

COMING EVENTS

Excerpted from the book "Coming Events & Crisis at the Close" by W.D. Frazee
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Chapter 36 of *Great Controversy* is titled "The Impending Conflict" and speaks of the National Sunday Law that marks the beginning of the enforcement of the Mark of the Beast:

The dignitaries of church and state will unite to bribe, persuade, or compel all classes to honor the Sunday.... and even in free America, rulers and legislators, in order to secure public favor, will yield to the popular demand for a law enforcing Sunday observance. Liberty of conscience, which has cost so great a sacrifice, will no longer be respected. In the soon coming conflict we shall see exemplified the prophet's words: "The dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ."
{*Great Controversy*, page 592}

In the near future we shall see these words fulfilled as the Protestant churches unite with the world and with the papal power against commandment keepers.
{*Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. 5, page 449}

It will not come without agitation and publicity. We are told that the way it will come to pass is that the legislators will yield to the popular demand for a law enforcing Sunday observance. So what will there be on the part of the public before that law is brought in? A demand for that from the people.

To secure popularity and patronage, legislators will yield to the demand for a Sunday Law. Those who fear God cannot accept an institution that violates a precept of the Decalogue. On this battlefield comes the last great conflict of the controversy between truth and error.

By the decree enforcing the institution of the papacy in violation of the law of God, our nation will disconnect herself fully from righteousness.
{*Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. 5, page 451}

This National Sunday Law marks the end of our nation's probation, but not an *individual's* probation. There was a time when the Jews filled up their cup of iniquity and sealed their national doom. Was it still possible for individual Jews to be saved? Oh, yes. But Israel as a nation filled up her cup of iniquity when she rejected Jesus and nailed Him to the cross. Israel's day as a nation was done, but individuals could still be saved.

"When Protestantism shall stretch her hand across the gulf to grasp the hand of the Roman power, when she shall reach over the abyss to clasp hands with spiritualism, when, under the influence of this threefold union, our country shall repudiate every principle of its Constitution as a Protestant and republican government, and shall make provision for the propagation of papal falsehoods and delusions, then we may know that the time has come for the marvelous working of Satan and that the end is near."

{Ibid}

"As the approach of the Roman armies was a sign to the disciples of the impending destruction of Jerusalem, so may this apostasy 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."

{Ibid}

There is a very fine point here. There is a difference between the National Sunday Law and the close of probation. When the National Sunday Law is passed it is a sign to us that the angel of mercy is about to take her flight, never to return. It doesn't say that she *has* taken her flight. There is still mercy, but not for long.

What has happened as far as our nation is concerned? National apostasy has filled up the cup of iniquity. Our nation has disconnected herself fully from righteousness by the National Sunday Law. That is national apostasy. That is the setting up of the image. And, in that, our nation will align herself fully with the dragon and the beast. Thus, the threefold union will be complete.

If the cup of our nation's iniquity is full, why does probation not close at the time of the National Sunday Law? When Sodom was about to be destroyed, God sent two angels to that city. An opportunity was given for people to reveal their character, which they did; opportunity was given for people to escape, and some did. But even when Sodom had sealed its doom and was ripe for destruction, God through His angel warned Lot to hasten and flee the city, because he couldn't do anything to it until he was out. Similarly today, God is ready to pour out His judgments upon this nation and upon Babylon as soon as this threefold union is complete. But God has a people in Babylon. So before He pours out the plagues, He sends the message which says, "Come out of her, My people." The only purpose of the time between the National Sunday Law and the close of probation is to get God's people out of Babylon.

The decision on the part of our nation will be final, irrevocable, and irreversible. It will never turn back once it has gone over the precipice with the devil. This nation will have disconnected itself fully from righteousness. That is why we should give earnest warnings *now*, preach the third angel's message *now*, and proclaim the principles of religious liberty *now*. The men who have the responsibility of deciding for or against that issue should be well enlightened. No darkened mind should be left with that decision. Every person should have all the light they can have on the subject.

There will be Protestant influences that will help bring about this Sunday Law. There will

be papal influences that help bring it about. There will be the influence of spiritualism to help bring it about. That is indicated in Revelation 13. It is called the worship of the beast and his image, and he does great wonders and deceives those that dwell on the earth by the means of miracles. Those are the miracles of spiritualism, or wonder working spirits.

Think then of these forces we have to meet. Here is Protestantism in the middle. On one side is the papacy, and on the other side is spiritualism. And under the influence of this threefold union, our nation is brought to the place where it repudiates every principle of its Constitution.

Through the two great errors, the immortality of the soul and Sunday sacredness, Satan will bring the people under his deceptions. While the former lays the foundation of spiritualism, the latter creates a bond of sympathy with Rome. The Protestants of the United States will be foremost in stretching their hands across the gulf to grasp the hand of spiritualism; they will reach over the abyss to clasp hands with the Roman power; and under the influence of this threefold union, this country will follow in the steps of Rome in trampling on the rights of conscience.

{*Great Controversy*, page 588}

In these closing moments of earth's history, we need both the knowledge of coming events and a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Let's all open our hearts anew to our blessed Saviour. Let's ask Him to come in and take sin out of our hearts and lives, and so fill us with His Holy Spirit that we can stand when all around are giving way.