



# THE FINAL COUNTDOWN: HOW TO SURVIVE WHAT'S COMING

## WEEK #9 OF A LIVE BIBLE STUDY SERIES

Week #9 - How To Survive What's Coming

**17LtMs, Ms 233, 1902, par. 4:** “We are living amid the perils of the last days. **The wrath of God is preparing to come upon all the cities**—not all at once but **one after another**. And if the terrible punishment in one city does not **cause the inhabitants of other cities to be afraid and seek repentance**, their time will come. When the Lord ariseth to shake terribly the earth, He will not cease until His work in punishment is done.”

**17LtMs, Ms 72, 1902, par. 2:** “We are living in the very last days of this earth's history. The terrible calamities that have recently visited our country show that the judgments of the Lord are falling on the world. **The destruction of these cities is a warning to us to prepare for what is coming upon the earth.** In the future there will be broken thrones and great distress of nations with perplexity. Satan will work with intense activity. The earth will be filled with the shrieks of suffering, expiring nations. **There will be war, war.** The places of the earth will be in confusion, as from its bowels pour forth its burning contents, to destroy the inhabitants of the world, who in their wickedness resemble the inhabitants of the antediluvian world.”

**Adventist Home p. 146.3:** “**So long as God gives me power to speak** to our people, I shall continue to **call upon parents to leave the cities and get homes in the country, where they can cultivate the soil** and learn from the book of nature the lessons of purity and simplicity. The things of nature are the Lord's silent ministers, given to us to teach us spiritual truths. They speak to us of the love of God and declare the wisdom of the great Master Artist.”

**Zephaniah 1:14-16:** “The **great day of the Lord** is near, it is near, and hasteth greatly, even the voice of the day of the Lord: the mighty man shall cry there bitterly. **That day** is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, A day of the **trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities**, and against the high towers.”

**2 Peter 2:6:** “And **turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes** condemned them with an

overthrow, **making them an ensample unto those that after** should live ungodly.”

**Genesis 19:12-14:** “And the men said unto Lot, Hast thou here any besides? son in law, and thy sons, and thy daughters, and whatsoever thou hast in the city, **bring them out of this place:** For **we will destroy this place**, because the cry of them is waxen great before the face of the Lord; and the Lord hath sent us to destroy it. And Lot went out, and spake unto his sons in law, which married his daughters, and said, Up, get you out of this place; for the **Lord will destroy this city**. But he seemed as one that mocked unto his sons in law.

**Genesis 19:15-17:** “And when the morning arose, then the angels hastened Lot, saying, Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters, which are here; lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city. And **while he lingered**, the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the Lord being merciful unto him: and they brought him forth, and set him without the city. And it came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said, Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, **neither stay thou in all the plain; escape to the mountain, lest thou be consumed.**”

**Genesis 19:18-20:** “And Lot said unto them, Oh, not so, my Lord: Behold now, thy servant hath found grace in thy sight, and thou hast magnified thy mercy, which thou hast shewed unto me in saving my life; **and I cannot escape to the mountain, lest some evil take me, and I die:** Behold now, this city is near to flee unto, and **it is a little one:** Oh, let me escape thither, **(is it not a little one?)** and **my soul shall live.**”

**Patriarchs and Prophets p. 159.3:** “...and Lot went out to warn his children. He repeated the words of the angels, “**Up, get you out of this place; for the Lord will destroy this city.**” But he seemed to them as one that mocked. They laughed at what they called his superstitious fears. His daughters were influenced by their husbands. They were well enough off where they were. They could see **no evidence of danger.** Everything was just as it had been. They had great possessions, and **they could not believe it possible that beautiful Sodom would be destroyed.**”

**Patriarchs and Prophets p. 160:** “**Lot returned sorrowfully** to his home and told the story of his failure. Then the angels bade him arise and take his wife and the two daughters who were yet in his house and leave the city. **But Lot delayed.** Though daily distressed at beholding deeds of violence, **he had no true conception of the debasing and abominable iniquity practiced in that vile city.** He **did not realize the terrible necessity for God's judgments to put a check on sin.** Some of his children clung to Sodom, and his wife refused to depart without them.

The thought of leaving those whom he held dearest on earth seemed more than he could bear. It was hard to forsake his luxurious home and all the wealth acquired by the labors of his whole life, to go forth a destitute wanderer. Stupefied with sorrow, he lingered, loath to depart. But for the angels of God, they would all have perished in the ruin of Sodom. The heavenly messengers took him and his wife and daughters by the hand and led them out of the city.”

**Patriarchs and Prophets p. 161.1:** “But Lot, **confused and terrified**, pleaded that he could not do as he was

required lest some evil should overtake him and he should die. **Living in that wicked city, in the midst of unbelief, his faith had grown dim.** The Prince of heaven was by his side, yet he pleaded for his own life as though God, who had manifested such care and love for him, would not still preserve him. He should have trusted himself wholly to the divine Messenger, giving his will and his life into the Lord's hands without a doubt or a question.

But like so many others, he endeavored to plan for himself: “Behold now, this city is near to flee unto, and it is a little one: O, let me escape thither, (is it not a little one?) and my soul shall live.” **The city here mentioned was Bela, afterward called Zoar. It was but a few miles from Sodom,** and, like it, was **corrupt and doomed to destruction.**

**Patriarchs and Prophets p. 161.2:** “Again the solemn command was given to hasten, for the fiery storm would be delayed but little longer. But one of the fugitives ventured to cast a look backward to the doomed city, and she became a monument of God's judgment. If Lot himself had manifested no hesitancy to obey the angels’ warning, but had earnestly fled toward the mountains, without one word of pleading or remonstrance, his wife also would have made her escape. The influence of his example would have saved her from the sin that sealed her doom. But his hesitancy and delay caused her to lightly regard the divine warning.

While her body was upon the plain, her heart clung to Sodom, and she perished with it. She rebelled against God because His judgments involved her possessions and her children in the ruin. Although so greatly favored in being called out from the wicked city, she felt that she was severely dealt with, because the wealth that it had taken years to accumulate must be left to destruction. Instead of thankfully accepting deliverance, she presumptuously looked back to desire the life of those who had rejected the divine warning. Her sin showed her to be unworthy of life, for the preservation of which she felt so little gratitude.”

**23LtMs, Ms 85, 1908, par. 16:** “Who will be warned? We say again, Out of the cities. Do not consider it a great deprivation, that you must go into the hills and mountains, but seek for that retirement where you can be alone with God, to learn His will and way.”

**21LtMs, Lt. 158, 1906, par. 3:** “The Lord calls for His people to locate away from the cities; for in such an hour as ye think not, fire and brimstone will be rained from heaven upon these cities. Proportionate to their sins will be their visitation. When one city is destroyed, let not our people regard this matter as a light affair and think that they may, if favorable opportunity offers, build themselves homes in that same destroyed city.”

**Selected Messages vol.2 p.356:** “If we place ourselves under objectionable influences, can we expect God to work a miracle to undo the results of our wrong course?—No, indeed. Get out of the cities as soon as possible, and purchase a little piece of land, where you can have a garden, where your children can watch the flowers growing, and learn from them lessons of simplicity and purity.”

**Letter 5, 1904 par.6:** “Let centers be no longer made in the cities. Let children no longer be exposed to

the temptations of the cities that are ripe for destruction. The Lord has sent us warning and counsel to get out of the cities. Then let us make no more investments in the cities. Fathers and mothers, how do you regard the souls of your children? Are you preparing the members of your families for translation into the heavenly courts? Are you preparing them to become members of the royal family? children of the heavenly King? What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul? How will ease, comfort, convenience compare with the value of the souls of your children?"

**Testimonies for the Church vol.6 p.195:** "This experience of the Israelites was written for the instruction of those who should live in the last days. Before the overflowing scourge shall come upon the dwellers of the earth, the Lord calls upon all who are Israelites indeed to prepare for that event. To parents He sends the warning cry: Gather your children into your own houses; gather them away from those who are disregarding the commandments of God, who are teaching and practicing evil. Get out of the large cities as fast as possible. Establish church schools. Give your children the word of God as the foundation of all their education. This is full of beautiful lessons, and if pupils make it their study in the primary grade below, they will be prepared for the higher grade above."

**Great Controversy p.622.3:** "The "time of trouble such as never was," is soon to open upon us; and we shall need an experience which we do not now possess, and which many are too indolent to obtain. It is often the case that trouble is greater in anticipation than in reality; but this is not true of the crisis before us. The most vivid presentation cannot reach the magnitude of the ordeal. In that time of trial, every soul must stand for himself before God. Though Noah, Daniel, and Job were in the land, "as I live, saith the Lord God, they shall deliver neither son nor daughter; they shall but deliver their own souls by their righteousness." [Ezekiel 14:20.]

**Country Living p. 32:** "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**."

