

# Chapter One

# Times & Seasons

*But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as [do] others; but let us watch and be sober. {1 Thessalonians 5: 1-6} KJV*

The last year in this first watch of this first generation of the new cycle will be October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013 to October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014.

But pause a while. Do you remember or even know what any of these terms mean? Well it would be good for us to revise the Biblical definitions of these terms.

1 generation = 40 years (Hebrews 3: 7-11, 17-19)

4 generations = 1 cycle of sowing and reaping (Joel 1: 1-4)

Furthermore: EACH generation contains 4 watches (Mark 13: 35-37)

Therefore: One watch = 10 years

In Luke 12: 35-40 Jesus explains that “He will return from the wedding” in which ever one of the four watches and since we do not know which day he will return from the wedding we are warned to be ready.

*Let your loins be girded about, and [your] lights burning; And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. Blessed [are] those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them. And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find [them] so, blessed are those servants. And this know, that if the goodman of the house had known*

*what hour the thief would come, he would have watched, and not have suffered his house to be broken through. Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not. {Luke 12: 35-40} KJV*

## Returning from the Wedding

Christ our Lord Jesus went into the wedding in October 1844 at the end of the 2300 years of Daniel 8:14. In the Most Holy Place of the Heavenly Sanctuary He will accomplish final at-one-ment with His church and marry the New Jerusalem as representative of His perfected church. His returning from the wedding means the closure of probation which will be followed by the time of trouble such as never was and then the Second Coming of Jesus.

## Looking Back on the First Generation after 1844 (1844-1884)

The First Generation, after Christ entered the Most Holy Place, was 1844 to 1884. Let us consider the 4 WATCHES in that first generation.

1. FIRST DECADE = 1844-1854 = FIRST WATCH
2. SECOND DECADE = 1854-1864 = SECOND WATCH
3. THIRD DECADE = 1864-1874 = THIRD WATCH
4. FOURTH DECADE = 1874-1884 = FOURTH WATCH

The year 1868 was near the middle of the THIRD WATCH of that FIRST GENERATION. Writing in 1868 the Spirit of Prophecy pictured a company of faithful waiting believers; listen to these words:

*They were encouraging one another by repeating these words: the first and second watches are past. We are in the third watch, waiting and watching for the master's return {2T page 192}*

Luke warmness which became endemic by 1859 continued to deepen in the Laodicean Church. Christ was lost sight of and therefore there was no readiness for His return from the wedding.

In fact, all 4 watches in that first generation passed and CHRIST did not return from the wedding. Then the second generation came.

### Looking Back on the Second Generation (1884-1924)

The Second Generation was 1884 to 1924. Very early in that second generation, 1888 to be exact, God sent a most precious message to Seventh Day Adventism. The Jones-Waggoner righteousness by faith message, including the true light on the Covenants, was the fullest and clearest teaching of the true gospel in Adventism up to that time. So full and powerful was that message, that had it been accepted and allowed to do its work of character cleansing and ripening, Christ could have returned from the wedding in the first watch of that second generation!

The message was not accepted by the leadership and their rejection of the message prevented it from reaching the church membership and the world.

The entire Second Generation passed and Christ did not return from the wedding. The servant of the Lord had given a warning back in 1888:

*God will withdraw his Spirit unless his truth is accepted.*  
{E.G.W 1888 Materials page 124}

The withdrawal of the Spirit, caused by rejection of the message, was a very serious matter as can be seen from the following two quotations:

*Satan succeeded in shutting away from our people, in a great measure, the special power of the Holy Spirit that God longed to impart to them. The enemy prevented them from obtaining that efficiency which might have been theirs in carrying the truth to the world, as the apostles proclaimed it after the day of Pentecost. The light that is to lighten the whole earth with its glory was resisted, and by the action of our own brethren has been in a great degree kept away from the world.* {E.G.W 1888 Materials page 1575}

*Our own people opposed the work of God by refusing the light on the righteousness of Christ by faith. This they should have received and should have imparted with heart and voice and pen, for it is their only efficiency. They should have labored under the Holy Spirit's direction to give the light others.* {E.G.W 1888 Materials page 1325}

### The Third Generation (1924-1964)

During the Third Generation, the lukewarmness sown in the first generation and which was not allowed

to be cured in the second generation started to produce a harvest of apostasy. This was according to the principle of Exodus 20:5

*"...visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation..."*

In the 1950's, the meetings between the General Conference and Evangelical Scholar Dr. Walter Martin, produced theological compromises leading to doctrinal apostasy. One example of the resulting doctrinal confusion is the question concerning what kind of human flesh and blood Jesus took on in the incarnation. Was it unfallen or fallen human flesh? The 1888 message was unequivocally clear that the Son of God in His incarnation took on our fallen human flesh and blood in order:

- To be the Saviour of the world
- To be our sympathetic High Priest and
- To be our Example!

Jesus lived a sinless character in our corporate sinful flesh which He took on.

### Another Invitation to Accept the True Full Gospel

During the 1950's and 1960's, Pastors Wieland and Short invited the General Conference of SDA to re-examine, re-consider and accept the 1888 message of righteousness by faith. But the invitation was slighted. Thereafter individual SDA's started to investigate and to find and to study the 1888 message. This led to the springing up of various "reformed" groups in the Adventist world. All of this led to a shaking in Adventism in the fourth generation.

### The Fourth Generation (1964-2004)

During the Fourth Generation, church machinery expanded. Various programs and schemes for the finishing of the work were implemented. The church continued to work for and to pray for the Latter Rain. Yet, nonetheless, the shaking in Adventism intensified!

In 1977, a Reformed Anglican scholar and clergyman by the name of Geoffrey Paxton published a book entitled 'THE SHAKING OF ADVENTISM' (A documented account of the crisis among Adventists over the doctrine of Justification by faith). Paxton's evaluation of the SDA problem was amazingly accurate! He clearly showed that the rejection of the 1888 message by leadership coupled

with various levels of acceptance by individual church members is causing a shaking in Adventism!

Also during the Fourth Generation, several Adventist authors and independent ministries have published works calling on Adventists to study and accept the 1888 message. However, the Fourth Generation closed (October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2004) without acceptance of the 1888 message by the SDA General Conference Leadership.

## **A New Cycle**

Four Generations since October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1844 ended in October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2004. That was a complete cycle. Therefore a new cycle started on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2004 and we are now in the first watch of the First Generation of this new cycle.

### **FIRST GENERATION OF NEW CYCLE:**

October 2004 – October 2044

### **FIRST WATCH OF THIS NEW GENERATION:**

October 2004 – October 2014

### **LAST YEAR OF THIS WATCH:**

October 2013 – October 2014

The next or second watch in this First Generation of this new cycle will be October 2014 – October 2024. The Second Watch is also called the MIDNIGHT WATCH. This brings to mind Matthew 25: 1-3; the parable of the ten virgins. Notice verse 6:

*“and at midnight there was a cry made, behold the bridegroom cometh go ye out to meet him”*

## **Preparation for the Later Rain and Loud Cry**

We are told that the 1888 righteousness by faith message was the beginning of the loud cry of the third angel.

*The time of test is just upon us, for the loud cry of the third angel has already begun in the revelation of the righteousness of Christ, the sin-pardoning Redeemer. This is the beginning of the light of the angel whose glory shall fill the whole earth. {R.H November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1892}*

We can only receive the latter rain of the Holy Spirit if we believe, accept and experience the full, true gospel of the 1888 message and the advancing light of God’s character. Our urgent need is to reach the stage of growth called the ear, so that we can be ripened by the latter rain into the full corn in the ear.

*That which Satan has led men to do in the past, he will if possible lead them to do again. The early church was deceived by the enemy of God and man, and apostasy was brought into the ranks of those who professed to love God; and today, unless the people of God awake out of sleep, they will be taken unawares by the devices of Satan. Among those who claim to believe in the near coming of the Savior, how many are back-slidden, how many have lost their first love, and come under the description written of the Laodicean church, denominating them as neither cold nor hot. Satan will do his utmost to keep them in a state of indifference and stupor. May the Lord reveal to the people the perils that are before them, that they may arouse from their spiritual slumber, and trim their lamps, and be found watching for the Bridegroom when he shall return from the wedding.*

*The days in which we live are eventful and full of peril. The signs of the coming of the end are thickening around us, and events are to come to pass that will be of a more terrible character than any the world has yet witnessed. “For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them.” But to those who have the light of truth, it has been written, “Ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.” “And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.” “Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cock-crowing, or in the morning: lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping.”*

*There is great need that our weakening faith should be quickened, and that we should ever keep before the mind the evidences that our Lord is soon coming, that we may ever be found not only waiting, but watching and working. We are not to be found in idle expectancy; for this leads to carelessness of life, and deficiency of character. We are to realize that the judgments of God are about to fall upon the earth, and we should most earnestly present before the people the warning that the Lord has commissioned us to give: “For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.” “Men’s hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. And when these things begin to come to pass, then look*

*up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.*  
{R.H November 22, 1892/ paragraph 4 - 6}

## Closing Gem

*The great crisis is before us, and every one is to act as though his own soul was at stake. The most important question of all is, How shall I save my soul, for which Christ died? How shall I be holy, as he is holy? It is time to be seeking for the forgiveness of your sins, for the assurance that your names are written in the Lamb's book of life. Let every one realize that he is not his own, but has been bought with a price, even with the blood of the Son of God.*

*Live by the day for Christ. Seek to be a victor just for this one day; for you do not know that you have another day to live. Confess your sins today. You have the promises of pardon.*

*The Lord says, "Let him take hold of my strength, that he may make peace with me; and he shall make peace with me." God is in earnest with us. He has borne long and patiently with us, and the light that has shone upon us from the throne of his glory will not lessen our responsibility, but, if we fail to improve it, will leave us without excuse. God will not be trifled with. You may ask, What shall I do to advance the light of truth? I answer, Work humbly for God; do not exalt yourself, but remember that you are standing upon holy ground. We are living in the last days, and the great question is, How shall I stand before God? Every one is responsible for the light he has received. What have you done with the light of heaven? Have you put it under a bushel?*

*There is a great work to be done; for we are to reach the people with the divine light of truth, not in our own way, but through the power and Spirit of God. God will use us as instruments in his hand, if we will yield ourselves to him. O that all may make the effort essential to win eternal life! Every soul is precious in the sight of God. He declares by the prophet, "I will make a man more precious than fine gold; even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir." This preciousness will be wrought in the soul that is connected with Christ; but our own ways must be abandoned, our own thoughts must be put away.*

*Jesus says, "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock; if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." O, shall Jesus plead in vain for an entrance into your heart? Clear away the rubbish from the door, and let him in, and you will know what is the comfort and peace of his blessing. I present before you the Man of Calvary. He can save unto the uttermost all that come unto God by him. The more you have of Jesus, the more you*

*will desire a closer connection with him, and your soul will be hid with Christ in God, and thus be prepared when he shall come with power and great glory.*

*"And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear: forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." Not in self-confidence, not in self-exaltation, are we to pass the time of our sojourning, but in fear working with Christ for the salvation of others. We are to live as on holy ground, and when the Master shall appear in glory, we can say, "This is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us." {RH, August 18, 1891}*

Your Servant in Christ

*Elder E. O. Deaglin*

January, 11<sup>th</sup> 2014