

SEVENTH - DAY ADVENTISM

A Ministry of Death

PART 2: THEIR DOCTRINE REFUTED

We will center this section on three key areas: The investigative judgment, E.G. White's role as prophet of God, and the Sabbath question.

THE INVESTIGATIVE JUDGMENT

Here is a current statement on the investigative judgment taken from the official SDA website regarding the topic at hand:

23.Christ's Ministry in the Heavenly Sanctuary:

There is a sanctuary in heaven, the true tabernacle which the Lord set up and not man. In it Christ ministers on our behalf, making available to believers the benefits of His atoning sacrifice offered once for all on the cross. He was inaugurated as our great High Priest and began His intercessory ministry at the time of His ascension. In 1844, at the end of the prophetic period of 2300 days, He entered the second and last phase of His atoning ministry. It is a work of investigative judgment which is part of the ultimate disposition of all sin, typified by the cleansing of the ancient Hebrew sanctuary on the Day of Atonement. In that typical service the sanctuary was cleansed with the blood of animal sacrifices, but the heavenly things are purified with the perfect sacrifice of the blood of Jesus. The investigative judgment reveals to heavenly intelligences who among the dead are asleep in Christ and therefore, in Him, are deemed worthy to have part in the first resurrection. It also makes manifest who among the living are abiding in Christ, keeping the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, and in Him, therefore, are ready for translation into His everlasting kingdom. This judgment vindicates the justice of God in saving those who believe in Jesus. It declares that those who have remained loyal to God shall receive the kingdom. The completion of this ministry of Christ will mark the close of human probation before the Second Advent. (Heb. 8:1-5; 4:14-16; 9:11-28; 10:19-22; 1:3; 2:16, 17; Dan. 7:9-27; 8:13, 14; 9:24-27; Num. 14:34; Eze. 4:6; Lev. 16; Rev. 14:6, 7; 20:12; 14:12; 22:12.)¹

This whole issue begs the question, 'What does the Lord not already know, that He now needs to investigate?' Webster defines the verb 'investigate': *To search into; to inquire and examine into with care and accuracy; to make careful research and examination into.* Looking at the verb 'inquire' we find its definition is *to seek for information.* The verb 'research' is defined as *the laborious,*

¹ <http://www.adventist.org/beliefs/index.html>

continued search after truth. How is it an all-powerful, all-knowing Lord now needs to investigate the lives and works of all people to find out who are the saved ones worthy of heaven?

Several points must be brought up in connection with this doctrine, but first we must remember the reason it came into being in the first place. In order for the early Millerites to save face in light of Miller's failed prophecies, they relied on Joseph Bates' alleged vision in a cornfield to explain his error. Their aim was not to glorify the true Lord, but instead, it was self-serving in nature. Below are several quotes from Ellen White on the subject. Notice how much more harsh and strict is the real tone and tenor of this damnable heresy. It moves the Adventist follower from grace to works as a means of salvation and ties them to their cult using the fear of being damned to hell as motivation for continuing on with them. This daughter of the whore of Babylon is just like mother.

There is a record also of the sins of men. "For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil." Every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment." Says the Saviour: "By thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned." Ecclesiastes 12:14; Matthew 12:36, 37. The secret purposes and motives appear in the unerring register; for God "will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts." I Corinthians 4:5. "Behold, it is written before Me, . . . your iniquities, and the iniquities of your fathers together, saith the Lord." Isaiah 65:6, 7. Every man's work passes in review before God and is registered for faithfulness or unfaithfulness. Opposite each name in the books of heaven is entered with terrible exactness every wrong word, every selfish act, every unfulfilled duty, and every secret sin, with every artful dissembling. Heaven-sent warnings or reproofs neglected, wasted moments, unimproved opportunities, the influence exerted for good or for evil, with its far-reaching results, all are chronicled by the recording angel. The law of God is the standard by which the characters and the lives of men will be tested in the judgment. Says the wise man: "Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment." Ecclesiastes 12:13, 14. The apostle James admonishes his brethren: "So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty." James 2:12

"As the books of record are opened in the judgment, the lives of all who have believed on Jesus come in review before God. Beginning with those who first lived upon the earth, our Advocate presents the cases of each successive generation, and closes with the living. Every name is mentioned, every case closely investigated. Names are accepted, names rejected. When any have sins remaining upon the books of record, unrepented of and unforgiven, their names will be blotted out of the book of life, and the record of their good deeds will be erased from the book of God's remembrance. The Lord declared to Moses:

"Whosoever hath sinned against Me, him will I blot out of My book." Exodus 32:33. And says the prophet Ezekiel: "When the righteous turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, . . . all his righteousness that he hath done shall not be mentioned." Ezekiel 18:24. All who have truly repented of sin, and by faith claimed the blood of Christ as their atoning sacrifice, have had pardon entered against their names in the books of heaven; as they have become partakers of the righteousness of Christ, and their characters are found to be in harmony with the law of God, their sins will be blotted out, and they themselves will be accounted worthy of eternal life....Sins that have not been repented of and forsaken will not be pardoned and blotted out of the books of record, but will stand to witness against the sinner in the day of God.²

Our objections to this teaching are these:

It makes our God to be one who is not all-knowing.

It says He is not sovereign in His decrees regarding man.

It places salvation in man's hands, not God's.

It impugns the work of Christ as all-sufficient.

It makes salvation of the Law (works), and not of free grace.

It gives glory to man, not God.

It negates the doctrine of the perseverance of the saints.

It is a new doctrine not supported by any of the saints of old.

It denies the doctrine of Predestination.

No teacher since Christ ascended has ever taught such a thing. Therefore, it is a false teaching.

It becomes clear that the Adventist 'theologians' had no concept of the time honored rules of Biblical hermeneutics. I am speaking specifically of the rule that states, 'In the Old, the New is contained. In the New, the Old is explained.' In other words, the Old Testament does not take precedence over the New, nor is it to be used to explain the new covenant of Jesus Christ. How many times did Jesus begin a phrase, *You have heard it said.....but I tell you....* Also, this same

² <http://www.whiteestate.org/books/gc/gc28.html> (The Great Controversy)

doctrine is taught in the parables concerning putting new wine into old wineskins and sewing a new patch onto an old garment. Clearly, it doesn't work. Nevertheless, the Adventists insist on it, throwing millions into confusion in the process.

Their lack of regard on this point fits in with their scheme to get into heaven by their own righteousness rather than the righteousness of Christ. When one does not understand the free grace of God, the only alternative is to rely on one's own works. Tragically, this road leads to hell and final damnation.

Ellen Gould White- Prophetess, Priestess, and Queen

There is no doubt that this woman is highly revered in their church and is quite possibly the reason the Adventist cult exist today. No matter that the rest of the visible church shuns her as heretical, the Adventist faithful are taught the party line and, by and large, swallow it hook, line, and sinker. They should learn to do their own investigative judgment regarding her.

Their reverence for her is based on Revelation 19:10b which says, *For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.* Here is their official statement regarding White's alleged gift of prophecy:

17.The Gift of Prophecy:

One of the gifts of the Holy Spirit is prophecy. This gift is an identifying mark of the remnant church and was manifested in the ministry of Ellen. G. White . As the Lord's messenger, her writings are a continuing and authoritative source of truth which provide for the church comfort, guidance, instruction, and correction. They also make clear that the Bible is the standard by which all teaching and experience must be tested. (Joel 2:28, 29; Acts 2:14-21; Heb. 1:1-3; Rev. 12:17; 19:10.)³

Notice the statement that the gift of prophecy is a mark of the remnant church, i.e., the Adventist church. Two questions must be asked. Where is the mention of William Miller, their alleged first prophet, and who is their prophet now?

³ <http://www.adventist.org/beliefs/index.html>

The answer to the Miller query is simple. He was proved to be a false prophet, Adventists admit it in some small sense by acknowledging his failed date setting as the Great Disappointment, and after the dust settled took Ellen as their first prophetess. The big problem here is that it makes their doctrine on prophets one of convenience rather than Biblical.

Where is their prophet now? Who has taken over for her since her death in 1915? If having a prophet is the mark of the true church, why has there been none to give the prophetic word for the last 87 years? The answers to these questions lies in their faulty interpretation of Rev. 19:10.

What is Prophecy?

Propheteia (Gr.) signifies the speaking forth of the mind and counsel of God. Though much of OT prophecy was purely predictive, (see Micah 5:2 for example), prophecy is not necessarily, nor even primarily, fore-telling. It is the declaration of that which cannot be known by natural means. Matt. 26:68, is the forth telling of the will of God, whether with reference to the past, the present, or the future.⁴

Our ministry believes that modern-day prophets in the church are those who are able to understand the prophetic word and expound it to the body of Christ at large. Since the book of Revelation is chiefly prophetic, and since it deals with Christ and Antichrist, today's prophets are those who recognize who the Man of Sin is and oppose him. This is paramount in determining who are the true prophets.

SDA View of Prophecy

The SDA church seeks to elevate prophecy to a different level in order to highlight the ministry of Ellen White. This is done so they can 'prove' they have a

⁴ *Vines Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words.*

prophet, and thus the 'spirit of prophecy', in their church. Paul, in 2Cor. 12, makes no such distinction, as all members in the body have a purpose. In fact, God says he has bestowed more abundant honor on the members which lack, 2Cor. 2:24.

Secondly, the SDAs fail to realize that the church has always had true prophets so they are not the one and only remnant church which began in 1843. This ministry is currently working on a catalogue of those prophets (witnesses) to edify and educate the body of Christ as to their existence and what they believed. A short list would include groups such as the Lollards, Waldenses, and Albigenses. Individuals like Wycliffe, Huss, Luther, Knox, Turretin, Fox, Whitaker, Barnes, Spurgeon, and Paisley would be included. Of course the SDAs don't recognize these men as prophets of Christ because of their skewed idea of a prophet.

Lastly, I would like to point out that according to Revelation 19:10, the spirit of prophecy is linked to the testimony of Jesus. What was this testimony that has been handed down throughout history and is available to us all? It is a testimony that is prophetic in nature and thus linked to the book of Revelation which is also prophetic. It has to do with knowing who the enemy is and fighting against him in a war of words, through the witnessing of their testimony, (Rev.11:7). It has to do with exposing the beast for who he is, not having fellowship with him or his false bride, and calling out the true saints within her, (Rev.13:4), warning them of her sure doom by the hand of God in one hour, (Rev.18:17 and 18:8). These are the ones who will attain to the first resurrection because their testimony against the Beast agreed with God's prophecy against that very same beast, (Rev.20:4).

The SDA church tells its members to expect suffering and martyrdom at the hands of the U.S. government sometime in the future. They say it is coming because it is God's one great test that separates the true believer from the false. Like the futurists, this idea is all speculation without any foundation whatsoever.

Priestess or Plagiarist?

The evidence against Ellen G. White in this area is abundant and well documented. Most of what she wrote, including her alleged visions and prophecies from God, were taken from other works on a wholesale basis. Clearly, Ellen and her husband James, who was a willing accomplice, were deluded. This can be proven beyond a shadow of a doubt. I will reference for you several websites detailing her lies and deception showing once again she was no true prophetess of the one true God. Thus, she not to be believed.

<http://www.ellenwhite.org/egw4.htm>

<http://www.bible.ca/7-plagiarism.htm>

<http://www.truthorfables.com/SUBJECTS.htm>

The Queen On Her Throne

Problems always arise when someone or something is put on par with the Scriptures because it never ends there. Inevitably, the person or object supplants the Word, relegating it to second string. Though this is never admitted by them, their actions sustain my statement. In this case it's the Bible plus Ellen G. White that pushes the Bible to the back row. Some other notables include:

The Bible plus Tradition -The Roman Catholics.

The Bible plus the Book of Mormon -The Mormons

The Bible plus Charles Russell -The Jehovah's Witnesses.

The Bible plus Mary Baker Eddy - Science of Mind.

Adventists are always foisting the writings of Ellen White on others in order to prove their theology. Wouldn't it be better to start with the Bible and see what it has to say, rather begin with Mrs. White? Are her writings that good? Of course not, but the point is the Adventists think they are. That is why they are safe-guarded, stored, and housed in a special structure built for that express purpose. It takes an act of congress to be allowed in, and even then they put a

'tail on you' so you don't see anything they don't want you to see! Of course this is only after you have sworn an oath that you will not denigrate Ellen or Adventist doctrine. Little do they know it's already been maligned and refuted countless times. Actually, they do realize this, but someone has to be in charge of damage control.

As a Reformed ministry, we place no special emphasis on any one individual saint. In turn, these saints have placed no special emphasis on their body of work. We read their work with interest, comparing what they have said with the Scriptures to see if those things be so. The Word remains the authority and standard, not their writings.

The Sabbath Question- The Mark of the Beast

Again, to critique this doctrine we'll start with the official statement of today's Adventists:

19. The Sabbath.....

The beneficent Creator, after the six days of Creation, rested on the seventh day and instituted the Sabbath for all people as a memorial of Creation. The fourth commandment of God's unchangeable law requires the observance of this seventh-day Sabbath as the day of rest, worship, and ministry in harmony with the teaching and practice of Jesus, the Lord of the Sabbath. The Sabbath is a day of delightful communion with God and one another. It is a symbol of our redemption in Christ, a sign of our sanctification, a token of our allegiance, and a foretaste of our eternal future in God's kingdom. The Sabbath is God's perpetual sign of His eternal covenant between Him and His people. Joyful observance of this holy time from evening to evening, sunset to sunset, is a celebration of God's creative and redemptive acts. (Gen. 2:1-3; Ex. 20:8-11; Luke 4:16; Isa. 56:5, 6; 58:13, 14; Matt. 12:1-12; Ex. 31:13-17; Eze. 20:12, 20; Deut. 5:12-15; Heb. 4:1-11; Lev. 23:32; Mark 1:32.)

While there is much error contained in this statement alone, the real issues raised by the Adventists are strangely absent. They claim that Saturday worship is the seal placed on the true people of God and that to worship on Sunday is to take the mark of the Beast. Here is E.G. White on the subject:

1. We felt an unusual spirit of prayer. And as we prayed the Holy Ghost fell upon us. We were very happy. Soon I was lost to earthly things and was wrapped in a vision of God's glory. I saw an angel flying swiftly to me. **He quickly carried me from the earth to the Holy City. In the city I saw a temple**, which I entered. I passed through a door before I came to the first veil. This veil was raised, and I

passed into the holy place. Here I saw the altar of incense, the candlestick with seven lamps, and the table on which was the shewbread. After viewing the glory of the holy, Jesus raised the second veil and I passed into the holy of holies.

In the holiest I saw an ark; on the top and sides of it was purest gold. On each end of the ark was a lovely cherub, with its wings spread out over it. Their faces were turned toward each other, and they looked downward. Between the angels was a golden censer. Above the ark, where the angels stood, was an exceeding bright glory, that appeared like a throne where God dwelt. Jesus stood by the ark, and as the saints' prayers came up to Him, the incense in the censer would smoke, and He would offer up their prayers with the smoke of the incense to His Father. In the ark was the golden pot of manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of stone which folded together like a book. Jesus opened them, and I saw the ten commandments written on them with the finger of God. On one table were four, and on the other six. The four on the first table shone brighter than the other six. But the fourth, the Sabbath commandment, shone above them all; for **the Sabbath was set apart to be kept in honor of God's holy name. The holy Sabbath looked glorious -- a halo of glory was all around it.** I saw that the Sabbath commandment was not nailed to the cross. If it was, the other nine commandments were; and we are at liberty to break them all, as well as to break the fourth. I saw that God had not changed the Sabbath, for He never changes. But the pope had changed it from the seventh to the first day of the week; for he was to change times and laws

2. I saw that the holy Sabbath is, and will be, **the separating wall between the true Israel of God and unbelievers**; and that the Sabbath is the great question to unite the hearts of God's dear, waiting saints (*Early Writings*, 1963, pp. 32,33).

3. The Sabbath will be the great test of loyalty, for it is the point of truth especially controverted. **When the final test shall be brought to bear upon men, then the line of distinction will be drawn between those who serve God and those who serve Him not.** While the observance of the false Sabbath in compliance with the law of the state, **contrary to the fourth commandment**, will be an avowal of allegiance to a power that is in opposition to God, the keeping of the true Sabbath, in obedience to God's law, is an evidence of loyalty to the Creator. **While one class, by accepting the sign of submission to earthly powers, receive the mark of the beast, the other choosing the token of allegiance to divine authority, receive the seal of God** (*The Great Controversy*, 1950, p. 605).

4. Then I was shown **a company who were howling in agony.** On their garments was written in large characters, "Thou art weighed in the balance, and found wanting." I asked who this company were. The angel said, **"These are they who have once kept the Sabbath and have given it up."** I heard them cry with a loud voice, "We have believed in Thy coming, and taught it with energy." And while they were speaking, their eyes would fall upon their garments and see the writing, and then they would wail aloud. I saw they had drunk of the deep waters, and fouled the residue with their feet -- **trodden the Sabbath underfoot -- and that was why they were weighed in the balance and found wanting** (*Early Writings*, p.37).

This undue emphasis on the Saturday Sabbath was not concocted for no reason. In order to appear as the remnant people of God in the last days, a

device was needed to fool the people. This idea was perfect as it dovetailed with their other mishandled scriptures. Additionally, the Sabbath matter was fuel for the fire as Adventists hurled anathemas at the Protestant churches for their Sunday worship. Once again this daughter of the Mother of all Harlots has learned well.

Nowhere in scripture is the Sabbath proclaimed as the seal of God on His people, nor as the final test for them. Once again, this strange doctrine is taken from Revelation 14:12 where a critical mistake is made by Adventists. The verse proclaims, *Here is the perseverance of the saints who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus.* As in all things written, words have meanings and we should seek to discover what they are before building our theology around them.

Initially one's first thought regarding the word commandments in verse 12 may be to connect it to the Ten Commandments of the OT. But how can we be sure that is the meaning the Lord intended? By going to the Greek we find the word used is *entele* which means *teaching*. Had the Lord been directing us back into the OT, He would have used the word *nomos* which means *law*. Simply put, we are to continue living our daily lives according to the teachings of Jesus. The reasons for this are, first, the Bible teaches it in 2John9: *Anyone who goes to far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God; the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son.* The second reason is we are to consider ourselves 'in Christ' who fulfilled the Law for us because we can't. Consider Galatians2:19-21, *For through the Law I died to the Law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me. I do not nullify the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the Law, then Christ died needlessly.*

There is a whole host of scripture speaking on this most critical subject of law vs. grace, so I will take it up again later under the section by the same name.

Does the Word teach us that keeping the Sabbath is the seal of God? No it does not. Rather, it was a sign between God and Israel only. The Adventists would have us believe that the Sabbath was instituted at creation but I challenge them to prove it by providing even one example from scripture of anyone keeping it from Adam to Moses. Since they cannot, Exodus 31:13 is where the Lord proclaims the Sabbath, actually all of the different Sabbaths, as a sign between Israel and Himself. What does the NT say about His people being sealed? That a sealing does exist, not with a day of rest, but rather with the Holy Spirit Himself, as Eph.1:13 ,2Cor. 1:22 and Rev.7 proclaim.

Even if the Adventists are right and we must keep the Sabbath in order to be saved at the Investigative Judgment, Christ would still be sufficient for us according to Hebrews 2 and 3. At this point it is critical to understand that the noun *Sabbath* means *rest* and does not refer to a certain day. Again something as simple as a dictionary clears up a lot of confusion. The OT saints, in keeping the Sabbath, only had the shadow of good things to come, but we have the substance that is Christ. Those in the OT who were not saved did not see that the Sabbaths pointed to Christ nor by faith believed, Heb. 2:18,19. Those in the age of grace should also fear if we do not enter in by faith, 3:1. There is a Sabbath rest for the people of God but not like the old Sabbath rest, 3:8,9. We enter it by faith in Jesus Christ our great high priest, 3:11,14. The Adventists are not our brothers in Christ because they refuse to enter into His rest by believing Jesus as all sufficient in His work for the believer. They insist on entering in by another door, the door of their own filthy works, and they will be thrown out by the Good Shepard because He never knew them or their works.

Law vs. Grace

*For by **grace** you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast, Eph. 2:8,9.*

*For if a **law** had been given which was able to impart life, then righteousness would indeed have been based on **law**. Gal.3:21b.*

Until now I have documented the roots of Adventism as well as stated several of their most heretical doctrines, while subsequently refuting them. There remains one base heresy that the true church has battled, and will battle, until the Lord returns. I use the inflammatory term *heresy* because every other so-called religion, Christian or otherwise, falls on that damnable side of the fence. I can state unequivocally that every last one of them are depending on their own works, (Law), to save them. No other religious system on earth can show they are depending on the free grace of a sovereign Lord to take them to heaven. True Christianity stands alone in this respect and is proof of its truth and divine origin. Unregenerate man hates the grace of God and would not, indeed, could not, devise God's free grace as the way to heaven.

Grace stands diametrically opposed to law and never the two shall meet. There are those who have attempted to do so. The Adventists and Catholics are two such examples. In fact, they speak out of both sides of their mouth. I don't care how much you mention the grace of God, if you make any statements that say, 'in addition to grace, you must.....', then by default, you are pinning your hopes of heaven on those additions to God's grace instead of grace itself.

The Fly in the Ointment

Rightly understanding this topic is critical, as the unbeliever outside the church does not, nor does the unbeliever within the visible church. Therefore, only the believer, the elect of God, will understand what the basis of true grace is, and the how and why of it's dispensing.

The conundrum begins with - what else - the idea of man's free will. Free-willers have turned the grace of God upside down, elevating themselves above the Lord, as well as distorting the plan of salvation. Although they won't admit it,

they have something to boast in, that is, their own wise choice to accept Jesus as Saviour. This makes their salvation of works but they are too blind to see it.

Our view is that man's will is not free, but is in fact a slave to its fallen nature. It is opposed to God, hates God, and by itself will not choose or accept God. Man's will does not supersede God's, nor does He allow man to make the final choice in salvation while He sits on His throne wishing and hoping for people to accept Him. God is not impotent in this matter. It should be realized that God's will is free and so is the grace that He gives to whomever He wills.

Let us now define grace and in so doing it should become clear that free will as well as works are diametrically opposed to God's grace.

Grace: "that which bestows or occasions pleasure, delight, or favorable regard. There is stress on its freeness and universality thus it is set in contrast with debt. (Ed. Note: free on the part of God to give it to whom He so wills, and universal in the sense that it is not for Israel only but for many in the whole world.)⁵

The Free-willers, (Adventists fall into this category), say that Christ died for all and that the grace of God that brings salvation was given to all men conditionally; that is, if you will receive it based on your free will decision. The main Scriptures they use are John 3:16, 1Pet. 3:7, 1Tim. 2:6, and Titus 2:11. While these passages by themselves certainly appear to prove their point, there are other verses that qualify them. Let me give an example.

1Timothy 2:6, (speaking of Christ), says, *who gave Himself a ransom for all, the testimony borne at the proper time.* 'Well, there it is', say the Free-willers! 'Christ died for all men and so all have the opportunity to believe and be saved.'

⁵ *Vines Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words.*

Had this been the only Bible verse speaking to the point we would heartily agree, but such is not the case.

Matthew 20:28 tells us that he came to give His life as a ransom for **many**. The word *many* qualifies the word *all* from the previous verse discussed. That being so, the word *all* cannot mean each and every individual for that would make the verse in Mathew a lie. The solution lays in the fact that the noun *all* means *all kinds of men*. In other words Jesus did not just die for the Jew, but for all kinds of men from every tongue, tribe, and nation. One other point, in case you should miss it, God repeats the statement in Mark 10:45. Looks like two against one to me!

The Free-willers ultimately want to put salvation into the hands of man. But salvation, (grace), is of the Lord. He dispenses it freely to whom He wills because that is precisely the definition of grace, and the Word concurs. See Rom. 9:11, for example. Those holding to free will distort the way in which grace is dispensed, relegating the Lord to the back seat, with man the driver.

The Free-willers do not see their so-called decision for Christ as a work, but how can it not be? They allegedly did it all by themselves and have something to boast in. If they are truly giving God the glory in salvation then give Him ALL the glory, which should include the realization that God gave them the ability to say, 'Yes,' to Jesus. This is why we say the Free-willers are against the grace of God, as well as those who take glory from Him, positing it on themselves, entrenching themselves further in the camp of Antichrist.

Having this mindset at the beginning, it is easy to fall further off the way God designed, falling into more grievous heresy. Such are the Adventists, as their free-willism has led them into a law-based religion.

An Adventist's Work Is Never Done

There is no daughter of the Mother of all harlots that touts the law like the Adventists. Grace does not just take a back seat with these people, it is practically non-existent. After perusing their official website at www.sda.org , I could find no mention of the noun, *grace*. Not upholding the grace of God as the means of salvation on their official website is very telling since talk of the Sabbath abounds. It shows their cunning in the matter.

The Adventists claim that law and grace work together for man's salvation. In their view, the law has a greater place in that salvation than merely to lead men to Christ. Here is a quote from one of their publications;

"The fact that all who are redeemed are saved by grace does not dispense with the law of God any more in the one dispensation than in the other. The law is not against grace, and grace is not against the law... Grace is not something that exists apart from the law, but by reason of the law. It is, therefore, foolishness to talk of one age as the dispensation of the law, and the other as the dispensation of grace, as if each existed at a different period of time from the other. Law and grace have existed side by side from the time man first sinned, and will stand together until man's probation closes."⁶

They also claim the ten commandments as the standard by which believers shall be judged:

"The law of God is the standard by which the characters and the lives of men will be tested in the judgment..... Those who in the judgment are 'accounted worthy' will have a part in the resurrection of the just."⁷

To summarize their position:

1. Law is compatible with grace.
2. Law is the standard upon which we build our lives.

⁶ Charles T. Everson, *Saved By Grace*, pp. 11,17

⁷ Ellen White, *The Great Controversy*, pp. 423-425

3. Law-keeping is the standard by which professing Christians will either be admitted or refused admission into Heaven.

Oh Foolish Adventists, Who Hath Bewitched You?

1. Law is compatible with grace.

To answer the first point, let's begin in Romans eleven. (Editor's Note: Bold type is added for emphasis.) Speaking of salvation the Lord says:

v.5 In the same way then, there has also come to be at the present time a remnant according to **God's gracious choice**.

v.6 But if it is by grace, **it is no longer** on the basis of works, otherwise grace is no more grace.

v.7 What then? That which Israel is seeking for, it has not obtained, but **those who were chosen** obtained it, **and the rest were hardened**.

Here in verse five we have a refutation of free will. God states His grace is given according to His choice. This leads to His negation of works, (law), since the two are incompatible. Law says, 'If you do this, you will get that.' It is conditional, but we all know salvation is unconditional. Romans 9:11 states:

v.11 For though the twins were not yet born, and **had not done anything good or bad**, in order that God's purpose according to **His choice** might stand, **not because of works**, but because of Him who calls.

Let's move on. Hebrews has a good point to make on this subject since it is all about contrasting the covenant of law vs. the covenant of grace. Hebrews 7 states:

v.12 For when the priesthood is changed, **of necessity** there takes place a change of law also.

V.16 Who has become such **not on the basis of a law of physical requirement**, but according to the power of an indestructible life.

v.28 For the law appoints men as high priests **who are weak**, but the word of the oath, which came **after the law**, appoints a Son, made perfect forever.

Since Jesus the Messiah has come and has fulfilled all that the Father had given Him to accomplish, things have changed. The emphasis is not on the law, but on Christ. The elect of God are placed 'in Christ', as Paul states over 120 times in the NT, and He becomes our righteousness and fulfillment of the strict requirements of the law. The gospel of John 1:16,17 states:

v.16 For of His fullness we have all received, and **grace** upon **grace**.

v.17 For the **law** was given through Moses; **grace** and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.

In v.16, the believer finds himself in Christ and in the very next verse a contrast is shown regarding law and grace. Which do you want to be under? Adventists are taught to ask us, '*So we don't have to keep the ten commandments anymore?*' They say this because we all know that stealing, covetousness, etc. is wrong, so it should follow that breaking the Sabbath is wrong also. Only the Holy Spirit can open the eyes of one born blind.

One final point need be made since the Adventists insist on drawing us back to the Law. In Matt 9, Mark 2, and Luke 5, the disciples are asking Jesus why He does things differently than the Pharisees. His answer tells them that He is different and is bringing new light and a new covenant of faith based on grace.

Therefore let us not put this new wine (grace) into an old wineskin (law), or a new patch on an old garment. Why? Everything will be ruined. The Adventists sadly fail to see this and will themselves end in ruin because law is not compatible with grace.

2. Law is the standard we build our lives on.

Are you so foolish? Having begun by the **Spirit** are you now being perfected by the **flesh**? Gal. 3:3. But I say walk by the **Spirit** and you will not carry out the desire of the **flesh**. Gal. 5:16. But if you are led by the **Spirit**, you are not under the **Law**. Gal. 5:18.

The point here is this: our standard is Jesus Christ, His person, His work. We are imitators of Christ through the Spirit of Christ and not by law keeping. Galatians 6:13-18 says it all:

V.13 For those who are circumcised do not even keep the Law themselves, but they desire to have you circumcised, that they may boast in your flesh.

v.14 But may it never be that I should boast, except in the **cross of our Lord Jesus Christ**, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

v.15 For neither is circumcision anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation.

v.16 And those who will walk by this **rule**, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.

v.17 From now on, **let no one cause trouble for me**, for I bear on my body the brand-marks of Jesus.

v.18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

The rule, or standard, spoken of in v.16 is referring back to the gospel of v. 14, which again is achieved by the grace of God in our spirit. The only thing law-keeping proves is that they who promote it are hypocrites, since they do not keep

the law themselves and they cause trouble for those who are the true seed of Christ.

3. Law keeping is what God will judge believers on to enter heaven.

Lets take a look at Revelation 20:4-6:

V.4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of the testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshipped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark upon their forehead and upon their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

v.5 The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection.

v.6 Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.

The first Christians who attain to the blessed and holy first resurrection are the martyrs. The second group are those who;

1. Have the testimony of Jesus.
2. Kept the word of God.
3. Did not worship the beast or his image.
4. Did not receive his mark on their forehead or hand.

Of course, the martyrs fulfill those four points as well. Why they died and what they believed has been fully documented by Foxe as well as this ministry. I can assure you of this, there is not one word in their testimony of having kept the law, nor is law-keeping the reason for the hope which lies within them.

Conclusion: Adventists Will Not Attain Heaven

This last section will summarize what has already been said and will address the purpose for this article as well.

1. The origins of Adventism are bound up in two false prophets. Since it is the truth that sets us free, there is no hope for them.
2. They hold strange *unbiblical* doctrines such as the Investigative Judgment. Like Nadab and Abihu, who offered up strange fire, destruction is their fate.
3. Adventists hold law in higher esteem than Grace. Therefore, they are not esteemed by the Judge of all the earth, having no part in the holy and blessed first resurrection.

Why Adventists Name the Pope as the Antichrist

The reason they name the Pope as the Antichrist is simply to support their view of the Saturday Sabbath.

First, it is likely the founders stumbled upon the doctrine of Antichrist and accepted it because it helped them become the so-called remnant church. In their eyes the Mark of the Beast is Sunday worship, a view no one else had held until then. It is blasphemous to invent doctrine piecemeal as did William Miller, and then compound the error through further false prophecies given by Bates, White, et al. Rather than prove the Adventists were taught by the Spirit of God, these false prophecies prove they were used by the Master of Deception to discredit the Historicist view of the Revelation.

Secondly, if they really believed in what they taught concerning Antichrist, why not fight against him more vigorously? A cult of their size, with their resources, (their publishing houses are huge!), could do some real damage to the kingdom of Antichrist. Instead, they are more interested in winning converts over to a system of dead works than in any real truth.

Thirdly, this article was written to expose the Adventists for who they really are due to their use/misuse of the prophetic word. Their reliance on the Reformers, the Puritans, and martyrs will not save them either. If one agrees with

the Reformers that the Papacy is the Antichrist, why not accept the rest of their solid doctrine as well? Allow me to illustrate.

What the Reformers believed

1. Sovereign grace of God.
2. Salvation by grace alone.
3. Free to worship on Sunday.
4. A literal, eternal hell.
5. Reliance on the Word alone.
6. All foods are good if received with thanks.
7. Refused to name dates for Christ's return.
8. New nothing of an investigative judgment.
9. Absolute Predestination.
10. Never allowed a woman to teach.
11. Experienced persecution for the faith.
12. Mark of the Beast =

Obedience to the Pope in doctrine and works.

13. Name of the Beast = Lateinos .
14. Beast from the earth = Antichrist or his false prophet.
15. The greatest theologians since the apostles.
16. Changed the course of Western civilization.

What Adventists believe

1. Freewill of man.
2. Salvation by keeping the Law.
3. Must worship on Saturday.
4. Annihilation of the wicked.
5. Reliance on Ellen White.
6. Strict dietary laws.
7. Named several dates for His return.
8. Is a major tenet to their belief system.
9. Denial of Absolute Predestination.
10. Women have headship in their church.
11. Have never experienced persecution.
12. Mark of Beast = Sunday Sabbath.

13. Vicar of the Son of God.

14. Beast from earth = America.
15. Have spawned no great theologians.
16. Made no change in our civilization.

So we see the Adventists appealing to the Reformers for very little indeed. It now becomes obvious to the most casual observer that the naming of the Pope as the Man of Sin was only done to further their own prideful goals rather than seek the truth as God had so carefully revealed it to the historic church.

Last but not least, they are proving themselves to be hypocrites in their teaching by having dialogue and fellowship with the Little Horn of Daniel. For

proof, go to our Antichrist Family Photo Album.....
<http://www.iconbusters.com/iconbusters/antichrist/31-figure.htm>.

Scroll down to the last picture of Dr. Bert B. Beach, the Director of Inter-church Relations for the SDA. Here you will find he attended a conference hosted by the very beast he/they allegedly oppose. A golden opportunity was at hand to stand up and point out to all that this man of sin is that very Antichrist predicted in the Scriptures.

One final goal to this article should be mentioned. We would hope and pray that all Adventists who have taken the time to read these words would, with an open mind consider them, pray about the points raised, and ultimately come to a true saving knowledge of the grace of God. We would then welcome them as our brothers in Christ and gladly fight along side of them in the battle with the Man of Sin.

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