

Says the great deceiver: “We must *watch those who are calling the attention of the people to the Sabbath* of Jehovah; they will lead many to see the claims of the law of God; and the same light which reveals the true Sabbath, reveals also the ministration of Christ in the heavenly sanctuary, and shows that the last work for man's salvation is now going forward. *Hold the minds of the people in darkness till that work is ended, and we shall secure the world and the church also.* 4SP 337.2;

“The Sabbath is the great question which is to decide the destiny of souls. *We must exalt the Sabbath of our creating. We have caused it to be accepted by both worldlings and church-members; now the church must be led to unite with the world in its support.* We must work by signs and wonders to blind their eyes to the truth, and lead them to lay aside reason and the fear of God, and follow custom and tradition. 4SP 337.3

“I will influence popular ministers to turn the attention of their hearers *from the commandments of God.* That which the Scriptures declare to be a perfect law of liberty *shall be represented as a yoke of bondage.* The people accept their ministers’ explanations of Scripture, and do not investigate for themselves. Therefore by working through the ministers, *I can control the people according to my will.* 4SP 338.1

“But our principal concern is to silence this sect of Sabbath-keepers. We must excite popular indignation against them. We will enlist great men and worldly-wise men upon our side, and induce those in authority to carry out our purposes. Then the Sabbath which I have set up *shall be enforced by laws* the most severe and exacting. Those who disregard them *shall be driven out from the cities and villages,* and made to suffer hunger and privation. When once we have the power, we will show that we can do with those who will not swerve from their allegiance to God. *We led the Romish Church to inflict* imprisonment, torture, and death upon those who refused to yield to her decrees, *and now that we are bringing the Protestant churches and the world into harmony with this right arm of our strength,* we will finally have a law to exterminate all who will not submit to our authority. When death shall be made the penalty of violating our Sabbath, then many who are now ranked with commandment-keepers will come over to our side. 4SP 338.2

“But before proceeding to these extreme measures, *we must exert all our wisdom and subtlety to deceive and ensnare those who honor the true Sabbath.* We can separate many from Christ by worldliness, lust, and pride. They may think themselves safe because they believe the truth, but indulgence of appetite or the lower passions, which will confuse judgment and destroy discrimination, will cause their fall. 4SP 339.1

“Go, make the possessors of lands and money drunk with the cares of this life. Present the world before them in its most attractive light, that they may lay up their treasure here, and fix their affections upon earthly things. *We must do our*

utmost to prevent those who labor in God's cause from obtaining means to use against us. Keep the money in our own ranks. The more means they obtain, the more they will injure our kingdom by taking from us our subjects. Make them care more for money than for the upbuilding of Christ's kingdom and the spread of the truths we hate, and we need not fear their influence; for we know that every selfish, covetous person will fall under our power, and will finally be separated from God's people. 4SP 339.2

“Through those that have a form of godliness but know not the power, we can gain many who would otherwise do us great harm. Lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God will be our most effective helpers. Those of this class who are apt and intelligent will serve as decoys to draw others into our snares. ***Many will not fear their influence, because they profess the same faith. We will thus lead them to conclude that the requirements of Christ are less strict than they once believed, and that by conformity to the world they would exert a greater influence with worldlings.*** Thus they will separate from Christ; then they will have no strength to resist our power, and ere long they will be ready to ridicule their former zeal and devotion. 4SP 339.3

“Until the great decisive blow shall be struck, ***our efforts against commandment-keepers must be untiring.*** We must be present at all their gatherings. In their large meetings especially our cause will suffer much, and we must exercise great vigilance, and employ all our seductive arts to prevent souls from hearing the truth and becoming impressed by it. 4SP 340.1

“I will have upon the ground, ***as my agents, men holding false doctrines mingled with just enough truth to deceive*** souls. I will also have unbelieving ones present, ***who will express doubts in regard to the Lord's messages of warning to his church.*** Should the people read and believe these admonitions, we could have little hope of overcoming them. But if we can divert their attention from these warnings, they will ***remain ignorant*** of our power and cunning, and we shall secure them in our ranks at last. ***God will not permit his words to be slighted with impunity.*** If we can keep souls deceived for a time, God's mercy will be withdrawn, and he will give them up to our full control. 4SP 340.2

“We must cause ***distraction and division.*** We must destroy their anxiety for their own souls, and lead them to criticise, to judge, and to accuse and condemn one another, and to cherish selfishness and enmity. For these sins, God banished us from his presence; and all who follow our example will meet a similar fate.” 4SP 340.3

Satan seemed to assume a religious character, and was very willing that the people should think they were Christians. He was very willing that they should believe in Jesus, his crucifixion, and his resurrection. Satan and his angels fully believed all this themselves, and trembled. But if this faith does not provoke to good works, and lead those who profess it to imitate the self-denying life of

Christ, he is not disturbed; for they merely assume the Christian name, while their hearts are still carnal; and he can use them in his service better than if they made no profession 1SG 126.2

*The iniquity and spiritual darkness that prevailed under the supremacy of Rome were the inevitable result of her suppression of the Scriptures; but **where is to be found the cause** of the widespread infidelity, the rejection of the law of God, and the consequent corruption, **under the full blaze of gospel light in an age of religious freedom?** Now that Satan *can no longer* keep the world under his control by withholding the Scriptures, he resorts to *other means* to accomplish the same object. To destroy faith in the Bible serves his purpose as well as to destroy the Bible itself. By introducing the belief that God's law is not binding, he as effectually leads men to transgress as if they were wholly ignorant of its precepts. And *now*, as in former ages, **he has worked through the church to further his designs. The religious organizations of the day have refused to listen to unpopular truths plainly brought to view in the Scriptures, and in combating them they have adopted interpretations and taken positions which have sown broadcast the seeds of skepticism.** Clinging to the papal error of natural immortality and man's consciousness in death, *they have* rejected the only defense against the delusions of spiritualism. The doctrine of eternal torment has led many to disbelieve the Bible. And as the claims of the fourth commandment are urged upon the people, it is found that the observance of the seventh-day Sabbath is enjoined; and as the only way to *free themselves* from a duty which they are unwilling to perform, **many popular teachers declare** that the law of God is no longer binding. Thus *they cast* away the law and the Sabbath together. As the work of Sabbath reform extends, this rejection of the divine law to avoid the claims of the fourth commandment will become well-nigh universal. **The teachings of religious leaders have opened the door to infidelity, to spiritualism, and to contempt for God's holy law; and upon these leaders rests a fearful responsibility for the iniquity **that exists in the Christian world.** {GC 586.2}***

False doctrine is one of the satanic influences that work in the church, and ***brings into it those who are unconverted in heart. Men do not obey the words of Jesus Christ, and thus seek for unity in faith, spirit, and doctrine.*** They do not labor for the unity of spirit for which Christ prayed, which would make the testimony of Christ's disciples effective in convincing the world that God had sent His Son into the world, "that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." If the unity for which Christ prayed existed among the

people of God, they would bear living testimony, would send forth a bright light to shine amid the moral darkness of the world. TM 47.3

The ministers preach smooth things to suit carnal professors. ***This is just as Satan would have it.*** They dare not preach Jesus and the cutting truths of the Bible; for if they should, these carnal professors would not hear them. Many of them are wealthy, and must be retained in the church, although they are no more fit to be there than Satan and his angels 1SG 127.1

2Cor. 11:13 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, ***transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.*** 14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. 15 ***Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness;*** whose end shall be according to their work

2Peter 1:1 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be ***false teachers among you,*** who privily shall ***bring in damnable heresies,*** even ***denying the Lord*** that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. 2 And ***many shall follow their pernicious ways;*** by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. 3 And through covetousness shall they with ***feigned words make merchandise of you:*** whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.

2Tim. 4:3 For the time will come when ***they will not endure sound doctrine;*** but after their own lusts shall ***they heap to themselves teachers,*** having itching ears; 4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

Rom. 16:17 Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. 18 For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and ***by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.***

2Tim. 2:16 But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness. 17 And their word will eat as doth a canker: 3:5 ***Having a form of godliness,*** but denying the power thereof: ***from such turn away.***

Rom 16:17 Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and ***avoid them.***

Rev. 2:14 But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them ***that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before***

the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.

2Peter 2: 13 And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, as they that count it pleasure to riot in the day time. Spots they are and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you; 14 Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children: 15 Which have forsaken the right way, **and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; 16 But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man's voice forbad the madness of the prophet.** 17 These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever. 18 For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error. 19 While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage. 20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. 21 For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. 22 But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

Jude 1:11 Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, **and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward,** and perished in the gainsaying of Core.

Isa. 9:15 The ancient and honourable, he is the head; and the prophet that teacheth lies, he is the tail. 16 For the ***leaders of this people cause them to err; and they that are led of them are destroyed.*** 28:7 But they also have erred through wine, and through strong drink are out of the way; the priest and ***the prophet have erred through strong drink, they are swallowed up of wine, they are out of the way through strong drink; they err in vision, they stumble in judgment.*** 29:10 For the LORD hath poured out upon you the spirit of deep sleep, and hath closed your eyes: ***the prophets and your rulers, the seers hath he covered.*** 11 And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed, which men deliver to one that is learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I cannot; for it is sealed: 30:9 That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children that **will not hear the law** of the LORD: 10 Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophecy not unto ***us right things***, speak unto us smooth things, ***prophecy deceits***: 11 Get you out of the way, turn aside out of the path, cause the Holy One of Israel

to cease from before us. 12 Wherefore thus saith the Holy One of Israel, Because ye despise this word, and trust in oppression and perverseness, and stay thereon: 41:22 Let them bring them forth, and shew us what shall happen: let them shew the former things, what they be, that we may consider them, and know the latter end of them; or declare us things for to come. 23 Shew the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know that ye are gods: yea, do good, or do evil, that we may be dismayed, and behold it together. 24 Behold, ye are of nothing, and your work of nought: an abomination is he that chooseth you. 25 I have raised up one from the north, and he shall come: from the rising of the sun shall he call upon my name: and he shall come upon princes as upon mortar, and as the potter treadeth clay. 26 Who hath declared from the beginning, that we may know? and beforetime, that we may say, He is righteous? yea, there is none that sheweth, yea, there is none that declareth, yea, there is none that heareth your words. 43:27 Thy first father hath sinned, and thy teachers have transgressed against me. 56:10 ***His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs***, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber. 11 Yea, they are greedy dogs which can never have enough, and they are ***shepherds that cannot understand***: they all look to their own way, every one for his gain, from his quarter. 12 Come ye, say they, I will fetch wine, and we will fill ourselves with strong drink; and to morrow shall be as this day, and much more abundant.

Hosea 4:5 Therefore shalt thou fall in the day, and the prophet also shall fall with thee in the night, and I will destroy thy mother. 6 ***My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee***, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast ***forgotten the law of thy God***, I will also forget thy children. 9:8 The watchman of Ephraim was with my God: but ***the prophet is a snare*** of a fowler in all his ways, and hatred in the house of his God. 9 They have deeply corrupted themselves, as in the days of Gibeah: therefore he will remember their iniquity, he will visit their sins.

Micah 3:5 Thus saith the LORD concerning the prophets ***that make my people err***, that bite with their teeth, and cry, Peace; and he that putteth not into their mouths, they even prepare war against him. 6 Therefore night shall be unto you, that ye shall not have a vision; and it shall be dark unto you, that ye shall not divine; and the sun shall go down over the prophets, and the day shall be dark over them. 7 Then shall the seers be ashamed, and the diviners confounded: yea, they shall all cover their lips; for there is no answer of God. 8 But truly I am full of power by the spirit of the LORD, and of judgment, and of might, to declare unto Jacob his transgression, and to Israel his sin. 9 Hear this, I pray you, ye heads of the house of Jacob, and princes of the house of Israel, that abhor judgment, and pervert all equity. 10 They build up Zion with blood, and Jerusalem with iniquity. 11 The heads thereof judge for reward, and the priests thereof ***teach for hire, and***

the prophets thereof divine for money: yet will they lean upon the LORD, and say, ***Is not the LORD among us? none evil can come upon us.*** 7:4 The best of them is as a brier: the most upright is sharper than a thorn hedge: the day of thy watchmen and thy visitation cometh; now shall be their perplexity.

Zeph. 3:4 ***Her prophets are light and treacherous persons:*** her priests have polluted the sanctuary, ***they have done violence to the law.***

Jer. 2:8 The priests said not, Where is the LORD? and ***they that handle the law knew me not:*** the pastors also transgressed against me, and the prophets prophesied by Baal, and walked after things that do not profit. . . 26 As the thief is ashamed when he is found, so is the house of Israel ashamed; they, their kings, their princes, and their priests, and their prophets, 27 Saying to a stock, Thou art my father; and to a stone, Thou hast brought me forth: for they have turned their back unto me, and not their face: but in the time of their trouble they will say, Arise, and save us. . . . 30 In vain have I smitten your children; they received no correction: your own sword hath devoured your prophets, like a destroying lion. 5:12 They have belied the LORD, and said, It is not he; ***neither shall evil come upon us; neither shall we see sword*** nor famine: 13 And the prophets shall become wind, and the word is not in them: thus shall it be done unto them . . 30 A wonderful and horrible thing is committed in the land; 31 The prophets ***prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so:*** and what will ye do in the end thereof? 6:13 For from the least of them even unto the greatest of them every one is given to covetousness; and from the prophet even unto the priest ***every one dealeth falsely.*** 14 They have healed also the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, ***Peace, peace; when there is no peace.*** 17 Also I set watchmen over you, saying, Hearken to the sound of the trumpet. But they said, We will not hearken. 8:10 Therefore will I give their wives unto others, and their fields to them that shall inherit them: for every one from the least even unto the greatest is given to covetousness, from the prophet even unto the priest ***every one dealeth falsely*** 14:13 Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, the prophets say unto them, Ye shall not see the sword, neither shall ye have famine; but ***I will give you assured peace*** in this place. 14 Then the LORD said unto me, ***The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart.*** 15 Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning the prophets that prophesy in my name, and I sent them not, yet they say, Sword and famine shall not be in this land; By sword and famine shall those prophets be consumed. 16 And the people to whom they prophesy shall be cast out in the streets of Jerusalem because of the famine and the sword; and they shall have none to bury them, them, their wives, nor their sons, nor their daughters: for I will pour their wickedness upon them. 10:21 For ***the pastors***

are become brutish, and have not sought the LORD: therefore they shall not prosper, and all their flocks shall be scattered. 12:10 Many pastors have destroyed my vineyard, they have trodden my portion under foot, they have made my pleasant portion a desolate wilderness. 22:22 The wind shall eat up all thy pastors, and thy lovers shall go into captivity: surely then shalt thou be ashamed and confounded for all thy wickedness.

Jer. 23:1 *Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter* the sheep of my pasture! saith the LORD. 2 Therefore thus saith the LORD God of Israel *against the pastors* that feed my people; Ye have *scattered* my flock, and *driven* them away, and have not visited them: behold, *I will visit upon you the evil of your doings*, saith the LORD. 3 And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase. 4 And I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them: and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking, saith the LORD. 5 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. 6 In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS. 7 Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that they shall no more say, The LORD liveth, which brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt; 8 But, The LORD liveth, which brought up and which led the seed of the house of Israel out of the north country, and from all countries whither I had driven them; and they shall dwell in their own land. 9 Mine heart within me is broken because of the prophets; all my bones shake; I am like a drunken man, and like a man whom wine hath overcome, because of the LORD, and because of the words of his holiness. 10 For the land is full of adulterers; for because of swearing the land mourneth; the pleasant places of the wilderness are dried up, and their course is evil, and their force is not right. 11 For both prophet and priest are profane; yea, in my house have I found their wickedness, saith the LORD. 12 Wherefore their way shall be unto them as slippery ways in the darkness: they shall be driven on, and fall therein: for I will bring evil upon them, even the year of their visitation, saith the LORD. 13 And I have seen *folly in the prophets* of Samaria; they prophesied in Baal, and caused my people Israel to err. 14 I have seen also in *the prophets of Jerusalem an horrible thing: they commit adultery, and walk in lies: they strengthen also the hands of evildoers*, that none doth return from his wickedness: they are all of them unto me as Sodom, and the inhabitants thereof as Gomorrah. 15 Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts concerning the prophets; Behold, I will feed them with wormwood, and make them drink the water of gall: for from the prophets of Jerusalem is profaneness gone forth into all the land. 16 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, *Hearken not unto the words of the prophets that prophesy unto you: they*

make you vain: they speak a vision of their own heart, and not out of the mouth of the LORD. 17 They say still unto them that despise me, The LORD hath said, Ye shall have peace; and they say unto every one that ***walketh after the imagination of his own heart,*** No evil shall come upon you. 18 For who ***hath stood in the counsel of the LORD,*** and hath perceived and heard his word? who hath marked his word, and heard it? 19 Behold, a whirlwind of the LORD is gone forth in fury, even a grievous whirlwind: it shall fall grievously upon the head of the wicked. 20 The anger of the LORD shall not return, until he have executed, and till he have performed the thoughts of his heart: in the latter days ye shall consider it perfectly. 21 ***I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran: I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied.*** 22 But if they had stood in my counsel, and had caused my people ***to hear my words, then they should have turned them*** from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings. 23 Am I a God at hand, saith the LORD, and not a God afar off? 24 Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the LORD. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the LORD. 25 I have heard what the prophets said, ***that prophesy lies in my name, saying, I have dreamed, I have dreamed.*** 26 How long shall this be in the heart of the prophets that prophesy lies? yea, they are ***prophets of the deceit of their own heart;*** 27 Which think to cause my people to forget my name by their dreams which they tell every man to his neighbour, as their fathers have forgotten my name for Baal. 28 The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and he that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat? saith the LORD. 29 Is not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces? 30 Therefore, behold, I am against the prophets, saith the LORD, that steal my words every one from his neighbour. 31 Behold, I am against the prophets, saith the LORD, that use their tongues, and say, He saith. 32 Behold, I am against them ***that prophesy false dreams,*** saith the LORD, and do tell them, and cause my people to err by their lies, and by their lightness; yet ***I sent them not, nor commanded them:*** therefore they shall not profit this people at all, saith the LORD. 33 And when this people, or the prophet, or a priest, shall ask thee, saying, What is the burden of the LORD? thou shalt then say unto them, What burden? I will even forsake you, saith the LORD. 34 And as for the prophet, and the priest, and the people, that shall say, The burden of the LORD, I will even punish that man and his house. 35 Thus shall ye say every one to his neighbour, and every one to his brother, What hath the LORD answered? and, What hath the LORD spoken? 36 And the burden of the LORD shall ye mention no more: for every man's word shall be his burden; ***for ye have perverted the words of the living God,*** of the LORD of hosts our God. 37 Thus shalt thou say to the prophet, What hath the LORD answered thee? and, What hath the LORD spoken? 38 But since ye say, The burden of the LORD; therefore thus saith the LORD; Because ye say this word, The burden of the LORD, and I have sent unto you, saying, Ye shall not say, The burden of the LORD; 39 Therefore, behold, I, even I, will utterly forget you, and I

will forsake you, and the city that I gave you and your fathers, and cast you out of my presence: 40 And I will bring an everlasting reproach upon you, and a perpetual shame, which shall not be forgotten.

Jer. 26:11 Then spake the priests and the prophets unto the princes and to all the people, saying, This man is worthy to die; for he hath prophesied against this city, as ye have heard with your ears. 27:9 ***Therefore hearken not ye to your prophets, nor to your diviners, nor to your dreamers, nor to your enchanters, nor to your sorcerers,*** which speak unto you, saying, Ye shall not serve the king of Babylon: . . . 15 For ***I have not sent them,*** saith the LORD, ***yet they prophesy a lie in my name;*** that I might drive you out, and that ye might perish, ye, and the prophets that prophesy unto you. 16 Also I spake to the priests and to all this people, saying, Thus saith the LORD; ***Hearken not to the words of your prophets that prophesy unto you,*** saying, Behold, the vessels of the LORD's house shall now shortly be brought again from Babylon: for ***they prophesy a lie unto you.*** 17 ***Hearken not unto them;*** serve the king of Babylon, and live: wherefore should this city be laid waste? 18 But if they be prophets, and if the word of the LORD be with them, let them now make intercession to the LORD of hosts, that the vessels which are left in the house of the LORD, and in the house of the king of Judah, and at Jerusalem, go not to Babylon. 29:8 For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; **Let not your prophets and your diviners, that be in the midst of you, deceive you, neither hearken to your dreams which ye cause to be dreamed. 9 For they prophesy falsely unto you in my name: I have not sent them, saith the LORD.** 32:32 Because of all the evil of the children of Israel and of the children of Judah, which they have done to provoke me to anger, they, their kings, their princes, their priests, and their prophets, and the men of Judah, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem. 33 And ***they have turned unto me the back, and not the face: though I taught them, rising up early and teaching them, yet they have not hearkened to receive instruction.***

Lam. 2:9 Her gates are sunk into the ground; he hath destroyed and broken her bars: her king and her princes are among the Gentiles: the law is no more; her prophets also find no vision from the LORD. . . . 14 ***Thy prophets have seen vain and foolish things for thee: and they have not discovered thine iniquity,*** to turn away thy captivity; but have seen for thee ***false burdens and causes*** of banishment. 4:13 For ***the sins of her prophets, and the iniquities of her priests,*** that have shed the blood of the just in the midst of her, 14 They have ***wandered as blind men*** in the streets, they have ***polluted themselves*** with blood, so that men could not touch their garments.

Ezeiel **13:2** Son of man, ***prophesy against the prophets of Israel that prophesy,*** and say thou unto them that prophesy ***out of their own hearts, Hear ye the word of***

the LORD; 3 Thus saith the Lord GOD; Woe unto the *foolish prophets, that follow their own spirit, and have seen nothing!* 4 O Israel, thy prophets are like the foxes in the deserts. 5 Ye have not gone up into the gaps, neither made up the hedge for the house of Israel to stand in the battle in the day of the LORD. 6 *They have seen vanity and lying divination*, saying, The LORD saith: and the ***LORD hath not sent them:*** and they have made others to hope that they would confirm the word. 7 *Have ye not seen a vain vision, and have ye not spoken a lying divination*, whereas ye say, The LORD saith it; ***albeit I have not spoken?*** 8 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; *Because ye have spoken vanity, and seen lies, therefore, behold, I am against you*, saith the Lord GOD. 9 *And mine hand shall be upon the prophets that see vanity, and that divine lies:* they shall not be in the assembly of my people, **neither shall they be written in the writing of the house of Israel**, neither shall they *enter into the land* of Israel; and ye shall know that I am the Lord GOD. 10 Because, even because *they have seduced my people, saying, Peace; and there was no peace;* and one built up a wall, and, lo, *others daubed it with untempered mortar:* 11 Say unto them which daub it with untempered mortar, that ***it shall fall:*** there shall be an overflowing shower; and ye, O great hailstones, shall fall; and a stormy wind ***shall rend it.*** 12 Lo, when the wall is fallen, shall it not be said unto you, ***Where is the daubing wherewith ye have daubed it?*** 13 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; I will even rend it with a stormy wind in my fury; and there shall be an overflowing shower in mine anger, and great hailstones in my fury to consume it. 14 So will I ***break down the wall that ye have daubed with untempered mortar***, and bring it down to the ground, so that the foundation thereof shall be discovered, and it shall fall, and ye shall be consumed in the midst thereof: and ye shall know that I am the LORD. 15 ***Thus will I accomplish my wrath upon the wall, and upon them*** that have daubed it with untempered mortar, and will say unto you, The wall is no more, neither they that daubed it; 16 ***To wit, the prophets of Israel which prophesy concerning Jerusalem, and which see visions of peace for her, and there is no peace***, saith the Lord GOD. **14:9** And ***if the prophet be deceived when he hath spoken a thing, I the LORD have deceived that prophet, and I will stretch out my hand upon him, and will destroy him*** from the midst of my people Israel. 10 And ***they shall bear the punishment of their iniquity: the punishment of the prophet shall be even as the punishment of him that seeketh unto him;*** **22:25** **There is a conspiracy of her prophets in the midst thereof**, like a roaring lion ravening the prey; ***they have devoured souls; they have taken the treasure and precious things;*** they have made her many widows in the midst thereof. 26 ***Her priests have violated my law, and have profaned mine holy things: they have put no difference between the holy and profane, neither have they shewed difference between the unclean and the clean, and have hid their eyes from my sabbaths, and I am profaned among them.*** 27 Her princes in the midst thereof are like **wolves ravening the prey, to shed blood, and to destroy souls, to get dishonest gain.** 28 And her *prophets have daubed them with*

untempered mortar, seeing vanity, and divining lies unto them, saying, Thus saith the Lord GOD, when the LORD hath not spoken. 33:6 But if the watchman see the sword come, and blow *not* the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but *his blood will I require at the watchman's hand. 34:1* And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, 2 Son of man, *prophesy against the shepherds of Israel, prophesy,* and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD unto the shepherds; *Woe be to the shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves!* should not the shepherds feed the flocks? 3 Ye eat the fat, and ye clothe you with the wool, ye kill them that are fed: but *ye feed not the flock.* 4 The diseased have ye not strengthened, neither have ye healed that which was sick, neither have ye bound up that which was broken, neither have ye *brought again that which was driven away, neither have ye sought that which was lost; but with force and with cruelty have ye ruled them.* 5 And they were *scattered,* because there is no shepherd: and they became meat to all the beasts of the field, when they were *scattered.* 6 My sheep *wandered through all the mountains,* and upon *every high hill:* yea, my flock was *scattered* upon *all the face of the earth, and none did search or seek after them.* 7 Therefore, ye shepherds, hear the word of the LORD; 8 As I live, saith the Lord GOD, surely *because my flock became a prey, and my flock became meat* to every beast of the field, because there was no shepherd, neither did my shepherds *search* for my flock, but the shepherds fed themselves, and fed not my flock; 9 Therefore, O ye shepherds, hear the word of the LORD; 10 Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, *I am against the shepherds;* and *I will require my flock at their hand, and cause them to cease from feeding the flock; neither shall the shepherds feed themselves any more;* for I will deliver my flock from their mouth, that they may not be meat for them. 11 For thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out. 12 As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and *will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day.* 13 And I will bring them out from the people, and gather them from the countries, and will bring *them to their own land,* and feed them upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country. 14 I will feed them in a good pasture, and upon the high mountains of Israel shall their fold be: there shall they lie in a good fold, and in a fat pasture shall they feed upon the mountains of Israel. 15 I will feed my flock, and I will cause *them to lie down,* saith the Lord GOD. 16 *I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away, and will bind up that which was broken, and will strengthen that which was sick: but I will destroy the fat and the strong; I will feed them with judgment.* 17 And as for you, O my flock, thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I judge between cattle and cattle, between the rams and the he goats. 18 Seemeth it a small thing unto you to have eaten up the good pasture, but *ye must tread down with your feet the residue* of your

pastures? and to have *drunk of the deep waters, but ye must foul the residue with your feet?* 19 And as for my flock, they eat that which *ye have trodden* with your feet; and they drink that *which ye have fouled with your feet*.

Note See Hebrews 11:37,38. Luke 6:22. John 16:2.

Many will stand in our pulpits with the torch of false prophecy in their hands, kindled from the hellish torch of Satan. If doubts and unbelief are cherished, the *faithful ministers will be removed from the people who think they know so much*. "If thou hadst known," said Christ, "even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes." {TM 409.3}

"The conviction is gaining ground in the world that Seventh-day Adventists are giving the trumpet an uncertain sound, that they are following worldlings." {TM 86.2} {GCB, April 1, 1897 par. 2} {1888 1332.1}