



GREAT CONTROVERSY

Standing Through the Final Crisis
Chapter 39, "*The Time of Trouble*"

And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

— Daniel 12:1 (KJV)

DO NOT DELAY

- Those who delay a preparation for the day of God cannot obtain it in the time of trouble or at any subsequent time. The case of all such is hopeless. {GC 620.2}



FAITH THAT CAN ENDURE

- “The season of distress and anguish before us will require a faith that can endure weariness, delay, and hunger—a faith that will not faint though severely tried. The period of probation is granted to all to prepare for that time.” {GC 621.2}



EVENTS OF TIME OF TROUBLE

- God's people sealed
- Jesus ceases intercession, close of probation unknown
- Satan has entire control of impenitent
- Forms of religion continued by wicked
- Decree issued against those who keep Sabbath
- People of God plunged into time of Jacob's trouble
- Satan stirs up wicked to destroy God's people
- The Lord permits Satan to try His people to uttermost
- Satan himself will personate Christ
- God's people will flee and associate in companies
- Seven last plagues upon wicked
- Angels protect righteous

SABBATH POINT OF CONTROVERSY

- “As the Sabbath has become the special point of controversy throughout Christendom, and religious and secular authorities have combined to enforce the observance of the Sunday, the persistent refusal of a small minority to yield to the popular demand will make them objects of universal execration. It will be urged that the few who stand in opposition to an institution of the church and a law of the state ought not to be tolerated;” {GC 615.2}



NOTHING UNDONE

- “His [Jacob] only hope was in the mercy of God; his only defense must be prayer. Yet he 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}



TRIAL OF FAITH

- “As Satan accuses the people of God on account of their sins, the Lord permits him **to try them to the uttermost**. Their confidence in God, their faith and firmness, will be severely tested.” {GC 6 | 8.3}



STEADFAST FAITH

- “They afflict their souls before God, pointing to their past repentance of their many sins, and pleading the Saviour’s promise: “Let him take hold of My strength, that he may make peace with Me; and he shall make peace with Me.” (Isaiah 27:5). Their faith does not fail because their prayers are not immediately answered. Though suffering the keenest anxiety, terror, and distress, they do not cease their intercessions.” {GC 619.3}



CONFESS SINS NOW

- “So, in the time of trouble, if the people of God had unconfessed sins to appear before them while tortured with fear and anguish, they would be overwhelmed; despair would cut off their faith, and they could not have confidence to plead with God for deliverance.” {GC 620.1}
- “All who endeavor to excuse or conceal their sins, and permit them to remain upon the books of heaven, unconfessed and unforgiven, will be overcome by Satan.” {GC 620.2}

EARTHLINESS MUST BE CONSUMED

- “God’s love for His children during the period of their severest trial is as strong and tender as in the days of their sunniest prosperity; but it is needful for them to be placed in the furnace of fire; their earthliness must be consumed, that the image of Christ may be perfectly reflected. {GC 621.1}



WRESTLE WITH GOD

- “Jacob prevailed because he was persevering and determined. His victory is an evidence of the power of importunate prayer. All who will lay hold of God’s promises, as he did, and be as earnest and persevering as he was, will succeed as he succeeded. Those who are unwilling to deny self, to agonize before God, to pray long and earnestly for His blessing, will not obtain it. Wrestling with God—how few know what it is! {GC 621.2}



DISPENSE SELFISH GRATIFICATIONS

- “We should now acquaint ourselves with God by proving His promises. Angels record every prayer that is earnest and sincere. We should rather dispense with selfish gratifications than neglect communion with God.” {GC 622.2}



SEEK PERFECTION IN CHRIST

- “Now, while our great High Priest is making the atonement for us, we should seek to become perfect in Christ. Not even by a thought could our Saviour be brought to yield to the power of temptation... This is the condition in which those must be found who shall stand in the time of trouble.” {GC 623.1}



PREPARATION TIME IS NOW

- “Only those who have been diligent students of the Scriptures and who have received the love of the truth will be shielded from the powerful delusion that takes the world captive. By the Bible testimony these will detect the deceiver in his disguise. To all the testing time will come... Satan will, if possible, prevent them from obtaining a preparation to stand in that day.” {GC 625.3}



GLORIOUS DELIVERANCE



- “Glorious will be the deliverance of those who have patiently waited for His coming and whose names are written in the book of life.” {GC 634.1}

TIME OF TROUBLE PREPARATION

- Cannot delay preparation
- Represented by Jacob's night of anguish
- Exert to place ourselves in proper light before people
- Humiliation, repentance, self-surrender
- Confidence in God, faith, firmness severely tested
- Fear every sin not repented
- Afflict souls before God
- Earthliness must be consumed
- Faith that can endure weariness, delay, and hunger
- Importunate prayer
- Exercise faith, hope, and patience
- Dispense selfish gratifications
- Seek to become perfect in Christ
- Be diligent students of Scriptures and receive love of the truth
- Jesus will send help just when we need it