

Warning: 'The Great Controversy'

At regular intervals the Seventh Day Adventist (SDA) religion sends out free copies of the book 'The Great Controversy' by Ellen G. White. Recently we received this book in the mail from an organisation calling themselves 'Leaves of Autumn', based in Victoria. There is no evidence on the accompanying brochure that this is identified with SDA. This is a common and deceptive ploy of SDA.

'The Great Controversy' was a book written by false prophetess Ellen G. White. (It occasionally has been disguised under a different title). It contains teachings such as the 'Investigative Judgement' which contradicts and confuses the finished work of Christ. Over many years we have documented Ellen G. White's false prophecies. She claimed to be a prophet and her writings to be inspired by God. The SDA religion officially writes: 'Seventh day Adventists hold that Ellen G. White performed the work of a true prophet during the seventy years of her public ministry. As Samuel was a prophet, as Jeremiah was a prophet, as John the Baptist, so we believe that Mrs. White was a prophet to the church of Christ today'. (1) Ellen White herself said: 'It is God, and not an erring mortal that has spoken in representing God almighty' (2); 'I do not write one article expressing my own ideas. They are what God has opened to me in vision'. (3) The SDA Website teaches the same, (see *Diakrisis*, Nov/Dec/2001). All this is contrary to scripture, (2Pet.1:20; Rev.22:18).

Ellen G. White copied large quantities of her work from other authors without permission, yet stated (and believed by Seventh Day Adventists), that her writings were from God. Walter Rea's 'The White Lie' documents large quantities of evidence of this 'plagiarism' (theft) in Ellen White's writings. Much of 'The Great Controversy' too was lifted from other writers.

Ellen G. White's false prophecies are well documented. (4) After the failed return of Jesus in 1844 Ellen White indicated that the return was still close. The following prophecies are now *over 150 years old!*:

- 'I saw that we are now in the shaking time.' (*Testimonies*,

P.429 - she taught the 'shaking time' was just prior to the coming of Jesus).

- 'Just as soon as God's people are sealed and prepared for the shaking, it will come. Indeed it has already begun', (*SDA Bible Commentary*, Vol.4, P.1161).

- 'Now the time is almost finished, and what we have been years learning, they will have to learn in a few months', (*Early Writings*, P.57).

- 'I was shown (in vision) the company present at the conference. Said the angel, '...Some, food for worms; some, subjects of the seven last plagues; some will be alive...at the coming of Jesus', (*Spiritual Gifts*, Vol.4, P.18, 1864). [All these people died 130 years ago!]

- 'Not one ray of light comes to sinners since 1844, but all are left to the devil', (*Early Writings*, P.46,47).

- 'The seal of God is His Holy Sabbath', (*Thoughts on Revelations*, P.452). [Defies Scripture and 1,700 years of the 'faith once delivered' concerning the seal of God in salvation]

- 'Not a soul living on earth when Jesus comes will be saved unless he is thus sealed by keeping that day [Saturday Sabbath]', (*Early Writings*, P.11).

- '...here we have the mark of the beast. The very act of changing the Sabbath to Sunday on the part of the Catholic church', (*Mark of the Beast*, P.23). [Defies Scripture and secular and Christian history where Sunday was kept in the first few centuries before the Roman Catholic religion began]

- 'Meat eaters will not be translated to Heaven', (*Testimonies* No.1: 187). [Reader see Col.2:16; 1Tim.4:4]

- 'Certain races of men are the result of amalgamation between man and beast', (*Spiritual Gifts*, Vol.3, P.64,65).

The SDA religion was once classified a 'cult' because of its false teachings and prophecies concerning the deity of Jesus and especially the *atonement*. Readers, be not deceived.

Terry Arnold

(1) Review & Herald 4/10/28, P.11 (2) *Testimonies* Vol.3 P.257 (3) *Testimonies*, No.31, P.63 (4) See 'A Close Encounter With Seventh Day Adventism' by Mark Duckworth, available from this ministry.

Sanctification/Holiness

The word 'sanctification' ('*hagiasmos*') is translated 'holiness' (8 times) and 'sanctification' (6 times). The two words are synonymous. '*Hagiasmós*' refers not only to the activity of the Holy Spirit in setting man apart unto salvation as one of the redeemed, but also to the ongoing work to effect the separation from sin and the world.

These two aspects of Sanctification, the *setting apart* and the *ongoing work* of the Holy Spirit, are called by some *Positional Sanctification* and *Progressive Sanctification*.

The Positional aspect of setting apart is seen in God's choosing of us and His predestination. This is shown in such phrases as '*from the beginning*' (2Thess.2:13); '*he has chosen us...before the foundation of the world*' (Eph.1:4); and '*did predestinate*' us, (Rom.8:30). All these passages refer to the sovereign work of God in setting us apart.

This setting apart is then for the purposes of the ongoing work necessary for us '*to be conformed to the image of his Son*', (Rom.8:29). This ongoing work of Sanctification is part of God's salvation plan in changing our character,

speech, conduct, mind, will and emotions.

In the Old Testament the temple furniture was *set apart*, not to be used for anything else but for the service of the Lord. This furniture was never to be polluted or soiled in any way by mixing it or using it for other purposes. The Holy never touched the profane. This furniture was then sprinkled with animal blood many times.

The New Testament tells us that God has set us apart even from the foundation of the world (Eph.1:4), and we are washed in the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ at salvation and throughout our life on earth. One work makes our position perfect with God, the other work changes our character. The evidence of this will be the '*fruit of the Spirit*' (Gal.5:22), and the '*fruit of holiness*', (Rom.6:21,22).

Holiness is God's desire in us and thus this should be our desire! Spurgeon said: 'Those men who despise holiness of heart are in direct conflict with God. Holiness is the architectural plan upon which God builds up his living temple'. ('*The Key To Holiness*', P.33) **Terry Arnold**