



# Bible Prophecy Guide

## Unveiling the Bride

### Summary 14

**Jeremiah 6:2** – God's people, His church, is compared to a lovely woman.

**Revelation 18:4** – There is a call to come out of these false systems or churches.

**Revelation 12:1-6** – Here we see a depiction of God's people and the Messiah himself. We see a description of how Satan would see to destroy the Savior upon His arrival to earth. Indeed, Jesus came as an Israelite and fulfilled what Israel failed to fulfill in Daniel 9:24. Then after Jesus returned to heaven, God's people fled into the wilderness and were protected by God there for 1260 years.

**Revelation 12:15-16** – Satan is here referred to as a serpent instead of a dragon. Indeed, we are reminded of his ancient deceptive work with Eve. Could it be that here we are being warned of his deceptive practices? Could it be that Satan would seek to carry away God's people through both deception and persecution?

**Revelation 17:3-6** – There is evidently a family or collection of false churches in the last days who persist in blending false worship with true worship. That is, they refuse additional light as it is revealed and thus continue on in darkness.

*As one looks to history, we see God's people being led astray through deception and persecution. Indeed, a unholy union between paganism and Christianity emerged. God always had a remnant, a people who held fast to the Word of God. The Bible says that they were protected in the wilderness. Later God would raise up reformers who would seek to bring reformation into the church. But after such darkness, the light had to come back on slowly so as not to blind mankind in his wickedness. Indeed, reformers arose who were time after time rejected by the church but their reformation carried on outside the church. What we today call denominations were begun, each with their particular focus. Often each faith would build on the truths of previous reformations but seldom would they go any further than their leader. Over time, truth slowly began to return to the masses. You can see the progression in the chart below and the leaders who helped bring these truths to light.*



**Revelation 12:17** – After the 1260 years which ended in 1798, Satan would go on to make war with the rest of her offspring. These offspring can be identified as the ones who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus. We have studied that those who keep the commandments will keep all 10 including the 4<sup>th</sup> which instructs us to keep the 7<sup>th</sup> day holy. This 4<sup>th</sup> commandment we have noted is the seal of God according to Ezekiel 20:12, 20. But not only will they keep the commandments, they will have the testimony of Jesus. What is that?

**Revelation 19:10** – Here we find that the testimony of Jesus is the Spirit of Prophecy. Indeed, God's end time people will not only exhibit this gift, but teach the prophecies as the Spirit guides.

**Revelation 14:12** – God's people will not only keep the commandments but will have the faith of Jesus. That is they will live by faith.

Based on our study thus far, we have identified several characteristics of God's remnant. They are as follows:

- Keep the Ten Commandments – Rev. 12:17; 14:12
- Live by faith – Rev. 14:12
- Arise after 1798 – Rev. 12:13-17
- Have the Spirit of Prophecy – Rev. 12:17; 19:10
- It would be a worldwide movement. – Rev. 10:11; 14:6-12

Scripture helps us further in our attempt to identify His remnant by describing a pivotal experience they would have at the time of the end. Their story is found in Revelation 10.

**Revelation 10:1-2** – Here we see a depiction of an angel (which in Greek means messenger) standing on the earth and the sea which suggests that His message is for the world. The description of this angel matches very closely the depiction of Christ in Revelation 1:15-16. Evidently this message is so important that God Himself delivers it.

**Revelation 10:3-4** – John is told to seal up the message that the seven thunders uttered.

**Revelation 10:5-6** – The phrase, "There should be delay no longer," is better translated from Greek as "time no more shall be." As you will see in a moment, this experience would take place in 1844 which is the last date we have in time prophecy. Thus as we studied in our last presentation, God's prophetic calendar would reach its end in 1844. Indeed, the experience that is to follow in the next few verses will occur at this time of the end.

**Revelation 10:7-11** – Here we find a description of a bitter sweet experience, a great disappointment of sorts. But though it takes place at the time of the end, the end of time has not yet come (verse 7) for they are told to recover and continue to proclaim the prophecies to “many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings.”

### **The question arises, what is this little book that created such a disappointment?**

**Daniel 12:4** – Revelation 10:4 says that the messages that the seven thunders uttered was sealed up. The message that the angel was there to proclaim was to be sealed up for a while but then later ingested. When we look to Scripture we find a book that was indeed sealed. This little book of Revelation 10 is the book of Daniel which was sealed until the time of the end.

**Daniel 8:17** – The next question that naturally arises is when is the time of the end? Daniel tells us here that the time of the end is what the vision referred to.

**Daniel 8:13-14** – The vision referred to by verse 17 is the vision of the 2300 days mentioned in verse 14. After a careful study of Daniel 9:24-27, we learn that the 70 weeks began in 457 BC and that these weeks were cut off of the 2300 days. Thus we know the starting date for the 2300 days. When we add 2300 to 457BC, we arrive at 1844 which is according to Daniel 8:17 the time of the end which Daniel 12:4 states is when the book will be opened which Revelation 10 describes. Thus we can conclude after comparing Scripture with Scripture that the great disappointment of Revelation 10 will occur around the time of 1844 which is referred to as being in the time of the end.

To review, here are the characteristics of the experience as described in Revelation 10:

- The message goes worldwide, (Land & Sea)
- Something is hidden from view.
- The study of the little book will be sweet at first but will create a great disappointment.
- Will continue to proclaim the 3 Angels message after the disappointment.
- It has to do with the unsealing of the prophecies of Daniel.
- This experience should occur around 1844.
- This will take place at the time of the end.

When one looks to history, we find that around the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, scholars in England were studying the 2300 day prophecy of Daniel 8:14 and in time concluded that Christ was coming around the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Soon they began preaching the soon return of Jesus in England. In America, the movement was led in large part by a farmer named William Miller. Once a deist (one that believes God created the world and set it in motion and left it to care for itself), Miller later became a Christian and set out to show his deist friends their error. For 15 years he carried out a careful study of God's Word using just a concordance and Bible and was drawn especially to the books of Daniel & Revelation. Miller after some time came to understand that the time prophecy of Daniel 8:14 would end sometime during the Jewish year of March 21, 1843 to March 21, 1844. Miller understood the cleansing of the sanctuary described in Daniel 8:14 to refer to the cleansing of this earth by fire. Thus he believed the Lord was coming at that time. After being convicted to share this good news of Christ's soon return, the message spread like wildfire. This period has been called by historians as the last phase of the second great awakening in America. After March 21, 1844 had passed and the Lord hadn't come, many were disappointed. Later a discovery was made that the passage was referring to the Day of Atonement of the Old Testament sanctuary service. The Jewish Day of Atonement was to fall on October 22 in 1844 and so a new enthusiasm transpired. October 22 came and went and the Lord didn't come. Many lost their faith but some returned to the Scriptures after the

disappointment. One group of the Millerites came to understand that the timing was correct but the event was wrong. Through careful study they discovered that the cleansing of the sanctuary in Daniel 8:14 referred to Christ entering the last phase of His work in the Heavenly Sanctuary and that 1844 marked the beginning of the pre-advent judgment. This judgment was taking place in heaven and was for the sake of the universe to see the justice of God in coming to take His saints home. They later published a tract called the Day Dawn in which they outlined their findings. Meanwhile another group of Millerites came to learn about the Sabbath. A young lady named Rachel Oaks introduced the Biblical Sabbath to her preacher. After studying with others and becoming convinced of the truth, one of the men by the name of T.M. Prebble published a little tract on the Sabbath.

Two men by the name of Joseph Bates and James White and his wife Ellen White received both of these tracts and thus from this small group began to grow a great movement. They were already Christians meaning that they accepted and believed that Jesus Christ was Lord and Savior and that we are saved by grace and not by works. But they now understood even more truth with the revelation of the 7<sup>th</sup> day Sabbath in God's law and the truth of the pre-advent judgment. In time this group grew to 3000 and in 1863 organized into a church. They called themselves Seventh-day Adventists because it highlighted two of their distinguishing characteristics; the Sabbath and the belief in the Lord's soon return. The reason for organizing into a church body was to enable them to more effectively share resources and become better organized as a movement. A symbol of Babylon is confusion as we see from its inception at the tower of Babel in Genesis 11. God's people are to avoid such confusion and are to be organized and effective for Christ. Today this movement has grown to over 20 million and is said to be the fastest growing protestant denomination in America according to a US Today article written back in March of 2011. In an effort to proclaim the good news as told in the Three Angels messages, this church movement has erected over 7000 schools around the world with a total enrollment of around 1.5 million. Over 160 hospitals and sanitariums have been built to care for the sick. Over 60 publishing houses print magazines and books to help deliver the message. Radio and Television stations carry the message across the globe. Indeed, the work is moving forward but God needs you to help in proclaiming this message you've been learning to the whole world.

Indeed, the Seventh-day Adventist church arose amidst a disappointment but that isn't unusual. The Israelite people arose out of a great disappointment. Remember that just before they fled Egypt, they were made to work harder because of the request of Moses. But their disappointment turned to joy as they crossed the Red Sea. The early Christians went through a disappointment when Jesus died on Calvary's cross but their disappointment turned to joy when their Savior arose. So it would be reasonable to see God's remnant arise from a disappointment as well.

**From what we have seen from our Bible study, the Seventh-day Adventist church is the only church that meets all the Biblical criteria of the remnant and whose experience is so carefully depicted in Revelation chapter 10.** In no way is this to suggest that Seventh-day Adventists are the only ones to be saved. God currently has His people all over. But God is inviting His people to come out of Babylon and to join His remnant movement as it proclaims the Three Angels message to every nation, tribe, tongue and people.

Seventh-day Adventists find their mission to be summarized in the messages of the three angels (Revelation 14:6-12) which include words of hope and warning, judgment and salvation, and law and grace. Won't you join this end time movement as we seek to get the message out to every nation, tribe, tongue and people?