

"SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS"

(Modern Day Judaizers)



The Development of the Movement:

Founder: William Miller (1782-1849)

Ellen G. White became the pillar of the movement by means of "revelations" she received on Bible interpretation.

Is Seventh Day Adventism a cult? Yes, for the following reasons:

1. Adventism holds the writings of E.G. White as authoritative.

Ellen G. White's writings are placed on par with the Scriptures

Strange prophecies and teachings of Ellen G. White:

- a. She is claimed to have been a "prophet" and to have to "gift of prophecy" ("Seventh Day Adventists believe . . . A Biblical Exposition of 27 Fundamental Doctrines" [March, 1989], p. 224-228)
- b. She had a "vision" and taught what she called the "shut door" doctrine
- c. She taught a "Health Reform" gospel
--"The Gospel includes health reform in all its phases" (Selected Messages, Vol. 3, p. 75)

2. Adventism claims exclusivity

They alone avoid the "mark of the Beast" by observing the Sabbath. They alone are the "remnant church."

3. Adventism teaches the doctrine of "Soul Sleep"

(that believers exist in a state of unconsciousness until Resurrection Day.)

4. Adventism denies Hell and teaches the doctrine of "Conditional Immortality"

Only believers will exist forever; unbelievers will be annihilated (Questions on Doctrine, p. 543).

5. Adventism teaches the doctrine of Investigative Judgment

Since Christ did not return in 1844 as predicted, Adventism declared that in a sense He partially came (He entered into the second compartment of Heaven's Holy of Holies in 1844), so as to begin what is called "Investigative Judgment."

This "investigation" by Christ is to see who is worthy of eternal life.

Adventists teach that 1844 came to be the date when a work of "final atonement" began which would blot out a believers' sin.

6. Adventism teaches that our sins were laid on Satan, who, as the "scapegoat," will bear them (The Great Controversy)

The Bible teaches that our sins were laid on Christ (Is. 53:6, 12; I Pet. 2:24; II Cor. 5:21). Christ is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world (Jn. 1:29).

7. Adventists view themselves as bound to keep "The Law" of the Old

Testament

They restrict the Old Testament Law to the Ten Commandments, but God nowhere restricts His Law to ten.

8. Adventists teach total abstinence from "*unclean meats*"

(Such meats as pork, ham, shrimp, lobster, and clams, etc., are forbidden based on Lev. 11.)

9. Adventists make the Saturday Sabbath of extreme importance in their plan of salvation

--The Sabbath was only for the nation of Israel (Ex.31:12-18; Deut.5:15; Ezek. 20:12).

--The Sabbath was only a shadow of the reality which is in Christ (Col. 2:16, 17).

--The Sabbath was not an issue over which Christians should judge one another (Rom. 14:4-5).

--Paul seriously questioned the salvation of those who depended on keeping of Sabbaths and holidays for salvation (Ga. 4:9-11).

--The early church met on Sunday, evidently in commemoration of the Lord's resurrection (Acts 20:7; I Cor. 16:2).

--There is no command for New Testament Christians to keep the Saturday Sabbath. (See: Romans 13:9)

If we are required to keep the Sabbath, then we must keep it exactly as God commanded -

- no fire kindled in your house (Exod. 35:3)
- no baking or boiling done (Exod. 16:23)
- no burden to be borne (Jer. 17:21)
- no work at all (Exod. 31:14)
- no departure from your house (Exod. 16:29)
- stoning for violation (Num. 15:32-36)

10. Adventism has contaminated grace with extreme legalism and works.

- 1) We are saved by grace not works of the Law (Gal. 2:16, 21; 3:10-13)
- 2) Our works of the flesh cannot save us or even help keep us saved (Gal. 3:1-3)
- 3) We are liberated from legalism in Christ (Gal. 2:4; 5:1)
- 4) Let us glory only in the cross (Gal. 6:14)

How to Witness to Seventh Day Adventists:

- 1) Know their doctrine
(their deviations are subtle)
- 2) Give them the Gospel
(emphasize the finished work of Christ)
They don't have any assurance of salvation.
- 3) Stress their need to separate from the S.D.A. church (Rom. 16:17)