

Statement No. 11
“And at That Time” - What Time?
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Statement: In Daniel 12:1, the two phrases, “and at that time”, connect sequential and concurrent events. The powers that are ruling the world when Michael stands up, closing human probation are Satan personating Christ, the papacy and apostate Protestantism. These three powers are the final powers ruling just before the close of probation and are implied in the last phrase of Daniel 11:45.

In my understanding of Daniel 11, the very last power brought to view in verse 45, just before Michael stands up and closes human probation, is the papal power whose wound has been healed. That is the power alluded to in the very last phrase of Daniel 11:45. Let’s look at the text:

Daniel 11:45; 12:1 “And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; *yet HE shall come to HIS end, and none shall help HIM. And at that time shall Michael stand up*, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: *and there shall be a time of trouble*, such as never was since there was a nation [even] to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.”

This phrase, “and at that time” used twice in Daniel 12:1 is used a total of 8 times in the Bible. In every case it connects two concurrent events.

To the question, at what time will God’s people be delivered, Daniel 12:1 says that this deliverance comes during the time of trouble which is mentioned just before the phrase, “and at that time”.

So, it is reasonable to believe that the first time this same phrase “and at that time” is used in this same verse, it would also connect concurrent events. At the time that probation closes will be at the time that the king of the north has come to his end with no one willing or able to help him.

Whoever it is that is able to bring the reign of the king of the north to his end is the power who reigns supreme when probation closes.

Who will bring the *he, his, and him* in Daniel 11:45 to his end? It is a power brought to view in Revelation 13.

“And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. *And they worshipped the dragon* which gave power unto the beast: *and they worshipped the beast*, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?” Revelation 13:3, 4

When Satan personates Christ in his final deception, the entire world (except God’s people) will worship the dragon who is Satan personating Christ. Satan will tell the world that the Catholic Church, who changed the Sabbath to Sunday, has been his agent in this world all this time. So besides worshipping Satan who is in the form of Christ, the world will also worship the beast.

And it is possible that it is this that brings the *he, his, and him* to his end and nobody will be following him any longer. When the king of the north plants the tabernacles of his palace in Jerusalem he will be

brought to his end by the event of Satan appearing as the Christ and exalting the beast and the false prophet. And this three-fold union (Satan, Papacy, apostate Protestantism) will rule the entire planet. All religious leaders will bow before Satan. Even the Caliph (leader of the Muslims) will submit to this false Christ and his earthly representative, the pope. Even though the king of the north was ruling Islam from Jerusalem, his power comes to an end and not even the most radical Islamist group (Al Qaeda, ISIS, Muslim Brotherhood, Boko Haram) will seek to keep the Muslim leader in power – none shall help him, for even the leader of Islam himself will be found bowing in worship before the dragon and the beast.

And it will be at the time when the whole world is worshiping the false Christ, that Michael will stand up and probation will close followed by a great time of trouble. It will be during this time of trouble, after probation has closed, that the papacy will come to its end.

The second to the last power is the king of the north who is the leader of Turkey who will become the leader of Islam by planting the tabernacles of his palace in Jerusalem. This is the view that the Eastern Question in Bible Prophecy presented to the world for 80 years of our church history. The enemy has taken away this understanding because he does not want us to know when he will be making his last move. And his last move is revealed by the phrase: “. . . yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.” When the king of the north takes his place in Jerusalem we can know that he will, in short order, come to his end by the appearance of Satan personating Christ who will exalt the papacy to worldwide worship and dominion.

Notice this important statement:

“The Protestants of the United States will be foremost in stretching their hands across the gulf to grasp the hand of spiritualism; they will reach over the abyss to clasp hands with the Roman power; and under the influence of this threefold union, this country will follow in the steps of Rome in trampling on the rights of conscience.” {GC 588}

This statement is telling us that the Protestants of the United States will be foremost in grasping the hand of spiritualism and this spiritualism includes the personation of Christ by Satan.

The statement in *The Great Controversy* continues:

“As spiritualism more closely imitates the nominal Christianity of the day, it has greater power to deceive and ensnare. Satan himself is converted, after the modern order of things. He will appear in the character of *an angel of light*. Through the agency of spiritualism, miracles will be wrought, the sick will be healed, and many undeniable wonders will be performed.” {GC 588}

This angel of light is Satan himself posing as Christ and this is called spiritualism:

“We are warned that in the last days he will work with signs and lying wonders. And he will continue these wonders until the close of probation, that he may point to them as evidence that *he is an angel of light* and not of darkness.” {RH, November 17, 1885 par. 11}

“You know that 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*. We must stand barricaded by the truths of the Bible. The canopy of truth is the only canopy under which we can stand safely.” {RH, April 14, 1903 par. 28}

“And he doeth great wonders, so that *he maketh fire come down from heaven* on the earth in the sight of men . . .” Revelation 13:13

This is Satan posing as Christ who will be calling fire down from heaven. This verse is in the context of the prophecy regarding the United States of America. So the apostate Protestants of America will grasp hands with Satan posing as Christ (spiritualism) and “they will reach over the abyss to clasp hands with the Roman power; and under the influence of this threefold union, this country will follow in the steps of Rome in trampling on the rights of conscience.” {GC 588}

It is this threefold union that unites the world under Satan’s banner. This threefold union will not take place until the first part of Daniel 11:45 is fulfilled because it is the power of this threefold union that brings the rule of the king of the north to an end. If the king of the north is the papacy we would have the papacy coming to its end before the close of probation. The natural reading of the text indicates that the king of the north comes to his end before the close of probation. The interpretation found in the Eastern Question understanding of this prophecy allows the papacy to rule supreme at the very end just before the close of probation.

Below is further evidence that Satan will be personating Christ before Michael stands up and thus he and his papal church are ruling the world just before the close of probation:

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.--6BC 1106 (1888). {LDE 165.3}

The above statement cannot be speaking of a time after the close of probation because we will not be warning the world to not accept this false Christ once probation closes. After probation closes we will have nothing to say to the lost as we see in the following statement:

Then I saw Jesus lay off His priestly attire and clothe Himself with His most kingly robes. Upon His head were many crowns, a crown within a crown. Surrounded by the angelic host, He left heaven. The plagues were falling upon the inhabitants of the earth. Some were denouncing God and cursing Him. Others rushed to the people of God and begged to be taught how they might escape His judgments. **But the saints had nothing for them. The last tear for sinners had been shed, the last agonizing prayer offered, the last burden borne, the last warning given. The sweet voice of mercy was no more to invite them.** When the saints, and all heaven, were interested for their salvation, they had no interest for themselves. Life and death had been set before them. Many desired life, but made no effort to obtain it. They did not choose life, and now there was no atoning blood to cleanse the guilty, no compassionate Saviour to plead for them, and cry, "Spare, spare the sinner a little longer." All heaven had united with Jesus, as they heard the fearful words, "It is done. It is finished." The plan of salvation had been accomplished, but few had chosen to accept it. And as mercy's sweet voice died away, fear and horror seized the wicked. With terrible distinctness they heard the words, "Too late! too late!" {EW 281.1}

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 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" [Rev. 18:8].--TM 62 (1893). {LDE 168.2}

Laws enforcing the observance of Sunday as the Sabbath will bring about a national apostasy from the principles of republicanism upon which the government has been founded. The religion of the papacy will be accepted by the rulers, **and the law of God will be made void.**--7MR 192 (1906). {LDE 132.1}

We see in the first statement above that Satan personates Christ resulting in a universal Sunday law and as seen in the second statement, we see that it is Sunday laws that make the law of God void. After Satan personates Christ then the plagues will fall on this world. For the entire world to be tested over the mark of the beast, the entire world must first fully make the law of God void.

In the last days Satan will appear as an angel of light, with great power and heavenly glory, and claim to be the Lord of the whole earth. He will declare that the Sabbath has been changed from the seventh to the first day of the week; and as lord of the first day of the week he will present this spurious sabbath as a test of loyalty to him. **Then will take place the final fulfillment of the Revelator's prophecy. [Revelation 13:4-18, quoted.]** {19MR 282.1}

“Then will take place the final fulfillment of the Revelator's prophecy. [Revelation 13:4-18, quoted.] This statement teaches us that Satan first personates Christ before Revelation 13 is completely fulfilled and Revelation 13 is fulfilled before the close of probation.

The White Estate believes that Satan will personate Christ **only** after probation closes: (<http://ellenwhite.org/content/file/satans-impersonation-jesus#document>).

I believe that the statements above clearly indicate that Satan will personate Christ before the close of probation.

Below is the manuscript from which the statement in the book, *Last Day Events*, pages 164, 165 is taken which, in isolation, seems to indicate that Satan personates Christ only after the close of probation. It is from this statement in *Last Day Events* that people have come to the conclusion that Satan will not personate Christ until after probation closes. But if you will read the full context I don't think that this view is warranted. You will notice that he has first appeared to the world before he appears to the saints during Jacob's time of trouble. This harmonizes with everything else Ellen White wrote on this subject. When all that is written is considered **I think it is clear that Satan personates Christ both before and after probation closes.**

Ms 16, 1884

Satan's Last Deception

Portions of this manuscript are published in LDE 164-165.

Satan sees that he is about to lose his case. He cannot sweep in the whole world. He makes one more, 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. {Ms16-1884.1}

He proclaims himself Christ, and he is believed to be Christ, a beautiful, majestic being clothed with majesty and, with soft voice with pleasant words, with glory unsurpassed by anything their mortal eyes had yet beheld. These, his deceived, deluded followers, set up a shout of victory. “Christ has come the second time! Christ has come! He has lifted up His hands just as He did when He was upon the earth, and blessed us.” {Ms16-1884.2}

Here it was [that] the masterly effort of Satan would have deceived the very elect. But who were the ones blessed by him? Whom did he make glad? Whom did he honor? The combined powers of earth, the churches fallen by rejecting light and the messages of mercy Heaven had sent to heal Babylon but she refused. (Christ had declared the friendship of the world was enmity with God. Whosoever would be a friend of the world was the enemy of God.) The papal power, the man of sin which thought to change times and laws, that had presented a rival sabbath to the world to be worshiped, the apostate power who sits in the temple of God showing himself that he is God, the power that drank the blood of the saints is united with the Protestant churches, having two horns like a lamb but speaks as a dragon; the deceptions of spiritualism which have perpetuated Satan’s lie uttered in Eden, “Thou shalt not surely die” [Genesis 3:4]—all these are bound up in bundles, a corrupt harmony under a corrupt leader. The blessing is pronounced by this false christ upon the worshipers of the beast and his image, [the people] who have received the mark of the beast and the mark of the image of the beast. {Ms16-1884.3}

Here is the only hope of God’s people—the unerring word of Jehovah that there would be a remnant only in this trying time who would keep the word of Christ’s patience, who would not worship the beast, papal Rome, or his image (Protestants who are represented by the image beast with lamb-like pretensions but speaks as a dragon). “If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: and the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.” Revelation 14:9-11. {Ms16-1884.4}

Appearances will deceive. The masterly miracle-working power of Satan has carried the whole world with them and the fallen churches, and those only who have [made] the Bible their study, who have the law of God engraven in their hearts, will stand the test of this time of satanic delusion and peril. If it were possible, Jesus tells us, they would deceive the very elect. Satan in personating Jesus Christ is worshiped as God. Shout upon shout of victory is heard in adoration and in praise. {Ms16-1884.5}

Angels of God are waiting the mandate from the divine Advocate which shall place man above the wrath of Satan. The Lord of heaven and of earth sorrows and rejoices over His repenting, believing children. Their steadfast [adherence to] principle was attended by loss, sacrifice, and peril. Their adherence to the commandments of God provoked calumny and [the] hatred of the disloyal and apostate churches. Whatsoever is not sustained by the Bible standard must not be entertained. Those who are the agents of Satan are vindictive, cruel, and like their master. Those who make the Bible their standard must expect abuse, outrage. In the cause of truth there can be no compromise. {Ms16-1884.6}

Jesus is looking from His throne upon His people. His interest is identified with His suffering brethren. With joy the angel hears the word from Jesus, “Take away the filthy garments from him and clothe him with change of raiment.” And He said, “Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment.” [Zechariah 3:4.] Satan sees that he is about to lose his last chance of subverting these souls and he brings all the powers of his satanic generalship into intense activity. This last great act in the drama is in personating Jesus Christ. His disguise is discerned by none but those who are established in the Scriptures and acquainted [with] the word of God. **[possible page missing here]** {Ms16-1884.7}

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." 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 them 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. They were ripening for heaven. They had been cultivating spiritual mindedness, and striving soul, might, mind, and strength with persevering energy to copy the Pattern, that they might be without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, and meet their Lord in peace. Their souls went out in all the intense longing for to see Jesus, and by beholding by faith the character and purity of Jesus they were being transformed into His image. They were being brought into close harmony with Jesus Christ, and they had indomitable purpose. They would not dishonor God; they would not receive the mark of the beast or of his image; they would overcome as servants and sons of God, that they might inherit all things. {Ms16-1884.8}

As a child lost weeps and longs for home, so did the remnant long to see Him whom their souls loveth, their Deliverer, Him in whom their hope of eternal life was centered. Pilgrims and strangers amidst labors, sorrows and conflicts, they turn the eye of faith heavenward, exclaiming, "Come, Lord Jesus, and come quickly." Home—the mansions Christ has gone to prepare for them; how they long for their home in glory, how they long to enter within the gates of the city and dwell in the presence of Jesus forever. Their desires have been cherished long, and as Satan and his angels inspired the world, the church, and state against them, their souls with intense longings have cherished the soul-inspiring hope of overcoming and wearing the crown of life. Their character had obtained the heavenly mold that gave them discernment to see the disguises of Satan. Their understanding of Scriptures had given them a fixedness of purpose, an indomitable energy, which rendered them impossible to be molded or subdued by earth or hell. If they would be discouraged, Satan would have overwhelmed them. {Ms16-1884.9}

They count all things loss for the excellency of Christ. They could not be bribed or seduced or terrified. They were deaf to the siren song of pleasure, blind to the dazzling splendors presented before them to confuse, to allure, their senses. Worldly distractions, ambitions, honors were presented before them but only to be rejected. Indifferent to the threats and unmoved by terrors of the infernal powers, they could not be overthrown by Satan's devices. {Ms16-1884.10}

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. But this answers to the last closing work, the abomination of desolation standing in the holy place. [Text ends here.] {Ms16-1884.11}

Is it okay to offer a prediction on how an unfulfilled prophecy might be fulfilled? What if the king of the north doesn't come to his end as a result of the appearance of the dragon personating Christ? What if instead, he comes to his end by some other unforeseen event? Of what value is there in offering an educated prediction as to how this final phrase of Daniel 11:45 might be fulfilled? Perhaps we should just stay quiet when it comes to prophecies that have yet to be fulfilled. I don't think so. Notice the following three examples:

1. Was there any value in Josiah Litch making a prediction regarding the prophetic fulfillment of Revelation 9:15? Josiah Litch calculated the time period and discovered that this time prophecy would end on August 11, 1840. But what would happen on that date? Revelation 9 doesn't actually provide this information. Josiah Litch took careful note of world conditions at the time when this time prophecy was to come to its end. From the historical events surrounding the start of the 391 years and fifteen days, he predicted that at the conclusion of this time period the Ottoman power in

Constantinople would be broken. This was not a prediction pulled from thin air. The facts on the ground coupled with history and what was stated in the Bible, provided Josiah Litch sufficient information to enable him to provide an informed prediction. And because he had the courage to make that prediction public, “wonderful impetus was given to the advent movement.”

“In the year 1840 another remarkable fulfillment of prophecy excited widespread interest. Two years before, Josiah Litch, one of the leading ministers preaching the second advent, published an exposition of Revelation 9, **predicting** the fall of the Ottoman Empire. According to his calculations, this power was to be overthrown "in A.D. 1840, sometime in the month of August;" and only a few days previous to its accomplishment he wrote: ‘Allowing the first period, 150 years, to have been exactly fulfilled before Deacozes ascended the throne by permission of the Turks, and that the 391 years, fifteen days, commenced at the close of the first period, it will end on the 11th of August, 1840, when the Ottoman power in Constantinople may be expected to be broken. And this, I believe, will be found to be the case.’ --Josiah Litch, in Signs of the Times, and Expositor of Prophecy, Aug. 1, 1840. At the very time specified, Turkey, through her ambassadors, accepted the protection of the allied powers of Europe, and thus placed herself under the control of Christian nations. The event exactly fulfilled the prediction. When it became known, multitudes were convinced of the correctness of the principles of prophetic interpretation adopted by Miller and his associates, and a wonderful impetus was given to the advent movement. Men of learning and position united with Miller, both in preaching and in publishing his views, and from 1840 to 1844 the work rapidly extended.” {GC 334, 335}

2. Dr. Adam Clarke, in 1925, conjectured how Daniel 11:44 might be fulfilled. His supposition did not contradict the facts of Daniel 11 and thus he had every right to predict how this prophecy might be fulfilled.

Even though in the following statement Ellen White is writing in regards to geology and creation, the principles expressed are certainly applicable to unfulfilled prophecy:

“It may be innocent to conjecture beyond Bible history, if our suppositions do not contradict the facts found in the sacred Scriptures.” {3SG 93.1}

Here is a report of Dr. Clarke’s conjecture. You will see that his prediction was perfectly fulfilled:

“‘VERSE 44. But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy and utterly to make away many.’ On this verse Dr. Clarke has a note which is worthy of mention. He says: ‘This part of the prophecy is allowed to be yet unfulfilled.’ His note was printed in 1825. In another portion of his comment, he says: ‘If the Turkish power be understood, as in the preceding verses, it may mean that the Persians on the east, and the Russians on the north, will at some time greatly embarrass the Ottoman government. Between this **conjecture** of Dr. Clarke’s, written in 1825, and the Crimean War of 1853-1856, there is certainly a striking coincidence, inasmuch as the very powers he mentions, the Persians on the east and the Russians on the north, were the ones which instigated that conflict. Tidings from these powers troubled him (Turkey). Their attitude and movements incited the sultan to anger and revenge. Russia, being the more aggressive party, was the object of attack. Turkey declared war on her powerful northern neighbor in 1853. The world looked on in amazement to see a government which had long been called ‘the Sick Man of the East,’ a government whose army was dispirited and demoralized, whose treasuries were empty, whose rulers were vile and imbecile, and whose subjects were rebellious and threatening secession, rush with such impetuosity into the conflict. The prophecy said that they should go forth with ‘great fury;’ and when they thus went forth in the war aforesaid, they were described, in the

profane vernacular of an American writer, as ‘fighting like devils.’ England and France, it is true, soon came to the help of Turkey; but she went forth in the manner described, and as is reported, gained important victories before receiving the assistance of these powers.” {1897 UrS, DAR 309, 310}

3. Uriah Smith provided a conjecture as to how Daniel 11:45 might be fulfilled. Based upon the facts on the ground and following the rules of prophetic interpretation used in the previous 44 verses, Uriah Smith predicted that the Ottoman Sultan would be driven from Europe and would make his headquarters in Jerusalem thus fulfilling this prophecy. If God had allowed verse 45 to have been fulfilled back in the 19th century, this could very well have taken place. World conditions made this conjecture an extremely plausible scenario. Today, it is very unlikely that Uriah Smith would provide the same conjecture seeing that the current geopolitical conditions are very different from what they were in the 1800s.

Now, regarding conjecture on how this phrase, “...yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.” might be fulfilled, let me say this. First of all, no one can know for certain exactly how unfulfilled prophecy will be fulfilled. As long as “...our suppositions do not contradict the facts found in the sacred Scriptures.” we have permission to offer conjecture on the unfulfilled prophecy.

Following a consistent hermeneutic from Daniel 11:1 through Daniel 11:45 yields an understanding of verse 45 as outlined in Uriah Smith’s book, *Daniel and the Revelation*. Of course, the application of his interpretation must be updated to fit current geopolitical conditions. Nevertheless, when verse 45 is fulfilled, we should see the leader of Turkey, in some fashion, established in Jerusalem. And the prophecy then states that he will come to his end and no one is going to help keep him from coming to his end.

When I couple those biblical thoughts with the biblical truth that, according to Revelation 13, when the papacy regains the power it once had before its deadly wound was inflicted in 1798, which will happen when national Sunday laws are enacted in the USA, then the entire world will wonder after the beast. This includes the 1.7 billion Muslims. The very next verse in Revelation 13, after the wound is healed, states: “And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?” Revelation 13:4.

We see that the dragon (Satan) is being worshiped. It is reasonable to believe that this could include the event of Satan’s personation of Christ where people are directly worshiping this false Christ. It is also reasonable to believe that the king of the north, who is reigning from Jerusalem, would also be worshiping this majestic “Christ” and would turn over his rule to this false Christ. All Muslims will surrender their day of worship, Friday, and unite with the Catholics in worshiping on Sunday which is their mark of authority. The Catholic Church, in union with “Christ”, will be universally worshiped as Revelation 13:4 states. There will be no one left on planet earth who will want to sustain the king of the north as ruler over Jerusalem and the Muslim world and so he comes “to his end, and none shall help him.” And thus the Catholic Church is ruling supreme throughout the earth when Michael stands up, closing earth’s probation.