

Seventh-Day Adventism

1 Jn.4:1-6

- Judaism: early threat to early churches
- Seventh-Day Adventism takes up where they left off

I. History Of Adventism

William Miller, b.1782

- United with Baptist Church
- 1831: discovers by prophecies exact time, year, day when Christ appears
 - 1843: between March 21, 1843 – March 21, 1844
 - Failed... Changed date: Oct 22, 1844... Failed again
- Founder of Adventism: confessed it was all a mistake

Ellen Harmon, b.1827

- Holiness Methodist Church
- Disfellowshipped for joining Millerites
 - Age 9: broken nose
 - Age 13: first contact with Miller's teaching (three years before 1843)
- Defended Miller's failure – Lord's fault!
- Married James White (1846) – headquarters, Battle Creek, MI
- Purpose: sabbath, advent of Jesus

I. History Of Adventism

II. White's Claims
Contradict NT

Claims visions, modern-day revelation from God without proof. Common –

- Swedenborg, b. 1688, Stockholm, Sweden
- Ann Lee, b. 1736, England
- Mrs. Joanna Southcott, b. 1750, England
- Joseph Smith, b. 1805
- Ellen G. White claimed divine inspiration as prophets of Bible
 - All her utterances, even in a letter, or in a sermon, are inspired

White never worked one miracle; not one prediction came true

- Later editions of her works underwent thousands of changes
- Contrast Mk.16:17-20 (Ac.8:5-13)
- 2 Co.12:12 ... Gal.3:...5 ... 1 Th.1:5
 - New revelation required new confirmation, Hb.2:3-4
 - Why do they reject claims of Mormons?

White could not discern spirits

- Canright, President of Ohio conference
- Re-elected president
- Mr. White: 'just the man for the place'
 - 1 Co.12:10; Ac.5; 13:10

Revelations were not for personal advantage of the prophet

- Elder White ruled everything
- E.G.White's revelations always favored her and husband
 - 1 K.22, Micaiah
 - Jer.1:6-7, Jeremiah
 - Ac.22:17-21, Paul

Whites began in poverty

- Became leaders . . . became rich
- Waited on in most slavish manner
- Urged others to cut down on possessions as she took large royalties on books
 - What biblical prophet enriched himself by his inspiration?

Failed predictions disprove her claims

- Lord did not come in 1843, 1844, 1845
- White made many predictions – not one came to pass. Dt.18:20-22

Deuteronomy 18

20 But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.’ 21 And if you say in your heart, ‘How shall we know the word which the Lord has not spoken?’ — 22 when a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord, if the thing does not happen or come to pass, that is the thing which the Lord has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him.

What's the harm? (1/2)

1. Taught error, false doctrine. Mt.7:15;
Jn.8:32; 2 Th.1:8-10
2. She and followers were forced to lie, rewrite
her books, defend her errors. Rv.21:8
3. To justify her claims / defend her errors, they
compare them to 'errors in the Bible.'
Further destroys faith, Mt.18:6ff

What's the harm? (2/2)

4. Her doctrines divided people. Jn.17:20-22
5. Her doctrines promote doubts and infidelity.
Jn.17:20-22
6. Her errors have led to six denominations:
Advent Christian Church, Church of God,
Churches of God in Jesus Christ,
Evangelical Adventists,
Life and Advent Union, and
Seventh-Day Adventist Church