

Great Controversy Series
Earth's Urgent & Final Warning
Chapter 38 - The Final Warning
Bible Sermon Study Notes: Cary Rodgers, Jr., pastor

What is the first half of the third angels' message of warning?

Revelation 14:9-10

9 And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand,

10 The same shall drink of the wine of the **wrath of God**, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:

What is the "wrath of God" that will be poured out with no mercy?

Revelation 15:1

1 And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God.

The wrath of God are the seven last plagues when God's restraining spirit of mercy has been totally withdrawn from the earth and Satan and his evil demons is allowed to run havoc on this planet!

Revelation 6:17

17 For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

Revelation 7:1-3

1 And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree.

2 And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the **seal of the living God**: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea,

3 Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have **sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.**

The faithful who are sealed with the "seal of the living God" because they reflect the character of God. They have the Father's name in their foreheads. They are truly loyal to God and obedient to all of His Ten Commandments.

What is tangible proof of your loyalty to God?

Ezekiel 20:12, 20

12 Moreover also I gave them my sabbaths, to be a **sign** between me and them, that they might know that I am the LORD that sanctify them.

20 And hallow my sabbaths; and they shall be a **sign** between me and you, that ye may know that I am the LORD your God.

Exodus 31:13-17

13 Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a **sign** between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the LORD that doth sanctify you.

14 Ye shall keep the sabbath therefore; for it is holy unto you: every one that defileth it shall surely be put to death: for whosoever doeth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people.

15 Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the sabbath of rest, holy to the LORD: whosoever doeth any work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death.

16 Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant.

17 It is a **sign** between me and the children of Israel for ever: for in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed.

“Sign” in the Hebrew, “ôth”, means “a signal (literally or figuratively), as a flag, beacon, monument, evidence, etc.: - mark, miracle, (en-) sign, token.” - Strong’s Hebrew Dictionary

Remember, keeping the seventh-day Sabbath is a sign or mark that proves your loyalty to God in which you keep ALL of His Commandments as an expression of your love for Him. This sign is the evidence that you rather keep the commandments of God rather than the commandments men.

The seal of the living God or official mark of God that authenticates His Ten Commandments is the seventh-day Sabbath. In other words, the seventh-day Sabbath commandment is the signature of God.

The fourth commandment reveals the seal or mark of the living God. It reveals His name, the Lord which means Jehovah or self existent one; His title, Creator; and His territory, the heaven, earth and sea.

The seventh-day Sabbath is a holy and distinct mark that comes from the Creator and no one else. It cannot be duplicated or copied to another day. The seventh-day Sabbath is established forever. All those who are sealed with the mark of God before the “winds” of chaos and strife are let loose, keep the seventh-day Sabbath holy. Satan knows this. This is why he has an all out assault on God’s holy day.

Before you are sealed with seal of the living what must you lay aside NOW in order to develop the Christlike character and make it through the end time crisis?

Hebrews 12:1

1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us **lay aside every weight**, and **the sin** which doth so **easily beset us**, and let us **run** with **patience the race** that is set before us,

Beset (Greek): “well standing around, that is, (a competitor) thwarting (a racer) in every direction (figuratively of sin in general”. In other words – prevented to move at every direction, surrounded by obstacles (“trapped”). **But in order to tear those obstacles down we MUST lay aside every weight and sin.**

Weight (Greek): ogkos - “mass (as bending or bulging by its load), that is, **burden** (hindrance): - weight.

Lay aside EVERY weight which are your burdens, worries, fears, and stresses

Remember the Jesus says, in...

Matthew 11:28-30

28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Not only must we lay aside every burden, but also ALL sin!

1 Peter 2:1

1 Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings.

When we lay aside every weight and sin we are able to RUN with patience (cheerfully endure) the race as we go through the fiery trials, the mark of the beast crisis and the seven last plagues.

In order to build your faith to receive the seal of the living God, you must consistently keep your eyes on Jesus, not people.

Remember, Jesus is the way the truth and the life! He is the only way! Jesus is the one who is the Creator of our faith and the only one can finish our faith so we can stand and make it to the finish line to eternity!

Hebrews 12:2

2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Jesus is our example how to run the race with patience! He endured the cross, despising the shame, now sitting at the right hand of God as our high priest!

At the end race, what will God declare to his faithful who are sealed with the seal of the living God?

Revelation 14:12

12 Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

Revelation 14:12 is the last part of the three angels message that we are commissioned to give to the world.

Three Angels Message Summary (Revelation 14:6 - 12)

1st Angel's Message (Revelation 14:7) - Fear (reverence) God, judgment is now, and only worship the Creator God who gives us His blessed and holy seventh-day Sabbath.

2nd Angel's Message (Revelation 14:8) - Babylon is fallen! Babylon means confusion and represents all who teach and live by the doctrines and commandments of men rather than God. Papal Rome, including all apostate Christian religions, false non-Christian religions, and pop-culture are all part of "Babylon."

3rd Angel's Message (Revelation 14:9) - All those who are in Babylon will worship the beast and his image, and will receive the mark of the beast. The beast, represents Papal Rome. The image of the beast represents all apostate churches who unite with the beast in principle and the main doctrine of the mark of the beast. United States of America is the lamb-like beast in Revelation 13:11-17 that will make the image of the beast.

Since Jesus moved from the Holy to the Most Holy place in the heavenly sanctuary, the investigative judgment began in 1844 as prophesied in Daniel 8:14. The fulfillment of the judgment is seen in the first angel's message in Revelation 14:7, "The hour of His judgment is come." Since 1844, the full knowledge of the three angel's message has gone around the world. As time comes to a close the message will get louder and louder!

In addition to the three angels' message, what is the final warning message are we commissioned to give with zeal and great urgency?

Revelation 18:1, 2, 4

1 And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having **great power**; and the earth was **lightened** with his glory.

2 And he **cried mightily with a strong voice**, saying, **Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen**, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.

4 And I heard another voice from heaven (voice of Jesus), saying, **Come out of her, my people**, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

This final warning is a fourth angel who is repeating the second angel's "Babylon is Babylon is fallen, but with more urgency. Why, this is the final call from Jesus himself, for His people to get OUT of Babylon before it is too late. Babylon has become the home of Satan, his demons, and agents of evil that will soon be totally destroyed and those in it will also be destroyed!

"A terrible condition of the religious world is here described. With every rejection of truth the minds of the people will become darker, their hearts more stubborn, until they are entrenched in an infidel hardihood. In defiance of the warnings which God has given, they will continue to trample upon one of the precepts of the Decalogue, until they are led to persecute those who hold it sacred. Christ is set at nought in the contempt placed upon His word and His people." GC 603

Remember from our previous lessons, what are the two main doctrines that unify apostate protestants to Papal Rome? Spiritualism and Sunday sacredness

"Through the two great errors, the immortality of the soul (spiritualism) and Sunday sacredness, Satan will bring the people under his deceptions. While the former lays the foundation of spiritualism, the latter creates a bond of sympathy with Rome. The Protestants of the United States will be foremost in stretching their hands across the gulf to grasp the hand of spiritualism; they will reach over the abyss to clasp hands with the Roman power; and under the influence of this threefold union, this country will follow in the steps of Rome in trampling on the rights of conscience." GC 588

The Three Fold Union: 1) Spiritualism 2) Apostate Protestants 3) Papal Rome will lead to the mark of the beast crisis, the legislation and enforcement of Satan's counterfeit "sabbath", Sunday worship.

Remember Spiritualism believes in the immortality of the soul, that soul can't not die. It also teaches that humans are naturally good and are like god. It also mirrors the mediation practices of yoga and new age religion to "empty the mind" which comes from Papal Rome known as spiritual formation and contemplative prayer. Also a major branch of spiritualism is Christian "humanism" that teaches a false christ that loves and promotes their worldly and fleshly desires. They believe their "good" deeds will atone for their sin and that no one will have total victory over sin, not until they pass through the heavenly gates.

God's people should have nothing to do with spiritualism! It is a LIE. Many seventh-day Adventist has become seduced and have embrace it! This is the reason why the General Conference has a close ecumenical relationship with the beast, Papal Rome! (Showed details about this in previous lessons). Remember can Truth and Lie walk together? NO!

Why is Spiritualism so dangerous?

"The miracle-working power manifested through Spiritualism will exert its influence against those who choose to obey God rather than men. Messages will come from the spirits declaring that God has sent them to inform the rejecters of Sunday that they are in error, and that the laws of the land should be obeyed as the law of God. They will lament the great wickedness in the world, and second the testimony of religious teachers, that the

degraded state of morals is caused by the desecration of Sunday. Great will be the indignation excited against all who refuse to accept their testimony.

Those who honor the Bible Sabbath will be denounced as enemies of law and order, as breaking down the moral restraints of society, causing anarchy and corruption, and calling down the judgments of God upon the earth.”
Ellen White, Spirit of Prophecy, Volume 4, p. 409

What is the “heart condition” of those “Christians” in Babylon who believe in Spiritualism even though it wears the garb of Christianity?

“As the teachings of spiritualism are accepted by the churches, the restraint imposed upon the carnal heart is removed, and the profession of religion will become a cloak to conceal the basest iniquity. A belief in spiritual manifestations opens the door to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils, and thus the influence of evil angels will be felt in the churches. GC 603-604

Warning Before Destruction

Out of love and compassion, the FINAL warning message will go forth with POWER and might. As time gets closer to the end it will get LOUDER and LOUDER. Throughout the Bible before destruction, God always send a warning! Before God destroyed the earth with a flood He give a warning through Noah. Before He destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah He gave a warning sound through Lot. We are living in the days compared to Noah and Lot, but even worst.

God will give all people an opportunity to accept or reject the truth. The enforcement of Sunday worship will come its full view to the world. The final warning brings into the mind of every person the truth of the seventh-day Sabbath. All people will have to make a decision to follow God or man made traditions that oppose the law of God.

During the mark of the beast crisis what will be the greatest test of loyalty?

The true seventh-day sabbath established by God at Creation verses Satan’s counterfeit Sunday “sabbath”. The choice reveals who you are loyalty to God or Satan. The Sabbath is the evidence of your faith. Who do you believe, “thus saith the Lord” or “thus saith a pastor” or man made laws.

Revelation 13:15-17

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.

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.

Remember, what will happen to those who have the mark of the beast?

They will receive the wrath of God pour out with no mercy! What is the wrath of God? The seven last plagues.

Revelation 16:2

2 And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image.

Revelation 19:20

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.

How do the majority of others view those NOW giving the three angels message and the final warning of the fourth angel?

“Heretofore those who presented the truths of the third angel's message have often been regarded as mere alarmists. Their predictions that religious intolerance would gain control in the United States, that church and state would unite to persecute those who keep the commandments of God, have been pronounced groundless and absurd. It has been confidently declared that this land could never become other than what it has been--the defender of religious freedom. But as the question of enforcing Sunday observance is widely agitated, the event so long doubted and disbelieved is seen to be approaching, and the third message will produce an effect which it could not have had before.” GC 605

The mark of the beast crisis is coming. More Sunday sabbath propaganda pushed by Papal Rome....

“A divine intervention! Poland's Catholic lawmakers approve BAN on Sunday shopping in the country”
Daily Mail News, November 24, 2017

“The bill, proposed by **trade unions** that want shop workers to spend more time with their families, got support from the ruling party that adheres to Catholic values.”

“Poland's Bishops Conference welcomed parliament's move.

'Let's not disregard God in public life and let's not assume we have the right to organise national life as if God didn't exist,' it said in a statement.” - <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5114809/Polands-Catholic-lawmakers-approve-BAN-Sunday-shopping.html#ixzz504Rm1RP7>

Ellen White says, “The trades unions will be one of the agencies that will bring upon this earth a time of trouble such as has not been since the world began.” --Letter 200, 1903.

“Poland is abolishing Sunday shopping. We should follow their example” - Catholic Herald, written by Alexander Lucie-Smith (priest) posted Monday, 27 Nov 2017

“Allowing Sunday trading was a mistake, and family life has suffered as a result”

“Is there any prospect of Britain following suit? We live, sadly, under governments who regularly fail to do anything to prevent the erosion of family life and traditional values; indeed, quite the contrary: all our recent governments have embraced every single manifestation of social liberalisation, regardless of the cost to those who will not benefit, such as shop workers. The prospect of rolling back Sunday trading seems remote; but perhaps a consideration of the Polish example may prompt some at least to see the Sunday Trading Act as, at the very least, a mixed blessing.”

Do you have the zeal and boldness to give this loud cry final warning call? God says...

Malachi 4:5-6

5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:

6 And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

We must go in the attitude of Elijah who gave God's last message with boldness and zeal. God does not excuse us from the mission to give the three angels message and the final warning to "Come out of Babylon!" Will it be easy? NO Will you receive the applause and world recognition? NO Will you be persecuted? YES!

"In every generation God has sent His servants to rebuke sin, both in the world and in the church. But the people desire smooth things spoken to them, and the pure, unvarnished truth is not acceptable. Many reformers, in entering upon their work, determined to exercise great prudence in attacking the sins of the church and the nation. They hoped, by the example of a pure Christian life, to lead the people back to the doctrines of the Bible. But the Spirit of God came upon them as it came upon Elijah, moving him to rebuke the sins of a wicked king and an apostate people; they could not refrain from preaching the plain utterances of the Bible--doctrines which they had been reluctant to present. They were impelled to zealously declare the truth and the danger which threatened souls. The words which the Lord gave them they uttered, fearless of consequences, and the people were compelled to hear the warning." GC 606

Specifically, who are QUALIFIED to give the FINAL WARNING call? Do you have to have a Phd, a graduate from the seminary? Do you have to have permission and credentials from a church? Approval from a conference?

Who qualified John the Baptist to give the Elijah message to prepare a people for the first coming of Jesus? God. John the Baptist and Jesus were NOT trained in the Jewish schools in their day because they were ALL corrupt. The same is true today, the SDA corp schools and universities are ALL corrupt! Instead of leading them to Christ, they are creating bridges to a false christ and the world!

Concerning this Martin Luther states, "I am much afraid that the universities will prove to be the great gates of hell, unless they diligently labor in explaining the Holy Scriptures, and engraving them in the hearts of youth. I advise no one to place his child where the Scriptures do not reign paramount. Every institution in which men are not unceasingly occupied with the word of God must become corrupt." GC 140

All those who are loyal to God's truth and keep His seventh-day Sabbath will give the FINAL WARNING to the world – family, friends, neighbors, strangers, co-workers, etc. Your zeal for the TRUTH will be greater than Satan zeal to stop you!

"Thus the message of the third angel will be proclaimed. As the time comes for it to be given with greatest power, the Lord will work through humble instruments, leading the minds of those who consecrate themselves to His service. The laborers will be qualified rather by the unction of His Spirit than by the training of literary institutions. Men (including women and youth) of faith and prayer will be constrained to go forth with holy zeal, declaring the words which God gives them. The sins of Babylon will be laid open. The fearful results of enforcing the observances of the church by civil authority, the inroads of spiritualism, the stealthy but rapid progress of the papal power--all will be unmasked. By these solemn warnings the people will be stirred. Thousands upon thousands will listen who have never heard words like these." GC 606

The Final Warning MESSAGE will stir up communities and churches! Many will go to their pastors for explanation. Many to keep their salaries and popularity will attack the integrity of the messengers of truth and give smooth messages to try to ease the inquires. But some will demand a "thus saith the Lord" only and join the side of TRUTH and receive the seal of the living God!

"As the controversy extends into new fields and the minds of the people are called to God's downtrodden law (Forgotten Commandment), Satan is astir. The power attending the message will only madden those who oppose it. The clergy will put forth almost superhuman efforts to shut away the light lest it should shine upon their flocks. By every means at their command they will endeavor to suppress the discussion of these vital

questions. The church appeals to the strong arm of civil power, and, in this work, papists and Protestants unite.”
GC 607

What will happen to those who boldly give the Final Warning as the Sunday movement is strongly urged upon the world as a result of terrible calamities due to “climate change, poverty, and “moral decay”?

2 Timothy 3:12

12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

Matthew 10:17

17 But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues;

Matthew 24:9-10

9 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.

“They will be threatened with fines and imprisonment, and some will be offered positions of influence, and other rewards and advantages, as inducements to renounce their faith. But their steadfast answer is: "Show us from the word of God our error"--the same plea that was made by Luther under similar circumstances. Those who are arraigned before the courts make a strong vindication of the truth, and some who hear them are led to take their stand to keep all the commandments of God. Thus light will be brought before thousands who otherwise would know nothing of these truths.” GC 607

“As the defenders of truth refuse to honor the Sunday-sabbath, some of them will be thrust into prison, some will be exiled, some will be treated as slaves. To human wisdom all this now seems impossible; but as the restraining Spirit of God shall be withdrawn from men, and they shall be under the control of Satan, who hates the divine precepts, there will be strange developments. The heart can be very cruel when God's fear and love are removed.” GC 608

What did Jesus promise the faithful when they are brought before courts, judges, and world leaders in defense of the TRUTH?

Matthew 10:18-20, 22

18 And ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles.

19 But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak.

20 For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you.

22 And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.

Who will be the most zealous against those giving the Final Warning?

“As the storm approaches, a **large class who have professed faith in the third angel's message**, but have not been **sanctified through obedience to the truth**, **abandon** their position and join the ranks of the opposition. By uniting with the world and partaking of its spirit, they have come to view matters in nearly the same light; and when the test is brought, they are prepared to choose the easy, popular side. Men of talent and pleasing address, who once rejoiced in the truth, employ their powers to deceive and mislead souls. They become the most bitter enemies of their former brethren. When Sabbathkeepers are brought before the courts to answer for

their faith, these apostates are the most efficient agents of Satan to misrepresent and accuse them, and by false reports and insinuations to stir up the rulers against them.” GC 608

Does persecution, imprisonment, and the threaten of death stop the faithful in the last days from giving the Final Warning?

NO! What was the response of the apostles when they threaten and imprisoned? Did they stop giving TRUTH?

Acts 4:18-20

18 And they (Jewish leaders) called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus.

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.

20 For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.

Acts 5:28-29, 41, 42

28 Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us.

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

41 And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.

42 And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.

We cannot cease in giving the everlasting gospel of the three angels message and the final warning! Even during trials and temptations we MUST press on and run the race with patience!

“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 609

The Latter Rain of the Holy Spirit will be poured out!

Joel 2:23

23 Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month.

Acts 2:17

17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

The Latter Rain will be pour out on the faithful who are obedient to God and giving the FINAL WARNING!

“Servants of God, with their faces lighted up and shining with holy consecration, will hasten from place to place to proclaim the message from heaven. By thousands of voices, all over the earth, the warning will be given.”

GC 612

“The message will be carried not so much by argument as by the deep conviction of the Spirit of God. The arguments have been presented. The seed has been sown, and now it will spring up and bear fruit. The publications distributed by missionary workers have exerted their influence, yet many whose minds were impressed have been prevented from fully comprehending the truth or from yielding obedience. Now the rays of light penetrate everywhere, the truth is seen in its clearness, and the honest children of God sever the bands which have held them. Family connections, church relations, are powerless to stay them now. Truth is more precious than all besides. Notwithstanding the agencies combined against the truth, a large number take their stand upon the Lord's side.” GC 612