

January 18, 2020

## A WORLDWIDE MISSION

Daniel was sick for many days, unable to perform his work, because he was “astonished by the vision,” which “no one understood” (Dan. 8:27). While in Babylon, Daniel knew from the book of Jeremiah that the restoration of Israel would happen immediately after 70 years of captivity.

But now, partially understanding some developments of the great controversy and the sufferings of God’s people through the ages, Daniel was overwhelmed! Instead of a detailed explanation, God told him twice to seal up the vision because it referred to the future, to the time of the end (Dan. 8:26; 12:4).

Centuries later, as John saw a mighty angel holding that “little book open in his hand” (Rev. 10:2), he was figuratively commanded to eat it. It was sweet as honey in the mouth but bitter in the stomach. This vision was referring to the Millerite movement, the 1844 disappointment, and to the Seventh-day Adventist movement—the very time we are living in now. This was the time that Daniel was looking forward to in the future, just before Jesus’ second coming, when the knowledge of the book of Daniel would increase (12:4).

But the command for John to eat that book was followed by a very clear mission: “You must prophesy again about [or ‘to’] many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings” (Rev. 10:11).

It means that our mission, as well as our Promise (regular, percentage-based offerings), must reach far more than the limited range of our local church or neighborhood. By bringing our offerings and by gathering them together in the “storehouse,” we will be able to plan more effectively to do far more for others, and to go farther and faster. And according to the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, this is God’s plan for our regular and systematic offerings.

**APPEAL:** As we put our offerings together today, let us pray that “many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings” may learn to worship God as the Creator, while there is time, because the hour of His judgment has come.

**PRAYER:** Dear Lord, let us ourselves be prepared for the day of Your coming, and by our tithes and offerings be able to invite others as well! Amen.

