

# THE STUDY OF LAST DAY EVENTS

## THE TIME OF TROUBLE

In our last study, we have come to learn once again that Satan is working his schemes to deceive the people of God. We now know his strategy for the final deception that will take the world captive. He plans to unite all the forces of earth against God's people. It will be those who say they know Him but who do not obey Him, those will be our worst enemies. Tonight we want to take a look at the final closing scenes that has caused many of us to fear. What is the time of trouble? Why is important that I be ready for the time of trouble? When will it come? How can I make it during this time?

A. How bad will the time of trouble be for the saints in the last days?

1. Dan. 12:1 \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. Rev. 6:17 \_\_\_\_\_  
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3. Matt. 24:21 \_\_\_\_\_  
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4. "Those who exercise but little faith now, are in the greatest danger of falling under the power of Satanic delusions and the decree to compel the conscience. And even if they endure the test, they will be plunged into deeper distress and anguish in the time of trouble, because they have never made it a habit to trust in God. The lessons of faith which they have neglected, they will be forced to learn under a terrible pressure of discouragement." GC 621, 622

B. When will the time of trouble come upon the saints?

1. Matt. 24:14 \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. Rev. 7:1 - 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
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3. Rev. 13:11, 12 \_\_\_\_\_  
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4. “As the approach of the Roman armies was a sign to the disciples of the impending destruction of Jerusalem, so may this apostasy [Sunday legislation, the threefold alliance, and the repudiation of the principles of the American Constitution] be a sign to us that the limit of God's forbearance is reached, that the measure of our nation's iniquity is full, and that the angel of mercy is about to take her flight, never to return. The people of God will then be plunged into those scenes of affliction and distress which prophets have described as the time of Jacob's trouble.” 5T 451

C. Why is the time of trouble permitted?

1. John 15:18, 19 \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. 1Peter 5:10 \_\_\_\_\_  
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3. “The people of God must drink of the cup, and be baptized with the baptism. The very delay, so painful to them, is the best answer to their petitions. As they endeavor to wait trustingly for the Lord to work, they are led to exercise faith, hope, and patience, which have been too little exercised during their religious experience.” GC 630

4. “The Lord permits conflicts, to prepare the soul for peace. The time of trouble is a fearful ordeal for God's people; but it is the time for every true believer to look up, and by faith he may see the bow of promise encircling him.” GC 633

D. What is the time of Jacobs Trouble?

1. Gen 32:24 – 30 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Jere 30:7 \_\_\_\_\_  
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3. “While Satan seeks to destroy this class, God will send his angels to comfort and protect them in the time of peril. The assaults of Satan are fierce and determined, his delusions are terrible; but the Lord's eye is upon his people, and his ear listens

to their cries. Their affliction is great, the flames of the furnace seem about to consume them; but the Refiner will bring them forth as gold tried in the fire. 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 fire; their earthliness must be consumed that the image of Christ may be perfectly reflected." GC 62

4. "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. 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, 37

E. What kind of conditions will I be confronted with?

1.
  - a. Rev. 13:14 \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Rev. 13:15 \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Rev. 13:17 \_\_\_\_\_
2. "The people of God--some in prison cells, some hidden in solitary retreats in the forests and the mountains--still plead for divine protection, while in every quarter companies of armed men, urged on by hosts of evil angels, are preparing for the work of death. It is now, in the hour of utmost extremity, that the God of Israel will interpose for the deliverance of his chosen." GC 635
3. "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. As they review the past, their hopes sink; for in their whole lives they can see little good. They are fully conscious of their weakness and unworthiness. Satan endeavors to terrify them with the thought that their cases are hopeless, that the stain of their defilement will never be washed away. He hopes to so destroy their faith that they will yield to his temptations, and turn from their allegiance to God." GC 618, 619

F. What if I'm faithful but too weak to make it?

1. Lam 3:33 \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. Psalm 103:13, 14 \_\_\_\_\_  
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Jude 1:24 \_\_\_\_\_  
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4. "He knows our heart, for He reads every secret of the soul. He knows whether or not those for whom petitions are offered would be able to endure the trial and test that would come upon them if they lived. He knows the end from the beginning. Many will be laid away to sleep before the fiery ordeal of the time of trouble shall come upon our world. This is another reason why we should say after our earnest petition; "Nevertheless not my will, but Thine, be done." Luke 22:42 Such a petition will never be registered in heaven as a faithless prayer." CH 375

G. Will there be Divine Refuge?

1. Isa. 33:16 \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. Isa. 41:17 \_\_\_\_\_  
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3. Matt. 24:22 \_\_\_\_\_  
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4. "The people of God will not be free from suffering; but while persecuted and distressed, while they endure privation, and suffer for want of food, they will not be left to perish. That God who cared for Elijah will not pass by one of his self-sacrificing children. He who numbers the hairs of their head will care for them, and in time of famine they shall be satisfied. While the wicked are dying from hunger and pestilence, angels will shield the righteous, and supply their wants. GC 629

H. What must I do to be ready?

1. Matt 25:4, 5 \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. Eph. 4:30 \_\_\_\_\_  
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3. James 1:22 \_\_\_\_\_  
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4. John 14:15 \_\_\_\_\_  
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5. “Satan leads many to believe that God will overlook their unfaithfulness in the minor affairs of life; but the Lord shows in his dealings with Jacob that he will in nowise sanction or tolerate evil. 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. The more exalted their profession, and the more honorable the position which they hold, the more grievous is their course in the sight of God, and the more sure the triumph of their great adversary. 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
6. “Before the believer is held out the wonderful possibility of being like Christ, obedient to all the principles of the law. But of himself man is utterly unable to reach this condition. The holiness that God's word declares he must have before he can be saved is the result of the working of divine grace as he bows in submission to the discipline and restraining influences of the Spirit of truth. Man's obedience can be made perfect only by the incense of Christ's righteousness, which fills with divine fragrance every act of obedience. The part of the Christian is to persevere in overcoming every fault. Constantly he is to pray to the Saviour to heal the disorders of his sin-sick soul. He has not the wisdom or the strength to overcome; these belong the Lord, and He bestows them on those who in humiliation and contrition seek Him for help.” AA 532

Let us take every opportunity to prepare for that time that will test every man's soul.