I t is a common understanding among bible students that the 7 seven seals which parallel the seven churches in the book of Revelation represent the church in different periods of the Christian Era up until the end of this earth’s history. However what is not common or fully understood is that it also represents Ancient Israel’s history in order. By portraying ancients Israel’s history, God is declaring modern Israel’s future hence why John the Revelator employs histories and terminologies in the Old Testament to demonstrate how God’s Will is being fulfilled. What is now taking place in the Christian dispensation is a fulfilment of what transpired in the Old Testament concerning Israel. This includes God calling them out of Egypt to enter into a special covenant with Him, the church going into captivity in Babylon, their rejection of Him and the gospel going out to the gentiles. A testament can be defined as a ‘written document; a Will which can only come into force after the death of the testator’ and this is exactly what the Old Testament is. Paul writes in Hebrews 9:15-17. “And for this cause he is the mediator of the New Testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance. For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. For a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth.”

The testator in the Old Testament is none other than Christ, the Word of God, for He says ‘search ye the scriptures for in them ye think ye have eternal life and they are they which testify of me” John 5:39, But it is also the Fathers testimony. “God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets” Hebrews 1:1, this verse correlates with John 1:1 where we are told: “In the beginning was the Word. The Word was with God, and the Word was God.” God the Father and God the Son are one and when you have seen the Son, you have also seen the Father; so what we now have is the Father and Son’s testimony coming to force. That’s why as soon as Christ ascends into heaven following His resurrection from the dead; He takes the book sealed with 7 seals from His father’s right hand, and begins to unseal this book. All that is now being played out is His will as written in the Old Testament. As you proceed with this article you will find that the 144, 000 will also perform a similar work like Moses and Christ and that will be to magnify the law and make it honourable. The final generation are called to established the certainty of the third angel’s message as it is built upon a triple application of prophecy, it is an unfolding and fulfilment of old biblical truths. Mrs White tells us: “New Truth is not independent of the old but an unfolding of it. It is only as the old truths are understood we can comprehend the new” In relation to the seven seals, Mrs White confirms that the book sealed with the seven seals contains this history of the whole world:

“A and Moses verily was faithful in all his house, as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after” {Hebrews 3:5}

“And I saw in the right hand of Him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals. (Revelation 5:1-3 quoted) There in His open hand lay the book, the roll of the HISTORY OF GOD’S PROVIDENCES, THE PROPHETIC HISTORY OF NATIONS AND THE CHURCH. Herein was contained the divine utterances, His authority, His commandments, His laws, the whole symbolic counsel of the Eternal, and the history of all ruling powers in the nations. In symbolic language was contained in that roll the influence of every nation, tongue, and people from the BEGINNING OF EARTH’S HISTORY TO ITS CLOSE. This roll was written within and without. John says: [Revelation 5:4, 5, 8-14; 6:8-11; 8:1-4; quoted.] The same spirit is seen today that is represented in Revelation 6:6-8. History is to be repeated. That which has been will be again” {Letter 65, 1898- Manuscript Releases, Vol. 12, 296,297.}
There is a glorious manifestation of the power of God as demonstrated by the miracles Jesus performed and Pentecost where the law was given. The covenant is established in the heart of the believers and the church goes forth as a mighty conqueror.

“The revelation is the consummation of all proceeding books. In the revelation all the books of the bible meet and end.” [Acts of the Apostles 583 – 586]. It contains 550 references to the Old Testament passages. The revelator repeats the past in prophesying the future – the past is repeated but it is enlarged upon. The New Testament writers go over the history of the past building it in relation to the present and future to demonstrate how the will of God is being fulfilled. A God-inspired movement does not destroy the foundations of the past, but fulfils. The third angel’s message is based upon the united testimony of the prophets. It fulfils all the specifications of the prophetic Word, past revelations form its foundations. {Certainty of the third angles message p113}

This was demonstrated in the previous article, ‘Egypt, Babylon Egypt’. The author explained, how the Lord takes his people out of ‘Egypt’, by demonstrating a glorious manifestation of His power, we saw this by the plagues and the parting of the red sea. He then establishes his covenant with them by giving them the law. Sadly Israel does not continue in that covenant therefore Nebuchadnezzar takes the church into captivity in Babylon as a result of their sin. The same History is repeated in the times of Christ. Because of their unbelief, Jerusalem is also referred to as Egypt (see Revelation 11:8). There is a glorious manifestation of the power of God as demonstrated by the miracles Jesus performed and Pentecost where the law was given. The covenant is established in the heart of the believers and the church goes forth as a mighty conquerer. However the church does not continue in the covenant which paves way for the Man of sin to arise, the Roman Catholic Church who is also described as ‘Mystery Babylon the Great’. The church then goes into captivity until the Lord fully calls them out of Babylon through the proclamation of the first and second angels message between 1840-1844. Mrs White describes this history as a ‘Glorious Manifestation of the Power of God.’ However only a remnant fully came out of Babylon and through this remnant, the Lord establishes his law by showing that the 10 commandments are still binding. The remnant that came out; the ‘Seventh Day Adventist’ Church goes forth to proclaim this message. However, like Ancient Israel, the church does not continue to press forth as she should.

Again the remnant church will repeat the same history, following Christ her Leader and is steadily retreating toward Egypt. . . Have we not been seeking the friendship and applause of the world rather than the presence of Christ and a deeper knowledge of His will?” {STestimonies 217.2} So in order to separate the two classes, the Lord will demonstrate a glorious manifestation of the power of God, the complete out pouring of the latter rain, this will lead the King of the North, Modern Babylon to seek to destroy many and bring the church into captivity so she can rule the world once again, however, the Lord Jehovah will stand up for His people and the last seven plagues will put a distinction between those who are the children of the promise and those who are the children of bondage.

It is clear to see how past histories in the Old Testament demonstrate how the Will of God is being performed giving us a sure Word of Prophecy that is designed to prepare us to stand in these latter days. Other examples include the ‘Three Rome’s’. The Rise of Pagan Rome as illustrated in the Old Testament is the exact history of the rise of Papal and Modern Rome; i.e. the unholy alliance, the removal of three obstacles before they can rule the world and then follows severe persecution. Ishmael, the son of a bondwoman is identified as been ‘a wild man; his hand will be against every man and every man against him’. {Genesis 16:12}. We see this being fulfilled today through his seed, the Islamic nation as demonstrated in the three woes, which involves what took place on September 11th 2001. Also Elijah, being opposed by three enemies, a King, Harlot and false prophets, so it was with John the Baptist and so it will be at the end of the world. A three-fold union will also oppose spiritual Elijah. This three-fold union consists of the state which is represented as the Dragon, the beast which is Papal Rime and the false prophets. {Revelation 16:13}

In this article our focus will be to demonstrate that the beginning of ancient Israel’s history beginning with Moses parallel’s the beginning of Christ’s ministry and His establishment of the Christian church. In the 1st seal, the early church is represented as a white horse going from victory to victory, this symbolises how the gospel message spread to the uttermost parts of the world, likewise in the beginning when the Jewish nation were called, they went forth as an army under the direction of Moses and then Joshua to overthrow their enemies and take possession of the land of Palestine. As we review this history, it will also be
demonstrated, that we, who have been called to become a part of the 144,000 also repeat the same history, in fact we are repeating it now and it is crucial that we understand this. As the Psalmist proclaims: “God hath spoken once, twice have I heard this” Psalm 62:11. Yet sadly the prophetic Word has demonstrated time and time again that the majority of God’s church will not hear this: “For God speaketh once, yea twice, yet man perceiveth it not.” Job 33:14 He has already testified what is to take place through Moses, and through the life of Christ. It is through understanding these histories we will have a clear indication of what lies before us and the work each one of us will need to perform at the close of this earth’s history.

Throughout the scriptures, it has been clearly portrayed that Moses was a type of Christ. He himself had declared to Israel, “The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto Him ye shall hearken.” Deuteronomy 18:15. The apostle Peter confirms that Moses is referring to Christ when he testifies by the Holy Spirit: “For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you” Acts 3:22. Though, previously, Moses was the child of another, he yet was made the son of Pharaoh’s daughter: “And became her son” (Exodus 2:10). Thus he had a mother, but no father! Here is prefigured the mystery of the Virgin-birth! Christ was the Son of Another, even the Son of God. But, born into this world, He had a mother, but no human father. Yet was He, as it were, adopted by Joseph: see Matthew 1:19-21.

Both men were born during a time of severe darkness when God’s people were under the dominion and in bondage to a hostile King. It was soon after Moses’ birth, Pharaoh King of Egypt who is also described as “the great dragon that lieth in the midst of his rivers” Ezekiel 29:3 makes a decree to kill all male born child, likewise Herald who is also represented as the great dragon sort to destroy Jesus when he was born (Revelation 12:3-4). Because of this death decree, both were hid in Egypt for a time in order that their life could be preserved. As proclaimed by the angel: “Arise, and take the young Child and His mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word” (Matthew 2:13). Thus was fulfilled God’s ancient oracle, “And called My Son out of Egypt” (Hosea 11:1).

As Moses spent 40 years preparation in the wilderness, likewise Christ spent 40 days in the wilderness before he began his public ministry. Both performed miraculous signs and wonders in Egypt to confirm that they were from God. The Scripture testifies “And I will harden Pharaoh’s heart, and multiply my signs and my wonders in the land of Egypt. But Pharaoh shall not hearken unto you, that I may lay my hand upon Egypt, and bring forth mine armies, and my people the children of Israel, out of the land of Egypt by great judgments. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I stretch forth my hand upon Egypt, and bring out the children of Israel from among them.” (Exodus 7:3-5) Likewise Christ also did many miracles (John 6:2) in Egypt yet they believed not on him: “But though he had done so many miracles before them, yet they believed not on him” (John 12:37), (note that in Revelation 11:6, we are told that Christ was spiritually crucified in Egypt, Egypt being symbolic of unbelief) yet those who believed on His Word, he brought out of unbelief unto a knowledge of Himself and gave them power to become the sons of God (John 1:12) whereas those who disbelieved were judged and later destroyed in the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 AD.

It was through Moses, God was going to deliver the children of Israel from the slavery of the Egyptians, which was a type of how Christ was to deliver His people from the slavery of sin. However both were rejected by their brethren. When he was full forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren the children of Israel. And seeing one of them suffer wrong, he defended him, and avenged him that was oppressed, and smote the Egyptian: For he supposed his brethren would have understood how that God by his hand would
deliver them: but they understood not. And the next day he shewed himself unto them as they strove, and would have set them at one again, saying, Sirs, ye are brethren; why do ye wrong one to another But he that did his neighbour wrong thrust him away, saying, Who made thee a ruler and a judge over us’ {Acts 7:23-27} Likewise with Christ, the Jewish nation’s rejection was far worse. ‘But when the Pharisees heard this, they said, “It is only by Beezub, the prince of demons, that this fellow drives out demons.”’ {Matt 12:24} “What shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called Christ?” Pilate asked. They all answered, “Crucify him!” {Matt 27:22. “He came unto his own but they received him not”}

As a rejection by their own people, they both went unto the gentle nation who received them gladly. ‘But Moses went to live in Midian, where he sat down by a well…. Now a priest of Midian had seven daughters…. Moses agreed to stay with the man, who gave his daughter Zipporah to Moses in marriage:’ Exodus 2:15,16,21 Upon His rejection by His fellow Israelites, Jesus turned to the gentle nations and took, and is taking, for himself a bride. ‘I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in.’ Rom 11:25 Both also died for the church, slept in the grave for a while and were then resurrected into heaven. {Jude 1:9}

Now all these things were written as a testimony of those things that should be fulfilled after. In 1 Timothy 3:16, we told “And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.” Moses fulfilled this verse in type, he was not God, yet we know God manifested himself in him in a way that he had not with other men, hence why we are told: “And there arose not a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face” {Exodus 34:10}. So, on earth, Christ was “The only-begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father” {John 1:18}. It is striking to behold in Exodus 31 to 34 how Moses passed and re-passed between Jehovah in the mount and the camp of the congregation: expressive of his equal access to heaven and earth and his intermediately work for the children of Israel. It is interesting that he also had to veil his face as the glory/character of the Lord reflected on him as Christ has to clothe his divinity in humanity to His people. Without a doubt the mystery of God was fulfilled in Moses, this mystery being ‘Christ in you the hope of all glory’. It was only through Christ and being justified by His Spirit Moses was able to know God face to face and live. He was also seen of angels, preached unto the gentiles, believed in the world and received up in glory. This glory being demonstrated on the mount of transfiguration where Moses and Elijah were seen talking with Jesus.

The bible also demonstrated that the 144,000 will also go through a similar experience. Once they have crucified the flesh and experience the new birth of the Spirit they too will have to flee from the face of the Dragon like Moses and Christ did. The Dragon primarily represents Satan but he manifests himself through human instruments, we saw this in Pharaoh, in Herod and we will see this in the civil power today as well as Apostate Protestantism: “Kings and rulers and governors have placed upon themselves the brand of antichrist, and are represented as the dragon who goes to make war with the saints—with those who keep the commandments of God and who have the faith of Jesus.” {Testimonies to Ministers 38} “Protestantism, a power which, while professing to have the temper and spirit of a lamb and to be allied to Heaven, speaks with the voice of a dragon. It is moved by a power from beneath.” {Marantha 187.2}

As Moses and Christ spent time in the wilderness for preparation, we also will need to spend preparatory time in the countryside, hence why the Spirit through Ellen White has been calling God’s people to come out of the city into the countryside, so we can form the right character. This is a united testimony by all the prophets who were translated or prepared the way for the coming of the Lord, I.e., Enoch, Elijah, Moses and John. They each dwelt in rural locations for a season.

As they come unto their own, that is Adventists, just as Christ came unto His own, and Moses came unto his own with a special message from God designed to call them fully out of Egypt - that is those who are in ‘bondage under the elements of the world’ Galatians 4:3 can we expect their own to accept them? NO, of course not, they will crucify Christ in the form of His servants. The Lord has already declared this in His testament: “I saw the nominal church and nominal Adventists, like Judas, would betray us to the Catholics to obtain their influ-
Without a doubt the mystery of God was fulfilled in Moses, this mystery being ‘Christ in you the hope of all glory’. It was only through Christ and being justified by His Spirit Moses was able to know God face to face and live.

It is a mystery how iniquity could be found in Lucifer, how he could even think to substantiate his law of self-exaltation for Christ’s law of self-abnegation, how he could think to change times and laws and induce others to follow his baleful practices … hence why it’s called the ‘Mystery of Iniquity’. Its also a mystery that the Great God of Heaven could humble himself, take the form of a servant and live a perfect life in the flesh … that’s why it’s called the Mystery of Godliness. And it’s even a greater mystery to me that the Lord could take a wretched, sinful person as myself and change me into His glorious image… This is why the ‘Mystery of God’ can also be classed as ‘Christ in you the hope of all glory’. Which is why Paul writes: “Even the MYSTERY which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present EVERY MAN PERFECT IN CHRIST JESUS:” Colossians 1:26-29

And as we continue to go through these two mysteries, two churches that can be traced throughout history down to this final generation as illustrated in the seven seals; past present and future, you will awake to many of Satan’s deceptions, and “will go forth a remnant, and out of Mount Zion survivors.” 2Kings 19:31 and ‘bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; and be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, BEHOLD YOUR GOD!’ Isaiah 40:9
In 1835 as a young man then living in Boston, New England Foy gave his heart to Christ. A tall young man of eloquent speech he became a seminary-trained black Freewill Baptist preacher.

At first he was “opposed to the doctrine of Jesus’ near approach [the Millerite message],” but after receiving two visions from the Lord he was convinced of Jesus’ soon return and began travelling to various places heralding the message of Christ’s Second Advent.

Due to the prejudice of being an African American in the 1800’s Foy initially hesitated to relate the visions the Lord was impressing upon him to share. Eventually however the burden of others souls became too much for him to stay silent and he began to publically relate the prophetic visions given him.

John Loughborough describes William Foy’s gift of prophecy. “The first to be noticed is that of a godly man, - a well-educated and talented minister by the name of William Foy, who resided in Boston, Mass. At two different times during the year 1842, the Lord came so near to him that he was wrapped in holy vision. One of these occasions was on January 18, and the other was on February 4. By invitation he went from city to city to tell of the wonderful things he had seen; and in order to accommodate the vast crowds who assembled to hear him... When dwelling upon the tender, compassionate love of Christ for poor sinners, he exhorted the unconverted to seek God, and scores responded to his tender entreaties.” J. N. Loughborough Heavenly Visions the Prophetic Gift, page 27 paragraph 4

In the year 1845 however William Foy was present at a meeting in which he heard Ellen Harmon (Ellen G White once married) the same vision as he had, with the explanation that “the first and second messages had been given, and that a third was to follow.”

Ellen White describes the event during an interview conducted by D. E. Robinson on August 13, 1906: “They had appointed for me to speak that night, and I did not know that he was there ….. While I was talking I heard a shout, and he is a great, tall man, and the roof was rather low, and he jumped right up and down, and oh, he praised the Lord, praised the Lord. It was just what he had seen, just what he had seen. But they extolled him so I think it hurt him, and I do not know what became of him. He was a very tall man, slightly colored. But it was remarkable [the] testimonies that he bore.” 17MR 96.2-3

Why is the 1843 chart being used if it has mistakes on it?

Very interesting question! When dealing with the "mistakes" on the 1843 chart, it is very important for us to go to the source of this concept and try to understand what is actually being described. "I have seen that the 1843 chart was directed by the hand of the Lord, and that it should not be altered; that the figures were as He wanted them; that His hand was over and hid a mistake in some of the figures, so that none could see it, until His hand was removed. {EW 74.1} Here Sister White is shown a mistake (singular) in some of the figures (plural). What is being identified here is a singular mistake that impacts more than one figure. This single mistake had nothing to do with the symbols/pictures used on the chart, the time prophecies or the methodology behind them, the mistake was in the calculations of the prophetic periods. It was this miscalculation which lead to the first disappointment on March 21st 1843. After the passing of the time in 1843 many went back and studied earnestly for an explanation. “Again they were led to their Bibles to search the prophetic periods. The hand of the Lord was removed from the figures, and the mistake was explained. They saw that the prophetic periods reached to 1844, and that the same evidence which they had presented to show that the prophetic periods closed in 1843, proved that they would terminate in 1844.” {EW 236.1} As students of prophecy we understand that when calculating time prophecies which start in BC and end in AD, an additional year needs to be added as a result of there being the year AD 0. However William Miller and his associates did not see this and that was the mistake that was made. Such a simple mistake! However, none discerned it not even the most learned men of that time. “The mistake made in reckoning the prophetic periods was not at once discovered even by learned men who opposed the views of those who were looking for Christ’s coming. These profound scholars declared that Mr. Miller was right in his calculation of the time, though they disputed him in regard to the event that would crown that period.” {ST, March 30, 1876 par. 3} Many use this scenario as a reason to disregard the chart and the truths held therein, and have caused many to look upon the chart and the history of our church as one full of shame, negligence and disappointment. However casting our minds back to Early Writing page 74, we read that the 1843 chart was “directed by the hand of the lord” and “his hand was over and hid a mistake”. So the disappointment faced by the Millerites on March 21st 1843 was all part of God’s providence. “God designed that His people should meet with a disappointment. The time passed, and those who had looked with joyful expectation for their Saviour were sad and disheartened, while those who had not loved the appearing of Jesus, but embraced the message through fear, were pleased that He did not come at the time of expectation. Their profession had not affected the heart and purified the life. The passing of the time was well calculated to reveal such hearts.” {EW 235.3} The faith of the Millerites was tested and as a results two classes of worshipers were produced; those who “had a personal experience, a faith in God and in His word which could not be overthrown by disappointment and delay”, and those who were “satisfied with the flickering light of good emotions, without a thorough understanding of the truth or a genuine work of grace in the heart.” {GC 393.4} This event is teaching us that our experience is not to be just a profession but a living experience which purifies the life. If we fail to have this experience while professing the 3rd angels’ message we will end up being part of the class who draws back when the final crisis comes because we knew not what we believed. “Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.” Hebrews 10:38-39