

THE GOD HEAD

EZEKIEL CHAPTERS 8, 9

LESSON #3

THE LOUD CRY OF THE FOURTH ANGEL

Rev. 18:1-4

INTRIODUCTION

This is a study of Ezekiel chapters 8, and 9. We will first look in Rev.7:1-3 to compare the sealing in Ez. 9:4-6.

Let us pray: Holy Father, please give Your spirit to all who study this lesson for understanding, wisdom, and to rightly divide Your Word. I ask this in the name of Jesus, Your Son. Amen.

Rev. 7:1-3. "And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have **sealed** the servants of our God in their foreheads."

Now let us compare the parallel passage in Ezekiel 9:4-6.

"And the LORD said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and **set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof.** And to the others he said in mine hearing, Go ye after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity: Slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; and begin at my sanctuary. Then they began at the ancient men which were before the house."

This is a very solemn and serious event! When or what time is this passage talking about? It has to be just before the close of probation for the church! Is this not right? YES! So Ezekiel is not talking about his day only

but he is talking of our day also. I want you to keep this in your mind as we study this prophecy. Ezekiel is talking of our day just before the close of probation! People have a tendency to put this in Ezekiel's day only. Please do not do this. This prophecy is speaking of our day mostly because of the sealing of the people of God. We know that this sealing is one of the last thing to take place just before Christ comes.

This seal is in the forehead, not being a visible mark but is a settling into the truth in the mind, and signifies a resolve, assimilation of understanding, and harmony of character, and will be between the one being sealed and the originator of the seal. In order for a law to be valid it must contain three essential identifying characteristics to identify the law giver, which are, his name, dominion, and title. All three identifiers are given in the fourth commandment and make it the most important commandment of the ten and as eternal as is God. Ex, 20:11. "For in six days the LORD (name) made (title, Creator) heaven and earth, the sea (dominion)". So the keeping of the Sabbath is essential to receive the seal of God. To disregard the Sabbath is to disregard God's seal!

Notice according to Ezekiel there are certain qualifications and requirements that are essential before anyone can receive the seal of God. The seal is given only to those people **who sigh and cry for all the abominations done in the midst of God's people, Israel.** Which would be God's last day Church! They must know what the abominations are, else how can they sigh and cry for them? They cannot! Neither can they receive the seal of God.

We are told in 18MR 236 [letter 106 1909] to:

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“Study the **ninth chapter of Ezekiel**. These words will be **literally fulfilled**; yet the time is passing, and the **people are asleep**. They refuse to humble their souls and to be converted. Not a great while longer will the Lord bear with the people who have such great and important truths revealed to them, **but who refuse to bring these truths** into their individual experience. The time is short. God is calling. Will you hear? **Will you receive His message?** Will you be converted before it is too late? Soon, very soon, every case will be decided for eternity.”--Letter 106, 1909.

NOTE: “The people are asleep”, isn’t this the condition of those in the parable of the ten virgins and also of Laodicea. Please pay attention because you may read some things that will be startling to you, so again, **pay attention**, and **WAKE UP**. That is the call to **US!**

Of course the prophecy begins in chapter 8 therefore we must begin our study there. We will do a very simple Bible study called an expository Bible study.

WHAT ARE THE ABOMINATIONS?

We will begin with the first verse and go from there: Ezekiel 8:1, 2. “And it came to pass in the sixth year, in the sixth month, in the fifth day of the month, as I sat in mine house, and the elders of Judah sat before me, that the hand of the Lord GOD fell there upon me. Then I beheld, and lo a likeness as the appearance of fire: from the appearance of his loins even downward, fire; and from his loins even upward, as the appearance of brightness, as the colour of amber.”

Note: Where is Ezekiel? He is in his house. Where is his house? Ezekiel is in exile in Babylon. The elders of Judah are before him, that is the leaders of Judah.

In verse 2 he sees this very bright person. Who is this person? It is Christ the very same person John saw in Revelation. Let’s look at verse three:

“And **he** (Christ) put forth the form of an hand, and took me by a lock of mine head; and **the spirit lifted me up** between the earth and the heaven, and brought me in the visions of God to Jerusalem, to the door of the inner gate that looketh toward the north; where was

the seat of the image of jealousy, **which provoketh to jealousy.**”

There is a lot in this verse, let’s take it one part at a time. Who put forth His hand and took a lock of his head? It was Christ. Who lifted Ezekiel up by a lock of his head? It says the Spirit! Who is the Spirit here? It has to be Jesus the very bright person. Where did the Spirit take him? To Jerusalem to the door of the inner gate of the sanctuary. Where is this inner gate? It has to be the door to the holy place! Notice that it was facing to the north. What is on the north side of the holy place in the sanctuary? The table of show bread, or the throne of God before 1844. This was in Solomon’s temple, at Jerusalem. This is not referring to the sanctuary Moses built.

Let’s look at Exodus 34:14. What is it that “provokes God to jealousy? It is some kind of idol:

“For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God:”

Also in Deuteronomy 32:21 “They have moved me to jealousy with that which is not god; they have provoked me to anger with their vanities: and I will move them to jealousy with those which are not a people; I will provoke them to anger with a foolish nation.”

So what provokes God to jealousy? It is the worship of false gods. What is happening according to this verse in Ezekiel? There is seen in the north gate this image or idol. A false god that provokes God to jealousy.

Now remember, this is talking about the last days. Just before the close of probation. Which is about right now. So the worship of false god’s drives Jehovah to jealousy. Let’s continue with Ezek. 8:4, 5.

“And, behold, the glory of the God of Israel was there, according to the vision that I saw in the plain. Then said he unto me, Son of man, lift up thine eyes now the way toward the north. So I lifted up mine eyes the way toward the north, and behold northward at the **gate of the altar** this image of jealousy in the entry.”

Ezekiel is told again to look. Twice he is shown this image of jealousy but this time it is in the gate of the altar

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in the entry. So Ezekiel turns toward the gate of entry and sees again the image of jealousy. It is as if God were telling him "this is important, this is very serious, pay attention. Ezekiel's attention is being called a second time to this image of jealousy, this time it is at the gate of the altar of entry. What happens at this altar? Sacrifices are offered representing Christ's sacrifice, the order of true worship that God had given.

Who was in charge of this altar and its function? The priests. This is very interesting, in the very place where the true worship of God is officiated was this false idol that causes jealousy, and it says that it is right there in the entry. So right there where God's people were coming in to worship the true God was this idol set up to distract from true worship! And this is where the priests had jurisdiction. That is important to keep in mind. By this we see that the leaders, the elders, and pastors in the S.D.A. Church are responsible for this false worship which is occurring. Let us make no mistake about which church is being talked about in this prophecy. When we speak of God's true church, His remnant church, which church is being talked about? It is the Seventh Day Adventist church! Make no mistake about this. This prophecy in Ezekiel was given because of apostasy in God's last day church and He wanted to warn His church of the danger they face. So God has given this vision to Ezekiel to warn his last day people of the danger that is being taught in that church today.

In Psalms 81:9 we are told "There shall no strange god be in thee; neither shalt thou worship any strange god."

In Jeremiah 2:11 "Hath a nation changed their gods, which are yet no gods? But my people have changed their glory for that which doth not profit." God is saying "look at the Babylonians, the Assyrians, the Philistines, have they changed their god's? No, they are worshiping false gods yet they are consistent, they always worship their gods. But my people, who worship the true God, unfortunately, they have changed the worship of the true God." Back to Ezekiel.

Ezekiel 8:6. "He said furthermore unto me, Son of man, seest thou what they do? Even the great abominations that the house of Israel committeth here, that I should go **far off from my sanctuary?** But turn thee yet again, and thou shalt see greater abominations."

Notice that God is calling Ezekiel's attention to what is happening, "do you see what they are doing? Look again and I will show you greater abominations that they do." The Lord is outraged at the apostasy. And notice why He is outraged, "**that I should go far off from my sanctuary.**" The purpose for Satan's deception here is to cause God to have to leave his sanctuary! Which sanctuary is being referred to here? It has to be the soul sanctuary, it cannot be the heavenly because Satan tried to install his deceptions in heaven and failed, and he was cast out. He has more success with his deception down here on earth. So we see that now, in the last days, Christ wants to be the high priest in the soul sanctuary, but some type of worship will be adopted that will drive Christ from his sanctuary in your soul! Then Christ says "look again and you will see greater abominations." So things are going to get worse before they get better. Let's go to verse seven of Ezekiel 8.

"And he brought me to the door of the court; and when I looked, behold a hole in the wall." Notice that when Moses was instructed to build the sanctuary there was to be only one entrance into the court yard, there was no other way you could enter the sanctuary. I think we all know what that door represents. Let's look at John 10:9. "I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture."

What did Ezekiel see when he was brought to the door of the court? There was a hole. Let's look at verse 8.

. "Then said he unto me, Son of man, dig now in the wall: and when I had digged in the wall, behold a door."

Ezekiel dug in the wall and found a door. An alternative entrance, that was hidden or secret. Remember Christ is the true door for salvation, but here Ezekiel sees another alternative way of salvation. Let's look at verses 9, 10. "And he said unto me, Go in, and behold the wicked abominations that they do here. So I went in and saw; and behold every form of creeping things, and abominable beasts, and all the idols of the house of Israel, portrayed upon the wall round about."

NOTE: This is very significant, Ezekiel sees this idol worship and every secret thing portrayed upon the walls of this secret chamber within the church. There will be at first a very subtle and secret worship. We know Christ is

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the door, He is the mediator. Therefore this secret door would represent a different mediator, or another intercessor. Have you ever heard of that today?

Ezekiel is being shown these secrets in pictures and in vision. It is only when you understand certain truths that you can really understand what the prophecy is talking about. All these pictures, images, and idols portrayed on the walls. What does that represent? In Ezekiel 14:3 it reads:

“Son of man, these men have set up their idols **in their heart**, and put the **stumbling block of their iniquity before their face**: should I be inquired of at all by them?”

This is a picture of what is happening with God’s people today. The physical and spiritual are closely united. This is happening in the heart and minds of the leaders at first. Idolatry begins in the mind. So there will be confusion about true worship during the last days, just before the close of probation. People will have a **false understanding of the truth of God**. This is exactly what 5T 173, 174 says:

“Are we followers of God as dear children, or are we servants of the prince of darkness? Are we worshipers of Jehovah, or of Baal? Of the living God, or of idols? No outward shrines may be visible, there may be no image for the eye to rest upon, **yet we may be practicing idolatry**. It is as easy **to make an idol of cherished ideas or objects as to fashion gods of wood or stone**. **Thousands have a false conception of God and His attributes**. (This is what I’m talking about) They are as **verily serving a false god as were the servants of Baal**. **Are we worshipping the true God as He is revealed in His word, in Christ, in nature, or are we adoring some philosophical idol enshrined in His place?**” {5T 173.4} emphasis mine.

NOTE: Who is the true God? It is the Father, clearly brought out here as “revealed in his word, in Christ, in nature,” or are we worshipping a “**philosophical idol** enshrined in His place,” in the mind. It is some philosophical doctrine incorporated into the worship of the true God. This is what Ezekiel sees happening to us in these last days.

Ezekiel 8:11. “And there stood before them (the idols behind the secret door) seventy men of the ancients of the house of Israel, and in the midst of them stood Jaazaniah the son of Shaphan, with every man his censor in his hand; and a thick cloud of incense went up.”

NOTE: Here Ezekiel sees the “ancients” in the house. Who are the ancients? They are the leaders, the elders, pastors, and conference men all the way to the General conference. What does Ezekiel see them doing? They are offering up a thick cloud of incense. Incense represents prayer, a thick cloud means a lot of prayer. And this is behind this secret door that has to be uncovered meaning it is hidden, at least at first.

Ezekiel 8:12. “Then said he unto me, Son of man, hast thou seen what the ancients of the house of Israel do in the dark, every man in the chambers of his imagery (imagination)? For they say, The LORD seeth us not; the LORD hath forsaken the earth.”

I can hear the agony of Jesus as He is revealing this to Ezekiel. It’s like Jesus is saying “Ezekiel are you seeing what is taking place in my temple, in my sanctuary. This is the anguish of Christ over His people because this false worship exist in His church and in their minds in the last day!

Verses 13, 14. “He said also unto me, Turn thee yet again, and thou shalt see greater abominations that they do. Then he brought me to the door of the gate of the LORD’S house which was toward the north; and, behold, there sat **women weeping for Tammuz**.”

NOTE: How many things have we seen so far? The image of jealousy at the gate, then the secret door, and all the abominations, now the women weeping for Tammuz. The rebellion keeps getting worse. Now we are brought back to the gate toward the north where we started but this time Ezekiel sees something else. “Women weeping for Tammuz.” This is one of the idols of abominations. They were not just crying. The margin says they were acting in “a lewd and idolatrous manner.” So the women were involved in lewd activities in their worship of Tammuz.

In prophecy a woman represents the church. Paul says in 2 Cor. 11:2. “For I am jealous over you with Godly

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jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.” So here we see the members of the church depicted as involved in this adulterous worship of this false idolatrous idol. The fact that this is getting worse is that at first it was secret but now it is open so much so that it is effecting the entire church.

In Judges 2:17. This adulterous activity is called a whoring. Here it is: “And yet they would not hearken unto their judges, but they went a whoring after other gods, and bowed themselves unto them: they turned quickly out of the way which their fathers walked in.” (Out of the way of our S.D.A. founding fathers).

So here the leaders along with the laity have gone a whoring after other gods. And this is taking place just before the close of probation.

Where is all this false worship taking place? It says at the North Gate. What is significance about the north gate? It is Satan that wants to deceive God’s people and he sets up this whole situation at the north gate. Now what is it that so intrigues Satan about the north? In Isaiah 14: 12-14 it says:

“How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning? How art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations? For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.” So the north side is where Satan has set his eyes because that is where God’s throne is and that is where Satan wanted to establish his throne in heaven! But he was cast out, he failed of accomplish his goal in heaven. He has had more success here on earth. What is the significance of the North? When Moses was instructed about the placement of the furniture in the sanctuary he was told exactly where each article must be placed. We read in Leviticus 26:35. “And thou shalt set the table without the veil, and the candlestick over against the table on the side of the tabernacle toward the south: and thou shalt put the table on the north side.”

This table represents the table of show bread and is the place of Gods throne before 1844. It is referred to “as the sides of the north” in Isaiah chapter 14:13, the place where Satan wanted to exalt his throne. In Exodus 25:23-25, 30. We are told the ingredients and particulars about this table. This is very significant to know because there is much information in understanding what is going on at the table.

Exodus 25:23-25, 30. “Thou shalt also make a table of shittim wood: two cubits shall be the length thereof, and a cubit the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof. And thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, and make thereto a crown of gold round about. “And thou shalt make unto it a border of a hand breadth round about, and thou shalt make a golden crown to the border thereof round about. V. 30. And thou shalt set upon the table showbread before Me always.” This table was over laid with pure gold. What does gold represent in the sanctuary? Let’s look and see in Job 22:25. “Yea, the Almighty shall be thy defense, (or gold, margin) and thou shalt have plenty of silver.” (See margin). In the margin defense is a reference to gold. Gold in the sanctuary is a symbol for God or Divinity. This table having two crowns would represent only two royal beings sitting upon the throne. For a fact in YI. July 7, 1898:2 we are told: “the Father and the Son alone are to be exalted.” What does a crown represent? Royalty. This table of shew bread has a double crown representing two royal beings. This is significant as we shall see later.

On the table of shew bread was placed “the shew bread. Leviticus 24:5, 6. “And thou shalt take fine flour, and bake twelve cakes thereof: two tenth deals shall be in one cake. And thou shalt set them in two rows, six on a row, upon the pure table before the LORD.” They were to make 12 cakes or loaves of bread and put them on the table with two crowns of gold. They were to arrange them in two rows of six in each row. They were not to be placed in any old way upon the table. This is called the bread of the presence, the bread before the face of God, it represents God. In John 6: 52 we are told that Jesus represents bread “I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live forever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world”. Jesus also said “I and My Father are one.” John 10:30. The

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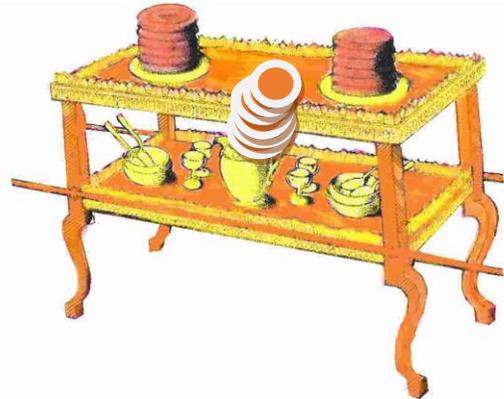
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table of shew bread is over laid with gold with two gold crowns and signifies the throne where the Father and Son sat. Revelation 3:21, 22 "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches." That is why the people were told to only put two piles of bread. That is why there are only two crowns. This signifies that the throne in heaven is occupied by only two individuals, not three. Who was it that wanted to put his throne in the sides of the north? There is a statement in **Patriarchs and Prophets, page 36:1, 2** that sheds light on how many occupants are sitting on God's throne on the north? I think we all know that it was Satan wanting his throne there also.

"To dispute the supremacy of the Son of God, thus impeaching the wisdom and love of the Creator, had become the purpose of this prince of angels. To this object he was about to bend the energies of that master mind, which, next to Christ's, was first among the hosts of God. But He who would have the will of all His creatures free, left none unguarded to the bewildering sophistry by which rebellion would seek to justify itself. Before the great contest should open, all were to have a clear presentation of His will, whose wisdom and goodness were the spring of all their joy." {PP 36.1}

"The King of the universe summoned the heavenly hosts before Him, that in their presence He might set forth the true position of His Son and show the relation He sustained to all created beings. **The Son of God shared the Father's throne, and the glory of the eternal, self-existent One encircled both.**" PP. 36:2(Both, that is 2 not 3).

So the throne is shared by only two persons. Could God have told Moses to place three piles of bread or may be one, or even four piles on the table of shew bread? Yes He could have but God didn't, why? Because that would give a false illustration about His throne. Suppose God had said three piles with six loaves each. What would we have? For your consideration.



Isn't that what we would have if Satan had succeeded in his effort to exalt his throne to the side of the north. That would make three piles of six loaves each, making the number 666. That number means something to us. What significance does that number have for us? It represents a system of false worship in the book of Revelation, especially in the last days. Now Satan tried to do this physically and actually in heaven and failed. But he has had more success here on earth. He has actually succeeded in exalting his throne to the sides of the north in the sanctuary of the minds of millions of Christians. What Satan wanted to do in heaven and could not, He has had much more success accomplishing here on earth. God cannot share his throne with Satan. If we accept this deception it drives Christ from his rightful place in the soul sanctuary for another occupies it. This is really quite alarming! He has deceived many by making himself equal with the Father and Son. And millions are deceived. This is what Ezekiel sees happening in the sanctuary on the sides of the north. And God is telling Ezekiel, do you see the abomination that is taking place with My people. Any worship of an idol is actually Satan worship. What is this false worship with 666 as its identifying number? Or the 666 god. In Revelation it is the system of false worship that will mature in the last days. If you look at history it is very easy to find out about this 666 god, but for brevity sake, it is sun worship, or the worship of the sun god. We will review this later. First let's look closely at the occupants of God's throne. Many of God's people do not like this conclusion. It is alarming and startling!

In Early writings page 54. This statement addresses Satan's attempt to place his throne in the sides of the north as prophesied in Ezekiel 8. "I saw a throne, and on

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it sat the Father and the Son. I gazed on Jesus' countenance and admired His lovely person. The Father's person I could not behold, for a cloud of glorious light covered Him. I asked Jesus if **His Father had a form like Himself. He said He had**, but I could not behold it, for said He, "If you should once behold the glory of His person, you would cease to exist." Of course this was at the time of 1844. But the principles that come out of this vision are significant for us today! When Satan was cast out of heaven there were two occupants on the throne, and about a hundred and seventy years or so ago we are told that there remains only two occupants on the throne. The rest of the narrative here in Early Writings I would strongly suggest you read because important principles are established here that apply to our time, I will just summarize for brevity sake. You remember the vision Mrs. White had about the end of the 2,300 days where the Father got up and left the throne in the holy place and entered the most holy place and sat down on the mercy seat (throne) there. Then Jesus got up and followed him. Here is what it says: "Then Jesus rose up from the throne, and the most of those who were bowed down arose with Him. **I did not see one ray of light pass from Jesus to the careless multitude after He arose, and they were left in perfect darkness.** Those who arose when Jesus did, kept their eyes fixed on Him as He left the throne and led them out a little way. Then He raised His right arm, and we heard His lovely voice saying, "Wait here; I am going to My Father to receive the kingdom; ...Those who rose up with Jesus would send up their faith to Him in the holiest, and pray, **"My Father, give us Thy Spirit."** Then Jesus would breathe upon them the Holy Ghost. In that breath was light, power, and much love, joy, and peace.

I turned to look at the company who were still bowed before the throne; **they did not know that Jesus had left it. Satan appeared to be by the throne,** (Satan attempting to place his throne on the side of the north) **trying to carry on the work of God. I saw them look up to the throne, and pray, "Father, give us Thy Spirit."** **Satan would then breathe upon them an unholy influence; in it there was light and much power, but no sweet love, joy, and peace.** Satan's object was to keep them deceived and to draw back and deceive God's children."

NOTE: It is important for us to realize what is happening here. The time is 1844 but the principles here are very significant for us today. Notice that the people of God pray, "Father give us thy spirit". Who answers? "Then Jesus would breathe upon them the holy ghost (spirit). In that breath was light, power, and much sweet love, joy, and peace." What about those who remained at the throne Jesus had vacated? Let's continue.

"They did not know that Jesus had left it. Satan appeared to be by the throne, trying to carry on the work of God. (This has always been Satan's desire. to be in the place of God). I saw them look up to the throne, and pray, **Father, give us Thy spirit. Satan would then breathe upon them an unholy influence; in it there was light and much power, but no sweet love, joy, and peace.**" End quote.

NOTE: It is always **Satan's desire to occupy the place of Christ. And when people don't realize that they will come to a place in their life where they will pray to God and someone else will answer!** That is interesting! This shocked me when I first saw this. The first group prayed, "Father give us thy spirit". Who answered? Jesus answered. The second group prayed exactly the same prayer, "Father give us thy spirit". And who answered? Satan answered. It's the same prayer isn't it? How is it that you can pray the right words and have Satan answer your prayer? **That should really cause you to think about how you understand the truth, and what you understand about the truth! Is that not a little bit scary or what?**

Back to Tammuz, these women (people in the church) were weeping for Tammuz. Who was Tammuz? He was the son of Nimrod by Simerimas or so she wanted everyone to believe. Nimrod, her husband, had died and she claimed he went to the sun to be the sun god! Later she became pregnant. It obviously wasn't Nimrod's but she claimed that a ray of the sun came down and entered her belly and she had a son, claiming he was Nimrod returned, or the sun god reincarnated, or the son of god. His birthday was on December (what day?) the 25th. We find that Simerimas, Nimrod and Tammuz were the first trinity that was ever worshiped in history. This concept of the worship of 3 Gods in one traveled everywhere when God confounded the languages, to scatter the people, at the tower of Babel. Each language

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group took with them the same concept of a trinity god in their new language. I won't go into the names of the different trinity gods but each nation had their own trinity of gods with the same concept as that of Babel. So these church members are involved with the worship of Tammuz, and Tammuz has to do with the trinity. **This is in the church just before the close of probation! In the last days**, according to Ezekiel! Isn't that a shock? But scripture cannot be broken. We are not off the three angels messages when we study about the trinity and the Godhead because are we not told to "worship God, and give him glory" in the 1st message of the three angels. How can we give God glory if we have a misconception of who He is? We are right on target with the three angels messages. And doesn't Ezekiel say that only those who sigh and cry for the abominations that are done in Israel will receive the seal of God. How can you sigh and cry if you don't understand what the abominations are? And if you are not sighing and crying for these abominations you cannot receive the seal of God? Let's go on: Ezekiel 8:15, 16: "Then said he unto me, hast thou seen this, O son of man? Turn thee yet again, and thou shalt see greater abominations than these."

NOTE: What could be greater than the church being involved in this false worship that has to do with the trinity and that has to do with Tammuz? Verse. 16. "And he brought me into the inner court of the LORD'S house, and, behold, at the door of the temple of the LORD, between the porch and the altar, were about five and twenty men, with their backs toward the temple of the LORD, and their faces toward the east; and they worshipped the sun toward the east." Who were these men in the porch? They are the leaders of the church. And what are they doing? They have turned their backs to the temple and are worshiping the Sun toward the East. Dear brothers and sisters, according to Ezekiel there is going to be open sun worship in the church in the last days just before Jesus returns. Between the porch and the altar is a public place where these men can be observed. It's not hidden any more. This tells me that the church has backslidden to the point where the leaders are not afraid to openly worship the sun. That means these men know about the true worship of God and have chosen to purposely turn their backs on the true worship of God and worship the sun. Brothers and sisters, according to Ezekiel there is going to be open

sun worship in the Seventh Day Adventist church just before the close of probation. Sun worship always has a trinity included in its worship in some form! When we think of sun worship we automatically think of Sunday but there is more involved in sun worship than worshiping on Sunday. The worship of the sun is really the worship of Satan. This is what we do when we worship the holy spirit and call him "god the holy spirit." This phrase is not found in Scripture nor the Spirit of Prophecy anywhere. Why do we add to God's word? Worshiping on Sunday is an acknowledgement of sun worship. We need to understand this and be warned. Isn't this what Ezekiel is telling us?

Where does any worship begin? It begins in the mind or soul sanctuary and Satan has set himself up in the north side of that sanctuary to drive Christ from His rightful throne in each of our minds. And he has deceived the church by the belief that they are rich and have need of nothing, and know not that they are poor blind and naked! Remember this condition is what Ezekiel saw in verse 6 of chapter 8. "That I should go far off from my sanctuary." When God had Moses build the sanctuary He gave special directions of how it was to be laid out. The gate was always on the east side so that when the people came to worship they had to enter with their backs to the sun and face the west. God set it up this way because the pagans always faced the east to worship the sun, but God is saying my worship is not sun worship, I am the true God, and you are to acknowledge me and worship Me by turning your backs to the sun and worship Me alone. I am the God of the sun, I am the creator, and to worship Me you do not face the sun, God worship is just the opposite of sun worship. These men were worshiping the sun toward the east. What does this mean to us today? Is it true that sun worship will be advocated by the leaders of the S. D. A. church in the last days? That's what it is saying here in Ezekiel! Remember sun worship does not only mean going to church on Sunday but involves the worship of the sun, which is really the worship of Satan. We see how Christ is taking Ezekiel on this progressive abomination that gets worse and worse. First he sees it at the gate then at the secret door that has to be uncovered and it gets so bad that the whole church gets involved, and finally the leaders are openly worshiping and advocating sun worship! When a person accepts and believes that

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there is a third divine being in the Godhead, that very person has accepted the transgression of desolation into their heart!! God has given us time to repent and to come out of this deception. The LORD is telling us this is not happening thousands of years ago, this is happening today, near the close of probation!--To be continued.

Let us pray: Holy Father, please give these words the power of Your holy spirit that they may have impact upon the minds of Your people and cause them to consider their truthfulness! I ask this in the name of Jesus Your Son. Amen.

Because of space I must stop here and continue this study in the next issue. Please keep this lesson for reference regarding the next lesson. Until next time:

May God bless and keep you is my prayer
Virgil