

# Gospel Clarity for the Last Days



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*GYC December 31, 2018*

# Gospel Clarity

- ❖ Revelation 14:6, 7 – We have been given a commission to preach the everlasting gospel.
- ❖ Matthew 24:14 — The gospel is to be preached as a witness.
- ❖ Revelation 18:1 — When the gospel is preached as a witness, the earth will be illuminated with the glory of God's character.

- ❖ The Everlasting Gospel is at the heart of the three angels' messages.
- ❖ It is the same gospel from Genesis 3:15 and Genesis 15:6 as it is in the New Testament.
- ❖ It is a gospel that saves us from our sins, not in our sins (Matthew 1:21).
- ❖ It is different than the mainstream Christian gospel that comes from the fallen churches of Babylon.

# Gospel Confusion

- ❖ Jesus taught Nicodemus in John 3:3, 5 that one must be born again to be saved.
- ❖ Matthew 1:21 teaches that Jesus will save us from our sins.
- ❖ Yet the mainstream Christian gospel teaches that we can be saved in sin.

- ❖ *Questions on Doctrine* tried to meld Adventist theology with the Evangelical gospel.
- ❖ Desmond Ford took the next step.
- ❖ If we are sinners by nature, we will be sinning till Jesus comes.
- ❖ Therefore, mediation cannot close at the end of probation and the investigative judgment.
- ❖ Thus, 1844 does not add up to him.

- ❖ Desmond Ford's gospel teaches that by nature we will sin till Jesus comes.
- ❖ Thus, we can only be saved by a gospel that covers us but that can only partially change us.
- ❖ Yes, our life is improved by following Jesus. However, sin remains but does not reign.
- ❖ This gospel teaches that we are saved only by a legal justification.
- ❖ Sanctification is not part of salvation. It is only a fruit and it will never be complete.

- ❖ This gospel that promotes forgiveness with only partial transformation is incomplete.
- ❖ It leads to a lowering of standards in the church.
- ❖ Lower standards cannot cause one to be lost according to this gospel.
- ❖ Therefore, we see all kinds of foolishness coming into the church. (Dancing with drums, jewelry, acceptance of LGBT lifestyle etc.)

# True Gospel of Jesus Christ

❖ The Gospel saves us from sin.

❖ The only Bible definition of sin is that it is the transgression of the law.

“The only definition we find in the Bible for sin is that ‘sin is the transgression of the law’” (1 John 3:4).  
(1 SM 320)

❖ Ezekiel 18:20 - The son shall not bear iniquity of father



- ❖ Romans 8:1 - “There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit.”
- ❖ Condemnation does not come from being born. Condemnation comes from transgressing God’s law.
- ❖ Transgression of God’s law is a choice, not a state of being.
- ❖ Condemnation is released when we **choose** to be in Christ Jesus and no longer walk after the flesh.

# Jesus — Our Example

- ❖ Romans 8:3, 4 - “For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.”
- ❖ Philippians 2:7 - He was “made in the likeness of men.”
- ❖ 1 Peter 2:21-23 - Christ left us an example that we should follow His steps.

❖ 1 John 4:2, 3 - “Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is in the world.”

❖ The theology of Babylon and Anti-Christ says that Jesus is not like us and cannot really be our example completely, only partially, because we can't really be like Him.

“Bear in mind that Christ’s overcoming and obedience is that of a true human being. In our conclusions, we make many mistakes because of our erroneous views of the human nature of our Lord. When we give to His human nature a power that it is not possible for man to have in His conflicts with Satan, we destroy the completeness of His humanity. His imputed grace and power He gives to all who receive Him by faith. The obedience of Christ to His Father was the same obedience that is required of man.” (3SM 139.4)

“Man cannot overcome Satan’s temptations without divine power to combine with His instrumentality. So with Jesus Christ, He could lay hold of divine power. He came not to our world to give the obedience of a lesser God to a greater, but as a man to obey God’s Holy Law, and in this way He is our example.” (3SM 140.1)

“In our own strength it is impossible for us to deny the clamors of **our fallen nature**. Through this channel Satan will bring temptation upon us. Christ knew that the enemy would come to every human being, to take advantage of hereditary weakness, and by his false insinuations to ensnare all whose trust is not in God. And by **passing over the ground which man must travel, our Lord has prepared the way for us to overcome**. It is not His will that we should be placed at a disadvantage in the conflict with Satan. He would not have us intimidated and discouraged by the assaults of the serpent. ‘Be of good cheer,’ He says; ‘I have overcome the world.’” John 16:33. (DA 122.3)

# Clarity on Nature of Christ

- ❖ Revelation 3:21 - Jesus promises that we can overcome as He overcame.
- ❖ 1 John 5:4 - We overcome by faith
- ❖ Thus, if we can overcome as Jesus overcame, we overcome by the same faith as Him—the faith of Jesus.
- ❖ This is the third angel's message — Revelation 14:12

# Clarity on Justification

- ❖ Justification Declared:
- ❖ Romans 4:6-8. "Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works, Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin."



“As the penitent sinner, contrite before God, discerns Christ's atonement in his behalf, and accepts this atonement as his only hope in this life and the future life, his sins are pardoned. This is justification by faith... Pardon and justification are one and the same thing. Through faith, the believer passes from the position of a rebel, a child of sin and Satan, to the position of a loyal subject of Christ Jesus, not because of an inherent goodness, but because Christ receives him as His child by adoption.” (6BC 1071)

"The grace of Christ is freely to justify the sinner without merit or claim on his part. Justification is a full, complete pardon of sin. The moment a sinner accepts Christ by faith, that moment he is pardoned. The righteousness of Christ is imputed to him, and he is no more to doubt God's forgiving grace." (6BC 1071)

❖ Justification Experienced:

❖ Titus 3:5-7. "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of **regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost**; Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; That being **justified** by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life."

"God's forgiveness is not merely a judicial act by which He sets us free from condemnation. It is not only forgiveness for sin, but reclaiming from sin. It is the outflow of redeeming love that transforms the heart. David had the true conception of forgiveness when he prayed, 'Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.' Psalm 51:10." (MB 114)

"In ourselves we are sinners; but in Christ we are righteous. Having made us righteous through the imputed righteousness of Christ, God pronounces us just, and treats us as just... 'Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.'" (1SM 394)

"As the sinner, drawn by the power of Christ, approaches the uplifted cross, and prostrates himself before it, there is a new creation. A new heart is given him. He becomes a new creature in Christ Jesus... God Himself is the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

Romans 3:26." (COL 163)

“By receiving His imputed righteousness, through the transforming power of the Holy Spirit, we become like Him.” (6BC 1098)

“To be pardoned in the way that Christ pardons is not only to be forgiven, but to be renewed in the spirit of our mind. The Lord says, 'A new heart will I give unto thee.' The image of Christ is to be stamped upon the very mind, heart, and soul.” (RH 8-19-1890)

“But while God can be just, and yet justify the sinner through the merits of Christ, no man can cover his soul with the garments of Christ’s righteousness while practicing known sins, or neglecting known duties. God requires the entire surrender of the heart, before justification can take place; and in order for man to retain justification, there must be continual obedience, through active, living faith that works by love and purifies the soul.” (1SM 366.1)

Entire surrender is required for justification.

Sanctification maintains the surrender of justification with continual obedience through active, living faith that works by love.



# Clarity on Sanctification

- ❖ 1 Thessalonians 5:23 - “And the very God of peace sanctify you **wholly**.”
- ❖ 2 Thessalonians 2:13 - “God has chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit.”
- ❖ 1 Corinthians 1:30 - “But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption.”

# Clarity on Sanctification

“The germination of the seed represents the beginning of spiritual life, and the development of the plant is a beautiful figure of Christian growth. As in nature, so in grace; there can be no life without growth. The plant must either grow or die. As its growth is silent and imperceptible, but continuous, so is the development of the Christian life.”

“At every stage of development our life may be perfect; yet if God’s purpose for us is fulfilled, there will be continual advancement. **Sanctification is the work of a lifetime.** As our opportunities multiply, our experience will enlarge, and our knowledge increase. We shall become strong to bear responsibility, and our maturity will be in proportion to our privileges.” (COL 65.2)

- ❖ Some have said that because sanctification is the work of a lifetime, we will never get there.
- ❖ However, sanctification represents the walk of holiness that is the daily process of dying to self for the rest of our lives. (1 Cor. 15:31 - I die daily)
- ❖ The daily growth of sanctification maintains the original surrender and justification by faith that marks the new birth experience

# True Gospel of Jesus Christ

- ❖ We are commissioned to preach the everlasting gospel in the context of the judgment hour
- ❖ Romans 1:16, 17 — Power of the gospel
- ❖ *Dunamis* — similar to dynamite
- ❖ The gospel is like the power of dynamite

- ❖ The gospel is not lifestyle modification. It represents entire transformation.
- ❖ The gospel is for everyone who believes or who has faith.
- ❖ What makes it so powerful?
- ❖ Romans 1:17 - For therein (in the gospel) is the righteousness of God **revealed**
- ❖ As is written, the just shall live by faith.
- ❖ Those justified by faith **reveal** righteousness of God

# The Just Shall Live By Faith

- ❖ Romans 1:16, 17 is the verse that God used, through Martin Luther, to ignite the Protestant Reformation
- ❖ It is also connected to the ignition of the Second Advent Movement.
- ❖ Romans 1:16, 17 is referencing Habakkuk 2:1-4

“Interwoven with prophecies which they had regarded as applying to the time of the second advent was instruction specially adapted to their state of uncertainty and suspense, and encouraging them to wait patiently in the faith that what was now dark to their understanding would in due time be made plain.” (GC 391.2)

“Among these prophecies was that of Habakkuk 2:1-4: “I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what He will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reprov'd. And the Lord answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry. Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the **just shall live by his faith.**” (GC 392.1)



“As early as 1842 the direction given in this prophecy to ‘write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it,’ had suggested to Charles Fitch the preparation of a prophetic chart to illustrate the visions of Daniel and the Revelation. The publication of this chart was regarded as a fulfillment of the command given by Habakkuk. No one, however, then noticed that an apparent delay in the accomplishment of the vision—a tarrying time—is presented in the same prophecy. After the disappointment, this scripture appeared very significant: ‘The vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.... The just shall live by his faith.’” (GC 392.2)

# 2300 Days and Sanctuary

- ❖ Habbakuk 2:1-4 describes the prophetic rise of the Second Advent Movement
- ❖ It wrote the message on a chart so the messengers could run that read it (men shall run to and fro)
- ❖ The chart pointed out the 2300 day prophecy and the cleansing of the sanctuary

- ❖ The message of Habbakuk also shows that the Chaldeans (Babylonians) were about to overrun God's people.
- ❖ Why? Because "his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him."
- ❖ In other words, Adventists have a pride problem.
- ❖ What is the remedy for the pride problem? "The just shall live by his faith."

“What is justification by faith?—It is the work of God in laying the glory of man in the dust, and doing for man that which it is not in his power to do for himself. When men see their own nothingness, they are prepared to be clothed with the righteousness of Christ. When they begin to praise and exalt God all the day long, then by beholding they are becoming changed into the same image. What is regeneration?—It is revealing to man what is his own real nature, that in himself he is worthless.” (SpTA09 62.2) (TM 456)

Laying the glory of man in the dust is soul-cleansing.

In order for the sanctuary to be cleansed, Adventists must experience true justification by faith which lays the glory of man in the dust.

- ❖ The false gospel of Babylon teaches that justification is a legal declaration only that does not change the heart.
- ❖ The everlasting gospel teaches that justification by faith is soul cleansing as the pride of man is laid in the dust.
- ❖ Thus, the gospel of Desmond Ford is incompatible with the cleansing of the sanctuary and of the true Bible gospel.

“This robe, woven in the loom of heaven, has in it not one thread of human devising. Christ in His humanity wrought out a perfect character, and this character He offers to impart to us. ‘All our righteousness are as filthy rags.’ By His perfect obedience He has made it possible for every human being to obey God's commandments.”

“When we submit ourselves to Christ, the heart is united with His heart, the will is merged in His will, the mind becomes one with His mind, the thoughts are brought into captivity to Him; we live His life. This is what it means to be clothed with the garment of His righteousness.”

“Then as the Lord looks upon us He sees, not the fig-leaf garment, not the nakedness and deformity of sin, but His own robe of righteousness, which is perfect obedience to the law of Jehovah.”

COL 311, 312



✿ “There must be a purifying of the soul here upon the earth, in harmony with Christ's cleansing of the sanctuary in heaven. God's people are now to have their eyes fixed on the heavenly sanctuary, where . . . our great High Priest . . . is interceding for His people.” —Maranatha 249

✿ Soul cleansing (justification by faith) on earth leads to the cleansing of the sanctuary in heaven.

# Ted Wilson on the Last Generation

“Church family, there are those in our ranks who disparage our hopeful expectation to be the **last generation** before Christ’s soon coming. I ask, “Who would not want to be part of the last generation and see Jesus come in their lifetime?” What a privilege to realize that Christ wants to come back as soon as possible and we can be ready for His coming and share this hope through complete dependence on Christ ...



# Ted Wilson on the Last Generation

our works will not save us ...  
but dependence on Christ and  
His justifying and sanctifying  
righteousness will save us and  
make us more and more like  
Him each day. Brothers and  
sisters around the world, we  
are united in our hope of  
Christ's soon coming.....  
stand firm for God's truth!"

Annual Council, October 12,  
2018, Battle Creek, MI

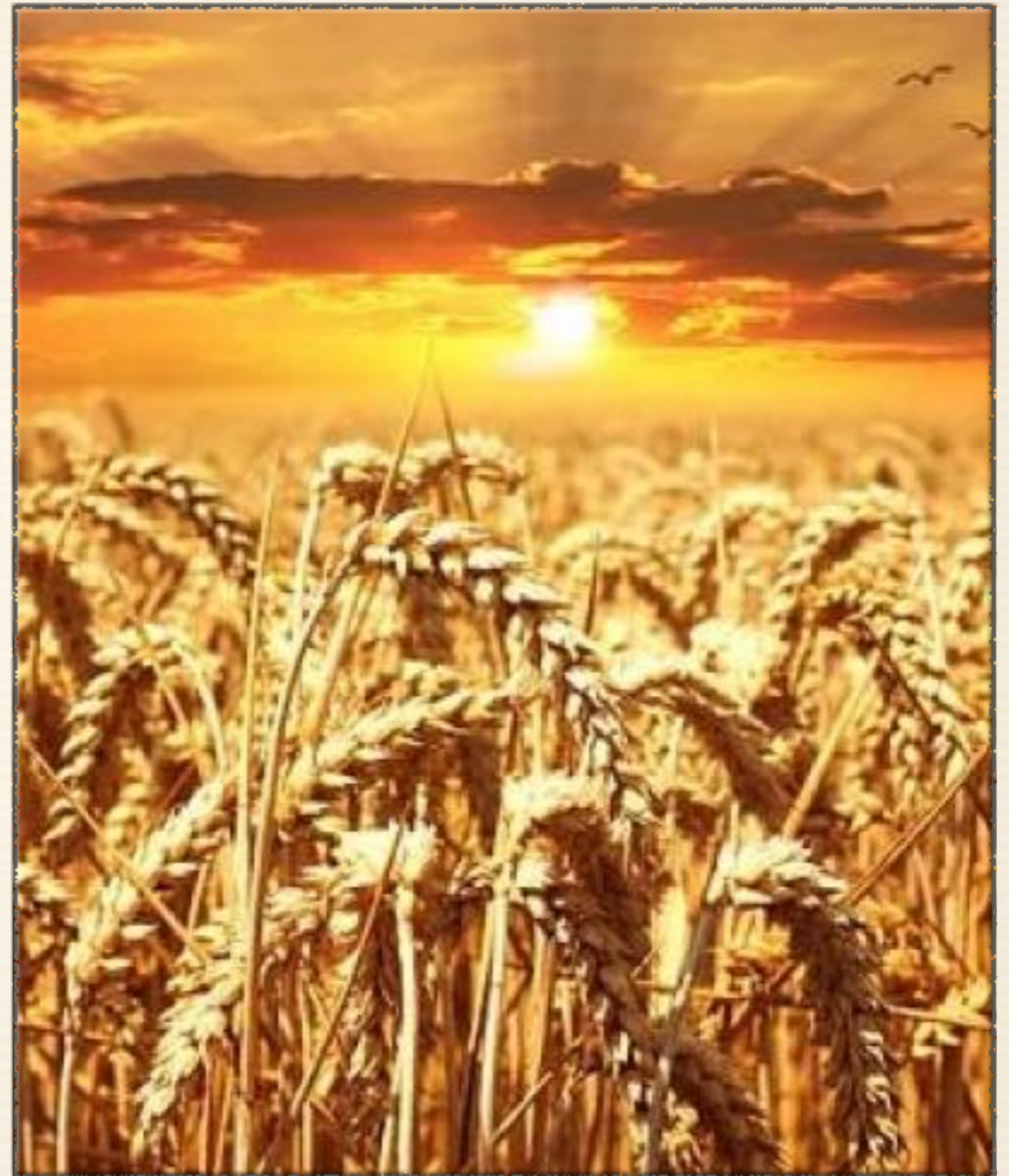


# The Gospel and the Last Generation

❖ John 12:23, 24

❖ Mark 4:28, 29

❖ Revelation  
14:14-16



“The wheat develops ‘first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear.’ The object of the husbandman in the sowing of the seed and the culture of the growing plant is the production of grain. He desires bread for the hungry, and seed for future harvests. So the divine Husbandman looks for a harvest as the reward of His labor and sacrifice. Christ is seeking to reproduce Himself in the hearts of men; and He does this through those who believe in Him. The object of the Christian life is fruit bearing—the reproduction of Christ’s character in the believer, that it may be reproduced in others.” (COL 67.1)

“There can be no growth or fruitfulness in the life that is centered in self. If you have accepted Christ as a personal Saviour, you are to forget yourself, and try to help others. Talk of the love of Christ, tell of His goodness. Do every duty that presents itself. Carry the burden of souls upon your heart, and by every means in your power seek to save the lost. As you receive the Spirit of Christ—the Spirit of unselfish love and labor for others—you will grow and bring forth fruit. The graces of the Spirit will ripen in your character. Your faith will increase, your convictions deepen, your love be made perfect. More and more you will reflect the likeness of Christ in all that is pure, noble, and lovely.” (COL 67.3)

“‘The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance.’ Galatians 5:22, 23. This fruit can never perish, but will produce after its kind a harvest unto eternal life.” (COL 68.1)

“When the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come.’ Christ is waiting with longing desire for the manifestation of Himself in His church. When the character of Christ shall be perfectly reproduced in His people, then He will come to claim them as His own.” (COL 69.1)



“It is the privilege of every Christian not only to look for but to hasten the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, (2 Peter 3:12, margin). Were all who profess His name bearing fruit to His glory, how quickly the whole world would be sown with the seed of the gospel. Quickly the last great harvest would be ripened, and Christ would come to gather the precious grain.” (COL 69.2)

# Jesus and the Last Generation

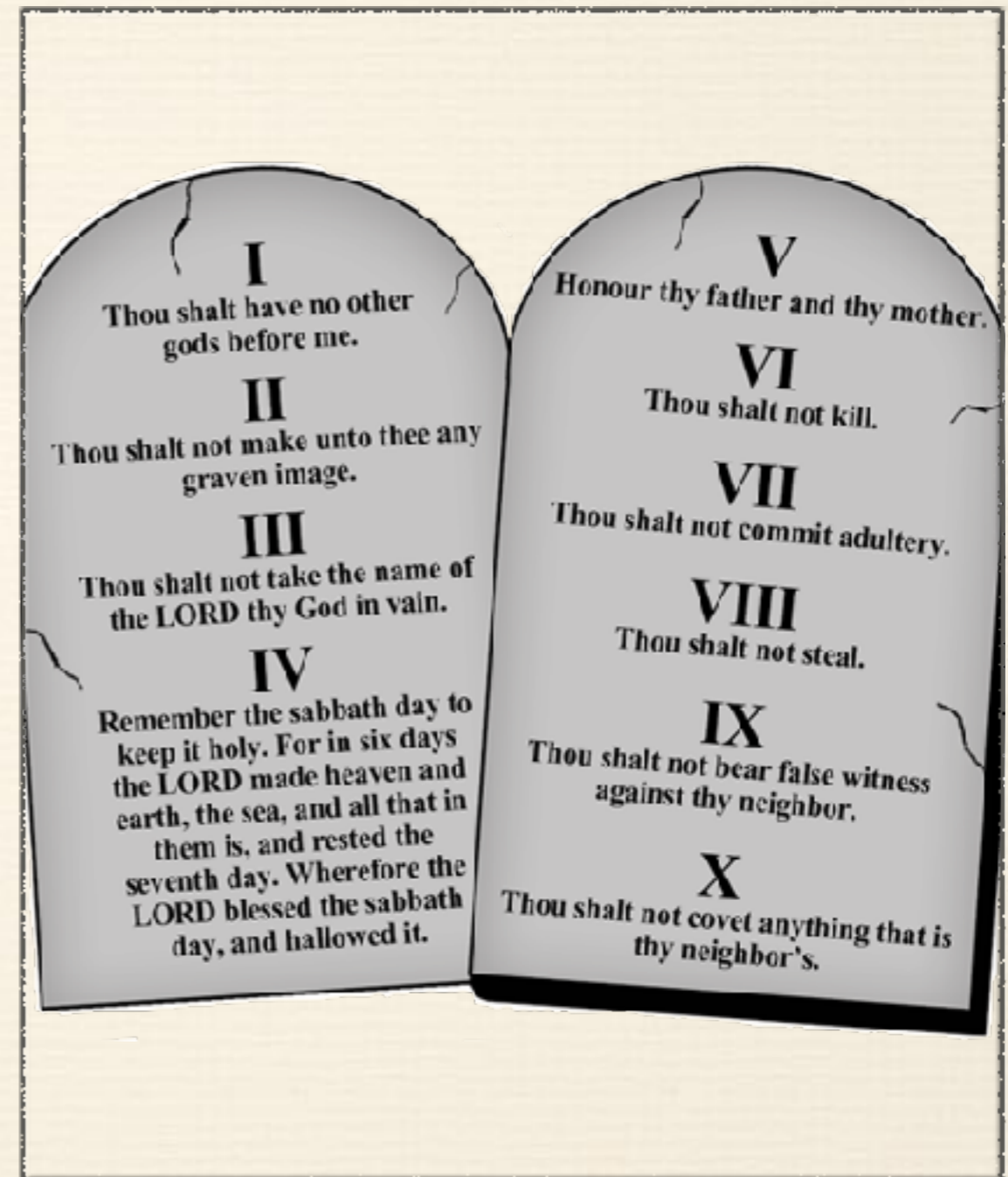
- ❖ Revelation 14:12
- ❖ **Patience of the Saints**
- ❖ Hebrews 12:2
- ❖ Jesus **Endured** the Cross



# Third Angel's Message

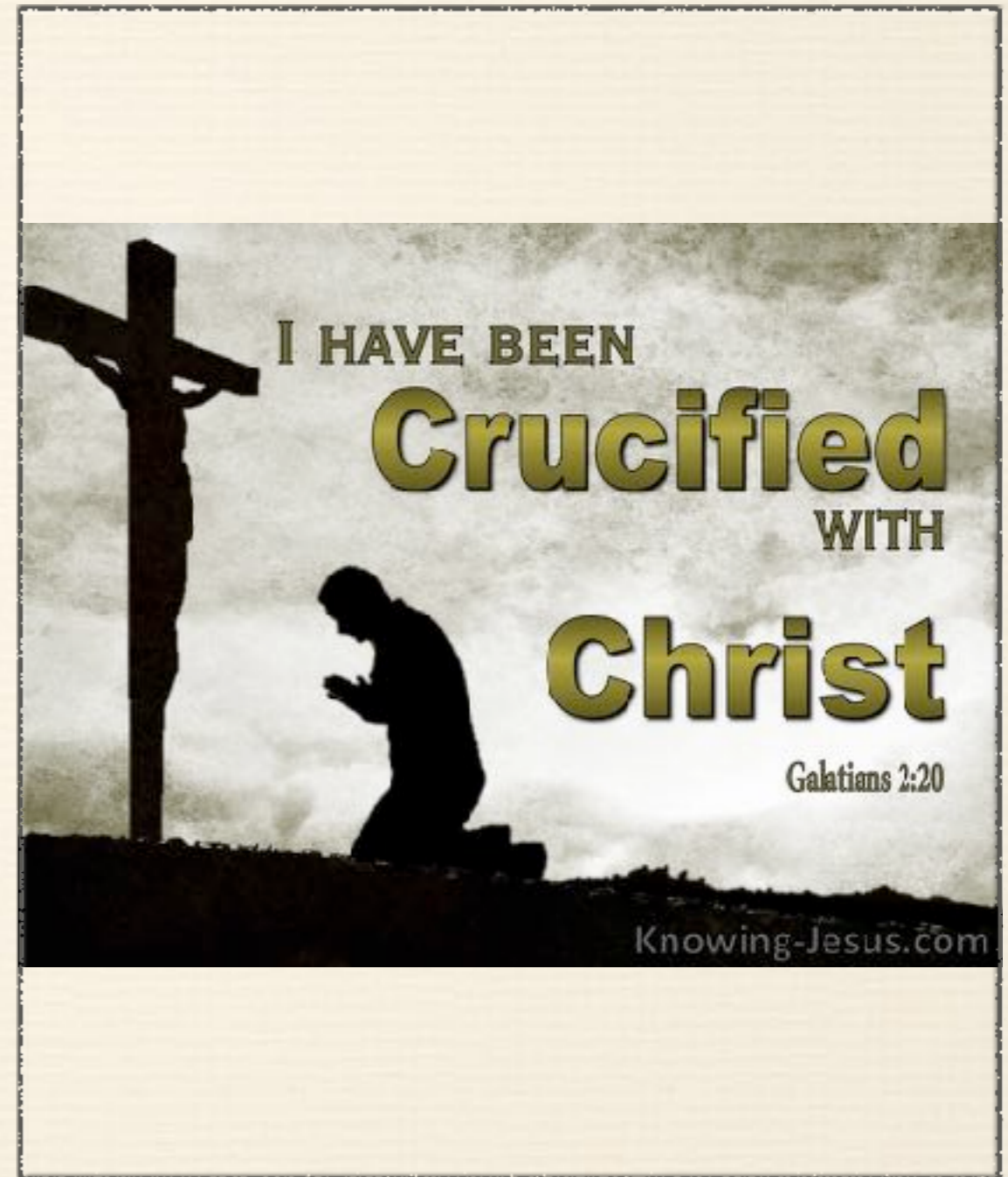
❖ Revelation 14:12

❖ **Keep the  
Commandments  
of God**



# Third Angel's Message

- ❖ Revelation 14:12
- ❖ **Faith of Jesus**
- ❖ Galatians 2:20



“The Saviour could not see through the portals of the tomb. Hope did not present to Him His coming forth from the grave a conqueror, or tell Him of the Father's acceptance of the sacrifice. He feared that sin was so offensive to God that Their separation was to be eternal.”

“Christ felt the anguish which the sinner will feel when mercy shall no longer plead for the guilty race. It was the sense of sin, bringing the Father's wrath upon Him as man's substitute, that made the cup He drank so bitter, and broke the heart of the Son of God.” — Desire of Ages, p. 753

“Suddenly the gloom lifted from the cross, and in clear, trumpetlike tones, that seemed to resound throughout creation, Jesus cried, ‘It is finished.’ ‘Father, into Thy hands I commend My spirit.’ A light encircled the cross, and the face of the Saviour shone with a glory like the sun. He then bowed His head upon His breast, and died.”

— *Desire of Ages*, p. 756

“Amid the awful darkness, apparently forsaken of God, Christ had drained the last dregs in the cup of human woe. In those dreadful hours He had relied upon the evidence of His Father's acceptance heretofore given Him. He was acquainted with the character of His Father; He understood His justice, His mercy, and His great love.”



“By faith He rested in Him whom it had ever been His joy to obey. And as in submission He committed Himself to God, the sense of the loss of His Father's favor was withdrawn. **By faith, Christ was victor.**”

— *Desire of Ages*, p. 756

# Third Angel's Message

- ❖ Patience, Obedience, and Faith in Revelation 14:12 describe the 144,000 and also Jesus on the Cross
- ❖ It is the character of Jesus and it is the third angel's message. This is to be proclaimed and demonstrated with a loud voice

# Third Angel's Message

- ❖ When Adventism gains this experience, we will see the Loud Cry of Revelation 18

# Loud Cry of Revelation 18

- ❖ Revelation 18:1-5
- ❖ Earth illuminated with glory of God's character



# Loud Cry/ Sunday Law

- ❖ When do her sins reach unto heaven [Revelation 18:2-5]?



# Loud Cry/ Sunday Law

- ❖ When the law of God is finally made void by legislation.—The Signs of the Times, June 12, 1893. (LDE 198.5)



# Earth's Final Warning

- ❖ We will be able to proclaim the final fall of Babylon when we fully have the character of Jesus



# Earth's Final Warning

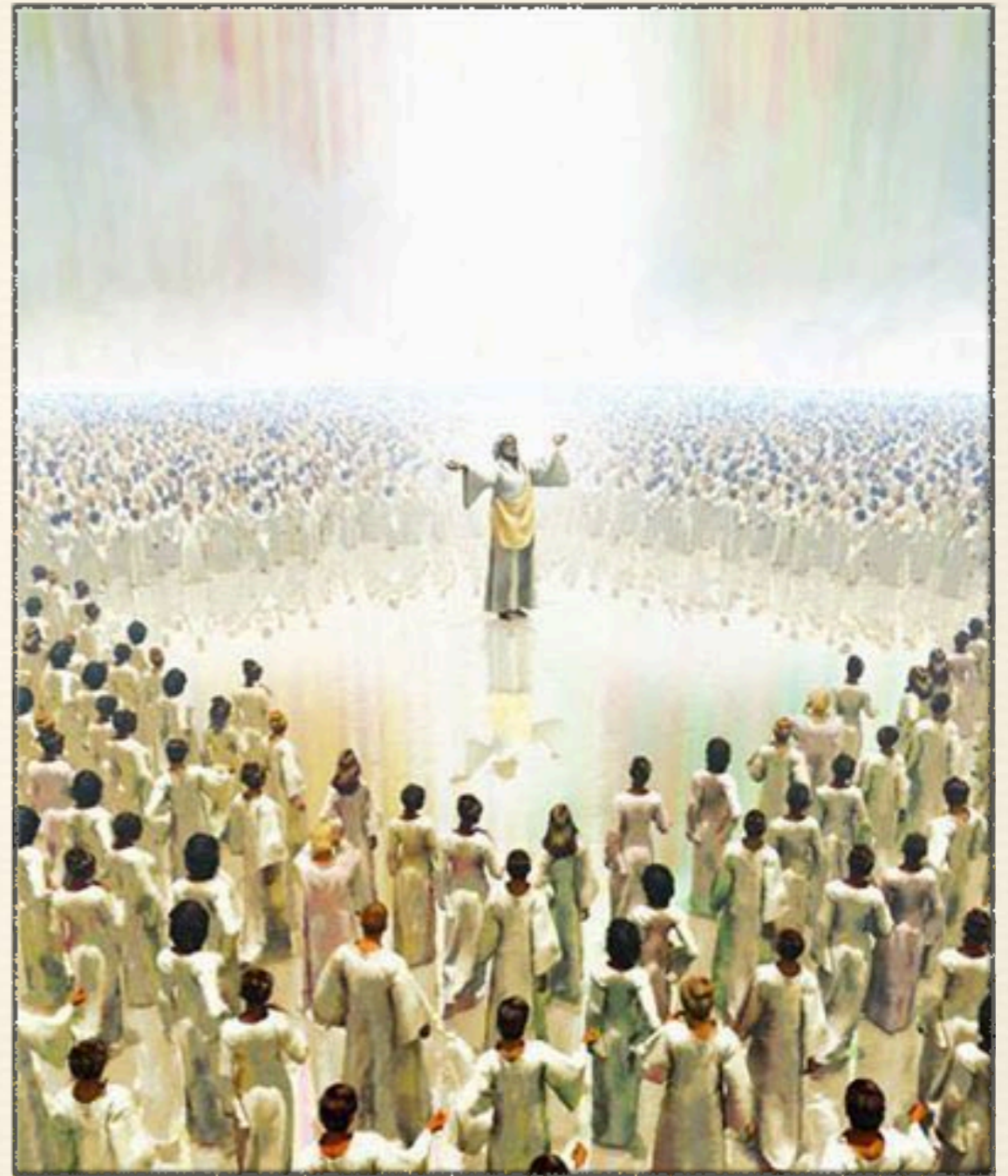
- ❖ Then God will allow the National Sunday Law and the final events of Earth's history





# The Three Angels' Messages and the 144,000

- ❖ God uses the three angels' messages to produce the 144,000 of Revelation 14:12
- ❖ The 144,000 are a reproduction of Christ's character



# The Three Angels' Messages and the 144,000

- ❖ The 144,000 are able to give the Loud Cry with power because they are like Jesus

