

Coming Events (1962) 4 of 14

National Sunday Law

#0523

Study Given by W. D. Frazee—January 9, 1963

In our first three classes, we have been studying the three angels' messages, particularly as they deal with coming events. In our lesson today, we are going directly into those coming events and focusing especially upon what great event, still future? The Sunday law. Yes. What kind of Sunday law? National Sunday Law.

Are there Sunday laws in America today? Have there always been? Yes. Yes, there have always been Sunday laws in America since there were any laws at all, as far as I know. The colonies had Sunday laws before we became independent, and most of the states of the American union have had Sunday laws of one kind or another, but the prophecy that we're studying deals with what kind of Sunday law? National Sunday Law. Does the United States have a National Sunday Law? No. Not yet.

Now, as we have tried to point out in these lessons, we want to see these prophecies first of all in the Bible and then as magnified for us in the Spirit of Prophecy.

What book of the Bible deals especially with these coming events? The book of Revelation. And what chapter focuses especially upon our lesson today? The 13th chapter of Revelation. What two powers, Brother Sherman, are brought to view in the 13th chapter of Revelation? What two powers are brought to view in the 13th chapter of Revelation?

What's the first one that's brought to view in the 13th chapter of Revelation? The beast. And what is the beast?

[Brother Sherman] The papacy.

That's right. What's the second one, Sister Moxley? What's the second power brought to view in the 13th of Revelation? United States.

Now, what is the United States going to do in connection with that first beast? Make an image to the beast. Is there something else that it's going to do in connection with that first beast, John? To receive the mark of the beast, that's right—cause all to receive the mark of the beast.

Is there something else, Lee Dudley, that it's going to do in connection with that first beast? It exercises all the power of the first beast, it makes an image to or of the beast, and it enforces the mark of the beast.

Now, there is one other thing that it says that it's going to do about that beast. What is there about exercising all the power of the first beast? What does it say? What is it? I heard it. No. About the beast. It causes all the earth to do what? To worship the first beast. All right.

Is the United States going to cause all the world to worship the papacy? Yes. That's what it says. Is it going to make an image of the papacy? Yes. That's what it says. And it's going to enforce the mark of the papacy. It's going to do all three of those things.

Now, in what way, Ruth, is the United States going to cause all the world to honor the papacy? Church and state, yes, but in what way will that honor the papacy?

Wallace, how would you answer that question? How is the United States going to cause the world to honor the papacy?

[Wallace] By following their false Sabbath and enforcing a law for all the people in the world to honor Sunday.

Do any of the rest of you agree with Wallace in the way in which the papacy, especially, is going to receive honor and worship all over the world? In the honor paid to what? Sunday.

Well, why does honoring Sunday, Morgan, honor the papacy?

[Morgan] Because that's their mark.

Yes. And how is it their mark, David? Did the Catholic Church originate using Sunday?

[David] No.

Where'd it come from? Yes, but where did it come from? From paganism. Yes.

But as a Christian institution, it's the child of what? The papacy. The papacy brought it over from paganism like they did images and holy water and prayers for the dead and the rosary and a world of other things that they got, and careful students in the Catholic Church acknowledge that.

And of course, there are authorities in the Catholic Church that boast of the fact that the church has such power that it could take a pagan day and make a Christian day out of it and do away with the Sabbath of the Ten Commandments and substitute another day of its own choosing.

Well, that's the history of it, but the point is, that's the mark of what authority? Yes. The papacy, the Catholic Church. So, when Protestants lead all the world to honor the Sunday and acknowledge it and use that day as the day of worship, they are giving honor to whom? Papacy.

One of the Catholic books puts it this way:

“Thus the observance of the Sunday by the Protestants is an homage they pay in spite of themselves to the authority of the Catholic Church” Louis Gaston Segur, *Plain Talk about the Protestantism of To-Day* (1874).

And Father Enright of Kansas City years ago put it this way. He said:

“Which church does the whole civilized world obey?”
Catholicism and Fundamentalism, by Karl Keating, page 38.

He says:

“The Bible says, Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day, but the Catholic Church says, No—keep the first day of the week—and lo, the entire world bows down in reverent obedience to the mandates of the holy Catholic Church” *Ibid*.

That’s the way he put it. So, in the honor paid to Sunday, who will be receiving worship? Papacy, yes. Now, there’s a Bible text that’s basically that, in Romans, the sixth chapter. It might be well if you don’t already have that text clearly in mind to bring it in here:

“Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey...” Romans 6:16.

If God, through the Bible, says, Keep the seventh day of the week, and Rome, through the catechism, says, Keep the first day of the week, no matter what I call it, when I break the Sabbath and keep the Sunday, I’m giving honor to whom? Papacy. That’s right. All right.

And the National Sunday Law will be on the part of our nation an act enhancing the authority and power of what? The papacy, the Catholic Church. But it will also be a what, in the language of the prophecy? An image, because it will be a union of what? Church and state.

Where? In America. And it will be a union between what church and what state? The Protestant churches, and what state? Yes, the American state, the United States government. A union in the sense that the government will pass laws that the churches want to be passed, giving authority and power to religious institutions.

And what will be the chief and special religious institution? The Sunday—the Sunday law. All right. And that Sunday law is called in Revelation 13 the mark of what? And it’s also called the mark of what, besides the mark of the beast? What’s it called in Revelation 14? The mark of his name. Yes. So, it’s the mark of the beast and the mark of his name. All right.

And:

“...If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand” Revelation 14:9.

What will happen to him? Receive the wine of the wrath of God. And we found that the wine of the wrath of God is what? Plagues. A warning, to do any good, then, must come when? Before the plagues.

Now, what event ushers in the pouring out of the plagues—the falling of the plagues? The close of probation. All right. Now, let’s put these events here—the close of probation, followed by the plagues, and what closes the time of the plagues? Coming of Christ.

Now, coming back this way, before the plagues are poured out before probation closes, what’s this great event on which our minds are focused this evening? The National Sunday Law.

Now, those are the three great events ahead of us, and our study clusters around those three events: the National Sunday Law, the close of probation, the coming of Christ. You can see that the message of the third angel warning men against the worship of the beast and his image and his mark all—all of those points focus right here at the National Sunday Law. Because as we’ve gone over here this afternoon, as you’ve been studying in your class, the enforcement of Sunday will be the worship of the beast. It will also be the worship of what? The image. And it will also be the reception of what? The mark. All three are fulfilled in the enactment of the National Sunday Law, and against all three of them, the prophecy warns us:

“If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark... The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God...” Revelation 14:9–10.

So, for over a hundred years, that warning has been given, warning America and all the world against that, but oh, think of the power there’s going to be in the message as the event is seen just about to take place and when it *has* taken place.

So, just before the National Sunday Law is actually passed and immediately afterward, you can see there will be intense interest all over the nation in this. That’s one of the reasons that the Lord has instructed us through the years to get our literature out into the homes of the people, so the people read these things, like in *Great Controversy*.

Sister White said she was more anxious for this book *Great Controversy* to get in the hands of the public than any other book she had written. You can see why. So that they read these things, and then, as they see these things fulfilling before our eyes, as they see the resurgence of the papacy, the rising power of the Protestant churches and their attempts to unite and to have power in Congress, as they see the power of spiritualism increasing, as they see these different forces combining in order to bring about the Sunday law, they’ll say, “Why, we read a book

once that said those things would happen. Where is that book?" Somebody says, "Oh, it's over there in the library." Somebody says, "Oh, it's up in an attic."

But they get that book out of the library, or they go up in the attic and bring it down, and they read it again, and the Spirit of God impresses their hearts. That is going to happen, my dear friends, in multitudes of homes. And so, we can thank God that the blessed results of our literature, the blessed results of circulating our literature, are yet to be seen on a scale that we've never yet witnessed.

And some of the people who read these things will accept the truth now, but many others will accept the truth. We'll see that more fully in some of our future lessons, but I just couldn't resist calling attention to it now because this is the point of the third angel's message: the warning against the worship of the beast, the worship of his image, the reception of his mark, and in plain English, all three of those mean, especially, the National Sunday Law here in the United States.

Now, will other countries follow the example of America? Yes. America is going to lead the whole world, you see, according to Revelation 13, to worship the beast. America will lead out, and the other countries will follow.

Now, coming back to our lesson here, what have we noted, as we have read our references today, are some of the things that will bring about this National Sunday Law? Genevieve, can you mention one thing that you found in your study today that helps to bring about the National Sunday Law? All right. Betsy, can you think of something that helps to bring about the Sunday law?

Morgan, can you bring another point on what brings about the National Sunday Law?

[Morgan] Only that a lot of the people are getting just disgusted with the way that things are, and all nations are uniting because of it.

If you can think of some other influences that haven't yet been mentioned, May I see your hands? There are several yet that haven't been mentioned. These are all right that have been mentioned, but we want to get some more.

Corruption, and oh my, what a world of it there is today. Just recognize that in many places the power that elects in some of the key centers of the nation are three combining influences: the labor unions, the gangsters, and the Roman Catholic Church. That swings the balance of power in some of the great centers of our nation.

Now, let's see, what are some other influences going to help bring about the National Sunday Law?

[A student] The legislators are going to force a Sunday law on people because of their position. They don't want to lose their jobs.

Well now, does it say that the legislators are going to force it on the people or are the people going to force it on the legislators?

[The same student] Force it on the legislators to vote that way.

Ah, yes. That's right, that's right.

Well, I wonder, what in the world is going to happen? Are the American people today ready to pass a National Sunday Law today? Why, they don't seem to be. There are influences, but do you hear of great masses of the people putting pressure on Congress to pass a Sunday law today?

What is it, brother?

[A student] Calamities and tragedies are going to cause them to get upset.

Are there going to be some more calamities and some more tragedies, problems? But how will *that* bring about any National Sunday Law?

[Another student] Devils are going to appear [inaudible]

Is spiritualism going to have a part in this? That's right.

[The same student] The threefold union has to be made first.

What is the threefold union? Protestantism and Catholicism and spiritualism. Is it under the influence of this threefold union that this is going to happen? Is that what it says? That's exactly what it says. Is that union being formed? Yes. All right.

Now, in your study today, who did you find—watch this question—who did you find is the leader in this threefold union? Who's the leader? The Protestants. That's right, the Protestants of the United States. The Protestants of the United States will be foremost in extending the hand on one side to whom? Spiritualism, And the other hand to the papacy. Is that what has happened? Yes.

Some of the leading Protestant ministers of the United States today are holding communications with the spirits. Spiritualism has become respectable. There is a growing society of Protestant ministers who gather together for the express purpose of studying communication with the departed dead. Spiritualism has infiltrated the churches of America. That hand of Protestantism has not only been extended, but it's also been warmly grasped.

But now, on the other hand, where is the hand of Protestantism extended? To the papacy. Is it a fact that during the last even few months, that prophecy has been fulfilled as never before? Yes. One Protestant leader after the other has made the trip to Rome to talk with the pope.

And you notice, friend, it wasn't that the pope came over to this country. Oh, no, no. The Protestants are extending the hand. They are studying what *they* can do to bring about better feeling and closer working together.

Isn't it wonderful that these things in the Bible that John wrote and these things in *Great Controversy* that Sister White wrote are fulfilling before our very eyes? Doesn't it take so much faith now to believe that it's all going to focus right away on the what? The National Sunday Law. All right.

Now, let's see. Let's review these different points that bring about the National Sunday Law. Let's think especially of this threefold union. What are these three parts in the threefold union? Protestantism, and spiritualism and Catholicism, and they unite under the leadership of Protestantism. I say under the leadership, what I mean is the Protestants are the ones that go about getting them together working on it. The papacy is well content to work under that arrangement for the present.

Now, if you had time to study all through one of the chapters in your lesson today on "The Aims of the Papacy," you see that the papacy simply tolerates that with a benevolent, long-range view. I say benevolent. I mean it has a benevolent interest in the Protestants of today, and as they show their friendly interest, the papacy, like a wise old father or mother, just pats them on the back and says, "All right, boys and girls, you go right ahead, and at the right time, we'll show you better how to do it," and they will, they will.

Now, what are some of the other forces, in review, that fit in with this threefold union? Yes, the union of church and state is brought about, but what are some of the other forces, influences? The calling out of the people, but what was it, did somebody say a while ago that caused the people to want it? Disasters, calamities, problems, troubles.

And who is it that's going to tell them that the Sunday Law is the cure for that? The devils. That's right. They're going to work miracles to prove it, so the marvelous working of Satan will capitalize on these calamities. And thus, the people will be fanned into a great desire for something that will put an end to their problems. They'll be told the way to do it is to acknowledge God, and all do that by keeping Sunday.

What attitude will that cause the people to have toward those who oppose the Sunday Law? They'll be condemned as what? Enemies of what? Enemies of society. You know, I've thought many times, as I have seen the way in which Communists are looked upon in this country and in some other countries, and how the Devil is training people to look at us.

The Communists are condemned as those who try to overthrow the government. Of course, some of them do. We won't be trying to overthrow the government, but will we be denounced as rebels against law and trying to overthrow the government? Yes. What a position to be in, and yet, Seventh-day Adventists will be the one people in all the world upholding law.

Now, let us see what the National Sunday Law is a sign of. When it is passed, there are certain things that we're told that we can know. Sister Jones, what's one of the things that we can know when the National Sunday Law is passed? Did you study that? What's one of the things we can know when the

National Sunday Law is passed? The probation of the nation is closed. Is that a correct statement? Any of you question that?

[A student] Probation of the nation is closed but not of the individual.

Do you all have it clear?

“...the measure of our nation’s iniquity is...” *Testimonies for the Church, Volume 5*, page 451.

What?

“...full...” *Ibid.*

“...the limit of God’s forbearance is reached... and... the angel of mercy is *about* to take her flight, never to return”
Ibid.

Where is that? Yes, that’s *Volume 5*. What page? Four fifty-one. Thank you. That’s a key page.

Now, when does the angel of mercy take her flight? At the close of probation. So, the National Sunday Law will be a sign to us that probation is what? About to close, about to close. And that, as far as our nation is concerned, our nation has filled up its cup of iniquity. In other words, our nation has identified herself with the beast, which in turn, is identified with Satan.

Now, I want to ask you something. I heard this question raised one time, and I think it might be a helpful lesson if I’d raise it. Suppose that, as we go out to give the third angel’s message today, and even when this question is being agitated of the National Sunday Law—suppose that the president or the leaders in Congress or enough of our nation’s influential people would accept the message—that they would say, “No. We will not make an image to the beast. We will not accept the mark of the beast. We will not take the glorious American heritage and sell it out to the Romanism of the old world.”

Could that happen? What? Brother Lee’s remembering a case when it happened. Where was that? What did the King of Nineveh do when Jonah brought the message? Why, he proclaimed a fast, and everything was in sackcloth and ashes. What did God do? He spared Nineveh. Would God spare this country if this nation would repent? Yes.

I want to ask you something, folks. If you were presenting the thing we’re studying tonight to a legislative committee in the halls of Congress, don’t you think it would be a good thing for them to recognize that God would like to do for this nation what He did for Nineveh? I think so. And I think we ought to have that viewpoint of it.

God would like to spare every soul in every nation in this world. Wouldn’t He? Didn’t He want to spare Jerusalem? Didn’t He try every way He could? And yet He

had to tell what was coming, so God has foretold what's going to happen in this nation.

But never think that that means that it's inevitable that this nation *has* to do it. This nation doesn't have to do any such thing. But after it's done that, then:

“...the limit of God's forbearance is...”
Testimonies for the Church, Volume 5, page 451.

What?

“...reached... the measure of our nation's iniquity is full...”
Ibid.

Then, she's passed the point of no return. That's it. And when is it that our nation passes that point? When the National Sunday Law is passed. That's a great outstanding sign that everybody can see, and God has called attention to it. All right.

Now, let's think of something else that this is a sign of—a sign to us about. Sister Moxley? Now, did you all hear what this sister said? Say it again, sister. A sign for God's people to leave the—what does it call them? The large cities. Is that what it says? Where is that? Thank you, *Volume 5, 464.*

Now, what does it...

[A student] How large is large?

Well, you wouldn't want *me* to answer that, would you, because God has left it just that way.

But now, let's look at it. It's a sign to leave the large cities. What does the paragraph that that's in, compare this sign to? The armies around Jerusalem. When? Just before the destruction of Jerusalem.

You remember that Jerusalem was destroyed in A. D. 70. And some months before that, the Roman army under Titus came, first under Cestius and then later under Titus and destroyed the city.

But when they first came, that was a sign to the Christians that Jerusalem was going to be what? Destroyed. And therefore, God's people should do what? Get out, get out.

Now, when our nation passes the National Sunday Law, that will be a sign to us that this nation has filled up its cup of iniquity, and God's going to do what? Destroy it, just like He did Jerusalem of old, just like He did Sodom.

But, before God destroys, He first tells His people to do what? Come out, come out. Now, that applies to Babylon as a whole—all the religious bodies. We'll be studying that when we study the Loud Cry, but this point we're on right now is a very literal thing. Babylon is fallen, that great city, come out of her—come out of the

great cities, when? And why? It's about to be destroyed, that you receive not of her plagues, and are those plagues going to fall especially on these great cities? Yes.

Now, is that *all* it says in that sentence?

"...preparatory to leaving the smaller ones..."
Testimonies for the Church, Volume 5, page 464.

What does preparatory mean? They come in order. All right. We leave the large cities, and then the smaller ones. And then, do we stay in those? We finally go to where?

"...retired homes in secluded places among the mountains"
Ibid.

Quite a statement, isn't it, friends? Now, we know, of course, from this two things. We know it's going to be a short time because it says:

"...the angel of mercy is about to take her flight..."
Testimonies for the Church, Volume 5, page 451.

But we also know it's going to be more than a few days from this, don't we? Because we:

"...leave the large cities, preparatory to leaving the smaller ones for retired homes in secluded places among the mountains" *Testimonies for the Church, Volume 5, page 464.*

Then, do we know that eventually, before the coming of Jesus, we're going to be driven out even of those homes? Yes. We'll be studying that more fully. Oh, those are interesting things—some things we'd like to know more about there. Let's treasure up what we *can* find out, not speculate idly on the things that aren't revealed.

But you asked a while ago, How large is large. But the point is, friends, no matter where you start from in calling a thing large, you're to go to something what? Smaller. That's clear, isn't it? And it's also very clear that whatever you land in, as something small, you're going on from there to where? Something smaller.

That's the important thing to get. It isn't a matter of classifying and saying everything above a hundred thousand is big, and everything under is small. That isn't the thing. Wherever God's people find themselves when that National Sunday Law comes, that is—what does this reference call it? A sign, a sign.

"As the siege of Jerusalem by the Roman armies was the signal for flight to the Judean Christians..." *Testimonies for the Church, Volume 5, page 464.*

That bears some study, folks. Did they have to get out in a hurry? That's right. Now, I want to ask you another question. Have we had any other light on this question, other than *Volume 5*, 464, about getting out of the cities, I mean? Have we? Yes. A little book *Country Living*, which is now—much of it is in *Selected Messages*.

Did the Spirit of Prophecy before almost all of us in this room were even born say that the time had already come for many of God's people to get out of the cities? Is that right? Well, now, how do you harmonize that? If way back before you and I were born, Sister White says:

“Out of the cities; out of the cities!”—this is the message the Lord has been giving me” *Country Living*, page 31.

...what do you do with this statement that says that when the National Sunday Law is passed? What is it, Brother Dubb?

[Brother Dubb] Well, He gave the first and second chance, and that's the last chance there.

Yes. You know, I've thought of it like the porter comes through on the train, “First call for dinner.” Pretty soon, he comes in again, “Second call for dinner.” But by and by he comes through, “Last call for dinner.” And this is what? This is the last call.

And of course, that opens up a great many interesting things that we can only touch upon. Any of you that haven't read the little brochure, *Another Ark to Build*, or heard the tape on building the Ark, it would be nice for you to go over that while this lesson is fresh in your mind.

But now, I want to ask you two questions. If all of God's people—no, let me put the question the other way around. If God in His mercy and love looks ahead and sees that many of God's people are still going to be in these great cities when the National Sunday Law is passed, wouldn't He in tender love try to get some of His people out ahead of time to prepare the way for them, so some of them would have someplace to go, and isn't that what He's told us to do? That's right, that's right.

And the other question is this. Both now and after the National Sunday Law is passed, does God intend for us, even when we don't live in the cities, to visit the cities and warn them? Why, sure.

Now, who do we have as an example of that? Enoch. That's right, that's right. And God wants a lot of Enoch's outposts around today—people living outside these cities but visiting them and calling people out, as Enoch did and as the angels pulled Lot and his family out of Sodom and getting them out. And, dear friends, as the end draws near, that kind of evangelism is going to become more and more important.

I hope every one of you in this class will realize that that's one of the great reasons God has you here taking this class. That you may get that vision and learn

the practical things that are involved in establishing places of refuge where the people can come and get out of these cities, which are as Sodom for wickedness.

And the time for you and me to establish those places of refuge is when? Was it the day the rain started to fall that Noah built the Ark? No, no. And in anticipation, in faith, knowing what's ahead, you and I say, "Oh, if that's what's coming, we had better do..." what? Get ready. Get places ready where we can take these refugees—these people that leave the large cities, and some of them are going to leave in a hurry, friends. They'll have to when that comes if they believe God, won't they?

Oh, what a privilege we have of knowing these things! Was that why Noah built the Ark?

"By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen..."
Hebrews 11:7.

What are the next two words?

"...as yet..." Hebrews 11:7.

Were they seen by and by? Oh, yes. When the rain started to fall, everybody saw it. And when the National Sunday Law is passed, when there's persecution against our people, when the labor unions are the cause of terrible violence, when Catholics, Protestants and the world all unite in a triple union to crush the people of God, oh then, friends, it won't take any faith at all to see the importance of having these places of refuge. It may take a little faith now. It shouldn't take very much. But oh, let's have faith to do it. What do you say?

But remember, they're not to be places of isolation. They're to be places of evangelism. They're to be places from which, like Enoch, we sally forth to get folks and bring them to the places of refuge.

That's the way Abraham worked. Abraham didn't locate in Sodom, but was Abraham a blessing to Sodom? Why, at one time, he saved the whole city, didn't he? But he did it from a country outpost, not from a city headquarters. There's a vast difference.

Oh, that God may help us to have places out in the oaks, like Abraham did at Mamre or the pines or whatever other trees God may give us, and there have these places of refuge where these dear people can come.

But remember, even those are just temporary. We need never think that we're going to find this side of Heaven a place where we can settle down and say, "Well, my wanderings are over." No, no. Whatever place we get to, it's preparatory to going on and on. Because, as we shall see when we study Jacob's trouble (the great time of trouble under the falling of the plagues), there's going to be a time when we'll have to be fed by the angels and have to be out in the rocks and the mountains. All right.

Now, in our lesson next time, we're going to study about the great power that Satan is going to turn loose to bring about this threefold union and this National Sunday Law. If you'll take your outline there and turn to page 11, I just want you to take a little preview of that. You'll notice this is intimately linked with the National Sunday Law.

I was asking you a few moments ago what we know when this National Sunday Law is passed, and you told me, and rightly so, that we know that our nation has filled up its cup of iniquity and that probation's about to close, and you told me that we know, then, that it's time to leave the large cities preparatory to leaving the smaller ones.

But there's something else there in *Volume 5*, 451, that says that we're to know. We'll know what?

“...the time has come for...” *Testimonies for the Church*,
Volume 5, page 451.

What?

“...the marvelous working of Satan and that the end is near”
Ibid.

Now, we may think that the Devil is working marvelously today. He is, but there's something ahead, dear friends, that has never happened yet. The Devil is going to be turned loose, and that's never happened yet. God's always had a restraint upon him. But the Bible says he's going to work with how much power?

“...all power and signs and lying wonders”
2 Thessalonians 2:9.

So, we merely introduce that in this lesson today in connection with the National Sunday Law. That's going to bring about an entire change in the attitude of the American public. I want you, as you study, to note how both the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy unmask the plans of Satan; expose the devices of Satan, and tell us what will be.

And I want you, as you study, to notice carefully that, while it's all spiritualism in the sense that it's the spirits of devils that do these things, it won't all be called spiritualism by any manner. It won't all be people claiming to be the spirits of the dead—spirits claiming to be the spirits of the dead. No. Satan is transformed not only into the spirits of the dead, so-called, but he's also transformed into what? An angel of light, an *angel* of light.

If a spirit came to you and said, “I'm George Washington,” or, “I'm your mother that died,” you'd know how to quote Ecclesiastes 9:5 and 6 on that, wouldn't you? But if an angel should come to you and say, “I'm from Heaven. I'm not some departed dead spirit. I'm from Heaven. I'm the angel Gabriel. I've come to give you some information that God wants you to have.” Quoting Ecclesiastes 9 wouldn't help you on that at *all*, would it? No.

So, I want you to study this lesson very carefully for this is a very important lesson. I want you to see how it reaches into possible deceptions, even within the movement. You'll find some references on that in your study.

Now, why has God given us all this light on what's ahead? So we'll be prepared. The Bible says:

"A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished" Proverbs 22:3.

You and I, knowing what God has said through the third angel's message about the beast and the image and the mark, about what this sign means at the National Sunday Law, we're going to prepare for it physically as to where we locate. We're going to prepare for it spiritually by developing a character. We're going to prepare for it in our study by learning all that we can that God has revealed in the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy about the plans of the Devil so that we'll see every trap he has and miss every one of them.

Thank God, friends, for all this light. What do you say? Yes. I wish we might close this little study tonight by kneeling together and praying very earnestly that God will help us every one be so prepared that we'll be safe when the storm breaks.

I'm going to ask Dr. Wheeler and Brother Cansler and David Seibert, each to pray a word.

[Dr. Wheeler] Father in Heaven, we pray Thy Holy Spirit may so pervade our hearts and minds that we may truly hear Thy call and [inaudible].

[Brother Cansler] [inaudible] ...great privilege of being a part of this great message. We thank Thee that Jesus has promised to never leave us nor forsake us. We thank Thee that Thou hast given us such a blessed hope that there *is* deliverance in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

We pray that each one of us may have a burden to go out and help others learn great principles of truth. May our hearts be filled with love and kindness, and sympathy for those about us. May our whole lives be dedicated to Thee. In Jesus' name, we pray, amen.

[Brother Siebert] Our kind Father in Heaven, our hearts are overflowing with thankfulness for revealing the plans of the Devil to us. Help us to study these plans, for our lives depend on it, and help us to not put off this study to the last minute—until the raindrops start falling, for it's no good to us then, and help us to do our part in rescuing those who are in Sodom now, and may we not neglect this study, and help us to not become phased by the ideas that men are presenting and by science falsely so-called and for the idea that we don't have to keep the law of God. Help us to realize that it is still in effect and that you demand all of our lives.

And we pray for the gift of influence that those that will look at us will realize that we have the truth, if they are honest in heart, that they will come to Thee, and

give us the faith to believe what is ahead so that we will be prepared and not be as the disciples of old. And we thank Thee for hearing us and giving us faith, in Jesus' name, amen.

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