

Sunday Law is Here Now What?

Study Booklet



About this Booklet

At this time many people are discussing and prophesying that Sunday Law is imminent. If this is the case we should be prepared for what's ahead. The purpose of this booklet is to bring before the people important matters relating to how Sunday Law will unfold, what to expect, and most importantly how to behave during this time.

This booklet contains a non-comprehensive list of Ellen G. White quotes and references describing the coming Sunday Law curated and categorized by important questions with minimal additional author comments. This publication is **free to use, copy and distribute**. To report any errors please email: info@prophecy.space.

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Sunday Law is Here - Now What?

Is there a Sunday Law in the pipeline?

Yes

To Meet the Sunday-Law Movement—I do hope that the trumpet will give a certain sound in regard to **this Sunday-law movement....** CW 97.1

CW 97.1

We are not to locate ourselves where we will be forced into close relations with those who do not honor God.... **A crisis is soon to come in regard to the observance of Sunday....** CL 20.2

CL 20.2

There are many, even of those engaged in this movement for Sunday enforcement, who are blinded to the results which will follow this action. They do not see that they are striking directly against religious liberty. There are many who have never understood the claims of the Bible Sabbath and the false foundation upon which the Sunday institution rests.... LDE 126.1

LDE 126.1

Those who are making an effort to change the Constitution and secure **a law enforcing Sunday** observance little realize what will be the result. **A crisis is just upon us.**—Testimonies for the Church 5:711, 753 (1889). LDE 126.2

LDE 126.2

Making its way in darkness

The **Sunday movement is now making its way in darkness**. The leaders are concealing the true issue, and many who unite in the movement do not themselves see whither the undercurrent is tending.... They are working in blindness. They do not see that if a Protestant government sacrifices the principles that have made them a free, independent nation, and through legislation brings into the Constitution principles that will propagate papal falsehood and papal delusion, they are plunging into the Roman horrors of the Dark Ages.—The Review and Herald Extra, December 11, 1888. LDE 125.3

LDE 125.3

Must be wide awake

Satan, Lucifer, will work out his determined efforts **to bring in and exalt a Sunday law**, which he will in every way possible seek to establish. It is not enough that we avoid glaring dangers and perilous, inconsistent movements. **We are to be wide-awake**. Lucifer, who has entered largely into commercialism, will work on that line, for he lost his position in the heavenly courts and was expelled to our world. **Unless every church will receive the warning and be on guard, we shall imperil our souls** by departing from the simplicity of true godliness. Unnumbered deceptions will be clothed with the garments of truth; unless our ministers and our physicians and our teachers in every line arouse themselves, they will be overcome. Some who are not watching will be taken in the snare of Satan's devising. In the Garden of Gethsemane, the disciples were warned, "Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation." [Mark 14:38.] Now is our time

to watch unto prayer, lest we be found sleeping when we should be wide-awake. Ms133-1908.5

Ms133-1908.5

Yes, written in 1905-1909

Had tact and skill then been shown in the sale of these books, **the Sunday-law movement would not be where it is today.** — The Review and Herald, February 16, 1905. CEv 21.3

CEv 21.3

We should now be doing our very best to defeat this Sunday law. The best way to do this will be to lift up the law of God and make it stand forth in all its sacredness. This must be done if the truth triumphs. — Letter 58, 1906. CW 98.1

CW 98.1

These are principles that we should keep before the people in this our day. If we walk humbly with God, we shall have success with the people; but we must not dally too long, lest the enemy come in like a flood against us. **Already the forces of evil are at work in an effort to have enacted a Sunday law**, which would bring much hardship on some God-fearing people. Ms131-1907.51

Ms131-1907.51

Soon the Sunday laws will be enforced, and men in positions of trust will be embittered against the little handful of God's commandment-keeping people. — Manuscript Releases 4:278 (1909). LDE 129.1

LDE 129.1

We are nearing the close of this earth's history. There are some matters that will move very rapidly now. **Determined efforts are being made to put the Sunday law in operation, and we have not a very flattering prospect before us.** As a people, we must now be prepared in all our churches for the crisis. Lt372-1906.2

Lt372-1906.2

How will Sunday Laws be enacted?

As a result of calamities (climate change?)

Satan puts his interpretation upon events, and they think, as he would have them, that **the calamities which fill the land are a result of Sundaybreaking.** Thinking to appease the wrath of God these influential men make laws enforcing Sunday observance. —Manuscript Releases 10:239 (1899). LDE 129.4

LDE 129.4

Thinking to appease the wrath of God

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LDE 129.4

Old laws may be brought back

Our brethren Firth from Kellyville, who were arraigned for breaking the Sunday law, were today sentenced by the court either to pay the fine of five shillings, or to be placed in the stocks. **They brought an old law made in Charles the Second's time to bear upon this case** of Sunday breaking. Our brethren refused to pay the fine, and therefore will be put in the stocks. But as the people have been <[so]> well behaved in New South Wales, these instruments of torture have fallen into disuse, and there are no such instruments as stocks at the command of the prosecutors. The stocks will have to be made for the occasion to punish the heinous crime of working on the first day of the week. Lt79-1894.17

Lt79-1894.17

Progressively more oppressive

In the last conflict the Sabbath will be the special point of controversy throughout all Christendom. Secular rulers and religious leaders **will unite to enforce the observance of the Sunday; and as milder measures fail, the most oppressive laws will be enacted.** It will be urged that the few who stand in opposition to an institution of the church and a law of the land ought not to be tolerated.... Romanism in the Old World, and apostate Protestantism in the New, will pursue a similar course toward those who honor the divine precepts. Mar 188.3

Mar 188.3

Requested by the populace and legislators

Political corruption is destroying love of justice and regard for truth, and even in free America rulers and legislators, in order to secure public favor, **will yield to the popular demand for**

a law enforcing Sunday observance.—The Great Controversy, 578, 579, 592 (1911). LDE 129.3

LDE 129.3

To secure popularity and patronage, legislators will yield to the demand for a Sunday law. Those who fear God cannot accept an institution that violates a precept of the Decalogue. On this battlefield comes the last great conflict of the controversy between truth and error. And we are not left in doubt as to the issue. Now, as in the days of Mordecai, the Lord will vindicate His truth and His people. Testimonies for the Church 5:450, 451 CCh 335.1

CCh 335.1

Satan will excite indignation against the humble minority who conscientiously refuse to accept popular customs and traditions. Men of position and reputation will join with the lawless and the vile to take counsel against the people of God. **Wealth, genius, education, will combine to cover them with contempt. Persecuting rulers, ministers, and church members will conspire against them.** With voice and pen, by boasts, threats, and ridicule, they will seek to overthrow their faith. By false representations and angry appeals, **they will stir up the passions of the people.** Not having a “Thus saith the Scriptures” to bring against the advocates of the Bible Sabbath, they will resort to oppressive enactments to supply the lack. To secure popularity and patronage, **legislators will yield to the demand for a Sunday law....** On this battlefield comes the last great conflict of the controversy between truth and error.— Testimonies for the Church 5:450, 451. ChS 158.3

ChS 158.3

By voice and pen, boasts, threats, and ridicule, false representations and angry appeals

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ChS 158.3

Enacted by protestants in the USA

When our nation shall so abjure the principles of its government as to enact a Sunday law, Protestantism will in this act join hands with popery; it will be nothing else than giving life to the tyranny which has long been eagerly watching its opportunity to spring again into active despotism.—Testimonies for the Church 5:712. ChS 160.3

ChS 160.3

Will force labor on the Sabbath

At present Sunday-keeping is not the test. **The time will come when men will not only forbid Sunday work, but they will try to force men to labor on the Sabbath**, and to subscribe to Sunday observance or forfeit their freedom and their lives. But the time for this has not yet come, for the truth must be presented more fully before the people as a witness.... Mar 177.3

Mar 177.3

Should we do anything about Sunday Laws?

Must arouse from stupor, do our duty

We have been looking many years for a **Sunday law** to be enacted in our land; and now that the movement **is right upon us**, we ask, **Will our people do their duty in the matter?** Can we not assist in lifting the standard, and in calling to the front those who have a regard for their religious rights and privileges? The time is fast approaching when those who choose to obey God rather than man, will be made to feel the hand of oppression. **Shall we then dishonor God by keeping silent while His holy commandments are trodden under foot?** While the Protestant world is by her attitude making concessions to Rome, let us arouse to comprehend the situation, and view the contest before us in its true bearings. **Let the watchmen now lift up their voice, and give the message which is present truth for this time.** Let us show people where we are in prophetic history, and seek to arouse the spirit of true

Protestantism, awakening the world to a sense of the value of the privileges of religious liberty so long enjoyed. —

Testimonies for the Church 5:716. ChS 163.1 **The people of our land need to be aroused** to resist the advances of this most dangerous foe to civil and religious liberty. — The Spirit of Prophecy 4:382. ChS 163.2 **Shall we sit with folded hands, and do nothing in this crisis? ... God help us to arouse from the stupor that has hung over us for years.** —

The Review and Herald, December 18, 1888. ChS 163.3

ChS 163.1-3

We as a people have not accomplished the work which God has committed to us. **We are not ready for the issue to which the enforcement of the Sunday law will bring us. It is our duty, as we see the signs of approaching peril, to arouse to action. Let none sit in calm expectation of the evil, comforting themselves** with the belief that this work must go on because prophecy has foretold it, and that the Lord will shelter his people. We are not doing the will of God if we sit in quietude, doing nothing to preserve liberty of conscience. Fervent, effectual prayer should be ascending to heaven that this calamity may be deferred until we can accomplish the work which has so long been neglected. Let there be more earnest prayer; and then let us work in harmony with our prayers. — Testimonies for the Church 5:713, 714. ChS 162.1

ChS 162.1

It is our duty to do all in our power to avert the threatened danger.... A vast responsibility is devolving upon men and women of prayer throughout the land to petition that God may sweep back this cloud of evil, and give a few more years of grace to work for the Master. — The Review and Herald

Extra, December 11, 1888. LDE 126.3 Those who are now keeping the commandments of God need to bestir themselves that they may obtain the special help which God alone can give them. **They should work more earnestly to delay as long as possible the threatened calamity.** — The Review and Herald, December 18, 1888. LDE 126.4

LDE 126.3-4

Let not the commandment-keeping people of God be silent at this time as though we gracefully accepted the situation. — The S.D.A. Bible Commentary 7:975 (1889). LDE 127.1 We are not doing the will of God if we sit in quietude, doing nothing to preserve liberty of conscience. Fervent, effectual prayer should be ascending to heaven that this calamity may be deferred until we can accomplish the work which has so long been neglected. Let there be most earnest prayer and then let us work in harmony with our prayers. — Testimonies for the Church 5:714 (1889). LDE 127.2

LDE 127.1-2

Must be prepared in all our churches for the crisis

We are nearing the close of this earth's history. There are some matters that will move very rapidly now. Determined efforts are being made to put the Sunday law in operation, and we have not a very flattering prospect before us. **As a people, we must now be prepared in all our churches for the crisis.** Lt372-1906.2 A deep work needs to be done for those who believe the truth. The state of the heart should be carefully criticized. Those who have had light and evidence are to awaken to a realization of the times in which we live. Lt372-1906.3

Lt372-1906.2-3

Must be vigorously met with truth through every effort

The effort that is being made to press through the **Sunday law should be vigorously met; for we are not ready for that issue.** The crisis is right upon us, and soon **the last issue will have to be met.** Every talent held in trust by God's people should now be employed to advocate the truth as it is in Jesus, to cause it to stand before the world in clear lines.

Lt72-1906.6

Lt72-1906.6

You inquire in regard to the course which should be pursued to secure the rights of our people to worship according to the dictates of our own conscience. This has been a burden on my soul for some time, whether it would be a denial of our faith, and an evidence that our trust was not fully in God. But I call to mind many things God has shown me in the past in regard to things of a similar character, as the draft [during the American Civil War] and other things. **I can speak in the fear of God, it is right we should use every power we can to avert pressure that is being brought to bear upon our people....** 3SM 384.1

3SM 384.1

Reorganise publishing

There were several discussions concerning a missionary boat for the South Pacific. The question of racial color line was introduced, but when it was found that the work of the church in the Southern States could be carried on discreetly without pressing this matter, it was dropped without official record or action. **The Sunday law issue, now becoming prominent because of the Blair Sunday bill,** [For many

years sunday legislation had been on the statute books of several states. Early in 1888, senator H. W. Blair, of New Hampshire, introduced into the united states congress a bill that, if passed, would have enforced in all federal territories the observance of sunday as a day of worship. An amendment to the constitution to that effect had also been proposed. For several years national sunday legislation threatened religious freedom in the United States.] was discussed. Plans were laid for a mass move in securing signatures opposing such legislation by the Congress of the United States. The Foreign Mission Board was pulled together into a **stronger organization**, and W. C. White was continued as secretary. **Careful study was given to the literature program of the church, both production and distribution, and a book committee was created to give guidance in the choice of materials to be processed in the church's publishing houses.** 3BIO 376.4

3BIO 376.4

Preach Sabbath directly from the word of God

We are to meet this issue, by preaching the Word of the living God. The Word is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword. **As we present the Sabbath truth direct from the Word of God**, tracing it through from Creation to the New Earth, the testimony of the living God, as recorded in His Word, will have a powerful effect on those who hear. Our strength in meeting the **Sunday-law issue** is to be found in bringing to the attention of the people a plain “Thus saith the Lord.” Ms131-1907.52

Ms131-1907.52

Monitor legislature closely

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Petitions & activism

J. O. Corliss: I ought to explain a little further. I talked about it down at the conference, and I did not get any direct opposition to my ideas, although there were some who did

not know what was best, from what they said. My idea was this, that for this year, inasmuch as the legislature does not meet again for two years, **that this year we could get up some sort of a petition, petitioning the next legislature to pass laws forbidding the sale of liquors in the state.** We could get 200,000 or 250,000 names, and it would perhaps show to Californians that we were in favor of temperance. It would place us where that stigma would be taken away; and also it would educate the people on the line of prohibition or temperance. Then after that, we could go next year, before the legislature met, **with our Sunday law petitions,** and we could get more people to sign it than we could without that. That was my idea. Ms70-1910.31

Ms70-1910.31

Plead earnestly before legislative councils and in courts

If ever we needed to manifest kindness and true courtesy, it is now. **We may have to plead most earnestly before legislative councils for the right to worship God according to the dictates of conscience.** Thus in His providence God has designed that the claims of His law shall be brought before men in positions of highest authority. But as we stand before these men, we are to show no bitterness of feeling. Constantly we are to pray for divine aid. It is God alone who can hold the four winds until His servants shall be sealed in their foreheads.—The Review and Herald, February 11, 1904. 2SM 375.3

2SM 375.3

Don't vote for those who exalt and support Sunday

Voting for those who support Sunday is acting with them -
We cannot labor to please men who will use their influence to repress religious liberty and to set in operation oppressive measures to lead or compel their fellow men to keep Sunday as the Sabbath. The first day of the week is not a day to be revered. It is a spurious sabbath, and the **members of the Lord's family cannot participate with the men who exalt this day and violate the law of God** by trampling upon His Sabbath. **The people of God are not to vote to place such men in office**, for when they do this they are partakers with them of the sins which they commit while in office. — Fundamentals of Christian Education, 475 (1899). LDE 127.5

LDE 127.5

Who will be affected by Sunday Laws?

Whole world

The Sabbath question is to be the issue in the great final conflict in which **all the world will act a part**. — Testimonies for the Church 6:352 (1900). LDE 135.2

LDE 135.2

The wicked ... declared that they had the truth, that miracles were among them, that angels from heaven talked with them and walked with them, that great power and signs and wonders were performed among them, and that this was the temporal millennium that they had been expecting so long. **The whole world was converted and in harmony with the Sunday law**. — Selected Messages 3:427, 428 (1884). LDE 136.1

LDE 136.1

Whole world stirred against Seventh Day Adventists

The whole world is to be stirred with enmity against Seventh-day Adventists because they will not yield homage to the papacy by honoring Sunday, the institution of this antichristian power.—Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, 37 (1893). LDE 136.2 Those who trample upon God's law make human laws which they will force the people to accept. Men will devise and counsel and plan what they will do. The whole world keeps Sunday, they say, and why should not this people, who are so few in number, do according to the laws of the land?—Manuscript 163, 1897. LDE 136.3

LDE 136.2-3

When will Sunday Laws be enacted?

Last act in the drama

The substitution of the laws of men for the law of God, the exaltation, by merely human authority, of **Sunday in place of the Bible Sabbath, is the last act in the drama**. When this substitution becomes universal God will reveal Himself. He will arise in His majesty to shake terribly the earth.—Testimonies for the Church 7:141 (1902). LDE 135.5

LDE 135.5

Never did this message apply with greater force than it applies today. More and more the world is setting at nought the claims of God. Men have become bold in transgression.

The wickedness of the inhabitants of the world has almost filled up the measure of their iniquity. This earth has almost reached the place where God will permit the destroyer to work his will upon it. The substitution of the laws of men for the law of God, the exaltation, by merely human authority, of **Sunday in place of the Bible Sabbath, is the last act in the drama.** When this substitution becomes universal, God will reveal Himself. He will arise in His majesty to shake terribly the earth. He will come out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the world for their iniquity, and the earth shall disclose her blood and shall no more cover her slain. 7T 141.1

7T 141.1

Last great conflict between truth and error

Satan will excite indignation against the humble minority who conscientiously refuse to accept popular customs and traditions. Men of position and reputation will join with the lawless and the vile to take counsel against the people of God. Wealth, genius, education, will combine to cover them with contempt. Persecuting rulers, ministers, and church members will conspire against them. With voice and pen, by boasts, threats, and ridicule, they will seek to overthrow their faith. By false representations and angry appeals, they will stir up the passions of the people. Not having a “Thus saith the Scriptures” to bring against the advocates of the Bible Sabbath, they will resort to oppressive enactments to supply the lack. To secure popularity and patronage, legislators will yield to the demand for a **Sunday law.... On this battlefield comes the last great conflict of the controversy between**

truth and error.—Testimonies for the Church 5:450, 451.
ChS 158.3

ChS 158.3

How to behave during Sunday Laws? What to do on Sundays?

When the practices of the people do not come in conflict with the law of God, you may conform to them. If the workers fail to do this, they will not only hinder their own work, but they will place stumbling blocks in the way of those for whom they labor, and hinder them from accepting the truth. On Sunday there is the very best opportunity for those who are missionaries to **hold Sunday schools**, and come to the people in the simplest manner possible, telling them of the love of Jesus for sinners, and educating them in the Scriptures.... Mar 177.2 **Refraining from work on Sunday is not receiving the mark of the beast**; and where this will advance the interests of the work, it should be done. **We should not go out of our way to work on Sunday**.... Mar 177.5 may have to flee cities - When those who hear and see the light on the Sabbath take their stand upon the truth to keep God's holy day, difficulties will arise; for efforts will be brought to bear against them to compel men and women to transgress the law of God. Here they must stand firm, that they will not violate the law of God; and **if the opposition and persecution are determinedly kept up, let them heed the words of Christ: "When they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another.** Mar 177.6

Mar 177.6

What shall we do, says one, when the Sunday law is passed? Why, said I, **devote that day to God**. Take your students and go right into the bush, as they call it, **go right into the woods, and from house to house carry your Bible**, and there teach them the way of life. Kneel down and pray. Ask them to come to Jesus. Teach them the way. Then say to them, just as Christ has said, “Come unto Me, all ye that are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” [Matthew 11:28.] “Now,” said I, **“you teach them every Sunday; teach them on the Sabbath, of course, but every Sunday donate to God, and teach them how they can find the way to heaven.”** Ms153-1904.30

Ms153-1904.30

When the Sunday question is legislated to become a law, there will not be so great a danger of taking steps that are not of a character to receive the sanction of Heaven ... **for the reason that the Lord gives light and knowledge just when it is most needed....** 3SM 394.3

3SM 394.3

While all Sabbathkeepers are anxious and troubled, seeking to penetrate the mysteries of the future, and to learn all they can in regard to the correct position they shall take, **be careful that they are advised correctly in regard to Sunday observance.... There will ever be danger of going to extremes....** 3SM 394.4

3SM 394.4

Do missionary work house to house

When we **devote Sunday to missionary work**, the whip will be taken out of the hands of the arbitrary zealots who would

be well pleased to humiliate Seventh-day Adventists.... Mar 178.3 dont pay homage - The law for the observance of the first day of the week is the production of an apostate Christendom. Sunday is a child of the Papacy, exalted by the Christian world above the sacred day of God's rest. In no case are God's people to pay it homage. But I wish them to understand that they are not doing God's will by braving opposition when He wishes them to avoid it. Mar 178.5

Mar 178.5

And then they asked us, What will you do now when the Sunday law is carried into execution? Said I, I have got that all mapped out in my mind what I will do, and **what I will advise you to do. Make Sunday a missionary day.** Go right out **from house to house and carry the publications**, not the trash of the world, but carry the publications that will teach them how to obtain eternal life. You are giving them in thus doing an opportunity to read and to inform themselves. Ms193-1905.14

Ms193-1905.14

The light given me by the Lord at a time when we were expecting just such a crisis as you seem to be approaching, was that **when people were moved by a power from beneath to enforce Sunday observance, Seventh-day Adventists were to show their wisdom by refraining from their ordinary work on that day, devoting it to missionary effort.** LDE 139.5

LDE 139.5

Do medical missionary work

Take the students out to hold meetings in different places, and to **do medical missionary work.** They will find the

people at home and will have a splendid opportunity to present the truth. **This way of spending Sunday is always acceptable to the Lord.**—Testimonies for the Church 9:238 (1909). LDE 140.3

LDE 140.3

We must try to remove their prejudice against the Bible Sabbath. And never must we say to them, “You must work on Sunday.” At one time, while I was in Australia, those in charge of our school at Avondale came to me, saying: “What shall we do? The officers of the law have been commissioned to arrest those working on Sunday.” I said: “It will be very easy to avoid that difficulty. **Give Sunday to the Lord as a day for doing missionary work.** Take the students out to hold meetings in different places, and to **do medical missionary work.** They will find the people at home, and will have a splendid opportunity to present the truth. This way of spending Sunday is always acceptable to the Lord.” 1888 1799.7

1888 1799.7

Do hold meetings, write articles

Sunday can be used for carrying forward various lines of work that will accomplish much for the Lord. On this day **open-air meetings and cottage meetings can be held.** House-to-house work can be done. **Those who write can devote this day to writing their articles.** Whenever it is possible, let religious services be held on Sunday. Make these meetings intensely interesting. Sing genuine revival hymns, and speak with power and assurance of the Saviour's love. Speak on temperance and on true religious experience. —Testimonies for the Church 9:233. ChS 164.2

ChS 164.2

Do hold religious services

Sunday can be used for carrying forward various lines of work that will accomplish much for the Lord. **On this day open-air meetings and cottage meetings can be held.** House-to-house work can be done. Those who write can devote this day to writing their articles. **Whenever it is possible, let religious services be held on Sunday.** Make these meetings intensely interesting. **Sing genuine revival hymns, and speak with power and assurance of the Saviour's love. Speak on temperance and on true religious experience.**—Testimonies for the Church 9:233.
ChS 164.2

ChS 164.2

Do testify by laying aside own will for Gods

Wonderful scenes are opening before us; and at this time a living testimony is to be borne in the lives of God's professed people, so that the world may see that in this age, when evil reigns on every side, **there is yet a people who are laying aside their will and are seeking to do God's will**—a people in whose hearts and lives God's law is written. Mar 178.6

Mar 178.6

Do make friends with officers, gifts, acts of kindness

In Australia the news came that a Sunday law was going to be enforced, and nobody was to work. Well, **we were very careful to get on the right side of the officers,** and when we had our fruit orchard, **we would get some of the fruit,**

and we would take it to those who were in the legislature, and we would distribute these all around. Every time we would get on the cars we would say, “O what a feast we had on what you sent us!” Then our people said, “What are we going to do, if these should come with the **Sunday law** and close up our work?” “Well, it is not here yet,” we said, “and while it is not here, for Christ’s sake, go to work, and do everything that you can.” “But these officers, they ride around here every day.” “Yes,” said I, “but they do not see you. We have tried to make friends with them, and they do not see that you are working, they do not make any report.

Ms165-1904.21

Ms165-1904.21

Do leave large cities preparatory to leaving smaller ones

The time is not far distant, when, like the early disciples, we shall be forced to seek a refuge in desolate and solitary places. As the siege of Jerusalem by the Roman armies was the signal for flight to the Judean Christians, so the assumption of power on the part of our nation [the United States] in the **decree enforcing the papal sabbath** will be a warning to us. **It will then be time to leave the large cities, preparatory to leaving the smaller ones for retired homes in secluded places among the mountains.** Mar 180.2

Mar 180.2

Do pay fines to avoid further troubles

Men are inspired by Satan to execute his purposes against God. The Lord has said, “Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations” (Exodus 31:13). None should disobey this

command in order to escape persecution. But let all consider the words of Christ, “When they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another” (Matthew 10:23). If it can be avoided, do not put yourselves into the power of men who are worked by the spirit of Antichrist. **If the payment of a fine will deliver our brethren from the hands of these oppressors, let it be paid**, rather than to be pressed and made to work on the Sabbath. **Everything that we can do should be done that those who are willing to suffer for the truth's sake may be saved from oppression and cruelty....** 3SM 400.2

3SM 400.2

Don't be neutral

Anything we may do that lifts up the spurious to take the place of the true and genuine Sabbath, is disloyal to God, and we must move very carefully, lest we exalt the decisions of the man of sin. **We are not to be found in a neutral position on this matter of so great consequence....** 3SM 397.3

3SM 397.3

Don't reverence Sunday

We must take a firm stand that we will not reverence the first day of the week as the Sabbath, for it is not the day that was blessed and sanctified by Jehovah, and in reverencing Sunday we should place ourselves on the side of the great deceiver LDE 133.2

LDE 133.2

All who will exalt and worship the idol Sabbath, a day that God has not blessed, **help the devil** and his angels with all

the power of their God-given ability, which they have perverted to a wrong use. Inspired by another spirit which blinds their discernment, they cannot see that the **exaltation of Sunday observance is entirely the institution of the Catholic church....** 8MR 344.2

8MR 344.2

Don't observe false Sabbath if you understand the truth

Reception of Mark of the Beast Future—The change of the Sabbath is the sign or mark of the authority of the Romish church. **Those who, understanding the claims of the fourth commandment, choose to observe the false sabbath in the place of the true, are thereby paying homage to that power by which alone it is commanded. The mark of the beast is the papal sabbath,** which has been accepted by the world in the place of the day of God's appointment. Ev 234.1

Ev 234.1

Don't brave opposition if not Gods will

When we devote Sunday to missionary work, the whip will be taken out of the hands of the arbitrary zealots who would be well pleased to humiliate Seventh-day Adventists.... Mar 178.3 dont pay homage - The law for the observance of the first day of the week is the production of an apostate Christendom. Sunday is a child of the Papacy, exalted by the Christian world above the sacred day of God's rest. In no case are God's people to pay it homage. **But I wish them to understand that they are not doing God's will by braving opposition when He wishes them to avoid it.** Mar 178.5

Mar 178.5

Don't do any unnecessary, rash, presumptuous, rebellious, boastful act or speech to arouse opponents or government

If we counsel them not to respect the idol sabbath exalted to take the place of the Sabbath of the Lord our God, then instruct them in this matter in a quiet way and **encourage no defying of the law powers in words or actions** unless called to do this for the honor of God to vindicate his downtrodden law. **Let there be no unnecessary act of arousing the combative spirit or passions of opponents....**
3SM 395.1

3SM 395.1

nothing rash or presumptuous - **There should be no noisy demonstration.** Let us consider how fearful and terribly sad is the delusion that has taken the world captive and by every means in our power seek to enlighten those who are our bitterest enemies. If there is the acceptance of the principles of the inworking of the Holy Ghost which he [the Christian] must have to fit him for heaven, **he will do nothing rashly or presumptuously** to create wrath and blasphemy against God.... 3SM 395.3

3SM 395.3

Let not anyone make any proud boast, either by precept or example, to show that he is defying the laws of the land. Make no resolutions as to what persons in different states may do, or may not do. Let nothing be done to lessen individual responsibility. To their God they must stand or fall. Let none feel it is his duty to make speeches in the presence of our own people, or of our enemies, **that will arouse their combativeness, and they take your words and construe**

them in such a way that you are charged with being rebellious to the government, for this will close the door of access to the people.... 3SM 396.4 While we cannot bow to an arbitrary power to lift up the Sunday by bowing to it, while we will not violate the Sabbath, which a despotic power will seek to compel us to do, we will be wise in Christ.... We must say no words, that will do ourselves harm, for this would be bad enough, but when you speak words, and when you do presumptuous things that imperil the cause of God, you are doing a cruel work, for you give Satan advantage. **We are not to be rash and impetuous, but always learning of Jesus**, how to act in His spirit, presenting the truth as it is in Jesus.... 3SM 396.5 **One indiscreet, high-tempered, stubborn-willed man will, in the great question introduced before us, do much harm. Yes, he will leave such an impression that all the force of Seventh-day Adventists could not counteract his acts of presumption** because Satan, the arch deceiver, the great rebel, is deluding minds to the true issue of the great question, and its eternal bearing.... 3SM 397.1

3SM 396.4-397.1

Don't continue labour or ordinary work if offensive

In regard to the Southern field, [Sunday-law enforcement was especially severe in the southern states in the United States in the 1880s and 1890s. See American State Papers (The Review and Herald, 1943, 517-562).] the work there must be done as wisely and carefully as possible, and it must be done in the manner in which Christ would work. The people will soon find out what you believe about Sunday and the Sabbath for they will ask questions. Then you can tell them,

but not in such a manner as to attract attention to your work. **You need not cut short your work by yourself laboring on Sunday....** LDE 138.4

LDE 138.4

Refraining from work on Sunday is not receiving the mark of the beast.... In places where the opposition is so strong as to arouse persecution, if work is done on Sunday, let our brethren make that day an occasion to do genuine missionary work. —The Southern Work, 69, 70 (1895). LDE 139.1

LDE 139.1

If they should come here and say **“You must close up your work and your presses on Sunday,”** I would not say to you, ... **“Keep your presses going,”** because the conflict does not come between you and your God. —Manuscript 163, 1898. LDE 139.2

LDE 139.2

We should not feel it enjoined upon us to irritate our neighbors who idolize Sunday by making determined efforts to bring labor on that day before them purposely to exhibit an independence. Our sisters **need not select Sunday as the day to exhibit their washing.** —Selected Messages 3:399 (1889). LDE 139.3

LDE 139.3

The light given me by the Lord at a time when we were expecting just such a crisis as you seem to be approaching, was that when people were moved by a power from beneath to enforce Sunday observance, **Seventh-day Adventists were to show their wisdom by refraining from their ordinary work on that day, devoting it to missionary effort.** LDE 139.5

Don't provoke those accepting false Sabbath

[We are] not to provoke those who have accepted the spurious sabbath, an institution of the Papacy, in the place of God's holy Sabbath. Their not having the Bible arguments in their favor makes them all the more angry and determined to supply the place of arguments that are wanting in the Word of God by the power of their might. The force of persecution follows the steps of the dragon. **Therefore great care should be exercised to give no provocation.** And again, let us as a people, as far as possible, cleanse the camp of moral defilement and aggravating sins.... 3SM 384.2

3SM 384.2

Don't condemn those who take a firm stand for true Sabbath

Christ is our example. The determination of Antichrist to carry out the rebellion he began in heaven will continue to work on the children of disobedience. Their envy and hatred against those who obey the fourth commandment will wax more and more bitter. But the people of God are not to hide their banner. They are not to ignore the commandments of God, and in order to have an easy time go with the multitude to do evil. **They should be careful not to condemn their brethren in the faith who are steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord**.... 3SM 401.1

3SM 401.1

Don't do anything in defiant spirit

We are to fix the eye of faith steadfastly upon Jesus. When the days come, as they surely will, in which the law of God is made void, the zeal of the true and loyal should rise with the emergency, and should be the more warm and decided, and their testimony should be the more positive and unflinching. **But we are to do nothing in a defiant spirit,** and we shall not, if our hearts are fully surrendered to God.... 3SM 405.1

3SM 405.1

If we counsel them not to respect the **idol sabbath** exalted to take the place of the Sabbath of the Lord our God, then instruct them in this matter in a quiet way **and encourage no defying of the law powers in words or actions** unless called to do this for the honor of God to vindicate his downtrodden law. Let there be **no unnecessary act of arousing the combative spirit or passions of opponents....** 3SM 395.1

3SM 395.1

Let not anyone make any proud boast, either by precept or example, to show that he is defying the laws of the land. Make no resolutions as to what persons in different states may do, or may not do. Let nothing be done to lessen individual responsibility. To their God they must stand or fall. **Let none feel it is his duty to make speeches in the presence of our own people, or of our enemies, that will arouse their combativeness, and they take your words and construe them in such a way that you are charged with being rebellious to the government,** for this will close the door of access to the people.... 3SM 396.4 While we cannot bow to an arbitrary power to lift up the Sunday by bowing to it, while we will not violate the Sabbath, which a despotic power will seek to compel us to do, we will be wise

in Christ.... We must say no words, that will do ourselves harm, for this would be bad enough, but when you speak words, and when you do presumptuous things that imperil the cause of God, you are doing a cruel work, for you give Satan advantage. **We are not to be rash and impetuous, but always learning of Jesus**, how to act in His spirit, presenting the truth as it is in Jesus.... 3SM 396.5 **One indiscreet, high-tempered, stubborn-willed man will, in the great question introduced before us, do much harm. Yes, he will leave such an impression that all the force of Seventh-day Adventists could not counteract his acts of presumption because Satan, the arch deceiver, the great rebel, is deluding minds to the true issue of the great question, and its eternal bearing.... 3SM 397.1**

3SM 396.4-397.1

Don't join in union with opposers of the Sabbath

John's prophetic eye sees a company who have not the mark of the beast. As he beholds them, he exclaims, "Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." [Verse 12.]

Two parties are brought into view: one keeping the commandments of God, in distinction from the one breaking His commandments, enforcing the Sunday sabbath, and compelling the people to conform to the Sunday law.

Through union with opposers of the Sabbath of the fourth commandment—the seventh day Sabbath—men will receive the mark of the beast. And all who have that mark will perish with the man of sin, who makes void the law of God. Lt118-1900.11

Lt118-1900.11

Don't tell others they must work on Sunday

We must try to remove their prejudice against the Bible Sabbath. **And never must we say to them, “You must work on Sunday.”** At one time, while I was in Australia, those in charge of our school at Avondale came to me, saying: “What shall we do? The officers of the law have been commissioned to arrest those working on Sunday.” I said: “It will be very easy to avoid that difficulty. Give Sunday to the Lord as a day for doing missionary work. Take the students out to hold meetings in different places, and to do medical missionary work. They will find the people at home, and will have a splendid opportunity to present the truth. This way of spending Sunday is always acceptable to the Lord.” 1888 1799.7

1888 1799.7

What will it be like during Sunday Laws?

Fierce temptations

In this time of persecution the faith of the Lord's servants will be tried. They have faithfully given the warning, looking to God and to His word alone. God's Spirit, moving upon their hearts, has constrained them to speak.... Yet when **the storm of opposition and reproach bursts upon them**, some, overwhelmed with consternation, will be ready to exclaim: “Had we foreseen the consequences of our words, we would have held our peace.” **They are hedged in with difficulties. Satan assails them with fierce temptations.** The work

which they have undertaken seems far beyond their ability to accomplish. They are threatened with destruction. The enthusiasm which animated them is gone; yet they cannot turn back. Then, feeling their utter helplessness, they flee to the Mighty One for strength. Mar 186.4

Mar 186.4

Like siege of Jerusalem

The time is not far distant, when, like the early disciples, we shall be forced to seek a refuge in desolate and solitary places. **As the siege of Jerusalem by the Roman armies was the signal for flight to the Judean Christians, so the assumption of power on the part of our nation [the United States] in the decree enforcing the papal sabbath will be a warning to us.** It will then be time to leave the large cities, preparatory to leaving the smaller ones for retired homes in secluded places among the mountains. Mar 180.2

Mar 180.2

Satan will distract with division and false theories

Satans diverting strategy to distract from Sunday Laws

Here we see some of the fine points in the matter. In this statement she refers to the enemy; it is very clear that she considered what was taking place as a phase of the struggle between the forces of righteousness and the forces of the enemy. She had been forewarned: "I had presented before me in Europe chapters in the future experience of our people which are being fulfilled during this meeting. The reason given me was want of Bible piety and of the spirit and mind of Christ. The enemy has been placing his mold on the work for years, for it certainly is not the divine mold." — Manuscript

21, 1888. 3BIO 401.4 Now, as she wrote of the 1888 session, **she was particularly concerned that Seventh-day Adventist workers be alert to the perils of the threatening Sunday law issue, and recognize the relative insignificance of the topics being debated.** She drew the curtain aside: 3BIO 401.5 Now, **Satan had a council as to how he should keep pen and voice of Seventh-day Adventists silent. If he could only engage their attention and divert their powers in a direction to weaken and divide them his prospect would be fair.** 3BIO 402.1 Satan has done his work with some success. **There has been variance of feelings, and division. There has been much jealousy and evil surmising. There have been many unsanctified speeches, hints, and remarks.** The minds of the men who should be heart and soul at work, prepared to do mighty strokes for God, **at this very time are absorbed in matters of little consequence. Because the ideas of some are not exactly in accordance with their own on every point of doctrine involving minor ideas and theories which are not vital questions, the great question of the nation's religious liberty, now involving so much, is to many a matter of little consequence.** Satan has been having things his own way.—Manuscript 24, 1888 (see also *Ibid.*, 3:167). (Italics supplied.) 3BIO 402.2

3BIO 401.4-402.2

Two points stand out in the statements she made at the conference: (1) **the proper handling of truth will not lead to sharp divisions—its integrity can be judged by its peaceable fruits;** (2) **the fact that some error of minor consequence may be linked with vital truth does not cancel out the truth.** Waggoner could be stressing vital truths and doing so in a telling way, and **at the same time**

hold some views unacceptable on minor points. In her addresses she had little to say about righteousness by faith per se, but she emphasized the **importance of tolerance and of unity among brethren**, and the manifestation of a Christian attitude. She commented: 3BIO 402.6 **There are some differences of views on some subjects, but is this a reason for sharp, hard feelings? Shall envy and evil surmisings and imaginings, evil suspicion, hatred, and jealousies become enthroned in the heart? All these things are evil and only evil.** Our help is in God alone. Let us spend much time in prayer and in searching the Scriptures with a right spirit, **anxious to learn and willing to be corrected or undeceived on any point where we may be in error.** If Jesus is in our midst and our hearts are melted into tenderness by His love we shall have one of the best conferences we have ever attended.—Ibid. (see also Ibid., 3:166). 3BIO 403.1

3BIO 402.6-403.1

Affection alienated, children disinherited, prison, slaves

Conscientious obedience to the word of God will be treated as rebellion. Blinded by Satan, the **parent will exercise harshness and severity toward the believing child; the master or mistress will oppress the commandment-keeping servant. Affection will be alienated; children will be disinherited and driven from home.** The words of Paul will be literally fulfilled: “All that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.” 2 Timothy 3:12. **As the defenders of truth refuse to honor the Sunday-sabbath, some of them will be thrust into prison, some will be exiled, some will be treated as slaves.... Mar 186.3**

Mar 186.3

Buying and selling forbidden for those who keep true Sabbath, and don't observe Sunday

The time of trouble is about to come upon the people of God. **Then it is that the decree will go forth forbidding those who keep the Sabbath of the Lord to buy or sell**, and threatening them with punishment, and even death, if they do not observe the first day of the week as the Sabbath.—In Heavenly Places, 344 (1908). LDE 257.4

LDE 257.4

What will be the result of Sunday worship?

Man of sin and his final work revealed

When the land which the Lord provided as an asylum for His people, that they might worship Him according to the dictates of their own consciences, the land over which for long years the shield of Omnipotence has been spread, the land which God has favored by making it the depository of the pure religion of Christ—**when that land shall, through its legislators, abjure the principles of Protestantism, and give countenance to Romish apostasy in tampering with God's law—it is then that the final work of the man of sin will be revealed.** Protestants will throw their whole influence and strength on the side of the Papacy; by a national act enforcing the false sabbath, they will give life and vigor to the corrupt faith of Rome, reviving her tyranny and oppression of conscience. Then it will be time for God to work in mighty power for the vindication of His truth. Mar 179.3

Mar 179.3

Law of God made void

Laws enforcing the observance of Sunday as the Sabbath will bring about a national apostasy from the principles of republicanism upon which the government has been founded. The religion of the papacy will be accepted by the rulers, and **the law of God will be made void.**—Manuscript Releases 7:192 (1906). LDE 132.1

LDE 132.1

Reaching full measure of guilt and national apostasy

The people of the United States have been a favored people, but **when they restrict religious liberty**, surrender Protestantism, and give countenance to popery, **the measure of their guilt will be full, and “national apostasy” will be registered in the books of heaven.**—The Review and Herald, May 2, 1893. LDE 133.4

LDE 133.4

Laws enforcing the observance of Sunday as the Sabbath will bring about a national apostasy from the principles of republicanism upon which the government has been founded. The religion of the papacy will be accepted by the rulers, and the law of God will be made void.—Manuscript Releases 7:192 (1906). LDE 132.1

LDE 132.1

Sabbath keepers denounced as enemies of law and order

Those who honor the Bible Sabbath will be denounced as enemies of law and order, as breaking down the moral

restraints of society, causing anarchy and corruption, and calling down the judgments of God upon the earth. Their conscientious scruples will be pronounced obstinacy, stubbornness, and contempt of authority. They will be accused of disaffection toward the government. Ministers who deny the obligation of the divine law will present from the pulpit the duty of yielding obedience to the civil authorities as ordained of God. **In legislative halls and courts of justice, commandment keepers will be misrepresented and condemned. A false coloring will be given to their words; the worst construction will be put upon their motives.** HB 345.3

HB 345.3

Punishment

Here the Word of God plainly specifies the day that should be kept holy, the seventh day; and yet we see a work being carried on by ministers, physicians, lawyers, and rulers that will **result in the enforcing of a Sunday law. Will not God punish for this rebellion? He will surely punish,** as is represented in the words that I have copied. Lt254-1908.15

Lt254-1908.15

God will reveal Himself

When substitution universal, God will reveal himself The substitution of the false for the true is the last act in the drama. When this substitution becomes universal God will reveal Himself. When the laws of men are exalted above the laws of God, when the powers of this earth try to force men to keep the first day of the week, know that the time has

come for God to work.—The S.D.A. Bible Commentary 7:980 (1901). LDE 135.4

LDE 135.4

The substitution of the laws of men for the law of God, the exaltation, by merely human authority, of Sunday in place of the Bible Sabbath, is the last act in the drama. **When this substitution becomes universal God will reveal Himself. He will arise in His majesty to shake terribly the earth.—**Testimonies for the Church 7:141 (1902). LDE 135.5

LDE 135.5