Satan Counterfeit's Jesus 2nd Coming

BEWARE OF LAST DAYS **DECEPTION** BY SATAN THE ANGEL **OF LIGHT**





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Enter The Ark of Hope

The Great Controversy between God and Satan is primarily over

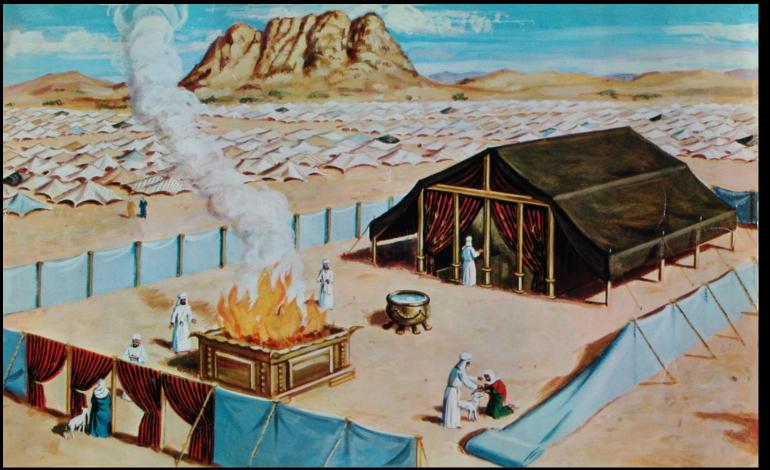
"WORSHIP"

Who will you Choose?



Get into the Ark Sanctuary





And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.

Exodus 25:8

Psalms 77:13



Health Snippet - Bottle Gourd

Health Benefits of Bottle Gourd (Seek Medical Advice)
Bottle gourd is a nutrient rich vegetable which is famous for its various health benefits. It is packed with essential vitamins and minerals, including vitamin C, vitamin K, calcium, iron and magnesium, which contribute significantly to overall health.

Top 10 Health Benefits of Bottle gourd:

- 1. Helps with Weight loss is a low-calorie vegetable.
- 2. Improves Heart Disease rich in nutrients like potassium.
- 3. Helps Manage Diabetes helps both type 1 & type 2 diabetes.
- 4. Helps treat Urinary Disorders as a diuretic > urine production
- 5. Improves Liver Health has hepatoprotective properties.
- 6. Improves Skin Health hydrates and cools the body.
- 7. Improves Hair Health Applying bottle gourd on the surface of the body is believed to stop hair fall and promote hair growth.
- 8. Eye Health prevents macular degeneration and cataracts.
- 9. Improves Digestive Health reducing constipation, acid reflux and bowel irregularities.
- 10. Improves Bone Health prevents conditions osteoporosis.

How to consume Bottle gourd?

Soup, Stir-fry, Curry or Stew, Juice, Dessert, Stuffed, etc.

• Always wash and peel the bottle gourd thoroughly before cooking. If at any point it tastes bitter, stop cooking and throw it away immediately, as bitter gourd can be harmful.

HEALTH BENEFITS OF

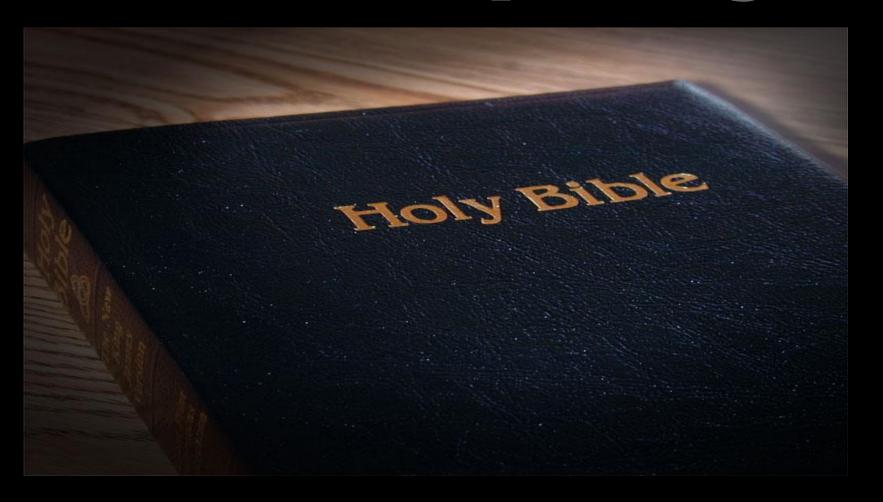
BOTTLE GOURD



- Helps digestion and treats constipation
- Replenishes loss of water content
- Reduces inflammation of liver
- Treats urinary problem
- Treats sleeping disorders
- Provides cooling effect



Can We Trust Bible Prophecy?





Yes, we Can!





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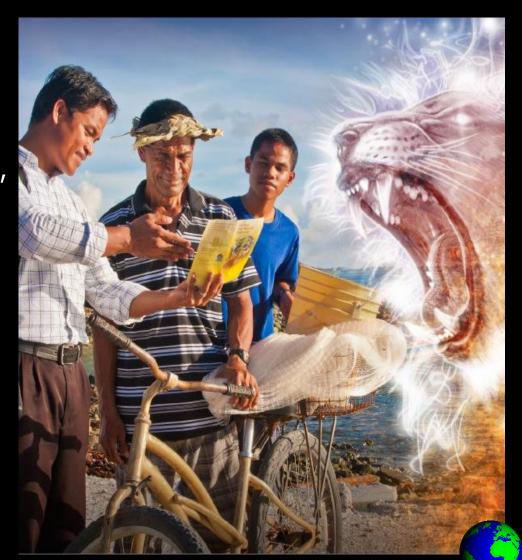


Under the Garb of Christianity

We are approaching the end of this earth's history, and Satan is working as never before. He is striving to act as director of the Christian world. With an intensity that is marvellous he is working with his lying wonders. Satan is represented as walking about as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. He desires to embrace the whole world in his confederacy. Hiding his deformity under the garb of Christianity, he assumes the attributes of a Christian, and claims to be Christ Himself.—

Manuscript Releases 8:346 (1901). LDE 155.1

The Word of God declares that when it suits the enemy's purpose, he will through his agencies manifest so great a power under a pretence of Christianity that, "if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect" [Matthew 24:24].—Manuscript 125, 1901. LDE 155.2



Under the Garb of Christianity (cont'd)

As the spirits will profess faith in the Bible and manifest respect for the institutions of the church, their work will be accepted as a manifestation of divine power.—<u>The Great Controversy, 588 (1911)</u>. LDE 155.3

The strongest bulwark of vice in our world is not the iniquitous life of the abandoned sinner or the degraded outcast; it is that life which otherwise appears virtuous, honourable, and noble, but in which one sin is fostered, one vice indulged.... Genius, talent, sympathy, even generous and kindly deeds, may thus become decoys of Satan to entice souls over the precipice of ruin.—Education, 150 (1903). LDE 156.1



Evil Angels Appear as Human Beings

Satan will use every opportunity to seduce men from their allegiance to God. He and the angels who fell with him will appear on the earth as men, seeking to deceive. God's angels also will appear as men, and will use every means in their power to defeat the purposes of the enemy.—<u>Manuscript</u>
<u>Releases 8:399 (1903)</u>. LDE 160.2

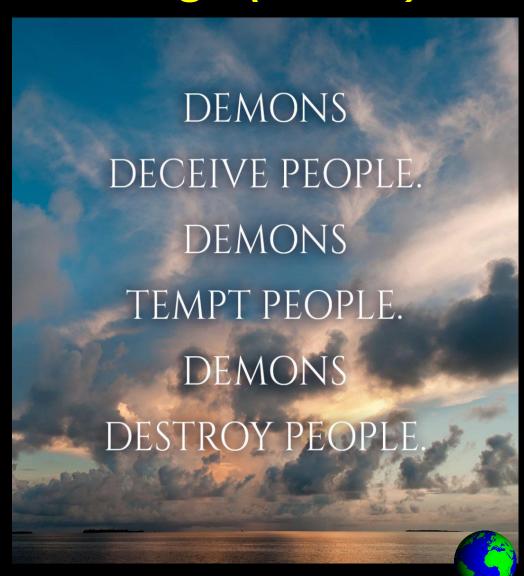
Evil angels in the form of men will talk with those who know the truth. They will misinterpret and misconstrue the statements of the messengers of God.... Have Seventh-day Adventists forgotten the warning given in the sixth chapter of Ephesians? LDE 160.3



Evil Angels Appear as Human Beings (cont'd)

We are engaged in a warfare against the hosts of darkness. Unless we follow our Leader closely, Satan will obtain the victory over us.—<u>Selected Messages 3:411</u> (1903). LDE 160.3

Evil angels in the form of believers will work in our ranks to bring in a strong spirit of unbelief. Let not even this discourage you, but bring a true heart to the help of the Lord against the powers of satanic agencies. These powers of evil will assemble in our meetings, not to receive a blessing, but to counterwork the influences of the Spirit of God.—Mind, Character, and Personality 2:504, 505 (1909). LDE 161.1



Personation of the Dead

It is not difficult for the evil angels to represent both saints and sinners who have died, and make these representations visible to human eyes. These manifestations will be more frequent, and developments of a more startling character will appear as we near the close of time.—<u>Evangelism</u>, 604 (1875). LDE 161.2

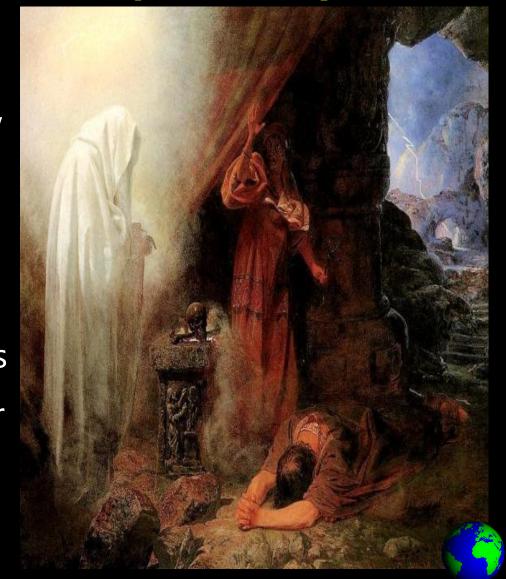
It is Satan's most successful and fascinating delusion—one calculated to take hold of the sympathies of those who have laid their loved ones in the grave. Evil angels come in the form of those loved ones and relate incidents connected with their lives, and perform acts which they performed while living.



Personation of the Dead (cont'd)

In this way they lead persons to believe that their dead friends are angels, hovering over them and communicating with them. These evil angels, who assume to be the deceased friends, are regarded with a certain idolatry, and with many their word has greater weight than the Word of God.—The Signs of the Times, August 26, 1889. LDE 161.3

He [Satan] has power to bring before men the appearance of their departed friends. The counterfeit is perfect; the familiar look, the words, the tone, are reproduced with marvelous distinctness.... Many will be confronted by the spirits of devils personating beloved relatives or friends and declaring the most dangerous heresies. These visitants will appeal to our tenderest sympathies and will work miracles to sustain their pretensions.—The Great Controversy, 552, 560 (1911). LDE 161.4



Satan Personates Christ

The enemy is preparing to deceive the whole world by his miracle-working power. He will assume to personate the angels of light, to personate Jesus Christ.—Selected Messages 2:96 (1894). LDE 162.1

If men are so easily misled now, how will they stand when Satan shall personate Christ, and work miracles? Who will be unmoved by his misrepresentations then—professing to be Christ when it is only Satan assuming the person of Christ, and apparently working the works of Christ?—Selected Messages 2:394 (1897). LDE 162.2



Satan Personates Christ (cont'd)

Satan will take the field and personate Christ. He will misrepresent, misapply, and pervert everything he possibly can.—<u>Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, 411 (1898)</u>. LDE 162.3

A power from beneath is working to bring about the last great scenes in the drama—Satan coming as Christ, and working with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in those who are binding themselves together in secret societies.—Testimonies for the Church 8:28 (1904). LDE 162.4



Satan Resembles Christ in Every Particular

There is a limit beyond which Satan cannot go, and here he calls deception to his aid and counterfeits the work which he has not power actually to perform. In the last days he will appear in such a manner as to make men believe him to be Christ come the second time into the world. He will indeed transform himself into an angel of light. But while he will bear the appearance of Christ in every particular, so far as mere appearance goes, it will deceive none but those who, like Pharaoh, are seeking to resist the truth.—<u>Testimonies for the Church 5:698</u> (1889). LDE 163.1



Satan Resembles Christ in Every Particular (cont'd)

As the crowning act in the great drama of deception, Satan himself will personate Christ. The church has long professed to look to the Saviour's advent as the consummation of her hopes. Now the great deceiver will make it appear that Christ has come. In different parts of the earth, Satan will manifest himself among men as a majestic being of dazzling brightness, resembling the description of the Son of God given by John in the Revelation. (Revelation 1:13-15). The glory that surrounds him is unsurpassed by anything that mortal eyes have yet beheld. The shout of triumph rings out upon the air: "Christ has come! Christ has come!" LDE 163.2



Satan Resembles Christ in Every Particular (cont'd)

The people prostrate themselves in adoration before him, while he lifts up his hands and pronounces a blessing upon them, as Christ blessed His disciples when He was upon the earth. His voice is soft and subdued, yet full of melody. In gentle, compassionaté tones he presents some of the same gracious, heavenly truths which the Saviour uttered; he heals the diseases of the people, and then, in his assumed character of Christ, he claims to have changed the Sabbath to Sunday, and commands all to hallow the day which he has blessed.—The Great Controversy, 624 (1911). LDE 163.3



Satan Pretends to Answer the Saints' Prayers

Satan sees that he is about to lose his case. He cannot sweep in the whole world. He makes one last desperate effort to overcome the faithful by deception. He does this in personating Christ. He clothes himself with the garments of royalty which have been accurately described in the vision of John. He has power to do this. He will appear to his deluded followers, the Christian world who received not the love of the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness (transgression of the law), as Christ coming the second time. LDE 164.1

"And no wonder, for even Satandisquises himself es an angel of light. So it is mo surprise if his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. Their end will correspond to their deeds." (2 Corinthians 11:14-15)

Satan Pretends to Answer the Saints' Prayers (cont'd)

He proclaims himself Christ, and he is believed to be Christ, a beautiful, majestic being clothed with majesty and, with soft voice and pleasant words, with glory unsurpassed by anything their mortal eyes had yet beheld. Then his deceived, deluded followers set up a shout of victory, "Christ has come the second time! Christ has come! He has lifted up his bands just as He did when lifted up His hands just as He did when He was upon the earth, and blessed us."... LDE 164.2

The saints look on with amazement. Will they also be deceived? Will they worship Satan? Angels of God are about them. A clear, firm, musical voice is heard, "Look up." LDE 164.3



Satan Pretends to Answer the Saints' Prayers (cont'd)

There was one object before the praying ones—the final and eternal salvation of their souls. This object was before them constantly—that immortal life was promised to those who endure unto the end. Oh, how earnest and fervent had been their desires. The judgment and eternity were in view. Their eyes by faith were fixed on the blazing throne, before which the white-robed ones were to stand. This restrained them from the indulgence of sin.... LDE 164.4

One effort more, and then Satan's last device is employed. He hears the unceasing cry for Christ to come, for Christ to deliver them. This last strategy is to personate Christ, and make them think their prayers are answered.—Manuscript 16, 1884. LDE 165.1



How the Counterfeit Differs From the Genuine

Satan is not permitted to counterfeit the manner of Christ's advent.—<u>The Great</u> Controversy, 625 (1911). LDE 165.2

Satan ... will come personating Jesus Christ, working mighty miracles; and men will fall down and worship him as Jesus Christ. We shall be commanded to worship this being, whom the world will glorify as Christ. What shall we do? Tell them that Christ has warned us against just such a foe, who is man's worst enemy, yet who claims to be God, and that when Christ shall make His appearance it will be with power and great glory, accompanied by ten thousand times ten thousand angels and thousands of thousands, and that when He shall come we shall know His voice.—The S.D.A. Bible Commentary 6:1106 (1888). LDE 165.3 Commentary 6:1106 (1888). LDE 165.3



How the Counterfeit Differs From the Genuine (cont'd)

Satan is striving to gain every advantage.... Disguised as an angel of light, he will walk the earth as a wonder-worker. In beautiful language he will present lofty sentiments; good words will be spoken by him and good deeds performed. Christ will be personified. But on one point there will be a marked distinction—Satan will turn the people from the law of God. Notwithstanding this, so well will he counterfeit righteousness that, if it were possible, he would deceive the very elect. Crowned heads, presidents, rulers in high places, will bow to his false theories.— Fundamentals of Christian Education, 471, 472 (1897). LDE 166.1



Miracles Will Be Performed

The sick will be healed before us. Miracles will be performed in our sight. Are we prepared for the trial which awaits us when the lying wonders of Satan shall be more fully exhibited?—

Testimonies For The Church 1:302

(1862). LDE 166.2

Men under the influence of evil spirits will work miracles. They will make people sick by casting their spell upon them, and will then remove the spell, leading others to say that those who were sick have been miraculously healed. This Satan has done again and again.—Selected Messages 2:53 (1903). LDE 166.3



Miracles Will Be Performed (cont'd)

Wonderful scenes, with which Satan will be closely connected, will soon take place. God's Word declares that Satan will work miracles. He will make people sick, and then will suddenly remove from them his satanic power. They will then be regarded as healed. These works of apparent healing will bring Seventh-day Adventists to the test.—Selected Messages 2:53 (1904). LDE 166.4

Satan can, through a species of deceptions, perform wonders that will appear to be genuine miracles. It was this he hoped to make a test question with the Israelites at the time of their deliverance from Egypt.—Selected Messages 2:52 (1907). LDE 167.1



Fire From Heaven

We must not trust the claims of men. They may, as Christ represents, profess to work miracles in healing the sick. Is this marvellous, when just behind them stands the great deceiver, the miracle worker who will yet bring down fire from heaven in the sight of men?—<u>Selected Messages</u> 2:49 (1887). LDE 167.2

It is the lying wonders of the devil that will take the world captive, and he will cause fire to come down from heaven in the sight of men. He is to work miracles, and this wonderful, miracleworking power is to sweep in the whole world.— Selected Messages 2:51 (1890). LDE 167.3

Satan will come in to deceive if possible the very elect. He claims to be Christ, and he is coming in, pretending to be the great medical missionary. He will cause fire to come down from heaven in the sight of men to prove that he is God.—

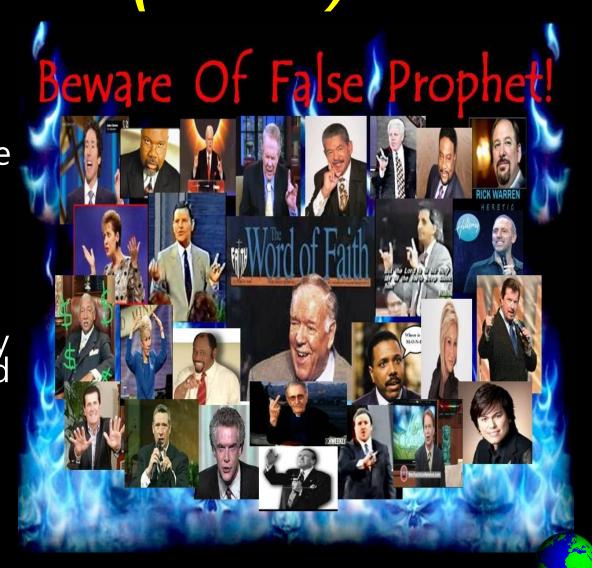
Medical Ministry, 87, 88 (1903). LDE 167.4



Fire From Heaven (cont'd)

It is stated in the Word that the enemy will work through his agents who have departed from the faith, and they will seemingly work miracles, even to the bringing down of fire out of heaven in the sight of men.—Selected Messages 2:54 (1907). LDE 167.5

"He doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, and deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do" (Revelation 13:13, 14). No mere impostures are here foretold. Men are deceived by the miracles which Satan's agents have power to do, not which they pretend to do.—The Great Controversy, 553 (1911). LDE 168.1



Satan Will Be Deified

In this age antichrist will appear as the true Christ, and then the law of God will be fully made void in the nations of our world. Rebellion against God's holy law will be fully ripe. But the true leader of all this rebellion is Satan clothed as an all this rebellion is Satan clothed as an angel of light. Men will be deceived and will exalt him to the place of God, and deify him. But Omnipotence will interpose, and to the apostate churches that unite in the exaltation of Satan, the sentence will go forth, "Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her" [Revelation 18:8].—Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, 62 (1893). LDE 168.2



Miracles Prove Nothing

The way in which Christ worked was to preach the Word, and to relieve suffering by miraculous works of healing. But I am instructed that we cannot now work in this way, [Miracles will accompany the ministry of God's people under the loud cry (see Chapter 14), but they will not have the significance they did in Christ's day. The performing of miracles will no longer be a proof of divine endorsement.] for Satan will exercise his power by working miracles. God's servants today could not work by means of miracles, because spurious works of healing, claiming to be divine, will be wrought.— Selected Messages 2:54 (1904). LDE 169.2



Miracles Prove Nothing (cont'd)

Go to God for yourselves, pray for divine enlightenment, that you may know that you do know what is truth, that when the wonderful miracle-working power shall be displayed, and the enemy shall come as an angel of light, you may distinguish between the genuine work of God and the imitative work of the powers of darkness.—Selected Messages 3:389 (1888). LDE 169.1

God's people will not find their safety in working miracles, for Satan will counterfeit the miracles that will be wrought.—<u>Testimonies for the Church 9:16 (1909)</u>. LDE 169.3



Miracles Cannot Supersede the Bible

If those through whom cures are performed are disposed, on account of these manifestations, to excuse their neglect of the law of God and continue in disobedience, though they have power to any and every extent, it does not follow that they have the great power of God. On the contrary, it is the miracle-working power of the great deceiver.—Selected Messages 2:50, 51 (1885). LDE 169.4

The Bible will never be superseded by miraculous manifestations. The truth must be studied, it must be searched for as hidden treasure. LDE 170.1



Miracles Cannot Supersede the Bible (cont'd)

Wonderful illuminations will not be given aside from the Word or to take the place of it. Cling to the Word, receive the engrafted Word which will make men wise unto salvation.—Selected Messages 2:48 (1894). LDE 170.1

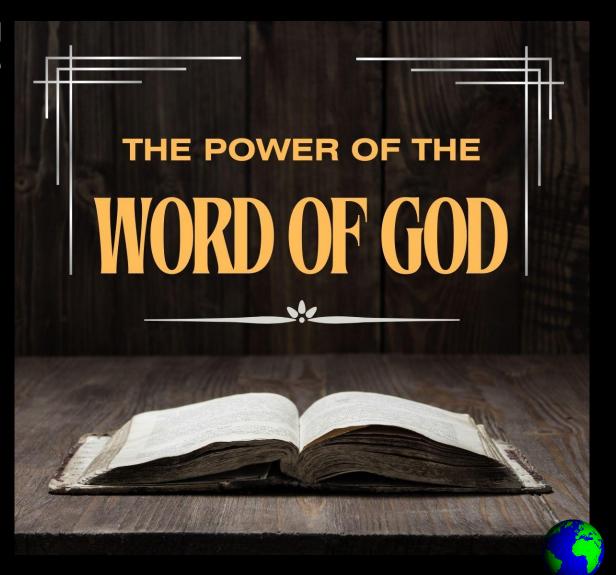
The last great delusion is soon to open before us. Antichrist is to perform his marvellous works in our sight. So closely will the counterfeit resemble the true that it will be impossible to distinguish between them except by the Holy Scriptures. By their testimony every statement and every miracle must be tested.—The Great Controversy, 593 (1911). LDE 170.2





The Deception Is Almost Universal

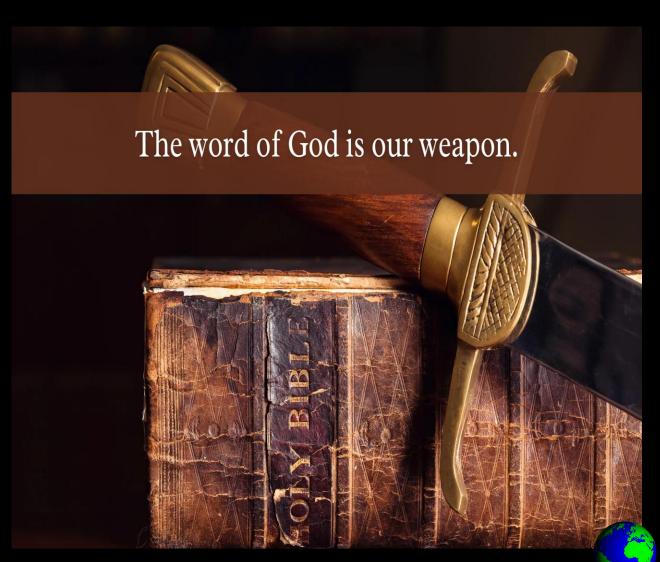
There is now need of earnest, working men and women who will seek for the salvation of souls, for Satan as a powerful general has taken the field, and in this last remnant of time he is working through all conceivable methods to close the door against light that God would have come to His people. He is sweeping the whole world into his ranks, and the few who are faithful to God's requirements are the only ones who can ever withstand him, and even these he is trying to overcome.—Selected Messages 3:389 (1889). LDE 170.3



The Deception Is Almost Universal (cont'd)

The forms of the dead will appear, through the cunning device of Satan, and many will link up with the one who loveth and maketh a lie. I warn our people that right among us some will turn away from the faith and give heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils, and by them the truth will be evil spoken of. LDE 171.1

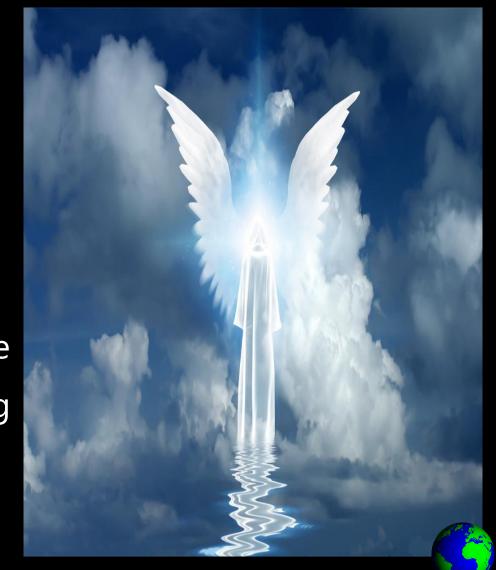
A marvelous work shall take place. Ministers, lawyers, doctors, who have permitted these falsehoods to overmaster their spirit of discernment, will be themselves deceivers, united with the deceived. A spiritual drunkenness will take possession of them.—The Upward Look, 317 (1905). LDE 171.2



The Final Counterfeit

In the last days of Jesus' earthly ministry He warned about false christs. "Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not. For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect" (Matthew 24:23, 24).

Ellen White, in The Great Controversy, describes how Satan himself will come as one of these false christs. "As the crowning act in the great drama of deception, Satan himself will personate Christ.... In different parts of the earth, Satan will manifest himself among men as a majestic being of dazzling brightness, resembling the description of the Son of God given by John in the Revelation (Rev. 1:13-15). The glory that surrounds him is unsurpassed by anything that mortal eyes have yet beheld" (p. 624).



The Final Counterfeit (cont'd)

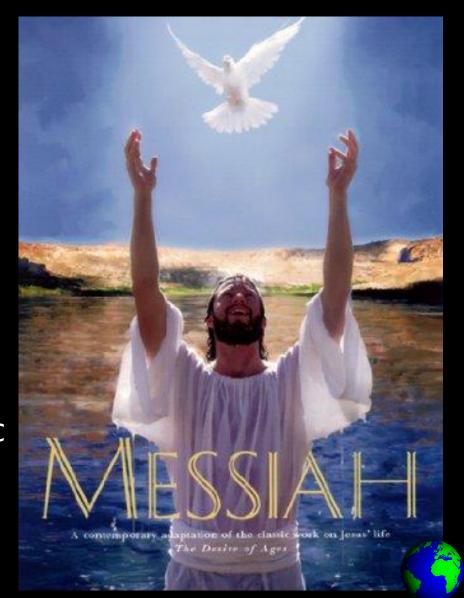
Though this deception could dupe Christians, what about the Muslims in the Sahara Desert, the Jews in Galilee, or the Buddhists in the Himalayas? How could Satan's "crowning act" affect them?

The answer lies in the eschatology of these other faiths. Christians are not the only ones expecting the Saviour. The Jews are still awaiting the Messiah's first appearing. Buddhists are waiting for Matreya, Hindus are waiting for Kalki, and Muslims are waiting for Mahdi. "In all three religions [Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism]," writes Jack Gratus in his book The False Messiahs, "there are variations on the belief in a future saviour who will arise after a period of universal saviour who will arise after a period of universal upheaval to bring peace and happiness to the world." And it is this universal hope of an endtime divine deliverer that could open the rest of the world to Satan's consummate deception.



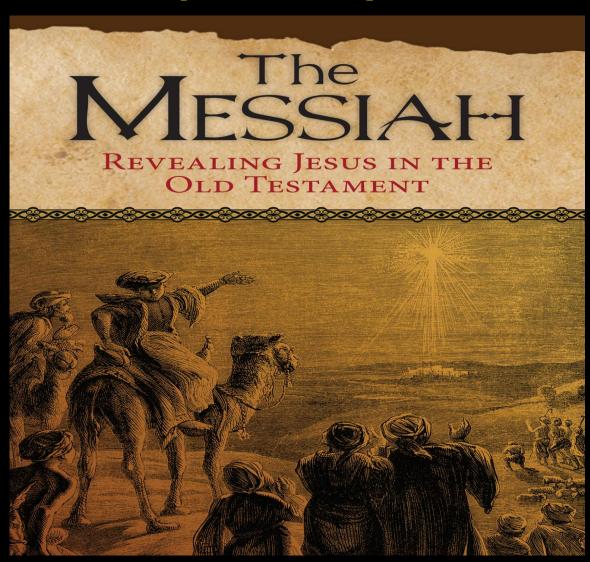
Messianic Woes

"All the prophets prophesied," says the Talmud, "only for messianic times." The great Jewish philosopher Moses ben Maimonides (1135-1204) taught that the coming of the Messiah was basic to Judaism. In the twelfth of his 13 Articles of Faith, he stated: "I firmly believe in the coming of the Messiah; and although He may tarry, I daily hope for His coming." Despite great confusion about the Messiah's advent, many believed, and still do, that He would appear during a time of great trouble, called the "Messianic Woes," when He would rescue His people and usher in a millennium of peace. "Only the cataclysmic intervention of a divinely endowed being," wrote Abba Hillel Silver in his classic History of Messianic Abba Hillel Silver in his classic History of Messianic Speculation in Israel, "at the moment of the nation's deepest degradation, could destroy the wicked powers which oppressed it, restore the people, cleansed by suffering, to its ancient glory, and rebuild the broken harmonies of the world."



Messianic Woes (cont'd)

This Advent hope, coupled with the jumbled theories concerning it, opened the Jews to a stream of messianic shams. Simeon Bar Kokba declared, "I am the Messiah!" and led a revolt against the Romans in A.D. 231 that left hundreds of thousands of Jews dead. In the fifth century, pseudomessiah Moses of Crete promised to lead the Jews dry-shod across the sea to Jerusalem. On the Day of Redemption many of the Jews, expecting the water to part, jumped into the sea and drowned.





Messianic Woes (cont'd)

Serene of Syria, Obayah Abu-Isa ben Ishak, David Alroy, Solomon Molcho, Abraham Abulafia, Isaac Luria, Shabbetai Zebi, Jacob Frank, and others all made messianic declarations and through the centuries thousands of Jews have believed them, often with disastrous results.

Even today a feverish messianism pulses among some Orthodox Jews. A few years ago zealots in Israel tried to blow up the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem. Their motive, according to the New Republic, was to so enrage the Arabs that they would wage such a vicious jihad against Israel that "the Messiah would come to save his people from destruction."



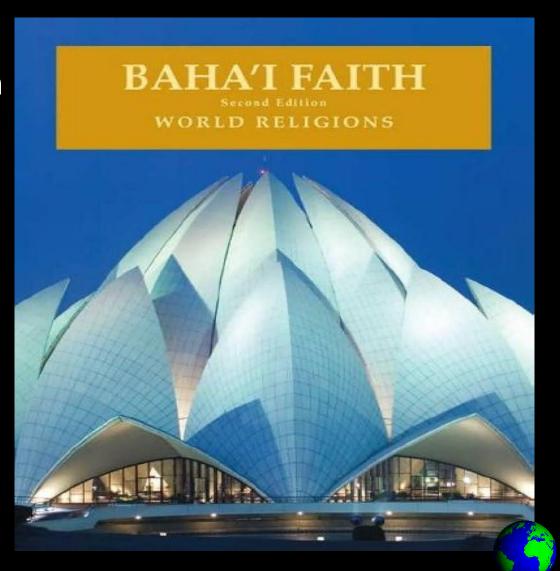
The Muslim Mahdi

Not only do Muslims believe in a divine "Restorer of the Faith," but many associate him with the returned Jesus. The Koran makes reference to the Christ's second coming (IV, 159). Known in Islamic tradition as the Mahdi, the twelfth in a line of Imams, the "Rightly Guided One" will usher in a thousand years of peace and justice after ending the reign of "antichrist." According to one Islamic tradition, the antichrist will devastate the whole world, leaving only Mecca and Medina in security, as these holy cities will be guarded by angelic legions. Christ at last will descend to earth and in a great battle will destroy the "man-devil."



The Muslim Mahdi (cont'd)

Though all orthodox Muslims believe in the return of a divine "Restorer," they disagree on the exact nature of the return, a situation that has bred a procession of bogus Mahdis. Among them was Muhammad Mahdis. Among them was Muhammad Ahmad, the Mahdi of Sudan, who revolted against the Egyptian administration in 1881 and after several spectacular victories established a theocratic state that lasted until 1898, when the British conquered it. Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, claiming to be the Mahdi, gained a following in the 1800s. Ali Mohammed of Shiraz declared: "I am, I am the promised one.... I am the one whose name you have for a thousand years invoked, at whose mention you have risen, whose advent you have longed to witness." He was shot by a firing squad. His sect exists today, known as the Baha'i.



Hindu Expectations

According to Hindu belief, the god Vishnu incarnates himself whenever evil prevails. The most important incarnation, however, will be in the form of Kalki, who will appear in the clouds with a flaming sword in his hand, riding on a white steed. He will destroy all evildoers in an apocalyptic battle that will initiate a thousand-year reign of peace on the earth.

"So similar is this expectation to the Christian messianic hope," wrote Wilson Wallis in Messiahs: Christian and Pagan, "that some years ago the Reverend John Newton of Lahore took advantage of this prediction and wrote a tract showing that the true deliverer and king of righteousness had already come in the person of Jesus Christ.



Hindu Expectations (cont'd)

So striking seemed the fulfilment from a Hindu standpoint, that some hundreds in the city of Rampur were led to a faith in Christ as an avatar [incarnation] of Vishnu."

In the 1830s one shaman claimed that he was the incarnation of a Hindu god and led a rebellion against the British, who shot him dead. In northern India a Hindu beggar claimed that he was Kalki come to liberate the masses and initiate a thousand years of peace. After he was jailed his movement fizzled, as have dozens of other Hindu messianic movements.



Buddhist Expectations

According to some Buddhist sects, a long procession of bodhisattvas as incarnations of Buddha has appeared on the earth to bestow knowledge upon mankind. In some sects a future saviour, the last Buddha, called Maitreya, "Son of Love," is expected to appear from heaven and bring great spiritual blessings. Though there is little incentive in Buddhism for any would-be messiahs, in Japan in 1910 a journalist appeared on the streets of Tokyo and claimed to be the Messiah-Buddha, asserting that he was the "consummation of all the prophecies since the beginning of the world." He and his small movement eventually faded away.



This Same Jesus - Christians

Ever since Jesus said, "Behold, I come quickly," Christians have been anticipating His return. Though the Bible, especially the New Testament, teems with Advent texts, Christians disagree on when He will come, where He will come, how He will come, and what He will do when He does come.

This Advent hope--coupled with the confusion over the particulars--has nurtured countless false christs. In 1534 radical Anabaptist John of Leiden declared himself a messianic king and took over the city of Munster in Westphalia. James Nayler, a seventeenth-century Quaker leader in England, had a large following who believed he was the messiah.





This Same Jesus - Christians (cont'd)

In Russia messianic movements started under several false messiahs, including the notorious Skoptsy sect of the 1700s, whose leader demanded that his male followers be castrated. In China a self-proclaimed messiah, Hung Hsiu-Ch'iian, initiated a rebellion that took 20 million lives between 1850 and 1864. In America William E. Riker claimed he was the Holy Spirit and in the 1940s founded Holy City, California--his New Jerusalem.

Even today, false christs abound. Sun Myung Moon's messianic claims have received much publicity. Jesus Christ Lightning Amen, a middle-aged recluse reported to be living somewhere in an Arizona desert, gets less publicity but nonetheless believes he is the messiah.



The Consummate Deception

Then, in the midst of this great turmoil, Satan will appear in different parts of the earth in unsurpassed glory. He comes--a majestic being of dazzling brightness--to the Islamic world in the way the Mahdi is expected, and Muslims bow down on their prayer carpets before the "Rightly Guided One," who will usher in the thousand years of peace. In glory unsurpassed by anything that mortal eyes have yet beheld, he arrives among the Hindus, who see him as Kalki, the final and climactic incarnation of Vishnu. The Jews rejoice: their long-awaited Mashiach has rejoice; their long-awaited Mashiach has finally arrived, not as a humble servant, but as they have been expecting, a powerful king who will end the "Messianic Woes." The Buddhists see Maitreya, come to bestow blessing upon mankind. Meanwhile, Christians shout, "Christ has come! Christ has come!"



The Consummate Deception (cont'd)

All these groups--already confused about the nature of the Advent-have been duped in the past by charlatans with much less deceptive power than the devil. If people today believe that a Sun Myung Moon is the returned Christ, what will happen when Satan himself in unsurpassed glory makes the claim? Also, if a divine personage--a false Jesus, Kalki, or Maitreya, it doesn't matter which--appeared on the earth, it wouldn't take long for millions of Communists to realize just how unreal "socialist realism" is.





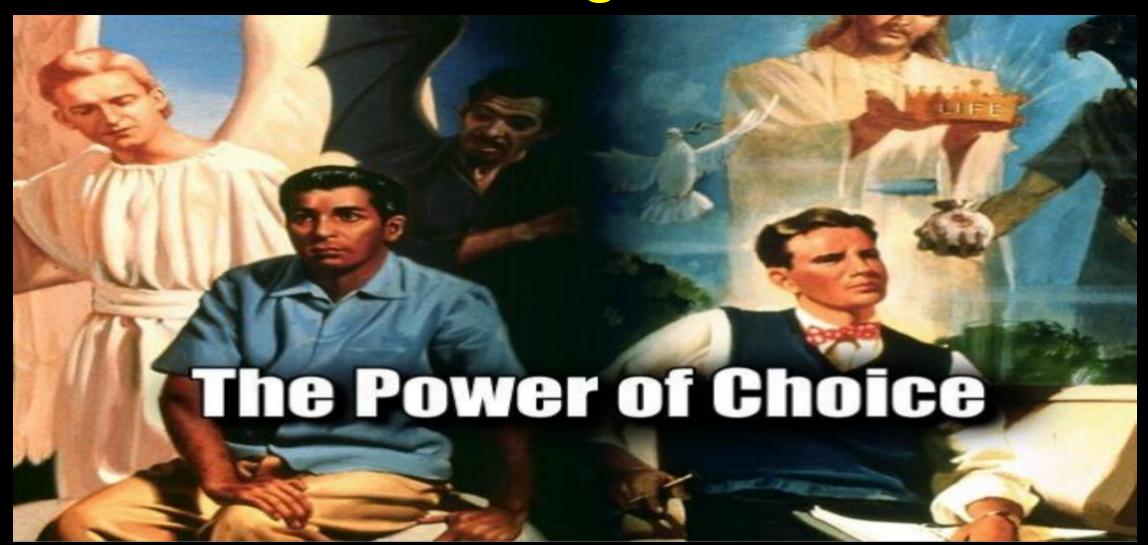
The Consummate Deception (cont'd)

Satan, impersonating Christ, speaks deep truths, heals the sick, and performs other miracles. In the Hindu world he quotes from the Vedas, before Muslims he quotes from the Koran, and before Christians "he presents some of the same gracious, heavenly truths which the Saviour uttered" (ibid., p. 624). Then, because the world is suffering in a terrible time of trouble, he tells the non-Christians that to help end the woes they all should have a common day, Sunday, to worship God. In this "strong, almost overmastering delusion" he makes the same appeal to the Christian world, claiming "to have changed the Sabbath to Sunday" (ibid.).

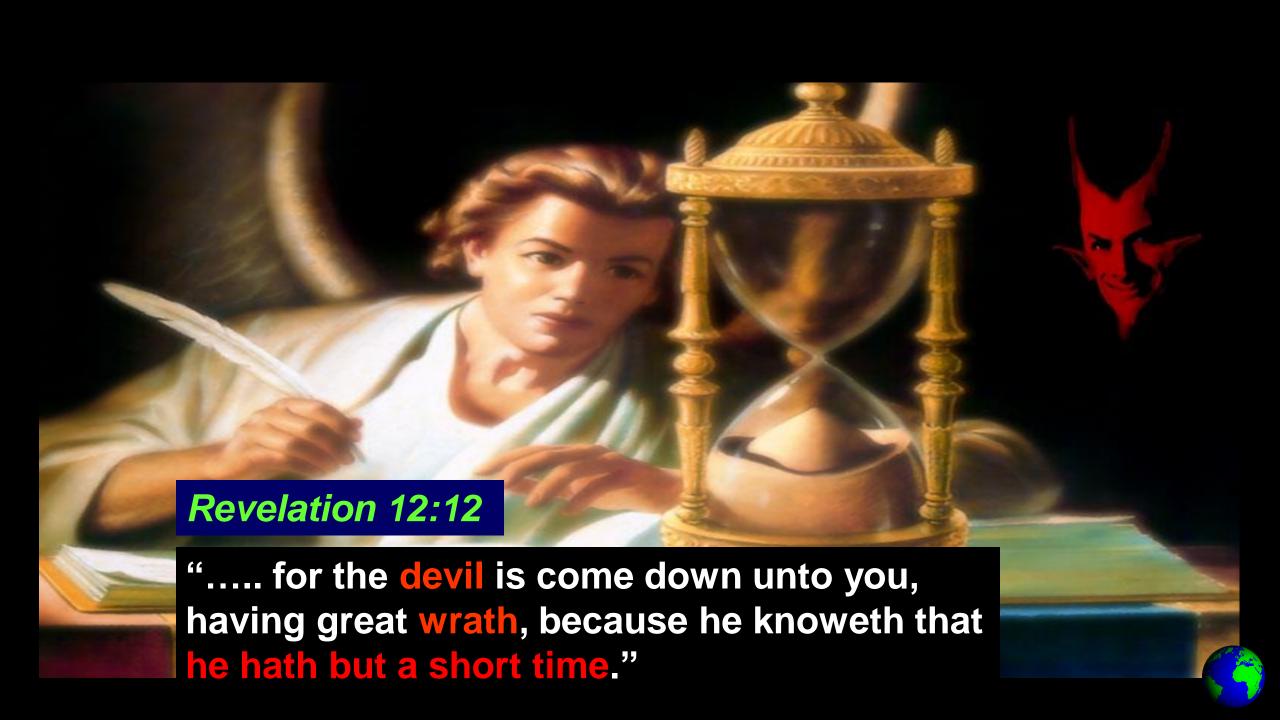
And the billions of the world--desperate for the wars, the earthquakes, the famines, the pestilence, and the violence to stop obey the words of their long-awaited savior and pay homage to the false Sabbath, thus receiving the mark of the beast.



God has given all:







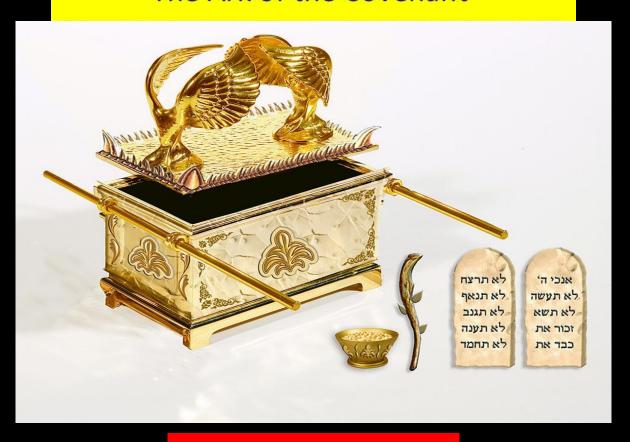
Enter The Ark of Hope

And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.

- John 10:16



The Ark of the Covenant



Psalms 77:13

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. -Revelation 3:20





