

Confusion on Prophecy



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Confusion on Prophecy

- ❖ Recent date-setting trends have emerged
- ❖ March/April of 2019 for National Sunday Law
- ❖ Others are claiming November 9, 2019
- ❖ These are all a violation of the plainest statements from Ellen White on time-setting

Confusion on Prophecy

- ❖ Other issues include the so-called 2520 “prophecy”
- ❖ Advocacy of feast-keeping and lunar sabbaths
- ❖ Re-application of the seven trumpets
- ❖ End of Daniel 11 is somehow a Middle East conflict that will lead to the Close of Probation

Current Confusion

- ❖ On October 17, 2018, David Gates released a video on YouTube entitled “Even at the Door”
- ❖ To date, this video has over 220,000 views



Claims by David Gates

- At the 2015 General Conference Session in San Antonio, the Seventh-day Adventist Church voted a change in its belief about the writings of Ellen G. White that constitutes a rejection of her writings. He says that the GC “at least consider it (SOP) not inspired anymore.”

Claims by David Gates

- ❖ Promotes idea of 3 and 1/2 years from rejection of Testimony of Jesus
- ❖ 3 and 1/2 years from death of Jesus to stoning of Stephen
- ❖ 3 and 1/2 years from initial surrounding of Jerusalem to its destruction

Claims by David Gates

- ❖ Vote on change of wording for SOP was in July of 2015
- ❖ However, he starts 3 and 1/2 years from September 23, 2015

Pope Francis Addresses Congress

- ❖ On September 24, 2015, Pope Francis addressed a joint session of Congress.
- ❖ Gates claims that Rome invaded America on this date in history.
- ❖ Incidentally, Gates claims it was 9/23/2015 which coincides with Jewish Day of Atonement



Claims by David Gates

- ❖ Rather than starting his 3 and 1/2 year “timeline” from the date of the vote at the GC Session, Gates starts it on 9/23/2015 when the Pope addressed Congress (really was 9/24/2015)
- ❖ He says that 3 and 1/2 years from that date takes you to March or April of 2019
- ❖ He says that he is not time-setting

Claims by David Gates

- ❖ He believes that we have been living in the judgment of the living since September of 2015
- ❖ Around March/April 2019, there will be a National Sunday Law and probation will close for Seventh-day Adventists.

Fact Checking

- ❖ David Gates interestingly does not show the statement for the change in wording of SDA's belief on the writings of Ellen G. White
- ❖ Considering he is basing his belief that this helped to trigger the end of all things for SDAs, that is quite irresponsible.
- ❖ He is sincere but we are expected to take his word for it.

2010 Statement on Ellen G. White

"One of the gifts of the Holy Spirit is prophecy. This gift is an identifying mark of the remnant church and was manifested in the ministry of Ellen G. White. As the Lord's messenger, her writings are a continuing and authoritative source of truth which provide for the church comfort, guidance, instruction, and correction. They also make clear that the Bible is the standard by which all teaching and experience must be tested. (Joel 2:28, 29; Acts 2:14-21; Heb. 1:1-3; Rev. 12:17; 19:10.)" (2010 Manual)

2015 Statement on Ellen G. White

"The Scriptures testify that one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit is prophecy. This gift is an identifying mark of the remnant church and we believe it was manifested in the ministry of Ellen G. White. Her writings speak with prophetic authority and provide comfort, guidance, instruction, and correction to the church. They also make clear that the Bible is the standard by which all teaching and experience must be tested. (Num. 12:6; 2 Chron. 20:20; Amos 3:7; Joel 2:28, 29; Acts 2:14-21; 2 Tim. 3:16, 17; Heb. 1:1-3; Rev. 12:17; 19:10; 22:8, 9.)" (2015 Manual, p.168)

Fact Checking

- ❖ David Gates claims that the GC does not believe Ellen White's writings are inspired anymore.
- ❖ Yet the statement shows that SDAs affirm that her writings are an identifying mark of the remnant church
- ❖ And that her writings speak with prophetic authority

Further Confusion

- ❖ David Gates shares a link on his video to an SDA now former pastor who is re-interpreting the 1260, 1290, and the 1335 days of Daniel 12 as literal time prophecies.
- ❖ Ironically, David Gates is rejecting the clear testimony from Ellen White that there are no more time prophecies after 1844.

Further Confusion

- ❖ David Gates also claimed that the compliance document voted at Annual Council would allow the General Conference to disfellowship local church members
- ❖ A clear reading of the document says no such thing



Ellen White on Time Prophecies

False and Fanatical Movements

“There will always be false and fanatical movements made by persons in the church who claim to be led of God—those who will run before they are sent and will give day and date for the occurrence of unfulfilled prophecy. The enemy is pleased to have them do this, for their successive failures and leading into false lines cause confusion and unbelief. — Selected Messages 2:84 (1897).” (LDE 35.2)

No Definite Time After 1844

“I plainly stated at the Jackson camp meeting to these fanatical parties that they were doing the work of the adversary of souls; they were in darkness. They claimed to have great light that probation would close in October, 1884. I there stated in public that the Lord had been pleased to show me that there would be no definite time in the message given of God since 1844.”—2SM 73 (1885). (LDE 35.3)

No Time Proclamation After 1844

“Our position has been one of waiting and watching, with no time-proclamation to intervene between the close of the prophetic periods in 1844 and the time of our Lord’s coming.”—*Manuscript Releases* 10:270 (1888). (LDE 36.1)

“The people will not have another message upon definite time. After this period of time [Revelation 10:4-6], reaching from 1842 to 1844, there can be no definite tracing of the prophetic time. The longest reckoning reaches to the autumn of 1844.”—*The S.D.A. Bible Commentary* 7:971 (1900). (LDE 36.2)

Message from Satan

"God has not revealed to us the time when this message will close, or when probation will have an end. Those things that are revealed we shall accept for ourselves and for our children; but let us not seek to know that which has been kept secret in the councils of the Almighty. It is our duty to watch and work and wait, to labor every moment for the souls of men that are ready to perish."

“We are to keep walking continually in the footsteps of Jesus, working in His lines, dispensing His gifts as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. Satan will be ready to give to anyone who is not learning every day of Jesus, a special message of his own creating, in order to make of no effect the wonderful truth for this time.” (RH Oct. 9, 1894)

Hidden in Secret Councils

“Letters have come to me asking me if I have any special light as to the time when probation will close; and I answer that I have only this message to bear, that it is now time to work while the day lasts, for the night cometh in which no man can work. Now, just now, it is time for us to be watching, working, and waiting. The Word of the Lord reveals the fact that the end of all things is at hand, and its testimony is most decided that it is necessary for every soul to have the truth planted in the heart so that it will control the life and sanctify the character.”

Hidden in Secret Councils

“The Spirit of the Lord is working to take the truth of the inspired Word and stamp it upon the soul so that professed followers of Christ will have a holy, sacred joy that they will be able to impart to others. The opportune time for us to work is now, just now, while the day lasts. There is no command for anyone to search the Scripture in order to ascertain, if possible, when probation will close. God has no such message for any mortal lips. He would have no mortal tongue declare that which He has hidden in His secret councils” (The Review and Herald, October 9, 1894).

1260, 1290, and 1335 Days

- ❖ David Gates along with a former pastor of the SDA Church among others are trying to re-interpret the 1260, 1290, and 1335 days of Daniel 12 as literal “time” prophecies.
- ❖ They acknowledge the historical fulfillment of these prophecies, but they believe there is a literal future fulfillment.

Daniel 12

- ❖ “Let us read and understand the 12th chapter of Daniel. It is a warning we shall all need to understand before the time of the end.” Letter 161, July 30, 1903
- ❖ This statement is used as justification for the “new understanding” of futurism that is being promoted.

Prophecy Again

- ❖ Daniel 12 and Revelation 10 are closely linked
- ❖ Revelation 10:11 says “Thou must prophesy again.”
- ❖ It is thus claimed that the prophecies of Daniel 12 have a dual application because of the above phrase.
- ❖ The reality is that this refers to a wider proclamation of the three angels’ messages.

1335 Days are Ended

“On our return to Brother Nichol’s, the Lord gave me a vision and showed me that the truth must be made plain upon tables, and it would cause many to decide for the truth by the third angel’s message with the two former being made plain upon tables. I also saw it was as necessary for the paper to be published as for the messengers to go, for the messengers need a paper to carry with them containing present truth to put in the hands of those who hear and then the truth would not fade from the mind, and that the paper would go where the messengers could not go. Other things I saw, which will appear in the paper.... (5MR 203.1)

We told him [Brother H] of some of his errors in the past, that the **1335 days were ended**, and numerous [other] errors of his.”—Letter 28, 1850, pp. 1-3 (To “The Church in Brother Hastings’ House,” November 7, 1850.) (5MR 203.2)

True Meaning of Daniel 12

- ❖ Daniel 12:1-4 is a continuation of the prophecy of Daniel 10 and 11
- ❖ Daniel 12:5-13 is an explanation of key points of the vision
- ❖ This is identical to the pattern of Daniel 2, 7, and 8
- ❖ Daniel 12:5-13 does not stand by itself. It is an explanation of Daniel 11

Key Points of Understanding

- ❖ Daniel 12:1 identifies the close of probation when Michael stands up
- ❖ It also describes the deliverance of God's people whose names are found written in the book
- ❖ Verse 2 describes the special resurrection
- ❖ Verse 3 describes the wise who have given the loud cry and who "shine as the brightness of the firmament"

Key Points of Understanding

- ❖ Verse 4 shows that the understanding of the prophecy of Daniel 11/12 is sealed until the time of the end (1798)
- ❖ Verses 5-13 are a further explanation of the prophecy of Daniel 11 and 12
- ❖ Verse 7 shows that Christ swears by Himself that it will take 1260 years to scatter God's people until 1798

Key Points of Understanding

- ❖ Verses 8-10 reveal that after 1798 the wise will be purified and made to understand the prophecy. The wicked will not understand.
- ❖ Verse 11 connects to Daniel 11:31 when the daily is taken away and the abomination of desolation is set up. This is 508 AD.
- ❖ Thus 1290 and 1335 extend from 508 to 1798 and 508 to 1843 respectively.

Key Points of Understanding

- ❖ What is the significance of 1798 and 1843?
- ❖ 1798 is the beginning of the time of the end until the Second Coming of Jesus
- ❖ 1843 is the year the Millerites originally believed that Jesus would come. There is a special blessing for those who were alive at that time.

1798 and 1843/1844

- ❖ God wants us to understand that Daniel and Revelation are pointing to 1798 and 1843/1844 as the focal points of prophetic history
- ❖ Daniel 7:25; 11:33, 35; 12:7, 11; Revelation 11:2, 3; 12:6; 12:14; 13:5
- ❖ At least **9!** times that prophecy points us to 1798

1335 Days Ended in 1843

“We told him [Brother H] of some of his errors in the past, that the **1335 days were ended**, and numerous [other] errors of his.”—Letter 28, 1850, pp. 1-3 (To “The Church in Brother Hastings’ House,” November 7, 1850.) (5MR 203.2)

Arguments for Literal Days

- ❖ The Hebrew word for “days” in Daniel 12:11, 12 is different than “times” in Daniel 7:25 (Aramaic) and Daniel 12:7 (Hebrew) and for “evenings and mornings” in Daniel 8:14 and 26 (Hebrew)
- ❖ It is the same word throughout the Old Testament to describe literal days
- ❖ Thus, they believe the 1260, 1290, and 1335 days must represent literal time

Truth About 1260, 1290, and 1335

- ❖ Hebrew word for “days” in Daniel 12 is same as found in Numbers 14:34 and Ezekiel 4:6
- ❖ The word for “days” (Greek) in Revelation 11:2 and 12:6 is the same word used to describe literal days in the New Testament
- ❖ The word for “months” (Greek) in Revelation 11:3 and 13:5 is used to describe literal months in the New Testament

Jeff Pippenger and the 2520

- ❖ Jeff Pippenger is the leader of a ministry in Arkansas known as Future for America
- ❖ He and others have been proclaiming a 2520 “prophecy” for several years



2520 and the 1843 Chart

- ❖ Millerites preached 2520 “prophecy” based on Leviticus 26
- ❖ One of several ways that they pointed to 1843
- ❖ 677 B.C. to 1843 A.D.



Jeff Pippenger on the 2520

- ❖ Jeff Pippenger updated the 2520 “prophecy”
- ❖ He added what Hiram Edson had proposed that the 2520 is from 723 B.C. to 1798 A.D.
- ❖ He combined what William Miller taught

Jeff Pippenger on the 2520

- ❖ Two starting points: 723 B.C. (fall of northern kingdom of Israel); 677 B.C. (date that Manasseh taken into captivity in Assyria)
- ❖ Pippenger and associates began teaching that this is a testing truth for Modern Adventism
- ❖ Must accept this “truth” to receive the latter rain and be sealed

Leviticus 26 and the Seven Times (2520)

- ❖ Word for times is different that “times” in Daniel
- ❖ Means intensity rather than duration
- ❖ Found four times in Leviticus 26 and describes what will happen to Israel if disobedient

Ellen White on the 1843 Chart

“I have seen that the 1843 chart was directed by the hand of the Lord, and that it should not be altered; that the figures were as He wanted them; that His hand was over and hid a mistake in some of the figures, so that none could see it, until His hand was removed.” (EW 74)

“I saw that the truth should be made plain upon tables, that the earth and the fullness thereof is the Lord’s, and that necessary means should not be spared to make it plain. I saw that the old chart was directed by the Lord, and that not a figure of it should be altered **except by inspiration**. I saw that the figures of the chart were as God would have them, and that His hand was over and hid a mistake in some of the figures, so that none should see it till His hand was removed.” (SpM 1.3)

Ellen White on Longest Prophecy

“The experience of the disciples who preached the ‘gospel of the kingdom’ at the first advent of Christ, had its counterpart in the experience of those who proclaimed the message of His second advent. As the disciples went out preaching, ‘The time is fulfilled, the kingdom of God is at hand,’ so Miller and his associates proclaimed that the **longest and last prophetic period** brought to view in the Bible was about to expire, that the judgment was at hand, and the everlasting kingdom was to be ushered in.”

“The preaching of the disciples in regard to time was based on the seventy weeks of Daniel 9. The message given by Miller and his associates announced the termination of the 2300 days of Daniel 8:14, of which the seventy weeks form a part. The preaching of each was based upon the fulfillment of a different portion of the same great prophetic period.” (GC 351.1)

Ellen White on Longest Prophecy

“The people will not have another message upon definite time. After this period of time [Revelation 10:4-6], reaching from 1842 to 1844, there can be no definite tracing of the prophetic time. The longest reckoning reaches to the autumn of 1844.”—*The S.D.A. Bible Commentary* 7:971 (1900). (LDE 36.2)

2300 day prophecy is longest time prophecy and reaches to the autumn of 1844 (October 22)

The Jeff Pippenger Deception

- ❖ Jeff Pippenger has been disfellowshipped from the SDA Church
- ❖ He now claims to be a modern prophet to the SDA movement (similar to Victor Houteff of Shepherd's Rod)



The Jeff Pippenger Deception

- ❖ Has formed a new church called Church Triumphant
- ❖ Teaches that probation will close for SDAs on November 9, 2019





Feast-Keeping Deception

Feast-Keeping

- ❖ Some SDAs teach that the feast sabbaths are binding for us to keep as much as the Seventh-day Sabbath
- ❖ In order to be sealed, they teach we must keep the feasts

Feast-keeping

“At these yearly assemblies the hearts of old and young would be encouraged in the service of God, while the association of the people from the different quarters of the land would strengthen the ties that bound them to God and to one another. Well would it be for the people of God at the present time to have a Feast of Tabernacles—a joyous commemoration of the blessings of God to them.” PP 540

Nailed to the Cross

❖ Ceremonial law nailed to Cross

❖ Colossians 2:14-17

“The laws of sacrificial offerings were typical and were in force until type should reach its antitype in the greater and wholly perfect sacrifice of Jesus Christ. These sacrifices and services of the temple were to cease with the perfect offering of Christ Himself as the Lamb without blemish; these sacrifices were abolished at the cross. This handwriting of ordinances our Lord did blot out and take away and nail to His cross.” (Ms43-1887.1)

Feasts Pass Away Forever

“Christ was standing at the point of transition between two economies and their two great festivals. He, the spotless Lamb of God, was about to present Himself as a sin offering, that He would thus bring to an end the system of types and ceremonies that for four thousand years had pointed to His death. As He ate the Passover with His disciples, He instituted in its place the service that was to be the memorial of His great sacrifice. The national festival of the Jews was to **pass away forever**. The service which Christ established was to be observed by His followers in all lands and through all ages.” (DA 652.2)

Truth on the Trumpets

- ❖ Revelation 8:7-13 - First four trumpets; judgment on Western Rome; culminates with fall of Western Roman Empire in 476 A.D.
- ❖ Revelation 9 - Fifth and Sixth trumpets; judgments on the Eastern Roman Empire
- ❖ Three woes correlate with last three trumpets

Truth on the Trumpets

- ❖ Fifth trumpet - July 27, 1299 - 1449
- ❖ Sixth trumpet - July 27, 1449 - August 11, 1840 (Revelation 9:15 - one hour, one day, one month, one year - 391 years 15 days)

Truth on the Trumpets

“In the year 1840 another **remarkable fulfillment of prophecy** excited widespread interest. Two years before, Josiah Litch, one of the leading ministers preaching the second advent, published an exposition of Revelation 9, predicting the fall of the Ottoman Empire. According to his calculations, this power was to be overthrown “in A.D. 1840, sometime in the month of August;” and only a few days previous to its accomplishment he wrote: “Allowing the first period, 150 years, to have been exactly fulfilled before Deacozes ascended the throne by permission of the Turks, and that the 391 years, fifteen days, commenced at the close of the first period, it will end on the 11th of August, 1840, when the Ottoman power in Constantinople may be expected to be broken. And this, I believe, will be found to be the case.”—Josiah Litch, in *Signs of the Times, and Expositor of Prophecy*, August 1, 1840.” (GC 334.4)

Truth on the Trumpets

“At the very time specified, Turkey, through her ambassadors, accepted the protection of the allied powers of Europe, and thus placed herself under the control of Christian nations. **The event exactly fulfilled the prediction.** (See Appendix.) When it became known, multitudes were convinced of the correctness of the principles of prophetic interpretation adopted by Miller and his associates, and a wonderful impetus was given to the advent movement. Men of learning and position united with Miller, both in preaching and in publishing his views, and from 1840 to 1844 the work rapidly extended.” (GC 335.1)

Truth on the Trumpets

- ❖ Seventh Trumpet
- ❖ Revelation 11:15-19; commences in 1844 with the judgment
- ❖ Culminates with judgment on papal Rome with outpouring of seven last plagues



Daniel 11 and the Middle East

Daniel 2	Daniel 7	Daniel 8	Daniel 11/12
Head of gold: Babylon	Lion: Babylon	—	—
Chest and Arms of Silver: Medo- Persia	Bear: Medo-Persia	Ram: Medo-Persia	Darius the Mede and Persian kings
Thigh of Brass: Greece	Leopard: Greece	He-goat: Greece	King of North: Antiochus and Seleucid division of Greece
Legs of Iron: Rome	Dreadful Beast: Pagan Rome	Little Horn: Pagan Rome	King of North: Pagan Rome
Feet of Iron and Clay: Divided Europe and Papal Rome	Little Horn: Papal Rome	Little Horn: Papal Rome	King of North: Papal Rome
Stone Strikes Image: Second Coming	Judgment Begins: 1844	Sanctuary Cleansed: 1844	Michael Stands Up: Close of Probation - Future