

James White Article
DAY STAR

DF 330

September 20, 1845
Vol. 7, p. 24,26

Dear Bro. Jacobs:

Since the 10th day of the 7th month we have been in the waiting, watching time. (Isa. 21:11). This night, divided into four equal parts, are the four watches, and we are in the fourth or morning watch. Yes, the watchmen now see, and can answer, "The morning cometh."

I will first give some of my strong objections, to the view of the watches presented by some of our good brethren, and then humbly give my own view of them. The view of some is, that the first watch was the close of '43, the 2nd was the 10th, the 3rd was the *Passover*, then commenced the *fourth*, being six months long.

First. A watch is not a *point* of time, if it is we have at least five, for the Advent people looked at April '43 with as much interest (10th day excepted) as at any point.

Second. If the first three watches are points of time, in order to have uniformity in them, the fourth must be a point of time; when in fact we have none, but a space of six months.

Third. The reason our Lord gave why we should watch, was, "lest coming suddenly, he find you *sleeping*." Mark 13:36. Now if he had come between the first and second watch he would have found us all sleeping, whether we had watched or not; for while the Bridegroom tarried they *all* slumbered and slept. And if he had come at the second (on the 10th) he would not have found any sleeping; for when the cry was made, then *all* were aroused from their midnight slumbers, and there was no danger of his coming suddenly, and finding them sleeping.

The *fourth*, and as I think, unanswerable objection, is, our Lord has fixed the chronology of the watches in Mark 14:34. 'For the Son of man is as a man

taking a far journey, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to *watch*." Compare this with Matt. 24:14; Luke 19:12; Dan. 7:13; Dan. 7:13,14. As recorded by Mark and Matt., the Son of man is to go into a far country; and Luke tells what for; viz., To receive for himself a Kingdom and to *return*. Daniel saw in vision the same, after the fourth earthly kingdom had passed through all its changes. This was on the 10th day of the 7th month when he left his own house (the wise virgins) to watch and wait for the return of their Lord from the wedding. This watching time is one year. The Midnight Cry, we say, was the antitype of the trumpet blown in the 49th year. (Lev. 25: 8,9.) So last year was the 49th, this is the 50th or Jubilee. (ver.13) "In the year of this Jubilee ye shall return every man to his possession." Compare this with Isa. 34:8; "For it is the *Day* of the Lord's vengeance, and the *year* of recompenses for the controversy of Zion." Also Isa. 63:4; "For the *day* of vengeance is in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come." Now turn with me to Isa. 21: 6-16; "Go set a watchman." What for? "Let him declare what he seeth." Compare Hab. 2:1-2. Also to write the vision, which was done in 1842 and '43. Next he sees a chariot with a couple of horsemen, (the Papal and Protestant churches, alike receiving approbation, borne up by earthly powers). And he answered, "Babylon is fallen; Babylon is fallen"!! The fall of Babylon commenced in the spring of '43 when the churches all around, began to fall into a cold state, and was complete on the 7th month '44, when the last faint ray of hope was taken up from a wicked world and church. (See Bro. Peavy's remarks on this point in a communication headed, Jots and Tittles, in the "Jubilee Standard.") At that point began the watchman's night. (verse 11.) Now look at ver. 16. "Within a *year* (the watching time) and all the glory of Kedar shall fail." The glory of Kedar is the glory of this dark world. (See Psa. 120:5) It began to fail when the day of God's vengeance began, when

the 7th trump began to sound, when the third woe began on the 7th month. (See Bro. Rutledge's stirring article on the third woe, in the "Jubilee Standard," written last May.) Look at the floods, inundations, earthquakes, fires, etc. Has not that glory begun to fail? Well, "within a year" and the heavens and earth will shake, and all its glory fail. The year of his redeemed, or the year in which he will redeem his people commenced when the atonement ended, and will not close till the waiting sons of the morning shall plant their glad feet in the golden streets of the city of God. Hallelujah!

Now we see the watches are three months each: The first commencing on the 10th, reached to January, when we got light on the shut door. The second brought us to the *Passover*. (Midnight, or midway in this watching night.) The third brought us to the supposed end of the 1335 days in July, since which we have been *in* the morning watch. You may inquire, why did not Luke mention the first and fourth watches? Because there is a special blessing pronounced on those who watch through the second and third watches, (from January to July,) but no special blessing for watching in the first, (from Oct. to January,) for in the first watch, all, with few exceptions, watched. The sweet heavenly anointing receiving in the 7th months, lasted all through the first watch; and our brethren of the Advent Herald, Morning Watch, and Voice of Truth, told us all through the first watch that we had heard the Midnight Cry, and in the soul cheering language of Paul and James, told us to be patient, for Jesus was coming in a "Little while." But in the second and third watches, they have given up the Midnight Cry, drawn back to indefinite time--"safe position"--made up a bed, and are gone to sleep. In this trying time it has been hard watching; hence a special blessing is ours for "so doing." The reason why he did not mention the fourth watch is given in Matt. 24:43, "But know this, that if the good man of the house

of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched." Do we *know* what watch the Lord is coming? Certainly. Three have passed, and there is but four. All who see this light will receive a certainty that before the 10th day of the 7th month 1845, our King will come, and we will watch, and like Noah, know the day. (Rev. 3:3) Awake, awake! awake!! ye heralds of the Jubilee, and tell the scattered flock, The morning cometh!

James White