

The Eastern Question: Daniel 11:45: Turkey or Papacy?

What Is the Eastern Question?.....	1
What Has Happened to the Eastern Question?.....	1
How the Change Has Been Secretly Covered Up:	1
To Obtain the Real Books:.....	1
Why Does It Matter?.....	1
Daniel 11:36,45 Intepretation from the Bible Alone	1
Daniel 11:45 Doesn't Fit Papacy	3
Daniel 11:45 and My Trip to the Middle East	2
Daniel 11:45 History & Politics.....	3
Why Is Daniel 11 So Important?.....	3
EGW: Josiah Litch's Prophecy on Turkey.....	4
EGW: Uriah Smith.....	4
EGW: No New Views of Established Prophecy	5
EGW: Prophecy to be Clearly Understood.....	6
EGW: Daniel 11	7
EGW: Clearly Endorsed Eastern Question & Uriah Smith's Book.....	8
When/Who/Why Daniel 11 Interpretation Changed.....	10
James White's View of Daniel 11	11
EGW William Miller's Rules of Interpretation	12
Miller's Rules of Bible Interpretation.....	12
Were's Principles of Bible interpretation.....	13
Daniel 11: Verse by Verse Interpretation	14

“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.” Daniel 11:45

“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.” Daniel 12:1

The Eastern Question: Daniel 11:45: Turkey or Papacy?

What Is the Eastern Question?

The Eastern Question was a prophetic lecture on Daniel 11:40-45 which was taught in many Seventh-day Adventist evangelistic meetings in the late 19th century and into the early 20th century. This lecture taught an interpretation of Daniel 11:40-45 as found in Uriah Smith's book, *Daniel and the Revelation*; in *Bible Readings for the Home Circle*; in *The Story of Daniel the Prophet* by Stephen Haskell; in *The Eastern Question* by A.T. Jones; in *The World War: Its Relation to the Eastern Question* by A.G. Daniells; and in the 1904 and 1949 Adult Sabbath-School Quarterlies. It taught literal historical fulfillment as Turkey being the King of the North.

What Has Happened to the Eastern Question?

Some Adventist leaders, unaware to most Adventists, have published books with new beliefs that oppose the fundamental SDA doctrinal and prophetic interpretations. The purpose is to be mainstream and ecumenical. This has gone so far as to teach the 666 doesn't refer to the papacy and there is no sealing at end of time.

How the Change Has Been Secretly Covered Up:

- Uriah Smith's *Thoughts on Daniel and Revelation* was republished multiple times since 1904 with significant changes, entire pages missing, with no notes or acknowledgement of changes made.
- People have attacked Uriah Smith, but his book was the publication of many Adventist Pioneers including James White. (See History of Book Section.) Also EGW clearly endorsed his book to widely "circulate truth."
- Bible Readings for the Home*: the Eastern Question was left out after 1950's.
- Haskell's *Seer of Patmos* and *Story of Daniel* significantly changed with no notes in recent publication.
- JN Andrews *History of the Sabbath* is missing 6 chapters with no notes in recent publication.
- New doctrine has been taught from seminary and in pulpit without telling people they changed it.

Why Does It Matter?

1. Our salvation depends on living God's truth. If we compromise our prophetic beliefs based on the Bible and EGW to appease ecumenical Christianity, we will be deceived and compromise as to the mark of the beast.
2. The preaching of the eastern question was rapidly growing the Adventist Church. EGW says Uriah Smith's book "should be widely circulated because the truths they emphasize will open many blind eyes." If we want the truth to go forward, we need to believe it for ourselves and then widely circulate it so there can be a final revival and reformation that will usher in the coming of Christ.
3. If we realize we are in Daniel 11:45, we will see Christ's coming is very soon and we will have an urgency to get right with God today.
4. If we realize prophecy fulfillment was rapid and has been on hold since 1856, we will get back into the Bible and cooperate with Christ's work so prophecy can be rapidly fulfilled again and He can come soon.
5. "It is true that there are prophecies yet to be fulfilled. But very erroneous work has been done again and again, and will continue to be done by those who seek to find new light in the prophecies, and who begin by turning away from the light that God has already given." (EGW) If we turn away from light already given, we will be lost.

Get the Original Books:

- Find a Uriah Smith's *Thoughts on Daniel and Revelation* prior to 1904.
- Read a pdf version online for free if you google "1897 Uriah Smith Thoughts on Daniel and Revelation."
- Purchase a reprint of the 1897 edition on ebay or email: cdm794@gmail.com (He also has other books.)

Daniel 11:36,45 Intepretation from the Bible Alone

11:36 “Do as he pleases” phrase is also in vs. 3 & 16 that phrase is used when a new power comes to the throne (Greece, then Rome.) If we follow this example it introduces a new power. Also, in previous verse papacy came to his end in 1798, thus he was not doing as he pleased at this time. What power arose near 1798 that did as he pleased? France. Even more than the papacy ever did because he claimed no connection to God, and later claimed the goddess of liberty to do whatever he pleased.

11:45 Tabernacle = “nomad tent” tent dwellers with animals Genesis 4:20, Hebrews 11:9 This would describe the Turks, not the papacy. The Turkish people are known throughout the world as nomadic tent dwellers – even to this day. The Papacy has always been known for it’s grand and elaborate displays.

11:45 Holy Mountain = Jerusalem Daniel 9:16

11:45 Between the seas = Dead & Mediterranean

11:45 “He will come to his end and nobody will help him.” Previously in 17-1800’s the Turks were helped by the European nations so that he did not come to his end when he should have.

Daniel 11:45 and My Trip to the Middle East

In 2022, I felt impressed by God to study Daniel and Revelation. I thought this would be a pretty easy stud – I would just read some books by Adventists. As I began to read, I discovered there were MANY different views within our own denomination. I wanted to give up, but God told me “No! I called you to study.” I asked God “Why do you want me to waste my time studying what the theologians can’t even agree on?” God told me “Because prophecy was written so I could reveal my truth to my children.” I said, “How are you going to show me?” God said, “The Holy Spirit will teach you. Forget about being a theologian – just be My child and listen to My voice. I will teach you.” So I delved in. I read many books by many people. I read the Bible again and again. I did EGW search. As I did this, I began to feel more and more convicted that the fundamental interpretation was correct. But I didn’t like that, because I don’t like to go against the masses. I don’t like conflict. I asked God, “How can I know for certain what is prophetic truth? I can’t even figure out historic truth because they have changed the history books!” God reminded me how we discovered U.S. historical truth real quickly when we traveled ourselves to the historic sites. He told me to go.

That day on the side of my computer screen, an advertisement popped up for a 12 night all-inclusive Mediterranean cruise for \$599 a person and the 3rd person free. I check it out and it had Rome, Istanbul, Ephesus, Athens, the Holy Land, and more. An amazing deal! So we went.

I saw so much history while there and learned so much! I truly saw Bible prophecy in a whole new light! I saw the world wandering after the beast. I saw all the denominations putting aside doctrinal beliefs to be united as one in “love” for people. I saw the political dynamics. I saw the healing of the wound to the Papacy.

When we went to Istanbul, we had a muslim tour guide. As we entered the palace of the Ottoman empire, she stopped and said, “This is what they call a tent palace.” She explained the Turkish people have always been known as nomads. They don’t like to live in buildings, but prefer to dwell in tents in nature with their livestock. So, when they went to build their palace, they didn’t want big fancy buildings like the other empires. Instead, they built a “tent palace.” It is a large courtyard with a wall around the edges. Built into the outer walls they have small simple buildings like tents.

The week after getting home, God impressed me to go look up the original words in Daniel 11:45 for “tabernacle.” I had never really been into looking up original words, so that seemed odd. As I looked it up I discovered it meant “nomad tent.” The other verses where it was used in the Bible referred to Abraham’s descendants as they were wondering through the wilderness with their goats and living in tents. Sabbath morning I was sharing this with my mom while driving to church. Lucas said, “Mom, remember when we were at the palace in Istanbul, she said it was a “tent palace.” I saw how God truly guided in our trip, to clearly show me that Daniel 11:45 refers to the Ottoman/Turkish power – not the more common Papal view.

Daniel 11:45 Doesn't Fit Papacy

-Daniel 11:1-35 has direct King of the North and South fulfilment in immense detail of kings and battles fought. It would not follow God's order to all of a sudden change it from historical to spiritual with no direct people or battles.

-Instead of a "tent palace" the Papacy has an elaborate palace.

-If the papacy is the final persecuting power, they will not come to their end until Jesus comes, because they will be the persecuting power. According to *The Great Controversy*, Jesus comes after the death decree has gone out. His people are being surrounded and there appears to be no way out.

-For the papacy to be the final persecuting power, the other powers will have to be diminished; especially Turkey as the head of the Islamic world.

-Daniel 11:36-45, to be the papacy, has no direct fulfillment. Instead people "spiritualize it." Whereas our Adventist Pioneers agreed on prophetic interpretation that is clearly seen in history.

Daniel 11:45 History & Politics

-While many believe it is not possible for Turkey to rise up, there are many, especially those who live in the Middle East, who think differently. Turkey was put between Russia and Europe because Russia doesn't want to mess with the Turks, and so it creates a buffer for Europe. The Turkish people are known for getting stirred up easily and then being very aggressive. Turkey is sympathetic to Arabs, and in many ways considered the head of the Islam religion. The Islam's have their Dome of the Rock already on top of the mount in Jerusalem and there is already conflict there. Turkey itself has sided and helped the Arabs many times. Turkey (The Ottoman empire) has controlled Jerusalem for hundreds of years, and they have said they want to take it back. They feel Israel was wrongly taken from them. If they tried this, it would also explain why Europe would not help them this time, because they were defying the European UN orders, and they would come to their end.

Why Is Daniel 11 So Important?

-Every word God gives us is important.

It has an entire chapter, Daniel 10, just to introduce the vision. No other vision in the Bible has an entire chapter to introduce it.

-Daniel 11 is introduced three times as being truth: Daniel 10:1, 10:21, 11:2 The term is "literal truth." In Daniel 7:16 the truth of the vision was asked and then the interpretation was given.

-Daniel and Revelation are books that go together. Revelation 9 addresses the Turkish power, but no other place in Daniel is the Turkish power addressed. It makes sense we would see it in the detailed account of world history in Daniel 11.

-The Advent movement was established as prophetically correct when on August 11, 1840 the Turkish empire ended. Thousands of eyes were opened when this prophecy didn't appear to be possible, but suddenly fulfilled. Wouldn't it be interesting if as a sign at the end of the Advent movement a Turkish prophecy that appeared to be possible, would again suddenly be fulfilled?

-God always lets His people know when He is going to do something big. Daniel 11:45, follow by Daniel 12, is the only Bible prophecy given as a sign of when probation closes.

GC 594: "Before His crucifixion the Saviour explained to His disciples that He was to be put to death and to rise again from the tomb, and angels were present to impress His words on minds and hearts. But the disciples were looking for temporal deliverance from the Roman yoke, and they could not tolerate the thought that He in whom all their hopes centered should suffer an ignominious death. The words which they needed to remember were banished from their minds; and when the time of trial came, it found them unprepared. The death of Jesus as fully destroyed their hopes as if He had not forewarned them. So in the prophecies the future is opened before us as plainly as it was opened to the disciples by the words of Christ. The events connected with the close of probation and the work of preparation for the time of trouble, are clearly presented. But multitudes have no more understanding of these important truths than if they had never been revealed. Satan watches to catch away every impression that would make them wise unto salvation, and the time of trouble will find them unready."

EGW: Josiah Litch's Prophecy on Turkey

Great Controversy 334: 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 the calculation, 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, August 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 the Christian nation. The event exactly fulfilled the prediction. (See Appendix) 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.

EGW: Uriah Smith

RH, September 6, 1877: "Sunday morning the weather was still cloudy, but before it was time for the people to assemble the sun shone forth. Boats and trains poured their living freight upon the ground, as was the case last year. Elder Smith spoke in the morning upon the Eastern question. The subject was of special interest, and the people listened with the most earnest attention. It seemed to be just what they wanted to hear."

Lt 55-1884: "Elder Smith spoke on the Sabbath question to a large congregation this morning, and this evening he speaks on the Eastern Question. I feel so grateful that Brother Smith is not lost to the cause. He seems fully and thoroughly united with us; ...seems like Brother Smith of old. Oh, thank the Lord! Praise His Holy Name, that His love, His wondrous love, has been exercised toward the children of men. It is so dark, I must stop. Will write you tomorrow Aug. 25, 11:00 a.m. The first two pages were written Sunday after I had spoken to the crowd. The evening meeting was largely attended. Elder Smith spoke with great clearness, and many listened with open eyes, ears, and mouths. The outsiders seemed to be intensely interested in the Eastern Question. He closed with a very solemn address to those who had not been preparing for these great events in the near future."

History of Book: Thoughts on Daniel & Revelation by Uriah Smith

RH June 3, 1862 James White: Connected with the Battle Creek Sabbath-school is a large and flourishing Bible-class conducted by Bro. Uriah Smith. This class has once passed through the entire book of Revelation, free from the spirit of debate, all coming to the same conclusion on almost every point, and confident that they had found a better harmony than they had before seen, and clearer light on some portions of the book. Sabbath, May 17, the class commenced the book again, with the intention of taking one chapter for each lesson. In this investigation we take a deep interest, and design to report in the Review, by way of a few thoughts on one chapter each week.

Advent Review and Sabbath Herald James White July 16, 1867: Next morning was glad to receive from the express office fifty copies of that excellent work, entitled, "Thoughts on the Revelation." These thoughts are not the fruit of one brain. In the time of the end the Revelation was to be unsealed and opened. And from the open book, the light has been shining. Wm. Miller saw much. Others since have seen more. And as this open book contains more which bears directly upon the present truth than any other book of the Bible, its clearest light is reserved for believers in the time of the third message.

W.C. White Letter to A.F. Harrison June 26, 1910: In 1886, 1887, and 1888 there was considerable controversy over some of the expositions in Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation. There was quite a group of men, including myself, who became convinced that there were some errors in this most excellent book that ought to be corrected. Elder Uriah Smith defended very ably the positions taken in the book, but he was a very kind and reasonable man, and was willing to make corrections when errors were made plain. ...a number of corrections were made, if I remember correctly about thirty.

EGW: No New Views of Established Prophecy

RH, November 25, 1884: Those who are engaged in proclaiming the third angel's message are searching the Scriptures upon the same plan that Father [William] Miller adopted.

Evangelism 199: There must be no long discussions, presenting new theories in regard to the prophecies which God has already made plain.

2SM 101-102: I have not been able to sleep since half past one o'clock. I was bearing to Brother T a message which the Lord had given me for him. The peculiar views he holds are a mixture of truth and error. If he had passed through the experiences of God's people as He has led them for the past forty years, he would be better prepared to make the correct application of Scripture. The great waymarks of truth, showing us our bearings in prophetic history, are to be carefully guarded, lest they be torn down, and replaced with theories that would bring confusion rather than genuine light. I have been cited to the very erroneous theories that have been presented over and over again. Those who advocated these theories presented Scripture quotations, but they misapplied and misinterpreted them. The theories supposed to be correct were incorrect, and yet many thought them the very theories to be brought before the people. The prophecies of Daniel and John are to be diligently studied.

There are those now living who, in studying the prophecies of Daniel and John, received great light from God as they passed over the ground where special prophecies were in process of fulfillment in their order. They bore the message of time to the people. The truth shone out clearly as the sun at noonday. Historical events, showing the direct fulfillment of prophecy, were set before the people, and the prophecy was seen to be a figurative delineation of events leading down to the close of this earth's history. The scenes connected with the working of the man of sin are the last features plainly revealed in this earth's history. The people now have a special message to give to the world, the third angel's message. Those who, in their experience, have passed over the ground, and acted a part in the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels' messages, are not so liable to be led into false paths as are those who have not had an experimental knowledge of the people of God...

There have been one and another who in studying their Bibles thought they discovered great light, and new theories, but these have not been correct. The Scripture is all true, but by misapplying the Scripture men arrive at wrong conclusions. We are engaged in a mighty conflict, and it will become more close and determined, as we near the final struggle. We have a sleepless adversary, and he is constantly at work upon human minds that have not had a personal experience in the teachings of the people of God for the past fifty years. [written in 1896] Some will take the truth applicable to their time, and place it in the future. Events in the train of prophecy that had their fulfillment away in the past are made future, and thus by these theories the faith of some is undermined."

You and other of our brethren must accept the truth as God has given it to His students of prophecy, as they have been led by genuine, living experience, advancing point by point, tested, proved, and tried, until the truth is to them a reality. From their voices and pens the truth in bright, warm rays has gone to all parts of the world, and that which was to them testing truth, as brought by the Lord's delegated messengers, is testing truth to all to whom this message is proclaimed.

2SM 111-112: Satan is working that the history of the Jewish nation may be repeated in the experience of those who claim to believe present truth. The Jews had the Old Testament Scriptures, and supposed themselves

conversant with them. But they made a woeful mistake. The prophecies that refer to the glorious second appearing of Christ in the clouds of heaven they regarded as referring to His first coming. Because He did not come according to their expectations, they turned away from Him. Satan knew just how to take these men in his net, and deceive and destroy them. The very same Satan is at work to undermine the faith of the people of God at this time. There are persons ready to catch up every new idea. The prophecies of Daniel and the Revelation are misinterpreted. These persons do not consider that the truth has been set forth at the appointed time by the very men whom God was leading to do this special work. These men followed on step by step in the very fulfillment of prophecy, and those who have not had a personal experience in this work, are to take the Word of God and believe on “their word” who have been led by the Lord in the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels’ messages. These messages, received and acted upon, are doing their work to prepare a people to stand in the great day of God. If we search the Scriptures to confirm the truth God has given His servants for the world, we shall be found proclaiming the first, second, and third angels’ messages. It is true that there are prophecies yet to be fulfilled. But very erroneous work has been done again and again, and will continue to be done by those who seek to find new light in the prophecies, and who begin by turning away from the light that God has already given.

Counsels to Writers and Editors p. 32, (1905): We are not to receive the words of those who come with a message that contradicts the special points of our faith. They gather together a mass of Scripture, and pile it as proof around their asserted theories. This has been done over and over again during the past fifty years. And while the Scriptures are God’s word, and are to be respected, the application of them, if such application moves one pillar from the foundation that God has sustained these fifty years, is a great mistake. He who makes such an application knows not the wonderful demonstration of the Holy Spirit that gave power and force to the past messages that have come to the people of God.

Review and Herald, May 25, 1905: In the future, deception of every kind is to arise, and we want solid ground for our feet. We want solid pillars for the building. Not one pin is to be removed from that which the Lord has established. The enemy will bring in false theories, such as the doctrine that there is no sanctuary. This is one of the points on which there will be a departing from the faith. Where shall we find safety unless it be in the truths that the Lord has been giving for the last fifty years?— [They began to understand the Sanctuary doctrine in 1844]

Upward Look, page 352: The past fifty years have not dimmed one jot or principle of our faith as we received the great and wonderful evidences that were made certain to us in 1844, after the passing of the time. The languishing souls are to be confirmed and quickened according to His Word. . . . Not a word is changed or denied. That which the Holy Spirit testified to as truth after the passing of the time, in our great disappointment, is the solid foundation of truth. [The] pillars of truth were revealed, and we accepted the foundation principles that have made us what we are— Seventh-day Adventists, keeping the commandments of God and having the faith of Jesus.

EGW: Prophecy to be Clearly Understood

Letter 16, 1900, pp. 2, 3. To F. E. Belden, January 27, 1900 1MR 42: This book [Revelation] demands close, prayerful study, lest it be interpreted according to the ideas of men, and false construction be given to the sacred Word of the Lord, which in its symbols and figures means so much to us. There is so much that we positively must understand in order that we may shape our course of action so that we shall not receive the plagues which are coming upon the world. In the Revelation the deep things of God are portrayed. Those whose hearts are wholly sanctified to God will be brought nigh to see priceless gems through the telescope of faith. And as they apply the truth to practice, the still deeper mysteries are stamped on the soul. Those thus honored are to communicate to others that which they have received. And as they do this, angels make the impression upon hearts. All who understand the Word of God will realize that the things of minor importance which in the past have occupied their time and consumed their strength have deprived them of an experience and knowledge

which they might have obtained had they kept the faith untarnished by selfishness. Had they done this, they would have understood the result of possessing that faith which works by love and purifies the soul. Let none think, because they cannot explain the meaning of every symbol in the Revelation, that it is of no use for them to search this book with deep earnest longing and intense desire to know the meaning of the truths it contains. The One who revealed these mysteries to John can and will give the diligent searcher for truth a foretaste of heavenly things, hereafter to be realized. Rich blessings will come to him who reads and hears the words of this prophecy, and keeps those things which are written therein.

EGW: Direct Comments on Daniel 11

“Dear Brother Parsons.... The truth is to go to all parts of the world. It is no time now for us to lay off our burden. The message must be kept before our churches: ‘Present the truth in its high, holy, sanctified character to the people.’ Read pages thirteen, fourteen, and fifteen in Testimony, Vol. 9. The last crisis is close upon us. The world is stirred with the spirit of war. The prophecy of the eleventh of Daniel has almost reached its complete fulfillment.” (Lt80-1910).

[Next section Testimonies 9 p11-14 talking about Islam attacking and turning twin towers and then immediately followed by the prophecies of Daniel 11 nearly reaching their fulfillment. This statement was written in a private letter in 1904 when the next three weeks quarterly lesson was teaching Uriah Smith’s view of Daniel 11:40-45. She then published the statement for everyone to read that following November, just after they all would have studied it in the quarterly.]

The scene that next passed before me was an alarm of fire. Men looked at the lofty and supposedly fire-proof buildings and said: “They are perfectly safe.” But these buildings were consumed as if made of pitch. The fire engines could do nothing to stay the destruction. The firemen were unable to operate the engines. 9T 13.1

I am instructed that when the Lord’s time comes, should no change have taken place in the hearts of proud, ambitious human beings, men will find that the hand that had been strong to save will be strong to destroy. No earthly power can stay the hand of God. No material can be used in the erection of buildings that will preserve them from destruction when God’s appointed time comes to send retribution on men for their disregard of His law and for their selfish ambition. 9T 13.2

There are not many, even among educators and statesmen, who comprehend the causes that underlie the present state of society. Those who hold the reins of government are not able to solve the problem of moral corruption, poverty, pauperism, and increasing crime. They are struggling in vain to place business operations on a more secure basis. If men would give more heed to the teaching of God’s word, they would find a solution of the problems that perplex them. 9T 13.3

The Scriptures describe the condition of the world just before Christ’s second coming. Of the men who by robbery and extortion are amassing great riches, it is written: “Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days. Behold, the hire of the laborers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth. Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter. Ye have condemned and killed the just; and he doth not resist you.” James 5:3-6. 9T 13.4

But who reads the warnings given by the fast-fulfilling signs of the times? What impression is made upon worldlings? What change is seen in their attitude? No more than was seen in the attitude of the inhabitants of the Noachian world. Absorbed in worldly business and pleasure, the antediluvians “knew not until the Flood came, and took them all away.” Matthew 24:39. They had heaven-sent warnings, but they refused to listen. And today the world, utterly regardless of the warning voice of God, is hurrying on to eternal ruin. 9T 14.1

The world is stirred with the spirit of war. The prophecy of the eleventh chapter of Daniel has nearly reached its complete fulfillment. Soon the scenes of trouble spoken of in the prophecies will take place.

13 Manuscript Releases, page 394: We have no time to lose. Troublous times are before us. The world is stirred with the spirit of war. Soon the scenes of trouble spoken of in the prophecies will take place. The prophecy in the eleventh of Daniel has nearly reached its complete fulfillment. Much of the history that has taken place in fulfillment of this prophecy will be repeated. In the thirtieth verse [of Daniel 11] a power is spoken of that “shall

be grieved, and return, and have indignation against the holy covenant: so shall he do; he shall even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant. [Verses 31-36, quoted.] (Notice verses 31-36 are quoted; not verses 40-45. Uriah Smith agreed verses 31-35 were the Papacy.)

EGW: Clearly Endorsed Eastern Question & Uriah Smith's Book

Ms189-1898 par. 9: Elder Daniells speaks this evening upon the Eastern Question. May the Lord give His Holy Spirit to inspire the hearts to make the truth plain.

EGW, Manuscript 76, 1901: "Everything that can be done should be done to circulate Thoughts on Daniel and Revelation. I know of no other book that can take the place of this one. It is God's helping hand."

RH Feb 16, 1905: "Instruction has been given me that the important books containing the light that God has given regarding Satan's apostasy in heaven should be given a wide circulation just now; for through them the truth will reach many minds. Patriarchs and Prophets, Daniel and the Revelation, and The Great Controversy are needed now as never before. They should be widely circulated because the truths they emphasize will open many blind eyes.... Many of our people have been blind to the importance of the very books that were most needed. Had talent and skill then been shown in the sale of these books, the Sunday-law movement would not be where it is today."

Letter 229, 1903: "In The Desire of Ages, Patriarchs and Prophets, The Great Controversy, and in Daniel and the Revelation, there is precious instruction. These books must be regarded as of special importance, and every effort should be made to get them before the people."

CM 123.3, 1889): "The light given was that Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation, The Great Controversy, and Patriarchs and Prophets, would make their way. They contain the very message the people must have, the special light God had given His people. The angels of God would prepare the way for these books in the hearts of the people."

1MR 60-65 "Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation." Sunnyside, Cooranbong, New South Wales, Australia 1900: The canvassing work is one of the Lord's appointed agencies for extending the knowledge of the truth for this time. Canvassers have an important work to do. The Lord can and will work through them if they will earnestly prepare themselves to do what they can. The effort made to circulate Christ's Object Lessons is demonstrating what can be done in the canvassing field. To those who are working with this book, I would say, After the immediate necessity is met, do not lose your zeal, feeling that there is no further need for special effort. Sell the book wherever you can, and bring our larger books to the notice of the people. Especially should the book Daniel and the Revelation be brought before people as the very book for this time. This book contains the message which all need to read and understand. Translated into many different languages, it will be a power to enlighten the world. This book has had a large sale in Australia and New Zealand. By reading it may souls have come to a knowledge of the truth. I have received many letters expressing appreciation of this book. Let our canvassers urge this book upon the attention of all. The Lord has shown me that this book will do a good work in enlightening those who become interested in the truth for this time. Those who embrace the truth now, who have not shared in the experiences of those who entered the work in the early history of the message, should study the instruction given in Daniel and the Revelation, becoming familiar with the truth it presents. Those who are preparing to enter the ministry, who desire to become successful students of the prophecies, will find Daniel and the Revelation an invaluable help. They need to understand this book. It speaks of past, present, and future, laying out the path so plainly that none need err therein. Those who will diligently study this book will have no relish for the cheap sentiments presented by those who have a burning desire to get out something new and strange to present to the flock of God. The rebuke of God is upon all such teachers. They need that one teach them what is meant by godliness and truth. The great, essential questions which God would have presented to the people are found in Daniel and the Revelation. There is found solid, eternal truth

for this time. Everyone needs the light and information it contains. Those who are destroying the earth have had a long probation. For six thousand years God has borne with the ignorance and wickedness of men. In every possible way He has tested and tried them, seeking to lead them to return to their loyalty and be saved. But they refuse to listen to His entreaties. War and bloodshed have been, are still, and will continue to be. War is popular. To kill and destroy is in the sight of the world to be brave, worthy of a reward. The time is near when Jesus will take the kingdom and possess the kingdom under the whole heavens. He will judge among the nations and rebuke among many people. Wars shall cease unto the ends of the earth. Can we not see the corrupt condition of our world? Is not the terrible wickedness, which is continually increasing, sufficient to lead us to use every Christian activity in presenting to the world those books which contain the most beneficial instruction? God, the great moral Governor of the universe, desires His people to arouse and use their influence to lead others to understand what is coming upon our world. The Lord calls for workers to enter the canvassing field. He desires the books upon health reform to be circulated. Much depends upon the question of health reform. Unless our churches occupy a higher platform upon this subject, they will not be able to appreciate the truth for this time. God desires the light found in the books of Daniel and Revelation to be presented in clear lines. It is painful to think of the many cheap theories picked up and presented to the people by ignorant, unprepared teachers. Those who present their human tests, and the nonsensical ideas they have concocted in their own minds, show the character of the goods in their treasure house. They have laid in store shoddy material. Their great desire is to make a sensation. The truth for this time has been brought out in many books. Let those who have been dealing in cheap sentiments and foolish tests, cease this work and study Daniel and the Revelation. They will then have something to talk about that will help the mind. As they receive the knowledge contained in this book, they will have in the treasure house of the mind a store from which they can continually draw as they communicate to others the great, essential truths of God's Word. The interest in Daniel and the Revelation is to continue as long as probationary time shall last. God used the author of this book as a channel through which to communicate light to direct minds to the truth. Shall we not appreciate this light, which points us to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, our King? Speaking of this great event Paul says, "I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Jesus Christ, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession: that thou keep this commandment with spot, unrebukable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, which in his times he shall show, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords; who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto, whom no man hath seen nor can see; to whom be glory and power everlasting." [1 Timothy 6:13-16.] Young men, take up the work of canvassing for Daniel and the Revelation. Do all you possibly can to sell this book. Enter upon the work with as much earnestness as if it were a new book. And remember that as you canvass for it, you are to become familiar with the truths it contains. As you ponder these truths, you will receive ideas that will enable you not only to receive light, but to let light shine forth to others in clear, bright rays. Now is come the time of the revelation of the grace of God. Now is the gospel of Jesus Christ to be proclaimed. Satan will seek to divert the minds of those who should be established, strengthened, and settled in the truths of the first, second, and third angels' messages. The students in our schools should carefully study Daniel and the Revelation, so that they shall not be left in darkness, and the day of Christ overtake them as a thief in the night. I speak of this book because it is a means of educating those who need to understand the truth of the Word. This book should be highly appreciated. It covers much of the ground we have been over in our experience. If the youth will study this book and learn for themselves what is truth, they will be saved from many perils. We read in Peter, "There were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of." [2 Peter 2:1, 2.]

Many of these teachers who bring in heresies, and thus undermine the faith of some, are regarded as men of God, who walk in the light, and are seeking to deliver the church from wrong practices. But they are the servants of sin. We need intelligent canvassers, who are also evangelists, canvassers who will do all the good they possibly can as they visit from house to house. Canvassers may do a good work for God. The Lord has given great light to the world in the books Great Controversy, Patriarchs and Prophets, and Desire of Ages. These books should be pressed in everywhere. Those who handle these books should educate themselves for the

work. As canvassers dwell upon the precious truths contained in these books, seeking to get the light before as many as possible, they are letting the light shine into many minds, and they may say, “We then, as workers together with him, beseech you that ye receive not the grace of God in vain. (For he said, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succored thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.) “Giving no offence in anything, that the ministry be not blamed; but in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in watchings, in fastings; by pureness, by knowledge, by long-suffering, by the Holy Ghost, ... by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left. By honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and yet true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and, behold, we live; as chastened, and not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.” [2 Corinthians 6:1-10.] Many who are serving as gospel ministers need to study the Word. Revelation means something revealed, which all are to understand. Dig deep for the truth. Plead with the Lord for an understanding of His Word. Those who feel their need of special help of God will ask Him who is the Source of all wisdom to supply their necessities. Ask Him to enlighten your understanding, that you may know how to give light to others. Put your mind to the tax. Never rest satisfied with a partial knowledge of the truth, pieced out with some weak suppositions. “Hearken to me, ye that follow after righteousness, ye that seek the Lord; look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged. ... For the Lord shall comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places; and he will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving and the voice of melody.” [Isaiah 51:1]

Letter 70, 1910, pp. 2,4. (To A. G. Daniells, August 11, 1910.) White Estate Washington, D. C. April 2, 1980: Representations have passed before me which indicate that you [A. G. Daniells] and Elder [W. W.] Prescott... have been inclined to search out things to be criticized or condemned in our printed publications. ...But you must never forget that Satan, disguised as an angel of light, is always ready to encourage anything that would lead to a loss of confidence ...in publications that God has blessed. ...Satan ...has acted the part of a busy agent in presenting the thought that many of our books now in print are in need of general revision. He would be glad to have our brethren receive the impression that many changes must be made. ...I have been instructed that the Lord is not the author of the proposal to make many changes in books already published. ...

When/Who/Why Daniel 11 Interpretation Changed

-All of the pioneers, including James White, and men such as G. W. Holt, Uriah Smith, S.N. Haskell, J.N. Loughborough, A.T. Jones, E.J. Waggoner, W. A Spicer, A.G. Daniells, and William Granger taught the literal understanding of the entire chapter of Daniel 11. This was published in Bible Readings for the Home and the 1904 & 1949 Adult Sabbath School Quarterlies.

AT Jones, *The Marshaling of the Nations*: “So, when we come to the fortieth verse of the eleventh of Daniel, we are not reading of affairs away back in the days of the empire of Greece, nor of the affairs of Rome, but of affairs down here at “the time of the end,” as mentioned in the thirty-fifth verse. Other verses also show the same thing. And bear in mind that the king of the South is always in Egypt, and the king of the North is always the power occupying the territory of which Constantinople is the center. And all the world knows that since 1453 A. D., the territory of which Constantinople is the center, has been held and ruled by the Turks. Then the king of the North at the time of the end is the Turkish dominion.”

1888 Bible Readings for the Home Circle in the Chapter entitled The Eastern Question: “The eleventh chapter of Daniel entire is a literal historical prophecy, the longest and most remarkable of its kind in all the Scriptures.” This was the official position of the church, and all subsequent editions of Bible Readings were in agreement, until the Chapter on “The Eastern Question” was removed from the book around the years 1960-62.

-Uriah Smith's *Daniel and Revelation* was republished with significant changes made after his death in 1903. There are no notes made in the book – so most people who purchase the book assume the book is Uriah Smith's. Only those prior to his death in 1903 are truly Uriah Smith's words.

-The “spiritual” understanding of Daniel 11:36-45 was introduced and supported by men such as Raymond F. Cottrell, Louis Were, Hans K. LaRondelle, Edward Heppenstall, and L. E. Froom, all extremely liberal New Theology proponents.

-In March, 1954, The Committee on Biblical Study and Research presented their "Report on the Eleventh Chapter of Daniel, With Particular Reference to Verses 36-39", in "The Ministry" magazine. The report states: "Therefore, from the foregoing, we conclude that verses 36-39 of Daniel II accurately set forth in prophetic language the work and history of papal Rome."

- Adventists have been told for 60 years that the drying up of the great river Euphrates is the drying up of support for the Papacy and that “the kings of the east” is a reference to the Second Coming of Christ. This view came into being when Louis Were reinterpreted the prophecy of Daniel 11:40-45, and thought to change the true pioneer position on these verses in Revelation 16. This is emphatically not the pioneer position. Jesus does not come during the sixth plague, but at the end of the seventh plague, when the Papacy is destroyed.

James White's View of Daniel 11

R&H Dec 12, 1854: It is our opinion that any power that reigns over Syria is for the time being – “the king of the north,” spoken of [in] Daniel xi; hence that the Turkish Dynasty is now [1854] that power. If Russia, Austria, England, or France should become possessed of supreme power over Syria, then it – which ever it might be – would become “the king of the north.” Till then none but the Turkish Dynasty occupies that position, in our opinion.

R&H, Nov. 29, 1877: Positions taken upon the Eastern question are based upon prophecies which have not yet their fulfillment. ...that portion of prophecy which will give great confirmation of faith in the soon loud cry and close of our message. But what will be the result of this positiveness in unfulfilled prophecies should things not come out as very confidently expected, is an anxious question.

R&H Oct 3, 1878 p.116: "And there is a line of historic prophecy in chapter eleven, where the symbols are thrown off, beginning with the kings of Persia, and reaching down past Grecia and Rome, to the time when that power 'shall come to his end, and none shall help him.' If the feet and ten toes of the metallic image are Roman, if the beast with ten horns that was given to the burning flames of the great day be the Roman beast, if the little horn which stood up against the Prince of princes be Rome, and if the same field and distance are covered by these four prophetic chains, then the last power of the eleventh chapter, which is to 'come to his end and none shall help him,' is Rome. But if this be Turkey, as some teach, then the toes of the image of the second chapter are Turkish, the beast with ten horns of the seventh chapter represents Turkey, and it was Turkey that stood up against the Prince of princes of the eighth chapter of Daniel. True, Turkey is bad enough off; but its waning power and its end is the subject of the prophecy of John and not of Daniel."

Letters from Willie 1903: “During the few months preceding this meeting I had read Daniel and Revelation by Elder Uriah Smith. I loved the writer; I admired his style; I loved his teaching; and I was shocked when Elder White presented another view regarding the king of the North. One day I said to him, “Father, I have just read Elder Smith's book and his exposition seems clear to me. Do you really believe that Rome is the king of the North?” His answer was, “I think Elder Smith is going too fast in his exposition, and I thought it was time to present something to check the current belief that what is transpiring was the beginning of Armageddon.” [What would motivate James White to fear going too fast with Smith's exposition? Remember, not only was White the editor for the Adventist Review and Herald in 1878, he was also the General Conference President.

As president of an ever expanding work that faced ever expanding demands on an ever increasing budget for which cash was slow to come into the coffers, White might have been motivated to present this conflicting view due to the burdens he felt to raise funds for the various institutions being built around the world to meet the needs of a rapidly growing church. Willie White seemed to understand his father's motives as such, writing this explanation to Elder John Vuilleumier in 1919:] "In Father's efforts to arouse our brethren to clear of the B. C. [Battle Creek] College debt, and to raise money for the B. C. San. And for the European Mission, and for the proposed British Mission, and other things he had met the plea, "It's too late, Eld. White to plan for all these things. TOO LATE, TOO LATE." And when he heard Eld. Smith's presentation, fear seized his soul, and he threw in his exposition on Daniel 11, not so much that he really believed it, as that he thought it would check a movement that he thought was bordering into fanaticism, and might lead to the hindrance of the work to be done. He was reprov'd by the Lord for bringing in distrust as to the unity of the leaders and sank down in discouragement, and thus the great financial campaign collapsed." John Witcombe's Unholy War quoting Letter dated 12/12/1930 & 3/6/1919)

EGW William Miller's Rules of Interpretation

GC 411: Though many abandoned their former reckoning of the prophetic periods and denied the correctness of the movement based thereon, others were unwilling to renounce points of faith and experience that were sustained by the Scriptures and by the witness of the Spirit of God. They believed that they had adopted sound principles of interpretation in their study of the prophecies, and that it was their duty to hold fast the truths already gained, and to continue the same course of Biblical research. With earnest prayer they reviewed their position and studied the Scriptures to discover their mistake. As they could see no error in their reckoning of the prophetic periods, they were led to examine more closely the subject of the sanctuary

5T 330-331" The Bible with its precious gems of truth was not written for the scholar alone. On the contrary, it was designed for the people; and the interpretation given by the common people, when aided by the Holy Spirit, accords best with the truth as it is in Jesus

RH November 25, 1884: Those who are engaged in proclaiming the third angel's message are searching the Scriptures upon the same plan that Father Miller adopted. In the little book entitled Views of the Prophecies and Prophetic Chronology, Father Miller gives the following simple but intelligent and important rules for Bible study and interpretation.

Miller's Rules of Bible Interpretation

In studying the Bible, I have found the following rules to be of great service to myself, and now give them to the public by special request. Every rule should be well studied, in connection with the Scripture references, if the Bible student would be at all benefitted by them.

1. All Scripture is necessary, and may be understood by diligent application and study (2 Timothy 3:15-17).
2. Every word must have its proper bearing on the subject presented in the Bible (Matthew 5:18).
3. Scripture must be its own expositor, since it is a rule of itself. If I depend on a teacher to explain it to me, and he should guess at its meaning, or desire to have it so on account of his sectarian creed, or to be thought wise, then his guessing, desire, creed, or wisdom is my rule, not the Bible (Psalm 19:7-11; 119:97-105; Matthew 23:8-10; 1 Corinthians 2:12-16; Ezekiel 34:18, 19; Luke 11:52; Malachi 2:7, 8).
4. To understand doctrine, bring all the Scriptures together on the subject you wish to know; then let every word have its proper influence, and if you can form your theory without a contradiction, you cannot be in an error (Isaiah 28:7-29; 35:8; Proverbs 19:27; Luke 24:27, 44, 45; James 5:19; 2 Peter 1:19, 20).
5. God has revealed things to come, by visions, in figures and parables; and in this way the same things are oftentimes revealed again and again, by different visions, or in different figures and parables. If you wish to understand them, you must combine them all in one (Psalm 89:19; Hosea 12:10; Habakkuk 2:2; Acts 2:17; 1 Corinthians 10:6; Hebrews 9:9, 24; Psalm 78:2; Matthew 13:13, 34; Genesis 41:1-32; Daniel 2, 7, 8; Acts 10:9-16). Page 1

6. Visions are always mentioned as such (2 Corinthians 12:1).
7. How to know when a word is used figuratively. If it makes good sense as it stands, and does no violence to the simple laws of nature, then it must be understood literally; if not, figuratively (Revelation 12:1, 2; 17:3-7).
8. Figures always have a figurative meaning, and are used much in prophecy to represent future things, times, and events; such as mountains, meaning governments; beasts, meaning kingdoms Waters, meaning people Lamp, meaning Word of God. Day, meaning year. (Daniel 2:35, 44; 7:8, 17; Revelation 17:1, 15; Psalm 119:105; Ezekiel 4:6).
9. To learn the true meaning of figures, trace your figurative word through the Bible, and, where you find it explained, put it on your figure, and if it makes good sense, you need look no further; if not, look again.
10. Figures sometimes have two or more different significations; as day is used in a figurative sense to represent three different periods of time. 1. Indefinite. 2. Definite, a day for a year. 3. Day for a thousand years (Ecclesiastes 7:14; Ezekiel 4:6; 2 Peter 3:8). Page 2
11. Parables are used as comparisons to illustrate subjects, and must be explained in the same way as figures, by the subject and Bible (Mark 4:13).
12. To know whether we have the true historical event for the fulfillment of a prophecy. If you find every word of the prophecy (after the figures are understood) is literally fulfilled, then you may know that your history is the true event. But if one word lacks a fulfillment, then you must look for another event, or wait its future development. For God takes care that history and prophecy doth agree, so that the true, believing children of God may never be ashamed (Psalm 21:5; Isaiah 41:17-19; 1 Peter 2:6; Revelation 17:17; Acts 3:18).
13. The most important rule of all is, that you must have faith. It must be a faith that requires a sacrifice, and, if tried, would give up the dearest object on earth, the world and all its desires, character, living, occupation, friends, home, comforts, and worldly honors. If any of these should hinder our believing any part of God's word, it would show our faith to be vain. Nor can we believe, so long as one of these motives lies lurking in our hearts. We must believe that God will never forfeit His word. And we can have confidence that He that takes notice of the sparrow, and numbers the hairs of our head, will guard the translation of His own word, and throw a barrier around it, and prevent those who sincerely trust in God, and put implicit confidence in His word, from erring far from the truth, though they may not understand Hebrew or Greek. * Views of the Prophecies and Prophetic Chronology Selected From Manuscripts of William Miller, 1841, ed. Joshua V. Himes. pp. 20-24.

Were's Principles of Bible interpretation

That the interpretation must reveal Christ and make him the center.

To compare Scripture with Scripture for clearer light.

The things of Israel now belong to the church.

The gospel must be found in every passage and prophecy.

The law of growth or development—the principle of repeat and enlarge—the repetition contains an explanation.

The law of the world-wide symbolized by the local

The law of the significance of Bible names

The law governing spiritual interpretations.

To observe the deep, inner meaning—not only what is on the surface

The design of the Book of Revelation—all the laws of interpretation show that the gathering of the nations to "Armageddon" must commence before probation closes.

New Testament principles determine the interpretation of the latter portion of Daniel 11.

"Double" and "triple" applications of prophecy: "Rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Tim 2:15).

The principle of the "triple" application revealed in the Apocalypse.

Daniel 11: Verse by Verse Interpretation