**Study on Seventh Day Adventism**

**Christian or Not?**

Many today do not really know how to classify this group. From the use of terminology at first glance they appear to have many similarities to the evangelical position. Can this group (Adventists) trace its teachings back to the Apostles and the early church in Acts?

Are Adventists fundamentally sound in Christian doctrine? Are we as Christian lacking in our faith because we have failed to follow some of the teachings that the Seventh Day Adventist (SDA) claim we are not. Is our Sunday worship the mark of the beast?

We must look at all these teachings of the SDA and compare it to the Word of God to honestly answer these questions. We must honestly search our hearts and carefully ask the Holy Spirit in prayer to illuminate the path for us.

The main controversial point between different denominational groups is the view of the Law. There by we must look at this point first.

1. OVERVIEW OF THE TERM . . . SABBATH
	1. **Never COMMANDED . . . before EX 20:10**
	2. **Never COMMANDED . . . in the NT**
	3. Not by . . .Jesus
	4. Not by . . .Peter, Apostle to the Jews
	5. Not by . . .Paul, Apostle to the Gentiles
	6. Not by . . .any other Apostle nor Disciple of Christ
* **Jewish Sabbath** - Saturday, the 7th Day

* Pictures man's work and his need for rest
* **The Lords Day** - Sunday
* Pictures salvation by Grace, man resting in Jesus Christ.
	1. **The Bible does not say that**
1. Christians to observe the Sabbath
2. Sunday Worship is the Mark of the Beast
3. Sunday is the Christian Sabbath, nor any other kind of Sabbath.
4. Sabbath always means the 7th.
5. THE MOSAIC LAW . . . IS AN OLD TESTAMENT COMMANDMENT
6. **The Sabbath is not a New Testament Commandment**
7. It was given to the Jews under the Law
8. Of all sins mentioned in the NT, Sabbath breaking is never mentioned - not once!
9. Jesus who knew no sin, committed no sin, did not command his disciples to observe the Sabbath nor keep it.
* Jesus was always . . .questioned why he doesn't observe it like the other Jews did.
* Jesus never once . . .asked the public to observe the Sabbath.
* The rigorous Sabbath keeping Jews sought to kill Jesus . . .because he did not keep the Sabbath (**John 5:18**).
* The disciples worked on the Sabbath . . .gathering grain (**Mat 12:1-8**)
* Jesus responded to the Jews . . .from the mouth of the Prophet Hosea (**HOS 6:6**) where he desires mercy and not sacrifice . . .
	+ furthermore had they understood the scriptures . . .
	+ they would not have condemned the guiltless.
* The Sabbath is a ceremonial law . . . which is like the sacrifices which were fulfilled in Jesus Christ.
* Jesus did not teach . . .the NT Churches to observe the Sabbath
* The Council at Jerusalem . . .did not send word to the New Gentile Converts (nor even mentions it) to observe the Sabbath (**Acts 15:19-24**).
* The book of Hebrews nor James which were written to the dispersed Israelites . . .does not refer to the Sabbath as a day to keep!
* Paul in all his Epistles . . .never once mentioned that Christians are to observe the Sabbath.
1. THE SABBATH IS . . . MOSAIC LAW
* It’s given to the Nation of Israel . . .under the Law
* It’s absent from the . . .NT
* It’s absent before . . .Mt. Sinai
* No commandment in the . . .Garden of Eden concerning the Sabbath.
* No commandment is given to the following OT individuals . . .concerning the Sabbath:
	1. Enoch
	2. Methuselah
	3. Lamech
	4. Noah prior nor after the flood
	5. Japhet nor Ham
	6. Shem, the line of Christ
	7. Terah, Abrams father
	8. Abraham
	9. Isaac
	10. Esau nor Jacob
	11. Joseph
	12. Aaron
* We find the first time the word Sabbath appears in the bible is in **EX 16:23**.
* From **GE 8:10-12** and **GE 29:27** we know that the Israelites knew the concept of weeks prior to **EX 16**.
* We can see that the Children of Israel did not understand the concept of Sabbath, they had never before observed it.
* **NEH 9:13-14** Thou camest down also upon mount Sinai, and spakest with them from heaven, and gavest them right judgments, and true laws, good statutes and commandments: 14 And madest known unto them thy holy sabbath, and commandedst them precepts, statutes, and laws, by the hand of Moses thy servant:
* From **verse 13** we see that God came down to earth and spake (to Moses) in **verse 14** God made known unto them (through Moses) his Holy Sabbath.
* It was not a previous commandment like marriage, tithe, and circumcision. It is on Mt. Sinai that God made it known! (**EX 20:10-12**).
* How can something be known if it was already known? Thus we should conclude from **NEH 9:13-14** that God himself made known unto His Chosen People the Israelites of His Sabbath. Why?
1. THE SABBATH GIVEN AS A SPECIAL SIGN TO ISRAEL
* The Sabbath revealed to Moses to be given to Israel as a special covenant between God and the Nation forever!
* **EX 31:12-17** And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 13 Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it [is] a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that [ye] may know that I [am] the LORD that doth sanctify you. 16 Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, [for] a perpetual covenant. 17 It [is] a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever: for [in] six days the LORD made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed.

(The covenant repeated)

* **EZK 20:12** Moreover also I gave them my sabbaths, to be a sign between me and them, that they might know that I [am] the LORD that sanctify them.
* God's Word is plain and simple. It is a repeated teaching that the Sabbath is a Commandment to Israel under the Law,
1. Not to Christians under Grace
2. It's under Mosaic Law
3. It's a Special Sign (or covenant)
4. It's between God and the Nation of Israel
5. It's never commanded in any dispensation to any other Nation nor Gentiles nor Romans etc....
6. NT WARNINGS AGAINST SABBATH KEEPING
* Sabbath keeping is discourage
* Christ blotted out the handwriting of ordinances

* **COL 2:14** Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;
* NT Christians are not to be condemned for not keeping the ceremonial rites and laws. We have been set free … no longer under the law but under grace.
* The Sabbath was only a shadow of things to come
* **COL 2:14-17** Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; 15 [And] having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it. 16 Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath [days]: 17 Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body [is] of Christ.
* With the coming of Christ, the Shadow has been fulfilled.
* Command of the Sabbath like the dietary laws and all the other ceremonial laws have been nailed to the cross.
* Paul warns the Galatians against living, returning to the law (**GAL 4:8-11**) He calls the law as weak and beggarly elements - bondage of OT Ceremonial Law (**10-11**).
* Observed days in Galatians . . . are Sabbath days.
* Sunday is not a Christian Sabbath. Sabbath always means the 7th day and never the first.
1. THE FIRST DAY OF WORSHIP AND WHO FOUND IT!
* Not the catholic church! Even though many have claimed to.
	1. Early Popes backed by civil law to enforce Sunday Sabbath keeping making it legalistic or ceremonial.
* Paul preached while NT Disciples gathered together on the first day of the week.
* **Acts 20:7** And upon the first [day] of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.
	+ **Acts 20:7** And upon the first [day] of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.

a. it's a regular day of service (1)

b. Christians met for worship (2, 4)

c. Lord's Supper taken (3)

* Is the first day that NT Christians met,
* The 7th was a religious ceremonial rite of the Jews.
	+ **1 COR 16:2** Upon the first [day] of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as [God] hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.
* **1 Cor 16:2** shows that the first day of the week had a specific religious significance to the NT Christian.
* Jesus, the Apostles, the Disciples, went into the synagogues on the Sabbath for the express purpose of preaching the gospel unto them.
* On the first day of the week the tithe to be set aside on this day.
* **Rev 1:10**, the LORDS DAY - the day Christians gathered together to worship (**ACTS 20:7, 1COR 16:2**).

1. If it was the Sabbath then why did John not say so?

2. Why did Jesus not tell John to write so?

3. It had to be Sunday, the Lord's Day!

* Nowhere in scripture does it show that Lord's Day is the Sabbath.
* NT Christians do not have a command for a day of rest, our rest is in Christ Jesus
* **MAT 11:28-29** Come unto me, all [ye] that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.
1. VII JEWISH SABBATH NOT A DAY OF WORSHIP
* Sabbath was given as a physical day of rest only.
* ALL OT Commands given about Sabbath were never given as a day of Worship but Rest;
* **EX 20:9-10** Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: 10 But the seventh day [is] the sabbath of the LORD thy God: [in it] thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that [is] within thy gates:
* The word Sabbath (7676) comes from the Hebrew word tbv shabbath,
	+ the root word is from tbv shabath (7673) a prime root:
		- *to repose,*
		- *i.e. desist from exertion;*
		- *used in many impl. relations (cause to, make to)cease.*
* The word Sabbath in the Hebrew thus means cessation or rest, not worship.
* Worship in the Tabernacle took place seven days a week
* The period of worshipping on the Sabbath arose during the intertestimental periods (during Gods 400 years of silence towards Israel) and not by Divine Command.
* There is no command for

1. Synagogues

2. Nor synagogues worship

* Sabbath of the Mosaic Law was only a day of rest
* Sabbath does not equate to church going.
* Christians have never been commanded by God to:
1. Abstain from labour on any certain day
2. Meet on any certain day for worship
3. But we should follow the example of the NT Saints and worship as they did.
* For the Christian it is a matter of grace and not law
1. SHOULD CHRISTIANS THEN OBSERVE SUNDAY?
* Christians are not bound by OT command to observe the Sabbath
* Christians thus should not observe Sunday as a legalistic Sabbath, part of a ceremonial law that was nailed to the cross.
* Christians should observe the Lords Day voluntarily
* When the church is gathered together, we as Christians should gather together to worship.
* **HEB 10:25** Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some [is]; but exhorting [one another]: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

* **Acts 20:7, 1 Cor 16:2; Rev 1:10** are examples for us of Christian Worship on the first day of the week.
* YES, it's true that SUNDAY was dedicated to the SUN God, so is SATURDAY dedicated to SATURN. All days belong to God and not false idols.
* **1 COR 10:29-33** Liberty in Christ does not equal to occasion to the flesh **Gal 5:13**
1. SPIRITUAL MEANING OF THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK

**A. THE NUMBER SIX**

* It’s the number of imperfection; the human number, the number of MAN destitute of God, without God, without Christ.
* Man was created on the sixth day, six days is he appointed to labour, therefore, six is also the number of labour.
* While one day is associated in sovereignty with the Lord God, as His Rest. It is distinct and apart from God's rest.
* Man marks the completion of creation and God's Work, therefore the number six is significant of secular completeness.
* Six is the number stamped on all that is connected with human labour. We can see it stamped upon his measures which he uses in his labour, and on the time during which he labours.
* The number six is stamped on the Great Pyramid, the unit of which was the inch and its sexagesimal multiples.
	+ When the number 12 (the number of governmental perfection) is divided, it indicates imperfection in rule and administration. Solomon's throne had 6 steps (**1 Ki 10:19**), and his kingdom was soon divided.
	+ The 12 loaves of the Shew Bread were divided into two sixes (**Le 24:6**), and the 12 tribes were divided.
	+ We see that the number six is associated with man who came short of the glory of God (Ro 3:23).
1. (Six days of Work) + (Sabbath) = a perfect life under the Law.
2. Earning rest
3. Earning perfection
4. Earning salvation
5. The result of this equation: man's failure
* **Acts 15:10** Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?
* **Romans 3:20** Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law [is] the knowledge of sin.
* **Galatians 3:11** But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, [it is] evident: for, The just shall live by faith.

**B. THE NEW TESTAMENT CHRISTIAN**

* First Day of the Week pictures salvation received as a free gift . . . he did not work for it.
* Now Saved . . . the Christian works the rest of his life to glorify God, the Saviour he Loves (**He 4:9-10**)
* **Mark 16:2,9** Christ rose on the first day
* **John 20**, Mary and others on the first day came to the sepulcher
* **Romans 4:25**, we are counted righteous without our labour and without the deeds of the law
* **Hebrew 4:10**, we are to cease from our works and enter into His rest in Christ Jesus.
* Sabbath is a ceremonial law and does not fit in the dispensation under grace.
1. THE GREAT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SABBATH AND THE LORDS DAY

1. Sabbath is for Israel under the Mosaic Law

 Lords Day for Christians under Grace

2. Sabbath was law-enforced under penalty of death (**Num 15:32-36**)

 Lords Day is grace, without penalty or command voluntary act of love

3. Sabbath is physical rest (**Ex 20:10**)

 Lords Day is a day of worship (**Acts 20:7, Rev 1:10**)

4. Sabbath typifies salvation by works

 Lords Day typifies salvation by grace

1. CHRISTIANS ARE NOT UNDER THE LAW
* SDA are like the Galatians that Paul sternly admonishes in his epistle to them.
* Many SDA believe and teach:
1. Salvation is dependent on keeping the Mosaic Law
2. They Teach OT Sabbath Keeping
3. They Teach OT Dietary Laws against meats
4. They Teach Tithe is part of keeping your salvation
* BUT Ceremonial laws are fulfilled in Christ and not for the NT Christian (**Col 2:14-17; 1 Tim 4:3-5**)
* What is God's statement on :

1. Eating (**1 Tim 4:4-5**)

2. Circumcision (**1 Cor 7:18**)

 3. Sabbath (**Col 2:16-17**)

4. Law (**James 2:10**)

* **James 2:10**For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one [point], he is guilty of all.
* The qualifier God uses in this verse is the word "WHOLE” to Jewish person the word Law (TORAH) is the first five books of the OT.
* There was no division of it in his mind.
* James writing to the Jews just like Paul who wrote to the Jewish converts at Galatia, knew their audience well and knew that they would fully understand the term law to mean the TORAH, not just the ceremonial law as SDA would want us to believe.
* The penalty if under the law (**NUM 15:32-36**) is death.
1. Can’t cook (got to build a fire)
2. Can’t work
3. Can’t exert yourself
4. Can’t even build a fire if your cold (**EX 35:3**)
	* **EX 35:3** Ye shall kindle no fire throughout your habitations upon the sabbath day.
5. Today driving an automobile (control combustion, isn't a combustion a fire?)
6. MORAL LAWS, WHAT ARE THEY?
* These are sins that are inherently even before the Mosaic Law was Given to the people. These laws were given for two express purposes:

1. Things to do right

2. Things not to do

* They comprise such things as

1. Lying

2. Stealing

3. Adultery

4. Murder

* Man is not saved (justified) in the sight of God by our deeds nor by the Law (TORAH).
* **Eph 2:8-10** Teaches salvation by grace through faith
* **Eph 2:8-10** For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: [it is] the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.
* **Tit 3:5** Teaches not saved nor kept saved by the acts of the righteousness
* **Tit 3:5** *Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;*
* **Gal 5:1** Teaches liberty with Christ made us free
* **Gal 5:1** *Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.*
* **Gal 3:13** teaches that He redeemed us from the curse of the law
* **Gal 3:13** *Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed [is] every one that hangeth on a tree:*
* **Col 2:16-17** teaches that as Christians, no man has the right to judge us by the law, food we eat, nor not keeping the Sabbath.
* **Col 2:16-17** *Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath [days]: Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body [is] of Christ.*
1. ADDITIONAL EXAMPLES OF WHY THE SABBATH WAS A CEREMONIAL LAW . . . FOR JEWS ONLY, AND NEVER FOR THE NEW TESTAMENT CHRISTIANS
2. **Key verse** **COL 2:13-17**
	1. Context of Verses: Ceremonial Laws
	2. End Result: Nailed to the Cross
	3. Why they were given: Shadow of things to come (**VS17**)
	4. When did they end: When Christ was crucified.
		* Moral Laws are still in effect today, they were not shadows of things to come, but how to live our lives.
		* Man today is not removed from obligation of the moral laws. They were not erased nor rescinded and not nailed to the Cross at Calvary.
		* The Ceremonial Laws lost its force at Christ death, why? Because they were all fulfilled!
		* Verse 16 we are not to be judged about the ceremonial law of Lev 11 concerning food we eat, why?
		* Because it was nailed to the Cross at Calvary! (**Col 2:16**)
3. Jewish Sabbath part of Ceremonial Law
4. **Key Verse EX 31:12-13**
	* Never commanded in the NT
	* Sabbath a special sign between Israel and God
	* Sanctify: to set apart, God set apart Israel from all other Nations
	* This is the sign of separation for Israel against other nations.
5. **Key Verse EZK 20:12**
* God repeats the fact that the Sabbath is for Israel set apart

**Special Note #1**: Abram departed from Ur of the Chaldees, he was set apart from all other religions, peoples, nations. God would change his name to Abraham, father of the Jewish Nation. Therefore one cannot go back and say that Adam and Eve were Jewish, the Nation of Israel just did not exist prior to Abraham.

**Special Note #2:** All Ceremonial Laws were special commandments for Israel and not any other Nation(s).

Examples:

1. **Circumcision**; a special sign for Israel

2. **Dietary Laws**; a special sign for Israel

3. **Jewish Sacrifices**; a special sign for Israel

1. Key Verse **Romans 2:14-16**
* Theme:
	+ **Moral Laws** . . . are written in the Hearts of Mankind.
	+ **Ceremonial Laws** . . . need to be taught, for they are not written in our hearts.
* Nowhere in mans conscience does it tell him to observe the Sabbath, nor the dietary laws, nor the new moons, nor any of the other things that were shadows of things to come.
* If man says he does, it is only because he was taught these things by man, not the Holy Spirit, nor by God Himself.
1. Key Verse **EX 35:3**
* Theme:
	+ Jewish Sabbath suitable for Jewish in Palestine,
	+ But not suitable for other Nations of especially cold winters.

Here we have the commandment from God against building or setting a fire on the Sabbath. In Palestine this is not really a problem because of the weather. Yet elsewhere like in the United States, we have too many cold areas.

In winter time one would have to turn on their furnace to keep from freezing (setting a fire). **Numbers 15:32-36** gives us a warning against this result is death for failure to adhere to the law.

* Example: the turning on of a stove, ovens, fireplaces, furnaces etc... are all part of setting a fire.
* Note, there is no moral difference between lighting a fire in a stove and one in a camp fire or the ignition of an automobile (a control fire).
* This is only a command to

a. People: Jews in Palestine

b. Time: Before Christ Death

c. Not: any other people (Nation) any other land

1. Key Verse **Ex 20:10**
* Theme:
	+ The Sabbath must be ceremonial because it does not occur universally around the Globe on the same exact time,
	+ nor the same exact day.
* In **Ex 20:10**, states on the seventh day. But yet we see that if one crosses the International Date Line:
1. looses a Sabbath going west
2. observes two Sabbaths moving east
3. traveling on the Sabbath is approximately 600 yds by foot
* Moral Laws are
1. universal in nature
2. unchanged by climate
3. unchanged by position of the Earth (nor its rotation)
4. unchanged by nationality of individual
* Ceremonial Laws in contrast to Moral are
1. not universal, but local
2. limited to Region of Palestine
3. Limited to the Nation of Israel
4. Given as a special sign to the Jewish Nation

**Conclusion:**

1. Ceremonial Laws are a special sign for Israel
2. Moral Laws never given to a particular type nor class of people. They are specific on what to do and what not to do for all Nations.
3. Moral Laws are universal in scope, applies to all.
4. Ceremonial Laws make a special statement:
5. We are God's Chosen People
6. We have been set aside
7. We observe special laws given to us Only
8. We are commanded to observe certain:
9. days
10. foods
11. times
12. etc....... But these were only Shadows of things to come
13. INSPIRATION OF SCRIPTURE
* Not all themes that SDA teaches comes from the Bible. Mrs. Ellen G. White, a self proclaimed prophet, claims to be a messenger of the Lord.
* SDA believe that Mrs. White's teachings, her writings are
1. infallible like the bible itself.
2. inspired like the bible itself.
3. Binding to man like the bible itself.
* Through SDA teaching and Books, magazines published, Mrs. White's teaching in fact are direct from God.
* SDA view on prophecy are those of Ellen White.
* SDA Doctrine is based on Mrs White's writings.

**Some Honest Question for the Honest Bible Student**

1. Where in the Bible is any teaching that Sunday is the Mark of the Beast?
2. Where in the Bible does it indicate that tithing is essential for salvation?
3. Where in the Bible does it indicate that the SDA are the only ones that make up the 144,000 Jewish Male Israelites of **Rev7**?
4. Where in the Bible does it indicate that Satan will in in the end bear all the sins of mankind, and that Satan not Christ Jesus, is symbolized by the "scape goat" of **Lev 16**?

It's to no amazement that the SDA do not teach the following Biblical Doctrine:

1. Eternal Punishment of the wicked in Hell

No wonder they teach that eating meat is sin

No wonder they teach that Christians should keep the ceremonial Sabbath, Saturday, as commanded by the Jews.

Like Mormons, Christian Science, and Mohammedans, all Organizations that claim to have divine revelation from God besides the Bible, they are a cult.

Are you aware what **REV 22:18-19** says?

**REV 22:18-19** For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: 19 And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and [from] the things which are written in this book.

God solemnly tells us that The Book of Revelations closes the canon of Divine Scripture, it closes the written revelation of God to Man!

God tells us through the Apostle John, he has finished his revelation to us. There is no more, yet cults have their ADDITIONALLY INSPIRED BOOKS OUTSIDE THE BIBLE:

1. The Mormons:

a. the Book of Mormons

b. the Pearl of Great Price

c. Doctrines and Covenants

d. Inspirational writings of Church Prophets

- Joseph Smith

- Brig. Young

- and more....................

2. The Christian Science

a. the writings of Mary Baker Eddy

3. The Jehovah Witness

a. There badly and erroneous translation of the

 bible (NWT)

b. Watch Tower and Tract Society Magazines

 they are directly inspired through the

 organization, the oracle of God.

c. teachings of

- Russell

- Rutherford

- Taze

- etc..............

4. Seventh Day Adventist

a. The writings of Ellen White

b. The teachings of Ellen White along with

 her direct vision from God.

5. and many other organization...................

**Rev 22:18-19** tells us they have all perverted the Gospel and have brought upon them terrible curses and plagues.

SDA have no right to be placed among denominations that accept the Bible alone as the infallible Word of God. The SDA are in heresy, like the Roman Catholic Church, a false cult, with a false basis of authority (Mrs. Ellen White, Prophet).

SDA BACKGROUND

Radio Station Show

- the Voice of Prophecy

Television Show

- Faith for Today

Book Publishers

- Review and Herald Publishing Associates

 "Bible Readings for the Home Circle"

Magazines

- Life and Health; a National journal

- Signs of Times; a prophetic monthly

- These Times; dedicated towards strengthening

moral, physical and spiritual life

- Liberty; a magazine of religious freedom

Although more truth than propaganda, these may to the layman, give them the sense that they are evangelical in nature and not a cult.

SDA are much like the Romanism. They deny the sufficiency of Christ death for man's salvation. Mixing works with Grace, SDA errs with the legalism Paul disputes in Galatians.

**Galatians 3:22-25** But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be **given to them that believe**. 23 **But before faith came, we were kept under the law,** shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. 24 Wherefore the **law was our schoolmaster** to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. 25 But after that faith is come, **we are no longer under a schoolmaster**.

Definition of a Cult

The following is an accurate gauge to use with various religions and denominations in order to determine whether or not they are Christian or a Cult. Failure in anyone of the five areas is an indication they ARE a cult.

1. Extra Biblical Source of Authority.

This point allows the cults to say and attempt to prove what is not true and especially that which is not biblical. The very character of God is attacked.

 **2 Tim 3:1-17; 2 Pet 1:19-21**

1. Denial of the Deity of Jesus Christ.

To deny Jesus to be God is to deny the Authority of the Scriptures and the need to obey God. Many will call Jesus the son of God but not God. His virgin birth and eternality are attacked.

**Jo 1:1, 14; 10:26-33; 14:8-9**

1. Atonement of Christ was neither total nor sufficient.

Cults use this ploy to make people to work and obligate them to their standards in order to keep control of them.

**Jo 19:30; Heb 9:8-16**

1. Their “Organization” or “Denomination” as having the major role in end time prophecy.

This ploy is used to prove their denomination will usher the return of God or Christ to the world. Furthermore it adds a false legitimacy to their cult. **Rev 7:4-8**

5. Their “Organization” or “Denomination” as the sole organization of the saved.

If you are not a member – you are not saved – you are not going to heaven. Furthering the cause of work salvation, false teachings etc. **Jo 3:16; Rom 10:8-10, 13**