

ARE YOU READY FOR WHAT IS COMING? —

# The Great Earthquake

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE: CONFLICT SERIES IN A YEAR

**Have you heard about the mammoth earthquake that is coming? We are steadily drawing closer to the end of time—when the Great Crisis of the National Sunday Law—will hurl us into final events.**

The most astounding events are soon to occur. You need not go to a clairvoyant to learn what is about to happen. You do not need to consult someone full of theories about future events.

In order to learn about the raging tempest that is soon to crash upon us, all you need do is open the pages of *Great Controversy*—and read the plain words printed there. Take them for what they say; accept their obvious meaning. Refuse to consider symbolic interpretations—and you will obtain an accurate understanding of what is ahead.

When was the last time you read the closing chapters (23-42) of that book, the most important of all books written in the past nineteen hundred years? Read it again; absorb it. Tell others what you are reading. Urge them to read it also.

After the close of probation, the entire world will be plunged into scenes of violence and misery, because the Spirit of God will have been withdrawn from most of humanity. You can read about it in chapter 39. But then, suddenly, God will deliver His faithful ones—and in a most startling way. Here are the first hints of this Divine Intervention:

“By the people of God a voice, clear and melodious, is heard, saying, ‘Look up,’ and lifting their eyes to the heavens, they behold the bow of promise. The black, angry clouds that covered the firmament are parted, and like Stephen they look up steadfastly into heaven and see the glory of God and the Son of man seated upon His throne. In His divine form they discern the marks of His humiliation; and from His lips they hear the request presented before His Father and the holy angels: ‘I will that they also, whom Thou hast given Me, be with Me where I am.’ John 17:24. Again a voice, musical and triumphant, is heard, saying: ‘They come! they come! holy, harmless, and undefiled. They have kept the word of My patience; they shall walk among the angels;’ and the pale, quivering lips of those who have held fast their faith utter a shout of victory.”—*Great Controversy*, 636.

And then, all at once, it will begin to happen. All nature seems to go crazy:

“It is **at midnight** that God manifests His power for the deliverance of His people. **The sun appears**, shining in its strength. **Signs and wonders follow in quick succession.**

“The wicked look with terror and amazement upon the scene, while the righteous behold with solemn joy the tokens of their deliverance. **Everything in nature** seems turned out of its course.”—*Ibid.*

Forty-four different events occur within a few pages—but a special factor causing much of it is, what is called, a “mighty earthquake.” The first dramatic hint is the action of the streams and clouds.

“The streams cease to flow. Dark, heavy clouds come up and clash against each other. In the midst of the angry heavens is one clear space of indescribable glory, whence comes **the Voice of God** like the sound of many waters, saying: ‘It is done.’ Revelation 16:17.”—*Ibid.*

God speaks from heaven—and the sound of it shakes our entire planet. Not only does that Voice declare that the persecution of the righteous by the wicked is at an end, *but it also unleashes immense forces of nature.*

“**That voice shakes the heavens and the earth. There is a mighty earthquake**, ‘such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great.’ Verses 17, 18. The firmament appears to open and shut. The glory from the throne of God seems flashing through. **The mountains shake like a reed** in the wind, and **ragged rocks are scattered** on every side. **There is a roar as of a coming tempest. The sea is lashed into fury.** There is heard **the shriek of a hurricane** like the voice of demons upon a mission of destruction. **The whole earth heaves and swells** like the waves of the sea. **Its surface is breaking up. Its very foundations seem to be giving way. Mountain chains are sinking. Inhabited islands disappear.** The **seaports that have become like Sodom for wickedness are swallowed up by the angry waters.** Babylon the great has come in remembrance before God, ‘to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath.’ Great hailstones, every one ‘about the weight of a talent,’ are doing their work of destruction. Verses 19, 21. **The proudest cities of the earth are laid low. The lordly palaces, upon which the world’s great men have lavished their wealth in order to**

**glorify themselves, are crumbling to ruin** before their eyes. **Prison walls are rent asunder**, and God's people, who have been held in bondage for their faith, are set free. **Graves are opened**, and 'many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth . . . awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.' Daniel 12:2."—*Great Controversy*, 636-637.

You will also want to read that which follows (pages 637-645).

Because of the massive 9.0 earthquake which ravaged over twelve nations in, or bordering on, the Indian Ocean on Sunday morning, December 26, and the reports of its aftereffects, all of us have learned a lot about earthquakes and the seismic waves (called tsunamis) which they produce.

We can now better understand the meaning of *that predicted earthquake which will occur when, not too far in the future, the Voice of God sounds in the heavens*.

But that future earthquake will be dramatically different than all that have gone before. *Nearly a dozen effects of that "mighty earthquake" are described in the above quotation*.—Obviously, it will be a multi-pronged shattering of the interior of our world, which will produce terrible effects on the surface.

*The sound of God's Voice will shake the entire planet*,—not merely a single location in the Indian Ocean or along the San Andreas fault line in California.

On Earth's land masses, mountains will shake; rocks will be hurled, as the whole earth heaves and swells "like the waves of the sea," and its surface breaks up. Mountain chains will be sinking. The foundations of the continents will crumble. Even the greatest of the cities are laid low and the palaces of the wealthy are destroyed. Prison walls are rent asunder and graves are opened.

On Earth's islands and coastal areas, the sea is lashed into fury, as inhabited islands sink and wicked seaports are swallowed up,

A single, momentary shifting along a short distance on one crack near Sumatra caused a 15-foot drop of part of the ocean bed. This caused that island to be horizontally shifted 48 feet.

It caused water to move on a mammoth scale. From the ocean floor to its surface, an invisible wall of water, thousands of feet high, raced outward in all directions. Hurling along at a speed of 700 miles an hour, that water sped toward coastal areas near and far away. Nothing slowed it until it reached land.

If you have ever waded into the ocean at a beach, you know that water is continually being sucked out into the sea, in preparation for the next incoming wave. As the water depth becomes shallow, the water forms into an ever-larger wave. Then it crashes near shore.

But when an earthquake-caused wall of water races along, when it reaches land it produces a gigantic wave between 15 and 30 feet high, depending on the intensity of the originating earthquake. The December waves were about 30 feet high, about as large as they ever get.

—*Now consider that great event in the future, when immense earthquakes, on both land and sea, will trigger fabulous tsunamis!* Consider what will happen to the islands of the sea. What will they do to coastal areas throughout the world?

We are told that seismic waves do not stop when they reach land,—*until they reach land that is higher than the top of the wave*. We are told that the incoming December wall of water came onto land at 600 miles per hour, sweeping all before it.

In that future quake, immense waves will flood inland in many areas. For example, such waves would flood most of Los Angeles and possibly travel up the Sacramento River into California's Central Valley. What would they do to Seattle, San Diego, New York City, Japan, and other major coastal areas of the world?

"Inhabited islands disappear. The seaports that have become like Sodom for wickedness are swallowed up by the angry waters."—*Great Controversy*, 637.

Yet great destruction inland, from equally powerful seismic activity beneath the continents, will also occur.

"The mountains shake like a reed . . . The whole earth heaves and swells like the waves of the sea. Its surface is breaking up. Its very foundations seem to be giving way. Mountain chains are sinking . . . The proudest cities of the earth . . . are laid low."—*Great Controversy*, 637.

*Are we ready for what is so soon to come on all the earth?* Read *Great Controversy*, 618-627.

**"The season of distress and anguish before us will require a faith that can endure** weariness, delay, and hunger—a faith that will not faint though severely tried. The period of probation is granted to all to prepare for that time. Jacob prevailed because he was persevering and determined. **His victory is an evidence of the power of importunate prayer. All who will lay hold of God's promises, as he did, and be as earnest and persevering as he was, will succeed as he succeeded.** Those who are unwilling to deny self, to agonize before God, to pray long and earnestly for His blessing, will not obtain it. Wrestling with God—how few know what it is! **How few have ever had their souls drawn out after God with intensity of desire** until every power is on the stretch. When waves of despair which no language can express sweep over the suppliant, **how few cling with unyielding faith to the promises of God.**"—*Great Controversy*, 621.

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READ THEM THROUGH IN ONE YEAR —

# Conflict Series in a Year

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
___ 1 PP 33-40	___ 1 PP 341-350	___ 1 PP 621-630	___ 1 PK 191-200	___ 1 PK 491-500	___ 1 DA 91-100
___ 2 PP 41-50	___ 2 PP 351-360	___ 2 PP 631-640	___ 2 PK 201-210	___ 2 PK 501-510	___ 2 DA 101-110
___ 3 PP 51-60	___ 3 PP 361-370	___ 3 PP 641-650	___ 3 PK 211-220	___ 3 PK 511-520	___ 3 DA 111-120
___ 4 PP 61-70	___ 4 PP 371-380	___ 4 PP 651-660	___ 4 PK 221-230	___ 4 PK 521-530	___ 4 DA 121-130
___ 5 PP 71-80	___ 5 PP 381-390	___ 5 PP 661-670	___ 5 PK 231-240	___ 5 PK 531-540	___ 5 DA 131-140
___ 6 PP 81-90	___ 6 PP 391-400	___ 6 PP 671-680	___ 6 PK 241-250	___ 6 PK 541-550	___ 6 DA 141-150
___ 7 PP 91-100	___ 7 PP 401-410	___ 7 PP 681-690	___ 7 PK 251-260	___ 7 PK 551-560	___ 7 DA 151-160
___ 8 PP 101-110	___ 8 PP 411-420	___ 8 PP 691-700	___ 8 PK 261-270	___ 8 PK 561-570	___ 8 DA 161-170
___ 9 PP 111-120	___ 9 PP 421-430	___ 9 PP 701-710	___ 9 PK 271-280	___ 9 PK 571-580	___ 9 DA 171-180
___ 10 PP 121-130	___ 10 PP 431-440	___ 10 PP 711-720	___ 10 PK 281-290	___ 10 PK 581-590	___ 10 DA 181-190
___ 11 PP 131-140	___ 11 PP 441-450	___ 11 PP 721-730	___ 11 PK 291-300	___ 11 PK 591-600	___ 11 DA 191-200
___ 12 PP 141-150	___ 12 PP 451-460	___ 12 PP 731-740	___ 12 PK 301-310	___ 12 PK 601-610	___ 12 DA 201-210
___ 13 PP 151-160	___ 13 PP 461-470	___ 13 PP 741-755	___ 13 PK 311-320	___ 13 PK 611-620	___ 13 DA 211-220
___ 14 PP 161-170	___ 14 PP 471-480	___ 14 PK 15-20	___ 14 PK 321-330	___ 14 PK 621-630	___ 14 DA 221-230
___ 15 PP 171-180	___ 15 PP 481-490	___ 15 PK 21-30	___ 15 PK 331-340	___ 15 PK 631-640	___ 15 DA 231-240
___ 16 PP 181-190	___ 16 PP 491-500	___ 16 PK 31-40	___ 16 PK 341-350	___ 16 PK 641-650	___ 16 DA 241-250
___ 17 PP 191-200	___ 17 PP 501-510	___ 17 PK 41-50	___ 17 PK 351-360	___ 17 PK 651-660	___ 17 DA 251-260
___ 18 PP 201-210	___ 18 PP 511-520	___ 18 PK 51-60	___ 18 PK 361-370	___ 18 PK 661-670	___ 18 DA 261-270
___ 19 PP 211-220	___ 19 PP 521-530	___ 19 PK 61-70	___ 19 PK 371-380	___ 19 PK 671-680	___ 19 DA 271-280
___ 20 PP 221-230	___ 20 PP 531-540	___ 20 PK 71-80	___ 20 PK 381-390	___ 20 PK 681-690	___ 20 DA 281-290
___ 21 PP 231-240	___ 21 PP 541-550	___ 21 PK 81-90	___ 21 PK 391-400	___ 21 PK 691-700	___ 21 DA 291-300
___ 22 PP 241-250	___ 22 PP 551-560	___ 22 PK 91-100	___ 22 PK 401-410	___ 22 PK 701-710	___ 22 DA 301-310
___ 23 PP 251-260	___ 23 PP 561-570	___ 23 PK 101-110	___ 23 PK 411-420	___ 23 PK 711-720	___ 23 DA 311-320
___ 24 PP 261-270	___ 24 PP 571-580	___ 24 PK 111-120	___ 24 PK 421-430	___ 24 PK 721-733	___ 24 DA 321-330
___ 25 PP 271-280	___ 25 PP 581-590	___ 25 PK 121-130	___ 25 PK 431-440	___ 25 DA 19-30	___ 25 DA 331-340
___ 26 PP 281-290	___ 26 PP 591-600	___ 26 PK 131-140	___ 26 PK 441-450	___ 26 DA 31-40	___ 26 DA 341-350
___ 27 PP 291-300	___ 27 PP 601-610	___ 27 PK 141-150	___ 27 PK 451-460	___ 27 DA 41-50	___ 27 DA 351-360
___ 28 PP 301-310	___ 28 PP 611-620	___ 28 PK 151-160	___ 28 PK 461-470	___ 28 DA 51-60	___ 28 DA 361-370
___ 29 PP 311-320		___ 29 PK 161-170	___ 29 PK 471-480	___ 29 DA 61-70	___ 29 DA 371-380
___ 30 PP 321-330		___ 30 PK 171-180	___ 30 PK 481-490	___ 30 DA 71-80	___ 30 DA 381-390
___ 31 PP 331-340		___ 31 PK 181-190		___ 31 DA 81-90	

When you first obtain this sheet, make xerox copies, keep the original (which you have not check-marked) for use again later. Also share copies with friends.

The "Conflict Series" consists of *Patriarchs and Prophets*, *Prophets and Kings*, *Desire of Ages*, *Acts of the Apostles*, and *Great Controversy*. In order to read them through in a year, read 10 pages a day; and, on the left side, check off each day as you read it.

If you would rather read them through in two years (which is much better), do this: Instead of reading to the tenth page each day, read to the page ending in "5" one day, then place half of an "x" mark on the left side. The next day, read to the page ending in "10" and mark the other half of the "x." The year ends with a reading of *Steps to Christ*.

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JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
1 DA 391-400	1 DA 701-710	1 AA 191-200	1 AA 491-500	1 GC 221-230	1 GC 531-540
2 DA 401-410	2 DA 711-720	2 AA 201-210	2 AA 501-510	2 GC 231-240	2 GC 541-550
3 DA 411-420	3 DA 721-730	3 AA 211-220	3 AA 511-520	3 GC 241-250	3 GC 551-560
4 DA 421-430	4 DA 731-740	4 AA 221-230	4 AA 521-530	4 GC 251-260	4 GC 561-570
5 DA 431-440	5 DA 741-750	5 AA 231-240	5 AA 531-540	5 GC 261-270	5 GC 571-580
6 DA 441-450	6 DA 751-760	6 AA 241-250	6 AA 541-550	6 GC 281-290	6 GC 581-590
7 DA 451-460	7 DA 761-770	7 AA 251-260	7 AA 551-560	7 GC 291-300	7 GC 591-600
8 DA 461-470	8 DA 771-780	8 AA 261-270	8 AA 561-570	8 GC 301-310	8 GC 601-610
9 DA 471-480	9 DA 781-790	9 AA 271-280	9 AA 571-580	9 GC 311-320	9 GC 611-620
10 DA 481-490	10 DA 791-800	10 AA 281-290	10 AA 581-590	10 GC 321-330	10 GC 621-630
11 DA 491-500	11 DA 801-810	11 AA 291-300	11 AA 591-602	11 GC 331-340	11 GC 631-640
12 DA 501-510	12 DA 811-820	12 AA 301-310	12 GC 17-30	12 GC 341-350	12 GC 641-650
13 DA 511-520	13 DA 821-835	13 AA 311-320	13 GC 31-40	13 GC 351-360	13 GC 651-660
14 DA 521-530	14 AA 9-20	14 AA 321-330	14 GC 41-50	14 GC 361-370	14 GC 661-670
15 DA 531-540	15 AA 21-30	15 AA 331-340	15 GC 51-60	15 GC 371-380	15 GC 671-678
16 DA 541-550	16 AA 31-40	16 AA 341-350	16 GC 61-70	16 GC 381-390	16 SC 9-20
17 DA 551-560	17 AA 41-50	17 AA 351-360	17 GC 71-80	17 GC 391-400	17 SC 21-30
18 DA 561-570	18 AA 51-60	18 AA 361-370	18 GC 81-90	18 GC 401-410	18 SC 31-40
19 DA 571-580	19 AA 61-70	19 AA 371-380	19 GC 91-100	19 GC 411-420	19 SC 41-50
20 DA 581-590	20 AA 71-80	20 AA 381-390	20 GC 101-110	20 GC 421-430	20 SC 51-60
21 DA 591-600	21 AA 81-90	21 AA 391-400	21 GC 111-120	21 GC 431-440	21 SC 61-70
22 DA 601-610	22 AA 91-100	22 AA 401-410	22 GC 121-130	22 GC 441-450	22 SC 71-80
23 DA 611-620	23 AA 101-110	23 AA 411-420	23 GC 131-140	23 GC 451-460	23 SC 81-90
24 DA 621-630	24 AA 111-120	24 AA 421-430	24 GC 141-150	24 GC 461-470	24 SC 91-100
25 DA 631-640	25 AA 121-130	25 AA 431-440	25 GC 151-160	25 GC 471-480	25 SC 101-110
26 DA 641-650	26 AA 131-140	26 AA 441-450	26 GC 161-170	26 GC 481-490	26 SC 110-120
27 DA 651-660	27 AA 141-150	27 AA 451-460	27 GC 171-180	27 GC 491-500	27 SC 121-126
28 DA 661-670	28 AA 151-160	28 AA 461-470	28 GC 181-190	28 GC 501-510	28
29 DA 671-680	29 AA 161-170	29 AA 471-480	29 GC 191-200	29 GC 511-520	29
30 DA 681-690	30 AA 171-180	30 AA 481-490	30 GC 201-210	30 GC 521-530	30
31 DA 691-700	31 AA 181-190		31 GC 211-220		31

“When we take into our hands the management of things with which we have to do, and depend upon our own wisdom for success, we are taking a burden which God has not given us, and are trying to bear it without His aid . . . Christ has given us no promise of help in bearing today the burdens of tomorrow. He has said, ‘My grace is sufficient for thee’ (2 Corinthians 12:9); but, like the manna given in the wilderness, His grace is bestowed daily, for the day’s need . . .

“One day alone is ours, and during this day we are to live for God. For this one day we are to place in the hand of Christ, in solemn service, all our purposes and plans, casting all our care upon Him, for He careth

for us. ‘I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.’ ‘In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength.’ Jeremiah 29:11; Isaiah 30:15.

“If you will seek the Lord and be converted every day; if you will of your own spiritual choice be free and joyous in God; if with gladness consent of heart to His gracious call you come wearing the yoke of Christ,—the yoke of obedience and service,—all your murmurings will be stilled, all your difficulties will be removed, all the perplexing problems that now confront you will be solved.”

—*Mount of Blessing, 100-101.*