

Bible verses - The
“Testimonies”
A search for
Harmony?

**Ten Questions Seventh Day
Adventists should prayerfully
consider**

Proverbs 18:13

He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is
folly and shame unto him.

KJV

Foreword

This booklet is aimed at fostering thought provoking biblical study in a quest to find light through biblical facts to some of the theological shadows that have been cast upon us as a people. However, I am aware that there are some among us who, no matter what, will never make an extensive study of the theological positions we hold, because they ardently believe we have the truth. However, if you believe that the Bible is the standard of all doctrine, and that we are commissioned by God to test all our doctrine according to scripture, then viewing our doctrinal positions in light of what the Bible actually states should hold for us no fear or trepidation. If you are a believer in the virtues of Christian sincerity and honesty, then this booklet will only draw you deeper into the Word of God as you search the scriptures in the quest for truth.

Fact or Fiction?

As Seventh Day Adventists, we firmly believe that all our doctrinal positions can be substantiated and supported by the Word of God. To put it simply, if the Bible does not clearly state something, we do not teach it. If you are in full agreement with this statement, as I am sure most Seventh Day Adventist are, then there is nothing to warrant concern or to be feared in taking action to measure some of our doctrinal positions against the Word of God in an effort to strengthen some of our current doctrinal positions. After all, our pioneers so firmly believed this, that they coined the idea that we are a “movement” and that when “greater light” comes, we continue to move in the direction of “present truth”.

As sincere members of the Seventh Day Adventist Church, we have a moral responsibility to our Lord and Saviour to measure all our doctrinal positions against the unchanging Word of God to make sure that both are in harmony, one with the other. If our enquiries reveal that some of our positions cannot be supported by Scripture, then we must ask the question whether or not what we believe, in these specific areas, is biblical fact or spiritual fiction.

But first I must make a confession...

As a devout Seventh Day Adventist, I embarked upon this journey with a pre-mindset drenched in spiritual pride and arrogance and was greatly blinded by a spirit similar to that that had overtaken the Jews of old at the visitation of the Messiah. Much to my shame, I admit that I was immune to instruction from on high, as I knew that I already had “the truth”. Yet, as He opened before me an understanding based solely upon His written word, I found myself holding another measuring rod in my hand that could manipulate and reinterpret the Word of God to suit my current doctrinal understanding and all the present truth that I held so dear. I had spent decades proclaiming to other Christians that, as a church, “we have the truth” and I had heard that sentence said so many times in my lackadaisical spirit that I had failed to study the Bible objectively for myself.

It is true that I had “read my Bible”, but I had not studied it with a mind willing to be instructed by the Holy Spirit, having preferred to choose copious amounts of teachers and their words, thoughts and ideas. However, this was not my greater shame. No, what makes me shiver, even now, was the fact that I thought it was even sinful to question my church’s position on these matters.

I still remember the feeling of guilt and shame as I began to diligently search the Scriptures in order to prove that our doctrinal positions were correct, since I

always “knew” there was no need for this. I remembered reading an old statement written by James White in which he stated that all our doctrine was to stand upon the Bible, and the Bible only, and that if we ever deviated from this, we ceased to exist as a people.

However, much water had passed under the bridge since James White made this early statement, and I also recalled another statement that the last great deception was to question the inspiration of the testimonies. Whilst I was not one that was greatly read in the writings of Ellen White, I had no reason to doubt or question her inspiration. Looking at some of her more obscure statements made down throughout the years, I had learnt to process them in light of the present truth and relevance and context of the day. I had learnt to believe that there are things that she had written that were not for publication and that men and women had elevated her to a position that she, herself, had condemned and that her writings had been misused and abused.

It was for this reason that I stayed more focused upon the main books of “inspiration”. Books like ‘The Great Controversy’, ‘The Desire of Ages’ and ‘Patriarchs and Prophets’. It is therefore with this understanding that the writings of Ellen White were by no means a catalyst for my biblical enquiry. It was not until I embarked upon opening up the Word of God, actually studying for myself, to see whether or not some of our doctrinal positions could be substantiated by Scripture alone, did the writings of Ellen White get called into question.

It is because of all these facts that I ask you, dear reader, to look only at what the Bible **actually** says and whether or not there is any biblical substance to some of the more particular doctrinal positions that we teach. I also implore you, that if you find that the Scriptures can support these positions that I personally have been unable to find any biblical line and verse for, that you would, in Christian love and kindness, show me the error of my way. However, if biblical evidence cannot be found to support these important doctrinal positions, we must then ask, upon what basis, do we believe them to be true if they are not supported by Scripture? Furthermore, if diligent, honest and sincere biblical study reveals that they are not supported by the Word of God, but are in complete disharmony with what the Bible actually states, then what should be our only logical conclusion to such findings?

Below are 10 questions that I ask you to read, research and to ponder with a prayerful heart and an open Bible and a mind willing to be instructed by the Spirit of God, according to what His Word **actually** says. Please pray that God will guide you into all truth.

Ten Questions Seventh Day Adventists

should prayerfully consider:

1. Does the “blood of the sacrifice” **cleanse**, or does it convey defilement into Holy Places in the Sanctuary? *Page 6*
2. When the Bible uses the term “*within the veil*”, does it refer to the movement through the door that separated the Holy place and from the outer court, therefore “**within the veil**” means the **Holy place first apartment**, or does it refer to the movement from the Holy place through the veil into the Most Holy Place therefore “**within the veil means**” there for the **Most Holy Place second apartment**? *Page 8*
3. Did the priest enter into the holy place **daily** with the blood of the sacrifice or only on specified occasions? *Page 14*
4. Is there any evidence that the Jewish religious system celebrated the Day of Atonement on the **22nd of October 1844**? *Page 19*
5. Did Ellen White have revealed **through vision** that God had **shut the door of mercy**? *Page 22*
6. Does the Bible describe the **seventh day Sabbath** as God’s seal? *Page 28*
7. Why Was the Preaching of a “Definite Time” for the Day and Hour to Be “Known” of Christ’s Return justifiable for the Year 1844? *Page 33*
8. Is Jesus Christ also Michael the Arch Angel? *Page 41*
9. Did God the Father orchestrate the plan of redemption **before the foundation** of the world, or was it instigated by Jesus Christ and His intercessory pleading with God the Father **after the fall** of man? *Page 44*
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1. Does the “blood of the sacrifice” cleanse, or does it convey defilement into Holy Places in the Sanctuary?

Ellen White Stated...

But how could there be sin connected with the sanctuary, either in heaven or upon the earth? {FLB 206.5}

As the sins of the people were anciently transferred, in figure, to the earthly **sanctuary by the blood of the sin offering, so our sins are, in fact, transferred to the heavenly sanctuary by the blood of Christ.** {FLB 206.6}

It is important that we understand that the blood of the sacrifice, as depicted in the Old Testament, always pointed forward to the sinless, perfect life of Jesus Christ, who would give up his own life for the salvation of souls. The Bible states that “life is in the blood.

1 John 5:11-12 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, **and this life is in his Son.** 12 He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. KJV

**How is it possible that the blood could be “sin laden” in relation to the Sanctuary doctrine? **

Lev 6:25-27

Speak unto Aaron and to his sons, saying, This is the law of the sin offering: In the place where the burnt offering is killed shall the sin offering be killed before the Lord: **it is most holy.** 26 The priest that offereth it for sin shall eat it: in the holy place shall it be eaten, in the court of the tabernacle of the congregation. 27 Whatsoever shall touch the flesh thereof **shall be holy:** KJV

Lev 17:11-12 For **the life of the flesh is in the blood:** and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: **for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.** 12 Therefore I said unto the children of Israel, No soul of you shall eat blood, neither shall any stranger that sojourneth among you eat blood. KJV

**The Bible states...*

Rev 7:14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made **them white in the blood of the Lamb.** KJV

Heb 9:22

And according to the law **almost all things are purified with blood**, and without shedding of blood there is no remission. NKJV

Ex 34:25

Thou shalt not **offer the blood of my sacrifice with leaven;** KJV

Ex 30:10

And Aaron shall make an atonement **upon the horns** of it once in a year **with the blood of the sin offering** of atonements: once in the year shall he make atonement upon it throughout your generations: **it is most holy unto the Lord.** KJV

1 Peter 1:18-19

Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; **19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:** KJV

Heb 10:2-4

Or then would they not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, **once purified**, would have had no more consciousness of sins. 3 But in those sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. 4 For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats **could take away sins.** NKJV

**As intelligent Christians, we must ask whether not there is even one biblical text found anywhere in God's word that can substantiate the belief that the blood of the sacrifice Most Holy was a medium for transporting sin into the sanctuary. Therefore, is the understanding that our sins are, in fact, transferred to the heavenly sanctuary by the blood of Christ, a biblical fact or spiritual fiction? You decide. **

2. *When the Bible uses the term “**within the veil**”, does it refer to the movement through the door that separated the Holy place from the outer court, therefore “**within the veil**” means the Holy place first apartment, or does it refer to the movement from the Holy place through the veil into the Most Holy Place therefore “**within the veil means**” there for the Most Holy Place second apartment?*

Ellen White stated...

The ministration of the priest throughout the year in the first apartment of the sanctuary, “*within the veil*” which formed the door and separated the holy place from the outer court, represents the work of ministration upon which Christ entered at his ascension. {GC88 420.3}.

Note: the specifics mentioned in the texts which leave no doubt as to which apartment is mentioned.

However, the Bible verses state ...

Ex. 26:33.

'And thou shalt hang up the veil under the taches, that thou mayest bring in thither within the veil the ark of the testimony: and the veil shall divide unto you between the holy place and the most holy.'

Lev. 16:2

And the Lord said unto Moses, Speak unto Aaron thy brother that he come not at all times into the holy place within the veil before the mercy seat, which is upon the ark that he die not: for I will appear in the cloud upon the mercy seat.

Lev. 16:12 And he shall take a censer full of burning coals of fire from off the altar before the Lord, and his hands full of sweet incense beaten small, and bring it **within the veil.**

Lev. 16:15.

And he shall kill the goat of the sin offering that is for the people, and bring his blood **within the veil.** and do with his blood as he did with the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle it upon the mercy seat, and before the mercy seat.

'Therefore thou and thy sons with thee shall keep your priest's office for everything of the altar, and **within the veil.**' Num. 18:7

'And thou shalt set the table (of shew bread) **without the veil.**' Ex. 26:35

'And thou shalt command the children of Israel that they bring thee pure olive oil beaten for the light, to cause the lamp to burn always in the tabernacle of the congregation, **without the veil,** which is before the testimony.' Ex. 27:20, 21

'And he put the table in the tent of the congregation, upon the side of the tabernacle northward **without the veil.**' Ex. 40:22

'And he put the golden altar in the tent of the congregation **before the veil.**' Ex. 40:26

'And the priest that is anointed shall take of the bullock's blood, and bring it to the tabernacle of the congregation: and the priest shall dip his finger in the blood and sprinkle of the blood seven times before the Lord, **before the veil** of the Sanctuary.' Lev. 4:5, 6

'And the priest that is anointed shall bring of the bullock's blood to the tabernacle of the congregation, and the priest shall dip his finger in some of the blood, and sprinkle it seven times before the Lord, even **before the veil.**' Lev. 4:17

'And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Command the children of Israel that they bring thee pure olive oil beaten for light, to cause the lamps to burn continually **without the veil** of the testimony, in the tabernacle of the congregation.' Lev. 24:1-3.

**When I realised that there was no scriptural support for within the veil meaning the first apartment, I researched to see if any other Seventh Day Adventist had ever come to the same revelation. What I discovered shocked me, as what I had discovered was not a new light but an old one that had once burned bright but unfortunately had been put out. **

The following statement was written by a man by the name of Albion Ballenger in a letter to Ellen White in the year 1909. Albion Ballenger states:

Five times the Lord uses the term 'within the veil', and in every case it is applied to the second apartment of the sanctuary, and not to the first. Seven times the Lord uses the terms 'without the veil,' and 'before the veil,' and in every instance he applies it to the first apartment or tabernacle of the congregation, and never to the court outside of the door of the tabernacle. But if 'within the veil' applies to the *first apartment* as you teach in your interpretation of Heb. 6:19,20, then the term 'without the veil' must apply to the space in the court outside the tabernacle door. Every one of these seven scriptures which plainly state that "without the veil" and "before the veil" is in the first apartment, is a divine witness to the truth that "within the veil" in Heb. 6:19,20, *must* apply to the second apartment.

There are therefore twelve witnesses, a twelve-fold 'thus saith the Lord' testifying that the term 'within the veil' refers to the holy of holies, and not to the first apartment of the heavenly sanctuary as you assert. ...

And now Sister White, what can I do? If I accept the testimony of the Scriptures, if I follow my conscientious convictions, I find myself under your condemnation; and you call me a wolf in sheep's clothing, and warn my brethren and the

members of my family against me. But when I turn in my sorrow to the Word of the Lord, that Word reads the same, and I fear to reject God's interpretation and accept yours. Oh that I might accept both. But if I must accept but one, hadn't I better accept the Lord's? If I reject his word and accept yours, can you save me in the judgment? When side by side we stand before the great white throne; if the Master should ask me why I taught that 'within the veil' was in the first apartment of the sanctuary, what shall I answer? Shall I say, 'Because Sister White, who claimed to be commissioned to interpret the Scriptures for me, told me that this was the true interpretation, and that if I did not accept it and teach it I would rest under your condemnation?'

Cast Out for the Cross of Christ. A. F. Ballenger 1909

Unfortunately, Ellen White's response to Albion Ballenger's "vast array of Biblical verses" in support of his doctrinal position was one of public condemnation.

Ellen White stated ...

And now again our Brother Ballenger is presenting theories **that cannot be substantiated by the Word of God.** It will be one of the great evils that will come to our people to have the Scriptures taken out of their true place and so interpreted as to substantiate error that contradicts the light **and the testimonies** that God has been giving us for the past half century. {MR760 4.2}

Ellen White also stated...

The time is worse than lost in spinning out theories **that are not sustained in the Bible** to vindicate such errors. I am instructed to say to Elder Ballenger, Your theories, which have multitudes of fine threads and need so many explanations, are not truth, and are not to be brought to the flock of God. The good that you and your associates might have received at this meeting, you have not received. God

forbids your course of action-- making the blessed Scriptures, by grouping them in your way, to testify to build up a falsehood. {MR760 4.3}

****In addition to this, there was a special conference that was convened to investigate the matter, which ironically could not fault his biblical thesis.****

Ellen White stated...

In clear, plain language I am to say to those in attendance at this conference [the General Conference of 1905] that Brother Ballenger has been allowing his mind to receive and believe specious error. . . . God has not indited the message that he is bearing. This message, if accepted, would undermine the pillars of our faith.--Ms 62, 1905, pp. 1, 2. ("A Warning Against False Theories," Talk, May 24, 1905.) {8MR 244.3}

I testify in the name of the Lord that Elder Ballenger is led by satanic agencies and spiritualistic, invisible leaders. Those who have the guidance of the Holy Spirit will turn away from these seducing spirits.--Ms 59, 1905. ("The Sabbath Truth in the Sentinel, and Elder Ballenger's Views," May 20, 1905.) {MR760 4.4}

If the theories that Brother Ballenger presents were received, they would lead many to depart from the faith. They would counterwork the truths upon which the people of God have stood for the past fifty years. I am bidden to say in the name of the Lord that Elder Ballenger is following a false light. The Lord has not given him the message that he is bearing regarding the sanctuary service. {MR760 10.2}

Our Instructor spoke words to Brother Ballenger: "You are bringing in confusion and perplexity by your interpretation of the Scriptures. You think that you have been given new light, but your light will become darkness to those who receive it. {MR760 10.3}

****Why? Because it would mean that the 1844 great disappointment explanation of Christ changing apartment in the heavenly sanctuary would have no biblical foundation and therefore, would undermine the central pillar on which the church was built.****

Was Ellen White aware of what she was doing when she stated? ...

The Word of God is always the truth, but the doctrines that Elder Ballenger advances, if received, would unsettle our faith in the sanctuary question. Already Elder Ballenger has **mystified minds** by his **large array of texts**. These texts are true, but he has placed them where they do not belong. {MR760 15.2}

The light on the sanctuary question was given by the Spirit of God, and we who passed through the disappointment of 1844 can testify to the light that was then given on the sanctuary question. Elder Ballenger needs to rest awhile and cease to sow the tares which will lead our people on a false track. As the messenger of God, I am to bear no hesitating message on this subject. {MR760 15.3}

Elder Ballenger does not see what he is trying to bring to pass. The message that Christ came to give to John on the Isle of Patmos needs now to be carefully studied by Elder Ballenger, for these words of warning tell us that men will arise claiming to have new light, whose theories, if received, would destroy our faith in the truths that have stood the test for half a century. We need to study and understand the message given in the third chapter of Revelation. {MR760 15.4}

[Revelation 3:1-3 quoted.] {MR760 15.5}

This is a work to be done. There is need for Elder Ballenger to humble his soul before God **and to refuse to receive new interpretations of the Scriptures**. We have had to meet many men who have come with just such interpretations, seeking to establish **false theories** and unsettling the minds of many by their readiness to talk, and by **their great array of texts** which they have misapplied to suit their own ideas. {MR760 15.6}

So then I asked, does the Bible offer up even one verse to substantiate the belief that within the veil refers to the first apartment of the sanctuary ?

Ellen White stated...

The ministration of the priest throughout the year in the first apartment of the sanctuary, “within the veil” which formed the door and separated the holy place from the outer court, represents the work of ministration upon which Christ entered at his ascension. {GC88 420.3}.

Is such a belief biblical fact or spiritual fiction? You decide.

3. *Did the priest enter into the holy place **daily** with the blood of the sacrifice or only on specified occasions?*

Ellen white stated...

The priest ministered in both apartments of the earthly. **He went daily into the first apartment**, but entered the most holy only once a year, to cleanse it from the sins which had been conveyed there. I saw that Jesus ministered in both apartments of the heavenly sanctuary. The priests entered into the earthly with the blood of an animal as an offering for sin. {EW 252.2}

If Ellen White's statement, that the testimonies never contradict the Word of God, is indeed true, then we must be able to find biblical evidence to support the statement above.

The Bible states...

Lev 4:22-25

1. Lev 4:3-6

If the priest that is anointed do sin according to the sin of the people; then let him bring for his sin, which he hath sinned, a young bullock without blemish unto the Lord for a sin offering,⁴ And he shall bring the bullock unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the Lord; and shall lay his hand upon the bullock's head, and kill the bullock before the Lord.⁵ And the priest that is anointed shall take of the bullock's blood, **and bring it to the tabernacle** of the congregation:⁶ And the priest shall dip his finger in the blood, and sprinkle of the blood seven times before the Lord, **before the vail of the sanctuary.**

2. Lev 4:13-17

And if the whole congregation of Israel sin through ignorance, and the thing be hid from the eyes of the assembly, and they have done somewhat against any of the commandments of the Lord concerning things which should not be done, and are guilty;

¹⁴ When the sin, which they have sinned against it, is known, then the congregation shall offer a young bullock for the sin, and bring him before the

tabernacle of the congregation.15 And the elders of the congregation shall lay their hands upon the head of the bullock before the Lord: and the bullock shall be killed before the Lord.16 And the priest that is anointed shall bring of the bullock's blood to the tabernacle of the congregation:17 And the priest shall dip his finger in some of the blood, **and sprinkle it seven times before the Lord, even before the vail.**KJV

3. Lev 16:3-6

Thus shall Aaron come into the holy place: with a young bullock for a sin offering, and a ram for a burnt offering.4 He shall put on the holy linen coat, and he shall have the linen breeches upon his flesh, and shall be girded with a linen girdle, and with the linen mitre shall he be attired: these are holy garments; therefore shall he wash his flesh in water, and so put them on.5 And he shall take of the congregation of the children of Israel two kids of the goats for a sin offering, and one ram for a burnt offering.6 And Aaron shall offer his bullock of the sin offering, which is for himself, and make an atonement for himself, and for his house.KJV

4. Lev 9:8-9

Aaron therefore went unto the altar, and slew the calf **of the sin offering**, which was for himself.9 And the sons of Aaron brought the blood unto him: and he dipped his finger in the blood, and put it upon the horns of the altar, and **poured out the blood at the bottom of the altar:** KJV

Deut 12:26-27

Only thy holy things which thou hast, and thy vows, thou shalt take, and go unto the place which the Lord shall choose:27 And thou shalt offer thy burnt offerings, the flesh and the blood, upon the altar of the Lord thy God: and **the blood of thy sacrifices shall be poured out upon the altar** of the Lord thy God, and thou shalt eat the flesh. KJV

**Comment: It is of vital importance to ask ourselves why it is so significant that Aaron should go daily into the Holy Place, according to the teaching of our Sanctuary Doctrine. The answer is we need to understand that according to the Bible, the blood of the sacrifice was daily poured out at the foot of the altar in the outer court. It then becomes very difficult to make Christ match the anti-typical heavenly sanctuary of the Aaronic ministry as Ellen White clearly stated.*

There was only three specific occasions on which Aaron carried the blood of the sacrifice into the Holy Place. Where, then, is means of escape from the 1844 confusion? For there is no outer court in heaven when the book of Hebrews tells us that Christ did not enter into Holy Places made with hands but into heaven itself (Hebrews 9:24). When we carefully survey this, we can clearly see the theological confusion pertaining to the Sanctuary Doctrine, which causes perversion and violence to the Holy Word of God.

Therefore, in order to remain loyal to the doctrine, we must wilfully lay aside the Word of God, lest we adopt a differing interpretation to the text, which would lead us away from the Council of the testimonies of Ellen White. The fact is, this error has been known to our denominational leaders for well over 100 years, yet still we continue to preach and teach that which they know is not derived from the Word of God.

*I urge you to prayerfully read the first nine chapters of the book of Leviticus, noting in part the burnt sacrifice 1:3-5; the peace offering 3:1-8; the case of the ruler committing sin, 4:22-25; the common people, 4: 27-34; and the trespass offering 5:6.**

Ellen White stated...

Testimonies Never Contradict the Bible.--The Bible must be your counselor. Study it and the testimonies God has given; for they never contradict His Word.--Letter 106, 1907. {3SM 32.3}

Were all sin types atoned for through the sanctuary service or was it only sins of ignorance?

**In the statement made by Ellen White below, the generality of all sin types being brought to the sanctuary by the repentant sinner speaks contrary to the clear distinction between the sins of ignorance and wilful sin. **

Ellen White stated...

Such was the work that went on, **day by day**, throughout the year. The sins of Israel were thus transferred to the sanctuary, and a special work became necessary for their removal. God commanded that an atonement be made for each of the sacred apartments. {GC 418.2}

The Bible states...

Num 15:27-30

And if any soul sin through ignorance, then he shall bring a she goat of the first year for a sin offering.²⁸ And the priest shall make an atonement for the soul that sinneth ignorantly, when he sinneth by ignorance before the Lord, to make an atonement for him; and it shall be forgiven him.²⁹ Ye shall have one law for him that sinneth through ignorance, both for him that is born among the children of Israel, and for the stranger that sojourneth among them.³⁰ **But the soul that doeth ought presumptuously**, whether he be born in the land, or a stranger, the same reproacheth the Lord; and **that soul shall be cut off from among his people**.KJV

**In comprehending this clear biblical fact, concerns are alleviated that one may have pertaining to cheap grace. Why? Because the New Testament reinforces this Old Testament teaching, which reveals how the Holy Spirit can be grieved within us. **

Heb 10:26-29

For if we **sin wilfully** after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, **there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins**,²⁷ But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.²⁸ He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses:²⁹ Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace? KJV

**Comment: Rather than aligning with Ellen White that Jesus Christ does not make atonement for wilful sin, the above biblical statement states that Jesus Christs made atonement for all sin types at calvary, but if we continually*

wilfully sin after we come to the knowledge of the truth, we then grieve Holy Spirit by whom we have been sealed onto the day of redemption. This is known as the unpardonable sin. Why? Because we have failed to listen to the very convicting power in our life that magnifies our transgression against the law and convicts us of sin.

*We have become numb to the influence of the Holy Spirit's instruction. The Bible states that many of the children of Israel had to bear their own iniquity, as it was only sins of ignorance that could be atoned for through the sanctuary service. It also explains why all the sins of Israel were atoned for on the Day of Atonement. The reason is that the Jewish person, who was defiled by illness or wilful sin, and the Gentiles within the earth, could be reconciled back to God through the precious blood of Jesus Christ. **

Ellen White stated ...

GOD MAKES ABUNDANT PROVISION FOR SINS OF IGNORANCE, BUT **HE MAKES NO PROVISION FOR WILLFUL SINS.** {RH, May 19, 1903 par. 2} *she was not inclusive to the understanding that those wilful sins are atoned for by Christ's Atonement and that the text states that "if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins".*

Ellen White stated...

If the Testimonies speak not according to the word of God, reject them. Christ and Belial cannot be united.--Testimonies, vol. 5, p. 691. {3SM 32.4}

**The quest remains to find even one text found anywhere in the Word of God that Aaron went daily into the first apartment with the blood of the sacrifice. Therefore: Is this statement that Aaron went daily into the first apartment a biblical fact or spiritual fiction? You decide. **

4. *Is there any evidence that the Jewish religious system celebrated the Day of Atonement on the 22nd of October 1844?*

**I naively and confidently began to find a Jewish calendar that would show that Yom Kippur had fallen on the 22nd of October of the year 1844. Yet what I found was not so. Instead, I discovered that professors of Jewish history had published calendars and research that indicated that the Day of Atonement fell on the 23rd of September of the year 1844. **

Ellen White stated...

The blood of Jesus was then shed, which was to be offered by Himself in the heavenly sanctuary. As the priest entered the most holy once a year to cleanse the earthly sanctuary, so Jesus entered the most holy of the heavenly, at the end of the 2300 days of Daniel 8, in 1844, **to make a final atonement** for all who could be benefited by His mediation, and thus to cleanse the sanctuary. {EW 253.1}

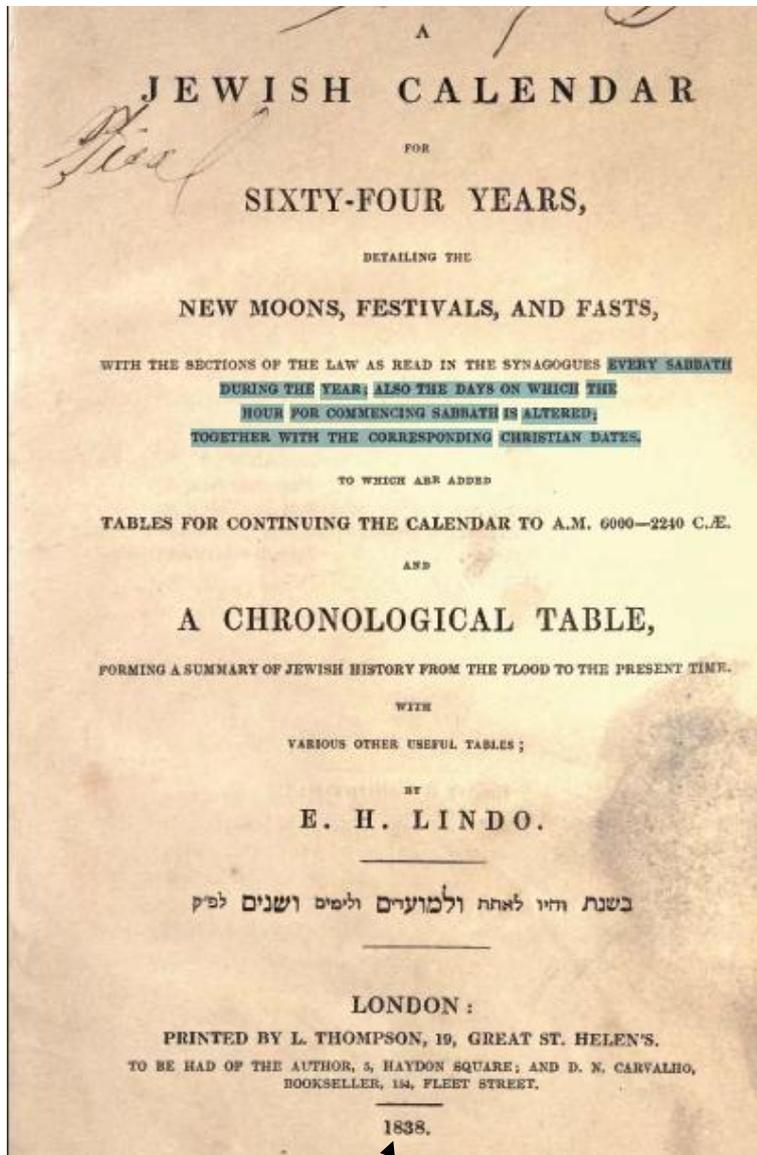
In the 1888 edition of The Great Controversy, Ellen White also stated...

The tenth day of the seventh month, the great Day of Atonement, the time of the cleansing of the sanctuary, which in the year **1844 fell upon the 22d of October**, was regarded as the time of the Lord's coming. This was in harmony with the proofs already presented that the 2300 days would terminate in the autumn, and the conclusion seemed irresistible. {GC88 399.3}

Ellen White also stated...

"So it was believed that Christ, our great High Priest, would appear to purify the earth by the destruction of sin and sinners, and to bless His waiting people with immortality. The tenth day of the seventh month, the great Day of Atonement, the time of the cleansing of the sanctuary, **which in the year 1844 fell upon the twenty-second of October**, was regarded as the time of the Lord's coming." — *The Great Controversy*, p. 400. "**The preaching of a definite time** for the judgment, in giving the first message, **was ordered of God**. The computation of the prophetic periods on which that message was based, placing the close of the 2300 day in the autumn of 1844, **stands without impeachment**."- *The Great Controversy*, p.457.

**If we were to search the world over, history cannot agree with Ellen White's statements that the Day of Atonement was in type fulfilled on the 22nd of October 1844:*



Note: the publication of this book in 1838, some 6 years before the 22nd October 1844 "Great Disappointment" (as so called by Millerite Adventists) contains vital information on page 25 that could have saved many souls from falling away in disillusion and despondency.

To read the full book go to:

<http://www.archive.org/details/jewishcalendarfo00lindiala>

The Day of Atonement in 1844, also called Kippur (Yom Kippur), on the Jewish Calendar Page 25. The month is Tisri 10 Monday, and on the Gregorian Calendar it is Monday September 23, 1844.

*Yom Kippur
Day of
Atonement in
September, 23
1844*

5605.

		1844										
Tisri	1	2	Sa S	New Year	14	15	Sept.	Vead	13	Sa	Vaikra	Zach
	3		M	Fast of Guedallah	16				14	15	S M	Purim
	7		F	Sabbath at 5½	20				26		Sa	Tsav
	8		Sa	Aazinu	21				23		T	
	10		M	Kipur	23				27		Sa	Shemini
	15	16	Sa S	Tabernacle	28	29		Nis.	1	T	New Moon	Abode
	18		T		1		Oct.		4	F	Sabbath at 6½	
	21		F	Hosann Raba					5		Sa	Tatzriang
				Sabbath at 5	4				12		Sa	Metsorang
	22	23	Sa S	Feast of the 8th day	5	6			15	16	T W	Passover
	29		Sa	Beresheet	12				18		F	Sabbath at 7
Hes.	30	1	S M	New Moon	13	14			24		Th	
	5		F	Sabbath at 4½	18			Yiar.	26		Sa	Aharemot
	6		Sa	Noah	19				30	1	W Th	New Moon
	13		Sa	Lech Lecha	26				3		Sa	Kedoshim
	19		F	Sabbath at 4	1		Nov.		10		Sa	Emor
	20		Sa	Vayera	2				14		W	Second Passover
	27		Sa	Haye Sarah	9				17		Sa	Behar
Kis.	1		T	New Moon	12				18		S	33 of the Homer
	4		F	Sabbath at 3½	15				24		Sa	Behukotai
	5		Sa	Toledot	16				25		S	
	12		Sa	Vayetsé	23			Sivan	1	F	New Moon	
	19		Sa	Vaishlach	30				2		Sa	Bamidbar
	20		S		1		Dec.		6	7	Wh T	Sebuot
	25		F	Hanuca	6				9		Sa	Naso
	26		Sa	Vayeshab	7				16		Sa	Beangalotecha
Tebet	1		W	New Moon	11				23		Sa	Shelach Lecha
	4		Sa	Mikets	14				26		T	
	10		F	Fast of Tebet	20			Tam.	30	1	Sa S	Korah New Moon
	11		Sa	Vaigash	21				7		Sa	Hukat
	18		Sa	Vaihi	28				14		Sa	Balak
	22		W		1845	1	Jan.		17		T	Fast of Tamuz
	25		Sa	Shemot	4				21		Sa	Pinehas
Sebat	1		Th	New Moon	9				27		F	Dibre
	2		F	Sabbath at 4	10				28		Sa	Matot Mazze
	3		Sa	Vaera	11							Shimgv
	10		Sa	Bo	18			Ab	1	M	New Moon	
	15		Th	Laylanot	23				6		Sa	Debarim
	17		Sa	Beshalach	25				9		T	Fast of Ab
	23		F	Sabbath at 4½	31				13		Sa	Vaethanan
	24		Sa	Itro	1		Feb.		15		M	Tubeab
Adar	30	1	F Sa	New Moon	7				19		F	Sabbath at 6½
				Mishpatim		8			20		Sa	Hekeb
	7		F	Sabbath at 5	14				27		Sa	Rehé
	8		Sa	Teruma	15				29		M	
	14		F	Little Purim	21			Elul	30	1	T W	New Moon
	15		Sa	Tetsavé	22				3		F	Sabbath at 6
	22		Sa	Ki Tisa	1		Mar.		4		Sa	Shophetim
	28		F	Sabbath at 5½	7				11		Sa	Ki Tetsé
	92		Sa	Vayakel Shekalim	8				17		F	Sabbath at 5½
Vead	30	1	S M	New Moon	9	10			18		Sa	Ki Tabo
	6		Sa	Pekudé	15				25		Sa	Netsabim
	11		Th	Fast of Esther	20				29		W	Vayelech
	12		F	Sabbath at 6	21							

**We must ask the obvious question – was the 22nd of October 1844, celebrated by the Jews as the Day of Atonement, a historical fact? Or is it the work of spiritual fiction? You decide.*

5. Did Ellen White have revealed through vision that God had shut the door of mercy?

**When I researched this topic, I found it difficult to understand, as it required a lot of reading to get the actual context of statements Ellen White made in relation to the “shut door”. After literally thousands of hours of research on this topic which required reading early Advent publications extensively, I realised that there was a distinct split in Adventism after the 22nd of October 1844. Those that Ellen would later describe as Laodiceans or the “synagogue of satan”, were then known as nominal Adventists. Joseph Bates, James White and Ellen White, with her first vision, fully substantiated, beyond any doubt, that they were “shut door” believers. Ellen White herself confessed that she was a shut door believer, until her first vision revealed to them the error they had fallen into.*

The reality is that the first vision, as well as her second vision, did not clarify the error, but rather substantiated the position that they held upon the “shut door”. Nowhere amongst advent publications does Ellen White comment or chastise any of her Advent pioneers that so actively promoted the “shut door” theory. In fact, the complete opposite is true. If anyone dared oppose the “shut door” theory, they would be labelled as nominal Adventists who widely published that the “shut door” was of the devil. Ellen White was clear that such publications that would not actively endorse “shut door” theology were, in fact, sinning against the Holy Spirit by ascribing to satan what Ellen White sincerely believed belonged to God.

*The evidence in the following statement that she made reveals her true position to which no Seventh Day Adventist today would actively promote or agree with. It is clear that she was obviously wrong and spoke presumptuously from her own spirit. It would be an immensely difficult thing for young Ellen to speak out against men like Joseph Turner, James White, Joseph Bates, J. B. Cook, and for a brief time William Miller, who openly proclaimed the close of probation and that the labour for souls had ceased on the 22nd of October 1844. If Ellen White's first vision did reveal the error that they had fallen into, neither she nor anyone else was aware of this supposed correction. However, if one was to read the original vision as recorded in the Day Star on 24th Jan 1846, page 7, they would soon see that she sincerely believe that God had rejected the wicked world.**

Ellen White stated...

Then I saw Laodiceans. They will make a mighty effort. Will they get the victory? One who has the truth will chase a thousand, and two will put ten thousand to flight. They are coming to conclusions that bring them into close quarters and they cannot tell where they be themselves, for they are lost in the foggy, terrible fear that takes hold of them. Anguish of spirit will seize them. **Dare they admit that the door is shut**? The sin against the Holy Ghost was to ascribe to Satan **what belongs to God**, or what the Holy Ghost has done. **They said the shut door was of the devil, and now admit it is against their own lives. They shall die the death**. Look ye at the Pattern. Follow Him, for He is meek and lowly in heart. Shut your eyes to everything but the present, saving truth.--Ms 11, 1850, pp. 3, 4. (Vision at Paris, Maine, December 25, 1850.) {5MR 204.3}

Not only did Ellen White endorse the “shut door” in vision, she believed it to be a saving truth, a certainty that, like the 10 Commandments, were so intertwined that they could not be separated from their perpetual bind upon humanity.

Ellen White stated...

Sabbath, March 24, 1849, we had a sweet and very interesting meeting with the brethren at Topsham, Maine. The Holy Ghost was poured out upon us, and I was

taken off in the Spirit to the city of the living God. **Then I was shown that the commandments of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ relating to the shut door could not be separated**, and that the time for the commandments of God to shine out with all their importance, and for God's people to be tried on the Sabbath truth, was when the door was opened in the most holy place in the heavenly sanctuary, where the ark is, in which are contained the ten commandments. This door was not opened until the mediation of Jesus was finished in the holy place of the sanctuary in 1844. Then Jesus rose up and shut the door of the holy place, and opened the door into the most holy, and passed within the second veil, where He now stands by the ark, and where the faith of Israel now reaches. {EW 42.1}

The fact that Ellen White believed in the “shut door” was no secret, however she supposedly never stated that it had God’s divine blessing.

Ellen White stated...

For a time after the disappointment in 1844, **I did hold**, in common with the advent body, that **the door of mercy was then forever closed to the world**. This position was taken **before my first vision was given me**. It was the light given me of God that corrected our error, and enabled us to see the true position. {1SM 63.1}

If the above statement is true, how do we justify the following statements made by Ellen White?

I was shown in vision, and I still believe, **that there was a shut door in 1844**. All who saw the light of the first and second angels' messages and rejected that light, were left in darkness. And those who accepted it and received the Holy Spirit which attended the proclamation of the message from heaven, and who afterward renounced their faith and pronounced their experience a delusion, thereby rejected the Spirit of God, and it no longer pleaded with them. {1SM 63.9}

Ellen White stated...

I saw that God loved His people--and, in answer to prayers, would send rain on the just and the unjust--I saw that now, in this time, that he watered the earth and caused the sun to shine for the saints and the wicked by our prayers, by our Father sending rain upon the unjust while he sent it upon the just. **I saw that the wicked could not be benefited by our prayers now**--and although he sent it upon the

unjust, yet their day is coming. Then I saw concerning loving our neighbors. **I saw that the scripture did not mean the wicked whom God had rejected that we must love, but he meant our neighbors in the household, and did not extend beyond the household**; yet I saw that we should not do the wicked around us any injustice--but, our neighbors whom we were to love, were those who loved God and were serving Him...

NY, June 21, 1851

It is astounding to realise the fact that at that time, Ellen White was adamant any conversions were not true conversions and were merely acts to deceive the people of God into believing that the door of mercy was still open

Ellen White stated...

I saw that the mysterious signs and wonders, **and false reformations would increase, and spread. The reformations that were shown me, were not reformations from error to truth; but from bad to worse**; for those who professed a change of heart, had only wrapt about them a religious garb, which covered up the iniquity of a wicked heart. Some appeared to have been really converted, **so as to deceive God's people; but if their hearts could be seen, they would appear as black as ever.** {RH, August 1, 1849 par. 12}

Ellen White's second vision, which she had around the middle of February 1845, was clearly given to confirm that the shut door position was of God. Note that the term "view" is used instead of the word "vision" as she clearly stated that the Lord worked through her in a mighty way to settle the matter on the shut door.

Ellen White stated...

The view about the Bridegroom's coming I had about the middle of February, 1845. {5MR 97.2}

While in Exeter, Maine, in meeting with Israel Dammon, James, and many others, many of them **did not believe in a shut door**. I suffered much at the commencement of the meeting. Unbelief seemed to be on every hand. There was one sister there that was called very spiritual. She had traveled and been a powerful preacher the most of the time for twenty years. She had been truly a mother in Israel. **But a division had risen in the band on the shut door**. She had great sympathy, and **could not believe the door was shut**. (I had known nothing of their differences.) Sister Durben got up to talk. I felt very, very sad. At length my soul seemed to be in an agony, and while she was talking I fell from my chair to the floor. It was then I had a view of Jesus rising from His mediatorial throne and going to the Holiest as Bridegroom to receive His kingdom. They were all deeply interested in the view. They all said it was entirely new to them. The Lord worked in mighty power setting the truth home to their hearts. Sister Durben knew what the power of the Lord was, for she had felt it many times; and a short time after I fell she was struck down, and fell to the floor, crying to God to have mercy on her. When I came out of vision, my ears were saluted with Sister Durben's singing and shouting with a loud voice. Most of them received the vision, **and were settled upon the shut door**. {5MR 97.3}

The only way it is possible for one to believe that Ellen White did not claim that the "shut door" was a revelation from God is for that person to be ignorant to the historical facts found upon the pages of these early advent publications.

Ellen White stated...

The excitements and false reformations of this day do not move us, **for we know that the Master of the house rose up in 1844, and shut the door of the first apartment of the heavenly tabernacle**; and now we certainly expect that they will "go with their flocks," "to seek the Lord; **but they shall not find him; he hath withdrawn himself (within the second vail) from them.**" The Lord has

shown me that the power which is with them is a mere human influence, and not the power of God *Present Truth*, Mar. 1, 1850

Ellen White stated...

The light behind them went out leaving their feet in **perfect darkness**, and they stumbled and got their eyes off the mark and lost sight of Jesus, and fell off the path down in the dark and wicked world below. It was just as impossible for them to get on the path again and go to the City, **as all the wicked world which God had rejected.** {WLF 14.3}

**Joseph Bates made the following statement in 1845, where he comments on the October 1844 date as being the day when probation had closed for the world. It is also important to note that the visions that he is referring to are those of Ellen Gould Harmon. **

Regarding his attitude toward the visions, Elder Bates made the following statement: {CET 88.3}

"Although I could see nothing in them that militated against the word, yet I felt alarmed and tried exceedingly, and for a long time unwilling to believe that it was anything more than what was produced by a protracted debilitated state of her body. {CET 88.4}

"I therefore sought opportunities in the presence of others, when her mind seemed freed from excitement (out of meeting), to question and cross-question her, and her friends which accompanied her, especially her elder sister, to get if possible at the truth. During the number of visits she has made to New Bedford and Fairhaven since, while at our meetings, I have seen her in vision a number of times, and also in Topsham, Maine; and those who were present during some of those exciting scenes know well with what interest and intensity I listened to every word, and watched every move to detect deception or mesmeric influence. And I thank God for the opportunity I have had with others to witness these things. I can now confidently speak for myself. I believe the work is of God, and is given to comfort and strengthen His 'scattered, torn, and peeled people,' **since the closing up of our work . . . in October, 1844.**" {CET 88.5}

**It is important to note that the last sentence states “since the closing up of our work... in October 1844”. Often when writers use “.....” after a word, they are omitting a portion of text which is irrelevant or extraneous to the point that is being made. Yet when we look at the original letter, we note that there are only three words missing - a word for each dot upon the page. The original statement read “since the closing up of a work “for the world” in October 1844”. It is difficult for the church to promote the endorsement of Bates which came into fruition after Ellen's planetary visions when it is realised that Bates not only believed and preached the shut door and of mercy, but understood Ellen's visions to be in its support. It is for this reason that the words “for the world” were omitted.*

*Is it true, as Ellen White claimed, that she “never had a vision” promoting the “shut door”, or do the historical facts and documentation speak contrary to her testimony? You decide.**

6. Does the Bible describe the Seventh Day Sabbath as God's seal?

**Very few Seventh Day Adventists are aware that in Ellen White's first vision, when she describes the servants of God receiving the seal of God, she did not believe this pertained to the Seventh Day Sabbath. In fact, in her first vision, she failed to even notice the 10 Commandments when Jesus opened the Ark of the Covenant for her in vision. The reason is that it was not until August 1846 that Ellen Gould Harmon and James Springer White became Sabbath keepers. Furthermore, it should be noted that when they finally did embrace the Sabbath, they kept it from 6 p.m. to 6 p.m., under the instruction of an angel (notice it wasn't God) and not from sunset to sunset for the next nine years.*

In reality, there were only a few Sabbaths in the year that they did not profane. The Seventh Day Sabbath understanding, in relation to the first vision, has been retrospectively inserted and was not part of the original understanding. Joseph

*Bates had written a book titled “The Seventh Day Sabbath, A Perpetual Sign” in 1846, in which he stated the perpetuity of the Seventh Day Sabbath in biblical understanding, and in Jan 1849 Bates published his final book on the Sabbath titled, “A Seal of the Living God”. The problem that we face with this understanding, is that nowhere found in the Word of God is the Sabbath ever referred to as a seal, but rather as a sign between God and his people. What even fewer Seventh Day Adventists are aware of is that there were already a small handful of Sabbath keeping Adventists that proclaimed the shut door and the Seventh Day Sabbath, early in the year 1845. It took James and Ellen White nearly 18 months to adopt the Seventh Day Sabbath after some of their peers had already embraced it. **

Ellen White stated...

Those who would have the seal of God in their foreheads must keep the Sabbath of the fourth commandment.--7BC 970 (1899). {LDE 220.2}

If parents allow their children to receive an education with the world, and **make the Sabbath a** common day, **then the seal of God cannot be placed upon them**. They will be destroyed with the world; and will not their blood rest upon the parents? {CCh 269.1}

**Every true Christian knows that we cannot cleanse our own soul temple of every defilement, and that if this cleansing work were left to us, we would stand to be condemned. **

Ellen White stated...

Not one of us will **ever receive the seal of God** while our characters have one spot or stain upon them. **It is left with us** to remedy the defects in our characters, **to cleanse the soul-temple of every defilement**. Then the latter rain will fall upon us as the early rain fell upon the disciples on the day of Pentecost. {CET 189.2}

Not all who profess **to keep the Sabbath will be sealed**. There are many even among those who teach the truth to others **who will not receive the seal of God in their foreheads**. They had the light of truth, they knew their Master's will, they

understood every point of our faith, but they had not corresponding works. {CCh 333.5}

Character perfection becomes a mandatory pre-requisition for receiving the seal of God according to Ellen White's divine inspiration.

Ellen White stated...

The seal of God **will never be placed upon the forehead of an impure man or woman.** It will never be placed upon the forehead of the ambitious, world-loving man or woman. It will never be placed upon the forehead of men or women of false tongues or deceitful hearts. **All who receive the seal must be without spot before God**--candidates for heaven. {FLB 288.3}

**Ellen White made this future controversial statement in relation to the seal of God. However, those that are aware of Adventist history know that she, as the undisputed leader, had already proclaimed through vision that the angel of God was already sealing the servants upon the head prior to 1851. **

Ellen White stated...

The living righteous will receive the seal of God prior to the close of probation. {Mar 211.1}

**But how can we reconcile the above statement with that which we now read ...*

Ellen White stated...

The **sealing time is very short,** and **will soon be over.** Now is the time, while the four angels are holding the four winds, to make our calling and election sure. {EW 58.2}

In 1849 Joseph Bates published book "A Seal of the Living God" in which He states that a vision from Ellen White is found on page 25...

"The angels are holding the winds. It is God that restrains the powers. The angels have not let go, for the saints are not *all* sealed. **The time of trouble has commenced. It has begun.** The reason why the four winds are not let go, is because the saints are **not all sealed.** It [the trouble] is on the increase more and

more; that trouble will never end until the earth is rid of the wicked. Why, they [the winds] are just ready to blow. **There is a check put on because the saints are not all sealed.**" (*A Seal of the Living God*, pages 25 & 26)

Question: Doesn't this indisputably show that Ellen White believed the sealing time was already in progress in 1849? How do we justify her erroneous statements in light of the evidence, as it clearly shows below?...

Ellen White stated...

I saw that Satan was at work in these ways to distract, deceive, and draw away God's people, **just now in this sealing time**. I saw some who were not standing stiffly for present truth. Their knees were trembling, and their feet were sliding, because they were not firmly planted on the truth, and the covering of Almighty God could not be drawn over them while they were thus trembling. {ExV 26.2} (*Written in 1851*)

I saw that Satan was at work in these ways to distract, deceive, and draw away God's people, **just now in this sealing time**. I saw some who were not standing stiffly for present truth. Their knees were trembling, and their feet were sliding; because they were not firmly planted on the truth, and the covering of Almighty God could not be drawn over them while they were thus trembling. {*RH, August 1, 1849 par. 9*} <http://www.lightministries.com/SDA/Books/id803.htm>

I saw that Satan was at work in these ways to distract, deceive, and draw away God's people, **just now in this sealing time**. I saw some who were not standing stiffly for present truth. Their knees were trembling, and their feet sliding, because they were not firmly planted on the truth, and the covering of Almighty God could not be drawn over them while they were thus trembling. {EW 44.1} Sabbath, March 24, 1849.

Comment: Now readers, for future reference, remember the following statement.

Ellen White stated...

The **sealing time is very short**, and **will soon be over**. **Now is the time**, while the four angels are holding the four winds, to make our calling and election sure.

{EW 58.2}

"I saw that Satan will work now more powerfully than ever before, for he knows that his time is short, and that the sealing will soon be over. And he will now work in every insinuation to get the saints off their guard, and get them to sleep upon present truth, and doubting it, so as to prevent their being sealed with the

seal of the living God."From a tract published in 1852, a vision given to Sister White, at the home of Brother Harris, at Centerport, New **York, August 24, 1850**

**In relation to the seal of God, the Bible states...*

Eph 1:12-14

That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.¹³ In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: **in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise**,¹⁴ Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

John 6:27-29

Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: **for him hath God the Father sealed**.²⁸ Then said they unto him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?²⁹ Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, **that ye believe on him whom he hath sent**.

Eph 4:28-30

Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.²⁹ Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.³⁰ **And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.**

2 Tim 2:19

Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, **having this seal**, The Lord **knoweth them that are his**. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

2 Cor 1:21-22

Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God;²² **Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.**

Rev 9:4

And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men **which have not the seal of God in their foreheads.**

John 3:32-34

And what he hath seen and heard, that he testifieth; and no man receiveth his testimony.³³ He that hath received **his testimony hath set to his seal that God is true**.³⁴ For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: **for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him.**

****Is the doctrinal belief that the Seventh Day Sabbath is the seal of God a biblical fact? Or is it spiritual fiction? You decide.****

7. Why Was the Preaching of a “Definite Time” for the Day and Hour to Be “Known” of Christ’s Return justifiable for the Year 1844?

****Since the 22nd of October 1844 passed, Seventh Day Adventists have evolved to adopt the position that no man will know the day or hour of Jesus’ coming.***

*In fact, it is believed that those that proclaim to know the day and hour of Christ's return are doing the work of Satan rather than God. Ellen White, in an attempt to put behind her the desperate fanaticism of the early Advent pioneers who had set multiple dates for the return of Christ between the years of 1843 and 1851, made the following bewildering statement...**

Notwithstanding the fact that **there are false prophets**, there are also those who are preaching the truth as pointed out in the Scriptures. With deep earnestness, with honest faith, prompted by the Holy Spirit, they are stirring minds and hearts by showing them that we are living near the second coming of Christ, **but the day and hour of His appearing are beyond the ken of man; for "of that day and hour knoweth no man,** no, not the angels of heaven, but My Father only." {FE 335.1}

However, despite the fact that we are not to know the day or the hour of Jesus Christ's return, God, in complete contradiction to his own testimony, tells Ellen White in vision the day and the hour of Jesus' return, as stated in her first vision.

Ellen White stated...

GOD TELLS HIS PEOPLE THE DAY AND HOUR OF JESUS' COMING.—The voice of God is heard from heaven, **declaring the day and hour of Jesus' coming**, and delivering the everlasting covenant to His people. Like peals of loudest thunder His words roll through the earth. The Israel of God stand listening, with their eyes fixed upward. Their countenances are lighted up with His glory, and shine as did the face of Moses when he came down from Sinai. The wicked cannot look upon them. And when the blessing is pronounced on those who have honored God by keeping His Sabbath holy, there is a mighty shout of victory.—GC 640. {Hvn 30.1}

Soon we heard the voice of God like many waters, **which gave us the day and hour of Jesus' coming**. The **living** saints, 144,000 in number, knew and understood the voice, while the wicked thought it was thunder and an earthquake.-EW 15 (1851). {LDE 272.2}

A fact that very few Seventh Day Adventists are aware of, is that when Ellen White shared her vision, many Adventists objected to the knowing of a definite time for Christ's return. So great was the discord, that it prompted some to express their concerns in writing to Ellen White. Ellen White responded to their concerns in the following letter:

Statement on the Day and Hour of Christ's Coming

Dear Sister:

You state that "some claim among other things that there is dishonesty in suppressing your former writings." Will those who say these things please give proof of their statements? I know that this has been often repeated but not proved. "Claiming that in your original testimonies, volume 1, which they have preserved, you distinctly declare that you were shown the day and hour of Christ's second coming. **Their argument is that this statement of yours will not stand the Bible test;** as Christ Himself declares that **no man knoweth the day or the hour, no not even the angels of God.**"... {1SM 75.1}

Ellen White responded with the following statement...

In my first book you will find **the only statement** in regard to the day and hour of Christ's coming that I have made since the passing of the time in 1844. **It is found in Early Writings,** pages 11, 27, and 145, 146 [pages 15, 34, and 285, present edition]. All refer to the announcement that will be made just before the second coming of Christ. {1SM 75.2}

** Ellen White's memory must have been failing her at this point in time, because "Early Writings" was not the only place in which she had first made this statement. Adventist history records that she had made the same declaration in print in the "Day Star" Jan 24th, 1846 page 7, and also in "The Word to the Little Flock" in 1847 page 14. But what is even more amazing, is that James White himself, in an article that he wrote in the Day Star", Sept 6th 1845 page 1, had referred to the return of Christ, where he actually states that "we believe the time to be occurring in 15 days."*

It therefore stands to reason that those critics who put their concerns before her in writing had good reason. So, as most intelligent people would subsequently ask, what was the definite time of Christ's return, which was revealed to Ellen White by God?

With the wisdom of 44 years of hindsight, she retrospectively responded in the year 1888 that she could not remember the most important date ever given to humanity and that it had passed from her mind solely because she was so bewildered by scenes that thrilled her soul in that vision. Ponder this enigma - that 44 years after the event she could clearly remember that she could not remember, the vision so thrilling and the date that every Adventist man and woman had been pondering and waiting for, had slipped from her grasp.

*At this point in time, the intelligent reader may well ask, if she could no longer remember after the vision the time spoken by God, then how is it even plausible that she remembered that she was given this hour in the first place? Or did she forget that she didn't know what she was not able to remember?**

Ellen White stated...

I have not the slightest knowledge as to the time spoken by the voice of God. I heard the hour proclaimed, **but had no remembrance** of that hour after I came out of vision. **Scenes of such thrilling, solemn interest passed before me** as no language is adequate to describe. It was all a living reality to me, for close upon this scene appeared the great white cloud, upon which was seated the Son of man.-- Letter 38, 1888. {1SM 75.4}

**Incredible as it may seem, Ellen White, in a later complete contradiction to her own earlier statements, condemns those that continue to believe in the preaching of a definite time for the return of Christ.*

*Ellen White made the following "definite time" statements in which she clearly states that the revelation of a definite time was the Work of God. It is undeniable that as we read these verses, those that objected to the preaching of a definite time were, according to Ellen White, opposing the work of God...**

Ellen White states...

The great day was at hand, and in His providence the people were brought **to the test of a definite time**, in order to reveal to them what was in their hearts. The message was designed for the testing and purification of the church. {GC 353.1}

The **preaching of a definite time** for the judgment, in the giving of the first message, **was ordered by God**. The computation of the prophetic periods on which that message was based, placing the close of the 2300 days in the autumn of 1844, stands without impeachment. {GC 457.1}

The proclamation of **a definite time** for Christ's coming called forth great opposition from many of all classes, from the minister in the pulpit down to the most reckless, Heaven-daring sinner. "**No man knoweth the day nor the hour was heard alike from the hypocritical minister and the bold scoffer**. They closed their ears to the clear and harmonious explanation of the text by those who were pointing to the close of the prophetic periods and to the signs which Christ himself had foretold as tokens of his advent. Many who professed to love the Saviour, declared that they had no opposition to the preaching of his coming; **they merely objected to the definite time**. God's **all-seeing eye** read their hearts.

**In an amazing twist of theological position, Ellen White then aligns herself with those who she had once called "the bold scoffer". She made the following statement in which she proclaims the same declaration as those of the "hypocritical minister", who had no objection to the return of Christ but merely to the preaching of a "definite time", for it was beyond man to know it. **

Ellen White stated...

We are not to be engrossed with speculations in regard **to the times** and the seasons which **God has not revealed**. Jesus has told His disciples to "watch," **but not for a definite time**. His followers are to be in the position of those who are listening for the orders of their Captain; they are to watch, wait, pray, and work, as they approach the time for the coming of the Lord; but no one will be able to predict just when that time will come; for "**of that day and hour knoweth no man.**" You will not be able to say that He will come in one, two, or five years, neither are you to put off His coming by stating that it may not **be for ten or twenty years.** {1SM 189.2}

The more frequently a definite time is set for the second advent, and the more widely it is taught, **the better it suits the purposes of Satan**. After the time has passed, he excites ridicule and contempt of its advocates, and thus casts reproach upon the true time movement of 1843 and 1844. Those who persist in this error **will at last fix upon a date too far in the future for the coming of Christ**. Thus they will be led to rest in a false security, and many will not be undeceived until it is too late. {4SP 290.2}

It is important to note the reason that it “suits the purposes of Satan” is not because it defies God in his Word that - no man is to know the day of the hour, - but rather that the “date will be set too far into the future”. This is an important perspective in understanding the following statement made by Ellen White:

Ellen White states...

The majority of Adventists rejected the truths concerning the sanctuary and the law of God, and many also renounced their faith in the Advent movement, and adopted unsound and conflicting views of the prophecies which applied to that work. Some were led into the error of **repeatedly fixing upon a definite time for the coming of Christ**. {GC88 456.1}

The more frequently a definite time is set for the second advent, and the more widely it is taught, the better it suits the purposes of Satan. After the time has passed, he excites ridicule and contempt of its advocates, and thus casts reproach upon the great Advent movement of 1843 and 1844. Those who persist in this error will at **last fix upon a date too far in the future for the coming of Christ**. Thus they will be led to rest in a false security, and many will not be undeceived until it is too late. {GC88 456.2}

**Then, in the Review and Herald, Ellen White remarkably made the statement that seems to negate all previous statements and positions like:*

“The great day was at hand, and in His providence the people were brought **to the test of a definite time**, and “The proclamation of **a definite time** for Christ's coming called forth great opposition” and “Soon we heard the voice of God like many waters, **which gave us the day and hour of Jesus' coming.**”

Ellen White, in complete contradiction to these earlier statements, made the following remarks:

We are not to know the definite time either for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit or **for the coming of Christ.** . . . Why has not God given us this knowledge?-- Because we would not make a right use of it if He did. A condition of things would result from this knowledge among our people that would greatly retard the work of God in preparing a people to stand in the great day that is to come. We are not to live upon time excitement. . . . {LDE 33.1}

You will not be able to say that He will come in one, two, or five years, neither are you to put off His coming by stating that it may not be for ten or twenty years.--RH March 22, 1892. {LDE 33.2}

We are nearing the great day of God. The signs are fulfilling. And **yet we have no message to tell us of the day and hour of Christ's appearing.** The Lord has wisely concealed this from us that we may always be in a state of expectancy and preparation for the second appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ in the clouds of heaven.--Letter 28, 1897. {LDE 33.3}

The exact time of the second coming of the Son of man is God's mystery.--DA 633 (1898). {LDE 33.4}

**Having studied at length these and many other statements made by Ellen White in relation to the second coming, I have been able to come to only one logical conclusion for the defender of this unbiblical position.*

That is, that according to Ellen White, the preaching of a definite time was not ordered by God, with one clear exception, that being the 22nd of October 1844.

*If anyone was unaware that God was going to make one exception to his rule, how was it possible for any to know when God may have changed his mind in relation to this topic? Is it also reasonable for God to condemn those who were unaware that he had changed his mind for one day, and after this date passed, having hid the mistake and tested His people, He would revert back to his original position -that no man knows the day of the hour? **

**Furthermore, we must logically deduce that God himself made the mistake in the prophetic reckoning, for he wished to test the people as to whether or not they would be ready for a day that he had warned them not to be ready for!*

According to the above unbiblical principle, those that defied his Word, He would reward by being borne upon His breastplate as he entered into the Holy of Holies on the 22nd of October 1844. Furthermore, we must also inevitably conclude that after this sole date, of which no man was aware of at the time, that it allegedly pertained to a heavenly sanctuary transitional Ministry of Christ, and that from henceforth there will never be another “definite time” set.

It must be noted that this new understanding of a “definite time” (for judgement), was not even a part of the original event (the second coming) which was expected to have taken place . We must also remember that Christ’s movement into the Most Holy Place in 1844 speaks contrary to Hebrews 6:19 which clearly tells us that Christ entered into the most Holy place at the ascension and not in 1844.

*In order to come to this Seventh Day Adventist conclusion, it requires a great deal of theological contortion and linguistic gymnastics, and to believe in its soundness as a doctrinal position, I would have had to ignore Biblical verses which clearly state...**

Matt 24:35-36

Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away. 36 **But of that day and hour knoweth no man,** no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. KJV

Mark 13:31-33

Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.32 **But of that day and that hour knoweth no man,** no, not the angels which are in heaven, **neither the Son,** but the Father.33 Take ye heed, watch and pray: **for ye know not when the time is.** KJV

Matt 25:13

Watch therefore, **for ye know neither the day nor the hour** wherein the Son of man cometh.

KJV

Acts 1:6-7

When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?7 And he said unto them, **It is not for you to know the times or the seasons,** which the Father hath put in his own power. KJV

Was the preaching of a “definite time” ordered by God as a biblical fact? Or was it spiritual fiction? You decide.

8 . *Is Jesus Christ also Michael the Archangel?*

Ellen White stated...

As Christ and the angels approached the grave, Satan and his angels appeared at the grave, and were guarding the body of Moses, lest it should be removed. As Christ and his angels drew nigh, Satan resisted their approach, but was compelled, by the glory and power of Christ and his angels, to fall back. Satan claimed the body of Moses,

because of his one transgression; **but Christ meekly referred him to his Father, saying, "The Lord rebuke thee."** Christ told Satan that he knew Moses had humbly repented of this one wrong, that no stain rested upon his character, and that his name in the heavenly book of records stood untarnished. Then Christ resurrected the body of Moses, which Satan had claimed. {1SP 342.3}

When we read the following verse from the Bible, it becomes clear that Jesus is also Lord. This leaves Ellen White's testimony at odds with the Word of God as shown in the texts that follow.

1 Cor 12:3

Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that **Jesus is the Lord**, but by the Holy Ghost. *KJV*

Rom 10:8-9

The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): 9 **that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus** and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. *NKJV*

Jude 9.

Yet **Michael the archangel**, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, **The Lord rebuke thee**. *KJV*

As we read Ellen White's statement, it becomes evident that there is an impossibility between the harmony of the Word of God, and her understanding that Jesus Christ was Michael the Archangel.

Ellen White stated...

Satan contended earnestly for the body of Moses. Again he sought to enter into controversy with Christ in regard to the injustice of God's law, and with deceiving power reiterated his false statements about not being fairly treated. His accusations were such that **Christ did not bring against him the record of the cruel work** he had done in heaven by deceptive misrepresentation, the falsehoods he had told in Eden that led to Adam's transgression, and the stirring up of the worst passions of the hosts of Israel to incite them to murmur and rebel until Moses lost command of himself. . . . **Christ did not retaliate in answer to Satan.** He brought no railing accusation against him, but raised Moses from the dead and took him to heaven. {CTr 130.2}

It is only when one takes the time to delve into Adventist history, that they begin to understand the reason why she made these statements early in her prophetic career. The main external influence came from Joseph Bates and James White, who were both members of the "Conexion" church. It is well known that both men were Arian (a belief that Jesus Christ was the highest created being, but was not divine) in their belief early in Adventist history and that both men had a remarkable influence upon young Ellen White. It was this influence that led Ellen White to make one of her most questionable statements.

Ellen White stated...

The man Christ Jesus was not the Lord God Almighty, yet Christ and the Father are one. **The Deity did not sink under the agonizing torture of Calvary**, yet it is nonetheless true that "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." {LHU 235.3}

**This amazing statement was later rationalised with the following explanation, which came many years after the original statement was issued, when their previously held Arian beliefs were no longer endorsed.*

Ellen White stated...

As the human nature of the Son of Mary changed into the divine nature of the Son of God? No; the two natures were mysteriously blended in one person--the man Christ Jesus. In Him dwelt all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. When Christ was crucified, it was His human nature that died. **Deity did not sink and die; that would have been impossible**. Christ, the sinless One, will save every son and daughter of Adam who accepts the salvation proffered them, consenting to become the children of God. The Saviour has purchased the fallen race with His own blood. {LHU 76.2}

**In what appears to be a vain effort, Ellen White tries to explain the reason why she made her earlier statement. She tries to distinguish between the man Jesus Christ, and the God in Jesus Christ. However, when we examine her earlier*

statement, that “The man Christ Jesus was not the Lord God Almighty”, all such arguments disintegrate away in light of the following Bible text:

Isa 9:6

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, **The mighty God**, The **everlasting Father**, The Prince of Peace. KJV

9. *Did God the Father orchestrate the plan of redemption **before the foundation** of the world or was it instigated by Jesus Christ and His intercessory pleading with God the father **after the fall** of man?*

Ellen White stated....

The news spread through heaven, and every harp was hushed. The angels sorrowed, and feared lest Adam and Eve would again put forth the hand and eat of the tree of life and be immortal sinners. But God said that He would drive the transgressors from the garden, and by cherubim and a flaming sword would guard the way of the tree of life, so that man could not approach unto it and eat of its fruit, which perpetuates immortality. {EW 125.2}

Sorrow filled heaven as it was realized that man was lost and that the world which God had created was to be filled with mortals doomed to misery, sickness, and death, and that there was no way of escape for the offender. The whole family of Adam must die. I then saw the lovely Jesus and beheld an expression of sympathy and sorrow upon His countenance. Soon I saw Him approach the exceeding bright light which enshrouded the Father. Said my accompanying angel, "**He is in close converse with His Father.**" The anxiety of the angels seemed to be intense while Jesus was communing with His Father. **Three times He was shut in by the glorious light about the Father**, and the third time He came from the Father we could see His person. His countenance was

calm, free from all perplexity and trouble, and shone with a loveliness which words cannot describe. He then made known to the angelic choir that a way of escape had been made for lost man; that **He had been pleading with His Father, and had obtained permission to give His own life as a ransom for the race, to bear their sins, and take the sentence of death upon Himself**, thus opening a way whereby they might, through the merits of His blood, find pardon for past transgressions, and by obedience be brought back to the garden from which they were driven. Then they could again have access to the glorious, immortal fruit of the tree of life to which they had now forfeited all right. {EW 126.1}

The Bible states:

1 Peter 1:20

Who verily was foreordained **before the foundation of the world**, but was manifest in these last times for you, KJV

Eph 1:3-4

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: 4 According as **he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world**, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love KJV

Comment: if the text above states that God the Father chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world, then the only possible way we can understand Ellen White's vision is that God the Father changed his mind.

Mal 3:6

For I am the Lord, I change not KJV

Is the belief that Jesus Christ instigated the plan of redemption after the fall of man, as a result of Christ initiative, and persistently pleading three times with God the Father, a biblical fact or spiritual fiction? You decide.

10. Is it true that Ellen White never made one heretical statement?

Ellen White stated...

Not "One Heretical Sentence" For Use in Teaching, Correspondence, etc.--I am now looking over my diaries and copies of letters written for several years back, commencing before I went to Europe. . . . I have the most precious matter to reproduce and place before the people in testimony form. While I am able to do this work, the people must have these things, to revive past history, that they may see that **there is one straight chain of truth, without one heretical sentence, in that which I have written.** This, I am instructed, is to be a living letter to all in regard to my faith.--Letter 329a, 1905, pp. 1, 2. (To Granddaughter Mabel White, Nov. 16, 1905.) Released April 1966. {3MR 245.2}

**Understanding the historical context and background knowledge to the following statements that Ellen White made is of vital importance in getting the complete picture as to the meaning behind the words. Often, those that are defending some of her more objectionable positions on doctrine often say that the critic takes her statements out of context. To comprehend Adventist history, it is necessary to read the early Advent periodicals direct from the source. If we allow others to interpret history for us, we may not get a true and accurate description of the meaning behind some of these obscure statements that she made.*

*As a firm believer in the truth, if you wish to take each reference listed below and read the paragraph, page or volume referenced, the meaning will not change, but rather the error will become even more inherent to the text. Ellen White not only wrote contrary to the Word of God, but also often contradicted her own writings. However, when these contradictory statements are attributed to God's inspiration, it becomes apparent that an immense disservice to the character of God has been perpetrated. **

Ellen White's sentences of truth or fiction

But if there was one sin above another which called for the destruction of the race by the flood, **it was the base crime of amalgamation of man and beast which defaced the image of God**, and caused confusion everywhere. {1SP 69.1}

A portion of the queen's subjects are waiting a favorable opportunity to break their yoke; but if England thinks it will pay, she will not hesitate a moment to improve her opportunities to exercise **her power and humble our nation**. **When England does declare war**, all nations will have an interest of their own to serve, and there will be general war, general confusion. {1T 259.1}

They said the shut door was of the devil, and now admit it is against their own lives. **They shall die the death**. Look ye at the Pattern. Follow Him, for He is meek and lowly in heart. Shut your eyes to everything but **the present, saving truth**.--Ms 11, 1850, pp. 3, 4. (Vision at Paris, Maine, December 25, 1850.) {5MR 204.3}

It was just as impossible for them to get on the path again and go to the City, **as all the wicked world which God had rejected**. {WLF 14.3}

With my brethren and sisters, after the time passed in forty-four I did believe no more sinners would be converted **But I never had a vision that no more sinners would be converted**. {1SM 74.2}

I did not see **one ray of light pass from Jesus** to the careless multitude **after He arose**, and they were left in perfect darkness. {EW 55.1}

The Lord has shown **me in vision**, that Jesus **rose up, and shut the door**, and entered the Holy of Holies, at the 7th month 1844 {WLF 12.4}

My accompanying angel bade me look for the travail of soul for sinners as used to be. I looked, but could not see it; **for the time for their salvation is past**. {RH, August 1, 1849 par. 13}

What we have seen and heard of the pestilence, is but the beginning of what we shall see and hear. Soon the dead and dying will be all around us. *Present Truth*, Sept. 1, 1849

The time of trouble has already begun. {21MR 101.5}

I was shown the company present at the Conference. Said the angel: "Some food for worms, some subjects of the seven last plagues, **some will be alive and remain upon the earth to be translated at the coming of Jesus.**"--1T 131, 132 (1856). {LDE 36.3}

I was shown...**Because time is short**, we should work with diligence and double energy. **Our children may never enter college.**--3T 159 (1872). {LDE 36.4}

It is really not wise to have children now. Time is short, **the perils of the last days** are upon us, and **the little children will be largely swept off before this.**--Letter 48, **1876**. {LDE 36.5}

we are about to enter upon the time of trouble such as never was, the fewer the marriages contracted the better for all, both men and women.--5T 366 (**1885**). {LDE 37.1}

Let no one overtax his God-given powers in an effort **to advance the Lord's work more rapidly.** **The power of man cannot hasten the work;**--7T 298 (1902). {LDE 83.3}

By giving the gospel to the world **it is in our power to hasten** our Lord's return.—*The Desire of Ages*, p. 633. (1898) {Ev 696.4}

Those who accept the Saviour, however sincere their conversion, should never be taught to say or to feel that they are saved. This is misleading. {COL 155.1}

Then I was shown that the commandments of God, and the testimony of Jesus Christ, relating to the shut door, could not be separated {ExV 24.2}

We are not to know the definite time either for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit or for the coming of Christ. {1SM 188.1}

Soon we heard the voice of God like many waters, **which gave us the day and hour of Jesus' coming.** {CET 58.1}

If it is the duty of the church to abstain from swine's flesh, God will discover it to more than two or three. He will teach His church their duty. {1T 206.3}

statement made in 1858

I saw that your views concerning swine's would prove no injury if you have them to yourselves; but in your judgment and opinion you have made this question a test, and your actions have plainly shown your faith in this matter. If God requires His people to abstain from swine's flesh, He will convict them on the matter. {1T 206.2}

The eating of **pork has produced** scrofula, **leprosy**, and cancerous humors. [{CD 393.2}]

The mighty shaking has commenced..... {CET 107.3} (*also found in Present Truth, April, 1850*)

There **is to be** a **shaking** among God's people, **but this is not the present truth** to carry to the churches.--1SM 180 (**1890**). {LDE 17.4}

Then **I saw** in relation to **the "daily"** (Daniel 8:12) **that the word "sacrifice" was supplied by man's wisdom** {EW 74.2}

They offer up their **useless prayers** to the apartment which Jesus has left; and Satan, pleased with the deception, assumes a religious character, and leads the minds of these professed Christians to himself, {EW 260.1}

Never is one repulsed who comes to Him with a contrite heart. **Not one sincere prayer is lost** {COL 174.1}

Sorrow filled heaven, **as it was realized that man was lost**, and the world that God created was to be filled with mortals doomed to misery, sickness and death, **and there was no way of escape for the offender.** {EW 126.1}

He then made known to the angelic host **that a way of escape had been made** for lost man. **He told them that he had been pleading with his Father, and had offered to give his life a ransom**, and take the sentence of death upon himself, that through him man might find pardon **EW 126.1**

The Bible states....Deut 18.22 When a prophet speaketh in the name of the Lord, if **the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the Lord hath not spoken**, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him. KJV

If the Testimonies speak not according to the word of God, reject them.
Christ and Belial cannot be united.--Testimonies, vol. 5, p. 691. {3SM 32.4}

Elijah remained hidden in the mountains by the brook Cherith. There he was fed morning and evening **by an angel from heaven.** {RH, August 28, 1913 par. 1}

Thousands have been induced to enlist with the understanding that this war was to exterminate slavery; but now that they are fixed, they find that **they have been deceived, that the object of this war is not to abolish slavery, but to preserve it as it is.** {1T 254.1} Failed vision

It will be much harder to **help the colored people now than immediately** after their **emancipation from slavery**. {4MR 15.2} Letter 165, 1899, pp. 4-7. (To F. E. Belden, October 22, 1899.

God cannot take to heaven the slave who has been kept in ignorance and degradation, knowing nothing of God or the Bible, fearing nothing but his master's lash, {EW 276.1} (Also recorded in 1858, in *Spiritual Gifts*, volume 1, page 193)

I saw that some were quickly destroyed, while others suffered longer. They were punished according to the deeds done in the body. Some were many days consuming, and **just as long as there was a portion of them unconsumed, all the sense of suffering remained. Said the angel, "The worm of life shall not die; their fire shall not be quenched as long as there is the **least particle** for it to prey upon." {EW 294.1}**

In the ark, beneath where the angels' wings were spread, **was a golden pot of Manna, of a yellowish cast; and I saw a rod, which Jesus said was Aaron's; I saw it bud, blossom and bear fruit. [Numbers 17:8.] And I saw two long golden rods, on which hung silver wires, and on the wires most glorious grapes; one cluster was more than a man here could carry. {WLF 16.1} Ten Commandments missing**

Those who claim **that faith alone will save them**, are trusting to a rope of sand; for faith is made perfect by good works. {RH, April 13, 1911 par. 14}

The Bible states....Rom 3:27-28

Where is boasting then? It is excluded. **By what law?** of works? Nay: but by **the law of faith**.²⁸ Therefore we conclude that **a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law**.KJV

The testimonies **Never** Contradict the Bible.--The Bible must be your counselor. Study it and the testimonies God has given; **for they never contradict His Word**.--Letter 106, 1907. If the Testimonies speak not according to the word of God, reject them. Christ and Belial cannot be united.--Testimonies, vol. 5, p. 691. {3SM 32.4}

The blood of Christ, while it was to release the repentant sinner from the condemnation of the law, **was not to cancel the sin**; it would stand on record in the sanctuary **until the final atonement**; so in the type the blood of the sin offering removed the sin from the penitent, but it rested in the sanctuary until the day of atonement. {CCh 348.1}

The action of the water upon the lime adds **fury to the intense heat, and causes earthquakes, volcanoes, and fiery issues**. {PP 108.2} failed

The angel tells Cain that it was no injustice on the part of God, or partiality shown to Abel; {1SP 55.3}

They **gather together a mass of Scripture** and pile it as proof around their asserted theories. This has been done over and over again during the past fifty years. And while the Scriptures are God's Word, and are to be respected, the application of them, **if such application moves one pillar of the foundation that God has sustained these fifty years, is a great mistake**. {MR760 19.2}

People need to be taught **that drugs do not cure disease**. It is true that they sometimes afford present relief, and the patient appears to recover as the result of their use; this is because nature has sufficient **vital force** to expel the poison and to correct the conditions that caused the disease. Health is recovered in spite of the

drug. **But in most cases the drug only changes the form and location of the disease.** {CH 89.2}

The flowers and green foliage have not appeared, **but mother earth has thrown from her bosom her white mantle, and she even now bears a cheerful aspect in the bright sunshine and shadows.** {HR, March 1, 1871 par. 3}

My guide now opened the door, and we both passed out. He bade me take up again all the things I had left without. This done, he handed me **a green cord coiled up closely.** This he directed me to place next my heart, and when I wished to see Jesus, take it from my bosom, and stretch it to the utmost {CET 27.2}

God presented before the universe a world in which even **His all-seeing eye** could find no spot or stain, no defect or crookedness. {CTr 8.2}

The **great Architect** wants to form us into a holy temple for himself. {RH, May 29, 1900 par. 12}

Females **possess** less **vital force** than the other sex, and are deprived very much of the bracing, invigorating air, by their in-doors life.. {ApM 27.1}

Our Instructor said: "This darkness is the result of men's following their own course. {PM 284.3} Who is "our instructor"? Is it found in the Bible?

The guide who accompanied me gave me the information of the spiritual standing before God of these men who were passing judgment upon their brethren. {11MR 234.3} Who is "the guide"? Is it found in the Bible?

I dreamed that **a young man of noble appearance** came into the room where I was, immediately after I had been speaking. **This same person has appeared before me in important dreams to instruct me from time to time during the**

past twenty-six years. Said he, You have called the attention of the people to important subjects, which, to a large number, are strange and new. To some they are intensely interesting. The laborers in word and doctrine have done what they could in presenting the truth, which has raised inquiry in minds and awakened an interest. **But unless there is a more thorough effort made to fasten these impressions upon minds, your efforts now made will prove nearly fruitless.**—
RH Nov. 4, 1875. {TA 253.3}

The **holy Watcher from heaven** is present at this season to make it one of soul searching, of conviction of sin, and of the blessed assurance of sins forgiven.
{CCh 300.5}

One class is those whom God makes **channels of light**, and the other class is those whom Satan uses as his agents, who are wise to do evil. {CG 303.3}

A new and symmetrical character may be formed by laying up one grace and good deed upon another, thus climbing in sanctification. {ST, May 6, 1880 par. 10}

Peter's ladder of eight rounds

Christ is the head of the church and the Saviour **of the mystical body**. {AH 215.1} As our lifeblood, so is the love of Christ diffused through every part of His mystical body. {DA 417.2}

Ellen White uses Masonic terminologies regularly throughout her writings(as can be seen above). On inspection of her writings, you will see that: **The term “all seeing eye” was used 56 times and the totality of all these unique sayings amounts to more than 2000, when we also consider her use of words like “illumination and “enlightenment”.**

Things to Prayerfully Consider:

In considering all of the previous evidence, it is imperative to ask the Seventh Day Adventist theologian to explain the following distinctive pillars of SDA beliefs...

- *That through the confessions of the penitent sinner, (that is to say the leaven of sin), that sin could be mingled with the blood of the sacrifice and thus pollute holy places.*
- *That Aaron, on a daily basis, entered into the holy place of the sanctuary with a sin-laden blood.*
- *That God set a date for definite time for one particular day and beyond that date, reverted back to his original position of no date setting. Thus, all those who deny the 22nd October 1844 date, as well those who continue to set any other dates, are deceived by Satan.*
- *That an evening and morning sacrifice, pertaining to the earthly sanctuary, can be prophetically interpreted to mean one literal year. In this case, prescribing a beginning date of the sanctuary's defilement many years before the event had even occurred, seems impossible to reconcile.*
- *That "within the veil" means without the veil, or before the veil, which would be the first apartment of the Sanctuary.*
- *That Christ did not actually make, complete, or finish Atonement on Calvary, as we are meant to believe that his blood shed on the cross was not to cancel our sin, but to merely transfer it to the heavenly sanctuary as a down payment awaiting the investigative judgement which began on the 22nd of October 1844. This is after spending nearly 1800 years*

of ministry of the order of the Aaronic ministry in the first apartment of the Heavenly Sanctuary as explained in our Seventh Day Adventist sanctuary doctrine.

- *The seal of God is believed to be the Sabbath as the seventh day when it should be understood to mean the Holy Spirit. (see Ephesians 1:13).*
- *That Jesus would not bring an accusation against Satan as Michael the archangel because only the “Lord” could chastise him. (Ellen White)*
- *Despite documentation speaking contrary, we should believe and promote that Ellen White never had a vision endorsing of the shut door of mercy*
- *That we should believe that the plan of redemption was instigated by Christ’s persistent pleading and this plan was devised after the fall of man in a hopeless situation with no means of escape, surrounded by angels of anxious heart*
- *That all the writings of Ellen White, personal letters, books and testimonies contain not even one heretical statement.*

Conclusion

In conclusion, there will be many that will say that these positions and views are no longer held by, us as a people of the Seventh Day Adventist Church. Whilst this opinion may have some merit for us individually, on a case by case basis, as a collective group of believers it is not so. If this was indeed true- that we no longer held to doctrinal positions that could not be substantiated by God's Holy Word- then nothing would give me more joy than to put a “thus says the Lord” to our current literature and publications.

However, this is not the case, and there is a great incongruence between some of our best theologians and our high office administrators, between those that

know their Bible, and what the Bible actually teaches. Many of these wish to continue to adhere and administer a historical church position to keep the myths alive, when these are not in harmony with the word of God. All through Adventist Church history, honest Christian men have been willing to make a stand for the Gospel and what the Bible actually teaches. Unfortunately, many of our brightest lights over the last hundred years have been removed from church office because of their faithful witness and unfailing loyalty to the pure, unadulterated Word of God. I only too well understand that their hearts were moved and inspired by a belief that as a people, we have always proclaimed, as Ellen White herself reiterated, that...

“The Bible and the Bible only, is the foundation of our faith”. {HS 171.2}

It may be ignorance or a naiveté to believe that the Seventh Day Adventist General Conference Administrative body may finally embrace the gospel as it is taught in the unmitigated Word God. Copious amounts of biblically based documentation have been brought to light to lead us out of these Historic errors. It is my prayer that these may no longer continue to line darkened cupboards, locked away from earnest enquiry. I pray they be brought out into the light to be measured against the unchanging word of God. For me to believe in the myths that I once held so dear, is to deny the facts as they are clearly presented.

*What say you? Is our current Historic SDA Sanctuary Doctrine a Biblical
fact or spiritual fiction?*

You decide...

Your brother in Christ,

Timothy Ward

Email: independentwelfare@hotmail.com

All biblical references are quoted from the King James Version Bible, unless otherwise stated.

All words written by myself are bold italics and marked with an asterisk *

All Ellen White quotes are referenced with parentheses {....} and are taken directly from her writings on the CD mentioned in the reference list and produced by the Ellen White Estate. (see below)

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Codes used according to the above CD:

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- 3MR - Manuscript Releases Volume Three [Nos. 162-209] (1990)
- 4MR - Manuscript Releases Volume Four [Nos. 210-259] (1990)
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Your brother in Christ Jesus, Tim Ward.

email: independentwelfare@hotmail.com

Sydney, Australia. July 2012.