SAVED TO SERVE



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G.C. PT.11: PROTEST OF THE PRINCES—POPE V TRUMP, TERRORISM, COMMUNISM, LEGALIZED LGBT, OPEN WAY FOR 11TH HOUR WORKERS & 3 ANGELS

1. What is the title of chapter 11 of The Great Controversy?_

Note: The word protest means a statement or action expressing disapproval of or objection to something or someone.
Who were these Princes that were protesting against Popery? Answer: They were primarily the German chiefs and civil leaders who were present when Martin Luther stood before the Diet and was tried and condemned to death.

Christ had spoken through Luther's testimony with a power and grandeur that for the time inspired both friends and foes with awe and wonder. The Spirit of God had been present in that council, impressing the hearts of the chiefs of the empire. <u>Several of the</u> <u>princes boldly acknowledged the justice of Luther's cause</u>. Many were convinced of the truth; but with some the impressions received were not lasting. <u>There was another class who did not at the time express their convictions, but who, having searched the</u> <u>Scriptures for themselves, at a future time became fearless supporters of the Reformation.</u> {GC 161.4}

4. The messages that Luther proclaimed before the Diet had now borne fruit in the hearts of the leaders of the empire. See Luke 21:12-15.
5. Note: Meditate upon the statements and the chart on pages 5 and 6 of this lesson. Martin Luther typifies God's messengers in the last days, who will receive the latter rain and give the loud cry of the third angel's message. See Revelation 14:6-12 and Revelation 18:1-4.
Martin Luther and the Princes who protested against Popery represent the 11th hour workers in the parable of Matthew 20:1-16. See the following link for that Bible study. http://media.prophesyagain.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Sabbath_Sermon_Notes/04_15_17.pdf

6a. Note: We are studying this chapter, Protest of the Princes, because the accounts therein will be repeated and are now being repeated.

The experience of these noble Reformers contains a lesson for all succeeding ages. <u>Satan's manner of working against</u> <u>God and His word has not changed; he is still as much opposed to the Scriptures being made the guide of life as in the sixteenth</u> <u>century.</u> In our time there is a wide departure from their doctrines and precepts, and there is need of a return to the great Protestant principle--the Bible, and the Bible only, as the rule of faith and duty. Satan is still working through every means which he can control to destroy religious liberty. The antichristian power which the protesters of Spires rejected is now with renewed vigor seeking to reestablish its lost supremacy. The same unswerving adherence to the word of God manifested at that crisis of the Reformation is the only hope of reform today. {GC 204.2}

6b. Note: **On April 19, 1529**, six princes and representatives of 14 Imperial Free Cities petitioned the Imperial Diet at Speyer against an imperial ban against Martin Luther, as well as the proscription of his works and teachings, and called for the unhindered spread of the evangelical faith (i.e. Lutheranism). <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Protestation_at_Speyer</u>

7. What did the Protest of the Princes gain for succeeding ages?

8. Note: These were civil leaders protesting against the Papacy and upholding liberty of conscience for their States. The United States of America with its Constitution and Declaration of Independence, along with other nations who champion liberty of conscience owe their existence to and are beneficiaries of the Protest of the Princes.

9. What name did the Protest of the Princes give to the reformed church?_

One of the noblest testimonies ever uttered for the Reformation was the Protest offered by the Christian princes of Germany at the Diet of Spires in 1529. The courage, faith, and firmness of those men of God gained for succeeding ages liberty of thought and of conscience. <u>Their Protest gave to the reformed church the name of Protestant</u>; its principles are "the very essence of **Protestantism.**" (GC 197.1)

10. When civil leaders and Protestant church leaders sign the document on October 31, 2017 that the Protestant Reformation is over, it will be a betrayal to the Protest of the Princes who risked their assets, positions, and lives in defense of God's truth.
11. What was emperor Charles V bent on doing in a time when Luther was outlawed and religious toleration was still granted?

A dark and threatening day had come for the Reformation. Notwithstanding the Edict of Worms, declaring Luther to be an outlaw and forbidding the teaching or belief of his doctrines, religious toleration had thus far prevailed in the empire. God's providence had held in check the forces that opposed the truth. Charles V was bent on crushing the Reformation, but often as he raised his hand to strike he had been forced to turn aside the blow. {GC 197.2}

12. Note: Charles V would represent presidents and civil leaders who are conspiring with the Papacy to crush out true Protestantism.13a. What did the Lord allow to happen so that the Reformation had time to strengthen and to extend?

Charles V was bent on crushing the Reformation, but often as he raised his hand to strike he had been forced to turn aside the blow. Again and again the immediate destruction of all who dared to oppose themselves to Rome appeared inevitable; but at the critical moment the armies of the Turk appeared on the eastern frontier, or the king of France, or even the pope himself, jealous of the increasing greatness of the emperor, made war upon him; and thus, amid the strife and tumult of nations, the Reformation had been left to strengthen and extend. [GC 197.2]

13b. Note: The following is an application for these last days. The Turk would represent Muslim terrorists, France would represent legalized atheism, immorality, and communism (see *The Great Controversy*, pages 269 and 270); the Pope striving with emperor Charles V would represent Pope Francis' apparent feud with Donald Trump and other world leaders; the tumult of nations would represent the wars and rumors of wars today.

14. Note: Today there are strifes among the nations, wars and rumors of wars. The Lord is giving the Protestant Reformation time to strengthen and to extend.

15. As the Papal leaders and civil leaders laid aside their feuds, who did they label as their common enemy and united against?_

At last, however, the papal sovereigns had stifled their feuds, that they might make common cause against the Reformers. {GC 197.3}

16. Note: It is clear who the leaders of the world will soon declare as their common enemy and unite against. See Luke 23:12; Matthew 24:7-10.

17. What was the purpose of the Diet of Spires in 1529?_

At last, however, the papal sovereigns had stifled their feuds, that they might make common cause against the Reformers. The Diet of Spires in 1526 had given each state full liberty in matters of religion until the meeting of a general council; but no sooner had the dangers passed which secured this concession, than the emperor summoned a second Diet to convene at Spires in 1529 for the purpose of crushing heresy. The princes were to be induced, by peaceable means if possible, to side against the Reformation; but if these failed, Charles was prepared to resort to the sword. {GC 197.3}

18. Note: We may better understand the purpose of Pope Francis meeting with global Mayors and Governors, CEOs of tech companies, bankers, civil leaders, and religious leaders.

19. What was the imperial message that was announced to the Diet?_

This hastened the crisis. An imperial message announced to the Diet that as the resolution granting liberty of conscience had given rise to great disorders, the emperor required that it be annulled. This arbitrary act excited the indignation and alarm of the evangelical Christians. {GC 198.2}

20. Who did the papist say was better than the Lutherans (Protestants) even though that group had terrorized parts of the empire?

This hastened the crisis. An imperial message announced to the Diet that as the resolution granting liberty of conscience had given rise to great disorders, the emperor required that it be annulled. This arbitrary act excited the indignation and alarm of the evangelical Christians. Said one: "Christ has again fallen into the hands of Caiaphas and Pilate." **The Romanists became more violent. A bigoted papist declared: "The Turks are better than the Lutherans; for the Turks observe fast days, and the Lutherans violate them.** If we must choose between the Holy Scriptures of God and the old errors of the church, we should reject the former." Said Melanchthon: "Every day, in full assembly, Faber casts some new stone at us gospelers."--Ibid., b. 13, ch. 5. {GC 198.2}

21. Note: We see that previously the leaders of the empire despised the Turks (Muslims). However, shortly thereafter, they favored the Muslims more than the Princes and the people who were protesting the abominations of the Papacy. They saw that the Protestants were a greater threat to their existence than the Muslims. Additionally, we are now hearing from the world and the media that people must give up their rights and privacy to combat terrorists and hate speech.

22. What compromise was proposed at the Diet by the papists to kill the Reformation?_

As a compromise it was finally proposed that where the Reformation had not become established, the Edict of Worms should be rigorously enforced; and that "in those where the people had deviated from it, and where they could not conform to it without danger of revolt, they should at least effect no new reform, they should touch upon no controverted point, they should not oppose the celebration of the mass, they should permit no Roman Catholic to embrace Lutheranism." If this edict were enforced, "the Reformation could neither be extended . . . where as yet it was unknown, nor be established on solid foundations . . . where it already existed." Liberty of speech would be prohibited. No conversions would be allowed. And to these restrictions and prohibitions the friends of the Reformation were required at once to submit. The hopes of the world seemed about to be extinguished. {GC 199.2} 23. Note: Pope Francis called upon all churches and religions not to proselytize. https://cruxnow.com/vatican/2016/10/05/pope-churchs-mission-draw-people-christ-not-proselytize/

<u>http://en.radiovaticana.va/news/2016/05/07/catholics, muslims highlight shared beliefs for common good/1227793</u> Russia's Newest Law: No Evangelizing Outside of Church <u>http://www.christianitytoday.com/gleanings/2016/june/no-evangelizing-outside-of-church-russia-proposes.html</u>

http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/new-religious-laws-in-russia-not-expected-to-hurt-catholic-church-87450/ 24. How did the Princes feel about the proposed compromise?

The acceptance of the proposed arrangement would have been a virtual admission that religious liberty ought to be confined to reformed Saxony; and as to all the rest of Christendom, free inquiry and the profession of the reformed faith were crimes, and must be visited with the dungeon and the stake. Could they consent to localize religious liberty? to have it proclaimed that the Reformation had made its last convert? had subjugated its last acre? and that wherever Rome bore sway at this hour, there her dominion was to be perpetuated? Could the Reformers have pleaded that they were innocent of the blood of those hundreds and thousands who, in pursuance of this arrangement, would have to yield up their lives in popish lands? This would have been to betray, at that supreme hour, the cause of the gospel and the liberties of Christendom." Rather would they "sacrifice everything, even their states, their crowns, and their lives." "Let us reject this decree," said the princes." To protect liberty of conscience is the duty of the state, and this is the limit of its authority in matters of religion. Every secular government that attempts to regulate or enforce religious observances by civil authority is sacrificing the very principle for which the evangelical Christian so nobly struggled. [GC 200.1]

25. What did Israel rebelliously ask for? What did the Lord instruct Samuel to do? 1 Samuel 8:5,7,9,10,19; John 19:15; Luke 20:20-25_____

26. What two principles were contained in the celebrated protest?_

"The principles contained in this celebrated Protest . . . constitute the very essence of Protestantism. <u>Now this Protest opposes</u> two abuses of man in matters of faith: the first is the intrusion of the civil magistrate, and the second the arbitrary authority of the <u>church.</u> Instead of these abuses, Protestantism sets the power of conscience above the magistrate, and the authority of the word of God above the visible church. In the first place, it rejects the civil power in divine things, and says with the prophets and apostles, "We must obey God rather than man.' In presence of the crown of Charles the Fifth, it uplifts the crown of Jesus Christ. But it goes farther: it lays down the principle that all human teaching should be subordinate to the oracles of God." {GC 203.4} 27. What did the Princes task Luther, Melanchthon, and their associates to put together so that they could present it before the Diet?

The reformed princes had determined upon having a statement of their views in systematic form, with the evidence from the Scriptures, to present before the Diet; and the task of its preparation was committed to Luther, Melanchthon, and their associates. This Confession was accepted by the Protestants as an exposition of their faith, and they assembled to affix their names to the important document. It was a solemn and trying time. {GC 206.2}

28. What does Jesus say in the context of His people being brought before tribunals to answer for their faith? Matthew 10:16-20,32,33

29. What was the extent of the Augsburg Confession?_

Some of the princes of Germany were won to the reformed faith. The emperor himself declared that the Protestant articles were but the truth. The Confession was translated into many languages and circulated through all Europe, and it has been accepted by millions in succeeding generations as the expression of their faith. {GC 208.3}

30a. What scripture did Luther say was fulfilled the day when the most powerful princes of the empire stood before the Diet to defend the faith?_____

But a few years had passed since the monk of Wittenberg stood alone at Worms before the national council. <u>Now in his</u> <u>stead were the noblest and most powerful princes of the empire</u>. Luther had been forbidden to appear at Augsburg, but he had been present by his words and prayers. "I am overjoyed," he wrote, <u>"that I have lived until this hour, in which Christ has been publicly</u> <u>exalted by such illustrious confessors, and in so glorious an assembly</u>."--Ibid., b. 14, ch. 7. Thus was fulfilled what the Scripture says: "I will speak of Thy testimonies ... before kings." Psalm 119:46. {GC 207.2}

30b. What instruction does the Lord give to His 11th hour workers? Revelation 10:11_

31. What did Luther do to encourage those princes who appeared before the Diet at Augsburg to Confess the truth of Jesus?

When powerful foes were uniting to overthrow the reformed faith, and thousands of swords seemed about to be unsheathed against it, Luther wrote: "Satan is putting forth his fury; ungodly pontiffs are conspiring; and we are threatened with war. **Exhort the people to contend valiantly before the throne of the Lord, by faith and prayer,** so that our enemies, vanquished by the Spirit of God, may be constrained to peace. **Our chief want, our chief labor, is prayer;** let the people know that they are now exposed to the edge of the sword and to the rage of Satan, and let them pray."-- {GC 209.2}

33. What did Jesus do before He was brought before the council of church and state to be tried and condemned for the truth? Matthew 26:30,38-41______

34. Mediate upon the following:

From the secret place of prayer came the power that shook the world in the Great Reformation. There, with holy calmness, the servants of the Lord set their feet upon the rock of His promises. During the struggle at Augsburg, Luther "did not pass a day without devoting three hours at least to prayer, and they were hours selected from those the most favorable to study." In the privacy of his chamber he was heard to pour out his soul before God in words "full of adoration, fear, and hope, as when one speaks to a friend." "I know that Thou art our Father and our God," he said, "and that Thou wilt scatter the persecutors of Thy children; for Thou art Thyself endangered with us. All this matter is Thine, and it is only by Thy constraint that we have put our hands to it. Defend us, then, O Father!" {GC 210.1}

To Melanchthon, who was crushed under the burden of anxiety and fear, he wrote: "Grace and peace in Christ--in Christ, I say, and not in the world. Amen. I hate with exceeding hatred those extreme cares which consume you. If the cause is unjust, abandon it; if the cause is just, why should we belie the promises of Him who commands us to sleep without fear? . . . Christ will not be wanting to the work of justice and truth. He lives, He reigns; what fear, then, can we have?"--Ibid., b. 14, ch. 6. {GC 210.2}

God did listen to the cries of His servants. He gave to princes and ministers grace and courage to maintain the truth against the rulers of the darkness of this world. Saith the Lord: "Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on Him shall not be confounded." 1 Peter 2:6. The Protestant Reformers had built on Christ, and the gates of hell could not prevail against them. {GC 210.3}

Additional Statements

36. "In the Augsburg Confession, which was drawn up by Melanchthon [and approved by Luther], to the question, 'What ought we to think of the Lord's day?' it is answered that the Lord's day. Easter, Whitsuntide, and other such holy days ought to be kept, because they are appointed by the church, that all things may be done in order; but that the observance of them is not to be thought necessary to salvation, nor the violation of them, if it be done without offense to others, to be regarded as a sin!"-*Cox's Sabbath Laws, p. 287.* {1904 GIB, CHS 134.1}

The Confession of the Swiss churches says on this point: {1904 GIB, CHS 134.2}

"The observance of the Lord's day is founded not on any commandment of God, but on the authority of the church; and the church may alter the day at pleasure."-Idem. {1904 George Ide Butler, Change of the Sabbath 134.3}

Parable: Workers In The Vineyard

37. Note: The 1st hour workers represent the Jews. See Matthew 21:33-41.

38. The 3rd hour workers represent the Gentile-Christians. See Acts 13:46-49; Acts 11:26; On the Day of Pentecost the apostles received the gift of speaking in tongues. Tongues were given to them to reach the Gentiles with the message. After Pentecost, the apostles went forward to harvest prepared souls, Jew and Gentile. Acts 2:15.

39. The 6th hour workers represent the Reformers. "In the fourteenth century arose in England the 'morning star of the Reformation.' John Wycliffe was the herald of reform, not for England alone, but for all Christendom. {GC 80.1}

40. The 9th hour workers represent the Millerite movement, under William Miller. William Miller was raised up by God in fulfillment of Daniel 12:4, after the year 1798 to prepare people for October 22, 1844, the antitypical Day of Atonement. A study of Revelation 10:1-10 would reveal the Millerite Movement, between the years of 1798 and 1844. They are the 9th hour workers. A study of Revelation 10:11, Revelation 14:6-12, and Revelation 11:1 would reveal the group that the Lord raised up after the Millerites to continue the work of evangelism. They would represent the 11th hour workers.

41a. The 11th hour workers represent the faithful Seventh-day Adventists and faithful believers that the Lord will call out from Babylon. **41b.** Note: A study of Revelation 10:11, Revelation 14:6-12, and Revelation 11:1 would reveal the group that the Lord raised up after the Millerites to continue the work of evangelism. They are Seventh-day Adventists. The following quotations confirm.

41c. Even at this eleventh hour, there should be decided advancement made in the matter of a special preparatory work... There should also be in our larger churches special training schools for young men and women, to fit them to become workers for <u>God.</u> And far more attention should be given by our ministers to the matter of assisting and educating younger laborers... <u>Colporteurs and canvassers are needed, and those who are fitted to give Bible readings in families</u>, so that while the ministers are laboring in word and doctrine, these can also be calling minds to the truth. {GW92 284.2}

41d. The law of God is made void, and even among those who advocate its binding claims are some who break its sacred <u>precepts.</u> The Bible will be opened from house to house, and men and women will find access to these homes, and minds will be opened to receive the Word of God; and, when the crisis comes, many will be prepared to make right decisions, even in the face of the formidable difficulties that will be brought about through the deceptive miracles of Satan. <u>Although these will confess the truth and become workers with Christ at the eleventh hour</u>, they will receive equal wages with those who have wrought through the whole day. <u>There will be an army of steadfast believers who will stand as firm as a rock through the last test</u>. But where in that army are those who have been standard-bearers? <u>Where are those whose voices have sounded in proclaiming the truth to the sinning? Some of them are not there. We look for them; but in the time of shaking they have been unable to stand, and have passed over to the <u>enemy's ranks</u>. Christ says to him who feels his weakness, "Let him take hold of My strength, that he may make peace with Me, and he shall make peace with Me." {1888 511.2}</u>

42a. Note: The Lord will supernaturally call the 11th hour workers from Babylon into His present truth. Additionally, the Lord will also use the faithful Seventh-day Adventists to call out the faithful believers from Babylon during the Sunday Law crisis. Both the faithful Seventh-day Adventists and the faithful believers coming out of Babylon comprise the 11th hour workers.

42b. The following scriptures confirm that the faithful believers from Babylon will be called out at the 11th hour or one hour before the end. **42c.** Note the fact that the 11th hour workers only work for one hour. See Matthew 20:12. See Revelation 18:1-4,10,17.

42d. Stand out of the way, Brethren. Do not interpose yourselves between God and His work. If you have no burden of the message yourselves, then prepare the way for those who have the burden of the message, <u>for there are many souls to come out of the ranks of the world, out of the churches--even the Catholic church</u>--whose zeal will far exceed that of those who have stood in rank and file to proclaim the truth heretofore. <u>For this reason the eleventh hour laborers will receive their penny.</u> These will see the battle coming and will give the trumpet a certain sound. <u>When the crisis is upon us, when the season of calamity shall come, they will come to the front, gird themselves with the whole armor of God, and exalt His law, adhere to the faith of Jesus, and maintain the cause of religious liberty which Reformers defended with toil and for which they sacrificed their lives. {1888 378.2}</u>

42e. But I speak not my own words when I say that God's Spirit will pass by those who have had their day of test and opportunity. but who have not distinguished the voice of God or appreciated the movings of His Spirit. Then thousands in the eleventh hour will see and acknowledge the truth. "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed" (Amos 9:13). These conversions to truth will be made with a rapidity that will surprise the church, and God's name alone will be glorified.--{1888 747.2}

42f. <u>I am pained as I see so much prejudice and Phariseeism. O that our ministering brethren</u> would broaden, and not be so narrow and shortsighted. Many souls will come from other denominational churches, and at the eleventh hour will obey all the truth, because they have not set themselves in array against heaven's light, but lived up to all the light they had: <u>while those who have</u> had great light, large privileges and opportunities, and have failed to live in the light and walk in the light, will drop out by the way. Their light will shine less and less until their lamps will go out, for the want of the oil of grace in their vessels with their lamps. {1888 710.3}

