

“Prepare to Meet Thy God!”



*He Who Is Holy,
Let Him Be Holy Still*

**Who Can Stand?
Study Guide**

10

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.

Scripture marked AMP is from the Amplified Bible, copyright © 2015 by The Lockman Foundation, La Habra, CA 90631. All rights reserved. Used by permission. www.Lockman.org.

Introduction



A most solemn hour has arrived. The clock has struck midnight and earth's inhabitants, for the most part, are oblivious to the fact that their eternal destiny has been decided. It is not an arbitrary decision that has been made by our heavenly Judge. Each individual has chosen their own destiny. Since God gives freedom to all, He has merely honored their choice—He gave them over to the god they have chosen.

Knowingly or unknowingly, each person has arrayed themselves on one side or the other. Life goes on as usual. How similar is this day

to the time of Noah, when the massive door to the ark was shut. The masses woke up to the fact that they were lost when the rain began to fall.

“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. Before the Flood, after Noah entered the ark, God shut him in and shut the ungodly out; but for seven days the people, knowing not that their doom was fixed, continued their careless, pleasure-loving life and mocked the warnings of impending judgment. ‘So,’ says the Saviour, ‘shall also the coming of the Son of man be.’ Matthew 24:39. 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” (GC 491).

At that time, may we not be among those who are “weighed in the balances, and found wanting” (Daniel 5:27).

1 How does Ellen G. White describe the events surrounding the close of probation?

“I was pointed down to the time when the third angel’s message was closing. The power of God had rested upon His people; they had accomplished their work and were prepared for the trying hour before them. They had received the latter rain, or refreshing from the presence of the Lord, and the living testimony had been revived. The last great warning had sounded everywhere, and it had stirred up and enraged the inhabitants of the earth who would not receive the message” (EW 279).

“I saw angels hurrying to and fro in heaven. An angel with a writer’s inkhorn by his side returned from the earth and reported to Jesus that his work was done, and the saints were numbered and sealed. Then I saw Jesus, who had been ministering before the ark containing the ten commandments, throw down the censer. He raised His hands, and with a loud voice said, ‘It is done.’ And all the angelic host laid off their crowns as Jesus made the solemn declaration, ‘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’” (EW 279, 280).

“As Jesus moved out of the Most Holy Place, I heard the tinkling of the bells upon His garment; and as He left, a cloud of darkness covered the inhabitants of the earth. ... In that fearful time, after the close of Jesus’ mediation, the saints were living in the sight of a holy God without an intercessor. Every case was decided, every jewel numbered. Jesus tarried a moment in the outer apartment of the heavenly sanctuary, and the sins which had been confessed while He was in the Most Holy Place were placed upon Satan, the originator of sin, who must suffer their punishment” (EW 280, 281).

“Then I saw Jesus lay off His priestly attire and clothe Himself with His most kingly robes. Upon His head were many crowns, a crown within a crown. ... All heaven had united with Jesus, as they heard the fearful words, ‘It is done. It is finished’” (EW 281).

2

When does probation close for this world?

“When the work of the investigative judgment closes, the destiny of all will have been decided for life or death. Probation is ended a short time before the appearing of the Lord in the clouds of heaven” (GC 490).

“It is now, in probationary time, that every soul must make his choice. This choice will be seen in the family, will be seen in the association with the church” (HP 196). “I saw that the four angels would hold the four winds until Jesus’ work was done in the sanctuary, and then will come the seven last plagues” (EW 36).

Note: Probation closes when every person in the world has received all the spiritual light necessary for them to make their final decision for or against God. All will have had the opportunity to respond to the three angels' messages, as presented by God's final remnant. Christ, knowing the condition of the hearts of the people, recognizes when each individual has made his final decision; thus, He is free to close probationary time. Even if God would extend probationary time, they would not alter their position.

At the close of probation, we are either totally connected to God in a saving relationship, and have been cleansed of all sin and sealed for eternity, or we have chosen the enemy as our god and aligned ourselves with his agenda. There is no middle ground.

3

What do the trumpets of Revelation 9 teach us about the close of probation?

Revelation 9:13, 14 reads, "Then the sixth angel sounded: And I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, 'Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates.'"

Note: In Revelation 7:1-4, we read that the four angels are told to hold back the four winds of the earth until God's people are sealed. In Revelation 9, the angels are given permission to release the winds. "Winds are a symbol of strife" (GC 440). Already, we see signs of the four angels of Revelation 7 releasing the winds which marks the beginning of the close of probation. The world is in the midst of a pandemic, social and political unrest is reaching unparalleled levels in our society, we hear of increasing natural disasters and the news reports an ever increasing crime and lawlessness. All these are harbingers telling us that the coming of Jesus will not be delayed and that this generation will witness the greatest event of all times—the Second Coming of Jesus.

4

What work must be done in our lives while probation lasts?

God has given us probationary time in which to form characters for the courts above.

“We believe without a doubt that Christ is soon coming. ... *When He comes He is not to cleanse us of our sins, to remove from us the defects in our characters, or to cure us of the infirmities of our tempers and dispositions. If wrought for us at all, this work will all be accomplished before that time.* When the Lord comes, those who are holy will be holy still. Those who have reserved their bodies and spirits in holiness, in sanctification and honor, will then receive the finishing touch of immortality. But those who are unjust, unsanctified, and filthy will remain so forever. No work will then be done for them to remove their defects and give them holy characters. The Refiner does not then sit to pursue His refining process and remove their sins and their corruption. This is all to be done in these hours of probation. *It is now that this work is to be accomplished for us.*”

“Many are deceiving themselves by thinking that the character will be transformed at the coming of Christ, but there will be no conversion of heart at His appearing. *Our defects of character must here be repented of, and through the grace of Christ we must overcome them while probation shall last. This is the place for fitting up for the family above. Probation is almost ended. ... Get ready! Get ready! Work while the day lasts, for the night cometh when no man can work*” (AG 243, emphasis supplied).

5

In view of the times in which we are living, what are God’s people admonished to do?

“And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light” (Romans 13:11, 12).

“The great controversy is nearing its end. Every report of calamity by sea or land is a testimony to the fact that the end of all things is at hand. Wars and rumors of wars declare it. Is there a Christian whose pulse

does not beat with quickened action as he anticipates the great events opening before us? The Lord is coming. We hear the footsteps of an approaching God” (Mar 220).

6 What event is Jesus referring to when He tells God’s 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 find 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).

Note: Jesus is referring to the close of probation, when He leaves His high priestly ministration in the Most Holy Place of the heavenly sanctuary. There is no more atonement to be made for the sinner because the destiny of each person is decided as He makes His final pronouncement. It is at this point that Jesus pronounces His final verdict found in Revelation 22:11, “He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still.”

7 During this time of preparation, what are some reasons why God’s people are falling asleep spiritually?

1. They are weary of waiting for Christ to return.
2. They are battling daily with life’s challenges without divine help.

3. They are caught up in the busyness of life.
4. They are involved in the sinful pleasures of the world.
5. They are skeptical that the close of probation will happen in their day.
6. They fail to maintain a personal relationship with Jesus.
7. They put off the coming of Jesus for many more years.
8. They spend unprofitable hours with the media.
9. They are waiting for the passing of the Sunday law as the signal to prepare for the latter rain.

Note: It is fatal to wait until the passing of the Sunday law because its enforcement is only a short period of time before the close of probation. Then there will be no time to get ready. Fear cannot be the motivation to prepare because we must have a relationship with Jesus based on love and obedience. Now is the time to prepare to meet our God in peace.

8

What event precedes the close of probation?

“The Lord has shown me clearly that the image of the beast [Sunday-law enforcement] will be formed before probation closes; for it is to be the great test for the people of God, by which their eternal destiny will be decided” (2SM 81).

“The ‘image to the beast’ represents that form of apostate Protestantism which will be developed when the Protestant churches shall seek the aid of the civil power for the enforcement of their dogmas” (GC 445).

Note: The close of human probation is closely tied to the Sabbath-Sunday issue. The Sabbath is the sign of God’s creatorship. It makes known His right to rule the universe as well as every aspect of our lives. Clearly then, before probation closes, the Sunday law will have been passed and the loyalty of God’s people tested. They will demonstrate whether they will obey the laws of the land or whether they choose to follow the law of God.

“With unerring accuracy the Infinite One still keeps account with the nations. While His mercy is tendered, with calls to repentance, this account remains open; but when the figures reach a certain amount which God has fixed, the ministry of His wrath begins. The account is closed. Divine patience ceases. Mercy no longer pleads in their behalf” (PK 364).

9 **During these hours of probation, what is Satan’s agenda for God’s people?**

“Satan is now using every device in this sealing time to keep the minds of God’s people from the present truth and to cause them to waver. I saw a covering that God was drawing over His people to protect them in the time of trouble; and every soul that was decided on the truth and was pure in heart was to be covered with the covering of the Almighty” (EW 43).

“The events connected with the close of probation and the work of preparation for the time of trouble, are clearly presented. But multitudes have no more understanding of these important truths than if they had never been revealed. Satan watches to catch away every impression that would make them wise unto salvation, and the time of trouble will find them unready” (GC 594).

Paul’s admonition in 2 Corinthians 6:2 states, “Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.”

10 **Did the Jewish nation know when their probation as God’s chosen people came to an end? Will it be any different for the final generation?**

“When God’s presence was finally withdrawn from the Jewish nation, priests and people knew it not. Though under the control of Satan, and swayed by the most horrible and malignant passions, they still regarded themselves as the chosen of God. The ministration in the temple continued; sacrifices were offered upon its polluted altars, and daily the divine blessing was invoked upon a people guilty of the blood of God’s dear Son and seeking to slay His ministers and apostles.

“So when the irrevocable decision of the sanctuary has been pronounced and the destiny of the world has been forever fixed, the inhabitants of the earth will know it not. The forms of religion will be continued by a people from whom the Spirit of God has been finally withdrawn; and the satanic zeal with which the prince of evil will inspire them for the accomplishment of his malignant designs, will bear the semblance of zeal for God” (GC 615, emphasis supplied).

Note: It will be similar at the end of time. Men will be building and planting, going about their business, and planning their lives for years to come. Then suddenly probation will end, and their dreams and plans will turn to ashes as they realize they have not prepared for this event. “When probation ends, it will come suddenly, unexpectedly—at a time when we are least expecting it” (7BC 989). “Farmers, merchants, lawyers, tradesmen, will be wholly engrossed in business, and upon them the day of the Lord will come as a snare” (RH March 10, 1904).

11 After probation closes, what causes the loss of God’s protection?

“We cannot know how much we owe to Christ for the peace and protection which we enjoy. It is the restraining power of God that prevents mankind from passing fully under the control of Satan. The disobedient and unthankful have great reason for gratitude for God’s mercy and long-suffering in holding in check the cruel, malignant power of the evil one. But when men pass the limits of divine forbearance, that restraint is removed. God does not stand toward the sinner as an executioner of the sentence against transgression; but He leaves the rejectors of His mercy to themselves, to reap that which they have sown.

“Every ray of light rejected, every warning despised or unheeded, every passion indulged, every transgression of the law of God, is a seed sown which yields its unfailing harvest. The Spirit of God, persistently resisted, is at last withdrawn from the sinner, and then there is left no power to control the evil passions of the soul, and no protection from the malice and enmity of Satan. The destruction of Jerusalem is a fearful and solemn warning to all who are trifling with the offers

of divine grace and resisting the pleadings of divine mercy. Never was there given a more decisive testimony to God's hatred of sin and to the certain punishment that will fall upon the guilty" (GC 36).

12 Upon what basis is God able to close probation for nations and the world?

"The point is fast being reached when the iniquity of transgressors will be to the full. God gives nations a certain time of probation. He sends light and evidence, that, if received, will save them, but if refused as the Jews refused light, indignation and punishment will fall upon them. If men refuse to be benefited, and choose darkness rather than light, they will reap the results of their choice" (4BC 1143, 1144).

"The professed Christian world is advancing, as did the Jewish nation, from one degree of sinfulness to a greater degree, refusing warning after warning, and rejecting a Thus saith the Lord, while crediting the fables of men. The Lord God will soon arise in His wrath, and pour out His judgments upon those who are repeating the sins of the inhabitants of the Noachic world. Those whose hearts are fully set in them to do evil, as were the hearts of the inhabitants of Sodom, will like them be destroyed. The fact that God had long forbearance, patience and mercy, the fact that His judgments have been long delayed, will not make the punishment any less severe when it does come" (4BC 1144).

13 As God's messengers sound the warning of coming judgments, in what state will the religious world be in?

"When the reasoning of philosophy has banished the fear of God's judgments; when religious teachers are pointing forward to long ages of peace and prosperity, and the world are absorbed in their rounds of business and pleasure, planting and building, feasting and merrymaking, rejecting God's warnings and mocking His messengers—then it is that 'sudden destruction cometh upon them, and they shall not escape' 1 Thessalonians 5:3" (PP 103).

14

Is probation open for some while it is closed for others?

“The time of God’s destructive judgments is the time of mercy for those who have no opportunity to learn what is truth. Tenderly will the Lord look upon them. His heart of mercy is touched; his hand is still stretched out to save, while the door is closed to those who would not enter. Large numbers will be admitted who in these last days hear the truth for the first time” (RH July 5, 1906).

Note: These precious souls have been living up to all the light they have had and are now ready to receive further light. While the door of mercy is closed to those who have not progressed with advancing light, the door is still open to those whose hearts are ready to listen and obey the truth for this time. In a general sense, there are some every day whose probation closes either by death or rejection of truth. The world’s probation as a whole closes when Jesus finishes His mediation in the heavenly sanctuary.

15

How does resisting the Holy Spirit determine one’s destiny?

Resistance to the Holy Spirit takes place when the person values something of the flesh and the world more than a faith relationship with Jesus. At first, there may be an attempt to bridge the gap between the two worlds by keeping up a facade of holiness or religiosity to soothe the conscience. Inevitably, the distance between God and the world widens and the soul makes a final decision for or against Christ’s presence, friendship, love and righteousness.

Note: This process is going on right now—all over the world. God is allowing personal trials and natural disasters to hasten the decision-making process. Soon everyone will have made their final choice. This is the most solemn time in the history of the world. The decisions that are made are eternally final. There will be no second chance when probation closes. This is why we must work quickly to warn the world of its coming destruction.

16

What is the work of God's people during these last moments of probationary time?

“He was saying to them, ‘The harvest is abundant [for there are many who need to hear the good news about salvation], but the workers [those available to proclaim the message of salvation] are few. Therefore, [prayerfully] ask the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest’” (Luke 10:2, AMP).

“All over the world men and women are looking wistfully to heaven. Prayers and tears and inquiries go up from souls longing for light, for grace, for the Holy Spirit. Many are on the verge of the kingdom, waiting only to be gathered in” (AA 109).

Note: The era of grace is now ending. The harvest of the earth is ripe. Some are still in the valley of decision. It is to these that we must go while the moments of probationary time are still open. Jesus will not close the door of salvation until every last man, woman and child has made their final choice for or against Him. Then Jesus will take His bride where she may safely abide in the hiding place of His sanctuary. He will come out of His place to pour out the seven last plagues upon the despisers of His law of love, while His beloved ones by faith are safely hidden in His pavilion, His heavenly sanctuary.

Your Commitment to Jesus

Believing that we are living in the last hours of earth's history, I choose to live my life in reference to the imminent close of probation.

Your Response

Key to Abbreviations of E. G. White Book Titles

- AA *The Acts of the Apostles*
- AG *Amazing Grace*
- EW *Early Writings*
- GC..... *The Great Controversy*
- HP *In Heavenly Places*
- Mar *Maranatha*
- PK..... *Prophets and Kings*
- PP *Patriarchs and Prophets*
- RH..... *The Review and Herald Periodical*
- 4BC *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary,
Volume 4*
- 7BC *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary,
Volume 7*
- 2SM *Selected Messages, Book 2*
- 2T *Testimonies for the Church, Volume 2*

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

This Study Guide is number ten 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] Undeiled”

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