

THE TIMES OF TROUBLE

Instructor: Narlon Edwards

1 Chronicles 12:32 | Ecclesiastes 3:1,17

More clearly than we do we **need** to **understand** the issues at stake in the great conflict in which we are engaged. We **need** to **understand more fully** the value of the truths of the word of God and the **danger** of allowing our minds to be diverted from them by the great deceiver. {MH 451.1}

You can have **information** without **understanding**!

Matthew 16:1-4 | Luke 19:41-44

QUESTION 1 – HOW MUCH DO WE NEED TO KNOW ABOUT BIBLE PROPHECY [Fill in the blank]

"We _____ all we need to know and we _____ to _____ all we _____" -- W.D. Frazee

QUESTION 2 – WHEN DOES THE TIME OF TROUBLE COMMENCE?

_____ | Revelation 13:15-18

When the **leading churches** of the **United States**, uniting upon such points of doctrine as are held by them in common, shall **influence** the state to **enforce** their **decrees** and to sustain their institutions, **then Protestant America** will have formed an **image of the Roman hierarchy**, and the **infliction of civil penalties upon dissenters will inevitably result**. {GC 445.1}

...in the very act of **enforcing a religious duty** by **secular power**, the **churches** would themselves form an **image to the beast**; hence the **enforcement of Sunday** keeping in the **United States** would be an **enforcement** of the **worship** of the **beast** and his **image**. {GC 448.3}

QUESTION 3 – WHAT ARE THE THREE TIMES OF TROUBLES?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

QUESTION 4 – WHO DOES EACH PHASE AFFECT?

1. Little Time _____
2. Great Time (Plagues) _____
3. Jacob's Time _____

QUESTION 5 – WHY DOES MICHAEL STAND UP?

Daniel 12:1 | Isaiah 3:13 | Acts 7:55 | Mark 16:19

DARK AGES VS TIME OF TROUBLE

The “**time of trouble, such as never was**,” is soon to open upon us; ... It is often the case that **trouble** is **greater** in **anticipation** than in **reality**; **but this is not true of the crisis before us. The most vivid presentation cannot reach the magnitude of the ordeal.** {GC 622.4}

Matt 24:21,29 | Daniel 12:1

QUESTION 6 – WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENCES?

DARK AGES

TIME OF TROUBLE

LITTLE TIME OF TROUBLE

“The commencement of that **time of trouble**,” here mentioned does **not** refer to the **time** when the **plagues shall begin to be poured out**, but to a short period just **before** they are poured **out, while Christ is in the sanctuary**. At that time, **while the work of salvation is closing**, trouble will be coming on the earth, and the nations will be angry, yet held in check so as not to prevent the work of the **third angel**. At that time the “**latter rain**,” or refreshing from the presence of the Lord, will come, to give **power** to the **loud voice** of the **third angel**, and **prepare** the saints to **stand** in the period when the seven last plagues shall be poured out. {EW 85.3}

GREAT TIME OF TROUBLE

I saw that the **four angels** would hold the **four winds** until Jesus’ work was **done** in the **sanctuary**, and **then** will come **the seven last plagues**. {EW 36.2}

QUESTION 7 – WHAT’S CONNECTED WITH THE FOUR WINDS?

Matt 24:30-31 | Rev 6:17-7:4

IN MOSES’ DAY GOD SENT TEN PLAGUES UPON THE EGYPTIANS. HOW WERE GOD’S PEOPLE PROTECTED FROM THE DEATH ANGEL OF THE TENTH PLAGUE?

| Exodus 12:7, 13

QUESTION 8 – HOW WILL GOD’S PEOPLE OVERCOME DURING THE SEVEN LAST PLAGUES?

| Revelation 12:11

...These **plagues** enraged the wicked against the righteous; they thought that we had brought the judgments of God upon them, and that if they could rid the earth of us, the **plagues** would then be stayed. A **decree** went forth to **slay the saints**, which caused them to cry day and night for **deliverance**. This was the time of **Jacob's trouble**. {EW 36.2}

Are there deaths of the saints during the great time of trouble (death decree, Jacob's time, etc?)

| Jeremiah 30:7

...**Then all** the saints cried out with anguish of spirit, and were **delivered** by the voice of God. **The 144,000 triumphed**. Their faces were **lighted** up with the **glory of God**... {EW 36.2}

The Lord Jesus is making experiments on human hearts through the exhibition of his mercy and abundant grace. He is **effecting transformations** so **amazing** that Satan with all his triumphant boasting, with all his confederacy of evil united against God and the laws of his government, stands viewing them as a **fortress impregnable** to his sophistries and delusions. **They are to him an incomprehensible mystery**. {SD 356.2}

...Then I was shown a company who were howling in agony. On their garments was written in large characters, "**Thou art weighed in the balance, and found wanting**." I asked who this company were. The angel said, "**These are they who have once kept the Sabbath and have given it up**." I heard them cry with a loud voice, "We have believed in Thy coming, and **taught it with energy**." And while they were speaking, their eyes would fall upon their garments and see the writing, and then they would wail aloud. **I saw that they had drunk of the deep waters, and fouled the residue with their feet—trodden the Sabbath underfoot—and that was why they were weighed in the balance and found wanting**. {EW 36.2}

In the awful presence of God our lives are to come up in review. ...When the work of the investigative judgment closes, the destiny of all will have been decided for life or death. Probation is ended a short time before the appearing of the Lord in the clouds of heaven. {GC 490}

The righteous and the wicked will still be living upon the earth in their mortal state—men will be **planting and building, eating and drinking**, all unconscious that the final, irrevocable decision has been pronounced in the sanctuary above. Before the Flood, after Noah entered the ark, God shut him in and shut the ungodly out; but for seven days the people, knowing not that their doom was fixed, continued their careless, pleasure-loving life and mocked the warnings of impending judgment. ...*"So," says the Saviour, "shall also the coming of the Son of man be."* Matthew 24:39. Silently, unnoticed as the midnight thief, will come the decisive hour which marks the fixing of every man's destiny, the final withdrawal of mercy's offer to guilty men. {GC 491.1}

Perilous is the condition of those who, growing weary of their watch, turn to the attractions of the world. **While** the man of business is absorbed in the pursuit of gain, **while** the pleasure lover is seeking indulgence, **while** the daughter of fashion is arranging her adornments—it may be in that hour the Judge of all the earth will pronounce the sentence: "Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting." Daniel 5:27. {GC 491.2}

And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, **choose** you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.
Joshua 24:25