

The UnQuestionable Authority of Present Truth

Ellen G White, Testimonies to the Church, Vol. 8 pg. 298

I beseech those who are laboring for God not to accept the spurious for the genuine. Let not human reason be placed where divine, sanctifying truth should be. Christ is waiting to kindle faith and love in the hearts of His people. Let not erroneous theories receive countenance from the people who ought to be standing firm on the platform of eternal truth. God calls upon us to hold firmly to the fundamental principles that are based upon unquestionable authority.

The King of the North Identified as Turkey

Uriah Smith, Daniel and the Revelation, 1882, pg. 364; 1897, pg 273

After a long interval, the king of the south and the king of the north again appear on the stage of action. We have met with nothing to indicate that we are to look to any localities for these powers other than those which, shortly after the death of Alexander, constituted respectively the southern and northern divisions of his empire. The king of the south was at that time Egypt, and the king of the north was Syria, including Thrace and Asia Minor. Egypt is still, by common agreement, the king of the south, while the territory which at first constituted the king of the north, has been for the past four hundred years wholly included within the dominions of the sultan of Turkey.

E. J. Waggoner, Present Truth UK, December 24, 1896

The oppressive sense of overwhelming danger leads statesmen of all nations to deal carefully with the problems of the Eastern question. Yet they prepare for its eventual solution, little realising that their own destiny is bound up with that of Turkey; and that when the Ottoman Power, which occupies the very territory of the “king of the north,” of the eleventh of Daniel, “shall come to his end, and none shall help him,” it will be the signal for the ending of human history. For years the situation has remained critical, and now it has taken on a new phase, as a result of recent events.

E. J. Waggoner, Present Truth UK, April 1, 1897

Now again the kings of the south and the north are before us. Egypt was the territory of the king of the south. The king of the north, in the division of Alexander’s empire and the conquests of the Seleucid?, was the dominant power along the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles, and in Asia Minor and Syria. It is the territory of Turkey. The Turkish Empire has for generations filled the dominions of the original king of the north.

E. J. Waggoner, Present Truth UK, January 12, 1899

It is written in the prophecy of Daniel that the king of the north, the title therein given to the power occupying the territory which is at present known as Turkey, “shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.” Nor will the arrival of that fatal hour affect only the Turkish empire. “At that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people, and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same

time, and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.” Dan. 12:1.

A. T. Jones, Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, October 2, 1900

What, then, are the scriptures that relate to Turkey in this time? The last verses of Daniel 11 relate to Turkey, which, as king of the north, with its center at Constantinople, occupies, in direct descent, the place of the original king of the north in the division of the empire of Alexander the Great, as in the fourth verse and onward. And of this Power it is written: “He shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.” Dan. 11:45.

Stephen N. Haskell, The Story of Daniel the Prophet, 1901, pg. 248

The sealing angel goes through Jerusalem (the church) to place the seal of the living God on the foreheads of the faithful, and while this work goes forward, Turkey stands as a national guidepost to the world, that men may know what is going on in the sanctuary above.

God’s eye is upon his people, and he never leaves himself without a witness in the world. No man knows when Turkey will take its departure from Europe, but when that move is made, earth’s history will be short. Then it will be said, “He that is unjust let him be unjust still, . . . and he that is righteous let him be righteous still.” To-day is “the day of preparation.” The fate of Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome is recorded for the edification of the nations of to-day, and the lessons taught by all center in the events just before us. While the world watches Turkey, let the servant of God watch the movements of his great High Priest, whose ministry for sin is almost over.

A. G. Daniels, Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, October 9, 1916

Some such calamity was certainly foreseen by the ancient prophets. In closing his great prophetic outline recorded in the eleventh chapter of his book, the prophet Daniel foretells the destiny of the Turkish Empire. He says: “He shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shalt help him.” Dan. 11:45. Two things are here foretold of the Turk: First, he shall establish his palace in the “glorious holy mountain;” second, be shall then “come to his end.” . . . Just when Turkey will be compelled to leave Constantinople, no one can tell. Just what city or cities may be made the new temporary capital, no one knows. The prophet said the palace would finally be planted “in the glorious holy mountain,” where Jerusalem is located; and everything in present-day conditions points to an early fulfillment

of the prediction. How wonderfully time fills in the prophetic outlines of the Word of God!

J. W. Manns editor, The Banner, November, 1923, pg. 9

The political power in control of the territory known as the king of the north is Turkey. For many years, Bible students have believed, according to this scripture, that just before the end of the world, the Turkish power would be driven from Europe and would be compelled to establish its headquarters in the Holy Land.

The Literal Seven Last Plagues

James White, A Brief Exposition of the Angels of Revelation XIV, pg. 21

“And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous, seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them is filled up the WRATH OF GOD,” Rev. 15:1. This testimony is sufficient proof that the wrath of God, threatened by the third angel, is the SEVEN LAST PLAGUES. These plagues are evidently shadowed forth by the plagues of Egypt, and will be as real and literal as those were. Compare Ex. 7-12, with Rev. 16.

James White, editor, Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, August 5, 1851; By MARSHALL M. TRUESDELL. Catlin, Charming Co., N. Y., June 19, 1851.

Bro. Rhodes spoke on the seven last plagues. He showed us that they were literal plagues, and yet in the future. The Spirit of the Lord was with us and we had a heavenly refreshing season. The exhortations of Bro. Rhodes melted the hearts of God’s children. Tears flowed freely, and we were not a little strengthened.

James White, editor, by O. R. L. Crozier, Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, December 9, 1851,

We believe that Zion is real, and literal and intimately connected with the HEAVENLY JERUSALEM. Heb.12:22. As expressed by Macknight’s version, we believe that we “Shall come to Mount Zion, and to the city of the living God, the Heavenly Jerusalem.” We believe in Babylon, and in its fall as described in Rev.18. “The penalty of the Beast worshippers,” which is the seven last plagues, and a part in the lake of fire, we believe to be real, literal and dreadful. The one like the Son of man is Jesus. Rev.1:13-18.

The Drying up of the River Euphrates

1884 Uriah Smith, Synopsis of Present Truth, pg. 164

The sixth angel pours out his vial upon the great river Euphrates. This is a symbol of the Ottoman empire, and the drying up of its waters denotes the utter consumption and overthrow of that power.

A. T. Jones, [Signs of the Times](#), September 14, 1888

W h a t will be the sixth plague? “And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared.” Rev. 16:12.

Does this refer to the literal river Euphrates, or to the nation that dwells in the country of the Euphrates?—The nation. Note.

What then does the drying up of the river mean?—Evidently the wiping out of the Turkish power,—the nation that now rules the Euphrates country.

A. T. Jones, [The Eastern Question](#), 1896 pg. 13

Then the drying up of the water of the Euphrates that the way of the kings of the East may be prepared is clearly the ending of the power that occupies the country of the Euphrates. What power is this?—The Turkish power alone.

Uriah Smith, [Daniel and the Revelation](#), 1897, pg. 692

The drying up of the river in this sense would be the consumption of the Turkish empire, accompanied with more or less destruction of its subjects. Thus we should have literal judgments upon men as the result of this plague, as in the case of all the others.

A.T. Jones, [The Medical Missionary](#), August 21, 1906

It must not be overlooked that the drying up of the water of the Euphrates—the fall of the Turkish Empire—takes place under the sixth of the “seven last plagues.

1919 S. N. Haskell, [Bible Handbook](#), pg. 27
Revelation 16:12, 16. The sixth plague,-drying up of the river Euphrates.

Isaiah 8:7. A river, flowing through a country, is taken as a type of the country; hence, the drying up of the Euphrates would indicate the drying up of the Turkish empire under the sixth plague.

1919 S. N. Haskell, [Bible Handbook](#), pg. 128
Daniel 11:45. The drying up of this river, or the Turkish nation, is equivalent to Turkey’s coming to his end with none to help him.

J. B. Mosley, [The Banner](#), December 1923, pg. 5

The sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great River Euphrates: and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the East might be prepared. Rev. 16:12. This does not mean the literal drying up of this river. Or if it meant thus, what hearing would it have on the drama of preparing the way of the kings of the East? When hundreds of battleships, dreadnaughts, submarines, etc., are being prepared in the maritime world, and have times without number crossed this great body of water. It is therefore apparent that the River Euphrates is here used as a symbol to represent the territory or nation watered by this river; and that nation is the Ottoman or Turkish Empire. The drying up of the River Euphrates means in the literal sense, the wasting away of the Turkish Empire. Dan. 11:44, 45, to prepare the way of the kings of the East

for their mighty rush to Armageddon—where they’ll meet their final doom.

Confirmation from God’s Prophet

Ellen G White, PAMPHLETS, No. 20, A Call to the Watchmen 1910, pg. 14

The standard bearers who have fallen in death, are to speak through the reprinting of their writings. I am instructed that thus [their] voices are to be heard. They are to bear their testimony as to what constitutes the truth for this time. We are not to receive the words of those who come with a message that contradicts the special points of our faith. They gather together a mass of Scripture, and pile it as proof around their asserted theories. This has been done over and over again during the past fifty years. And while the Scriptures are God’s Word, and are to be respected, the application of them, if such application moves one pillar of the foundation that God has sustained these fifty years, is a great mistake. He who makes such an application knows not the wonderful demonstration of the Holy Spirit that gave power and force to the past messages that have come to the people of God.

Ellen G White, 1899 Manuscript Releases, Vol. 1 pg. 61-63

Those who are preparing to enter the ministry, who desire to become successful students of the prophecies, will find Daniel and the Revelation an invaluable help. They need to understand this book. It speaks of past, present, and future, laying out the path so plainly that none need err therein. Those who will diligently study this book will have no relish for the cheap sentiments presented by those who have a burning desire to get out something new and strange to present to the flock of God. The rebuke of God is upon all such teachers. They need that one teach them what is meant by godliness and truth. **The great, essential questions which God would have presented to the people are found in Daniel and the Revelation. There is found solid, eternal truth for this time. Everyone needs the light and information it contains. ...**

The truth for this time has been brought out in many books. Let those who have been dealing in cheap sentiments and foolish tests, cease this work and study Daniel and the Revelation. They will then have something to talk about that will help the mind. As they receive the knowledge contained in this book, they will have in the treasure house of the mind a store from which they can continually draw as they communicate to others the great, essential truths of God’s Word.

The interest in Daniel and the Revelation is to continue as long as probationary time shall last. God used the author of this book as a channel through which to communicate light to direct minds to the truth. Shall we not appreciate this light, which points us to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, our King?

Ellen G White, Special Testimonies, Series B, No. 7 pg. 58

Not a word is changed or denied. That which the Holy Spirit testified to as truth after the passing of the time, in our great disappointment, is the solid foundation of truth. **Pillars of truth were revealed, and we accepted the foundation principles that have made us what we are—Seventh-day Adventists, keeping the commandments of God and having the faith of Jesus.**

Ellen G White, Testimonies to the Church, Vol. 8 pg. 298

I beseech those who are laboring for God not to accept the spurious for the genuine. Let not human reason be placed where divine, sanctifying truth should be. Christ is waiting to kindle faith and love in the hearts of His people. Let not erroneous theories receive countenance from the people who ought to be standing firm on the platform of eternal truth. **God calls upon us to hold firmly to the fundamental principles that are based upon unquestionable authority.**

Ellen G White, Testimonies to the Church, Vol. 6 pg. 61

Our warfare is aggressive. Tremendous issues are before us, yea, and right upon us. Let our prayers ascend to God that the four angels may still hold the four winds, that they may not blow to injure or destroy until the last warning has been given to the world. Then let us work in harmony with our prayers. **Let nothing lessen the force of the truth for this time. The present truth is to be our burden.** The third angel’s message must do its work of separating from the churches a people who will take their stand on the platform of eternal truth.

Ellen G White, Manuscript Releases, Vol. 15 pg. 329

Those who will be easily offended because of the straightness of the truth and the plain testimony, will mar the truth of God and pass along half-hearted, neither cold nor hot, weighing down the church until God spews them out of His mouth.

Ellen G White, Testimonies to the Church, Vol. 5 pg. 19

God has given me my work, and I must meet it at the judgment. Those who have chosen their own way, who have risen up against the plain testimonies given them, and have sought to shake the faith of others in them, must settle the matter with God. **I take back nothing. I soften nothing to suit their ideas or to excuse their defects of character.** I have not spoken as plainly as the case required. Those who would in any way lessen the force of the sharp reproofs which God has given me to speak, must meet their work at the judgment.