



2024 2Q The Great Controversy Lesson 8 Light From the Sanctuary

by Tim Jennings

SABBATH

The lesson focuses our attention on Baptist preacher William Miller who in the early 19th century began preaching the soon coming of Jesus Christ, based on the prophecy of Daniel 8:14, unto 2300 days then shall the sanctuary be cleansed, in which he thought the sanctuary was the earth and the cleansing was the second coming. He calculated the date of the fulfillment of that 2300-year prophecy starting with the decree to rebuild and restore Jerusalem after the 70-year captivity, which was 457 BC to conclude or end in 1844.

Of course, Jesus did not return in 1844, so many believed his entire understanding was wrong, but others re-examined their beliefs and the prophecy in light of Scripture and discovered the error was not on the dates, but on the meaning of the sanctuary and its cleansing. This led to a new understanding of the fulfillment of the prophecy, and the teaching within the SDA church of the heavenly sanctuary message—which was supposed to teach the final work of Jesus to make His people righteous, so that we become the righteousness of God as 2 Corinthians 5:21 teaches, to prepare us to meet Him face to face, but instead, got twisted by the legalists in the camp who rejected the truth of God’s design law and clung to the Roman view of imposed law, And instead of teaching the reality of Jesus actually removing sin from people the sanctuary message has been corrupted into is a legal work, a human court room type of work.

I have presented this material in the framework of the organized church but from the design law view in a variety of places: [The Sanctuary and Feast Days Seminar](#)

The Power of Love Training and Equipping Course lecture 12: [The Sanctuary Metaphor Cleansing of the Temple](#)

[The Wedding of Christ to His Bride: Preparing the Church for the Second Coming Magazine](#)

[The Heavenly Sanctuary and Investigative Judgment for the Modern World magazine](#) which is specifically written for SDAs with many EGW quotes

So, today I am not going stay locked in their legal framework but am going to present this in a new fashion.

Let’s start with the most important, foundational question that every person must decide before they study this material—because their conclusion on this question will determine the conclusions they draw all the way through their study of this material. And this question is:

What law lens are you looking through? How does God's law function? Do you believe God's laws are design laws the protocols reality functions upon, or do you believe that God's laws function no differently that the laws creatures make up, rules that require judicial oversight and the infliction of external penalties.

If you believe any part of God's government uses imposed laws with inflicted punishments, then your conclusions about the beautiful symbolism taught through the sanctuary system will be perverted, twisted, and distorted to such a degree that you will end up worshiping a creature in place of the Creator, while you claim to be worshiping the Creator—just as the Jews who crucified Christ did as recorded in John chapter 8. They claimed God as their Father, and Jesus told them they were of their father the devil. Why? Because they believed God's law functioned like human law, they were legalists, they believed law-breaking required infliction of punishment, they believed sacrifices were required to pay the sin-debt to the offended god or that god's law.

So, every question, every metaphor, every Bible verse, every parable, every symbol God has given us, gets warped and distorts our understanding and leads us away from God if we teach it through the lens of imposed law, including this beautiful message of cleansing the sanctuary.

So, first question, **How do you understand God's law functions?** Design protocols that reality is built upon and breaking those laws takes one out of harmony with God, out of harmony with how God built life to operate and without God's intervention to fix the problem results in pain, suffering, and death? Or do you believe that God's law functions like human law, a system of rules that have no inherent consequence and that sin creates a legal problem, we are under external legal condemnation from God and God is the source of pain, suffer, and death that He inflicts as so-called just punishment for our sin-crimes and therefore something must be done to God or God's law to pay the penalty so God won't kill us?

Consider the following questions in regard to how we understand God's law and the cleansing of the sanctuary from sin:

- What is the sanctuary that is being cleansed?
- Where is the cleansing of the sanctuary taking place?
- From what is the sanctuary being cleansed?
- Where does sin actually happen? Does sin happen in record books or in hearts and minds?
- Can God cleanse the universe from sin by erasing historical documents, by erasing records?
- Does adjusting legal status in books remove sin from hearts and minds?
- If God is going to cleanse His universe from sin, from where must the sin be removed?
 - If we have a legal records vault in heaven, where the recorded sins of all the people have been written down, and Jesus and His angels go through all those records and erase all the recorded sins from the records of all the people who made a legal claim of Jesus' blood as their sin-price paid to the Father, but the sinners who claimed the

blood of Jesus as their legal payment did not have their hearts cleansed from sin, has Jesus cleansed His universe from sin?

- If we have a legal records vault in heaven, where all the sins ever committed by every person is recorded and Jesus and His angels do nothing to that written record, in fact, that written record stands for all eternity (say a copy of the Bible with David's sin with Bathsheba), but Jesus cleanses the hearts, minds, characters, souls, spirits of all those who surrender in faith to Him so that the sinners are restored to holiness, righteousness, and have a new heart and right spirit, the mind of Christ and are at-one with God fully—the people are cleansed from sin and all who refused to be cleansed are die eternally—then has Jesus cleansed His universe from sin?
- Which of these two versions cleanses the universe from sin?
- Which version keeps sin in existence?
- Which version is based on design law and which is based on imposed law?
- Which version would Satan want taught?

And this is the problem with Christianity as a whole and the Adventist doctrine on the Investigative Judgment as it has been taught by the legalists in the church since 1888 when they rejected the advancing light of God's design law and embraced the lie that God's law functions like human law.

The big overview of this message is very simple—before Jesus returns He cleanses His bride and makes her ready to meet Him face to face. As Scripture says, we shall see Him face to face for we shall be like Him (1 John 3:2). We become like Him by the work of Christ via the Holy Spirit healing, cleansing, renewing, recreating us in actual righteousness. This requires our heavenly physician, high priest, Savior, to examine and diagnose (judge) what is wrong in our hearts and minds, where we are out of harmony with Him and His Father, and then to apply His blood (which is symbolic of His sinless life) to us, so that we become partakers of the divine nature, so that we receive an actual new heart and right spirit, so that it is no longer our old fear-ridden selfish sinful selves living, but Christ living in us, so that our thoughts, desires, motives are cleansed from fear and selfishness and we are set right, purified, cleansed to be like Jesus. This is the reality of the message.

It is a simple message. Jesus became a real human being. Took up humanity damaged and infected with fear and selfishness by Adam. Was tempted in all points like we are, but Jesus destroyed the infection of fear and selfishness, killing those elements at the Cross and rewrote, restored, implanted the purity of heaven, the motives of perfect love and trust into the humanity He took upon Himself. He rose again as a human being, sinless, righteous, and perfected by His work and self-sacrifice—the second Adam, the new head of the human species. Now, He offers His life, His victory to everyone who trusts Him, and metaphorically is grafted into Him the branch. We receive from Jesus, through the work of the Holy Spirit the mind of Christ, the spirit of power and love and sound mind, we are renewed, cleansed, restored, recreated to be like Jesus and thus when He comes we see Him face to face because He has done His final work to prepare His bride, His people living on Earth, to meet Him without ever seeing death.

So, now let's go through the Biblical evidence and compare some of the writings from the most influential founder of the SDA church on this uniquely SDA teaching, to document that our position,

based on design law, is the one that is real, is true, is the genuine message that explains what is transpiring right now.

The points we want to clarify and specify are the following:

- What is the heavenly sanctuary?
- What contaminates it?
- What does it mean to cleanse it?
- What is atonement and how is it related to cleansing the sanctuary?
- What are Christ's intercessions?
- What are the records in heaven and the judgment taking place during this time?
- Why wait until 1844?

Common SDA View

After the Great Disappointment in 1844 those who believed the sanctuary was the Earth and its cleansing meant the second coming, reviewed Scripture and discovered that the Bible never taught that the sanctuary or temple of God is the Earth, but that the Bible describes two sanctuaries or temples—the Old Testament tent/building built according to the instructions given to Moses, which was a pattern of the things in heaven. And the sanctuary in heaven where Jesus our heavenly High Priest ministers in our behalf. Those who realized this developed the teaching that Jesus as our heavenly high priest is working in our behalf in the heavenly sanctuary and that final work to cleanse the sanctuary began in 1844.

But because the legalists in the camp rejected the advancing light of God's design law and actual righteousness by faith, the entire message has been presented in a legal distortion:

- Christ entered the Most Holy Place in a building in heaven.
- He began cleansing the sanctuary from the sins of people.
- The Investigative Judgment began.
- All cases of professed followers are reviewed.
- God judges each case keeping some and rejecting others—based on whether sins have been retained in the books.
- Opening the books and doing this before the heavenly beings vindicates God's judgment.
- It culminates in the Second Coming.

I agree with the termination date of Daniel 8:14 ending in October 1844, and I agree with the final work of Jesus as our heavenly High Priest cleansing His sanctuary before He returns. However, what I disagree with is the human law lens that the legalists in the camp have used to redefine all the elements in a false light that has kept the truth away from not only Adventists, but the rest of the world.

So, let's put this in reality, in the light of God as Creator, understanding it through design law.

The heavenly sanctuary where Jesus ministers as our heavenly High Priest—what is it? More specifically, if we use Scripture, and for Adventists, since this is a uniquely Adventist doctrine, if we use the writings of EGW, what is the building material of the heavenly sanctuary? From what is this temple in heaven, where Jesus ministers in our behalf, constructed?

- Tell him this is what the LORD Almighty says: `Here is **the man whose name is the Branch**, and he will branch out from his place and **build the temple of the LORD**. It is **he who will build the temple of the LORD**, and he will be clothed with majesty and will sit and rule on his throne. And **he will be a priest on his throne**. And there will be harmony between the two.'.. **Those who are far away will come and help to build the temple of the LORD**, and you will know that the LORD Almighty has sent me to you. This will happen if you diligently obey the LORD your God." (Zechariah 6:12-15, emphasis mine).

If God's temple already existed in heaven—then why did God tell His prophet Zechariah that Jesus will leave heaven to BUILD the temple of the Lord, and that others far away will come and help him build the temple of the Lord? Is this temple that Jesus is building by human hands or one that is not built by human hands? Is this temple the great temple in the heavens or are we speaking of a third temple?

We'll consider other Scripture regarding this temple that Jesus left heaven to build, what is the building material of this temple:

- As you come to him, **the living Stone**—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him—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. (1 Peter 2:4, 5, emphasis mine)
- Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and **members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.** (Ephesians 2:19-22, emphasis mine).
- For we are God's fellow workers; **you are God's field, God's building.** (1 Corinthians 3:9, emphasis mine).
- 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, emphasis mine)

- What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For **we are the temple of the living God**. As God has said: "I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people." (2 Corinthians 6:16, emphasis mine).
- But Christ is faithful as a son over **God's house**. **And we are his house**, if we hold on to our courage and the hope of which we boast. (Hebrews 3:6, emphasis mine).
- The point of what we are saying is this: We do have such a high priest, who sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, and who serves in the sanctuary, **the true tabernacle set up by the Lord, not by man**. (Hebrews 8:1-2, emphasis mine)
- What tabernacle was set up by the Lord and not by man?
- Is it a building made out of non-living matter, gold, silver, dead trees, goats' skins or is it built out of living beings?
- If the sanctuary already existed in heaven, why did Jesus leave heaven to build it?
- Is it the temple that Jesus left heaven to build built out of the living stones, you and me?
- Why does Jesus need others far away to help him build it?
- Is this temple that Jesus must build Himself one built by humans or by God?
- Is this temple then the heavenly sanctuary or is it a third temple, and if so where is it?
- Tell him this is what the LORD Almighty says: `Here is **the man whose name is the Branch**, and he will branch out from his place and **build the temple of the LORD**. It is **he who will build the temple of the LORD**, and he will be clothed with majesty and will sit and rule on his throne. And **he will be a priest on his throne**. And there will be harmony between the two.'.. **Those who are far away will come and help to build the temple of the LORD**, and you will know that the LORD Almighty has sent me to you. This will happen if you diligently obey the LORD your God." (Zechariah 6:12-15, emphasis mine).
- Jesus left heaven to build the sanctuary where God dwells
- It is built out of Himself as the chief cornerstone
- With the help of the Apostles, those far away
- And each one of us are to be living stones built together into a house for the Lord
- This is why the Bible says...
- Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and **I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever**. (Psalm 23:6, emphasis mine).
- Him who overcomes **I will make a pillar in the temple of my God**. **Never again will he leave it**. I will write on him the **name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem**, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; and I will also write on him my new name. (Revelation 3:12, emphasis mine).

Why will we never leave the sanctuary? Because it is a prison and we are locked in a single geographic location for all eternity or because we are the sanctuary and we will never again leave our loyalty, our unity, our devotion, our holiness and our oneness with God?

EGW Comments:

- **We are God's great building.** Every stroke, every stone put into the building is only a part of the whole. Every worker is himself to become just what God designs he should be in building his own life with pure, noble, upright deeds, **that at the end he may be a symmetrical structure, a fair temple, honored by God** and man. God must be in this work. "Ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building." Through you He has worked, and will work to do honor to His name by trusting to you these great responsibilities... The Lord would have you stand forth as Daniel, every phase of your character under His own ministration, that day by day you may **grow into a structure** that will stand forth, **not as a perfect whole in itself, but connected with the work of other chosen workmen, as a beautiful temple for the Lord**, a living witness to the value, stability, and nobility of the man who keeps his eye single to the glory of God. (2 Manuscript Releases, p. 339, emphasis mine).

The first tabernacle, built according to God's directions, was indeed blessed of Him. The people thus were preparing themselves to worship in the temple not made with hands--a temple in the heavens. The stones of the Temple built by Solomon were all prepared at the quarry and then brought to the Temple site. They came together without the sound of ax or hammer. The timbers were also fitted in the forest. The furniture was likewise brought to this house all prepared for use.

Even so, the mighty cleaver of truth has **taken out a people from the quarry of the world and is fitting this people, who profess to be the children of God, for a place in His heavenly temple.** We want the cleaver of truth to do its work for us. **We are taken from the quarry of the world. The material must not be a dead substance but living souls, and these souls must be brought out of the quarry of the world, where the hand of God can fit them for the temple in heaven.** We are here as probationers, and we must pass under the hand of God. All rough edges and rough surfaces must be removed and **we must be stones fitted for the building.** We are brought into church capacity with defects of character, but we must not retain them. **We must be fitted and squared for the building. We must be "laborers together with God," for we are "God's husbandry," we are "God's building."** In view of this we must see that our temple is not defiled with sin. We should be lively stones, not dead ones, but live ones that will reflect the image of Christ. We must be worshipers in spirit and in truth. (3 Manuscript Release p. 231, emphasis mine).

What is the building material of heavenly sanctuary? Dead matter or living beings?

What Contaminates the Heavenly Sanctuary?

- When he [Satan] lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies (John 8:44 NIV84)
- **“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.”** (Patriarchs and Prophets p. 338, emphasis mine).

Satan attacked God in heaven by alleging God makes up rules and enforces His rules with inflicted punishments, therefore God is no different than any other creature, except in power, and because God's laws are made up rules God is the source of pain, suffering, and death—therefore God is not truly trustworthy, if you don't do what He says, He will kill you. This attack on God's character is built upon an attack against God's law, suggesting God's laws function like the laws creatures make up rather than the laws the Creator builds reality upon. And because of this, Satan undermined trust in God:

- **“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, emphasis mine)
- **“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...” (Review and Herald, January 5, 1886 par. 8, emphasis mine).
- Lies believed break the circle of love and trust
- Broken love and trust result in fear and selfishness (As soon as they sinned they ran and hid because they were afraid)
- Fear and selfishness lead to acts of sin
- Acts of sin damage mind, body, character—a terminal condition

Our spirit temples are damaged by lies about God, fear, selfishness, and sinful choices:

- The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. (Galatians 5:19-21 NIV84).

What contaminated the heavenly temple? Lies Lucifer told about God that were first believed by 1/3 or the angels and then believed by Adam and Eve, and believing those lies resulted, not in a legal change, but in a lethal change. Their characters were changed, rather than knowing, in experience, in heart, in mind, in attitude, in character love, trust, loyalty, devotion, honesty, fidelity, peace, joy, and the attributes of God—they instead chose to know distrust, fear, selfishness, guilt, shame and sin.

They changed themselves, their sanctuaries, their spirit temples were contaminated and because all living beings compose or make up the heavenly temple, the heavenly temple is contaminated.

But because of Adam and Eve's belief in the lies, fear and selfishness replaced love and trust in their hearts and minds, and because of our human sin-condition we have added to the contamination of our spirit temples—we corrupted ourselves even more, with sins, bad habits, biases, prejudices, corrupt thinking, lusts, evil passions.

- What contaminates the sanctuary?
 - Lies about God
 - Our own sinful/carnal nature, the lusts, passions, habits etc.

What does it mean to cleanse the heavenly sanctuary?

David prayed:

- “Wash away all **my iniquity** and **cleanse me from my sin**... **Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean**; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. (Psalm 51:2, 7 NIV84, emphasis mine).

Where does sin happen? In record books or in people? Where does God need to do His cleansing work if He is to have a universe where no sin exists, in record books or in hearts and minds? If the heavenly sanctuary is built out of living beings, then in order to cleanse the heavenly sanctuary what needs to happen? Hearts and minds of people need to be cleansed, just as David prayed!

EGW Commentary:

- 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." Malachi 3:1-3. (Desire of Ages p. 161, emphasis mine).

From what does the heavenly sanctuary need cleansing? The lies about God that people believe that break trust in God and cause fear and selfishness, AND the subsequent corruption of character, the evil habits, lusts, passions that form from the choices made from the spirit of fear and selfishness.

The cleansing of the heavenly temple is not some cleansing of a structure built out of gold, or legal books by erasing ink marks, it only happens by cleansing hearts and minds of people from sin.

Notice, EGW quotes from Malachi, and that prophecy tells us Jesus comes to His temple for a cleansing work, and specifically tells us He cleanses the Levites, which represent the priesthood of believers, those who have placed their faith in Jesus.

Do you think Malachi is speaking of a different cleansing than that of Daniel 8:14, or do you think Malachi is describing the same event as the prophecy of Daniel 8:14, the cleansing of the sanctuary?

EGW had an opinion about this, do you agree? It appears the legalist in the SDA church who took control after 1888 have not agreed with this:

- 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, are descriptions of the same event**; and this is **also represented by the coming of the bridegroom to the marriage**, described by Christ in the parable of the ten virgins, of Matthew 25. (The Great Controversy, p. 426, emphasis mine).

What is atonement and how is it related to cleansing the sanctuary?

The Day of Atonement cleansing of the sanctuary concept, is derived directly from the Jewish feast days. The purpose of the ceremonial, symbolic, system was to teach the plan of salvation, to teach the reality of Jesus.

If the metaphors, symbols, ceremonies are not connected to reality—then they teach fantasy and that is what happens when people teach these beautiful God-given symbols through Satan's imposed law lies.

- “The gifts and sacrifices being offered were **not able to clear the conscience of the worshiper**. They are only a matter of food and drink and various ceremonial washings—external regulations applying until the time of the new order... But those sacrifices are an

annual reminder of sins, **because it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.**” Hebrews 9:9.10, 10:3, 4

In that Old Testament symbolic system, there were seven annual feasts that were like a theatrical play meant to illustrate, to teach, God’s saving plan from the fall of Adam to the earth made new. Each of the seven major feasts had a real-life fulfillment and covered a portion of human history from Adam’s fall all the way to the earth made new:

- **Passover:** The first feast in the annual cycle was the Passover. As soon as Adam and Eve sinned, God “passed over” their sins. He “left the sins committed beforehand unpunished” (Romans 3:25 NIV84) and promised a Passover Lamb who “takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29 NIV84). This feast had its fulfillment in Jesus—the Passover Lamb, who was crucified on Passover Friday. The time in human history covered by this feast was from Adam’s sin until Christ’s death on the cross.
- **Unleavened Bread:** This feast was concurrent with the Passover and symbolizes that after Adam’s sin, God immediately began dispensing truth unmixed with error (symbolized by the unleavened bread) to nurture and feed His children. The bitter herbs represent the bitterness caused by sin, which became a part of human life. Both the Lamb slain and the bread without yeast represent Christ, the source of truth and healing for sinful humanity.

This Passover meal was eaten before the death angel came, which symbolizes that God had predetermined to “passover” our transgression and provide a remedy to save and heal us from our terminal sin condition. Jesus is our remedy; He is the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world (Revelation 13:8).

The Feast of Unleavened Bread symbolized the internalization of the truth about God as provided by Christ. The time period represented in the Feast of Unleavened Bread is from Adam’s fall until the crucifixion of Christ. This feast was replaced with the communion service to commemorate the sacrifice of Christ after the crucifixion and to represent the continual necessity of the partaking of Jesus to be saved.

- **The Wave Sheaf:** This was also symbolic of Christ, who is the sinless first fruit raised from the dead. Just as the wheat is buried in the ground, symbolically dying, and comes forth in newness of life, so also Christ was buried in the ground, came forth in newness of life, and brought forth many righteous with Him. The time frame represented by this ceremony was from the time of Christ’s resurrection until Pentecost—the time Jesus and those resurrected with Him witnessed in person in Jerusalem (Matthew 27:52, 53).
- **Feast of Weeks (Pentecost):** The truth spreads and takes root in many hearts and a harvest is experienced. This was fulfilled during Pentecost two thousand years ago, when the Holy Spirit fell upon those believers of the early church and the truth about God spread throughout the known world. The time frame covered is from ad 31 (Pentecost) until the nineteenth century.

- **Trumpets:** A special message for the end of time that is to awaken the end-time church (symbolized by the ten virgins in Christ’s parable) from their slumber and announce Jesus, the Bridegroom, is coming soon. Prepare! Get Ready! Christ is coming back soon! This trumpet call is to call the people to the wedding of Christ, the Groom, with His bride, the church, and occurred with the Great Awakening in the nineteenth century and the Millerite movement.
- **Atonement:** At-one-ment is the time immediately before the second coming of Christ, when the Groom puts the final cleansing touches upon His bride, wedding her to Himself, purifying her into complete harmony of heart, mind, motive, method, and character with Him, for “we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is” (1 John 3:2). This is the time in which we are living today!
- **Tabernacles:** This feast symbolically taught the time after the wedding (two becoming one), when the saints tabernacle (dwell) with God away from the world of sin in the earth made new. This is the wedding supper of the Lamb.

Just as the Old Testament Passover feast had a real and literal fulfillment when Jesus died as our Passover Lamb on Passover Friday, so also there is a real and literal cleansing, uniting, bonding, and at-one-ment. We are living in that time right now!

So, understanding this lesson we realize that Jesus is now fulfilling the reality to which the day of atonement feast pointed, and what was that reality? If we have the human law lie working in our heads, we teach the false theory of legal adjusting, reviewing record books, making legal payments, etc.

But when we return to design law, we realize the truth, that Jesus is accomplishing what He prayed to His Father to accomplish, to bring all those who believe in Him into at-one-ness, real unity. It is finishing the work of removing from all who trust Him fear and selfishness, distrust and rebelliousness, restoring us to a living trust that we won’t betray Him.

- Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has... made known to us **the mystery of his will** according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be **put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment—to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ.** (Ephesians 1:3, 9,10 NIV84, emphasis mine).

God’s mystery, the plan to remove sin and restore all things to unity, to at-one-ness, when the times have reached their fulfillment, when the longest time prophecy in the Bible is complete, Jesus enters His final work before the second coming of bring all of us back into unity with Him.

This *Great Controversy* quote, we just cited, EGW says that the prophecy of Daniel 8:14 and Malachi 3 and the wedding of Christ to His bride describe the same event:

- 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, are descriptions of the same event**; and this is **also represented by the coming of the bridegroom to the marriage**, described by Christ in the parable of the ten virgins, of Matthew 25. (The Great Controversy, p. 426, emphasis mine).

Atonement, is when the two shall become one, that is a wedding.

- “Return, O backsliding children,” says the Lord; “for I am married to you (Jeremiah 3:14 NKJV).
- For your Maker is your husband—the Lord Almighty is his name—the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer; he is called the God of all the earth (Isaiah 54:5 NIV84).
- I promised you to one husband, to Christ, so that I might present you as a pure virgin to him (2 Corinthians 11:2 NIV84).

Atonement, two becoming one, is the metaphor described as Jesus being united to His bride, which is the church.

- A marriage, as God designed, is not a legal declaration but an intertwining of hearts, minds, and selves into a greater whole—it is a holy union.
- And a healthy, holy, marriage requires—healthy, holy people!

So in order for us to enter into full unity, at-one-ment the oneness Jesus prayed for, we must be purified, cleansed, made holy.

But here is another comment, and in this quote EGW is describing God’s leading in the aftermath of the Great Disappointment, in the aftermath of 1844—what do you think is described? Do you think it describes a building in heaven made out of inanimate material with a courtroom and legal adjustments?

- **“Jesus sent His angels to direct the minds of the disappointed** ones to the most holy place, where He had gone **to cleanse the sanctuary** and make a **special atonement** for Israel. Jesus told the angels that all who found Him **would understand the work** which He was to perform. I saw that **while Jesus was in the most holy place He would be married to the New Jerusalem**; and after His work should be accomplished in the holiest, He would descend to the earth in kingly power and take to Himself the precious ones who had patiently waited His return. (Early Writings 251).

What does this mean? Do you think Jesus is getting married to a building made out of gold and silver?

- Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the **wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready**. Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear.” [Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of the saints.] Then the angel said to me, “Write: ‘Blessed are those who are invited to **the wedding supper of the Lamb!**’” (Revelation 19:6–9 NIV84, emphasis mine).

There is a wedding, and then there is the wedding supper. The wedding itself is the uniting in loving commitment of heart, mind, and soul of the two spouses. The wedding celebration follows that joining.

But the wedding, the uniting with Christ cannot happen if we in heart, mind, spirit, soul don’t trust Him, if are still in rebellion against Him, if we prefer lies, prefer selfishness, prefer the methods of Satan to those of our Savior—so in order for that at-one-ment to happen, in order for us to be bonded, sealed, settled, into eternal unity with Jesus we must be cleansed from the sin in our hearts and minds.

And when do the saints experience their hearts being bonded into unshakable loyal love to Jesus—before or at the Second Coming? When do the saints experience the cleansing of their hearts and minds from fear, selfishness, guilt, and shame so that they can stand firm in every trial—before or at the Second Coming? And when is the celebration, the wedding supper?

- Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I **saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem**, coming down out of heaven from God, **prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband**. ... One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, “Come, **I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.**” And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and **showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem**, coming down out of heaven from God (Revelation 21:1, 2, 9, 10, emphasis mine).

Why is the New Jerusalem described as the bride of Christ? It is symbolic, Jesus is not marrying buildings—Jesus is being united with His people, and thus He is cleansing His people from fear, selfishness, sin, and distrust, and sealing them into eternal at-one-ment with Him. **The New Jerusalem is the Most Holy Place**, note the following similarities, it is the place in which we are united with Christ again:

- The MH place is in the shape of a cube; the NJ is in the shape of a cube.
- The most holy place was covered in gold; the heavenly city is paved in gold. In Scripture, gold is symbolic of the purity of Christ, the righteousness and holiness of God’s character of love.
- The NJ has 3 gates on each side, with the names of the 12 tribes—corresponding with the

way the 12 tribes camped around the sanctuary.

- The most holy place was lighted by God’s Shekinah presence; the city is lighted by God’s eternal presence (Revelation 21:21, 22).
- In the most holy place was the covenant box, the place where the covenant was accomplished—the covenant of cleansing, uniting, bonding; in the city are the saints, the living temples in whose hearts the new covenant (marriage covenant) is accomplished.
 - The shekinah represents God
 - Angels the unfallen host
 - Lid of the ark Jesus
 - Wooden box covered in gold sinners restored to unity with God by the righteousness of Christ
 - Wood symbolizes man—grown from the dirt of the earth as man was formed from the dirt of the earth.
 - But to be part of the holy box the wood had to be cut free of its roots which tie to the earth and covered in gold and we must be cut free of our ties to this sinful earth and covered in the gold—righteousness of Christ.

 - The manna was the first element placed in the covenant box and represents the saints first partaking of the “bread of heaven” (John 6:32–35), Jesus the living Word made flesh (John 1:1, 14; 6:53–58); the truth as it is in Jesus wins them to trust (betrothal/conversion).
 - The law was the second item to go into the covenant box; this represents the saints, once betrothed (converted) to Christ, opening their hearts to Him; He writes His living law of love into their hearts and minds (wedding/new covenant/cleansing) and renews them in righteousness.
 - Aaron’s rod that budded was the last item to go into the covenant box; this represents the saints who were dead in trespass and sin but, having accepted the proposal (converted) and experienced the union (wedding/cleansing), come alive and bring forth peaceable fruits of righteousness. This symbolically represents both the reborn life bringing forth Christian fruits and also the glorification of those wedded to Christ living eternally fruitful lives in loving union with the Lord.
- The city has a foundation with the names of the 12 Apostles and the Lamb, indicating it is not inanimate, but it is the living temple, sanctuary, church, people of God Paul wrote about built upon the Apostles and Jesus.
- The most holy place is where the high priest conducted a special ceremony: the ceremony of atonement; the ceremony of cleansing; the ceremony of washing away sin and purifying the people (bride); the ceremony of bringing the people into “**at-one-ment**” with God, of two becoming one. In other words, it was a wedding ceremony! And this ceremony

happened at the end of the annual cycle of feasts, right before the Feast of Tabernacles; i.e., tabernacling or cohabitating with God.

The cleansing of Christ's bride and the cleansing of the heavenly temple are the same event!

And so John wrote in Revelation,

- **I did not see a temple in the city**, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. (Revelation 21:22, emphasis mine)
- Him who overcomes **I will make a pillar in the temple** of my God. Never again will he leave it. **I will write on him the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem**, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; and I will also write on him my **new name**. (Revelation 3:12, emphasis mine).

And this is why God writes His name on us, which is His character, and the Bible connects this restoration of God's image, God's name in us, with the unity or at-one-ness of being part of the temple which is the New Jerusalem.

What are Christ's intercessions?

So what does Jesus intercessions in the heavenly sanctuary in our behalf mean?

- Therefore he is able to **save completely** those who come to God through him, because **he always lives to intercede for them**. (Hebrews 7:25 NIV84, emphasis mine).

What law lens are you thinking through? If human law, then the problem is we are in legal trouble with God and God must inflict just punishment, so Jesus pleads as our defense attorney to the judge, reminding the judge of the legal payment of His blood that He has made and we have accepted so the judge will declare us legally righteous, forgiven, pardoned, even though we remain unrighteous and sinful.

This view is, at best is childish, immature, infantile, and as Hebrews 5 says, not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. At worst, it is a counterfeit that tricks people into a false security in which they have a form of godliness without any power.

What is the truth? Design law, how reality actually functions.

- Where does sin happen? In people
- Who is the accuser of the people? Satan
- Who listens to what Satan alleges?
 - Does God and the holy angels get tricked by Satan's lies? No! Then who is being tricked and continuing to distrust God and live in fear and act selfishly despite claiming to believe in Jesus? We are!
- Then where or with whom is Jesus interceding?

- In our hearts and minds and this is exactly what the Bible teaches, that Jesus is God's envoy, ambassador, representative, intermediary, mediator, who brings the truth, love, grace, and healing power of God to us to win us back to love and trust and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Consider EGW's comment regarding Jesus work, how He intercedes in our behalf:

- **As Satan accused Joshua** and his people, **so in all ages he accuses** those who are seeking the mercy and favor of God. In the Revelation he is declared to be the "accuser of our brethren," "which accused them before our God day and night." **The controversy is repeated over every soul that is rescued from the power of evil** and whose name is registered in the Lamb's book of life. Never is one received from the family of Satan into the family of God without exciting the determined resistance of the wicked one. **Satan's accusations against those who seek the Lord are not prompted by displeasure at their sins.** He exults in their defective characters. Only through their transgression of God's law can he obtain power over them. **His accusations arise solely from his enmity to Christ. Through the plan of salvation, Jesus is breaking Satan's hold upon the human family and rescuing souls from his power.** All the hatred and malignity of the archrebel is stirred as he beholds the evidence of Christ's supremacy, and with fiendish power and cunning **he works to wrest from Him the remnant of the children of men who have accepted His salvation.** (5 Testimonies 470.1, emphasis mine) [where is such a battle taking place? Where is the work of Jesus occurring that will rescue a sinner from Satan's power? Where does Satan's powers of lies and selfishness occur? Who listens to Satan's lies, who believes Satan's accusations? Who would Christ need to plead with to persuade them that His sacrifice is sufficient to free the sinner from sin? Would God need to be persuaded that the sacrifice of Christ is sufficient? Would the sinner?]

He [Satan] leads men into skepticism, causing them to lose confidence in God and to separate from His love; [who is listening to Satan's accusations? With whom does Christ need to plead in order to overcome the accusations and restore their confidence?] he tempts them to break His law, and then he claims them as his captives and contests the right of Christ to take them from him. **He knows that those who seek God earnestly for pardon and grace will obtain it; therefore he presents their sins before them to discourage them.** [Notice the dynamic here. The author doesn't say that Satan knows if he can find a sin that the person committed that they forgot to confess and ask forgiveness for that it remains on the legal registry in heaven and God will be forced to pronounce them guilty and Satan wins his legal case. Satan is not trying to persuade God to condemn. NO! Satan knows that all who trust God will, as Isaiah 55 says, receive FREE pardon from God and grace that heals and restores them and gives them a new heart and empowers them to overcome the accusations and temptations of Satan. So Satan accuses the sinner **to the sinner** to discourage the repentant sinner tempting them to give up and let go of their faith in Jesus. So, again, where is Christ plea directed?] He [Satan] is constantly seeking occasion against those who are trying to obey God. **Even their best and most acceptable services he seeks to make appear corrupt.** [To whom is Satan seeking to make our best seem corrupt? To the repentant sinner in order to discourage and dishearten us so WE GIVE UP. So, to whom would Christ be pleading, God or us, to not listen

to the accusations of Satan?] **By countless devices, the most subtle and the most cruel, he [Satan] endeavors to secure their condemnation.** [By whom? From whom is Satan seeking to get the sinner condemned? Christ Jesus? He is at the Father's right hand and is **also** interceding for us—also, in addition to who, the Father and who is the Father interceding with? With the accusations of the devil that try and discourage us!] **Man cannot meet these charges himself.** In his sin-stained garments, confessing his guilt, he stands before God. [Exactly, we don't stand before God and say, "I don't need Jesus. I can cure my own sin condition. In fact, I really haven't sinned, I am righteous in my own strength." NO! We stand before God and say, "Father I acknowledge I was born in sin and conceived in iniquity. I was born with a terminal sin condition I didn't choose this condition and I have had many symptoms along the way, many sins and shortcomings from your glorious ideal. I have been fearful and selfish and acted out against your law. I have no ability to change my heart, to heal my condition. I confess I am dead in trespass and sin. I am only here before you because Jesus overcame where I could never overcome and Jesus has gifted me His victory, His mind, His heart, His love, His motives, His character and it is no longer I that live but Jesus lives in me through the indwelling Spirit." Note what happens next.] But Jesus our Advocate **presents an effectual plea in behalf of all who by repentance and faith have committed the keeping of their souls to Him. He pleads their cause and vanquishes their accuser** by the mighty arguments of Calvary. [For all who acknowledge their condition Jesus pleads effectively TO THEM, "My grace is sufficient for you." I have engraved YOU on the palm of my hand. My victory is your victory. Trust me and I will make you whole! The accusations of Satan that we are too sinful to be saved are vanquished by the effectual plea of Jesus to you and to me!] His perfect obedience to God's law, even unto the death of the cross, has given Him all power in heaven and in earth, and **He claims of His Father mercy and reconciliation for guilty man.** [Whose mercy? God's mercy, God so loved the world that He sent Jesus to procure the Remedy and then empowers Jesus with all the power of heaven to distribute it to us to heal and save us. God doesn't win God's mercy, or beg God to be merciful, He claims the mercy that is God's, because of God's mercy Jesus was sent and became our Remedy to sin.] **To the accuser of His people He declares: "The Lord rebuke thee, O Satan.**' These are the purchase of My blood, brands plucked from the burning." [Jesus doesn't plead His blood to the Father, Jesus rebukes Satan and refutes his accusations. And listen to what Jesus says to us.] **Those who rely upon Him** in faith receive the comforting assurance: **"Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment."**... [He removes the fear, the guilt, the shame, the selfishness, the sin-condition and gives us a new heart and right spirit, writes His law of love into our inmost beings so that it is no longer I that live but Christ lives in me.] (5 Testimonies 470.2, emphasis mine)

The fact that the acknowledged people of God are represented as standing before the Lord in filthy garments **should lead to humility and deep searching of heart on the part of all who profess His name. Those who are indeed purifying their souls by obeying the truth will have a most humble opinion of themselves.** [This is the investigative judgment. The investigation of our own hearts/minds/characters and the investigating the truth about God to experience the healing power of Christ purging and cleansing us from sin to prepare us to meet Him face to face.] The more closely they view the spotless character of Christ, the stronger will

be their desire to be conformed to His image, and the less will they see of purity or holiness in themselves. But while we should realize our sinful condition, we are to rely upon Christ as our righteousness, our sanctification, and our redemption. **We cannot answer the charges of Satan against us. Christ alone can make an effectual plea in our behalf. He is able to silence the accuser with arguments founded not upon our merits, but on His own.** (5 Testimonies 471.1, emphasis mine)

Jesus is interceding with you and me to keep us from being tricked by Satan's lies.

What are the records in heaven and the judgment taking place during this time?

What is written in the heavenly records?

- But you have come to **Mount Zion, to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God.** You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, to the church of the firstborn, whose **names are written in heaven** (Hebrews 12:22, 23 NIV84, emphasis mine).
- Nothing impure will ever enter it [New Jerusalem], nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose **names are written in the Lamb's book of life.** (Revelation 21:27, NIV84, emphasis mine).
- "At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people—everyone whose **name** is found **written in the book**—will be delivered." (Daniel 12:1, emphasis mine)
- "He who overcomes will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out his **name** from the **book of life**, but will acknowledge his name before my Father and his angels." (Revelation 3:5, emphasis mine)

What is written in the records in heaven? The names of the righteous, and in the Bible what do names represent? Character! Our individualities, who we have chosen to become in heart, mind, character based on whether we have accepted the truth and been reborn so that Christ lives within us with new hearts and right spirits, or not.

Thus the work of Jesus in the records is merely the metaphorical way of describing the reality of Jesus' work of cleansing our hearts and minds from fear, selfishness, distrust, guilt, shame and all the evil habits we have developed, so that when He appears we will see Him as He is because we shall be like Him!

Consider, this EGW commentary regarding the records in heaven:

- Remember, your **character is being daguerreotyped [photographed] by the great Master Artist in the record books of heaven**, as minutely as the face is reproduced upon the polished

plate of the artist. What do the books of heaven say in your case? Are you conforming **your character** to the Pattern, Jesus Christ? Are you washing **your robes of character** and making them white in the blood of the Lamb? "Behold, I come quickly; and My reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work shall be" [Revelation 22:12]. . . . (Letters and Manuscript Releases vol. 5 letter 51, emphasis mine).

- Remember that **this world is God's daguerreotype [photograph] office. The pictures of all who live here, old or young, are being made in the books of heaven.** What shall the likeness be? (Letter 78, 1901. 3MR 352, emphasis mine).

The heavenly records are like medical records, they are an accurate record of reality, have we accepted Jesus as our remedy and been healed, transformed, cleansed, or not. It is that simple. And these records of reality, recorded by God's recording angel, are compared to the book sealed with the seven seals that Jesus opens, which I believe is God's book of foreknowledge, and as the two are compared by the onlooking universe, it will be confirmed that God foreknew all of this, yet did not use His power, or abilities, including foreknowledge to manipulate selfishly or take away individual freedom. And thus Satan's allegations are refuted and God's character and design laws and government are vindicated and all say "worthy, worthy, worthy is the Lamb who was slain!"

There are four judgments in Scripture—we are only going to consider two at this moment.

The First Judgment

In Eden, we find the evidence of the first judgment. Satan lied to Adam and Eve, as he did the angels in heaven about God, and Adam and Eve had to make a judgment: Who would they believe, who would they trust—God or the serpent?

The first judgment is our judgment of God—do we judge Him to be trustworthy or not? It is that simple.

We see this first judgment at Mount Carmel, when Elijah confronts the 450 priests of Baal and challenges the people:

- If the LORD is God, worship him; but if Baal is God, worship him! (1 Kings 18:21 GNT).

The apostle Paul picks up this theme and states it explicitly in Roman 3:4:

- Let God be true but every man a liar. As it is written: "That You may be justified in Your words, and may overcome when **You are judged**" (Romans 3:4 NKJV, emphasis mine).

The Second Judgment

When we understand design law, we can see that Adam and Eve's sin did not create a legal problem; it created a lethal problem. It is God's diagnostic judgments on both a planet wide scale and individual scale. God judging what is necessary for Him to do to keep open the avenue for the Messiah and His therapeutic judgments to bring about His healing plan. Such as the Flood, to keep open the avenue for the Messiah to come, for without Jesus no human could be saved. Throughout the Old Testament we see God making many diagnostic and therapeutic judgments, unfortunately, people who have believed the lie that God's law functions like human law have misconstrued the events to falsely believe God is acting judicially, to punish rather than to save.

There is another aspect of God's healing, therapeutic judgment: His work in the hearts and minds of people. David understood this and prayed:

- Examine me, O God, and know my mind; test me, and discover my thoughts. Find out if there is any evil in me and guide me in the everlasting way (Psalm 139:23, 24 GNT).

And this is the same judgment going on in the heavenly sanctuary that we already read about in Malachi's prophecy:

- “Suddenly the Lord you are seeking will **come to his temple**; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the Lord Almighty. But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; **he will purify the Levites** and refine them like gold and silver. Then the Lord will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the Lord, as in days gone by, as in former years. **“So I will come near to you for judgment”** (Malachi 3:1–5 NIV84).

This is the “judgment” of the Great Heavenly Physician, our Creator: examining us, diagnosing what is wrong in us, and determining what is the best therapeutic intervention to bring to bear to heal and restore us. This is the judgment of our High Priest going on in heaven as He examines the people and prepares them for His return, to complete His healing of them so that when He does come, we will be like Him—for “we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is” (1 John 3:2 NIV84). This healing, this transformation, this final work of preparation is what Malachi describes above—the cleansing of our temples, the purifying of the Levites (His people today), is all taught metaphorically in the Day of Atonement ritual.

Why wait until 1844 to do this final work?

Because of how reality works, because God is the Creator, because His laws are design laws, and His cleansing is the cleansing of hearts and minds of people from lies, fear, and selfishness and that requires the truth be presented effectively—for God cannot win love, trust, loyalty, devotion,

friendship by the use of external might and power to punish and kill those who don't give Him love, trust, loyalty and friendship.

And we are in a war...

- “For though we live in the world, we do not **wage war** as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish **arguments** and every **pretension** that sets itself up against the **knowledge of God**, and we take captive every **thought** to make it obedient to Christ.” 2 Corinthians 10:3–5

And the Bible foretold that after Jesus finished His earthly mission and ascended back to heaven, Satan counterattacked and set himself up in God's temple, the hearts and minds of people, pretending to be God and it would be 2300 years, or until 1844 until enough truth was recovered in order for Jesus to be able to cleanse His people on Earth from these lies.

Daniel, prophesying about the same events regarding the cleansing of the sanctuary, describes the war and why it needs to be cleansed:

- “I beheld, and the same horn **made war** with the saints, and prevailed against them; Until the Ancient of days came, and **judgment was given** to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.” Daniel 7:21, 22 KJV

This little horn power is winning until judgment is given, imparted, provided to the saints, until they receive judgment, discernment, the ability to differentiate the truth from the lies, which means until enough truth is recovered that they can reject the imperial dictator lies about God and return to worshipping Him as Creator, which requires rejecting the human imposed law lie and realizing God's laws are design laws.

Paul wrote:

- “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. 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**” (2 Thessalonians 2:3–4 NIV84, emphasis mine).

Satan did this by getting Christians to believe God's law functions like human law, imposed rules that require imposed punishments, and thus the god worshiped is not the Creator, but an imperial dictator who is the source of pain, suffering and death, inflicted as so-called just punishment. But the Bible tells us that Satan is the one who wields the power of death and Jesus destroys him and his power, and Jesus destroys death and bring life and immortality to light.

God, looking down the corridors of time, told His friend Daniel it would be 2300 years until He could cleanse His sanctuary from these lies because it would be that long until the Bible was

translated to the people, until the eternal gospel that is to lighten the entire world is presented, the eternal good news about God as Creator whose laws are design laws so that people can make a right judgment about God and break away from the fallen system of human law represented by Babylon.

The 2300-year prophecy is the vision of the future God gave to His friend Daniel. God looking down the corridors of time, tells Daniel that there are 490 years (70 sevens) left for your people Israel to fulfill their mission, to be the avenue for the Messiah. In the middle of that final 7 years of the 490 years, Jesus will put an end to all the symbolic ceremonial sacrifices by becoming the true sacrifice to cure the sin problem. But after Jesus finishes His work on Earth and returns to heaven, Satan counters the work of Jesus and introduces a false interpretation and meaning of what Christ accomplished. The little horn power wars against the saints—and this war is not primarily physical, it is the war of lies about God, and the man of sin, the man of lawlessness sets himself up by his lies in the spirit temple, the hearts and minds of people, proclaiming himself to be God. And because of this false god being enthroned in the spirit temple as the god who is worshiped, it will be 2300 years before enough truth is recovered to cleanse the spirit temple, the hearts and minds of people and prepare them for the second coming. Thus, it will be 2300 years before the sanctuary will be cleansed, before the truth that God is not an imperial dictator who makes up rules and uses power to inflict punishment for rule breaking is recovered, it will be that long before the Bible is translated and printed and distributed into enough languages and to enough people that the truth can set the captives free and people can leave the false system of Babylon and begin worshiping the Creator God whose laws are design laws and thereby experience full trust and be cleansed settled and sealed to meet Jesus when He comes.

- “Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will **come to his temple**; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the Lord Almighty. But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner’s fire or a launderer’s soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will **purify the Levites** and refine them like gold and silver.” (Malachi 3:1–3)
- I did not see a **temple** in the city, because the **Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple**. (Revelation 21:22 NIV84, emphasis mine)

God and the Jesus the Lamb are the temple and we dwell forever as pillars in unity, oneness, friendship and love with them, as the bride is cleansed and wedded, atoned—made at-one with Jesus forever.

SUMMARY

- What is the heavenly sanctuary?
 - The combined structure built by God out of living beings
- What contaminates it?
 - Lies about God and our own sinfulness
- What does it mean to cleanse it?

- To remove the lies and the fear and selfishness and restore in Jesus, His character, love, truth, freedom, holiness, righteousness so that we become the righteousness of God.
- What is atonement and how is it related to cleansing the sanctuary?
 - Bringing us into at-one-ment with God, the wedding of Christ to His bride where we are sealed and settled so that nothing can move us from our loyalty to Him
- What are Christ's intercessions?
 - His pleas to you and me to trust Him and let Him heal us, His actions to intervene and intercede with Satan, the lies, distortions, our guilt, shame, and anything that separates us from Him to win us back to love and trust.
- What are the records in heaven and the judgment taking place during this time?
 - The accurate transcript of every individuality, who we actually are in heart, mind, character, and our judgments to trust Jesus and Jesus' therapeutic judgments to heal and cleanse.
- Why wait until 1844?
 - Because God only wins with God's methods, truth, love, freedom and it wasn't until that time in history that the truth, the Bible, was translated and modern printing on communications and travel increased to the point that enough truth was recovered about God that people could have the opportunity to reject the lies and return to full loyalty of trust and have their sanctuaries cleansed.