The Impending Conflict

Gordon J. Ellis Jones | Sept 9-14, 2014

Memory Text:

"Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth." KJV — John 17:17

"Those who honor the Bible Sabbath will be denounced as enemies of law and order, as breaking down the moral restraints of society, society, anarchy and corruption, and calling down the judgments of God upon the world. Ministers who have been the most faithful in exposing these sin-stained, godless times, and warning the people of God to prepare for the coming of the Lord, will be the most vituperated and abused. Ministers who deny the obligation of the divine law and who teach that the Ten Commandments are a dead letter, and that the Sabbath of the fourth commandment is a mere institution of the Jews, to legislate halfa and courts of justice, will be regarded as the most loyal, patriotic, and conservative men. Those who stand up boldly for the old paths of the ancient faith, the world, the world, conservative will be, up upon their traditions. GC 592.1

"As the Protestant churches reject the clear, Scriptural arguments in defence of the Sabbath of the Lord, they will be left to darkness, to strong delusion, to believe a lie, that they may be condemned. They will be left to darkness, to strong delusion, to believe a lie, that they may be condemned. They are now adopting a course which will lead to the persecution of those who cannot in conscience do as they do, those who will not, in order to be consistent, and acknowledge the claims of the papal sabbath. GC 592.2

"The legislature of church and state will unite to bribe, persuade, or compel all classes to honor the Sunday. The lord of divine authority will be supplied by the decrees of councils, by the commandments of men. Those who will not be swayed by truth, and even in free America, solemn and legislative, 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 solemn coming conflict we shall be brought before rulers and kings for the testimony of Jesus, yes, and our enemies, and we shall be called upon to bear our testimony for God, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." Revelation 12:17 GC 593.3

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Sunday, June 9

Revelation's Final Conflict

Compare Revelation 14:7, 9 with Revelation 14:1. What is the overarching theme of Revelation in this conflict between good and evil?

"By the first angel, men are called upon to "fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come." Revelation 14:7. Those who do this, they must obey his law. Christ says the law was "ordained in Christ, and kept in the heart of Christ." Psalm 40:8. Christ's obedience to the commandments of God, was the result of his love for God. "This is the love of God, that we keep his commandments." "He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him." Revelation 2:4. GC 605.1

"In contrast to those who keep the commandments of God and have the faith of Jesus, the third angel points to another class, against whose errors a still more fearful warning is given. The third angel's message is the last to be given to the world, and it is to be proclaimed in connection with the first and second, and shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God." Revelation 14:9, 10. A correct interpretation of the symbols employed in this prophecy, is of the utmost importance of this message. What is represented by the beast, the image, the mark? GC 605.2

"In chapter 13 Genesis 13:1-10 is described another beast. This one is leopard like, and has the feet of a bear, and the mouth of a lion. The dragon gives him power, and his throne, and great authority. He is given a mouth speaking blasphemies, which succeeded to the power and seat and authority once held by the ancient Roman empire. He continues forty and two months. He makes war with the saints him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies.... And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. And there was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world. Revelation 13:1-8. GC 606

worshipers of the beast will be distinguished by their efforts to tear down the Creator's memorial, to exalt the institution of Rome. It was in behalf of the Sunday that popery first asserted its arrogant claims (see Appendix); and its first resort to the power of the state was to compel the observance of Sunday as “the Lord's day.” But the Bible points to the seventh day, and not to the first, as the Lord's day. Said Christ: “The Son of man is Lord also of the Sabbath.” The fourth commandment declares: “The seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord.” And by the prophet Isaiah the Lord designates it: “My holy day.” Mark 2:28; Isaiah 58:13.” GC 446.3

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