

As the Protestant churches reject the clear, Scriptural arguments in defense of God's law, ***they will long to silence those whose faith they cannot overthrow by the Bible.*** Though they blind their own eyes to the fact, they are now adopting a course which will ***lead to the persecution of those who conscientiously refuse to do what the rest of the Christian world*** are doing, and acknowledge the claims of the papal sabbath. GC 592.2

When the leading churches of the United States, ***uniting upon such points of doctrine*** as are held by them in common, shall ***influence the state to enforce*** their decrees and to sustain their institutions, then Protestant America will have formed an image of the Roman hierarchy, and ***the infliction of civil penalties upon dissenters will inevitably result.*** GC 445.1

Note. These consist of many of the studies listed on the home page at:

SDA Pioneer Books, James White, Uriah Smith, JN Loughborough, JN Andrews & others ,SDA Pillars

When men indulge this accusing spirit, they are not satisfied with pointing out what they suppose to be a defect in their brother. ***If milder means fail of making him do what they think ought to be done, they will resort to compulsion.*** Just as far as lies in their power they will force men to comply with their ideas of what is right. This is what the Jews did in the days of Christ and ***what the church has done ever since whenever she has lost the grace of Christ.*** Finding herself destitute of the power of love, ***she has reached out for the strong arm of the state to enforce her dogmas and execute her decrees. Here is the secret of all religious laws that have ever been enacted, and the secret of all persecution from the days of Abel to our own time.*** MB 126.2

As the storm approaches, ***a large class*** who have professed faith in the third angel's message, but have not been sanctified through obedience to the truth, ***abandon their position and join the ranks of the opposition. By uniting with the world and partaking of its spirit, they have come to view matters in nearly the same light;*** and when the test is brought, they are prepared to choose the easy, popular side. Men of talent and pleasing address, who once rejoiced in the truth, employ their powers to deceive and mislead souls. ***They become the most bitter enemies of their former brethren.*** When Sabbathkeepers are brought before the courts to answer for their faith, ***these apostates are the most efficient agents of Satan to misrepresent and accuse them, and by false reports and insinuations to stir up the rulers against them.*** GC 608.2

The conflict is to wax fiercer and fiercer. Satan will take the field and personate Christ. **He will misrepresent, misapply, and pervert everything he possibly can, to deceive, if possible,**

the very elect. Even in our day there have been and will continue to be *entire families* who have once rejoiced in the truth, but who will lose faith because of *calumnies* and *falsehoods* brought to them in regard to those whom they have loved and with *whom* they have had sweet *counsel*. **They opened their hearts to the sowing of tares; the tares sprang up among the wheat; they strengthened; the crop of wheat became less and less; and the precious truth lost its power to them. For a time a false zeal accompanied their new theories, which hardened their hearts against the advocates of truth** as did the Jews against Christ. {TM 411.2}

“Picardy in the north and Dauphiny in the south were the two provinces of France best prepared [at the opening of the Protestant Reformation] to receive the gospel. During the fifteenth century many Picardins, as the story ran, went to *Vaudery*. Seated round the fire during the long nights, simple Catholics used to tell one another how the *Vaudois* (Waldenses) met in horrible assembly in solitary places, where they found tables spread with numerous and dainty viands. These poor Christians loved indeed to meet together from districts often very remote. They went to the rendezvous by night and along by-roads. The most learned of them used to recite some passages of Scriptures, after which they conversed together and prayed. But such humble conventicles were ridiculously travestied. ‘Do you know what they do to get there,’ said the people, ‘so that the officers may not stop them? The devil has given them a certain ointment, and when they want to go to *Vaudery*, *they smear a little stick with it. As soon as they get astride it, they are carried up through the air, and arrive at their Sabbath* without meeting anybody. In the midst of them sits a goat with a monkey’s tail: this is Satan, who receives their adoration.’... ***These stupid stories were not peculiar to the people:*** they were circulated particularly by the monks. It was thus that the inquisitor Jean de Broussart spoke in 1460 from a pulpit erected in the great square at Arras. An immense multitude surrounded him; a scaffold was erected in front of the pulpit, and a number of men and women, kneeling and wearing caps with the figure of the devil painted on them, awaited their punishment. Perhaps the faith of these poor people was mingled with error. But be that as it may, they were all burnt alive after the sermon.”¹ HSFD 413.1

When the bishops and priests saw that it was so difficult to put me out of the way with stones, sticks, and daggers, they determined ***to destroy my character by calumnies, spread everywhere,*** and sworn before civil tribunals as Gospel truths. During eighteen years they kept me in the hands of the sheriffs a prisoner, under bail, as a criminal. Thirty-two times my name has been called before the civil and criminal courts of Kankakee, Joliet, Chicago, Urbana, and Montreal, among the names of the vilest and most criminal men. ***I have been accused*** by Grand Vicar Mailloux of having killed a man and thrown his body into a river to conceal my crime. I have been accused of having set fire to the church of Bourbonnais and destroyed it. ***Not less than seventy-two false witnesses*** have been brought by the priests of Rome to support this last accusation. But, thanks be to God, at every time, from the very lips of the perjured witnesses, we got the proof that they were swearing falsely, at the instigation of their father confessors. And my innocence was proven by the very men who had been paid to destroy me. In this last suit, I thought it was my duty, ***as a Christian and citizen, to have one of those priests punished for having so cruelly and publicly trampled under his feet the most sacred laws of society and religion.*** Without any vengeance on my part, God knows it, I asked the protection of my country against these incessant plots. Father Brunet, found guilty of having invented those calumnies and

supported them by false witnesses, was condemned to pay 2,500 dollars or go to goal for fourteen years. He preferred the last punishment, having the promise from his Roman Catholic friends that they would break the doors of the prison and let him go free to some remote place. He was incarcerated at Kankakee; but on a dark and stormy night, six months later, he was rescued, and fled to Montreal (distant about 900 miles). There he made the Roman Catholics believe that the blessed Virgin Mary, dressed in a beautiful white robe, had come in person to open for him the gates of the prison.—*Fifty Years in the Church of Rome*. Charles Chiniquy 1886 Pg. 420.1 PDF

The enemy of souls has sought to bring in the supposition that a great reformation was to take place among Seventh-day Adventists, and that this reformation would consist in **giving up the doctrines which stand as the pillars of our faith,** and engaging in a process of reorganization. Were this reformation to take place, what would result? ***The principles of truth*** that God in His wisdom has given to the remnant church, would be discarded. Our religion would be changed. The fundamental principles that have sustained **the work for the last fifty years would be accounted as error.** A new organization would be established. Books of a new order would be written. A system of intellectual philosophy would be introduced. The founders of this system would go into the cities, and do a wonderful work. The Sabbath of course, would be lightly regarded, as also the God who created it. **Nothing would be allowed to stand in the way of the new movement.** The leaders would teach that virtue is better than vice, but God being removed, they would place their dependence on human power, which, without God, is worthless. Their foundation would be built on the sand, and **storm and tempest** would **sweep away the structure.** 1SM 204.2

We have been warned again and again that the character of the education that has been current in the world cannot stand the test of the word of God. The subject of education is one that should interest every Seventh-day Adventist. The Lord says to us, **Seventh-day Adventists are not to place themselves under the counsel and instruction of teachers who know not the truth for this time.** The molding and fashioning of minds should not be left to men who have not comprehended the importance of a preparation for that life which measures with the life of God. {CT 401.1} {1T286}

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

Note: Of those who teach the doctrines of the fallen Protestants world.

I was shown the necessity of those who believe that we are having the last message of mercy, being separate from those who are daily imbibing new errors. I saw that neither young nor old should attend their meetings; for it is wrong to thus encourage them while they teach error that is a deadly poison to the soul and teach for doctrines the commandments of men. The influence of such gatherings is not good. If God has delivered us from such darkness and error, we should stand fast in the liberty wherewith He has set us free and rejoice in the truth. **God is displeased** with us when we go to listen to error, without being obliged to go; for unless He sends us to those meetings where error is forced home to the people by the power of the will, **He will not keep us. The angels cease their watchful care** over us, and we are left to the buffetings of the enemy, to be darkened and weakened by him and the power of his evil angels; and the light around us becomes contaminated with the darkness. EW 124.3

I saw that we have **no time to throw away in listening to fables**. Our minds should not be thus diverted, but should be occupied with the **present truth**, and seeking wisdom that we may obtain a more thorough knowledge of our position, that with meekness we may be able to give a reason of our hope from the Scriptures. While false doctrines and dangerous errors are pressed upon the mind, it cannot be dwelling upon the truth which is to fit and prepare the house of Israel to stand in the day of the Lord. EW 125.1

“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}

Already the judgments of God are abroad in the land, as seen in storms, in floods, in tempests, in earthquakes, in peril by land and by sea. The great I AM is speaking to those who make void His law. When God's wrath is poured out upon the earth, who will then be able to stand? Now is the time for God's people to show themselves true to principle. **When the religion of Christ is most held in contempt, when His law is most despised, then should our zeal be the warmest and our courage and firmness the most unflinching.** To stand in defense of truth and righteousness **when the majority forsake us**, to fight the battles of the Lord when champions are few—this will be our test. At this time we must gather warmth from the coldness of others, courage from their cowardice, and loyalty from their treason. **The nation will be on the side of the great rebel leader.** 5T 136.2