

175 B.C. to 164 B.C. He oppressed the people of God. He desecrated the Temple of God by entering the Temple and taking away everything of value from it, and by erecting a heathen altar on the altar of burnt-offering in the Temple court and sacrificing a sow on that altar to a heathen god. He caused the Temple sacrifices to cease by forbidding the Jews to offer sacrifices to God, and commanding them to worship his gods. This king commenced these things in 171 B.C., and these things continued until December 25th, 165 B.C. At that time the Temple was restored to its rightful condition by Judas Maccabee, and the Temple sacrifices were resumed.

This is the context of Daniel 8:14 and this context makes it very clear that the sanctuary in this passage does not refer to a sanctuary in Heaven, but that it refers to the Temple on earth, and that the cleansing of the sanctuary in this passage refers to the restoration of the Temple to its rightful condition, and this certainly does not involve an investigative judgment! This is verified by the Hebrew word for cleanse in this passage which is **PTZ** and which means to "be put right"<sup>78</sup> in the Niphal stem. Furthermore, the concept that the 2,300 days in this passage represent 2,300 years is pure conjecture, and it does not fit with the context. Therefore, the time of the beginning of the investigative judgment was not predicted in Daniel 8:14, and to say that it was predicted is to completely ignore the context of the passage.

The Seventh-day Adventists claim that Revelation 14:6,7 predicted that after the investigative judgment commenced, there would be a message proclaimed to the people of the world by human messengers under God's direction in

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<sup>78</sup>Francis Brown, S.R. Driver, and Charles A. Briggs, A Hebrew and English Lexicon of The Old Testament, (London: Oxford University Press, Reprinted with corrections, 1955), p. 842.