

**Notes:** "The bonds of society are relaxed; **traditional principles are losing their sacredness**, and perils hitherto unknown are menacing the life of the social organism."- *Archbishop Ireland*.

These, with forebodings of coming droughts, famines, fires, storms, earthquakes, tidal waves, and pestilences, are filling men's hearts with fear.

### 13. What may be said of "the sea and the waves roaring"?

Great tidal waves and storms at sea, with cyclones and tornadoes on land, have become fearfully frequent of late years, making men apprehensive of still greater calamities to come.

### 14. What, according to the prophecy of Daniel, was to characterize the time of the end?

"But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall \_\_\_\_ to and \_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_ shall be \_\_\_\_."

**Daniel 12:4**

**NOTES:** The time of the end began in 1798. See **Daniel 7:25; Daniel 11:35; Daniel 12:4-9**, and the reading "The Kingdom and Work of Antichrist," Lesson 51, under questions 5-8. Since 1798 **there has been a most wonderful increase of all kinds of knowledge**, both **scientific and religious**. **Men have been "running to and fro" through both the world and the Word of God**. The prophecies of Daniel are now themselves understood. Since 1798 five great Bible and tract societies have been organized; namely, the London Religious Tract Society, the British and Foreign Bible Society, the American Bible Society, the American Tract Society, and the International Tract Society, besides many, smaller societies of the same kind. From these have gone forth to the world hundreds of millions of copies of the Bible, and countless pages of tracts and pamphlets, disseminating knowledge upon the truths of salvation. Besides these, millions of copies of religious papers are being circulated annually in the various countries of the world. Missions have been established in all parts of the world. All this has been accomplished since 1798. Concerning the increase of knowledge in the material, scientific, and intellectual worlds, see **Lesson 70**.

## The Foundation Bible Lessons

### PART 7:

## Coming Events and Signs of the Times

**Topic: Signs of the Times**

Lesson: 69

Part B

Volume: 7



### MISSION STATEMENT

Foundation Progressive Sabbath Advent Ministries (FPSAM), Inc. exists to build upon the four **PILLARS** (*Mental, Physical, Spiritual and Social*) that **GUIDED** Jesus' life.

#### VISION

All Foundation Progressive Sabbath Advent Ministries (FPSAM), Inc. members will use the four pillars to establish and build their personal life and that of others.

#### SLOGAN

"Don't Accommodate Eliminate"

#### MOTTO

"Building on FOUR"

#### TEXT

"And Jesus increased in wisdom (Mental) and stature (Physical & Spiritual), and in favor with God (Spiritual) and man (Social)." **Luke 2:52**

#### WEBSITE

[www.fpsam.org](http://www.fpsam.org)

The comparison of the sheet-iron thunder of the theatres to the electric display of Providence when the heavens are all on fire, and the earth trembles would be tolerable. But the awful grandeur of the display on the night of the thirteenth of November, 1833, which made the stoutest heart stand in awe, and the most **defiant infidel quake with fear**, is never to be compared with the most brilliant fireworks. Those who witnessed the meteoric shower named saw the greatest display that man ever will see until the day that Peter speaks of when the heavens, being on fire, shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat. The agricultural editor of the *Register* was out alone with a team and load of lumber all night on that never-to-be forgotten night. And he cannot now consent to hear of human fireworks being superior to that most grand and sublime spectacle ever before or since beheld by man. Patent fireworks are no nearer this wonderful phenomenon than a lightning-bug is equal to the Sun." - **Iowa State Register, July 12, 1889**

**Frederick A. Douglass**, in his book "**My Bondage and My Freedom**," page 186, says: "I witnessed this gorgeous spectacle, and was struck with awe. The air seemed filled with bright descending messengers from the sky. It was about daybreak when I saw this sublime scene. It was not without the suggestion at that moment that it might be the harbinger of the coming of the Son of man; and in my state of mind I was prepared to hail Him as my friend and deliverer. **I had read that the stars shall fall from heaven, and they were now falling.**"

A single star appeared to the wise men, and directed them to the Savior, at His first advent. Myriads of stars have announced the nearness of His second advent.

It will be seen that these signs produced the very impression that God evidently intended that they should—that the day of judgment, Christ's coming, and the end of the world are near at hand.

### 11. Have we reached the time when there is "distress of nations, with perplexity"?

Every intelligent person knows that the world is in a state of unrest at the present time, and that men are troubled and perplexed at the outlook of present conditions throughout the civilized world.



**NOTES:** "Those who study the map of Europe at the present moment, and the condition of things in Europe, must feel that there is hanging over us a war-cloud greater than any that has hung over Europe before. It means when it bursts, and burst it will as surely as the sun will rise tomorrow, a war of extinction of devastation, between great nations whose populations are armed and trained to fight." - **Lord Wolseley**

"It is impossible for anyone to contemplate the present naval and military arrangements without the gravest forebodings. . . . In fact, we never now have any real peace; we live practically in a state of war." - **Sir John Lubbock**

"The danger, if the Ottoman Empire fall; would not merely be the danger that would threaten the territories of which that empire consists; it would be the danger that the fire there lit should spread to the other nations, and should involve all that is most powerful and civilized in Europe in a dangerous and calamitous contest." - **Lord Salisbury, in Mansion House Speech, London, Nov. 9, 1895**

"There can be no division of either of those countries [Turkey or Persia] without setting all the nations of Europe at the throats of each other." - **Washington Post, April 24, 1909**

"This is the most unsettled condition of the world since the crucifixion of Christ. The stability of government is no longer a fact. Change is in the atmosphere. . . . Statesmen are at their wits' end. Philosophers speculate In Vain." - **The Late Bishop Newman.**

### 12. Are men's hearts now "failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth"?

Everyone familiar with present-day conditions knows that this is the case.

**NOTES:** "We are marching toward the unknown. Who knows what tomorrow has in store for us?" - **Signor Crispi, ex-Prime Minister of Italy**

"In regard to the future I am filled with disquietude when I think how easy it is to fan these international jealousies, and how difficult it seems to allay them." - **Lord Balfour, of England**

"In this world of ours we seem to 'be borne down by commercial and spiritual controversy. . . . We grope in the daytime with fear and trembling for the future. Poor, distracted man is tossed over the night to a more distraught tomorrow." - **John Wanamaker, ex-Postmaster-General of the United States**