



SAVED TO SERVE

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FLOODS & MUDSLIDES DEVASTATE NEPAL. THE BEGINNING OF SORROWS

1. In this Sabbath School Lesson, we will study the connection between the ever-increasing calamities, the sorrow we will experience as we near the end of time, and the preparation needed to stand faithful to God.
2. What events will be happening simultaneously in these last days just before the Second Coming of Christ? Matthew 24:7

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3. Current Events:

Video shows catastrophic floods in Nepal caused by glacial collapse

<https://apnews.com/video/nearly-1000-missing-in-nepal-and-tibet-after-catastrophic-floods-caused-by-glacial-collapse-9d10c17b21f745fcb6cc2085f0d74131>

Watch: Mudslide Hits Nepal-Tibet Border | WSJ News

[YouTube.com/watch?v=MKTFHw1Wm8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MKTFHw1Wm8)

5.1-magnitude earthquake hits Colombia, forcing evacuations in Bogotá and Bucaramanga

<https://www.euronews.com/2026/08/26/51-magnitude-earthquake-hits-colombia-forcing-evacuations-in-bogota-and-bucaramanga>

US marks 6 months of war with Iran. Here's what it means for Americans and what's ahead

<https://abcnews.com/Politics/us-marks-6-months-war-iran-means-americans/story?id=135980363>

AI bots started a religion — humans immediately followed

<https://www.theverge.com/ai-artificial-intelligence/975017/ai-spiralism-chatbot-movement>

4. Notice how the current events connect with this quotation from the pen of inspiration.

“Through spiritualism, Satan appears as a benefactor of the race, healing the diseases of the people, and professing to present a new and more exalted system of religious faith; but at the same time he works as a destroyer. His temptations are leading multitudes to ruin. Intemperance dethrones reason; sensual indulgence, strife, and bloodshed follow. **Satan delights in war, for it excites the worst passions of the soul and then sweeps into eternity its victims steeped in vice and blood.** It is his object to incite the nations to war against one another, for he can thus divert the minds of the people from the work of preparation to stand in the day of God.” {GC 589.1}

“While appearing to the children of men as a great physician who can heal all their maladies, he will bring disease and disaster, until populous cities are reduced to ruin and desolation. Even now he is at work. In accidents and calamities by sea and by land, in great conflagrations, in fierce tornadoes and terrific hailstorms, in tempests, floods, cyclones, tidal waves, and earthquakes, in every place and in a thousand forms, Satan is exercising his power. He sweeps away the ripening harvest, and famine and distress follow. He imparts to the air a deadly taint, and thousands perish by the pestilence. These visitations are to become more and more frequent and disastrous. Destruction will be upon both man and beast. “The earth mourneth and fadeth away,” “the haughty people ... do languish. The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant.” Isaiah 24:4, 5.” {GC 589.3}

5. What does Matthew 24:8 say?

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6. **Note:** In this lesson, we will look at three main causes of sorrow in scripture. Let us study what brought sorrow upon the earth.

7. What did God say to Adam and Eve in Genesis 3:16, 17?

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8. Why does all humanity have to suffer sorrow? Genesis 3:12-13; Jeremiah 30:15
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9. What is another cause of sorrow according to scripture? Psalm 18:4; Matthew 26:38

10. What is a third cause of sorrow according to scripture? Matthew 24:9; Exodus 3:7

11. **Note:** Read Exodus 15:14. It shows us that sorrow brings fear or causes one to be afraid. 2 Timothy 1:7 tells us however, that God does not give us the spirit of fear but of power, love, and a sound mind. As we transition, let us look at the sorrow of the wicked.

12. What does God give to the wicked? Psalm 32:10; Job 21:17; Deuteronomy 28:65

13. What are some sins that cause God to deal sorrow to the wicked?

a) Deuteronomy 28:15, 65, 20, 21

b) Psalm 16:4

c) Jeremiah 13:21-27

14. What does Isaiah compare the sorrows of the wicked to in Isaiah 13:6-8?

15. **Note:** Read 1 Thessalonians 5:1-3. It also mentions a woman in travail. When a woman is in childbirth, the labor pains become more frequent and more painful as the baby gets closer to being birthed. As we see the signs of the last days such as those brought to view in Matthew 24 becoming more frequent and more disastrous on a global scale, while politicians promise peace and prosperity, we can know that Christ is soon to appear and judgment for the wicked is about to be executed.

16. . What is one application for the “day of the Lord” which will come as a thief in the night? See quotation below.

“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. Christ in the Revelation, looking forward to that time, declares: “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. And, behold, I come quickly; and My reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work shall be.” Revelation 22:11, 12. {GC 490.2}

“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 491.1}

17. **Note:** While this event will cause weeping and gnashing of teeth or sorrow for the wicked (Matthew 24:48-51), those who are children of the light will watch the signs of the times and not allow Christ to find them unready when He pronounces judgment upon them. See 1 Thessalonians 5:4-6 and Matthew 24:44-46.

18. What are two more applications for the “day of the Lord” according to Isaiah 13:9, 11?

a) Compare Isaiah 13: 9, 11 with Revelation 15:1 and Revelation 16:1, 2

b) Compare Isaiah 13:9, 11 and 2 Peter 3:10

19. Which entity will also be a recipient of God's cup of sorrow upon the wicked? Revelation 18:2-8

20. **Note:** Let us now look at what sorrows the righteous will have to face in these last days.

21. Exodus 3:7 told us that the Israelites suffered sorrow and affliction in Egypt. What did Pharaoh forbid them to do in Egypt? Exodus 5:3; Exodus 7:16 with Matthew 4:10

"...Papists acknowledge that the Bible gives no sanction to this change, and that Protestants have no Scriptural authority for Sunday worship. The Catholic Church changed the day of rest from the seventh to the first day, and without the shadow of divine sanction it has been accepted by almost all the Protestant churches, and Rome, pointing to the adherents of her doctrines, claims the supremacy. In changing the fourth precept of God's law, the papal power has thought itself able to exalt itself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped. This was the very work that the prophecy foretold would be done by this power. In trampling upon the fourth commandment, the first commandment is broken. **Their idolatry is similar to that of Israel's when she substituted a god which her own hands had made, for the living and true God, and followed after the example of Egypt; for when the Catholics substitute a sabbath of their own making for that which God commanded, they too worship that which their own hands have made, and follow the example of the heathen who worshipped the sun on the first day of the week.**" {ST November 19, 1894, par. 1}

22. What will God's people be forced to do, on pain of death, in the near future? Revelation 13:15-17

23. Read 2 Samuel 22:5, 6. What does the "sorrows of hell" mean?

24. As the righteous are in sorrow because death is knocking at their door, what do they do? 2 Samuel 22:4, 7

25. What happens next? 2 Samuel 22:8, 11, 18, 19

26. What is this proverbial "day" called for the righteous? Jeremiah 30:6, 7; Daniel 12:1

27. **Note:** For your homework, read the entire chapter of 2 Samuel 22 and compare it with the chapters in the book Early Writings entitled, "Time of Trouble" and "Deliverance of the Saints."

"I saw the saints leaving the cities and villages, and associating together in companies, and living in the most solitary places. Angels provided them food and water, while the wicked were suffering from hunger and thirst. Then I saw the leading men of the earth consulting together, and Satan and his angels busy around them. **I saw a writing, copies of which were scattered in different parts of the land, giving orders that unless the saints should yield their peculiar faith, give up the Sabbath, and observe the first day of the week, the people were at liberty after a certain time to put them to death.** But in this hour of trial the saints were calm and composed, trusting in God and leaning upon His promise that a way of escape would be made for them. In some places, before the time for the decree to be executed, the wicked rushed upon the saints to slay them; but angels in the form of men of war fought for them. **Satan wished to have the privilege of destroying the saints of the Most High; but Jesus bade His angels watch over them.** God would be honored by making a covenant with those who had kept His law, in the sight of the heathen round about them; and Jesus would be honored by translating, without their seeing death, the faithful, waiting ones who had so long expected Him." {EW 282.2}

"Soon I saw the saints suffering great mental anguish. They seemed to be surrounded by the wicked inhabitants of the earth. Every appearance was against them. Some began to fear that God had at last left them to perish by the hand of the wicked. But if their eyes could have been opened, they would have seen themselves surrounded by angels of God. **Next came the multitude of the angry wicked, and next a mass of evil angels, hurrying on the wicked to slay the saints. But before they could approach God's people, the wicked must first pass this company of mighty, holy angels. This was impossible. The angels of God were causing them to recede and also causing the evil angels who were pressing around them to fall back.**" {EW 283.1}

28. **Note:** In order for us to be among the saints and be protected during this time, we must allow Christ to be our sin bearer.

29. In Isaiah 53:3-4, how does the Bible describe Jesus?

30. **Note:** Earlier in the lesson, we mentioned three primary causes for sorrow on the earth, namely: sin, death, and affliction or persecution.

31. What did Jesus overcome which gives us hope of overcoming?

a) Romans 8:3

b) 1 Corinthians 15:20; Romans 6:3-4

c) 1 Peter 2:21-24
