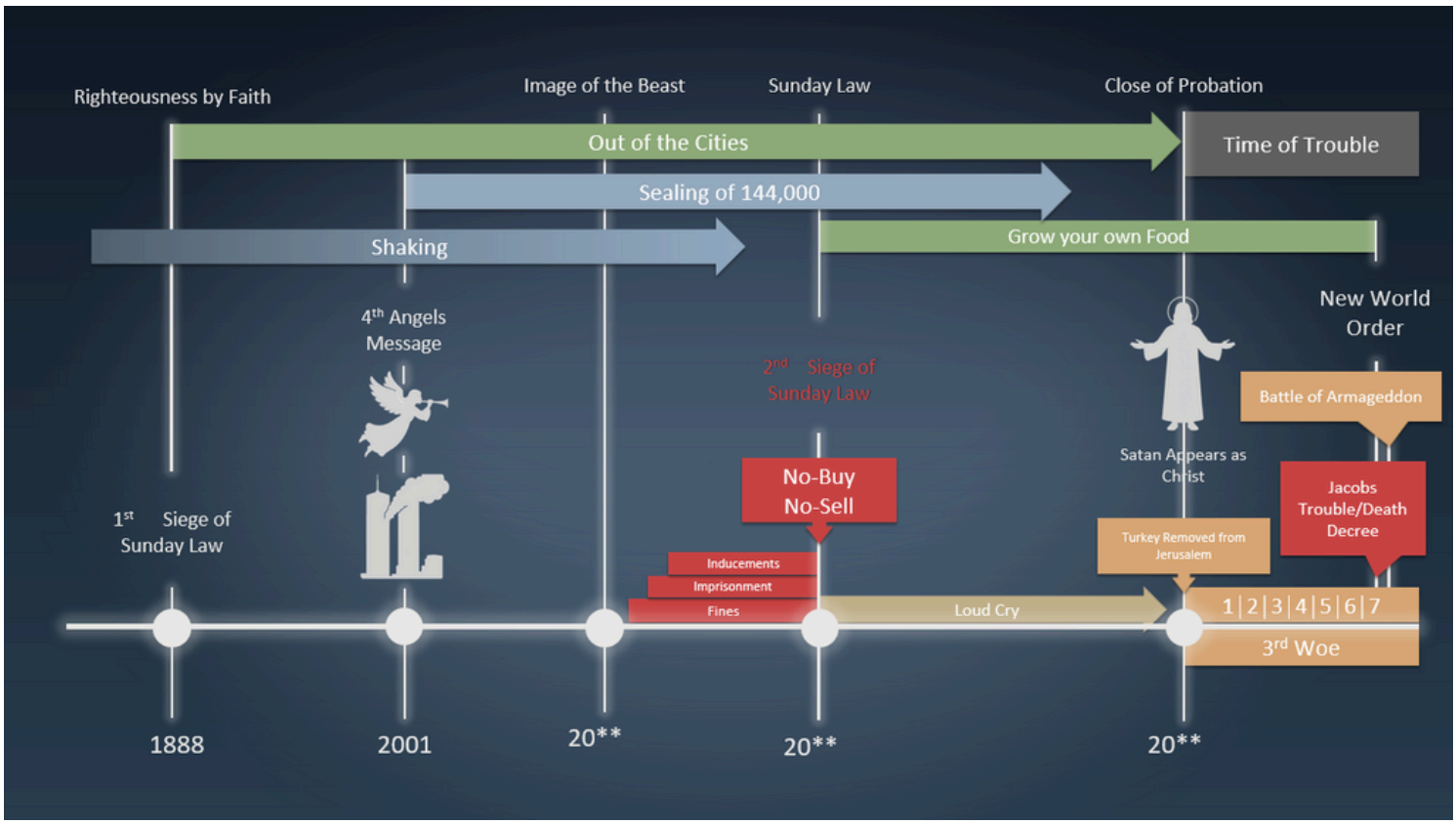
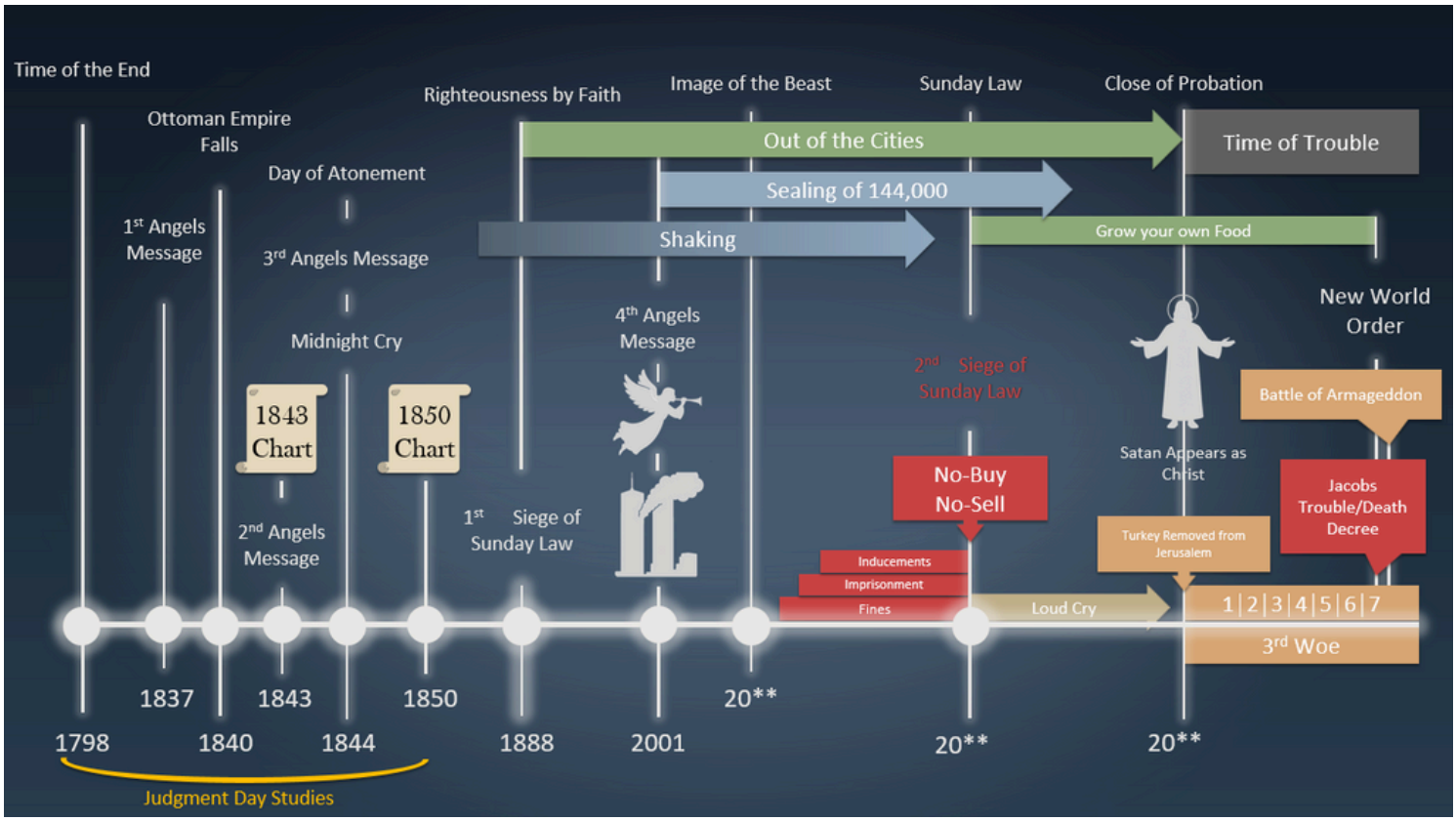
THE FINAL COUNTDOWN: WARNING TO LEAVE THE CITIES

WEEK #13 OF A LIVE BIBLE STUDY SERIES

Week #13 - Warning to Leave the Cities





Christ Triumphant p. 353: "Christ warned His disciples of the destruction of Jerusalem as well as of the temple. This event was foretold by Daniel. The oblations and sacrifices were no more of value, for type had reached anti-type in the one great oblation. . . .

When **Christ referred to the destruction of Jerusalem, His prophetic words reached beyond that event** to the final conflagration that will take place in that day when the Lord rises out of His place to punish the world for their iniquity, when the earth shall disclose her blood and shall no more cover her slain. **This entire chapter is a warning to those who shall live in the last scenes of this earth's history**."

The Great Controversy, page 30-31: "Christ had given his disciples warning, and **all who believed his words watched for the promised sign**. "When ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies," said Jesus, "then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. Then let them which are in Judea flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out." [Luke 21:20, 21.] **After the Romans under Cestius had surrounded the city, they unexpectedly abandoned the siege** ...

But God's merciful providence was directing events for the good of his own people. The promised sign had been given to the waiting Christians, **and now an opportunity was afforded for all who would to obey the Saviour's warning**."

The Great Controversy p. 30-31: "Terrible were the calamities that fell upon Jerusalem when the siege was resumed by Titus."

The Great Controversy p. 30.4: "**Not one Christian perished in the destruction of Jerusalem**. Christ had given his disciples warning, and all who believed his words watched for the promised sign. "When ye

shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies," said Jesus, "then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. Then let them which are in Judea flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out." [Luke 21:20, 21.] After the Romans under Cestius had surrounded the city, they unexpectedly abandoned the siege when everything seemed favorable for an immediate attack. **The besieged, despairing of successful resistance, were on the point of surrender, when the Roman general withdrew his forces, without the least apparent reason. But God's merciful providence was directing events for the good of his own people.**"

The Great Controversy p. 30.4: "The promised sign had been given to the waiting Christians, and now an opportunity was afforded for all who would to obey the Saviour's warning. **Events were so overruled that neither Jews nor Romans should hinder the flight of the Christians**. Upon the retreat of Cestius, the Jews, sallying from Jerusalem, pursued after his retiring army, and while both forces were thus fully engaged, the Christians had **an opportunity to leave the city**. At this time the country also had been cleared of enemies who might have endeavored to intercept them. At the time of the siege, the Jews were assembled at Jerusalem to keep the Feast of Tabernacles, and thus the Christians throughout the land were able to make their escape unmolested."

Wikipedia: "During the siege of Jerusalem and its aftermath, the population was subjected to **mass extermination**—an event that Shawn J. Kelley characterizes as genocide.[201] Josephus wrote that **1.1 million people**, the majority of them Jewish, were killed during the siege – a death toll he attributes to the celebration of Passover.[202] It has also been noted that the revolt had not deterred pilgrims from visiting Jerusalem, and a large number became trapped in the city and perished during the siege." (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Siege_of_Jerusalem_(70_CE)#:~:text=Josephus%20wrote%20that%201.1%20million,to%20the%20celebration%20of%20Passover.)

Christian Service, p. 41.1: "It is a solemn statement that I make to the church, that **not one in twenty whose names are registered upon the church books are prepared to close their earthly history**, and would be as verily without God and without hope in the world as the common sinner. **They are professedly serving God, but they are more earnestly serving mammon**."

Country Living, p. 32 (1885): "The time is not far distant, when, **like the early disciples, we shall be forced to seek a refuge in desolate and solitary places**. As the siege of Jerusalem by the Roman armies was the signal for flight to the Judean Christians, so the assumption of power on the part of our nation, in the decree enforcing the papal Sabbath, will be a warning to us. It will then be time to **leave the large cities, preparatory to leaving the smaller ones for retired homes in secluded places among the mountains**."

RH, July 5, 1906 par. 10: "**Out of the cities; out of the cities!**"—this is the message the Lord has been giving me. The earthquakes will come; the floods will come; and we are not to establish ourselves in the wicked cities, where the enemy is served in every way, and where God is so often forgotten. The Lord desires that we shall have clear spiritual eyesight. **We must be quick to discern the peril that would attend the establishment of institutions in these wicked cities. We must make wise plans to warn the**

cities, and at the same time live where we can shield our children and ourselves from the contaminating and demoralizing influences so prevalent in these places."

18LtMs Ms50, 1903. par. 13: "**The time has come**, when, as God opens the way, families should move **out of the cities**. The children should be taken into the country. The parents should get as suitable a place as their means will allow. **Though the dwelling may be small, yet there should be land in connection with it that may be cultivated**. Some families who have been separated may be united in such places."

12LtMs, Lt 90, 1897 par. 17: "When the power invested in kings is allied to goodness, it is because the one in responsibility is under the divine dictation. When power is allied with wickedness, it is allied to Satanic agencies, and it will work to destroy those who are the Lord's property. **The Protestant world have set up an idol Sabbath in the place where God's Sabbath should be**, and they are treading in the footsteps of the Papacy. **For this reason I see the necessity of the people of God moving out of the cities into retired country places, where they may cultivate the land and raise their own produce**. Thus they may bring their children up with simple, healthful habits. **I see the necessity of making haste to get all things ready for the crisis**."

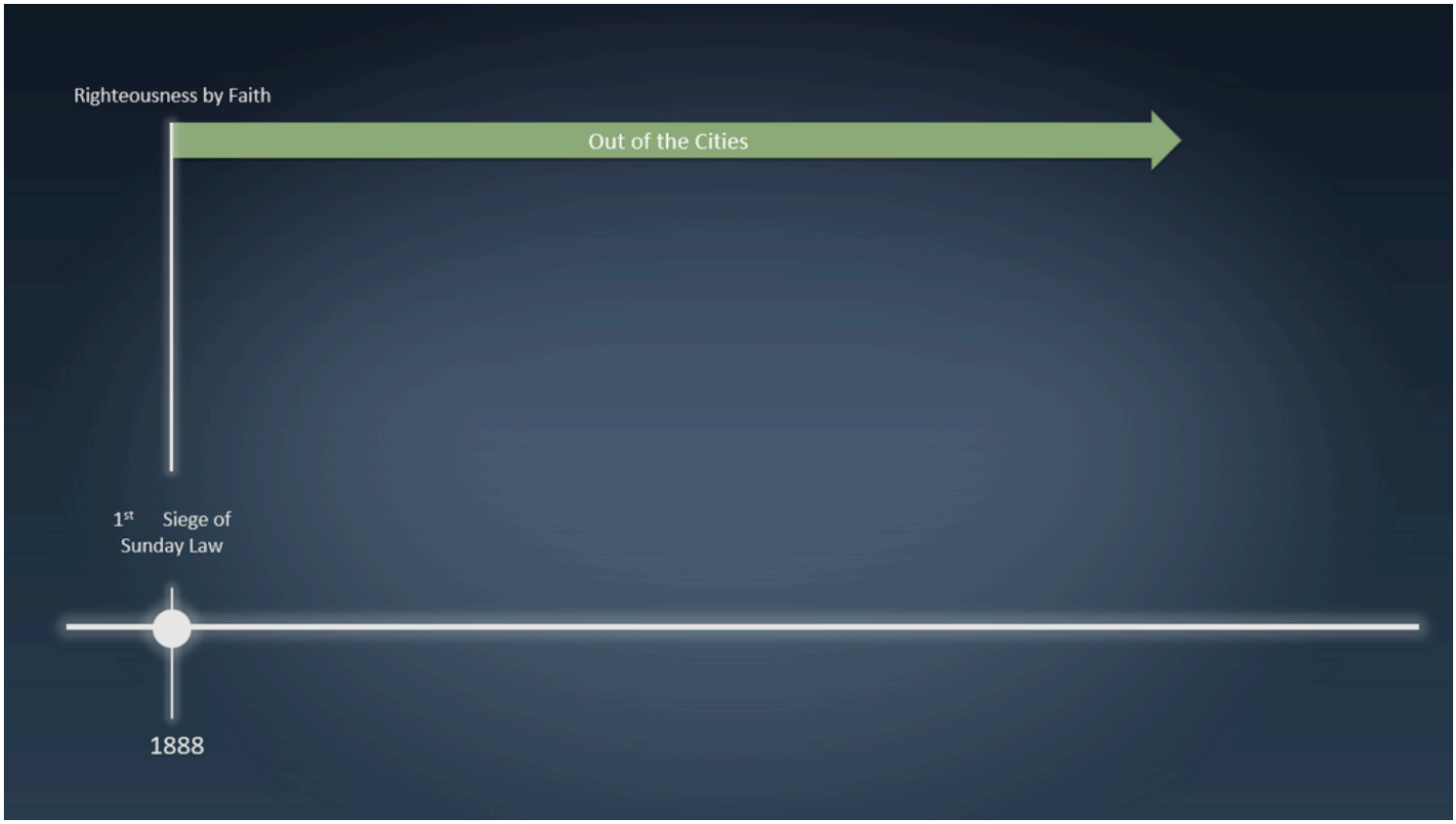
NATIONAL SUNDAY-REST BILL

SENATE BILL No. 2983, INTRODUCED IN FIRST SESSION OF FIFTIETH CONGRESS,
BY SENATOR H. W. BLAIR, MAY 21, 1888.

BILL TO SECURE TO THE PEOPLE THE ENJOYMENT OF THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK, COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE LORD'S DAY, AS A DAY OF REST, AND TO PROMOTE ITS OBSERVANCE AS A DAY OF RELIGIOUS WORSHIP.

The Lonely Years, Volume 3, page 395: "The routine business of the session (General Conference), while vitally important, presented only a few features of unusual interest. Steps were taken to place in operation a missionary ship to serve the work for the church in the South Pacific; there was also **consideration of measures to counter the Blair Sunday bill before the United States Congress**."

RH, December 18, 1888, Article A par. 6: "**They should work more earnestly to delay as long as possible the threatened calamity**. If, in our land of boasted freedom, a Protestant government should sacrifice every principle which enters into its Constitution, and propagate papal falsehood and delusion, well may we plead, "It is time for thee, Lord, to work, for they have made void thy law." **Some may think that because it has been revealed in prophecy that our nation shall restrict the consciences of men, it must surely come; and that if we make an effort to preserve our liberty, we shall be acting the part of unfaithful servants, and thus come under the condemnation of God**."

RH, December 18, 1888, Article A par. 7: "This peril now threatens the people of God; and what are we

going to do? Can we not assist in lifting the standard, and in calling to the front those who have a regard for their religious rights and privileges? God calls upon us to awake. **We know the end is near. We know that the prophecies are fast fulfilling which show that we are living in the close of this world's history**."