

How does it Happen.

Satan represented to the holy pair that *they would be gainers by breaking the law of God. Do we not today hear similar reasoning? Many talk of the narrowness of those who obey God's commandments, while they themselves claim to have broader ideas and to enjoy greater liberty.* What is this but an echo of the voice from Eden, "In the day ye eat thereof"—transgress the divine requirement—"ye shall be as gods"? Satan claimed to have received great good by eating of the forbidden fruit, but he did not let it appear that by transgression he had become an outcast from heaven. *Though he had found sin to result in infinite loss, he concealed his own misery in order to draw others into the same position.* So now the transgressor seeks to disguise his true character; he *may claim to be holy;* but his exalted profession only makes him the more dangerous as a deceiver. He is on the side of Satan, trampling upon the law of God, and leading others to do the same, to their eternal ruin. PP 55.1

The aim of the great rebel has ever been *to justify himself and to prove* the divine government responsible for the rebellion. To this end he has bent all the power of his giant intellect. He has worked deliberately and systematically, and with marvelous success, leading vast multitudes to accept *his version* of the great controversy which has been so long in progress. For thousands of years this chief of *conspiracy has palmed off falsehood for truth.* But the time has now come when the rebellion is to be finally defeated and the history and character of Satan disclosed. In his last great effort to dethrone Christ, destroy His people, and take possession of the City of God, the archdeceiver has been fully unmasked. Those who have united with him see the total failure of his cause. Christ's followers and the loyal angels behold the full extent of his *machinations* against the government of God. He is the object of universal abhorrence. GC 670.1

Taking advantage of the loving, loyal trust reposed in him by the holy beings under his command, he had so artfully instilled into their minds his own distrust and discontent that his agency was not discerned. Lucifer had presented the purposes of God in a false light—misconstruing and distorting them to excite dissent and dissatisfaction. He cunningly drew his hearers on to give utterance to their feelings; then these expressions were repeated by him when it would serve his purpose, as evidence that the angels were not fully in harmony with the government of God. While claiming for himself perfect loyalty to God, *he urged that changes in the order and laws of heaven were necessary for the stability of the divine government. Thus while working to excite opposition to the law of God and to instill his own discontent* into the minds of the angels under him, he was ostensibly seeking to remove dissatisfaction and to reconcile disaffected angels to the order of heaven. *While secretly fomenting discord and rebellion,* he with

consummate craft caused it to appear as his sole purpose to promote loyalty and to preserve harmony and peace. PP 38.2

God permitted Satan to carry forward his work until the spirit of disaffection ripened into active revolt. It was necessary for his plans to be fully developed, that their true nature and tendency might be seen by all. Lucifer, as the anointed cherub, had been highly exalted; he was greatly loved by the heavenly beings, and his influence over them was strong. God's government included not only the inhabitants of heaven, but of all the worlds that He had created; and Lucifer had concluded that *if he could carry the angels of heaven with him in rebellion, he could carry also all the worlds. He had artfully presented his side of the question, employing sophistry and fraud to secure his objects. His power to deceive was very great. By disguising himself in a cloak of falsehood, he had gained an advantage. All his acts were so clothed with mystery that it was difficult to disclose to the angels the true nature of his work. Until fully developed, it could not be made to appear the evil thing it was; his disaffection would not be seen to be rebellion. Even the loyal angels could not fully discern his character or see to what his work was leading.* PP 41.2

Lucifer had at first so conducted his temptations that he himself stood uncommitted. The angels whom he could not bring fully to his side, he accused of indifference to the interests of heavenly beings. *The very work which he himself was doing, he charged upon the loyal angels.* It was his policy to perplex with subtle arguments concerning the purposes of God. *Everything that was simple he shrouded in mystery, and by artful perversion cast doubt upon the plainest statements of Jehovah.* And his high position, so closely connected with the divine government, gave greater force to his representations. PP 41.3

God could employ only such means as were consistent with truth and righteousness. Satan could use what God could not—flattery and deceit. He had sought to falsify the word of God and had misrepresented His plan of government, claiming that God was not just in imposing laws upon the angels; that in requiring submission and obedience from His creatures, He was seeking merely the exaltation of Himself. It was therefore necessary to demonstrate before the inhabitants of heaven, and of all the worlds, that God's government is just, His law perfect. *Satan had made it appear that he himself was seeking to promote the good of the universe. The true character of the usurper and his real object must be understood by all. He must have time to manifest himself by his wicked works.* PP 42.1

The discord which his own course had caused in heaven, Satan charged upon the government of God. All evil he declared to be the result of the divine administration. He claimed that it was his own object to improve upon the statutes of Jehovah. Therefore God permitted him to demonstrate the nature of his claims, to show the working out of his proposed changes in the divine law. His

own work must condemn him. ***Satan had claimed from the first that he was not in rebellion.*** The whole universe must see the deceiver unmasked. PP 42.2

Even when he was cast out of heaven, Infinite Wisdom did not destroy Satan. Since only the service of love can be acceptable to God, the allegiance of His creatures must rest upon a conviction of His justice and benevolence. The inhabitants of heaven and of the worlds, being unprepared to comprehend the nature or consequences of sin, could not then have seen the justice of God in the destruction of Satan. Had he been immediately blotted out of existence, some would have served God from fear rather than from love. The influence of the deceiver would not have been fully destroyed, nor would the spirit of rebellion have been utterly eradicated. For the good of the entire universe through ceaseless ages, he must more fully develop his principles, that his charges against the divine government might be seen in their true light by all created beings, and that the justice and mercy of God and the immutability of His law might be forever placed beyond all question. PP 42.3

Satan's rebellion was to be a lesson to the universe through all coming ages—a perpetual testimony to the nature of sin and its terrible results. ***The working out of Satan's rule, its effects upon both men and angels, would show what must be the fruit of setting aside the divine authority.*** It would testify that with the existence of God's government is bound up the well-being of all the creatures He has made. PP 42.4

Note: U.S. “government responsible for” his lawlessness. “his version” of right and wrong. “But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and ***despise government.*** Presumptuous are they, selfwilled, they are not afraid to ***speak evil of dignities.***” 2Peter 2:10 “Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, ***despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities.***” Jude 8.

7. *A Republican Government.*—The two-horned beast symbolizes a nation with a republican form of government. This is shown by the absence of crowns both upon its head and its horns. A crown is an appropriate symbol of a kingly or monarchical form of government; and the absence of crowns, as in this case, would suggest ***a government in which the power is not vested*** in any such ruling member, but is, per consequence, ***lodged in the hands of the people.*** DAR 538.2

But this is not the most conclusive proof that the nation here symbolized is republican in its form of government. From verse 14 we learn that ***appeal is made to the people when any national action is to be performed:*** “Saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast,” etc. Were the government a monarchy, national questions would hardly be submitted in this unqualified manner, to the people; and ***the fact that appeal is here made to the people shows that the form of the government is such that the power is vested in their hands;*** and this is emphatically the case in the United States government, but

not in any other government to which any one could reasonably think of applying this symbol. This is another strong link in the chain of evidence that this symbol must apply to the United States of America. DAR 539.1

By Consent of the Governed!

Rom. 6:16 Know ye not, that *to whom ye yield yourselves* servants to obey, his
servants

ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of ***obedience unto
righteousness?***

1st The Church Corrupted.

1Sam. 2:12 Now the sons of Eli were sons of Belial; they knew not the LORD. 13 And the priests' custom with the people was, that, when any man offered sacrifice, the priest's servant came, while the flesh was in seething, with a fleshhook of three teeth in his hand; 14 And he struck it into the pan, or kettle, or caldron, or pot; all that the fleshhook brought up the priest took for himself. So they did in Shiloh unto all the Israelites that came thither. 15 Also before they burnt the fat, the priest's servant came, and said to the man that sacrificed, Give flesh to roast for the priest; for ***he will not have sodden flesh of thee, but raw.*** 16 And if any man said unto him, Let them not fail to burn the fat presently, and then take as much as thy soul desireth; then he would answer him, Nay; but thou shalt give it me now: and if not, ***I will take it by force.*** 17 Wherefore the sin of the young men was very great before the LORD: for men abhorred the offering of the LORD. . . . 22 Now Eli was very old, and heard all that his sons did unto all Israel; and how ***they lay with the women that assembled*** at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. 23 And he said unto them, Why do ye such things? for I hear of your evil dealings by all this people. 24 Nay, my sons; for it is no good report that I hear: **ye make the LORD's people to transgress.** 25 If one man sin against another, the judge shall judge him: but if a man sin against the LORD, who shall intreat for him? Notwithstanding they hearkened not unto the voice of their father, because the LORD would slay them.

2nd Justice Corrupted.

1Sam. 8:1 And it came to pass, when Samuel was old, that he made his sons judges over Israel. 2 Now the name of his firstborn was Joel; and the name of his second, Abiah: they were judges in Beersheba. 3 And his sons walked not in his ways, but turned aside after lucre, and ***took bribes, and perverted judgment.*** 4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah,

3rd Leads to a Change in Government.

1Sam. 8:5 And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: *now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.* 6 *But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us.* And Samuel prayed unto the LORD. 7 And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them. 8 According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even unto this day, wherewith they have forsaken me, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee. 9 Now therefore hearken unto their voice: howbeit yet protest solemnly unto them, and shew them the manner of the king that shall reign over them. . . 18 And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king which ye shall have chosen you; and the LORD will not hear you in that day. 10:18 . . Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I brought up Israel out of Egypt, and delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all kingdoms, and of them that oppressed you: 19 And *ye have this day rejected your God*, who himself saved you out of all your adversities and your tribulations; and ye have said unto him, Nay, but set a king over us. Now therefore present yourselves before the LORD by your tribes, and by your thousands. 12:12 And when ye saw that Nahash the king of the children of Ammon came against you, *ye said unto me, Nay; but a king shall reign over us: when the LORD your God was your king.* 13 Now therefore behold the king whom ye have chosen, and whom ye have desired! and, behold, the LORD hath set a king over you. 14 If ye will fear the LORD, and serve him, and obey his voice, and not rebel against the commandment of the LORD, then shall both ye and also the king that reigneth over you continue following the LORD your God: 15 But if ye will not obey the voice of the LORD, but rebel against the commandment of the LORD, then shall the hand of the LORD be against you, as it was against your fathers. 16 Now therefore stand and see this great thing, which the LORD will do before your eyes. 17 Is it not wheat harvest to day? I will call unto the LORD, and he shall send thunder and rain; that ye may perceive and see that your wickedness is great, which ye have done in the sight of the LORD, in asking you a king.

Note: If those of today truly believe that America was founded on and By Christ, then why are they working to overthrow it for something else. Whether by apostasy or by delusion the result is the same, ruin, an Image to the Beast.

By J N Andrews

"5. And now mark the work of apostasy: This work never begins by thrusting out God's institutions, but always by bringing in those of men and at first only asking that they may be tolerated, while yet the ones ordained of God are sacredly observed. This, in time, being effected, the next effort is to make them equal with the divine. When this has been accomplished, the third stage of the process is to honor them above those divinely commanded; and this is speedily succeeded by the fourth, in which the divine institution is thrust out with contempt, and the whole ground given to its human rival." TFTC 11.1

**MY LORD
DELAYETH
HIS COMING
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But it is a painful fact that a large portion of the Advent people, and Advent ministers, have lost their faith in the soon coming of the Lord. They may still cherish the doctrine of Christ's personal Advent, the literal resurrection of the just, prior to the millennium, and the true inheritance of the saints; but faith in the immediate coming of the day of God, they have lost. The past Advent movement they consider a mistake, and one after another of the pillars of the Advent faith they have pulled down. This apostasy has been a gradual, deceptive work, so gradual, and so carefully managed by the Advent papers, that the brethren who have lost their faith can hardly tell *how* and *where* they lost it, yet it is gone.

For several years these unfaithful servants have been saying in their hearts, "My Lord delayeth his coming," as their acts have denied their profession of faith in his immediate coming, and they have been overturning one strong point after another of the "original Advent faith." They have continued their profession of faith in the immediate Advent of Christ, while their acts have shown that they were saying in their hearts, "My Lord delayeth his coming." More recently, however, they have been speaking it out in unmistakable terms.

The Third Angels Message
BY JAMES WHITE
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"The whole advent host once believed that publishing the visions of Daniel and

John on the chart, from which the swift messengers lectured in 1842 and 1843, was a fulfillment of this prophecy (Hab.2:2); and the unbelief of those who doubt now, does not prove that we were all mistaken then. The passing of the time, and the perpetual backsliding and unbelief of Adventists has not changed this truth of God into a lie; but it remains truth still.

You who participated in this first angel's message, and felt its power and glory, and saw its effects on the people, just go back with me to the camp-meetings, conferences, and other meetings where the time, 1843, was proclaimed from the chart. With what solemnity, zeal and holy confidence the servants of the Lord proclaimed the time. And O, how their words fell upon the people, melting the hardest sinner's heart; for God was with them, and his Spirit attended the solemn message. The most spiritual and devoted in all the churches caught the flame and many who had been trained to worship their church and their minister, here learned to "fear God" alone, and "give glory to him." This message weaned us from this world, and led us to the feet of Jesus, to seek forgiveness of all our sins, and a free and full salvation through the blood of Christ. Dear Brethren, Was this message "from heaven or from men?" I know your answer—"from heaven," Amen.

We then "tasted of the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come," and we can not, will not, dare not give it up, and call it a "mistake," the "work of man," "mesmerism," and "of the Devil," as many have done, and have fallen away. "It is impossible" "to renew" such "to repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame." See Heb.6:4-6."

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