4) And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?

Rev. 17:16: And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.

Rev. 18:3, 8, 21: For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her (Babylon's) fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. 8) Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her. 21) And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all.

Rev. 19:20: And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

To secure popularity and patronage, legislators will yield to the demand for a Sunday law. ... By the decree enforcing the institution of the papacy in violation of the law of God, our nation will disconnect herself fully from righteousness. ... As the approach of the Roman armies was a sign to the disciples of the impending destruction of Jerusalem, so may this apostasy be a sign to us that the limit of God's forbearance is reached. 5T 450.2, 3; 451.2 (Testimonies, Vol. 5)

When the law of God has been made void, and apostasy becomes a national sin, the Lord will work in behalf of his people. RH Dec. 24, 1889 par. 3, 5 (Review and Herald)

It is at the time of the national apostasy, when, acting on the policy of Satan, the rulers of the land will rank themselves on the side of the man of sin—it is then the measure of guilt is full; the national apostasy is the signal for national ruin. Manuscript 48, 1891 par. 35

When Protestant churches shall unite with the secular power to sustain a false religion, for opposing which their ancestors endured the fiercest persecution, then will the papal sabbath be enforced by the combined authority of church and state. There will be a national apostasy, which will end only in national ruin. Manuscript 51, 1899 par. 19

Laws enforcing the observance of Sunday as the Sabbath, will bring about a national apostasy from the principles of republicanism upon which the government has been founded. Manuscript 39, 1906 par.2

Internal corruption will bring the denunciations of God upon this people as it did upon Jerusalem. 2SM 378.3 (Selected Messages, Book 2)

Q: HAVE WE BEEN TRUSTING IN GOD COMPLETELY DURING THIS "OVERWHELMING AFFLICTION" THAT PARALLELS THE SUNDAY LAW??

26. OVERFLOWING SCOURGE:

Isa. 59:19: ... When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him.

Isa. 28: 15: Because ye have said, we have made a covenant with death, and with hell are we at agreement; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, it shall not come unto us; for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood have we hid ourselves.

Isa. 28: 18: And your covenant with death shall be disannulled, and your agreement with hell shall not stand; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, then ye shall be trodden down by it.

Nahum 1: 7, 8: The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and He knoweth them that trust in Him. 8) But with an overrunning flood he will make an utter end of the place thereof, and darkness shall pursue his enemies.

Strong's Concordance: **Overflowing:** H7857: overflow, wash away, to be rinsed, **overwhelm**, drown

Scourge: H7752: whip, lash, scourge; **From H7751:** to wander, to rush here and there, run to and fro, go about, to roam

Webster's Dictionary: **Overflow:** to cover with, or as if with water, *inundate

***Inundate:** to cover with a flood, **overwhelm**

Overwhelm: to overcome by superior force or numbers

Scourge: instrument of punishment or criticism, cause of widespread affliction

Q: CAN WE DESCRIBE THE PANDEMIC AND THE SUNDAY LAW TIME PERIOD AS A TIME OF OVERWHELMING AFFLICTION??

Q: WILL THE SUNDAY LAW CRISIS BE: 1) A TIME WHEN THE MARK OF THE BEAST WILL BE URGED UPON US?? 2) A TIME WHEN THE FAN IS PURGING JEHOVAH'S FLOOR?? 3) A TIME WE ALL NEED TO PREPARE FOR?? 4) A TIME WHEN OUR LOYALTY WILL BE TESTED BY OUR EXACT OBEDIENCE?? 5) A TIME WHEN WE ALL NEED TO BE HIDDEN IN THE SECRET OF THE LORD'S PAVILLION?? 6) A "DAY" OF TROUBLE WITH THE DELUSIVE PRETENSIONS OF SPIRITUALISM?? 7) A TIME WHEN ALL OUR POSSESSIONS WILL BE SWEEP AWAY?? 8) CONSIDERED A "DIVINELY APPOINTED SCOURGE" AND FOR WHAT PURPOSE??

The time is not far distant when the test will come to every soul. The mark of the beast will be urged upon us. ... The contest is between the commandments of God and the commandments of men. In this time the gold will be separated from the dross in the church. ... When trees without fruit are cut down as cumberers of the ground, when multitudes of false brethren are distinguished from the true, then the hidden ones will be revealed to view, and with hosannas range under the banner of Christ. Those who have been timid and self-distrustful will declare themselves openly for Christ and His truth. ... Souls will receive the truth who will endure tribulation and praise God that they may suffer for Jesus. "In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." When the overflowing scourge shall pass through the earth, when the fan is purging Jehovah's floor, God will be the help of His people. The trophies of Satan may be exalted on high, but the faith of the pure and holy will not be daunted. 5T 81.1, 2—82.1 (Testimonies, Vol. 5)

When the children of Israel were gathered out from among the Egyptians, the Lord said: "For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the first-born in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the Lord." ... This experience of the Israelites was written for the instruction of those who should live in the last days. Before the overflowing scourge shall come upon the dwellers of the earth, the Lord calls upon all who are Israelites indeed, to prepare for that event. 6T 194.2—195.1 (Testimonies, Vol. 6)

But here is just where the test is coming, whether we will honor the law of God above the requirements of men. This is what will distinguish between those who honor God and those who dishonor him. Here is where we are to prove our loyalty. The history of God's dealings with his people in all ages shows that He demands exact obedience.

If parents allow their children to receive an education with the world, and make the Sabbath a common day, then the seal of God cannot be placed upon them. They will be destroyed with the world; and will not their blood rest upon the parents? But if we faithfully teach our children God's commandments, bring them into subjection to parental authority, and then by faith and prayer commit them to God, he will work with our efforts; for he has promised it. And when the overflowing scourge shall pass through the land, they, with us, may be hidden in the secret of the Lord's pavilion. CCH 268.5—269.1 (Counsels for the Church, EGW)

The prophet Isaiah brings to view the fearful deception which will come upon the wicked, causing them to count themselves secure from the judgments of God: "We have made a covenant with death, and with hell are we at agreement. When the overflowing scourge shall pass through, it shall not come unto us; for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood have we hid ourselves." [Isaiah 28:15.] In the class here described are included those who in their stubborn impenitence comfort themselves with the assurance that there is to be no punishment for the sinner; that all mankind, it matters not how corrupt, are to be exalted to Heaven to become as the angels of God. But still more emphatically are those making a covenant with death and an agreement with hell, who renounce the truths which Heaven has provided as a defense for the righteous in the day of trouble, and accept the refuge of lies offered by Satan in its stead,—the delusive pretensions of spiritualism. 4SP 377.3 (Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4)

I saw that when the cause of God called for some of their property, like the young man who came to Jesus (Matthew 19:16-22) they went away sorrowful, and that soon the overflowing scourge would pass over and sweep their possessions all away, and then it would be too late to sacrifice earthly goods, and lay up a treasure in heaven. EW 49.1 (Early Writings)

Q: WHICH NATION HAD TURNED FROM GOD AND BROUGHT HIS "APPOINTED SCOURGE" UPON BOTH THE APOSTATES AND THE FAITHFUL FEW??

Through His chosen mouthpiece (Habakkuk), He (God) revealed His determination to bring chastisement upon the nation that had turned from Him to serve the gods of the heathen. Within the lifetime of some who were even then making inquiry regarding the future, He would miraculously shape the affairs of the ruling nations of earth and bring the Babylonians into the ascendancy. These Chaldeans, "terrible and dreadful," were to fall suddenly upon the land of Judah as a divinely appointed scourge. PK 385.2 (Prophets and Kings)

Q: IS PART OF A SIEGE BEING LOCKED DOWN??

Q: WHAT TYPES OF LOCKDOWNS HAVE WE SEEN DURING THE PANDEMIC??

27. PARALLEL BIBLICAL HISTORIES:

SEIGE(S) AND DESTRUCTION(S) OF JERUSALEM:

The utter wasting of the land and the horrible suffering of the people during the siege of Jerusalem under Titus centuries later, were vividly portrayed: (Duet. 28: 51-57 quoted) PP 467.2 (Patriarchs and Prophets)

Deut. 28:49-59: The LORD shall bring a nation against thee from far, from the end of the earth, as swift as the eagle flieth; a nation whose tongue thou shalt not understand;

50) A nation of fierce countenance, which shall not regard the person of the old, nor shew favour to the young:

51) And he shall eat the fruit of thy cattle, and the fruit of thy land, until thou be destroyed: which also shall not leave thee either corn, wine, or oil, or the increase of thy kine, or flocks of thy sheep, until he have destroyed thee.

52) And he shall besiege thee in all thy gates, until thy high and fenced walls come down, wherein thou trustedst, throughout all thy land: and he shall besiege thee in all thy gates throughout all thy land, which the LORD thy God hath given thee.

53) And thou shalt eat the fruit of thine own body, the flesh of thy sons and of thy daughters, which the LORD thy God hath given thee, in the *siege, and in the *straitness, wherewith thine enemies shall *distress thee:

54) So that the man that is tender among you, and very delicate, his eye shall be evil toward his brother, and toward the wife of his bosom, and toward the remnant of his children which he shall leave:

55) So that he will not give to any of them of the flesh of his children whom he shall eat: because he hath nothing left him in the siege, and in the straitness, wherewith thine enemies shall distress thee in all thy gates.

56) The tender and delicate woman among you, which would not adventure to set the sole of her foot upon the ground for delicateness and tenderness, her eye shall be evil toward the husband of her bosom, and toward her son, and toward her daughter,

57) And toward her young one that cometh out from between her feet, and toward her children which she shall bear: for she shall eat them for want of all things secretly in the siege and straitness, wherewith thine enemy shall distress thee in thy gates.

58) If thou wilt not observe to do all the words of this law that are written in this book, that thou mayest fear this glorious and fearful name, THE LORD THY GOD;

59) Then the LORD will make thy plagues wonderful, and the plagues of thy seed, even great plagues, and of long continuance, and sore sicknesses, and of long continuance.

2 Kings 25:1-4: And it came to pass in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, in the tenth day of the month, that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came, he, and all his host, against Jerusalem, and pitched against it; and they built forts against it round about. 2) And the city was besieged unto the eleventh year of king Zedekiah. 3) And on the ninth day of the fourth month the famine prevailed in the city, and there was no bread for the people of the land. 4) And the city was broken up, ...