

These Perilous Times

Vol. 7 No. 23 Dec. 7, 2016

What Do God's People Believe?

Part VIII

Decision making in general, i.e. {what shoes or coat should I purchase?} may sound trivial but at times can be frustrating, especially for those living on a stringent budget.

However, when making decisions that will impact the lives of others for eternity, decision making becomes a very serious matter and requires much self-deliberation and fervent prayer!

Being frugal with our finances is fine. We want to be good stewards of everything our Lord has blessed and entrusted to our care.

However, being cheap with our time concerning the salvation of souls is not fine!

What does this mean for us?

Obvious Signs Do Tell The Season

Not only are God's "remnant people,"¹ but all people are engaged in a spiritual war.² The Lord is soon to come and many souls "without the fold" are *floundering in the valley of decision*.

TPT is not speaking of Joel's prophecy of the "valley of decision," or the imminent judgement of the wicked by God in his day, {see Joel 3:1-14} which is a different context altogether. TPT is stressing an important principle regarding indecision.

In a conventional war there are only two sides with many allies. In a spiritual war the same is true. All the inhabitants of the world must choose sides. This is where God's people need to come to the forefront!

We are "Biblically Commissioned"³ to throw out the lifeline of Salvation to those who don't know Jesus! We are also admonished to call those who have become inebriated with the "wine of Babylon," out of spiritual confusion into the "Shepherd's Fold."⁴

The Great Controversy between God and Satan, good and evil, is raging and rapidly

¹ Revelation 12:17; 14:12

² Daniel 7:25; Revelation 13:7

³ Matthew 28:18-20

⁴ Revelation 14:8-10 ; 17:1-5; 18:1-5; John 10:16; Ephesians 4:5

coming to a climax. The Lord calls for godly men and women to sound the alarm!

Seventh-day Adventists Believe...

8. The Great Controversy

“All humanity is now involved in a great controversy between Christ and Satan, regarding the character of God, His Law, and His Sovereignty over the universe.

The **conflict originated in heaven** when a created being, *endowed with the freedom of choice, in self-exaltation became Satan, God’s adversary,* and led into rebellion a portion of the angels.

He introduced the spirit of rebellion into this world when he led Adam and Eve into sin.

This human sin resulted in the distortion of the image of God in humanity, the disordering of the created world, and its eventual devastation at the time of the world wide flood.

Observed by the whole creation, this world became the arena of the universal conflict, out of which the God of love will ultimately be vindicated.

To assist His people in the controversy, Christ sends the Holy Spirit and the loyal angels to guide, protect, and sustain them in the way of

salvation”⁵ {Emphasis supplied}. Rev. 12:4-9; Isa. 14:12-14; Ezek. 28:12-18; Gen. 3; Rom. 1:19-32; 5:12-21; 8:19-22; Gen. 6:8; II Pet. 3:6; I Cor. 4:9; Heb. 1:14



⁵ Seventh-day Adventist Believe, “A Biblical Exposition of Fundamental Beliefs,” 2005. pp. 113-120.