

REAPPLICATION OF TIME PROPHECIES

Those who seek to re-apply Time Prophecies in the future are sowing seeds of confusion that will prevent them from knowing Present Truth!



I would like to address at least three points: Sister White says that at the time the Papacy was robbed of its strength she saw a new power arising from the earth and she goes on to speak about the United States. At the time that the Papacy was robbed of its strength John sees this new power rising up from the earth, so some say that we traditionally teach that the beast in Revelation 13:1-3 is the papacy with the deadly wound healed; I don't think so. The beast there, technically, is the beast that precedes the United States of America and John is at the point in history of 1798, at the time the Papacy was robbed of its strength that's the time when he saw the beast rising up out of the earth and John is specifically located in 1798 when he is in Revelation 13, so the beast that he sees first is the papal beast of the Dark ages.

Second point: there are seven different places in the Spirit of Prophecy where Sister White says that the 42 months of Revelation 13, is the 1260 years of papal rule. She specifically says that time period is the 1260 years. So if you are going to take that time period and place it at the end of the world, you are going against seven places in the Spirit of Prophecy that say otherwise and I don't think we should do that.

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If you are going to do that, and one of the biggest fanaticisms in Adventism is the reapplication of time prophecies, prophecies that have already been fulfilled, usually the logic used is this; Revelation 13 says:

"2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. 3 And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. 4 And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? 5 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months."

The logic that is used by these people is that this is dealing with the Papacy when the deadly wound is healed, therefore when it is healed, whenever that is—whether it is the Lateran Treaty or some other manifestation at the end of the world, that the papacy is going to continue for forty-two literal months. The argument is that this is sequential.

If it is sequential, then I submit to you, that it is after the healing of the deadly wound and after the papacy rules the world for forty-two literal months, that the United States of America should come up into history from the earth. Sister White does have statements where she talks about the book of Revelation being in its order and people use this quote to suggest that we have to approach the study of Revelation in a precise, sequential manner and this allows them to place these forty-two months at the end of the world.

But this is not correct; this passage is describing the characteristics of the papacy so we know who it is, and Sister White says in seven different places that this forty-two months is the time-period 538 to 1798, in agreement with approaching this passage is simply a description identifying the characteristics of the papacy and one of the characteristics of the papacy, without bringing in the history when this takes place is that the papacy is the power in Bible prophecy that receives a deadly wound and the deadly wound is healed.

One more point: if you look very closely at what Sister White says about the healing of the deadly wound, the deadly wound is a prophetic marker, and the papacy received its deadly wound in 1798 when its civil power was removed from it. It was no longer a beast of Bible prophecy but it continued to be a woman of Bible prophecy—the papacy is both a woman and a beast, and in 1798 it ceased to have civil power and it was no longer a beast. That is the mystery of Revelation 17—the mystery of the beast and the woman—they are both the papacy, how the papacy once again becomes a civil power. So in 1929, Mussolini did give back civil authority to the papacy, but Sister White when she is talking about the papacy returning to power, it is not simply that it has its civil authority returned, it has to be in a position where it can once again persecute—that is the primary point and that hasn't happened yet.

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There are a couple other arguments, that pagan Rome had to give three things to the papacy, its power from 496-508; its seat in the year 330; and its civil authority in the year 533; notice that the civil authority was given in 533 but it wasn't placed on the throne of the earth until 538. Even though it was given the civil authority in 533, it was not able to exercise it until 538. The prophetic marker that tells you when the deadly wound is healed, when it ruled the world supremely again, has been illustrated in Bible prophecy; it was when in 538 the third horn was removed. When the Goths fled the city of Rome in 538, then the papacy was in the position where it had already received the civil power and now it could exercise it.

So when it comes to the Lateran treaty in 1929, even if we say that's paralleling 533, yes, they have received some civil power, at least for the few acres she occupies, but they are not in a position where they can persecute—and certainly not world-wide, until the third obstacle is removed, and the three obstacles for the modern papacy are found in Daniel 11:40-45.

The first obstacle is the King of the South in verse 40; that was the Soviet Union that was removed in the 1989 time period; the next obstacle is the Glorious Land, which is the United States; and the third obstacle is Egypt, which represents the entire world—it is when the Ten Kings agree to give their kingdom to the papacy. The third obstacle being Egypt, when the Ten Kings agree; when the United Nations agree to co-rule the world with the papacy and she is once again placed in that position of power, the deadly wound is healed. You'll notice in Daniel 11, once she conquers Egypt in verses 42-43, then in verse 44, we see persecution illustrated; she 'goes forth to destroy and utterly make away many'. The message from the East and North is the Third Angel's Message. The persecution follows the third obstacle, just as the persecution followed the removal of the third horn. The Deadly Wound has NOT been healed yet, it is in the process of being healed.

Sister White has statements where she says the same fanaticisms that came into the early part of the work will return at the end. We know as Seventh-day Adventists if we read very carefully if we read her writings and the history, that there was only a handful of fanaticisms, that were in Adventism, so when she says the same fanaticisms that came in the early part of the work, will re-appear at the end, we can go back and look at the different fanaticisms she dealt with and know that they are going to be here. The fanaticism that Ellen White dealt with as a prophet more often than all the other ones combined for her entire ministry was the fanaticism of taking time prophecies that have all ready been fulfilled and re-applying them in the future.

The logic is that on October 23rd 1844, you had 49,950 former Millerites that still wanted to profess to be Christians, so they had to go in and re-evaluate these time prophecies that are on the 1843 chart, in a way that would agree with them still saying that they were following the prophetic word. So right from the beginning there was a re-application of these time prophecies, so she dealt with that one all the way through.

You can trace these understandings to the Jehovah's Witness Church. If you go back into the heritage of that church you go back into the experience that we were just

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mentioning that after 1844, the people that had been working with the Millerites and had accepted their prophetic understanding of time prophecies, they didn't follow along into Adventism, so they had to re-evaluate what they had formerly believed about the time prophecies and that is the origin of more than one or two other churches and one of them happens to be the 'Witnesses'.

Part Two:

Why are we doing this?

Today we are faced with such a myriad of various people putting forth 'new' ideas on prophecy that it is a most confusing scene indeed and as we know that God is not the author of confusion, we can know that Satan is the one doing this work. Here we are going to take a quick look at some of the factors that can be at work in those doing this and in those who flock to their feet to listen to it, because it seems that no matter how way-off from biblical principles these theories are, they seem to have no problem in attaining a following, and often, even considerable financial support. Yes and the big bucks from 'Adventism' do not just flow into the pockets of people from our own background either—it is a fact that a large amount of the financial support of non-Adventist television ministries comes from Seventh-day Adventists—what a sad and shameful fact this is!!

Why is it that there are so many who lay out fantastical re-applications of prophecy and present them to others as some version of, "Finally, we have the TRUTH and nobody in Adventism has ever got these facts right until I came along!" or "Here is a fact that I have discovered and therefore I have the job of enlightening all of God's people and informing them that all what we believed in the past was incorrect!"

Most of these fine-spun theories are so often based on just one false supposition that a careful study of the Spirit of Prophecy, or a careful comparison of Daniel and the Revelation, would clearly expose as false. It is also a pattern of these people that they will pull a quote, or part of a quote, out of its context, from the Spirit of Prophecy and use it to bolster up their theory and accuse any that refuse to swallow what they are dishing out, as rejecting the Spirit of Prophecy!

They usually base their whole structure on just one statement, and I know by experience that when you counter them with several clear statements that put the lie to what they are saying, they will say you are using the Spirit of Prophecy like a straight-jacket to prevent honest investigation, OR they will claim that they know for a fact that these statements were actually written by others and sneaked into the Spirit of Prophecy without Sister White's knowledge. I would have to ask, "Where was God in all this?" Friends, any prophet who could be so easily duped as that, is not worth reading, and so why would they even want to use her statements to back their theory? We know why; because even one statement from Spirit of Prophecy, no matter how out of context or how much denied by other statements, does give them some sort of credibility with Adventists that they need to be able to get people's ear for their ideas.

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Why can Adventists be so easily fooled? Because there is not one in a hundred, or even a thousand, who really studies and reads the Spirit of Prophecy in depth, and actually is well enough acquainted with its teachings to be able to spot a counterfeit usage or a statement vastly out of context. Our people have had within their reach the greatest collection of truth and light ever given to any people on the face of the earth in the whole history of the earth, and what do they do with it? Very little indeed! And some now are fulfilling the very writings and prophecies that they are ignoring or actually working feverishly to 'make of none effect' among us.

Hosea 4:6 "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children."

Why are we falling for error so readily? The scripture tells us plainly—we don't love the truth! Why? Because the truth costs us something; the truth hits us in our appetites and selfish indulgences. The truth hits us in our worldly entertainment and makes us out of step socially.

2 Thessalonians 2:10 "And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: 12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness."

What is this telling us that will happen because of this? We will welcome delusions and we will believe lies! This is sure seen among us today on every hand—we eat up delusions and lies like salted peanuts.

The problem is that down in our hearts we are hoping to find something that cancels out, changes, or puts away off the facts of prophecy that we really just don't want to hear. There is one big factor with any of these false theories that come along; they give us something to take our mind from the truth that the Holy Spirit tries to get through to us, that we are poor, blind, miserable and naked and about to be spewed out. The idea of knowing something new and strange that others don't know, is a wonderful boost to the ego. And if it includes some special reform that we can hold up as a test to others, then we can really feel that we are in the 'know' and much more holy than the rest of Adventism.

Then there are theories that lay out myriads of charts and tables and apply all kinds of time schedules for the future. Satan really loves to promote these, because they make sure that all who get into studying them will be all wrapped up with them. They end up watching the news and papers and so on to find clues to add to their charts. They get so involved in these things that Satan knows they will not have time to turn their minds to the real messages of the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy for our time. The real messages, that bring all who actually receive them, to their knees in humility and repentance at the feet of our Mediator in the Most Holy place and causes us to agonize for the sin to be removed from our lives.

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People are lulled into false security by these complicated charts that lay out one event and then say that so long afterwards, based on re-application of prophecy, the next event will happen, because down inside they can say to themselves—"When I see this, then I will know I have time enough then to put my life in order". In fact, many are so caught up in the 'game-like' influence of laying out these future applications that they never even have time to look inside at their hearts and realize that they are not converted.

What does the Bible say about those who receive these 'strong delusions?' It says they will be damned! That means they will be lost, eternally lost.

Why is Satan putting so much effort into producing all kinds of counterfeit delusions among us today? Why do all of these delusions in some way tell us that the Pioneers were wrong, that they were ignorant, that the whole idea was just a big mistake? Why is it that chief among the theories that 'learned theologians' hug to their hearts today, are ideas that in some way or other, cast away the idea that the dawn of Adventism was a wonderful manifestation of the power of God?

It is because we are clearly told that the very history that took place back there is going to be repeated to the very letter again in the final hours—and indeed it is already rolling.

Friends; a big factor in the many delusions of today, and the hunger of our people for them, is the fact that we have lost our roots! They have been torn from us by false interpretations of scripture that have been handed down from generation to generation in Adventism, until very few among us even know where we came from, and why we are even here. This includes ministers and doctors of theology, who have been educated by Babylon for Babylon, and they speak the language of Babylon, and have never even know the language of Zion, the city of our God!

Willingly robbed of our heritage, and being fed by shepherds of Babylon, the poor sheep of the Lord's pasture are wandering in a thousand fields of speculation and have no idea how to find their way home. Indeed, there is no real knowledge that there actually is a home for Adventism, and where it really is. The real truth is that the foundation of Adventism was the Millerite movement. The Pillars of Adventism are built on that foundation, and anything that says otherwise is a delusion no matter how many caps, gowns, and degrees the person may have that teaches it!

But the sheep are to blame as well. The Lord says:

Jeremiah 5:31 "The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will ye do in the end thereof?"

Jeremiah 6:16 "Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein."

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Friends; there is a true message of prophecy for today, it is based solidly on the Millerite foundation and it upholds the pillars laid down at the beginning of Adventism, and Satan knows that God has raised up watchmen who are sounding forth this message. He well knows the power that came into the work in the time of the Midnight Cry, power that made his hosts to tremble; and he knows that all depends on his being able to distract, or smother the real message so that God's people don't find their true heritage and tap into its power again.

Isaiah 58:12 "And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in."

No where does the Bible or Spirit of Prophecy tell us that in the last days some wonderful new idea is going to be brought forth that none of our pioneers ever heard of, and that is going to bring a wonderful new direction into the church. Instead it foretells that truths that have been sealed up to our knowledge, truths that the pioneers understood but have been lost through the passing down of human ideas and traditions from generation to generation among us, will be unsealed again and for the basis of the Loud Cry that will lighten the earth. These messages will follow the Biblical principles that empowered the Advent movement, and will form a perfect whole with no loose ends or contradictions.

Yes, there is a new direction that is going to be brought into the church—and I am sad to say that most will hasten to head that way—and it will lead right into the waiting arms of Mother Rome. But there will be a small group who will stand solid and strong right on the foundation of many generations. Nothing will move them, because the beginning of this movement was a wonderful manifestation of the power of God, and the end will be the same—and nothing can alter that. It will happen, and is starting to happen, and so I appeal to you all to find out where we came from and return to those paths to walk in and you WILL find rest for your soul. I know—because after wandering for decades I have found the old paths, the power is there and they are solid! Be not among those who say, "We will not walk therein!"

"The warning has come: Nothing is to be allowed to come in that will disturb the foundation of the faith upon which we have been building ever since the message came in 1842, 1843, and 1844. I was in this message, and ever since I have been standing before the world, true to the light that God has given us. We do not propose to take our feet off the platform on which they were placed as day by day we sought the Lord with earnest prayer, seeking for light. Do you think that I could give up the light that God has given me? It is to be as the Rock of Ages. It has been guiding me ever since it was given." Review and Herald, April 14, 1903.

"Again and again I have been shown that the past experiences of God's people are not to be counted as dead facts. We are not to treat the record of these experiences as we would treat a last year's almanac. The record is to be kept in mind, for history will repeat itself." Publishing Ministry, 175.