

Why I Am a Christian & Not a Seventh Day Adventist

(July, 1998)

*I am not a Seventh Day Adventist because* (SDA) I believe in the Bible alone as the inspired Word of God and that it *alone* is to be used and tested for doctrine, (2Tim.3:16; Pr.30:5,6). The SDA church teaches Ellen G. White was a prophetess, (*'The spirit of Prophecy'*), and that her writings were inspired by God. They write: '*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) Indeed, Mrs. White herself claimed her writings to be inspired of God as if God was writing them Himself. She said: '*It is God, and not an erring mortal that has spoken in representing God almighty*'. (2) This is contrary to Scripture, (2Pet.1:20; Rev.22:18). Added to this is the irrefutable documentation exposing her as a false prophet who predicted events and times which did not come to pass. (3) She also plagiarised (literary theft) *large* quantities of her work from other authors without permission, yet stated (and believed by the SDA church), that these writings were from God. (4) The evidence of this deception was brought before the SDA church late in the Twentieth Century and many pastors resigned. The book '*The White Lie*' by ex-SDA pastor Walter Rea has hundreds of pages of irrefutable documentation of this deception.

*I am not a Seventh Day Adventist because* I believe Jesus was both completely God and completely man, as has been the teaching for 2,000 years. The SDA church believes that Jesus was the archangel Michael, (5) and that he inherited a '*sinful nature*'. However, Jesus is not an angel (Heb.1:4,6) and is never called an angel, but instead unlike angels, He was *worshipped*, (Matt.14:33; 28:9; 1Pet.3:18).

*I am not a Seventh Day Adventist because* I believe Jesus completed the atonement for my sins *once* on the cross, (Jn.19:30; Heb.9:12; 10:12). The SDA church teaches that Christ is now '*cleansing the sanctuary*' in an '*investigative judgement*', (introduced in 1844 from

a failed prophecy), and that although my sins are forgiven they are not completely blotted out. However, the Bible teaches Jesus cleansed my sin *entirely* on the cross, (1Jn.1:7; 1Pet.1:19; 2:24). The SDA church also teaches that Satan finally bears responsibility for our sins and is the '*scapegoat*'. (6) Yet, the Bible says it was Jesus who took responsibility for and bore our sins, not the Devil, (1Pet.2:24; 2Cor.5:21; Is.53:6,12).

*I am not a Seventh Day Adventist because* I do not believe that Sunday is Satan's counterfeit day of worship and that if I keep Sunday it will eventually be the 'mark of the beast'. The '*mark of the beast*' mentioned in the book of Revelation clearly has nothing to do with keeping any Sabbath.

The Sabbath was given as a sign '*to the children of Israel*', (Ex.31:13,16,17; Ezek.20:12). After Christ ascended, the early apostles and Christians assembled on the '*1st day*' of the week (Sunday), breaking bread and fellowshiping together, (Jn.20:19, 26, Acts 20:7; 1Cor.16:1,2). The SDA church says the Sunday keeping was instituted after 300 AD by the Roman Catholic religion. This is historically false as there are *numerous* clear accounts of the early church Fathers, [from Justin Martyr (100-165AD), Ignatius (110AD) to Cyprian (200-258AD)], who spoke of keeping Sunday and that this was the first day of the week. (7) All the great leaders, (Jerome, Huss, Wycliffe, Luther, Calvin, etc) all kept Sunday. The New Testament *nowhere* mentions any command to keep the seventh day *or* Sunday as the Sabbath. Christ is now our rest, (Heb.4). (Adventists confuse rest ['*Sabbath*'] with *worship*). The Bible, however, says to judge no man on the Sabbaths (Col.2:16), and that it is up to the individual as to which day he chooses, (Rom.14:5,6). Christians should likewise not judge SDA's for keeping Saturday.

*I am not a Seventh Day Adventist because* I do not believe Adventists will be God's chosen 'remnant'. This is one of the hallmarks of a cult.

*I am not a Seventh Day Adventist because* I believe in the *eternal* punishment of Hell, (Matt.25:46; Rev.19:20cp.20:10, Lk.16:22,23, etc.). The SDA church does not believe in the same everlasting Hell

that has been taught since the apostles, but rather that we are 'exterminated' (annihilation). In Matthew 25:46 the Word of God says: *'these shall go away into everlasting punishment but the righteous into life eternal'*, (some translations have *'everlasting life'*).

The English translation should be enough to convince any that this punishment is truly *'everlasting'* or *'eternal'*. However, the Greek here has the words *'everlasting'* and *'eternal'* translated as the same Greek word, *'aionion'* - for both the punishment and the future eternal life spoken of. The root word *'aionios'* means *unending; eternal; forever*. The same Greek word *'aionion'* that describes the 'life' is also applied to the 'punishment'. If *eternal life* is forever, eternal, unending (*'aionion'*), then the *punishment* is also eternal, everlasting, (*'aionion'*). Whether we like it or not, the *'everlasting punishment'* here is *eternal or everlasting* (*'aionion'*).

*I am not a Seventh Day Adventist because* I believe the Bible says that no one knows the time of the second coming, (Mk.13:32,33). The SDA's have a sorry history of date setting and failures! The religion was partly founded on false prophecies of the coming of Christ in 1883 and 1884 by William Miller. Miller later renounced his error and most of the theories and new doctrines that followed it. However, Ellen G. White continued the new teachings and the name of Seventh Day Adventist then became prominent.

*I am not a Seventh Day Adventist because* I believe that so much has been added to the truth by the SDA church that it's message is *'another gospel'* and *'another jesus'* that Paul spoke of, which brings Christians back under the law instead of under grace, (Rom.6:14). *The Sabbath is not the real issue, but rather the deception is found in the confusion or mixing of law and grace*. Scriptures to do with the law that Adventists ignore are: 1Tim.1:9,10; Rom.5:8; 6:14; 7:6; 10:4; Gal.2:16; 3:13; 5:18; 5:14; Eph.2:15. The Bible warns Christians to be aware of *'false brethren'* who would *'bring us into bondage'* (Gal.2:4; 5:1) and *'trouble'* us with *'words subverting your souls saying ye must be circumcised and keep the law: to whom we gave no such commandment'*, (Acts 15:24). *'Avoid foolish questions...and contentions, and strivings about the law...'*, (Tit.3:9).

(We recommend the video ‘Seventh Day Adventism - the spirit behind the church’ and books by John R. Rice and ex-Adventist, Mark Duckworth - ask for our booklist)

(1) *Review & Herald* 4/10/28, P.11)

(2) *Testimonies* Vol.3 P.257

(3) See ‘*A Close Encounter With Seventh Day Adventism*’ by Mark Duckworth.

(4) See ‘*The White Lie*’ by Walter Rea - for irrefutable evidence of plagiarism (literary theft) in Ellen White's writings.

(5) ‘*Spiritual Gifts*’, Vol.4, P.58; ‘*Desire of Ages*’, P.99; ‘*Story of redemption*’, P.173.

(6) ‘*The Great Controversy*’, P.485.

(7) Documentation found in ‘*Answers*’ by Keith Piper or ‘*Kingdom of the Cults*’ by Walter Martin.



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