

# THE DRAGON AND HIS BEASTS: BREAKING UP WITH MY LOVE, PART THREE

April 12, 2025

## WHAT LED GOD'S PEOPLE WEST TO AMERICA?

### ◆ The Sea Beast:

*And I saw a beast rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, with ten diadems on its horns and blasphemous names on its heads. <sup>2</sup> And the beast that I saw was like a leopard; its feet were like a bear's, and its mouth was like a lion's mouth. And to it the dragon gave his power and his throne and great authority.*

—Revelation 13:1-2, ESV

### ◆ The Merging of Church and State:

“The group of (Puritan)Separatists remained in Holland for a decade, suffering persecution and corrupting worldliness. With religious and political tensions rising in Europe, they feared for their security and freedom. Faced with these fears, they saw an alternative in the wilderness of North America.” —Malcolm Gaskill, University of East Anglia

### ◆ Persecution:

*The serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, to sweep her away with a flood.* —Revelation 12:15, ESV

## Developing Religious Freedom in the New World

Roger Williams came to the New World. Like the early Pilgrims he came to enjoy religious freedom; but, unlike them, he saw—what so few in his time had yet seen—that this freedom was the inalienable right of all, whatever might be their creed... Williams “was the first person in modern Christendom to establish civil government on the doctrine of the liberty of conscience, the equality of opinions before the law.”—Bancroft, pt. 1, ch. 15, par. 16. He declared it to be the duty of the magistrate to restrain crime, but never to control the conscience. “The public or the magistrates may decide,” he said, “what is due from man to man; but when they attempt to prescribe a man’s duties to God, they are out of place, and there can be no safety; for it is clear that if the magistrate has the power, he may decree one

set of opinions or beliefs today and another tomorrow; as has been done in England by different kings and queens, and by different popes and councils in the Roman Church; so that belief would become a heap of confusion.”

–Ellen White, *The Great Controversy*, 293-94.

## **America is Here By God’s Divine Will and Has Been Blessed by God**

“The Lord has done more for the United States than for any other country upon which the sun shines. Here He provided an asylum for His people, where they could worship Him according to the dictates of conscience. Here Christianity has progressed in its purity.”

–Ellen White, *Maranatha, The Lord Is Coming*, 193

## **BUT...A BREAKUP IS COMING**

It’s not us, it’s her...

*Then I saw another beast rising out of the earth. It had two horns like a lamb and it spoke like a dragon. <sup>12</sup> It exercises all the authority of the first beast in its presence, and makes the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose mortal wound was healed. <sup>13</sup> It performs great signs, even making fire come down from heaven to earth in front of people, <sup>14</sup> and by the signs that it is allowed to work in the presence of the beast it deceives those who dwell on earth, telling them to make an image for the beast that was wounded by the sword and yet lived.*

–*Revelation 13:11-14*

- **Rising out of the earth** = The second beast comes from the New World (The United States of America)
- **Exercises all authority of first beast** = Merging power of church and state persecution
- **Two horns but no crowns** = This is not a monarchy, there is no kingly power
- **Looks like a lamb** = seems to be christ-like
- **Speaks like a dragon** = appearance of good but satan is the power behind it

## **WHEN THE BREAKUP COMES!**

<sup>15</sup> *And it was allowed to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast might even speak and might cause those who would not worship the image of the beast to be slain.* <sup>16</sup> *Also it causes all, both small and great, both rich*

*and poor, both free and slave, to be marked on the right hand or the forehead,<sup>17</sup> so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark, that is, the name of the beast or the number of its name. —Revelation 13:15-17*

## Results:

“In our land of boasted freedom, religious liberty will come to an end.”  
—Ellen White, *Evangelism*, 236

Liberty of conscience, which has cost so great a sacrifice, will no longer be respected.” —Ellen White, *The Great Controversy*, 592

“*All that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.*” —2 Timothy 3:12.

“some of them will be thrust into prison, some will be exiled, some will be treated as slaves. To human wisdom all this now seems impossible...”  
—Ellen White, *The Great Controversy*, 608.

## Our Response:

### 1. There is no time to delay--give our hearts to Jesus today!

#### ◆ **Lower Authority:**

“Disaster produces the questioning, the anxiety, and the suggestibility that are required (for RAPID alteration of a belief system); only in its wake are people moved to abandon old values of the past.”

—Michael Barkun

#### ◆ **Higher Authority:**

“The agencies of evil are combining their forces and consolidating. They are strengthening for the last great crisis. Great changes are soon to take place in our world, and the final movements will be RAPID ones.” —Ellen White, *Testimonies for the Church* Vol. 9, 11.

#### ◆ **Highest Authority:**

“*But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you SUDDENLY like a trap.*<sup>35</sup> *For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth.*”

—Jesus, *Luke* 21:34-35

## 2. Work While We Still Can!

*“We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work.” –Jesus, John 9:4*

He commands His servants to present the last invitation of mercy to the world. They cannot remain silent, except at the peril of their souls. Christ’s ambassadors have nothing to do with consequences. They must perform their duty and leave results with God. <sup>1</sup>

## 3. Rejoice in What God is Doing!

### *For Us...*

*Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*

*–Jesus, Matthew 5:11-12*

*We rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. – The Apostle Paul, Romans 5:3-5*

*<sup>2</sup> Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, <sup>3</sup> for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. <sup>4</sup> And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.*

*– James, the brother of Jesus, James 1:2-4*

### *For Others...*

*And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. <sup>29</sup> Even on the male and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit. – The Prophet Joel, Joel 2:28-29*

## WHAT WILL THAT RESULT IN...

The work will be similar to that of the Day of Pentecost.

*– Ellen White, The Great Controversy, 611*

*“The great work of the gospel is not to close with less manifestation of the power of God than marked its opening.” Ibid.*

---

<sup>1</sup> Ellen Gould White, *The Great Controversy Between Christ and Satan*, Vol. 5, *Conflict of the Ages Series* (Pacific Press Publishing Association, 1911), 609–610.