



## PROPHECY AGAIN

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### THE SHAKING HAS BEGUN IN BOTH REGULAR AND IRREGULAR LINES! TO WHOM SHALL WE GO?

“Just as soon as the people of God are sealed in their foreheads--it is not any seal or mark that can be seen, **but a settling into the truth, both intellectually and spiritually, so they cannot be moved--just as soon as God's people are sealed and prepared for the shaking, it will come.** Indeed, it has begun already; the judgments of God are now upon the land, to give us warning, that we may know what is coming.” {Mar 200.2}

1. Who did Jesus send to prepare the world for His first Advent? Matthew 3:1-3 \_\_\_\_\_
2. How did the religious leaders of the Jewish church regard the ministry of John the Baptist? John 1:19-25 \_\_\_\_\_
3. By whose authority did John the Baptist and Jesus conduct their ministries? Luke 20:1-8 \_\_\_\_\_
4. What is said of John the Baptist? \_\_\_\_\_

**“In the natural order of things, the son of Zacharias would have been educated for the priesthood. But the training of the rabbinical schools would have unfitted him for his work.** God did not send him to the teachers of theology to learn how to interpret the Scriptures. **He called him to the desert,** that he might learn of nature and nature's God.” {DA 101.3}

**“John found in the wilderness his school and his sanctuary.”** {DA 102.4}

5. In order to receive the present truth and to prepare for the first advent of Jesus, where did the people go? Matthew 3:1,5,6 \_\_\_\_\_

6. Note: John the Baptist found in the wilderness his school and his sanctuary.

7. Note: The prevailing thought that any training school for missionaries or any sanctuary that is established for worship and for the baptism of souls is an off-shoot movement, because it is not under the control of church leaders, would mean that the ministries of Jesus and John the Baptist were off-shoot movements, and that they were not in the church.

- 8a. What did the Lord's messenger say regarding the workers in the South? Those instructions are applicable today. \_\_\_\_\_

8b. **“The Lord has instructed me that, from the first, the work in Huntsville and Madison should have received adequate help.** But instead of this help being rendered promptly there has been long delay. **And in the matter of the Madison school, there has been a standing off from them because they were not under the ownership and control of some Conference.** This is a question that should sometimes be considered, **but it is not the Lord's plan that means should be withheld from Madison, because they are not bound to the conference.** The attitude which some of our brethren have assumed toward this enterprise shows that **it is not wise for every working agency to be under the dictation of conference officers. There are some enterprises under certain conditions, that will produce better results if standing alone.**” {8MR 202.3}

8c. **“When my advice was asked in reference to the Madison school, I said, Remain as you are. There is danger in binding every working agency under the dictation of the conference.** The Lord did not design that this should be. The circumstances were such that the burden bearers in the Madison school could not bind up their work with the conference. I knew their situation, and when many of the leading men in our conferences ignored them, because they did not place their school under conference dictation, **I was shown that they would not be helped by making themselves amenable to the conference. They had better remain as led by God, amenable to Him, to work out His plans. But this matter need not be blazed abroad.**” {8MR 202.4}

- 8d. What entities were established under the Madison School? \_\_\_\_\_

“Located ten miles northeast of Nashville, Madison was an important spot in early Southern Seventh-day Adventism. The Madison property (often referred to as the Madison Farm) was purchased in 1904 with the financial assistance of Nellie Druillard and the prophetic vision of Ellen White. Spearheaded by Edward A. Sutherland and Percy T. Magan, **the Madison contingent would spawn a collection of schools, hospitals, industries and churches around the South.**” {PCO iii.3}

8e. **“Brother Sutherland has caught up the idea that there must be many church schools built... Wherever there is a settled church, a small building should be erected as a church school. In whatever locality a meeting-house is erected,** let a schoolroom be prepared for that locality, and let teachers of good ability work in instructing the students.” {15MR 48.3}

- 9a. What does the messenger of the Lord say? \_\_\_\_\_

“It is time that church members understood that everywhere there is a work to be done in the Lord's vineyard. **No one is to wait for a regular process before they make any efforts.** They should take up the work right where they are. **There should be many at work in what are called ‘irregular lines.’ If one hundred laborers would step out of the ‘regular lines,’** and take up self-sacrificing work, such as **Brother Shireman** has done, souls would be won to the Lord. And the workers would understand by experience what it means to be laborers together with God.” {SpM 195.5}

- 9b. What was one of the entities that Brother Shireman established? \_\_\_\_\_

“I believe there is one here in this congregation, **Shireman** by name, **who has established church after church; and how did he establish them?** He went into a field where there was nothing. He was a carpenter. He would build his house, and then call in the people, and hold Bible readings. **There he would work till a good, strong church was established.** Then did he stand and say, Look at the good work I have done?--**No; he would go to another place, and repeat the same thing. This he did over and over again.**” {GCB, April 8, 1901 par. 37}

10. What did John the Baptist say to the Pharisees and Sadducees, the Jewish church leaders? John used words to intimate that a shaking and a sifting would come. Matthew 3:7-9

**"The Jews had misinterpreted God's promise of eternal favor to Israel:** 'Thus saith the Lord, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The Lord of hosts is His name: If those ordinances depart from before Me, saith the Lord, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before Me forever. Thus saith the Lord; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the Lord.' Jeremiah 31:35-37. **The Jews regarded their natural descent from Abraham as giving them a claim to this promise. But they overlooked the conditions which God had specified. Before giving the promise.** He had said, 'I will put My law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be My people. . . . For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.' Jeremiah 31:33, 34. {DA 106.1}

To a people in whose hearts His law is written, the favor of God is assured. **They are one with Him. But the Jews had separated themselves from God.** {DA 106.2}

These things 'are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.' 1 Corinthians 10:11. **How often we misinterpret God's blessings, and flatter ourselves that we are favored on account of some goodness in us!** {DA 106.3}

John declared to the teachers of Israel that their pride, selfishness, and cruelty showed them to be **a generation of vipers, a deadly curse to the people, rather than the children of just and obedient Abraham. In view of the light they had received from God, they were even worse than the heathen, to whom they felt so much superior.** They had forgotten the rock whence they were hewn, and the hole of the pit from which they had been digged. **God was not dependent upon them for the fulfilling of His purpose. As He had called Abraham out from a heathen people, so He could call others to His service. Their hearts might now appear as lifeless as the stones of the desert, but His Spirit could quicken them to do His will, and receive the fulfillment of His promise.**" {DA 106.4}

11. What did John the Baptist say to the Pharisees and Sadducees, the Jewish church leaders? John stated that many of the Jews would be cast off from God. Matthew 3:10

12. While the Jewish leaders and people attended the synagogues and had their names on the church record, how did the Lord view many of them?

"'And now also,' said the prophet, 'the ax is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.' **Not by its name, but by its fruit, is the value of a tree determined. If the fruit is worthless, the name cannot save the tree from destruction.** John declared to the Jews that their standing before God was to be decided by their character and life. Profession was worthless. **If their life and character were not in harmony with God's law, they were not His people.**" {DA 107.1}

13. Which category did Jesus say the majority of the Jews were in, while they were not classed in another category? John 8:37-39

14a. What did the majority of the Jews reject, as a result, Jesus did not call them Abraham's children. They were shaken out and did not know it. John 8:39,40,44,32-34.

14b. "To the Pharisees and Sadducees he said, 'Begin not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father.' Your claims are not of the least value. They will not impart to you pure principles and holiness of character. Your ceremonial sacrifices possess no value unless you discern in them the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. **By turning from God's requirements, and following your own perverted ideas, you have lost those characteristics which would constitute you children of Abraham.** Pointing to the rocks in wild confusion around him, he said: 'God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.' 'And now also the ax is laid unto the root of the trees: every tree therefore which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.'" {RH, August 2, 1898 par. 9}

15. Note: These Jewish people were not recognized as God's children, even though they attended the synagogues, because they had rejected Jesus and His truth.

16. Where was Jesus preaching? What happened in this account? John 6:59, 66-68

17. What did the disciples reject, even though they remained in the synagogues? John 6:60

"'Whose fan is in His hand, and He will throughly purge His floor, and gather His wheat into the garner.' Matthew 3:12. **This was one of the times of purging. By the words of truth, the chaff was being separated from the wheat.** Because they were too vain and self-righteous to receive reproof, too world-loving to accept a life of humility, **many turned away from Jesus. Many are still doing the same thing. Souls are tested today as were those disciples in the synagogue at Capernaum.** When truth is brought home to the heart, they see that their lives are not in accordance with the will of God. They see the need of an entire change in themselves; but they are not willing to take up the self-denying work. Therefore they are angry when their sins are discovered. They go away offended, even as the disciples left Jesus, murmuring, 'This is an hard saying; who can hear it?' " {DA 392.2}

18. What was Peter's response to Jesus' question, "Will ye also go away?" John 6:67,68

19a. Read the following and discover that Jesus did not encourage His disciples to sit in synagogues where the leaders were in apostasy. Also it is implied that the disciples who were sifted out of truth in this account returned to sit under the apostate Jewish leaders.

"**To whom shall we go? The teachers of Israel were slaves to formalism.** The Pharisees and Sadducees were in constant contention. **To leave Jesus was to fall among sticklers for rites and ceremonies, and ambitious men who sought their own glory.** The disciples had found more peace and joy since they had accepted Christ than in all their previous lives. **How could they go back to those who had scorned and persecuted the Friend of sinners?** They had long been looking for the Messiah; now He had come, **and they could not turn from His presence to those who were hunting His life, and had persecuted them for becoming His followers.**" {DA 393.5}

19b. **'To whom shall we go?'** Not from the teaching of Christ, His lessons of love and mercy, **to the darkness of unbelief, the wickedness of the world. While the Savior was forsaken by many who had witnessed His wonderful works, Peter expressed the faith of the disciples,**--'Thou art that Christ.' The very thought of losing this anchor of their souls filled them with fear and pain. To be destitute of a Savior was to be adrift on a dark and stormy sea." {DA 393.6}

20. What did Jesus say afterwards, regarding Judas Iscariot? John 6:70,71

21. Note: Judas did not attend the synagogues, he was among the closest disciples of Jesus. Yet, Judas Iscariot was sifted out. This shows that the sifting out is not predicated on which church a person attends, but whether a person accepts and lives according to the truth or reject truth.

22. In the context of our study, what do these words mean? 1 John 2:19

23a. What warning and instruction did Jesus give to Peter, which is also applicable to us? Luke 22:31,32

23b. What should be our prayer, since the shaking has begun? Luke 17:5

24. On what points of truth is Satan weakening the faith of God's people? And those who reject these truths are being sifted out of the truth, even though they profess to be Christians.

**"It is Satan's plan to weaken the faith of God's people in the Testimonies.** Next follows skepticism in regard to the vital points of our faith, the pillars of our position, then doubt as to the Holy Scriptures, and then the downward march to perdition. When the Testimonies, which were once believed, are doubted and given up, Satan knows the deceived ones will not stop at this; and he redoubles his efforts till he launches them into open rebellion, which becomes incurable and ends in destruction." 4T 211.

"One thing is certain: **Those Seventh-day Adventists who take their stand under Satan's banner** will first give up their faith in the warnings and reproofs contained in the Testimonies of God's Spirit." {3SM 84.3}

"The enemy will bring in false theories, **such as the doctrine that there is no sanctuary. This is one of the points on which there will be a departing from the faith.**" {Ev 224.3}

25. What else will produce a shaking?

"God's Spirit has illuminated every page of Holy Writ, but there are those upon whom it makes but little impression, because it is imperfectly understood. **When the shaking comes, by the introduction of false theories,** these surface readers, anchored nowhere, are like shifting sand. They slide into any position to suit the tenor of their feelings of bitterness." {11MR 206.2}

In light of the above quotation, meditate upon the following: Ephesians 4:14; Luke 6:46-48; Eve was almost shaken out--Genesis 3:1-11.

26. What else will produce a shaking?

**"I asked the meaning of the shaking I had seen, and was shown that it would be caused by the straight testimony called forth by the counsel of the True Witness to the Laodiceans. [See Revelation 3:14-21]** This will have its effect upon the heart of the receiver, and will lead him to exalt the standard and pour forth the straight truth. Some will not bear this straight testimony. They will rise up against it, and this will cause a shaking among God's people." {EW 270.2}

27. There are many people who have already been sifted out of God's truth, yet they still profess to be Christians and attend church.

During which event and crisis will they be officially manifested? See also Matthew 13:30 and Revelation 14:9,10,14-16

"The time is not far distant when the test will come to every soul. **The mark of the beast will be urged upon us.** Those who have step by step yielded to worldly demands and conformed to worldly customs will not find it a hard matter to yield to the powers that be, rather than subject themselves to derision, insult, threatened imprisonment, and death. The contest is between the commandments of God and the commandments of men. **In this time the gold will be separated from the dross in the church. True godliness will be clearly distinguished from the appearance and tinsel of it.** Many a star that we have admired for its brilliancy will then go out in darkness.

**Chaff like a cloud will be borne away on the wind, even from places where we see only floors of rich wheat.** All who assume the ornaments of the sanctuary, but are not clothed with Christ's righteousness, will appear in the shame of their own nakedness." {5T 81.1}

28. During which event and crisis, will the church appear as about to fall? During which event and crisis will the sinners in Zion be sifted out?

"We are to be ready and waiting for the orders of God. Nations will be stirred to their very center. **Support will be withdrawn from those who proclaim God's only standard of righteousness, the only sure test of character. And all who will not bow to the decree of the national councils and obey the national laws to exalt the sabbath instituted by the man of sin, to the disregard of God's holy day, will feel, not the oppressive power of popery alone, but of the Protestant world, the image of the beast.** 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 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}

29. What did Jesus warn His disciples of? Matthew 26:31-35

30. What did Jesus tell them to do, in order to endure the crisis of the shaking? Matthew 26:36-41

"I saw some, with strong faith and agonizing cries, pleading with God. Their countenances were pale and marked with deep anxiety, expressive of their internal struggle. Firmness and great earnestness was expressed in their countenances; large drops of perspiration fell from their foreheads. Now and then their faces would light up with the marks of God's approbation, and again the same solemn, earnest, anxious look would settle upon them. Evil angels crowded around, pressing darkness upon them to shut out Jesus from their view, that their eyes might be drawn to the darkness that surrounded them, and thus they be led to distrust God and murmur against Him. Their only safety was in keeping their eyes directed upward." {EW 269.1} "I saw angels of God hasten to the assistance of all who were struggling with all their power to resist the evil angels and trying to help themselves by calling upon God with perseverance. But His angels left those who made no effort to help themselves, and I lost sight of them." {EW 270.1}