

coming. This does not mean the exact day nor the exact hour; but the events transpiring during specific times and seasons would enable them to see, as it is written: "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. For they that sleep, sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night."—1 Thess. 5:1-7.

It is equally certain that the clergy would not understand these times and seasons, because they form a part of Satan's organization, to wit, the ecclesiastical part. They love the plaudits and approval of men and give themselves titles, such as D. D. God foreknew and foretold through his prophet that they would thus do, and that they would be so concerned with these worldly things that they could not understand. (Isa. 56:10, 11) All along they have claimed that no one could understand about the presence of the Lord, because they claim that the Book is sealed. God foretold this very condition concerning them.—Isa. 29:10-14.

To understand the events concerning the Lord's second presence from 1874 to 1914 requires one to be spiritually minded; and the clergy are not spiritually minded.—1 Cor. 2:10-14.

The phrase "time of the end" of course does not mean "end of time", because time never ends. What then does it mean? For many long centuries Satan has been the god of this world. (2 Cor. 4:3, 4) He

*Rutherford, Creation, 1929*

The Israelites did the very thing that God commanded them that they should not do. They went a whoring after other gods. Therefore God permitted Babylon, Satan's organization, to administer to Israel a terrible punishment and to bring that people into subjection to Babylon, where they have been since. "For thus saith the Lord God, Behold, I will deliver thee into the hand of them whom thou hatest, into the hand of them from whom thy mind is alienated: and they shall deal with thee hatefully, and shall take away all thy labour, and shall leave thee naked and bare; and the nakedness of thy whoredoms shall be discovered, both thy lewdness and thy whoredoms. I will do these things unto thee, because thou hast gone a whoring after the heathen, and because thou art polluted with their idols. Thou hast walked in the way of thy sister; therefore will I give her cup into thine hand. Thus saith the Lord God, Thou shalt drink of thy sister's cup deep and large: thou shalt be laughed to scorn and had in derision; it containeth much. Thou shalt be filled with drunkenness and sorrow, with the cup of astonishment and desolation, with the cup of thy sister Samaria."—Ezek. 23: 28-33.

Therefore the prophet, speaking for Israel, says: "O God, thou hast cast us off, thou hast scattered us, thou hast been displeased; O turn thyself to us again. Thou hast shewed thy people hard things; thou hast made us to drink the wine of astonishment."—Ps. 60: 1, 3.

Babylon, therefore, was used as an instrument in the hand of the Lord to cause the Israelites to suffer great and severe punishment. Jehovah had punished that people, but they had not profited by that punishment, and then he turned the cup into the hand of

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