

# October 22, 1844 – The Time of Preparation Begins

(see GC424-426) Fred Bischoff

1 <u>Event</u>	2 <u>Process</u>	3 <u>Result</u>	4 <u>Event</u>
<p><b>October 22, 1844</b> "The Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of hosts." (Mal. 3:1)</p>	<p><b>Most Holy Place Ministry</b> "But who may abide the day of His coming? and who shall stand when He appeareth? for He is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: and He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and He shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness" (vs. 2, 3)</p>	<p><b>Close of Probation</b> "Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the Lord, as in the days of old, and as in former years." (vs. 4)</p>	<p><b>Second Coming</b> "And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not Me, saith the Lord of hosts." (vs. 5)</p>

## What does this Most Holy Place Ministry mean in practical terms?

**Preparation** (for the Lord: Luke 1:17; GC424; cf John 14:2; Heb. 11:16; work on earth // work in heaven)  
 Sealing (Rev. 6:17 - 7:3; settling into truth so cannot be moved LDE220)  
 Work of instruction (*1888 Materials*, p. 27)  
 Knowing as we are known (1 Cor. 13:12; *1888 Materials*, p. 27)  
 Growing up to the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ (maturing as a group) (Eph. 4:12-16)  
 Ripening of harvest of earth (global; Rev. 14:15; as Enoch and Elijah for translation 3SM146)

**Judgment (Investigative):** Judging, in favor of the saints (Dan 7:9, 10, 22, 26, 27)  
 Investigating, examining (GC425; Ev 224; cf. 2 Cor. 13:5; till last case decided GC613)  
 Sin going before hand to judgment, becoming open, manifest (1Tim. 4:24, 25)

**Wedding:** Marriage (light of Midnight Cry; Matt. 25:10; Rev. 19:7; GC426; entering into intimate oneness)  
 Bride making herself ready (Rev. 19:7; cf. Luke 1:17; white raiment; righteousness = faith and love 1Th 5:8)  
 Receiving a kingdom, dominion, glory (Dan. 7:14; Luke 1:32 throne of David; people crowning Him King)

**Sanctuary:** House finishing (1 Pet. 2:5)  
 Temple cleansing, restoring, vindicating (Dan. 8:14; Eph. 2:19-22; 5:26, 27; *1888 Materials*, p. 27; GC425)  
 Door shut, door open (Matt. 25:10; Rev. 3:7, 8; GC429, 430)  
 Day of atonement beginning; final applying of blood of Calvary (Lev. 23)

**Messages:** Three angels' messages being proclaimed, especially the third (Rev. 14:6-12; GC425; EW254);  
 commandments of God, faith of Jesus  
 Laodicean message being sounded (Rev. 3:14-22 gold, white raiment, eyesalve; Rom. 7:24; Isa. 6:5; RH12/22/1896)  
 Flood of heavenly light pouring upon the earth (*1888 Materials*, p. 27); earth being lightened with glory (angel of Rev. 18:1)  
 1888 message being given (Luke 24 experience, leading to Acts 2; that is, entering into present truth, followed by outpouring of Spirit without measure 1SM234, 235; RH7/21/1896; immense importance PH002, pp. 25, 26)  
 Gospel of love enduring against lawlessness, preached as witness to all world, all nations (Matt. 24:12-14)

*The Great Controversy*, "In the Holy of Holies", pp. 424-426

This coming [of Christ to the Most Holy Place] is foretold also by the prophet Malachi: "The Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of hosts." Malachi 3:1. The coming of the Lord to His temple was sudden, unexpected, to His people. They were not looking for Him there. They expected Him to come to earth, "in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel." 2 Thessalonians 1:8.

But the people were not yet ready to meet their Lord. There was still a work of preparation to be accomplished for them. Light was to be given, directing their minds to the temple of God in heaven; and as they should by faith follow their High Priest in His ministration there, new duties would be revealed. Another message of warning and instruction was to be given to the church.

Says the prophet: "Who may abide the day of His coming? and who shall stand when He appeareth? for He is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: and He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and He shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness." Malachi 3:2, 3. Those who are living upon the earth when the intercession of Christ shall cease in the sanctuary above are to stand in the sight of a holy God without a mediator. Their robes must be spotless, their characters must be purified from sin by the blood of sprinkling. Through the grace of God and their own diligent effort they must be conquerors in the battle with evil. While the investigative judgment is going forward in heaven, while the sins of penitent believers are being removed from the sanctuary, there is to be a special work of purification, of putting away of sin, among God's people upon earth. This work is more clearly presented in the messages of Revelation 14.

When this work shall have been accomplished, the followers of Christ will be ready for His appearing. "Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the Lord, as in the days of old, and as in former years." Malachi 3:4. Then the church which our Lord at His coming is to receive to Himself will be a "glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing." Ephesians 5:27. Then she will look "forth as the morning, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners." Song of Solomon 6:10.

Besides the coming of the Lord to His temple, Malachi also foretells His second advent, His coming for the execution of the judgment, in these words: "And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not Me, saith the Lord of hosts." Malachi 3:5. Jude refers to the same scene when he says, "Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of His saints, to execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds." Jude 14, 15. This coming, and the coming of the Lord to His temple, are distinct and separate events.

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The forgiveness of sins and iniquities and transgressions, belongs in a special sense to this time. We are in the anti-typical day of atonement, and every soul should now be humbling himself before God, seeking pardon for his transgressions and sins, and accepting the justifying grace of Christ, the sanctifying of the soul by the operations of the Holy Spirit of Christ; thus the carnal nature is transformed, renewed in holiness after the image of Christ's righteousness and true holiness. The precious, golden links of truth are not separate, detached, disconnected doctrines; but link after link, form one string of golden truth, and constitute a complete whole, with Christ as its living center. Salvation comes through practical godliness and faith in Jesus Christ. Faith is made perfect through works, and is evidenced in the character. To those who are teaching the truth, whose hearts are impure, and who have not been converted, Christ says, "What hast thou to do to declare my statutes? Be ye clean that bear the vessels of the Lord." Oh, what truths we have--full of power, and it is not possible to controvert these Bible doctrines. There is no truth in heaven or in earth that would affect some characters, although it might be presented in all power and matchless purity and loveliness, because the heart does not love the practice of these holy sentiments. The truth we have set before us for the past few years, is immense in its importance, reaching into heaven and compassing eternity. Satan and his confederacy of evil have made every effort to cover up, to confuse minds, to make of none effect the precious, glorious truths of God's word. We are living in strangely solemn times, and at the very time when the people of God should be wide awake, and many are asleep or dead spiritually. There is great need of much work being done. Every individual member of the church should look to the Captain for orders. {PH002 25.2} (November 23, 1892)