



Fourteenth Decree: Get Ready! Get Ready! Get Ready!

“Jesus declares: “There shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations.”

Luke 21:25; Matthew 24:29; Mark 13:24-26; Revelation 6:12-17.

Those who behold these harbingers of His coming are to ‘know that it is near, even at the doors.’ Matthew 24:33.”

The Great Controversy, 37, 38.

Research – Odette Boily
December 2020

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“And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring.” Luke 21:25

“Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:

And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.... So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors.”
Matthew 24:29, 30, 33.

“But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory.” Mark 13:24-26.

“And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;

And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.

And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;

And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:

For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?” Revelation 6:12-17.

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“Monday’s winter solstice date [December 21, 2020] will bring about an astrological event known as a “great conjunction,” when gas-giant planets Jupiter and Saturn will appear to align in the sky and create an ultra-bright “Christmas Star.”

“Jupiter and Saturn are separated by hundreds of millions of kilometres but from our vantage point they will look like beads on a string, and they will get within one tenth of a degree tonight...technical term, they’re going to kiss in the night sky,” said York University astronomy professor Paul Delaney on CTV’s Your Morning Monday.

While great conjunctions occur almost every 20 years, the last time Jupiter and Saturn were this close to one another was in 1623. And it just so happens to land on the winter solstice this year.”

<https://www.ctvnews.ca/sci-tech/how-to-spot-the-christmas-star-a-rare-planetary-alignment-in-the-sky-1.5239917>



Christ was born at Tabernacles Fall Feasts.

Not in the midst of Winter.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KYMRgj1O5oA&feature=emb_logo

Saturn, top, and Jupiter, below, are framed between the twin steeples of St. Joseph Catholic Church Saturday, Dec. 19, 2020 in Topeka, Kan. (AP Photo/Charlie Riedel)

“The wise men had seen a mysterious light in the heavens upon that night when the glory of God flooded the hills of Bethlehem. As the light faded, a luminous star appeared, and lingered in the sky. It was not a fixed star nor a planet, and the phenomenon excited the keenest interest.

That star was a distant company of shining angels, but of this the wise men were ignorant. Yet they were impressed that the star was of special import to them. They consulted priests and philosophers, and searched the scrolls of the ancient records.

The prophecy of Balaam had declared, “There shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Scepter shall rise out of Israel.” Numbers 24:17. Could this strange star have been sent as a harbinger of the Promised One? The magi had welcomed the light of heaven-sent truth; now it was shed upon them in brighter rays. Through dreams they were instructed to go in search of the newborn Prince.”

Desire of Ages, 60

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“The nations are in unrest. Times of perplexity are upon us. Men’s hearts are failing them for fear of the things that are coming upon the earth. But those who believe in God will hear His voice amid the storm, saying, “It is I; be not afraid.” The Signs of the Times, October 9, 1901.

“Strange and eventful history is being recorded in the books of heaven—events which it was declared should shortly precede the great day of God. Everything in the world is in an unsettled state.”

Manuscript Releases 3:313, 1908

“The Israel–United Arab Emirates normalization agreement, officially the Abraham Accords Peace Agreement: Treaty of Peace, Diplomatic Relations and Full Normalization Between the United Arab Emirates and the State of Israel, was initially agreed to in a joint statement by the United States, Israel and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on August 13, 2020, officially referred to as the Abraham Accords.

On August 13, 2020, the UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Anwar Gargash, announced the UAE's agreement to normalize relations with Israel saying that his country wanted to deal with the threats facing the two-state solution, specifically annexation of the Palestinian territories, and urging the Palestinians and Israelis to return to the negotiating table. He indicated that he did not think that there will be any embassy in Jerusalem until after there is a final agreement between the Palestinians and the Israelis.

According to US President Donald Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, "Israel and the United Arab Emirates will fully normalize their diplomatic relations. They will exchange embassies and ambassadors and begin cooperation across the board and on a broad range of areas including tourism, education, healthcare, trade and security.“ A joint statement issued by Trump, Netanyahu, and Zayed, read: "This historic diplomatic breakthrough will advance peace in the Middle East region...

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...and is a testament to the bold diplomacy and vision of the three leaders and the courage of the United Arab Emirates and Israel to chart a new path that will unlock the great potential in the region. The UAE said it would continue to support the Palestinian people and that the agreement would maintain the prospect of a two-state solution between Israel and Palestine. Despite the agreement however, Netanyahu stated that Israel's sovereignty claim to the Jordan Valley was still on the agenda and only frozen for the time being.

Zayed tweeted that the "UAE and Israel also agreed to cooperation and setting a roadmap towards establishing a bilateral relationship."

White House Abraham Accords signing ceremony on September 15, 2020

The treaty was signed on September 15, 2020. The treaty recognizes each state's sovereignty, obliges the two states to exchange ambassadors and conclude bilateral agreements on several topics including visa agreements, and will enter into force upon ratification. The agreement was ratified by the Israeli government on October 12 and was ratified by the Knesset on October 15.”

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Israel%E2%80%93United_Arab_Emirates_normalization_agreement

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“Satan is working in the atmosphere; he is poisoning the atmosphere, and here we are dependent upon God for our lives—our present and eternal lives. And being in the position that we are, we need to be wide awake, wholly devoted, wholly converted, wholly consecrated to God. But we seem to sit as though we were paralyzed. God of heaven, wake us up!”
Selected Messages 2:52, 1890.

“God has not restrained the powers of darkness from carrying forward their deadly work of vitiating the air, one of the sources of life and nutrition, with a deadly miasma. Not only is vegetable life affected but man suffers from pestilence.... These things are the result of drops from the vials of God’s wrath [God takes responsibility for that which he allows or does not prevent. See Exodus 7:3; 8:32; 1 Chronicles 10:4, 13, 14.] being sprinkled on the earth, and are but faint representations of what will be in the near future.”
Selected Messages 3:391, 1891.

“Famines will increase. Pestilences will sweep away thousands. Dangers are all around us from the powers without and satanic workings within, but the restraining power of God is now being exercised.”
Manuscript Releases 19:382, 1897.

“I have been shown that the Spirit of the Lord is being withdrawn from the earth. God’s keeping power will soon be refused to all who continue to disregard His commandments. The reports of fraudulent transactions, murders, and crimes of every kind are coming to us daily. Iniquity is becoming so common a thing that it no longer shocks the senses as it once did.”
Letter 258, 1907.

Going to the Bank for Food, Not Money: The Growing Reality of Hunger in “Rich” Countries

Solution: Country Living - Agriculture

“In 2020 you should be watching for... more people going hungry and relying on aid to feed their families in the world’s wealthiest countries.

The United Kingdom offers a stark example, as Human Rights Watch has documented. Since cuts in public spending on welfare for the poorest families began in 2010, use of the country’s largest network of food banks—making up an estimated two-thirds of the country’s food aid distribution—has skyrocketed 50-fold, to 1.6 million three-day emergency packages handed out last year. Smaller independent food banks have gone from a handful countrywide a decade ago, to around 820 today.

Schools, kindergartens, community centers, local charities, and faith groups have stepped in to fill gaps resulting from a decade of cuts; today, many provide food to vulnerable families, often with working parents, even making sure children get one warm meal a day during school holidays....

...The UK is not alone. Germany’s Tafel network of around 940 food banks (or food tables), which opened in 1993 gave food to 1.65 million people last year; it has seen steady rises in demand over the past decade-and-a-half, with more and more women, children, and older people needing food aid.

In France, the Restos du Coeur (Restaurants of the Heart) network, gave out around 130 million meals in 2017-18, the last year for which they have figures, through their emergency food aid program. One-third of such aid was directed to single parent families, and there is increasing concern about older people left to rely on their aid. Analysts who have studied how food banks have become a feature of daily life over decades in the United States and Canada have warned that without a clear strategy to tackle hunger and improve social security, use of emergency food aid is likely to become normalized and permanent.

This hunger, so long a feature of poorer countries, risks becoming normalized in richer ones— eroding people’s faith in their democratic institutions, and the relatively resource-rich societies in which they live.”

<https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2020/country-chapters/global-4>

As Killer Robots Loom, Demands Grow to Keep Humans in Control of Use of Force

“In 2020, you should be watching for... growing international rejection of “killer robots”—weapons that would kill without meaningful human control—and increasing calls for a new treaty to preemptively ban them.

Allowing machines to select and target human prey without human intervention sounds like something out of an apocalyptic Sci-Fi movie. But in many respects, we’re teetering on the edge of this threshold: nations including China, Israel, South Korea, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States are already developing and deploying precursors to fully autonomous weapons, such as armed drones that are remotely-piloted by a human.

These countries are investing heavily in military applications of artificial intelligence (AI) with the goal of gaining a technological advantage in next-generation autonomy on the battlefield....

.... These are the same countries resisting demands from dozens of states for a new ban treaty to ensure meaningful human control over the use of force. They call efforts to regulate killer robots “premature” and reject concerns that such weapons will threaten the right to life and principles of human dignity, or that they would fail to meet international law standards, including rules of distinction, proportionality, and military necessity.

But change is on the way as momentum to regulate intensifies. Killer robots are now seen as one of the top existential threats faced by the planet. A growing number of states and some unlikely allies are now backing the drive for a new treaty to prohibit lethal autonomous weapons systems, which Nobel Peace laureates warn would cross “a moral and ethical Rubicon.”
<https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2020/country-chapters/global-0>

With Millions Out of School, the Countdown Begins to Get All Children into Quality, Accessible Education

“In 2020, you should be watching for... the clock ticking on the 10-year countdown to get all children into education, and to end restrictive, discriminatory government policies that keep millions out of class.

These policies are rarely seen as what they are: human rights abuses on a vast scale, which perpetuate inequality and discrimination, and deprive school children of education—a right fundamental to their development and ability to demand their rights.

There’s just a decade to go for governments to meet the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, with quality education for all, one of its main pillars. In 2019, more than 260 million children did not go to school, according to the United Nations, with conflict-affected areas particularly hard-hit: around 50 percent of out-of-school children of primary school age live in such areas, and 617 million youth worldwide lack basic mathematics and literacy skills....

True Education
Homeschooling
Program and
Tutoring
Generation 144k
144000teachers

Papal
Global Compact
on Education

.... Children with disabilities are frequently denied school, overlooked and uncounted. Girls are particularly vulnerable to dropping out due to sexual harassment, child marriage, and gender discrimination. Taliban acid attacks against girls who go to school aren’t even the tip of the iceberg.

Experts have warned about an education “crisis” for over a decade—with stalling quality and access to education, growing numbers of young people leaving schools without the skills they need, and large gaps in education funding.

But the leadership needed to resolve it is lacking. Human Rights Watch reported on governments’ responsibility for an “education deficit” back in 2005.”
<https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2020/country-chapters/global-3>

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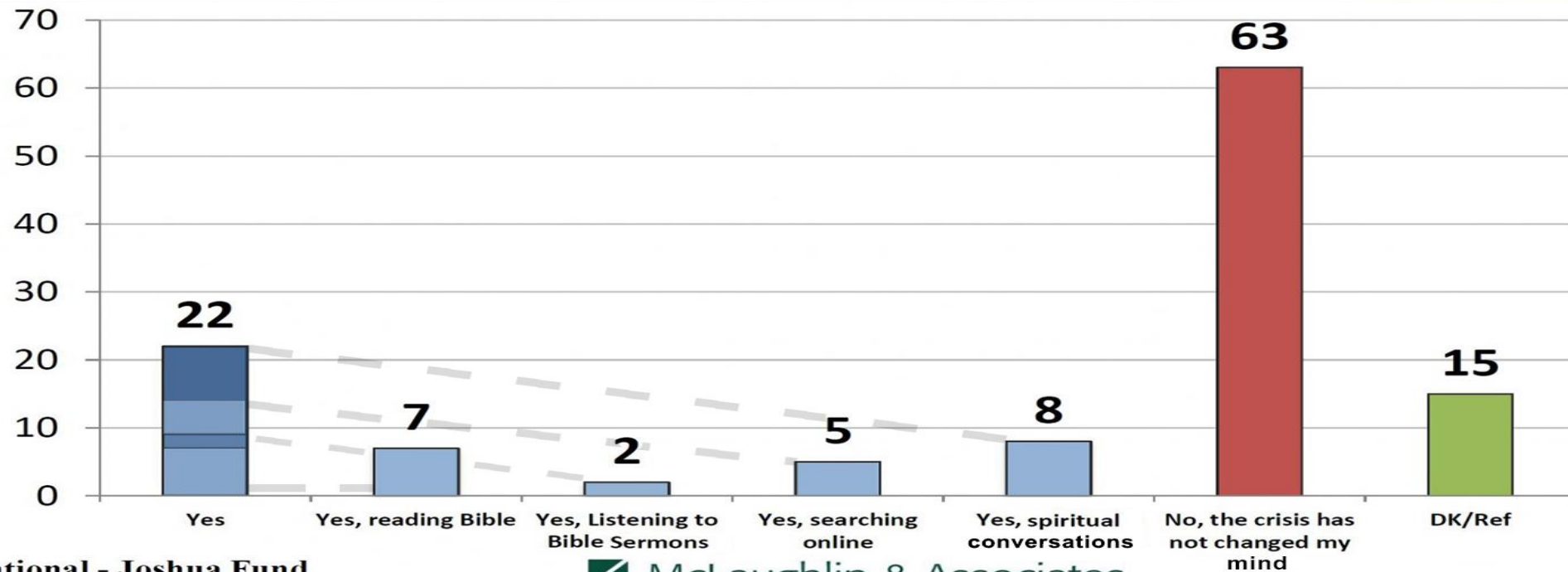
“And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven.” Luke 21:11.

“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.” Luke 21:26.

Non-Christian Respondents:

As a result of this unprecedented global coronavirus pandemic and economic chaos — and the fear and uncertainty that they have created — would you say you have more interest in God and spiritual matters:

- Yes, and I am reading the Bible more than ever before
- Yes, and I am now listening/watching Bible teaching and Christian sermons online since I cannot go to church
- Yes, and I am searching online to learn more about Bible prophecy and God's plan for the future of mankind
- Yes, and I am having more spiritual conversations with friends
- No, the crisis has not changed my level of interest God, the Bible or spiritual matters at all



National - Joshua Fund
March 2020

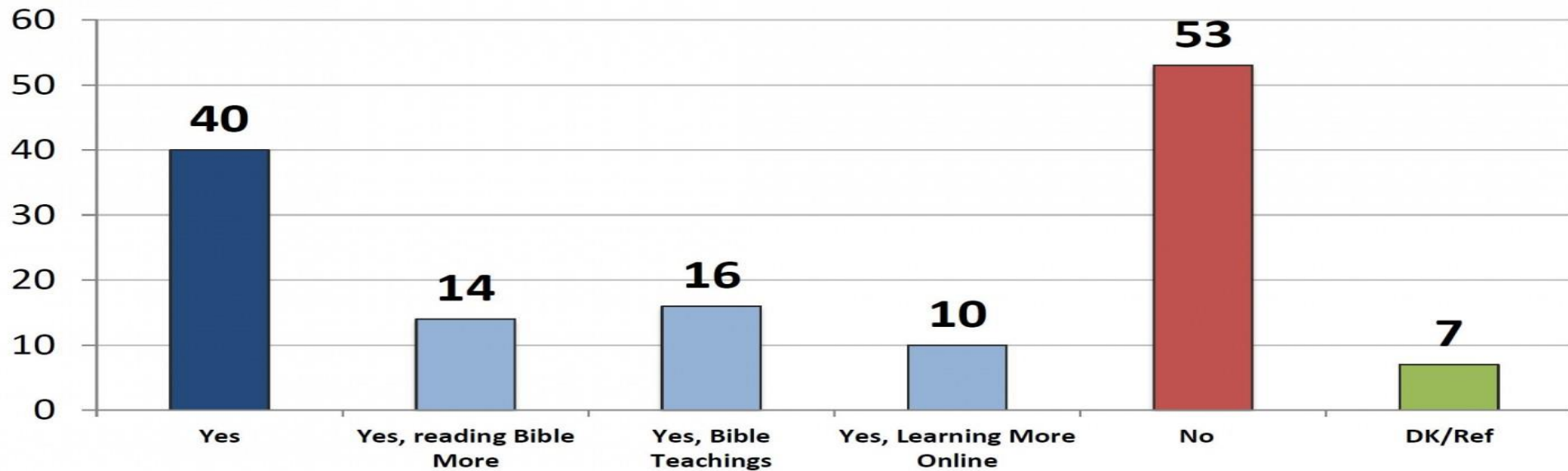
McLaughlin & Associates

“Fully one-in-five non-Christians (21.5%) polled said the crisis is causing them to start reading the Bible and listen to Bible teaching and Christian sermons online even though they usually don’t, search online to learn more about Bible prophecy and God’s plan for the future of mankind, and have more spiritual conversations with family and friends.” https://www.joshuafund.com/learn/news-article/coronavirus_pandemic_is_a_wake_up_call_exclusive_joshua_fund_poll

Christian Respondents:

As a result of this unprecedented global coronavirus pandemic and economic chaos — and the fear and uncertainty that they have created — would you say you have more interest in God and spiritual matters:

- Yes, and I am reading the Bible more than ever before
- Yes, and I am now listening/watching Bible teaching and Christian sermons online since I cannot go to church
- Yes, and I am searching online to learn more about Bible prophecy and God’s plan for the future of mankind
- No, the crisis has not changed my level of interest God, the Bible or spiritual matters at all



National - Joshua Fund
March 2020

McLaughlin & Associates

“Nearly three-in-ten Americans (29.4%) polled believe the coronavirus and economic meltdown are “signs that we are living in what the Bible calls the ‘last days.’” https://www.joshuafund.com/learn/news-article/coronavirus_pandemic_is_a_wake_up_call_exclusive_joshua_fund_poll

DK/Ref – Don’t know - Refused



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“Again and again the Lord has instructed that our people are to take their families away from the cities, into the country, where they can raise their own provisions, for in the future the problem of buying and selling will be a very serious one.

We should now begin to heed the instruction given us over and over again: Get out of the cities into rural districts, where the houses are not crowded closely together, and where you will be free from the interference of enemies.”
Selected Messages 2:141, 1904.

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“When the power invested in kings is allied to goodness, it is because the one in responsibility is under the divine dictation. When power is allied with wickedness, it is allied to satanic agencies, and it will work to destroy those who are the Lord’s property.

The Protestant world have set up an idol sabbath in the place where God’s Sabbath should be, and they are treading in the footsteps of the Papacy. For this reason I see the necessity of the people of God moving out of the cities into retired country [places], where they may cultivate the land and raise their own produce.

Thus they may bring their children up with simple, healthful habits. I see the necessity of making haste to get all things ready for the crisis.”
Letter 90, 1897.

Riots and Fires



“The time of trouble—trouble such as was not since there was a nation [Daniel 12:1]—is right upon us, and we are like the sleeping virgins. We are to awake and ask the Lord Jesus to place underneath us His everlasting arms, and carry us through the time of trial before us.”
Manuscript Releases 3:305, 1906.

“The world is becoming more and more lawless. Soon great trouble will arise among the nations—trouble that will not cease until Jesus comes.”
The Review and Herald, February 11, 1904.

“We are on the very verge of the time of trouble, and perplexities that are scarcely dreamed of are before us.”
Testimonies for the Church 9, 43, 1909.

“We are standing on the threshold of the crisis of the ages. In quick succession the judgments of God will follow one another—fire, and flood, and earthquake, with war and bloodshed.” Prophets and Kings, 278, 1914.

“There are stormy times before us, but let us not utter one word of unbelief or discouragement.”
Christian Service, 136, 1905.

Floods



Earthquakes



Wars

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“Let the watchmen now lift up their voice and give the message which is present truth for this time. Let us show the people where we are in prophetic history.”

Testimonies for the Church 5, 716, 1889.



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“Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine, thou art mine, I have called thee by thy name.

When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.”
Isaiah 43:1-2.