

# FINISHING THE MYSTERY OF GOD

## LESSON #5

### INTRODUCTION

All emphases are authors unless otherwise noted. All Scripture are from the K.J.V. unless otherwise stated.

In this lesson we will look at something of the relationship between the mark of the beast and the seal of God. The actual sealing of God's end time people of which the fit man is an essential part.

There is a law soon to be passed that triggers a chain of events that will lead to the enforcement of the mark of the beast. This mark is the great and final test to confirm who are really on God's side of the Great Controversy between Christ and Satan! This is God's investigation to determine who are really converted and members of the Israel of God! We need to understand, the mark of the best is not placed on anyone until there is a law of the state requiring its citizens to disobey the law of God!

Let us pray:

Dear Father, I ask for guidance in presenting this lesson. May my words be Your Words. Give me the thoughts of Your kindling that they might burn into the minds of those who study this lesson. Please forgive any sin we may have committed and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. I ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

**7BC 976: 2, 3.** "The Lord has shown me clearly that the image of the beast will be formed before probation closes; for it is to be the great test for the people of God, by which their eternal destiny will be decided. [Revelation 13:11-17 quoted.] {7BC 976.2}.

"This is the test that the people of God must have before they are sealed. **All who proved their loyalty to God by observing His law, and refusing to accept a spurious sabbath, (Sunday worship), will rank under the banner of the Lord God Jehovah, and will receive the seal of the living God.** Those

who yield the truth of heavenly origin and accept **the Sunday sabbath**, will **receive the mark of the beast**" (Letter 11, 1890). {7BC 976.3}.

**ST March 22, 1910: 9, 10.** "With rapid steps we are approaching this period. When the Protestant churches shall unite with the secular power to sustain a false religion, for opposing which their ancestors endured the fiercest persecution: when the state shall use its power to enforce the decrees and sustain the institutions of the church,—**then will Protestant America have formed an image to the Papacy**, (which is the image to the beast), and (then) there will be a national apostasy which will end only in national ruin. {ST March 22, 1910, par. 9}.

**"The laws of nations should be respected as long as they do not conflict with the laws of God; but when there is collision between them, every true disciple of Christ will say, as did Peter when commanded to speak no more in the name of Jesus, "We ought to obey God rather than men."**" {ST March 22, 1910, par. 10}.

**NOTE:** The sealing of God's children. There seem to be a limited understanding of all that is involved—especially concerning the 144,000. A settling into the truth is just one aspect of the sealing. It is also a mark placed upon the forehead in Ezekiel 9 and also in the Spirit of Prophecy. The mark of the beast along with this sealing of God's people, and the judgement of the living, are often omitted.

**5T 216: 1, 2.** "What are you doing, brethren, in the great work of preparation? Those who are uniting with the world are receiving the worldly mold and preparing for the mark of the beast. Those who are distrustful of self, who are humbling themselves before God and purifying their souls by obeying the truth these are receiving the heavenly mold and preparing for the seal of God in their foreheads. When the decree goes forth and the stamp is impressed,

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their character will remain pure and spotless for eternity. {5T 216.1}.

“Now is the time to prepare. The seal of God will never be placed upon the forehead of an impure man or woman. It will never be placed upon the forehead of the ambitious, world-loving man or woman. It will never be placed upon the forehead of men or women of false tongues or deceitful hearts. All who receive the seal must be without spot before God—candidates for heaven....” {5T 216.2}.

**5T 472: 2-476.** 5T 472: 2-473: 1. “Zechariah’s vision of Joshua and the Angel applies with peculiar force to the experience of God’s people in the closing up of the great day of atonement. The remnant church will be brought into great trial and distress. **Those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus will feel the ire of the dragon and his hosts.** Satan numbers the world as his subjects, he has gained control of the apostate churches; but here is a little company that are resisting his supremacy. **If he could blot them from the earth, his triumph would be complete.** As he influenced the heathen nations to destroy Israel, so in the near future he will stir up the wicked powers of earth to destroy the people of God. **All will be required to render obedience to human edicts in violation of the divine law.** **Those who will be true to God and to duty will be menaced, denounced, and proscribed.** **They will “be betrayed both by parents, and brethren, and kinsfolks, and friends.”** {5T 472.2}.

“Their only hope is in the mercy of God; their only defense will be prayer. **As Joshua was pleading before the Angel, so the remnant church, with brokenness of heart and earnest faith, will plead for pardon and deliverance through Jesus their Advocate.** **They are fully conscious of the sinfulness of their lives,** they see their weakness and unworthiness, and as they look upon themselves, they are ready to despair. The tempter stands by to accuse

them, as he stood by to resist Joshua. He points to their filthy garments, their defective characters. He presents their weakness and folly, their sins of ingratitude, their unlikeness to Christ, which has dishonored their Redeemer. **He endeavors to affright the soul with the thought that their case is hopeless, that the stain of their defilement will never be washed away. He hopes to so destroy their faith that they will yield to his temptations, turn from their allegiance to God, and receive the mark of the beast.**” {5T 473.1}.

**NOTE:** These things are not understood by God’s people to the fullest degree. The agony of that time will be intense! I pray that the Lord will strengthen us to bear the test. The people of God “are fully conscious of the sinfulness of their lives.” God has revealed their hidden sins to them and they understand their problem is deeper than any one specific sin. They see there is a deleterious nature that draws them imperceptibly into sin. They plead earnestly for the new birth and the implanting of the divine nature for true freedom and security from the tempter’s devices!

**5T 475:2.** “As the people of God afflict their souls before Him, pleading for purity of heart, the command is given, “Take away the filthy garments” from them, and the encouraging words are spoken, “Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment.” The spotless robe of Christ’s righteousness is placed upon the tried, tempted, yet faithful children of God. **The despised remnant are clothed in glorious apparel, nevermore to be defiled by the corruptions of the world.** Their names are retained in the Lamb’s book of life, enrolled among the faithful of all ages. **They have resisted the wiles of the deceiver; they have not been turned from their loyalty by the dragon’s roar. Now they are eternally secure from the tempter’s devices.** Their sins are transferred to the originator of sin. And the remnant

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are not only pardoned and accepted, but honored. “A fair miter” is set upon their heads. **They are to be as kings and priests unto God**. While Satan was urging his accusations and seeking to destroy this company, holy angels, unseen, were passing to and fro, placing upon them the seal of the living God. **These are they that stand upon Mount Zion with the Lamb, having the Father’s name written in their foreheads. They sing the new song before the throne, that song which no man can learn save the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. “These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth”**. These were redeemed from among men, being the first fruits unto God and to the Lamb. **And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.”** {5T 475.2}.

**NOTE:** To summarize. First is the test pertaining to receiving the image of the beast. Then the investigation of God to judge the destiny of His perfected people by their response to the test whether they succumb to the beast or remain true to God. Those who renounce their loyalty to God and accept Sunday as a day of worship will receive the mark of the beast! Those who remain loyal to God obeying all his commandments will receive the seal of the living God. the victorious are described as follows:

**Revelation 14: 12.** “Here is the patience of the saints: here *are* they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.” (Italics in original).

**Revelation 15: 2-4.** “And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, *and* over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God. And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous *are* thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true *are* thy ways, thou King of saints. Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for *thou* only art

holy: for all nations shall come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest.” (Italics in original).

**NOTE:** The remnant is sealed by the latter rain. This enables them to give the loud cry (of Rev.18.), to the world to gather the honest seekers out of every nation, language, tongue, and people. After that message has done its work probation closes for the world.

It is the remnant, last part of God’s people, the 144,000 that give the loud cry of God’s last message to a dying world! It is the church triumphant or victorious that gives this last message. The only ones in the end generation who are triumphant and victorious are the 144,000! It is these who bring the un-numbered multitude from the world under the power of the latter rain!

Most references in the Spirit of Prophecy to the church are about the church militant. And refer to the church before the mark of the beast! The church militant may be a relative pure church as in Ephesus. It could be a church that received no reproofs from God as Smyrna and Philadelphia who only received commendations and no reproofs. It also includes other churches like Sardis which only had a few faithful. Then is the most detestable of all, the last, Laodicea, which receives only serious rebukes and no commendations at all. In fact, they are threatened with being spued out of the mouth of God for their vileness and apathy.

In all these cases, the leadership and majority of its members are represented. Yet, in all the churches the faithful members who have loved the truth have been represented and identified as God’s true church in inspiration.

**TM 365: 3, sent. 7.** “Organizations, institutions, unless kept by the power of God, will work under Satan’s dictation to bring men under the control of men; and fraud and guile will bear the semblance of zeal for truth and for the advancement of the kingdom of God. Whatever in our practice is not as open as day belongs to the methods of the prince of evil. His methods are practiced even among Seventh-day Adventists, who claim to have advanced truth.”

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{TM 365.3}.

**TM 372: 4-373: 1.** “Page after page might be written in regard to these things. Whole conferences are becoming leavened with the same perverted principles. “For the rich men thereof are full of violence, and the inhabitants thereof have spoken lies, and their tongue is deceitful in their mouth.” The Lord will work to purify His church. I tell you in truth, the Lord is about to turn and overturn in the institutions [See appendix.] called by His name. {TM 372.4}.

“Just how soon this refining process will begin I cannot say, but it will not be long deferred. He whose fan is in His hand will cleanse His temple of its moral defilement. He will thoroughly purge His floor. God has a controversy with all who practice the least injustice; for in so doing they reject the authority of God and imperil their interest in the atonement, the redemption which Christ has undertaken for every son and daughter of Adam. Will it pay to take a course abhorrent to God? Will it pay to put upon your censers strange fire to offer before God, and say it makes no difference?” {TM 373.1}.

**12MR 391: 5-392: 1.** “Well might Caiaphas rend his clothes in horror for himself and for the nation; for they were separating themselves from God, and were fast becoming a people unchurched by Jehovah. Surely the candlestick was being removed out of its place. {12MR 391.5}.

“It was not the hand of the priest that rent from top to bottom the gorgeous veil that divided the holy from the Most Holy Place. It was the hand of God. When Christ cried out, “It is finished,” the Holy Watcher that was an unseen guest at Belshazzar’s feast pronounced the Jewish nation to be a nation unchurched. The same hand that traced on the wall the characters that recorded Belshazzar’s doom and the end of the Babylonian kingdom, rent the veil of the Temple from top to bottom, opening a new and living way for all, high and low, rich and poor, Jew and Gentile. From henceforth people might come to God without priest or ruler.” {12MR 392.1}.

**8T 67: 2.** “Jerusalem is a representation of what the church will be if it refuses to walk in the light that God has given. Jerusalem was favored of God as the

depository of sacred trusts. But her people perverted the truth, and despised all entreaties and warnings. They would not respect His counsels. The temple courts were polluted with merchandise and robbery. Selfishness and love of mammon, envy and strife, were cherished. Everyone sought for gain from his quarter. Christ turned from them, saying: “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem,” how can I give thee up? “How often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!” Matthew 23:37.” {8T 67.2}.

**NOTE:** The question is, at what point will the corporate militant S.D.A. Church become a Church unchurched like the Jewish church? Have not the S.D.A. Church refused to walk in the light given her during the first 60 years of her existence? This same church has disfellowshipped many of its members for following a doctrine that was given by God during that time. When does she become a church unchurched? It seems to me that God has already unchurched her! “Jerusalem is a representation of what the church will be if it refuses to walk in the light God has given.” The church has done this.

**EV 707: 1-3.** “The work is soon to close. The members of the church militant who have proved faithful will become the church triumphant. —Letter 32, 1892. {Ev 707.1}

“And still our General, who never makes a mistake, says to us, “Advance; enter new territory; lift the standard in every land. ‘Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.’ {Ev 707.2}.

“The time has come when through God’s messengers the scroll is being unrolled to the world. The truth contained in the first, second, and third angels’ messages must go to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people; it must lighten the darkness of every continent, and extend to the islands of the sea. There must be no delay in this work.” {Ev 707.3}.

**2SM 308: 2.** “Satan will work his miracles to deceive; he will set up his power as supreme. The church may appear as about to fall, but it does not fall. It remains, while the sinners in Zion will be



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sifted out—the chaff separated from the precious wheat. This is a terrible ordeal, but nevertheless it must take place. None but those who have been overcoming by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony will be found with the loyal and true, without spot or stain of sin, without guile in their mouths. We must be divested of our self-righteousness and arrayed in the righteousness of Christ.” {2SM 380.2}.

**NOTE:** What remains after the sifting is the church triumphant! There are many who have been disfellowshipped or cast out of the church, this is the sifting!

**SpM 1: 4, 5.** “I saw that the two-horned beast had a dragon’s mouth, and that his power was in his head, and that the decree would go out of his mouth. Then I saw the Mother of Harlots; that the mother was not the daughters, but separate and distinct from them. She has had her day, and it is past, and her daughters, the Protestant sects, were the next to come on the stage and act out the same mind that the mother had when she persecuted the saints. I saw that as the mother has been declining in power, the daughters had been growing, and soon they will exercise the power once exercised by the mother. {SpM 1.4}.

“I saw the nominal church and nominal Adventists, like Judas, would betray us to the Catholics to obtain their influence to come against the truth. **The saints then will be an obscure people, little known to the Catholics; but the churches and nominal Adventists who know of our faith and customs (for they hated us on account of the Sabbath, for they could not refute it) will betray the saints and report them to the Catholics as those who disregard the institutions of the people; that is, that they keep the Sabbath and disregard Sunday.**” {SpM, Spalding and Magan collection. 1.5}. (Parenthesis in original).

**5T 210: 2.** “The command is: “Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof.” These sighing, crying ones had been holding forth the words of life; they had reprieved,

counseled, and entreated. Some who had been dishonoring God repented and humbled their hearts before Him. But the glory of the Lord had departed from Israel; although many still continued the forms of religion, His power and presence were lacking.” {5T 210.2}.

**NOTE:** This is the condition of our church today. we should be encouraged that Christ is in charge of His work and His people. He will purify His church as He purified the temple in Jerusalem. the wheat and the tares will be separated by Him who makes no mistakes. Notice, none of the institutions of Israel were part of the apostles’ church when they were separated from the synagogue. So, the institutions of the S.D.A. Church will be left behind when God removes the wheat from the tares! They will have something better—the presence of the holy spirit of Christ!

### FREEDOM FROM THE EXPERIENCE OF SIN AND SATAN AT LAST!

We have come to the final stage of the atonement when the knowledge and experience of sin is to be removed from the saved and placed on the head of the scape-goat! This is the final act of Christ Atonement.

**Leviticus 16: 20-22.** “And when he hath made an end of reconciling the holy *place*, and the tabernacle of the congregation, and the altar, he shall bring the live goat: And Aaron shall lay both his hands upon the head of the live goat, and confess over him all the iniquities of the children of Israel, and all their transgressions in all their sins, putting them upon the head of the goat, and shall send *him* away by the hand of a fit man into the wilderness: And the goat shall bear upon him all their iniquities unto a land not inhabited: and he shall let go the goat in the wilderness.” (Italics in original).

**NOTE:** The only other place in scripture where the expression “man fit” is found in Luke.

**Luke 9: 62.** “And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.”

**NOTE:** This reveals that the fit man in Leviticus 16

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is dedicated to the service of God in all his endeavors. He has determined to be faithful in the minutia of obedience.

We must understand that what was done in the earthly tabernacle is the pattern for what is done in the heavenly where Christ is officiating as our high priest!

**GC 420: 2.** “Such was the service performed “unto the example and shadow of heavenly things.” **And what was done in type in the ministration of the earthly sanctuary is done in reality in the ministration of the heavenly sanctuary.** After His ascension our Saviour began His work as our high priest. Says Paul: “Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us.” Hebrews 9:24.” {GC 420.2}.

**GC 422: 2.** “It was seen, also, that while the sin offering pointed to Christ as a sacrifice, and the high priest represented Christ as a mediator, **the scapegoat typified Satan**, the author of sin, upon whom the sins of the truly penitent will finally be placed. **When the high priest, by virtue of the blood of the sin offering, removed the sins from the sanctuary, he placed them upon the scapegoat.** When Christ, by virtue of His own blood, removes the sins of His people from the heavenly sanctuary at the close of His ministration, **He will place them upon Satan, who, in the execution of the judgment, must bear the final penalty.** The scapegoat was sent away into a land not inhabited, never to come again into the congregation of Israel. **So will Satan be forever banished from the presence of God and His people, and he will be blotted from existence in the final destruction of sin and sinners.**” {GC 422.2}.

**NOTE:** This encounter with the fit man has been ignored by most. I have heard some say that he was probably Christ but that is not supported by Scripture or the Spirit of Prophecy. We will come back to the fit man in a bit. Now, I want to discuss the meaning of angels as messengers.

Repeatedly in Scripture the word “angel” or

messenger is used as a symbol of God’s people and the work they are doing for Him. In Revelation we see three angels proclaiming the everlasting gospel to the whole world. we know that angels do not preach to people. That privilege God has given to His people to do.

**5T 455: 2.** “God has called His church in this day, as He called ancient Israel, to stand as a light in the earth. By the mighty cleaver of truth, the messages of the first, second, and third angels, He has separated them from the churches and from the world to bring them into a sacred nearness to Himself. He has made them the depositaries of His law and has committed to them the great truths of prophecy for this time. **Like the holy oracles committed to ancient Israel, these are a sacred trust (ORACLES) to be communicated to the world. The three angels of Revelation 14 represent the people who accept the light of God’s messages and go forth as His agents to sound the warning throughout the length and breadth of the earth.** Christ declares to His followers: “Ye are the light of the world.” To every soul that accepts Jesus the cross of Calvary speaks: “Behold the worth of the soul: ‘Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.’”

**NOTE:** In Revelation 18 we see another angel broadcasting that Babylon is fallen. This message is also given to man to preach. Also, in Revelation 20: 1-3 we find another angel coming down from heaven to bind Satan for 1,000 years in a bottomless pit. Have you ever wondered about this angel, who he might be? We know the dragon represents Satan and the bottomless pit is this earth after Christ’s second coming. but who does the angel that binds Satan represent? This has to be the fit man that leads the scape-goat (Satan) into a land not inhabited!

**THE FIT MAN**—who is he and what is the significance of him leading the scape-goat to the bottomless pit? From Scripture we realize it cannot be the high priest (representing Christ) because he immediately goes into the first apartment and changes his clothe. See Leviticus 16: 23, while the scape-goat is being led into the wilderness. In fact, there is no

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evidence that he, the fit man, was a priest at all. He was, apparently a man from the congregation who had just participated in the Day of Atonement cleansing ceremony and received its benefits.

This angel binding Satan has to be this fit man! Who could the angel represent in the anti-type or real Day of Atonement? There is only one community of individuals who could possibly fit. Who stands before the throne of God with no guile in their mouths and without fault, or perfect, and stand before God without a mediator in the time of trouble?

**Revelation 14: 1-5.** “And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty *and* four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps: And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred *and* forty *and* four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, *being* the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb. And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.” (Italics in original).

**NOTE:** It is the 144,000, the first community to gain the victory. They have the Fathers name in their foreheads representing they have the character of the Father implanted in their minds! The fit man is not just one person.

**SpM 2: 1, sent. 6.** “Then I saw that Jesus’ work in the sanctuary will soon be finished. And after His work there is finished, He will come to the door of the first apartment, and confess the sins of Israel upon the head of the Scape Goat. **Then He will put on the garments of vengeance.** (see Lev. 16: 23), **Then the plagues will come upon the wicked, and they do not come till Jesus puts on that garment, and takes His place upon the great white cloud.** Then while the plagues are falling, the Scape Goat

is being led away. **He makes a mighty struggle to escape, but he is held fast by the hand that leads him. If he should effect his escape, Israel would lose their lives. I saw that it would take time to lead away the Scape Goat into the land of forgetfulness after the sins were put on his head.**” {SpM 2.1}.

**NOTE:** After Christ confesses Israel’s sins on the scape-goat’s head he immediately changes his garments to garments of vengeance. Then he takes His place on the great white cloud while the plagues are falling on the wicked. The scape-goat makes a mighty struggle to escape. What does this mean? Satan makes a mity effort to cause the fit man to sever his allegiance to the Father and Son! If Satan can cause the fit man to sin or submit to his satanic sophistry Satan lives. If he fails, he must die in the fire at the end of the 1,000 years. On the other side, if the fit man allows Satan to break free, then Israel will die and the plan of salvation will fail. **What an awesome responsibility and obligation is placed upon the fit man.** For God to place such trust and faith in a fallen human being is a testimony of the authenticity of his commitment to God. No wonder God calls him a counterpart of Himself to carry out His will and commands! Review lesson #3 in this series on page 2.

**GC 618: 3.** “As Satan accuses the people of God on account of their sins, the Lord permits him to try them to the uttermost. Their confidence in God, their faith and firmness, will be severely tested. As they review the past, their hopes sink: for in their whole lives they can see little good. They are fully conscious of their weakness and unworthiness. **Satan endeavors to terrify them with the thought that their cases are hopeless,** that the stain of their defilement will never be washed away. **He hopes so to destroy their faith that they will yield to his temptations and turn from their allegiance to God.”** (And let go their firm hold on him as they lead him to a land not inhabited). {GC 618.3}.

**Isaiah 43: 21.** “This people have I formed for myself; they shall shew forth my praise.”

**NOTE:** If Satan could get even one of the 144,000

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to sin, he would win a great victory in his opposition to God's government! Praise God! he is held fast by the hand that leads him. The fit man does not turn from his faith in God; thus, he is enabled to maintain his hold on the scape-goat and bind him 1,000 years.

**5T 746: 1.** "Just before us is the closing struggle of the great controversy when, with "all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness," Satan is to work to misrepresent the character of God, that he may "seduce, if it were possible, even the elect." **If there were ever a people in need of constantly increasing light from heaven, it is the people that, in this time of peril, God has called to be the depositaries of His holy law and to vindicate His character before the world.** Those to whom has been committed a trust so sacred must be spiritualized, elevated, vitalized, by the truths they profess to believe. Never did the church more sorely need, and never was God more solicitous that she should enjoy, the experience described in Paul's letter to the Colossians when he wrote: We "do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God." {5T 746.1}.

**NOTE:** The fit men, are the 144,000, they are now the living witness for God! They are the LIVING ARK OF THE COVENANT and occupy the most holy place in the temple of God in heaven!

**Broadside 1 April 6, 1846: 5.** "And as we were about to enter the holy temple, Jesus raised his lovely voice and said, only the 144,000 enter this place, and we shouted Hallelujah." {Broadside 1 April 6, 1846, par. 5}'

**NOTE:** Through this company God will prove Satan is lying when he declared "it is not possible to keep the law of God." in fact this is proven 144,000 times because each one of these fit men have to win the victory over Satan. Victory and salvation are an individual matter. No group salvation is possible!

This vindication will be eternally convincing

throughout the universe of God because it will be achieved, not by a superior generation of humans, but by the weakest specimens of humanity. By those who have been degraded by 6,000 years of sin and deforming degradation of the image of God! These will, wonder of wonders, take captive Satan and his host who have held them captive for so long.

**Isaiah 14: 2, 6.** "And the people shall take them, and bring them to their place: and the house of Israel shall possess them in the land of the LORD for servants and handmaids: and they shall take them captives, whose captives they were; and they shall rule over their oppressors. V. 6, He who smote the people in wrath with a continual stroke, he that ruled the nations in anger, is persecuted, and none hindereth."

**TM 18: 1.** "The Lord Jesus is making experiments on human hearts through the exhibition of His mercy and abundant grace. **He is effecting transformations so amazing that Satan, with all his triumphant boasting, with all his confederacy of evil united against God and the laws of His government, stands viewing them as a fortress impregnable to his sophistries and delusions. They are to him an incomprehensible mystery.** The angels of God, seraphim and cherubim, the powers commissioned to cooperate with human agencies, look on with astonishment and joy, that fallen men, once children of wrath, are through the training of Christ developing characters after the divine similitude, to be sons and daughters of God, to act an important part in the occupations and pleasures of heaven." {TM 18.1}.

**NOTE:** The promise of Genesis 3: 15 of bruising the serpents head was not made about Christ only but about the fit man also. For the fit man will bind Satan as a captive and take him to the bottomless pit!

**TMK (That I May Know Him) 16: 3.** "God declares, "I will put enmity." This enmity is supernaturally put, and not naturally entertained. When man sinned, his nature became evil, and he was in



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harmony, and not at variance, with Satan. The lofty usurper, having succeeded in seducing our first parents as he had seduced angels, counted on securing their allegiance and cooperation in all his enterprises against the government of Heaven.... But when Satan heard that the seed of the woman should bruise the serpent's head, he knew that though he had succeeded in depraving human nature ..., yet by some mysterious process **God would restore to man his lost power, and enable him to resist and overcome his conqueror.**" {TMK 16.3}.

**NOTE:** In this end time we will see God's promises perfectly fulfilled!

**Romans 16:20.** "And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly."

Let us pray:

Holy Father, may we all be blessed by the study of Your word of truth. Please bestow Your holy spirit upon each one of your children. Forgive our sins and cleanse us from every taint of unrighteousness. I request this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Your brother in Christ,

Virgil Prindle

### FINAL CONCLUSIONS

Right here is the mystery of God. It is an awesome and at the same time terrible operation that God is performing in the remnant, last generation of his children. He has promised we shall be one with him.

**Exodus 34: 10.** "And he said, Behold, I make a covenant: before all thy people **I will do marvels, such as have not been done in all the earth, nor in any nation:** and all the people among which thou *art* shall see the work of the LORD: **for it is a terrible thing that I will do with thee.**" (Italics in original).

**NOTE:** As Jesus was in man's fallen nature, so are we to be in that same fallen nature. God is not a God that forces anyone to obey Him! All must obey

because His laws are right, holy and good. We must come to the place where we would do His will from the heart, because we have the mind of God written on the fleshly tablets of our mind!

How does God prove that the rebels will never again rebel against His government? When the fit man has so developed the divine nature within his fallen nature and obeys perfectly with the detriments of fallen nature, on a voluntary basis, without any coercion from God, this will prove that man will never again rebel. Satan puts up a mighty struggle to cause the fit man to renounce his allegiance to the Father and Son but, the fit man holds him firmly. The struggle is intense. If Satan fails to cause the fit man to sin, his life is forfeited in the final end. If the fit man loses his integrity Israel loses their lives. In this manner the fit man bears the AWESOME responsibility as proof that all men from the sin of Adam till the last generation can keep the law perfectly!

**SpM 2: 1.** "Then I saw that Jesus' work in the sanctuary will soon be finished. And after His work there is finished, He will come to the door of the first apartment, and confess the sins of Israel upon the head of the Scape Goat. **Then He will put on the garments of vengeance. Then the plagues will come upon the wicked, and they do not come till Jesus puts on that garment, and takes His place upon the great white cloud. Then while the plagues are falling, the Scape Goat is being led away. He makes a mighty struggle to escape, but he is held fast by the hand that leads him.** If he should effect his escape, Israel would lose their lives. I saw that it would take time to lead away the Scape Goat into the land of forgetfulness after the sins were put on his head." {SpM 2.1}.

**NOTE:** It is obvious that the fit man is party to the memory of sin being lost in the land of forgetfulness! This takes time after the sins are placed on the head of Satan. In this way the 144,000 have been elevated to be a kingdom of kings and priest that

# FINISHING THE MYSTERY OF GOD

## LESSON #5

also bear some of the responsibility in the atonement and cleansing that Christ preforms for His people! What a struggle for the fit man! What an elevated position has been offered to the 144,000. No wonder God gives them a place beside Him on His throne in heaven! Will you not seek diligently to be a member of that group of men and women? A living ark of the testimony of God in the most holy place in heaven!

There is another concept that we should know about the fit man. It is concerning the power that he has over Satan to lead him into the bottomless pit for a thousand years. What is the source of that power? Where does he derive that power? We know that Christ is all the fulness of God manifested. All power is given Him in heaven and earth!

**Ephesians 3: 16-19.** “That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, **to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may  dwell in your hearts  by faith**; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, **May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.**” (Italics in original).

**Ephesians 4: 11-13.** “And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; **For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.**”

**NOTE:** This is another promise of God that will be fulfilled in each of his children. Question—will sin be present in those who have this fulness of God dwelling in them? That would not be possible. Who will receive this promise of the fulness of Christ? The text says “until **we all** come into the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.” That will not happen till the last generation. This has to be a promise to the 144,000 and the fit man. This is what

makes him the fit man! All power is given to Christ! When all the fulness of Christ dwells in the fit man he must have an omnipotent will! Pay close attention to what the Spirit of Prophecy tells us.

**14MR 23: 3.** “Cumbered with humanity, **Christ could not be in every place personally**; therefore, it was altogether for their advantage that He should leave them, go to His father, and **send the Holy Spirit to be His successor on earth**. The Holy Spirit is (Christ) Himself divested of the personality of humanity and independent thereof. He (Christ) would represent Himself as present in all places by **His Holy Spirit, as the Omnipresent**. “**But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name, He shall** (although unseen by you), [This phrase was added by Ellen White.] **teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you**” [John 14:26]. “Nevertheless, I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, **the Comforter** will come not unto you; but if I depart, **I will send Him unto you**” [John 16:7]. {14MR 23.3}. (Parenthesis and bracketed quotes in original).

**COL 332: 4-333: 1.** “The heavenly intelligences will work with the human agent who seeks with **determined faith that perfection of character which will reach out to perfection in action**. To everyone engaged in this work Christ says, I am at your right hand to help you. {COL 332.4}.

“**As the will of man co-operates with the will of God, it becomes omnipotent** (Meaning all powerful). Whatever is to be done at His command may be accomplished in His strength. All His biddings are enablings.” {COL 333.1}.

**NOTE:** The fit man has the power of the promises of God. He is able to preform this amazing feat of binding Satan as his captive. If we receive the holy spirit, we receive the omnipotent power, and omnipresence of Christ within ourselves to do good and carry out the will of the Father!

May God bless and keep you,  
Virgil Prindle