



What Do Seventh Day Adventists Believe?

(1) "Christianity, Cults, & Religions 7- Edition, Side-by-side comparison chart of 20 groups, Rose Publishing, 2010 (*My added comments are in italics and in parentheses.* – Karen Sue Nyquist)

1. What do Adventists believe about Ellen G. White? – They believe Ellen G. White, the "founder" of Seventh Day Adventism, was a messenger from God gifted with the spirit of prophecy. Adventists officially state, "As the Lord's messenger, her writings are a continuing and authoritative source of truth and provide for the church comfort, guidance, instruction, and correction" *"The Dallas Statement 17"* (emphasis supplied). Ellen White's writings are called the "Spirit of Prophecy" and "The Testimony of Jesus". She is considered by Adventists to be as inspired as Bible writers. Her writings are considered to be as inspired as the Bible." (Ex-Adventist Outreach – a ministry of former Seventh-day Adventists, <http://www.exadventist.com/home/intro/tabid/64/default.aspx>)

2. What do Adventists believe about God? – They believe God is a unity of three persons – Father, Son and Holy Spirit, all eternal. God the Father is generally understood to possess a physical body. Both trinitarianism and anti-trinitarianism are believed in the church. (1)

3. What do Adventists believe about Jesus? – They believe that Jesus is our example to prove we can live sinlessly. (1) - ***(But the Bible says that we do sin: "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:8-9).***

They believe Jesus' sacrifice on the cross did not complete the atonement; since 1844, he has been applying his blood in heaven in an ongoing "investigative judgment" after which he will return. (1) - ***(But the Bible says that Jesus offered Himself once, atoned for our sins, and said that it is finished. "He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world" (1 John 2:2 NIV). "But this Man (Jesus Christ), after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God," (Hebrews 10:12). "So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, 'It is finished!' And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit" (John 19:30).***

4. What do Adventists believe about the Holy Spirit? – Originally, Seventh-Day Adventists thought the Holy Spirit was a force or power from God, today the Holy Spirit is understood to be the third person in the Godhead. (1)

5. What do Adventists believe about Salvation? – They believe salvation is initially by grace through faith, but it must be maintained by commandment-keeping and repentance. Seventh-day (Saturday) Sabbath observance is the sign of **the seal of God, Sunday worship is the mark of the beast.** (1) *(Another source states that all who worship on Sunday will receive the mark of the beast in the future.)* - ***(But the Bible says that the Holy Spirit is our seal. "In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise" (Ephesians 1:13). "And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption" (Ephesians 4:30.) - The Bible also says that the mark will be received in the right hand or forehead of all those who worship the beast. "He (the False Prophet) causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast (the Anti-Christ), or the number of his name" (Revelation 13:16-17). Christians who are worshiping God in church on Sundays are not worshiping the beast.)***



Jesus the Son of God



Michael the Archangel



We Have a Mediator at the Judgment

6. What do Adventists believe about Satan? – They believe Satan is the scapegoat to be punished in the lake of fire for the sins of the saved. Our sins will ultimately be placed on Satan. (White, Ellen, *The Great Controversy*, p. 422, 485.) - **(But the Bible says that our sins are put on the lamb and Jesus is the Lamb of God, not Satan.** “The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, ‘Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!’” (John 1:9).

7. What do Adventists believe about Death? – They believe humans have no spirit, so at death the body goes into the ground and the breath goes to God. Nothing remains except in God’s memory. At judgment, the lake of fire annihilates the wicked. They believe that a person is not naturally immortal. When a person dies, they remain unconscious until they are resurrected. Eternal life is a gift which God gives only to righteous Christians; the rest will be ultimately annihilated and no longer exist in any form. Thus, they do not believe that a person goes to heaven for an eternal reward or to hell for never-ending torture immediately upon death as do many other conservative Christian denominations. (Religious Tolerance.org. “Beliefs and Practices of the **Seventh-Day Adventist** Denomination,” <http://www.religioustolerance.org/sda2.htm>) - **(But the Bible says that when we die we go to be with Christ:** “For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better” (Phillipians 1:21-23).

8. What do Adventists believe about their Church? - The SDA Church believes it is God’s one, remnant church. Old Testament clean and unclean food laws are obeyed. SDA “health message” includes abstinence from alcohol, tobacco, and caffeine and advocates veganism. (1) **(Ordination of women pastors, post-tribulation and pre-millineum gathering of saints into heaven with Christ.)**

(2) CARM – Christian Apologetics & Research Ministry (<https://carm.org/religious-movements/seventh-day-adventism/what-does-seventh>) - (My added comments are in italics and in parentheses. – Karen Sue Nyquist)

9. What do Adventists believe about Michael the Archangel? – They believe Jesus is Michael the Archangel. “In contrast to these ungodly men is the Lord Jesus, also called Michael the Archangel, for He is over the entire angelic host. When He was challenged by Satan about His intentions to resurrect Moses, He didn’t come at Satan with a blistering attack, nor did He condemn him with mockery. He simply said, ‘God rebuke you for claiming Moses’ body.’” (2) **(This is how the Clear Word Bible, sold and distributed by the Seventh Day Adventist Church, has re-written Jude 9 to support their doctrine.)** - **But the Bible shows that Jesus is not an angel** “For to which of the angels did He (God) ever say: ‘You are My Son, Today I have begotten You?’ And again: ‘I will be to Him a Father, And He shall be to Me a Son?’ But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: ‘Let all the angels of God worship Him.’ And of the angels He says: ‘Who makes His angels spirits And His ministers a flame of fire.’ But to the Son He says: ‘Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom’” (Hebrews 1:5-8).

10. What do Adventists believe about the Judgment? - Because they believe they will have to stand before God without a mediator, Adventists believe that they must be perfect before Jesus returns” (Ex-Adventist Outreach – a ministry of former Seventh-day Adventists, <http://www.exadventist.com/home/intro/tabid/64/default.aspx>) - **(But the Bible says that Jesus is still our mediator and intercessor.** “For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus” (1 Timothy 2:5). “Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them” (Hebrews 7:25).