

The Gospel, 1844, and Judgment Lesson 6 3Q 2006

Any questions from last week or this week?

Daniel 9

Read Daniel 9:1-19 What is being described? How do you understand these events? Some read these words, "Therefore the curses and sworn judgments written in the Law of Moses, the servant of God, have been poured out on us, because we have sinned against you. <sup>12</sup> You have fulfilled the words spoken against us and against our rulers by bringing upon us great disaster.... The LORD did not hesitate to bring the disaster upon us, for the LORD our God is righteous in everything he does; yet we have not obeyed him." And conclude, God uses His power to inflict pain and suffering on the disobedient and those who continue to disobey He will one day finally use His power to exterminate. What do you think? What do you say to those who say, "just read it, we must take the Bible like it reads."

What is being described? Is it describing a process in which God says you better do what I say or I will be forced by righteousness to make you pay OR a process in which God is saying if you disobey you will reap terrible consequences because you are choosing to remove yourself from my protection? How do we know which is more reasonable? What evidence can we site?

ISA 59:2 But your iniquities have separated  
you from your God;  
your sins have hidden his face from you,  
so that he will not hear.

HOS 5:3 I know all about Ephraim;  
Israel is not hidden from me.  
Ephraim, you have now turned to prostitution;  
Israel is corrupt.

HOS 5:4 "Their deeds do not permit them  
to return to their God.  
A spirit of prostitution is in their heart;  
they do not acknowledge the LORD.

HOS 5:5 Israel's arrogance testifies against them;

the Israelites, even Ephraim, stumble in their sin;  
Judah also stumbles with them....

HOS 11:7 My people are determined to turn from me.  
Even if they call to the Most High,  
he will by no means exalt them.

HOS 11:8 "How can I give you up, Ephraim?  
How can I hand you over, Israel?  
How can I treat you like Admah?  
How can I make you like Zeboiim?  
My heart is changed within me;  
all my compassion is aroused.

HOS 11:9 I will not carry out my fierce anger,  
nor will I turn and devastate Ephraim.  
For I am God, and not man--  
the Holy One among you.  
I will not come in wrath.

What does it say? The people turn away from God, God doesn't turn away from them. But when they turn away from God and reject every entreaty and offer and merciful intervention and God finally let's go what happens?

## SABBATH

First paragraph read - Daniel 7:13, Daniel 8:14 and Malachi 3:1-3 all speak about the same event – what event?

The Great Controversy Ellen White states, "The coming of Christ as our high priest to the most holy place, for the cleansing of the sanctuary, brought to view in *Daniel 8:14*; the coming of the Son of man to the Ancient of Days, as presented in *Daniel 7:13*; and the coming of the Lord to His temple, foretold by *Malachi[3:1-3]*, are descriptions of the same event;"(p. 426).

Read the second paragraph – agree or disagree? Does the Bible teach another sanctuary that needs cleansing?

"Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him; for God's temple is sacred, and you are that temple." (1 Corinthians 3:16,17). Do you and I need cleansing? Is this part of the sanctuary message? If so how?

“In the building of the sanctuary as a dwelling place for God, Moses was directed to make all things according to the pattern of things in the heavens. God called him into the mount, and revealed to him the heavenly things, and in their similitude the tabernacle, with all that pertained to it, was fashioned.

“So to *Israel*, whom He desired to *make His dwelling place*, He revealed His glorious ideal of *character*. The pattern was shown them in the mount when the law was given from Sinai and when God passed by before Moses and proclaimed, "The Lord, The Lord God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth." Exodus 34:6. ..

“Through Christ was to be fulfilled the *purpose* of which the *tabernacle was a symbol*--that glorious building, its walls of glistening gold reflecting in rainbow hues the curtains inwrought with cherubim, the fragrance of ever-burning incense pervading all, the priests robed in spotless white, and in the deep mystery of the inner place, above the mercy seat, between the figures of the bowed, worshiping angels, the glory of the Holiest. *In all, God desired His people to read His purpose for the human soul*. It was the same purpose long afterward set forth by the apostle Paul, speaking by the Holy Spirit:

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." 1 Corinthians 3:16, 17. (Education 34-36).

“In the cleansing of the temple, Jesus was announcing His mission as the Messiah, and entering upon His work. That temple, erected for the abode of the divine Presence, was designed to be an object lesson for Israel and for the world. From eternal ages it was God's purpose that *every created being*, from the bright and holy seraph to *man*, *should be a temple for the indwelling of the Creator*. Because of sin, humanity ceased to be a temple for God. Darkened and defiled by evil, the heart of man no longer revealed the glory of the Divine One. But by the incarnation of the Son of God, the purpose of Heaven is fulfilled. God dwells in humanity, and *through saving grace the heart of man becomes again His temple*. God designed that the temple at Jerusalem should be a continual witness to the high destiny open to every soul. But the Jews had not understood the significance of the building they regarded with so much pride. They did not yield themselves as holy temples for the Divine Spirit. The courts of the temple at Jerusalem, filled with the tumult of unholy traffic, represented all too truly the temple of the heart, defiled by the presence of sensual passion and unholy thoughts. *In cleansing the temple from the world's buyers and sellers, Jesus announced His mission to cleanse the heart from the defilement of sin,--from the earthly desires, the selfish lusts, the evil habits, that corrupt the soul*. "The Lord, whom ye seek, shall

suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of hosts. But who may abide the day of His coming? and who shall stand when He appeareth? for He is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: and He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and He shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver." Mal. 3:1-3. (DA 161).

What sanctuary needed cleansing? Both, the sanctuary in heaven and the sanctuary of the human soul.

What sanctuary was the first sanctuary contaminated with sin? Was it the heavenly sanctuary or the sanctuary of the human soul? And what was the sin that contaminated the heavenly sanctuary?

"From the *opening of the great controversy* it has been Satan's purpose to *misrepresent God's character* and to excite rebellion against His law, and this work appears to be crowned with success." (PP 338).

"*Satan had accused God* of requiring self-denial of the angels, when he knew nothing of what it meant himself, and when he would not himself make any self-sacrifice for others. This was the *accusation* that Satan made against God in heaven; and after the evil one was expelled from heaven, he continually charged the Lord with exacting service which he would not render himself. *Christ came to the world to meet these false accusations, and to reveal the Father.*" (RH, February 18, 1890).

"God was represented as *severe, exacting, revengeful, and arbitrary*. He was pictured as one who could take pleasure in the sufferings of his creatures. The *very attributes that belonged to the character of Satan*, the evil one represented as belonging to the character of God." (Signs of the Times January 20, 1890).

What was the first sanctuary to be contaminated? Heavenly! By what? Lies about God. What was the next sanctuary to be contaminated? By what?

"*Eve believed* the words of Satan, and the *belief of that falsehood in regard to God's character, changed the condition and character of both herself and husband*. They were changed from good and obedient children into transgressors..." (RH, January 5, 1886 par. 8).

Both sanctuaries are contaminated by the same thing! What happened to humanity after the lies about God were accepted as truth? The defilement of sin, love and trust were displaced by fear and selfishness

and behaviors based on fear and selfishness started, thus the lust, passions and earthliness.

So from what does the sanctuary need cleansing? The heavenly sanctuary needs cleansing from the lies that Satan told about God and the recorded sins of the people. And the Spirit Temple, the sanctuary of the human soul, needs cleansing from the lies that Satan told about God and defilement of sin, the earthly desires, the selfish lusts, the evil habits. Both sanctuaries need cleansing from the exact same things!

How does the prophecy of Daniel 7, 8 and Malachi 3 connect to the cleansing of these two sanctuaries?

In chapter 8 the little horn is described as defiling the sanctuary – who is the little horn? Pagan and Papal Rome, how can the little horn defile the sanctuary in heaven? Where does the little horn get its power? From the dragon, and who is the dragon? Satan. What is the power of the dragon? Hebrews 2:14 and John 17:3 – The devil holds the power of death, which is his lies about God that we believe that keep us from knowing God.

It says the dragon gave his power to the little horn – then what would be the power of the little horn? The lies about God that people believe that keep them from knowing Him. And what are some of the lies about God told by the little horn? God will torture His children in hell forever if they don't repent; God needs to be pleaded with; God needs to be appeased; God cannot forgive without legal payment; forgiveness is available only through a series of rituals administered by the church. And what will lies do to the sanctuary of the human soul?

So what is the abomination of desolation? It is the abomination of lies about God told by Satan and religious organizations which result in the desolation of the image of God within man! And these lies lead to destructive behaviors based on defective character and thus the records of such deformity kept in the heavenly record books.

What cleanses and why 2300 years for it to be cleansed?

“The blood of Jesus” cleanses. But what does that mean? How does the blood of Jesus cleanse? Jesus said, “I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.” (John 6:53-55).

“In the *study of the Bible* the converted soul eats the *flesh* and drinks the *blood* of the Son of God, which He himself interprets as the receiving and

doing of His words, that are spirit and life.” (Fundamentals of Christian Education 378).

“The leaven of *truth* works a change in the whole man, making the coarse refined, the rough gentle, the selfish generous. By it [*the truth*] the impure are cleansed, washed in the *blood of the Lamb*.” (Christ’s Object Lessons 102).

Daniel 8:14 “Unto 2300 days and then shall the sanctuary be *cleansed*.” If you look in your SDA Bible commentary you will discover that the Hebrew word translated *cleansed* is more accurately translated *justified*. Unto 2300 days and then shall the sanctuary be *justified*.

Justify means to be set right, put right, harmonized so, What needs to be set right? What needs to be put right? What needs to be harmonized?

Read Malachi 3:1-3 What does this text say, the Lord will come to His temple to do what? Cleanse, purify, what? The Levites, which are who?

“You also, like living stones, are being built into a *spiritual house* to be a *holy priesthood*, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.” (1Pet 2:4) What is another name for a “spiritual house”? A sanctuary! “You also, like living stones, are being built into a sanctuary...” And just a few verses down Peter repeats this reality for emphasis, “But you are a chosen people, a *royal priesthood*...” (1Pet 2:9).

Why 2300 years? Why would it be this long until God could cleanse His sanctuary? If Christ died 2000 years ago, and the “blood” of Christ cleanses, why couldn’t the sanctuary be cleansed as soon as He shed His blood?

2TH 2:1 Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered to him, we ask you, brothers, <sup>2</sup> not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by some prophecy, report or letter supposed to have come from us, saying that the day of the Lord has already come. <sup>3</sup> Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction. <sup>4</sup> He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God.

Now what is this talking about? Who is the man of lawlessness? What Temple does he set himself up in? Did he go into heaven and set himself up in heaven and claim to be God? Or did he set himself up in the throne of the human heart and mind claiming to be God on earth?

So why did it take 2300 years? Where does the truth need to be applied to cleanse? In heaven or in the hearts and minds of people here on earth? Then why 2300 years?

ZEC 4:6 So he said to me, "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the LORD Almighty.

How does the Spirit work? Can you persuade and convince and win the heart and mind with power and might? Can you gain loyalty, devotion with power and might? What must happen, The Truth must be seen, understood and believed!

What about the idea that the investigative judgment is God sitting up there going through record books? Where does that come from?

"The Ancient of Days took his seat...The court was seated, and the books were opened." (Daniel 7:9,10).

Does the Text say that God began to judge out of the books or the books were opened? Whose books are these? Enron had tens of thousands of customers and accounts. They received millions of dollars and when their books were opened for examination who was being examined, Enron or the customers, the customers or Enron?

Who has kept these books, us or God? Who is being examined us or God? Who were the lies about that started the war in heaven? What contaminated the heavenly sanctuary? What contaminated the sanctuary of the human soul? What is needed to cleanse? The truth about God!

Why would God need to open His books and why would God need to open His books about us?

Imagine I present myself to your community and claim I have a cure for cancer and have cured 50 people of cancer. I tell you they are all cancer free. I even present 50 people and ask your medical experts to examine them to see if they can find any cancer and sure enough, not one has cancer. Would you now believe I have a cure for cancer if all were cancer free? How would you know if they ever had cancer to start with? Conversely, if instead I bring out some medical records that document the presence of cancer, and then, as you review the records you see where a treatment was given and the record indicates the cancer is cured. But, I won't let you examine any patients, would you believe I have a cure for cancer?

Why is this analogy relevant? Because after Satan's original lies about God, which led others into sin, he had some new lies that needed to be dealt with as well.

"Many [angels] were disposed to heed this counsel, to repent of their disaffection, and seek to be again received into favor with the Father and His Son. But Lucifer had *another deception* ready. The mighty revolter now declared that the angels who had united with him *had gone too far to return*; that he was acquainted with the divine law, and knew that *God would not forgive...* PP 41

"So far as Satan himself was concerned, it was true that he had now gone too far to return. But *not so* with those who had been blinded by his *deceptions*. To them the counsel and entreaties of the loyal angels opened a door of hope; and had they heeded the warning, they might have broken away from the snare of Satan." PP 41

"In the *opening* of the great controversy, Satan had declared that the law of God could not be obeyed, that justice was inconsistent with mercy, and that, should the law be broken, it would be *impossible* for the sinner to be pardoned. *Every sin must meet its punishment, urged Satan*; and if God should *remit* the punishment of sin, *He would not* be a God of truth and justice. When men broke the law of God, and defied His will, Satan exulted. It was proved, he declared, that the law could not be obeyed; *man could not be forgiven*. Because he, after his rebellion, had been banished from heaven, *Satan claimed* that the *human race* must be *forever* shut out from God's favor. *God could not be just*, he urged, and yet show mercy to the sinner. (DA 761).

Have you heard any of these lies? Satan had his original lies, but then he had another set which needed to be addressed as well.

What were the new lies? Once a sinner always a sinner; God would not forgive; It is impossible to be healed and restored; Sin must be punished; God is unjust if He forgives and heals; Humans are no better in character than Satan and deserve the same fate. These are the new lies of Satan that came along after we fell into sin.

How does God handle these lies? He opens Himself up for investigation and how He has handled the issues and His methods of healing and restoration.

Imagine your child has been diagnosed with met cancer...

"The *cases* of all are pending in the *heavenly sanctuary*. Day by day angels of God are watching the *development of character...* All defects

must be remedied. The *character* must be assimilated to the *character of Christ*... At an infinite cost a fountain has been prepared for *our cleansing*. In the *blood* of the Son of God *we may wash our garments of character*, and make them white.” (ST, April 17, 1901).

What cleanses the Temples – the lies about God are cleansed by the Jesus when He revealed the truth about God and purged the infection of sin from His humanity–

The earthliness, lust and damage from sin is cleansed by God actually transforms and heals the sinners on earth and the records in heaven reflect this AND

The final lies about God that He is unfair etc. are cleansed by God opening Himself up for inspection and in the healed lives of His saints, we are witnesses for the power of His healing solution.

Questions from the class?