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*"Watchman,  
what of the night?"*

*The watchman said, The morning cometh, and also the night: if ye will enquire, enquire ye: return, come. Isaiah 21:11-12*

### NO "NEW ORGANIZATION"

We cannot step off the foundation that God has established. We cannot now enter into a new organization; for this would mean apostasy from the truth.<sup>1</sup>

These words were written in regard to the alpha apostasy which was taking place at the time this statement was penned. The enemy of souls was presenting the supposition that a great reformation was to take place among Seventh-day Adventists, "and that this reformation would consist in giving up the doctrines which stand as pillars of our faith, and engaging in a process of reorganization." If the alpha had succeeded, what would have resulted? "The principles of truth that God in His wisdom has given the remnant church, would be discarded. Our religion would be changed. The fundamental principles that have sustained the work for the last fifty years [written circa 1904] would be accounted as error. A new organization would be established. Books of a new order would be written."<sup>2</sup>

"Who has authority to begin such a movement? We have our Bibles. We have our experience, attested to by the miraculous working of the Holy Spirit. We have a truth that admits no compromise. Shall we not repudiate everything that is not in harmony with this truth?"<sup>3</sup>

"After the passing of time in 1844. . . light was given that helped [our spiritual forefathers] to understand the scriptures in regard to Christ, His mission, and His priesthood. A line of truth, extending from that time to the time when we shall enter the city of God was made plain"<sup>4</sup> through the study of the Word, and attested to by the Holy Spirit through the ministry of Ellen G. White.

If, therefore, there is evidence that the truth has been repudiated, and men in their official capacity have led the church to step down from the foundation which God established in the beginning, then indeed a new organization has been formed. Incorporated organization, per se, is not the hallmark of the continuity of the true church of God. If such were the case, the Roman Catholic church could rightly claim its apostolic succession for it is the corporate successor to the forms of organization which developed in the Christian church in the first centuries. But truth and truth alone determines the continuity of the Church of God. Those who hold these truths that admit of no compromise constitute the true successors of the visible church on earth. Thus "from the beginning, faithful souls have constituted the church on earth."<sup>5</sup>

A church speaks through its official publications. That is why when a new organization has been established, books of a new order, at variance with what has been previously published, are printed. What do we find today in regard to the teaching of the church relative to Christ, His mission, and His priesthood? What is the concept today of the unique position assigned to us in the book of Revelation, for a new organization would "estimate as nothing the light that Christ came from heaven to give to John to give to His people."<sup>6</sup>

Here is the evidence from the official publications of the church as compared with the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy:

\_\_\_\_\_. *Seventh-day Adventists Answer Questions on Doctrine.*  
Washington D. C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association,  
1957.

["This volume can be viewed as truly representative of the faith and beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church."<sup>7</sup>

#### ITS TEACHINGS

Re: The Incarnation - "Although born in the flesh, He was nevertheless God, and was exempt from the inherited passions, and pollutions that corrupt the natural descendents of Adam. He was 'without sin,' not only in His outward conduct, but in His very nature."<sup>8</sup>

The Bible teaches - "Wherefore in all things it behoved Him to be made like unto His brethren."<sup>9</sup> He "was in all points tempted like as we are yet without sin."<sup>10</sup>

The Spirit of Prophecy concurs - "Think of Christ's humiliation. He took upon Himself, fallen suffering human nature, degraded and defiled by sin."<sup>11</sup>

Re: The Atonement - "Only Christ the Creator, the one and only God-man, could make a substitutionary atonement for men's transgressions. And this Christ did completely, perfectly, and once for all, on Golgotha."<sup>12</sup>

"Jesus our surety entered the 'holy places', and appeared in the presence of God for us. But it was not with the *hope* of obtaining something for us at that time, or at some future time. No! He had *already obtained it for us on the cross.*"<sup>13</sup>

The Bible teaches - "He [Christ] *entered* once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but His own blood, *thus* securing an eternal redemption."<sup>14</sup>

"The blood of His sacrifice is His own blood, not the blood of goats and calves; and *thus He has entered* the sanctuary once and for all and *secured an eternal deliverance.*"<sup>15</sup>

The Spirit of Prophecy declares - "The intercession of Christ in man's behalf in the sanctuary above is as essential to the plan of salvation as was His death upon the cross. By His death He began that work which after His resurrection He ascended to complete in heaven."<sup>16</sup>

"Christ as High Priest within the veil so immortalized Calvary that though He liveth unto God, He dies continually to sin, and thus if any man sin he has an Advocate with the Father."<sup>17</sup>

"It is through His intercession that we, through faith, repentance, and conversion, are enabled to become partakers of the divine nature, and thus escape the corruption that is in the world through lust."<sup>18</sup>

Re: The Concept of the Remnant - *In this area the concept becomes blurred. After quoting Rev. 14:6, the statement is made - "We believe that God brought the Seventh-day Adventist movement into being to carry His special message to the world at this time."*<sup>19</sup> *Two pages prior it lists "the National Council of Churches and the National Association of Evangelicals" and declares - "We recognize that God has been leading in all these revivals and reformations."*<sup>20</sup> *The same writer or writers exempt these same groups from the category of "Babylon" as defined in Revelation.*<sup>21</sup>

This position is most difficult to understand in the light of the fact that in the book of Revelation, there are only two women - one in white, and the other in scarlet. The one in scarlet, symbolically, Babylon the mother of harlots is composed

of three parts - the dragon, the beast, and the false prophet (apostate Protestantism).<sup>22</sup> Does the book - Questions on Doctrine - seek to "estimate as nothing the light that Christ came from heaven to give to John to give to His people"?<sup>5</sup>

LeRoy Edwin Froom, *Movement of Destiny*. Washington D. C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1971

[The Foreword was written by Elder R. H. Pierson in his official capacity as President of the General Conference. The Preface was written by Elder Neal C. Wilson in his official capacity as Vice-President of the General Conference for the North American Division, and as Chairman of the Guiding Committee for the writing of the book.<sup>23</sup>]

Re: The Incarnation - "5. TOOK SINLESS NATURE OF ADAM BEFORE FALL. . .  
"Christ was like Adam before the Fall - 'a pure, sinless being, without a taint of sin upon Him.'"<sup>24</sup>

The Bible teaches - "God sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin condemned sin in the flesh."<sup>25</sup>

The Spirit of Prophecy states - "The great work of redemption could be carried out only by the Redeemer taking the place of fallen Adam. . . The King of glory proposed to humble Himself to fallen humanity! He would place His feet in Adam's steps. He would take man's fallen nature and engage to cope with the strong foe who triumphed over Adam."<sup>26</sup>

Re: The Atonement - "The transaction of the Cross, then, is indisputably the Act of Atonement."<sup>27</sup>

The Spirit of Prophecy indicates - "Christ's sacrifice in behalf of man was full and complete. The *condition* of the atonement had been fulfilled. The work for which He had come to this world had been accomplished."<sup>28</sup>

Gottfried Oosterwal, *Mission Possible*. Nashville, Tennessee: Southern Publishing Association, 1972

[A recent book review indicates that "this is a book of a decade and should be read by every Seventh-day Adventist minister!"<sup>29</sup>]

Re: The Concept of the Remnant - "Today Seventh-day Adventists define the essence of the church as 'Jesus Christ existing in the minds, or hearts of those who have accepted Him as their Saviour, who love Him and one another, and who obey His Word as they understand it.' . . . Seventh-day Adventists 'do not believe that they alone constitute the true children of God today.' . . . Each mission society that lifts up Christ before men fulfills part of the divine plan for the evangelization of the world."<sup>30</sup>

"Since the early 1960's, a whole new missionary spirit has gripped many of the evangelical churches. . . This new missionary spirit was born

among the churches of the Third World, and there [Asia & Africa] it is effecting the Christian church most strongly. . . As yet we do not know the consequence of this new pattern for Christianity. For the Adventist Church, however, it means taking more seriously than ever before the recognition that God has other agencies in the world to evangelize the whole world in this generation. Therefore conscientious cooperation in this worldwide evangelistic thrust is imperative.<sup>31</sup>

The Spirit of Prophecy clearly defines our position - "The Lord has been pleased to give His people the third angel's message as a testing message to bear to the world. John beholds a people distinct and separate from the world, who refuse to worship the beast or his image, who bear God's sign, keeping holy His Sabbath - the seventh day to be kept holy as a memorial of the living God, the Creator of heaven and earth. Of them the apostle writes, 'Here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.'"<sup>32</sup>

Not only does Oosterwal "estimate as nothing" the light of the book of Revelation by judging the present religious awakening as of God, but he makes of none effect the light given to this people through the Spirit of Prophecy which helps us evaluate correctly the final movements of this world's history. Note his words:

Ellen G. White and other early Adventists believed they saw the fulfillment of prophecies in Christianity's turning away from the eternal gospel and the belief in Christ's second coming, which in earlier years had stimulated the great Protestant missionary movement. In no uncertain terms did the Adventist leaders denounce the situation of these "apostate" Protestant churches. However, the future was still veiled to them [*Ellen G. White and early Adventist leaders*]. God in His mercy and patience restrained the powers of evil from taking full control of this world and His churches." [*Note use of plural*]<sup>33</sup>

"The very last deception of Satan will be to make of none effect the testimony of the Spirit of God."<sup>34</sup> The last deception is the omega! We have apostatized from the truth; we have stepped off the foundation which God established; our religion has been changed. The conclusion is inescapable that the presently constituted incorporated church with headquarters at Washington D. C. is a different organization than the one God established in 1844 upon the foundation laid "by prayerful study of the word and by revelation." The present foundation of the "new" organization is stated thus:

No doctrinal teaching can be said to be a "denominational" position

unless and until it is held generally, or is definitely adopted by common consent and acceptance. Not until then can it rightly be called "a testing truth" of the Advent Faith.<sup>35</sup>

God's faithful children cannot continue in such an organization - "a new organization; for this would mean apostasy from the truth."<sup>1</sup> The Word of the Lord is:

As a people, we are to stand on the platform of eternal truth that has withstood test and trial. We are to hold to the sure pillars of our faith. The principles of truth that God revealed to us are our only true foundation. They have made us what we are. The lapse of time has not lessened their value. It is the constant effort of the enemy to remove these truths from their setting, and to put in their place spurious theories. He will bring in everything that he possibly can to carry out his deceptive designs. But the Lord will raise up men of keen perception, who will give these truths their proper place in the plan of God.<sup>36</sup>

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- <sup>1</sup>Ellen G. White, Selected Messages, bk. ii, p. 390 (Ms. 129, 1905)  
<sup>2</sup>Ellen G. White, Special Testimonies, Series B, No. 2, p. 54  
<sup>3</sup>Ibid., p. 55  
<sup>4</sup>Ibid., pp. 56-57  
<sup>5</sup>Ellen G. White, Acts of the Apostles, p. 11  
<sup>6</sup>Ellen G. White, Special Testimonies, Series B, No. 7, p. 37  
<sup>7</sup>Questions on Doctrine, p. 9  
<sup>8</sup>Ibid., p. 383  
<sup>9</sup>Hebrews 2:17  
<sup>10</sup>Hebrews 4:15  
<sup>11</sup>Ellen G. White, Youth's Instructor, Dec. 20, 1900 (4BC:1147)  
<sup>12</sup>Questions on Doctrine, p. 400  
<sup>13</sup>Ibid., p. 381 (Emphasis theirs)  
<sup>14</sup>Hebrews 9:12 RSV  
<sup>15</sup>Ibid., NEB  
<sup>16</sup>Ellen G. White, The Great Controversy, p. 489  
<sup>17</sup>Ellen G. White, Ms. 50, 1900  
<sup>18</sup>Ellen G. White, Ms. 29, 1906  
<sup>19</sup>Questions on Doctrine, p. 190  
<sup>20</sup>Ibid., pp. 188-189  
<sup>21</sup>Ibid., p. 201  
<sup>22</sup>Revelation 16:19, 13 See also Testimonies to Ministers, p. 117  
<sup>23</sup>L. E. Froom, Movement of Destiny, pp. 13, 15-16  
<sup>24</sup>Ibid., p. 497  
<sup>25</sup>Romans 8:3  
<sup>26</sup>Ellen G. White, Review & Herald, Feb. 24, 1874  
<sup>27</sup>Froom, Op. cit., p. 501  
<sup>28</sup>Ellen G. White, Acts of the Apostles, p. 29  
<sup>29</sup>The Ministry, "Recommended Reading", July, 1973, p. 44  
<sup>30</sup>Gottfried Oosterwal, Mission Possible, p. 34  
<sup>31</sup>Ibid., pp. 38-39  
<sup>32</sup>Ellen G. White, Letter 98, 1900  
<sup>33</sup>Oosterwal, Op. cit., p. 38  
<sup>34</sup>Ellen G. White, Selected Messages, bk., i, p. 48  
<sup>35</sup>L. E. Froom, Movement of Destiny, p. 149  
<sup>36</sup>Ellen G. White, Special Testimonies, Series B, No. 2, p. 51

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SUPPLEMENT

Did You Know?

Each mission society that lifts up Christ before men fulfills part of the divine plan for the evangelization of the world.<sup>1</sup>

This statement is footnoted, and the reader is referred to Questions on Doctrine pp. 625, 626. On these pages this concept is declared to be a part of an action first adopted by the General Conference Autumn Council in 1926.

Again:

Adventists "recognize every agency that lifts up Christ before men as a part of the divine plan for the evangelization of the world."<sup>2</sup>

The statement is again footnoted, and the source is given as the "Constitution, Bylaws, and Working Policy of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, revised edition, October, 1970, p. 185."

Do you believe the statement to be true? If you do, how do you read Early Writings, pp. 54-56? In this chapter, entitled, "The End of the 2300 Days", it is stated unequivocally that the true Christ is in the Most Holy Place of the Sanctuary in heaven, and that those who still offer prayers to Christ where He was prior to October 22, 1844, are praying to Satan, and that Satan is answering those prayers. To whom only was the truth about the heavenly Sanctuary committed? How can any agency that does not understand the work of Christ in the second apartment of the heavenly tabernacle truly uplift Christ before men? Would they not be uplifting a false Christ? How can we write into the Constitution of the General Conference the recognition of the preaching of a false Christ as a part of the divine plan for the evangelization of the world? How much greater can our denial of the sacred trust committed to us become? How much darker our apostasy?

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<sup>1</sup>Gottfried Oosterwal, Mission Possible, (Southern Publishing Association, Nashville, Tennessee, 1972) p. 34

<sup>2</sup>Ibid, p. 82

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Available:

<u>Letters to the Churches</u> , M. L. Andreasen (supply limited)	2 for \$1.00
<u>An Interpretive History of the Doctrine of the Incarnation as Taught by the Seventh-day Adventist Church</u> , Wm. H. Grotheer	4.00
<u>The Holy Flesh Movement, 1899 - 1901</u> , Wm. H. Grotheer	3.00