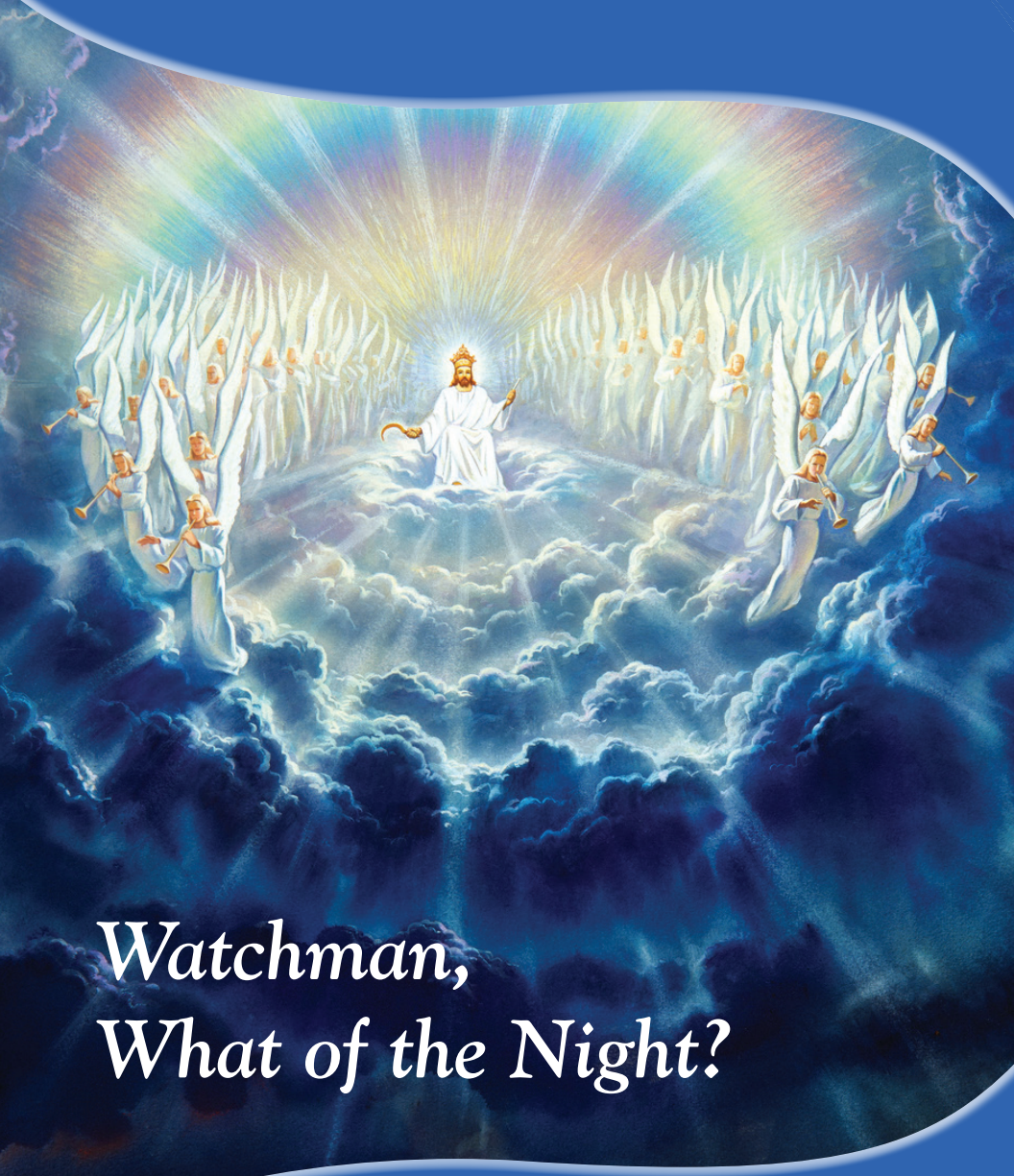


“Prepare to Meet Thy God!”



*Watchman,
What of the Night?*

**Who Can Stand?
Study Guide**



Copyright © 2021 by Christa Negley, PhD
Mountain Refuge Ministries
mountainrefugeministries.com

Unless otherwise marked, Scripture is from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Scripture marked KJV is from the King James Version.

Introduction to the Study Guides

We are living in unprecedented times. The coronavirus pandemic has changed the way we worship and assemble together, how we conduct business, and how we socialize with one another. As I visit scores of homes in our community, I see fear written on the faces of people, too afraid to shop or leave their homes for fear of being infected with the virus.

As we see violence erupting in our American cities turning peaceful communities into battlefields, we realize that we are now in earth's last moments. Businesses are being destroyed and innocent bystanders have become the target of these protesters. People are wondering, "How will we survive this social anarchy and the impending economic collapse? Is there any place of safety?"

Yes, my friends, there is a place of safety! God is speaking to this generation through the beautiful passage penned for us in Isaiah 26:20, 21: "Come, my people, enter your chambers, and shut your doors behind you; Hide yourself, as it were, for a little moment, until the indignation is past." Yes, there is a place of safety! It is the heavenly sanctuary, the Most Holy Place where Jesus is interceding for you and me. "What are the chambers in which they are to hide? They are the protection of Christ and holy angels" (4BC 1143).

We are called to participate with Jesus in His intercessory work today. He desires to cleanse our soul temples from everything that is not in harmony with His beautiful character. As we go through this process, He has promised to come very close to us. "And I will come near you for judgment. ..." (Malachi 3:5). He will free us from all the anger, fear, bitterness and alienation that has enslaved us. Thus, He will produce a people who will love Him supremely, a people who stand by His side, ready to share a message that will set this planet on fire with the power of the latter rain.

But before God can do this, He needs vessels which are cleansed from all defilement. Only vessels that are empty of sin can be filled with

the power of the latter rain. “What kind of vessels are meet for the Master’s use?—Empty vessels. *When we empty the soul of every defilement, we are ready for use*” (7BC 918, emphasis supplied).

“I also saw that many do not realize what they must be in order to live in the sight of the Lord without a high priest in the sanctuary through the time of trouble. Those who receive the seal of the living God and are protected in the time of trouble *must reflect the image of Jesus fully*” (EW 71, emphasis supplied).

God’s remnant church was birthed from this text, “Unto two thousand and three hundred days, then shall the sanctuary be cleansed” (Daniel 8:14, KJV). Not only was this a prophecy of Jesus entering into the final phase of His work in 1844, but it also encapsulates a most precious promise. This promise is for you and me today.

Jesus has promised that He is able to cleanse our soul temples which will produce a cleansed remnant—a remnant who will reflect the loveliness of His divine character. This is the everlasting gospel that we are to preach to every nation, kindred and people. (See Revelation 14:6, 7.) It is a gospel which will free mankind from the guilt of sin, from the power of sin and finally from the very presence of sin.

Satan’s greatest fear is that God will have a people who will allow Jesus to cleanse them from all sin. “There is nothing that Satan fears so much as that the people of God shall clear the way by removing every hindrance, so that the Lord can pour out His Spirit upon a languishing church. ... Every temptation, every opposing influence, whether open or secret, may be successfully resisted, ‘not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts’ (Zechariah 4:6)” (ISM 124).

This syllabus was written for those who sense their calling to be among the 144,000. Its focus is not the beginning of the gospel message as evidenced in the life of a new believer, but rather the finishing work of the gospel which leads to perfection of character. It is this group which will be a demonstration before the entire universe of

what the grace of God can do to restore man to the image of God again. Thus, God will be vindicated before His creation.

Have you found yourself struggling with sin? Are you falling into the same trap over and over again? Don't despair. God has the answer to this dilemma. None of the human race is a stranger to this battle. Through the cleansing process as taught by the pathway through the sanctuary, you will better understand the pathway to holiness and victory. (See Chapter 5 for more details.)

Whether they will be laid to rest awaiting the resurrection or they will be alive when Jesus comes, God's people will walk in all the light proceeding from the throne of God. "But the path of the just is like the shining sun, that shines ever brighter unto the perfect day" (Proverbs 4:18). "Open the door of the heart, place yourselves in a position where you may catch new revelations of the character of God. Light comes from the very throne of God" (ST 8-27-1894).

When I speak of light, I refer to the application of the Word of God to this present generation. This is present truth. It is the Holy Spirit who applies the sacred Scriptures to your life making them relevant to your experience. "Familiar truths will present themselves to your mind in a new aspect, texts of Scripture will burst upon you with a new meaning as a flash of light, you will see the relation of other truths to the work of redemption, and you will know that Christ is leading you, a divine Teacher is at your side" (MB 20).

Remember the message which Noah preached that a flood was coming and he was urging all to come into the safety of the ark. In the same way, today, we have the message of Revelation 14:6-12. This is present truth for our generation. God's faithful remnant must preach and teach this message around the globe.

As this gospel message is preached, believed and acted upon today, Jesus will recreate a people and bring them back to the condition of sinlessness that Adam and Eve had before the fall. "Those only who through faith in Christ obey all of God's commandments will reach

the condition of sinlessness in which Adam lived before his transgression. They testify to their love of Christ by obeying all His precepts” (6BC 1118).

What a privilege to be among that number who will vindicate the character of God and allow Jesus to live His pure and righteous life through them. Thus the “mystery of God, which is Christ in you, [shall] be finished.” (See Revelation 10:7, Colossians 1:27.)

God’s people will come to the place where they will love Jesus supremely and will desire to live every moment of their lives to please, honor and glorify Him. “They will walk with Him in white, for they are worthy” (Revelation 3:4).

Just think, what a privilege is yours and mine! It is my prayer that you will strive to be among that number.

—Christa Negley

Introduction



All the inhabitants of Heaven are anxiously awaiting the arrival of the redeemed. The banquet table has been set, and we have all been invited to join the grand reception hosted by our Bridegroom, our beloved Lord and King. Our reservation has been procured at a high price—the precious blood of the Lamb. The bride of Christ, His remnant people, have cooperated with Jesus by preparing to join Him for this most glorious occasion. They have recognized the approaching day of His soon return, and have been His faithful watchmen, warning the inhabitants of this earth that probation is about to close. The invitation to enter the ark of safety has sounded, and now they rejoice to see the fruit of their labors and prayers. Soon, the family of Heaven will be one with the family on earth forevermore, “for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His wife has made herself ready” (Revelation 19:7).

1

What is one of the most important truths to be kept before the people?

“The great day of the Lord is near; it is near and hastens quickly” (Zephaniah 1:14).

“The second coming of the Son of man is to be the wonderful theme kept before the people. Here is a subject that should not be left out of our discourses. Eternal realities must be kept before the mind’s eye, and the attractions of the world will appear as they are, altogether profitless as vanity. What are we to do with the world’s vanities, its praises, its riches, its honors, or its enjoyments? ... We are pilgrims and strangers who are waiting, hoping, and praying for that blessed hope, the glorious appearing of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ” (Mar 15).

“An understanding of the hope of Christ’s second coming is the key that unlocks all the history that follows, and explains all the future lessons. The voice of the true watchman needs now to be heard all along the line, ‘The morning cometh and also the night.’ The trumpet must give a certain sound, for we are in the great day of the Lord’s preparation” (Mar 15).

Note: Generation after generation has looked forward to the great day of the Lord—His Second Coming—and now, it is almost here. Never to be separated from our Savior and closest Friend, will be the reward. It will be a most glorious day when Satan and his angels are forever banished, nevermore to annoy us or disturb our peace. God is now in the process of preparing a people to stand in His presence. O, let us be among those who are preparing to be among that final remnant!

2

Is there an urgency that demands the attention of the watchmen?

“A great crisis awaits the people of God. A crisis awaits the world. The most momentous struggle of the ages is just before us. ... But are we ready for the issue? Have we faithfully discharged the duty which God has committed to us of giving the people warning of the danger before them?” (5T 711).

“The crisis is stealing gradually upon us. The sun shines in the heavens, passing over its usual round, and the heavens still declare the glory of God. Men are still eating and drinking, planting and building, marrying, and giving in marriage. Merchants are still buying and selling. Men are jostling one against another, contending for the highest place. Pleasure lovers are still crowding to theaters, horse races, gambling halls. The highest excitement prevails, yet probation’s hour is fast closing, and every case is about to be eternally decided. Satan sees that his time is short. He has set all his agencies at work that men may be deceived, deluded, occupied and entranced, until the day of probation shall be ended, and the door of mercy be forever shut. Solemnly there come to us down through the centuries the warning words of our Lord from the Mount of Olives: ‘Take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.’ ‘Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man’” (DA 636).

“The righteous and the wicked will still be living upon the earth in their mortal state—men will be planting and building, eating and drinking, all unconscious that the final, irrevocable decision has been pronounced in the sanctuary above.

“Silently, unnoticed as the midnight thief, will come the decisive hour which marks the fixing of every man’s destiny, the final withdrawal of mercy’s offer to guilty men” (CCh 349).

Note: The day is not far off when everyone will have had sufficient light to make their final choice, and the world will have been warned that probation's door is about to close. Then Jesus will step out of the heavenly sanctuary and no longer officiate as our Great High Priest. The character is forever sealed for all time and eternity. What a solemn thought to consider.

3

What is the proclamation issued by the watchmen?

Isaiah 21:11, 12: "He calls to me... 'Watchman, what of the night? Watchman, what of the night?' The watchman said, 'The morning comes, and also the night.'"

"God's watchman upon the walls of Zion today should be ready to give an answer to those who inquire what hour of earth's long night it is, and when the dawn of eternal day may be expected" (*The SDA Bible Commentary*, vol. 4, p. 188, not EGW).

Note: Generations have come and gone. Each generation eagerly looked forward to the day of Christ's glorious return, but theirs was not the privilege granted to this generation. I believe that this generation will have the awesome privilege of seeing Him descend from Heaven with all of His angels to claim His chosen people. But before that time, God's faithful watchmen will sound a warning to awaken earth's inhabitants to the time of night.

4

Why is it important for the watchmen to know the time of night?

"Unless we understand the importance of the moments that are swiftly passing into eternity, and make ready to stand in the great

day of God, we shall be unfaithful stewards. The watchman is to know the time of night. Everything is now clothed with a solemnity that all who believe the truth for this time should realize. They should act in reference to the day of God. The judgments of God are about to fall upon the world, and we need to be preparing for that great day. Our time is precious. We have but few, very few days of probation in which to make ready for the future, immortal life” (6T 407).

Note: In order to be prepared, first for the close of probation, and then for the coming of Jesus, we need to clearly understand where we are in the stream of time. Only as we realize the lateness of the hour will we be impelled to cooperate with our Great High Priest as He cleanses the heavenly sanctuary and the sanctuary of our souls, during the time of the judgment of the living and the blotting out of sins. But before the morning comes, we need to be prepared for the close of probation and possess that righteous character which will enable us to stand and be protected during the great time of trouble.

5

What are the two responsibilities of the watchman?

- A. **They are to Watch**—The most important duty of watchmen is to watch! And then discern and interpret correctly what they are observing. They are to stand in the towers or upon the wall, and their eyes are to scan the countryside for any signs of trouble. From their high and lofty perch, they can see the glistening of armor, sword and spear. They can see the banners of war as they are waved, and they can see the clouds of dust raised by the drumming of thousands of feet upon the desert sands. They are to be in their place with their eyes open. They are to watch!

B. **They are to Warn**—Whether they see anything approaching or not, they are to give their report to the people within the walls when they ask them of conditions outside. When trouble arises in the distance, they are to lift up their voice and sound the warning so that the people within the walls can prepare themselves and so that those who live outside the city can run in and find refuge. This same thought is seen in Hosea 8:1, where Hosea is told to “set the trumpet to thy mouth.”

Note: How important it is for us to be awake and watch in order to discern the times we are living in and know what God is expecting of us. Only thus, can we be prepared and sound the warning message, “Prepare to meet thy God!” (Amos 3:12).

6

In what way are the members of God’s remnant church to be watchmen in the world?

“In a special sense Seventh-day Adventists have been set in the world as watchmen and light bearers. To them has been entrusted the last warning for a perishing world. On them is shining wonderful light from the word of God. They have been given a work of the most solemn import—the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels’ messages. There is no other work of so great importance. They are to allow nothing else to absorb their attention.

“The most solemn truths ever entrusted to mortals have been given us to proclaim to the world. The proclamation of these truths is to be our work. The world is to be warned, and God’s people are to be true to the trust committed to them. ... God expects us to impart to others the knowledge that He has given us. It is His purpose that divine and human instrumentalities shall unite in the proclamation of the warning message.

“So far as his opportunities extend, *everyone who has received the light of truth* is under the same responsibility as was the prophet of Israel to whom came the word: ‘Son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at My mouth, and warn them from Me’” (9T 19, 20, emphasis supplied).

“In consideration of the shortness of time we as a people should watch and pray, and in no case allow ourselves to be diverted from the solemn work of preparation for the great event before us” (4T 306).

Note: The remnant church has been chosen by God to sound the final warning contained in the three angels’ messages of Revelation 14. This church has especially been prepared for this hour. We have had the light of the Reformers who have gone before us. We have had the light shed upon the world in the understanding of the prophecies as they relate to the end of time, and now God is continuing to give us greater understanding of how we are to cooperate with Jesus in His work in the heavenly sanctuary.

7 What are the serious implications of being an unfaithful watchman?

“So you, son of man: I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; therefore you shall hear a word from My mouth and warn them for Me. When I say to the wicked, ‘O wicked man, you shall surely die!’ and you do not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand. Nevertheless if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul” (Ezekiel 33:7-9).

Ellen G. White, referring to the above passage, states, “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. ... We are called upon to arouse the people to prepare for the great issues before them. We must give warning to those who are standing on the very brink of ruin. God's people are to put forth every power in combating Satan's falsehoods and pulling down his strongholds. To every human being in the wide world who will give heed, we are to make plain the principles at stake in the great controversy—principles upon which hangs the eternal destiny of the soul” (7T 141).

8

Has God had faithful watchmen throughout the generations of time?

“In every age the Lord has had His watchmen, who have borne a faithful testimony to the generation in which they lived. These sentinels gave the message of warning; and when they were called to lay off their armor, others took up the work” (AA 11).

“As Enoch, Noah, Abraham, and Moses each declared the truth for his time, so will Christ's servants now give the special warning for their generation” (DA 634).

Note: God's true people will hear His voice and know when He is even at the door. They will proclaim a message that will stir thousands, and many will respond to their entreaties. There will be a rich harvest of souls because of His faithful watchmen. God is calling each of us today to be among that number.

9

What was Jesus referring to when He admonished His people to watch?

“Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming—in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster,

or in the morning—lest, coming suddenly, he finds you sleeping. And what I say to you, I say to all: ‘Watch!’” (Mark 13:35-37).

“We are waiting and watching for the return of the Master, who is to bring the morning, lest coming suddenly He find us sleeping. *What time is here referred to? Not to the revelation of Christ in the clouds of heaven to find a people asleep. No; but to His return from His ministration in the Most Holy Place of the heavenly sanctuary, when He lays off His priestly attire and clothes Himself with garments of vengeance, and when the mandate goes forth: ‘He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still; and he that is holy, let him be holy still.’* When Jesus ceases to plead for man, the cases of all are forever decided” (2T 190, 191, emphasis supplied).

Note: When Jesus admonishes us to watch, He is referring to the time when earth’s probation is about to end, not to the day of His Second Coming. It was because the disciples fell asleep in the Garden of Gethsemane that they were unprepared for the trial that faced them that very night. They did not realize the importance of watching and praying in order to be ready for their greatest test.

10

What is Jesus saying to the watchman today?

“It is no time now for the watchman to become sleepy, and cease to be a sentinel upon the walls of Zion. Peculiar and rapid changes will soon take place, and if the church is not asleep, if the followers of Christ watch and pray, they may have light to comprehend and appreciate the movements of the enemy. It is now time earnestly to seek the Lord that every one of you may know what is the will of God in reference to the part you shall act in the conflict; and when you see an opportunity for labor, obey the indication of the Lord.

“Christ is saying to His people, ‘Can ye discern the signs of the times?’ It is the duty of the watchman to mark these signs, and at the cry of the church, ‘Watchman, what of the night?’ give the

correct signal, and not present that which will be misleading and ruinous. Those who have been, and who still are, diligent students of prophecy, are to ‘prepare the way of the Lord, and to make his paths straight’” (RH Feb. 21, 1893).

Note: We must be faithful at our post of duty, the place assigned to us. Jesus has promised to give us wisdom and understanding how to meet the challenges of the hour. He will direct us every step of the way in order to fulfill our God-given task, so that when we come to the end of the journey, we too will be able to say, “It is finished, I have completed the work You have given me.”

11

Who are the only watchmen who will recognize when the latter rain is falling and give the loud cry?

“If ever God’s watchmen needed to be on their guard, it is now. ... The trumpet must give a certain sound. There will be a general proclamation of truth, the whole earth will be enlightened with the glory of God, but those *only will recognize the light who have sought to know the difference between holiness and sin*” (UL 365, emphasis supplied).

Note: In order to recognize the light that God is sending from the Most Holy Place today, we need to cooperate with Jesus in the cleansing of our lives so that we will not be blinded by the enemy and call truth “error” and error “truth.” We must walk in the light of truth and be purified from all defilement in order to have clear discernment. In this way we are being prepared to sound the last warning message.

“Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.” Isaiah 60:1. To those who go out to meet the Bridegroom is this message given. Christ is coming with power and great glory. He is coming with His own glory and with the glory of the Father. He is coming with all the holy angels with Him.

“While all the world is plunged in darkness, there will be light in every dwelling of the saints. They will catch the first light of His second appearing. The unsullied light will shine from His splendor, and Christ the Redeemer will be admired by all who have served Him. While the wicked flee from His presence, Christ’s followers will rejoice.

“To His faithful followers Christ has been a daily companion and familiar friend. They have lived in close contact, in constant communion with God. Upon them the glory of the Lord has risen. In them the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ has been reflected. Now they rejoice in the undimmed rays of the brightness and glory of the King in His majesty. They are prepared for the communion of heaven; for they have heaven in their hearts.

“With uplifted heads, with the bright beams of the Sun of Righteousness shining upon them, with rejoicing that their redemption draweth nigh, they go forth to meet the Bridegroom, saying, ‘Lo, this is our God; we have waited for Him, and He will save us.’ Isaiah 25:9.

“And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia; for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to Him; for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and *His wife hath made herself ready*. ... And He saith unto me,

Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.' 'He is Lord of lords, and King of kings; and they that are with Him are *called, and chosen, and faithful.*' Revelation 19:6-9; 17:14" (COL 420, 421, emphasis supplied).

Your Commitment to Jesus

Recognizing that you are hearing the footsteps of the Master's approaching, are you willing to be among God's faithful watchmen who will proclaim the time of night?

Your Response

Notes

Key to Abbreviations of E. G. White Book Titles

- AA *The Acts of the Apostles*
CCh..... *Counsels for the Church*
COL *Christ's Object Lessons*
DA *The Desire of Ages*
EW *Early Writings*
Mar *Maranatha*
MB..... *Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing*
RH..... *The Review and Herald* periodical
SM *Selected Messages, Book 1*
ST *The Sign of Times* periodical
UL *The Upward Look*
4BC *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary,*
 Volume 4
6BC *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary,*
 Volume 6
7BC *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary,*
 Volume 7
2T *Testimonies for the Church, Volume 2*
4T *Testimonies for the Church, Volume 4*
5T *Testimonies for the Church, Volume 5*
6T *Testimonies for the Church, Volume 6*
7T *Testimonies for the Church, Volume 7*
9T *Testimonies for the Church, Volume 9*

“Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free!”

This Study Guide is number one in a series of twelve.

Study Guide 1—“Watchman, What of the Night?”

Study Guide 2—“For Such a Time as This”

Study Guide 3—“My Sheep Hear My Voice”

Study Guide 4—“Then Shall the Sanctuary be Cleansed”

Study Guide 5—“The Hour of His Judgment has Come”

Study Guide 6—“Holy, Harmless [and] Undefined”

Study Guide 7—“That Your Sins May Be Blotted Out”

Study Guide 8—“And the Earth was Illuminated with His Glory”

Study Guide 9—“These Follow the Lamb Wherever He Goes”

Study Guide 10—“He Who is Holy, Let Him be Holy Still”

Study Guide 11—“You Are My Hiding Place”

Study Guide 12—“The Cleansing of Our Soul Temple”

**For further information,
or your own set of Study Guides, contact:**

Christa Negley, PhD
304-240-0795 cell
christanegley@gmail.com

www.mountainrefugeministries.com