

Allusions, Images, and Symbols: How to Study Bible Prophecy In the Psalms: Part 1

Lesson #8 for May 25, 2025

Scriptures: Hebrews 9:11-15; Psalm 5; 15; 24; 51; 122; Exodus 33:18-23; Revelation 14:1.

1. *Psalms* means *songs*. What do songs have to do with Bible prophecy?

Revelation 14:1: Then I looked, and there was the **Lamb standing on Mount Zion; with him were 144,000 people who have his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads.**—American Bible Society. (1992). *The Holy Bible: The Good News Translation** (2nd ed., Revelation 14:1). New York: American Bible Society [abbreviated as *Good News Bible*].^{†‡}

[From the Bible study guide=BSG:] As Seventh-day Adventists, we are used to searching for the symbols of Revelation in the stories of the Old Testament to help us understand those symbols. These narratives, though far from the only good source, are found all through the Old Testament....

A careful reading of the Psalms yields details that make the book of Revelation come alive, especially Revelation 14, which describes the final work of God's remnant church on earth. God's last-day people have been given the same assignment as Israel of old: we are to be a light to the nations, a final merciful call to all people to worship and obey their Maker.—*Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** for Sabbath Afternoon, May 17.^{†‡} [Have you thought about Psalms as a book about prophecy?][‡]

2. Which Psalms have particular prophetic significance?

[BSG:] For this journey inside the "soul" of the prophetic message, we have chosen ... : **Psalm 122** for its intense and poignant appeal, "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem" (*Ps. 122:6, NKJV*); **Psalms 15 and 24** because both psalms wonder about the absence of the Lord and ask the same puzzling questions: "Who may dwell in Your holy hill?" (*Ps. 15:1, NKJV*), "Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD?" (*Ps. 24:3, NKJV*).—*Adult Teachers Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** 106.^{†‡§}

3. In this lesson we will see that **many references to the ancient temple and its services** give us clues to understand some of the prophecies in Revelation.
4. What is happening in the heavenly sanctuary now, during the pre-advent judgment?

Hebrews 9:11-15: ¹¹ But Christ has already come as the High Priest of the good things that are already here. The tent in which he serves is greater and more perfect; it is not a tent made by human hands, that is, it is not a part of this created world. ¹²When Christ went through the tent and entered once and for all into the Most Holy Place, he **did not take the blood of goats and bulls** to offer as a sacrifice; rather, **he took his own blood** and obtained eternal salvation for us. ¹³**The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a burnt calf are sprinkled on the people who are ritually unclean, and this purifies them by taking away their ritual impurity.** ¹⁴Since this is true, **how much more is accomplished by the blood of Christ!** Through the eternal Spirit he offered himself as a perfect sacrifice to God. **His blood will purify our consciences from useless rituals, so that we may serve the living God.**

¹⁵ For this reason Christ is the one who arranges a new covenant, so that those who have been called by God may receive the eternal blessings that God has promised. This can be done because there has been a death which sets people free from the wrongs they did while the first covenant was in force.—*Good News Bible*.^{*†} [Can God save us without our doing anything?][‡]

[BSG:] The **book of Revelation**, of course, is very rich in sanctuary imagery. We find the sanctuary lampstand in the opening verses, the ark of the covenant explicitly mentioned in chapter four, and **numerous other allusions to the temple**. Without an understanding of the Old Testament sanctuary, it becomes impossible to grasp what John is driving at in his descriptions of his visions. The experiences of Israel, Paul writes, “happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come” (*1 Cor. 10:11, NKJV*).—*Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide*^{*} for Sunday, May 18.^{†§}

1 Corinthians 10:11: All these things happened to them as examples for others, and they were written down as a warning for us. For we live at a time when the end is about to come.—*Good News Bible*.^{*†}

5. ***There are many different authors represented in the Psalms. They spanned from the time of Moses all the way to the Babylonian captivity. How did all of those people relate to the temple, to its services, and to their God? What do those services tell us about Jesus? Did the people worshiping God down through those generations understand anything about Christ Jesus in the future? What did they experience in the sanctuary?***

Our High Priest—Psalm 122

6. In **Psalm 122**, notice the themes of **peace, security, praise, and judgment**.

Psalm 122:1-9: ¹ I was glad when they said to me,

“Let us go to the LORD’s house.”

² And now we are here,

standing inside the gates of Jerusalem!

³ Jerusalem is a city restored
in beautiful order and harmony.

⁴ This is where the tribes come,

the tribes of Israel,

to give thanks to the LORD

according to his command.

⁵ **Here the kings of Israel
sat to judge their people.**

⁶ Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:

“May those who love you prosper.

⁷ May there be **peace** inside your walls
and **safety** in your palaces.”

⁸ For the sake of my relatives and friends

I say to Jerusalem, “Peace be with you!”

⁹ For the sake of the house of the LORD our God

I pray for your **prosperity**.—*Good News Bible*.^{*†}

Armageddon

[BSG:] **That David, the warrior, thinks of the peace of Jerusalem** [in Psalm 122] **implies that the world will be at war against Jerusalem.** The prophet has in view the event of “Armageddon,” as predicted in Revelation 16:16 and in Daniel 11:45.—*Adult Teachers Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** 107.†‡

7. Related to Jerusalem and Psalm 122 is Armageddon. The only place in the Old Testament where the expression “*har mageddon*” (which becomes *Armageddon* in Greek) is found is in Isaiah 14:13. This is clearly speaking about the Devil’s desire to gain entrance to the place in the “north” where the ancients believed that the gods assembled. It has nothing to do with the “house of the LORD.” This is a key passage in our understanding of the great controversy over God’s character and government and our understanding of Satan.

Isaiah 14:13: “**You were determined to climb up to heaven and to place your throne above the highest stars. You thought you would sit like a king on that mountain in the north where the gods assemble.**”—*Good News Bible.*†* [Italic type is added for emphasis.]‡

8. Let us remember that the book of Revelation points to a final great battle.

Revelation 16:16: Then the spirits brought the kings together in the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon.—*Good News Bible.**

Mount Zion—the Hill of the LORD: Psalm 15 & 24 and Revelation 14 & 16

[BSG:] In Revelation 14, we find God’s people standing on Mount Zion. The **original Mount Zion was located just west of the old city of Jerusalem today** and was thought of as the seat of God’s throne, or presence, among His people. **In time, the temple mount, located on Mount Moriah, came to be identified with Mount Zion, as well.**—*Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** for Monday, May 19.†‡

9. It is important to notice that the sanctuary language used in these passages is the language with which John was familiar. Psalm 15 and Psalm 24 raise interesting questions which it seems are answered ultimately in Revelation 14:1-5 (as quoted below in Item #11).

Psalm 15:1-5: ¹ LORD, who may enter your Temple?

Who may worship on Zion, your sacred hill?

² Those who obey God in everything

and always do what is right,

whose words are true and sincere,

³ and who do not slander others.

They do no wrong to their friends

nor spread rumours [*sic-Br*] about their neighbours [*sic-Br*].

⁴ They despise those whom God rejects,

but honour [*sic-Br*] those who obey the LORD.

They always do what they promise,

no matter how much it may cost.

⁵ They make loans without charging interest

and cannot be bribed to testify against the innocent.—*Good News Bible.*†*

[BSG:] Psalm 15 continues ... and the question arises, then, “Who may dwell in Your holy hill?” (*Ps. 15:1, NKJV*). To answer this question, the psalmist refers

to God's people who, in contrast to the wicked in the preceding Psalm, live according to principles of conduct, all of which equal the Ten Commandments: some are positive (*Ps. 15:2*), and some are negative (*Ps. 15:3–5*). The first principle includes all the others: "He who walks uprightly" (*Ps. 15:2, NKJV*). **The Hebrew word *tamim*, "uprightly," means completeness, has the connotation of naiveness, and suggests a truthful religion in which there is no falsity or double-mindedness. The religion of God's people is based on the fear of the Lord, in the middle of the psalm (see *Ps. 15:4*). Notice, too, that these principles are essentially of an ethical order, dealing with our treatment of others. They concern negative behavior: lying (*Ps. 15:2*), slandering (*Ps. 15:3*), and deceiving (*Ps. 15:5*).—*Adult Teachers Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** 107-108.†§**

[BSG:] The description found in David's psalm of those permitted into the presence of God is a pretty tall order for mere sinners to fulfill. Who among us can honestly say that we have always walked uprightly? Or have always spoken the truth in our hearts (*Ps. 15:2*)? None of us can say that we "shall never be moved" (*Ps. 15:5, NKJV*). If we say that we have never sinned, the Bible teaches that we have no truth in us (*1 John 1:8*).—*Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** for Monday, May 19.†§

1 John 1:8: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and there is no truth in us.—*Good News Bible*.*

10. Let us turn to Psalm 24 which is similar to Psalm 15, and then to their New Testament companion, Revelation 14.

Psalm 24:3-10: ³ **Who has the right to go up the LORD's hill?**

Who may enter his holy Temple?

⁴ **Those who are pure in act and in thought,
who do not worship idols
or make false promises.**

⁵ The LORD will bless them and save them;
God will declare them innocent.

⁶ Such are the people who come to God,
who come into the presence of the God of Jacob....

⁹ **Fling wide the gates,
open the ancient doors,
and the great king will come in.**

¹⁰ Who is this great king?

The triumphant LORD — he is the great king!—*Good News Bible*.*†

[BSG:] **Psalm 24 complements Psalm 15.** Whereas Psalm 15 has an existential perspective, Psalm 24 has a cosmic perspective, which is articulated in three sections. **The psalm begins with an affirmation of the God of Creation, who rules over the universe** (*Ps. 24:1, 2*). The psalm then moves to the **call to worship**, through the question, "Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD?" (*Ps. 24:3*). In the Psalms, worship is generally a human response to God's creation (*Ps. 95:6, Ps. 100:1–3*).

The second section [of Psalm 24] (*Ps. 24:3–6*) answers the question in Psalm

24:3 by emphasizing that only the ones who have “clean hands and a pure heart” and who have not committed idolatry qualify for ascending into the hill of the Lord, i.e., worship (*Ps. 24:4, NKJV*). **The psalm is not referring here to an ideal of absolute perfection. Later, these worshipers are described as “the generation of those who seek” the Lord (*Ps. 24:6, NKJV*).**

The third section (*Ps. 24:7–10*) is about the coming of the King of glory. God here is pictured as a victorious warrior, “mighty in battle” (*Ps. 24:8, NKJV*), who has defeated the forces of evil and chaos and thus has restored the order of creation. **In other words, the religious ideal of God’s people, who wait for salvation out of Zion, is both vertical and horizontal. This ideal is comprised of personal faith in the invisible God and hope in the coming kingdom; thus, it is both discerning (imparting wisdom) and apocalyptic.—*Adult Teachers Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** 108.^{††§}**

11. What do Psalm 15 and Psalm 24 have to do with Revelation 14? Mount Zion!

Revelation 14:1-5: ¹ Then I looked, and there was the Lamb standing on Mount Zion; with him were 144,000 people who have his name and his Father’s name written on their foreheads.... ³The 144,000 people stood before the throne, the four living creatures, and the elders; they were singing a new song, which only they could learn. They are the only ones who have been redeemed.... ^{4b}**They follow the Lamb wherever he goes. They have been redeemed from the rest of the human race and are the first ones to be offered to God and to the Lamb.** ⁵**They have never been known to tell lies; they are faultless.—*Good News Bible.*^{*†} [The 144,000 “have gotten” the victory over the sea beast. See GC 648.3: <https://egwwritings.org/read?panels=p132.2930&index=0>][‡] [BSG:] **We can come to no conclusion other than it is the Lamb who enables us to stand on Zion.** The Lamb is not mentioned in David’s psalm, but He suddenly appears in the description found in Revelation 14. **It is almost as if Revelation 14 is answering David’s question. Now that the Lamb of God is established on Mount Zion, in the sanctuary, we can also be present there because of His perfect righteousness credited to us by faith. We can have the “boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh” (*Heb. 10:19, 20, NKJV*). Without His blood, what hope would we have? None, actually.—*Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** for Monday, May 19.^{††§} [This is “dark speech,” forensic speech.][‡]****

12. ***What does “His blood” mean in this context? In order for us to follow the Lamb, we need to get to know Him well, (*John 17:3*) and then, practice following His example. Not even God can do anything about our past sins; they are a part of the permanent record, a part of history. However, God can and will choose to ignore them! (*Jeremiah 31:34*)***

Speaking Plainly About God & Seeing His Glory or Character

13. Considering all that the Bible has said so far about the kind of people who will inherit the kingdom of heaven, how do we accomplish victory over sin? Are we able to perfectly reproduce the example of Jesus? If we just keep on sinning, will Jesus just keep on forgetting our sins? Or, do we need to change our habits and characters? Does Jesus need to keep

pleading with His Father to forgive us?

14. How does all this fit with Jesus's statement in John 16 on His last night with His disciples?

John 16:25-27: ²⁵ "I have used figures of speech to tell you these things. **But the time will come when I will not use figures of speech, but will speak to you plainly about the Father.** ²⁶When that day comes, **you will ask him in my name**; and I do **not** say that I will ask him on your behalf, ²⁷for the Father himself loves you. He loves you because you love me and have believed that I came from God."—*Good News Bible*.*† [See Zechariah 3:1-5 & John 3:17-21.]‡

15. Revelation tells us that the remnant gathered before the throne of God will have **God's name written on their foreheads**. Remember that a **name** in Scripture signifies more than a label which just tells us what to call people; **it stands for character**. To this day, many cultures still say that someone has a "good name" when people think highly of his/her character.

16. Would that also be true about God? Notice what God said to Moses and what God showed Moses when Moses requested to see God.

Exodus 33:18-23: ¹⁸ Then Moses requested, "Please, let me see the dazzling light of your presence." [What did Moses expect to see?]

¹⁹ The LORD answered, "I will make all my splendour [*sic-Br*] pass before you and in your presence I will pronounce my sacred name. I am the LORD, and I show compassion and pity on those I choose. ²⁰I will not let you see my face, because no one can see me and stay alive, ²¹but here is a place beside me where you can stand on a rock. ²²When the dazzling light of my presence passes by, I will put you in an opening in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. ²³Then I will take my hand away, and you will see my back but not my face."—*Good News Bible*.*‡ [What did Moses see?]

17. So, what happened? Did God "show Himself" to Moses?

Exodus 34:5-7: ⁵ The LORD came down in a cloud, stood with him there, and pronounced his holy name, the LORD. ⁶The LORD then passed in front of him and called out, "I, the LORD, am a God who is full of compassion and pity, who is not easily angered and who shows great love and faithfulness. ⁷I keep my promise for thousands of generations and forgive evil and sin; but I will not fail to punish children and grandchildren to the third and fourth generation for the sins of their parents."—*Good News Bible*.*

18. **What is God's glory? Consider 2 Corinthians 3:18.**

[BSG:] Some picture God's glory as an unapproachable, brilliant light, which is certainly an apt description. **But God's glory is more than simply a visual display; His glory is His character. The same is true with God's name.**

When the Bible describes a remnant with **God's name inscribed in their foreheads**, it is not a matter of having literal letters written there; **it is a matter of having God's character inscribed in your mind, your heart, and so now in our lives we reflect the love and character of God.** You have been pulled close to God, and you love Him for who He is and what He has done for you.—*Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** for Tuesday, May 20.†‡

19. Sins are something that we "do," unfortunately, on a regular basis! What happens to those sins? First of all, **they leave scars on our character**. But, how does God deal with them?

Hebrews 10:16-17: ¹⁶ “This is the covenant that I will make with them in the days to come, says the Lord:

**I will put my laws in their hearts
and write them on their minds.”**

¹⁷And then he says, “**I will not remember their sins and evil deeds any longer.**” ¹⁸So when these have been forgiven, an offering to take away sins is no longer needed.—*Good News Bible*.^{*†} [Compare Jeremiah 31:31-34.][‡]

20. Notice that it suggests that **after we have come to know the Lord, God will no longer “remember” our wrongs.** Fortunately, those who will be gathered around the throne of God in heaven will have come to know God well and to love Him.

Worship: Psalm 5 and Revelation 13&14

21. Let us turn to Psalm 5.

Psalm 5:4-12: ⁴ You are not a God who is pleased with wrongdoing;
you allow no evil in your presence.

⁵ You cannot stand the sight of the proud;
you hate all wicked people.

⁶ You destroy all liars
and despise violent, deceitful people.

⁷ But because of your great love
I can come into your house;
I can worship in your holy Temple
and bow down to you in reverence....

¹¹ But all who find safety in you will rejoice;
they can always sing for joy.
Protect those who love you;
because of you they are truly happy.

¹² You bless those who obey you, LORD;
your love protects them like a shield.—*Good News Bible*.^{*†}

22. What does this Psalm tell us about those who choose to rebel against God? How are these people contrasted with those who are faithful? What similarities do you find in this Psalm with Revelation 14:1-12? **To the wicked, heaven would be torture.** See GC 542-543 & GC 670.

23. **Clearly, God cannot take to heaven sinners who continue to cling to their sins; they would just restart the great controversy. Evil cannot exist in God’s presence.**

Psalm 5:7: But as for me, I will come into Your house in the multitude of Your mercy;
In fear of You I will **worship** toward Your holy temple.—*New King James Version*.^{*†}

24. **What is included in “coming into God’s house” and “worshiping Him”?**

25. There is much mention of *worship* and/or *worshiping* in Revelation 13.

Revelation 13:2-18: ² The dragon gave the beast his own power, his throne, and his vast authority. ³One of the heads of the beast seemed to have been fatally wounded, but the wound had healed. **The whole earth was amazed and followed the beast.** ⁴**Everyone worshipped [sic-Br] the dragon because he had given his authority to the beast. They worshipped [sic-Br] the beast**

also, saying, “Who is like the beast? Who can fight against it?”

⁵ The beast was allowed to make proud claims which were insulting to God, and it was permitted to have authority for 42 months. ⁶**It began to curse God, his name, the place where he lives, and all those who live in heaven.** ⁷**It was allowed to fight against God’s people and to defeat them, and it was given authority over every tribe, nation, language, and race.** ⁸**All people living on earth will worship it, except those whose names were written before the creation of the world in the book of the living which belongs to the Lamb that was killed.**

⁹ “Listen, then, if you have ears! ¹⁰Whoever is meant to be captured will surely be captured; whoever is meant to be killed by the sword will surely be killed by the sword. This calls for endurance and faith on the part of God’s people.”

¹¹ Then I **saw another beast, which came up out of the earth.** It had two horns like a lamb’s horns, and it spoke like a dragon. ¹²It used the vast authority of the first beast in its presence. **It forced the earth and all who live on it to worship the first beast, whose wound had healed.** ¹³**This second beast performed great miracles; it made fire come down out of heaven to earth in the sight of everyone.** ¹⁴**And it deceived all the people living on earth by means of the miracles which it was allowed to perform in the presence of the first beast.** The beast told them to build an image in honour [*sic*-Br] of the beast that had been wounded by the sword and yet lived. ¹⁵**The second beast was allowed to breathe life into the image of the first beast, so that the image could talk and put to death all those who would not worship it.** ¹⁶The beast forced all the people, small and great, rich and poor, slave and free, to have a **mark placed on their right hands or on their foreheads.** ¹⁷**No one could buy or sell without having this mark, that is, the beast’s name or the number that stands for the name.**

¹⁸ This calls for wisdom. Whoever is intelligent can work out the meaning of the number of the beast, because the number stands for a human name. Its number is 666.—*Good News Bible*.*†‡ [In ancient times, the “heavenly gods” were numbered from 1 to 36. The sum of the numbers of all those gods comes to 666. More recently, 666 refers to one who claims to take the place of God.]‡

26. ***How could it be possible that almost the whole world will end up worshipping the Devil?***

27. What kind of worshipping is that? We need to remember that the Devil’s operating principle is selfishness; God’s operating principle is love. So, what do we see happening in our world today? Is it mostly selfishness? Or, is it love? So, what is it that clearly distinguishes between God’s followers and His enemies?

28. ***By His life and His death, Jesus Christ demonstrated the truth about God and about the Devil. In our response to the great controversy, we have a choice: (1) We can do our best with the help of the Holy Spirit to live lives like the life of Jesus; or (2) We will die the death that Jesus died which will be the death which sinners will die in the end, resulting from His/their being separated from His/their Father, the only Source of life.***

[From the writings of Ellen G. White=EGW:] All His life Christ had been publishing to a fallen world the good news of the Father’s mercy and pardoning love. Salvation for the chief of sinners was His theme. **But now with the**

terrible weight of guilt He bears, He cannot see the Father's reconciling face. The withdrawal of the divine countenance from the Saviour [sic-Br] in this hour of supreme anguish pierced His heart with a sorrow that can never be fully understood by man. So great was this agony that His physical pain was hardly felt. [Separation killed Jesus, not the crucifixion!]

Satan with his fierce temptations wrung the heart of Jesus. The Saviour [sic-Br] could not see through the portals of the tomb. Hope did not present to Him His coming forth from the grave a conqueror, or tell Him of the Father's acceptance of the sacrifice. **He feared that sin was so offensive to God that Their separation was to be eternal. Christ felt the anguish which the sinner will feel when mercy shall no longer plead for the guilty race. It was the sense of sin, bringing the Father's wrath upon Him as man's substitute, that made the cup He drank so bitter, and broke the heart of the Son of God....** [God withdrew from Jesus. That withdrawal is *God's wrath*; it killed Jesus.]

In that thick darkness God's presence was hidden.—Ellen G. White, *The Desire of Ages** 753.1-4.†‡

<https://egwwritings.org/read?panels=p130.3718&index=0>‡

29. When God's name is implanted in our "hearts" and in our minds, how does that impact our behavior?

Revelation 14:7: He said in a loud voice, "Honour [sic-Br] God and praise his greatness! For the time has come for him to judge. Worship him who made heaven, earth, sea, and the springs of water!"—*Good News Bible*.*‡

Psalms 5:11: But all who find safety in you will rejoice;
they can always sing for joy.
Protect those who love you;
because of you they are truly happy.—*Good News Bible*.*

The Judgment

30. Zechariah 3 describes **Satan as the accuser** and **God as the Defender** in the judgment.

[BSG:] **Imagine standing before a holy and perfect God in judgment, with every deed you have ever done fully exposed before Him. What does this prospect tell you about your need of Christ's righteousness?**—*Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** for Wednesday, May 21.‡

Zechariah 3:1-5: ¹ In another vision the LORD showed me the High Priest Joshua standing before the angel of the LORD. And **there beside Joshua stood Satan, ready to bring an accusation against him.** ²The angel of the LORD said to Satan, "May the LORD condemn you, Satan! May the LORD, who loves Jerusalem, condemn you. This man is like a stick snatched from the fire."

³ Joshua was standing there, wearing filthy clothes. ⁴The angel said to his heavenly attendants, "Take away the filthy clothes this man is wearing." Then he said to Joshua, "I have taken away your sin and will give you new clothes to wear."

⁵ He commanded the attendants to put a clean turban on Joshua's head. They did so, and then they put the new clothes on him while the angel of the LORD

stood there.—*Good News Bible*.^{*†}

[EGW:] Zechariah's vision of Joshua and the Angel applies with peculiar force to the experience of God's people in the closing scenes of the great day of atonement. The remnant church will then be brought into great trial and distress. Those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus will feel the ire of the dragon and his hosts. Satan numbers the world as his subjects; he has gained control even of many professing Christians. But here is a little company who are resisting his supremacy. If he could blot them from the earth, his triumph would be complete. **As he influenced the heathen nations to destroy Israel, so in the near future he will stir up the wicked powers of earth to destroy the people of God.** Men will be required to render obedience to human edicts in violation of the divine law....

The tempter stands by to accuse them, as he stood by to resist Joshua. He points to their filthy garments, their defective characters. He presents their weakness and folly, their sins of ingratitude, their unlikeness to Christ, which has dishonored their Redeemer. He endeavors to affright them with the thought that their case is hopeless, that the stain of their defilement will never be washed away. **He [Satan] hopes so to destroy their faith that they will yield to his temptations, and turn from their allegiance to God.**

Satan has an accurate knowledge of the sins that he has tempted God's people to commit, and he urges his accusations against them, declaring, that by their sins they have forfeited divine protection, and claiming that he has the right to destroy them. He pronounces them just as deserving as himself of exclusion from the favor of God. "Are these," he says, "the people who are to take my place in heaven, and the place of the angels who united with me? They profess to obey the law of God; but have they kept its precepts? Have they not been lovers of self more than lovers of God? Have they not placed their own interests above His service? Have they not loved the things of the world?"—Ellen G. White, *Prophets and Kings*^{* 587.2-589.0.††}
[\[https://egwwritings.org/read?panels=p88.2620&index=0\]](https://egwwritings.org/read?panels=p88.2620&index=0)[‡]

31. God does not call us into His presence as He did Isaiah without implying that we are to go forth and witness for Him.
32. At some point in the future, God's witness will be so clear throughout the world that it is pictured in Revelation 18:1 as filling the world with glorious light. What do we need to do to fulfill Revelation 18:1? Will we take the necessary steps to be on the side of Jesus?

Revelation 18:1: After this I saw another angel coming down out of heaven. He had great authority, and his splendour [*sic-Br*] brightened the whole earth.—*Good News Bible*.^{*†} [Compare *Patriarchs and Prophets* 754.4-755.1:
<https://egwwritings.org/read?panels=p84.3577&index=0>][‡]

33. Are we clear on what God wants us to do? Are we clear on what our relationship to Him should be? Have we had the privilege of a transforming experience with God as our Friend?

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