

Crucified Afresh!

REJECTION OF THE TRUTH FROM HEAVEN

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THE INTRODUCTION

As the sands of time run down, nearing the very end of all things, prophecy indicates that we are in THE GREAT CONTROVERSY. No prophecy is of any “private interpretation,” and many in this day are saying “the same thing.” There are others, however, who are still deluded and influenced by the “mystery of iniquity” and the spirit of the “man of sin.” Could it be that they prefer the “spirit of antichrist” to the “Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption?” (Eph 4:30)

“While the Protestant world is by her attitude making concessions to Rome, let us arouse to comprehend the situation and view the CONTEST BEFORE US in its true bearings. Let the watchmen now lift up their voice and give the message which is PRESENT TRUTH for this time. Let us show the people where we are in prophetic history and seek to arouse the spirit of TRUE PROTESTANTISM, awaking the world to a sense of the value of the privileges of religious liberty so long enjoyed.” [*Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, page 716*]

It is our attempt in this book to clear the water and make simple that which for many has been so confusing. It is “the truth as it is in Jesus” that we need and desire. It is the very life of God that has been emptied for us that we might become partakers of His Divine nature. Because the Son of God has been *CRUCIFIED AFRESH*, this inspiration must be published and distributed as “the leaves of autumn.”

God’s remnant people are called by *His* name. They receive the impress of His Divine name at baptism – “**YAH** is our righteousness.” The earthly family was given a name which *marks them* as His peculiar people – “Seventh Day Adventists.” Let us never forsake His holy name!

THE FOUNDATION

“The banner of truth and religious liberty which [the] reformers held aloft has in this last conflict been committed to us.” [*Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 6, page 402*]

“...to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine... you did it to Me.” (Mat 25:40)

“...in the case of those who have once been enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, and then have fallen away, it is impossible to renew them again to repentance, since they **crucify afresh** the Son of God, and put Him to open shame.” (Heb 6:4-6)

“...Some, when God reproves them for wanting their own way, make the world their confidence, and bring church matters before the world for decision. Then... Christ is **crucified afresh** and put to open shame. Those church members who appeal to the courts of the world show that they have chosen the world as their judge, and their names are registered in heaven as one with unbelievers.” [Ellen G. White, *Manuscript 64*, 1989]

“I have written largely in regard to Christians who believe the truth placing their cases in the courts of law to obtain redress... such men may as well stop praying to God, for He will not hear their prayers.” [Ellen G. White, *Selected Messages*, Vol. 3, page 302] “To lean upon the arm of the law is a disgrace to Christians... [Ellen G. White, *MS. 128*, 1903] “Those who have placed their dependence on lawyers... have been unfaithful stewards.” [Ellen G. White, *20 MR 171*]

“A dependence upon professional, worldly lawyers, instead of upon God, is a denial of our faith, and has a weakening influence upon true believers. I have a message: When the church is walking in the path of righteousness, they will not lean on the arm of the law in their business transactions, for this would be appealing to worldly elements, and would dishonor God.” [Ellen G. White, *Letter B-244*, 1906]

“‘Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ says the LORD Almighty.” (Zech 4:6)

“I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven.” (Mat 12:31)

“...there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known.” (Mat 10:26)

“In every age God’s chosen messengers have been reviled and persecuted, yet through their affliction the knowledge of God has been spread abroad. Every disciple of Christ is to step into the ranks and carry forward the same work, knowing that its foes can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth. God means that truth shall be brought to the front and become the subject of examination and discussion, even through the contempt placed upon it. The minds of the people must be agitated; every controversy, every reproach, every effort to restrict liberty of conscience, is God’s means of awakening minds that otherwise might slumber.” [MB 33]

THE PARABLE

There were two women:
One went to her servant and said,
“Make me A DAY which all will
Respect and call holy.”
The other woman summoned her servant and said,
“Make for me A NAME that none will defame,
And all will regard blessed.”
The first woman’s servant returned saying,
“I have made a HOLY DAY for you,
It will be respected and enforced by civil magistrate.”
The second woman’s servant returned saying,
“I have made for you a BLESSED NAME,
And the governor has pledged to protect it

From defamation and unauthorized use forever.”

Who are the two women?

How do we know the women are sisters?

THE DEVELOPMENT

“Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee... to deliver thee from the STRANGE WOMAN, even from the stranger which flattereth with her words; which forsaketh the Guide of her youth, and forgetteth the covenant of her God. For her house inclineth unto death, and her paths unto the dead. None that go unto her return again, neither take they hold of the paths of life.” (Prov 2:11, 16-19)

“We must as a people arouse and cleanse the camp of Israel... We are in danger of becoming a SISTER to FALLEN BABYLON, of allowing our churches to become corrupted, and filled with every foul spirit, a cage of every unclean and hateful bird; and will we be clear unless we make decided movements to cure the existing evil?” [MR 449]

“If doubts and unbelief are cherished, the FAITHFUL MINISTERS WILL BE REMOVED from the people who think they know so much. ‘If thou hadst known... even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! But now they are hid from thine eyes.’” [TM 410]

“...a reformation must go through the churches. Reforms must be made, for spiritual weakness and blindness were upon the people who had been blessed with great light and precious opportunities and privileges. As reformers they had come out of the denominational churches, but they now act a part similar to that which the churches acted. We HOPED there would not be the necessity for another coming out.” [1888 *Materials*, pp. 356,357]

“I am instructed to say that we must do all we possibly can for these deceived ones. Their minds must be freed from the delusions of the enemy, and if we fail in our efforts to save these erring ones, we must ‘COME OUT from among them’ and be separate.” [MS 106, 1905, p. 8. (“A Plea for Loyalty,” Nov. 20, 1905); [7MR 190]; (“Reasons for Apostasy in the SDA Church.”)]

“The state of corruption and apostasy that in the last days would exist in the religious world, was presented to the prophet John in the vision of Babylon, “that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.” (Revelation 17:18) Before its destruction the call is to be given from heaven, ‘COME OUT of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.’ (Revelation 18:4) As in the days of Noah and Lot, there must be a MARKED SEPARATION from sin and sinners. There can be no compromise between God and the world, no turning back to secure earthly treasures. ‘Ye cannot serve God and mammon.’ (Matthew 6:24)” [PP167]

“Satan is to make most powerful efforts for the mastery in the last great conflict. FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES will be brought out and decisions made in regard them. The FAITH of individual members of the church will be TESTED as though there were not another person in the world.” [7BC 987]

“All Christendom will be divided into two great classes – those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, and those who worship the beast and his image and receive his mark.” [GC 450]

THE FAITH

“In the great conflict between faith and unbelief the whole Christian world will be involved.” [RH 02-07-93]

God told Abraham that he would be a father of a great multitude. Abraham had no children at this time and yet, by faith he knew that this would be true. Even though he was childless, he had confidence to use his new name – Abraham, which means “father of a great multitude.” His circumstances did not prevent him from declaring “those things that be not as though they were.” Faith in the word of God was his evidence that he had a son and that he was indeed the “father of a great multitude.”

“Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of My righteousness.” (Isaiah 41:10) Jesus has promised to uphold you; therefore, believe that you will be upheld. He will fulfill this promise to you as verily as He fulfilled His promise to Abraham. You must believe in His promise and declare your confidence in Him, believing that He will continue to give you uninterrupted victory over all the power of the enemy forever. Just as Abraham’s faith in the promise of God was imputed to him for righteousness, so will righteousness be imputed to you for your faith in the exceeding great and precious promises of God.

To say that you don’t know whether or not you will continue being upheld tomorrow or six months from now would be the same as Abraham saying he didn’t know for sure whether he would be a father of a great multitude. However, “He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, He was able to perform. And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness.” (Romans 4:20-22)

It is through faith that you know something is true even though you have not yet seen it. To be justified means to be given the righteous life of Christ. His life is everlasting. His life never sins. Even though you have not yet lived tomorrow, it is through faith you know that, through the Holy Spirit, His everlasting, victorious life will be abiding in you tomorrow and forever. “...He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever.” (John 14:16) It is this faith in His word that allows the grace of God to cause this to be true. “According to your faith be it unto you.” (Matthew 9:29)

“And I will betroth thee unto Me forever; yea, I will betroth thee unto Me in righteousness, and in judgment, and loving-kindness, and in mercies. I will even betroth thee unto Me in faithfulness; and thou shalt know the Lord.” (Hosea 2:19, 20) When one marries, he intellectually knows that it is physically possible for him to go back to his old girlfriends. However, in the wedding ceremony he publicly declares that he will be faithful “until death do us part.” If he told his bride that he could not say or know for sure that he would still be abiding faithfully with her tomorrow or six months from now, she would have reason for concern. However, in his marriage vow he confidently declares that he will always remain faithful to her.

Jesus has made a vow to us: “I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.” (Hebrews 13:5) And because “Thy vows are upon me, O God: I will render praises unto Thee. For Thou hast delivered my soul from death: wilt not Thou deliver my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of the living?” (Psalms 56:12, 13) Because of His vows or promises to us, we can, with assurance, declare with David, “I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.” (Psalms 23:6) “What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.” (Matthew 19:6)

This was the faith of our father Abraham, and this is the faith of Jesus. It is the faith of the saints who “keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.” (Revelation 14:12)

THE PRINCIPLES

“Concerning [Christ] we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God...” (Hebrews 5:11, 12)

We have not been “the people of the Book” as we once were. The majority have been satisfied with the instructions of pastors, Bible workers, and other “superiors” when the counsel has always been to “study to show yourself approved unto God.” “Everyone must now search the Bible for himself upon his knees before God, with the humble, teachable heart of a child, if he would know what the Lord requires of him.” [5*T* 214] “The spiritual darkness which falls upon nations, upon churches and individuals, is due, not to an arbitrary withdrawal of the succors of divine grace on the part of God, but neglect or rejection of divine light on the part of men.” [GC 337] By now we should have all been teachers in the school of Christ. However, the lessons of the past have not been heeded, and the result has been a confused, unlearned laity.

“They [shepherds that scatter] disregard the commandments of God, choosing the traditions of men, making void the law of God, and promoting apostasy. The excuses they make are feeble and weak and will bring DESTRUCTION to their own souls and the souls of others...” [4*BC* 1157]

“...religious faith appears so confused and discordant that the people know not what to believe as truth. The sin of the world’s impenitence lies at the door of THE CHURCH.” [GC 389]

It would be well to review some established principles which apply to individuals, people, nations, and churches with respect to religious liberty, church-state alliance, and the dynamics of persecution. The following compilation of quotes is not by any means an exhaustive list. However, it will suffice to stimulate the heart of the reader.

REMEMBER: Even when a PRINCIPLE is taken out of its context, it will retain its integrity and can be applied in a variety of situations. Categorizations of the principles are as follows:

1. INDIVIDUALS
2. GENERAL
3. STATE-RELATED
4. CHURCH-RELATED

1. INDIVIDUALS

“...The conscience should not be compelled even for the observance of the genuine Sabbath, for God will accept only willing service.” [7*BC* 977]

“Wherever the cause exists, the same results will follow. He who deliberately stifles his convictions of duty because it interferes with his inclinations will finally lose the power to distinguish between truth and error.” [GC378]

“Every man, conducting himself as a good citizen, and being accountable alone to God for his religious opinions, ought to be protected in worshipping the Deity according to the dictates of his own conscience.” [George Washington]

“...whoever will trample upon God’s law to obey a human enactment receives the MARK OF THE BEAST: he accepts the sign of allegiance to the power which he chooses to obey instead of God.” [GC 604] “...you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness.” (Romans 6:16)

“Love worketh no ill to his neighbor: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.” (Romans 13:10) [Those who work ill to their neighbor make VOID the LAW of GOD.] (1)

“Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.” (Matthew 22:39) “All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them.” (Matthew 7:12)

“If God abhors one sin above another, of which His people are guilty, it is DOING NOTHING IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY. Indifference and neutrality in a RELIGIOUS CRISIS is regarded of God as a grievous CRIME, and equal to the very worst type of hostility against God.” [3T 281]

“Study carefully the divine-human character, and constantly inquire, ‘What would Jesus do were He in my place?’ ...ALWAYS ACT FROM PRINCIPLE...” [MH 491]

“How many souls might be saved from temptation, and how much sorrow might be avoided, if all our workers were trained to be as true as still to PRINCIPLE?...” [MH 491]

“We are ALWAYS to be as firm as a rock to PRINCIPLE. Bible principles are to be taught and then backed up by holy practice.” [6T 418]

“If we wish to enjoy heavenly society in the earth made new, we must be governed by heavenly PRINCIPLES here.” [2T 113]

“Whatever may be their profession, it is only those who are world servers at heart that act from POLICY rather than PRINCIPLE in religious things. We should choose the right because it is right, and leave consequences with God. To men of PRINCIPLE, faith, and daring, the world is indebted for its great reforms.” [GC 460]

“Jesus Himself never purchased peace by *compromise*... He was too much their friend to remain silent while they were pursuing a course that would ruin their souls... The servants of Christ are called to the same work, and they should beware lest, in seeking to prevent discord, they surrender the truth. They are to ‘follow after the things which make for peace’ (Rom 14:9); but real peace can never be secured by compromising PRINCIPLE. And no man can be true to principle without exciting opposition.” [DA 356]

“THE PRINCIPLES OF GOD’S DEALING WITH MEN ARE EVER THE SAME.” [GC 343]

“The Lord sets men in responsible places, not to act out their own wills, but His will. So long as they cherish His pure principles of government, He will bless and strengthen them, recognizing them as His instrumentalities. GOD NEVER FORSAKES THE ONE WHO IS TRUE TO PRINCIPLE.” [3BC 1128]

“Where RELIGIOUS PRINCIPLE governs, the danger of committing great errors is small... To have firm religious principles is an inestimable treasure. It is the purest, highest, and most elevated influence mortals can possess. Such have an anchor. Every act is well considered, lest its effect be injurious to another and lead away from Christ. The constant inquiry of the mind is: Lord, how shall I best serve Thee, and glorify Thy name in the earth?” [2T 129]

“...all who draw the sword will die by the sword. Do you think I cannot call on My Father, and He will at once put at My disposal more than twelve legions of angels?” (Matthew 26:52, 53 NIV)

“Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s.” (Matthew 22:21 NIV)

BEWARE: “Unbelief will ever find excuse for doubt, and will reason away the most positive proof.” [DA 386]

“While God has given ample evidence for faith, He will NEVER REMOVE ALL EXCUSE FOR UNBELIEF. All who look for hooks to hang their doubts upon, will find them. [GC 527]

“It is impossible for you to unite with those who are corrupt and still remain pure... God and Christ and the heavenly host would have man know that if he unites with the corrupt, he will become corrupt. [RH, January 2, 1900]

“If men keep the fourth commandment, they will keep all the rest.” [7BC 981] “But in order to keep the Sabbath holy, men must themselves be HOLY.” [DA 283] “The Sabbath is a sign of Christ’s power to make us HOLY.” [DA 288]

“Supreme love to God and impartial love to man are the PRINCIPLES to be wrought out in the life.” [DA 498] “It is the service of LOVE that God values.” [DA 286]

“Whenever any civil government attempts to enforce anything in regard to any one of the first four commandments, it invades the prerogative of God, and is to be DISOBEYED (I do not say resisted, but DISOBEYED)... [A.T. Jones (2)].

2. GENERAL

“In these two experiences recorded in the book of Daniel – the one of Nebuchadnezzar and the worship of his great golden image, the other of the conspirators against Daniel’s service to God – all people are taught in the most impressive way, that the God of heaven... forbids all people to frame any law on any subject touching men’s relation to God.” [A.T. Jones (3)]

“It is certain that any connection whatever between religion and the State is SIN.” [A.T. Jones (4)]

“Power, especially over-grown power, whets the ambition and wets all the wits to work to enlarge it. Therefore, encroachments on the people’s liberties are not generally made all at once, but so gradually as hardly to be perceived by the less watchful; and all plastered over, it may be with such plausible pretenses, that before they are aware of the snare, they are taken and cannot disentangle themselves.” [Samuel Webster (5)]

“Persecution in its varied forms is the development of a principle which will exist as long as Satan exists and Christianity has vital power. No man can serve God without enlisting against himself the opposition of the hosts of darkness. Evil angels will assail him, alarmed that his influence is taking the prey from their hands. Evil men, rebuked by his example, will unite with them in seeking to separate him from God by alluring temptations. When these do not succeed, then a compelling power is employed to FORCE the conscience. [GC 610]

“Destroy the spirit [which prizes liberty as the heritage of all men, and all lands everywhere], and you have planted the seeds of despotism at your own doors.” [Abraham Lincoln]

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.” [Thomas Jefferson]

“While one class, by accepting the sign of submission to earthly powers, receive the MARK of the BEAST, the other, choosing the token of allegiance to divine authority, receive the SEAL of GOD.” [GC 605]

“To receive the MARK OF THE BEAST means to come to the same decision as the beast has done, and to advocate the same ideas, in direct opposition to the word of God.” [7BC 979]

“Note: ...The history of all the religious persecutions since Bible times is but a repetition of this same story – the wicked persecute the righteous. And thus it will continue to be until the conflict between good and evil is ended. (See Psalm 37:12, 14, 32)” (6)

“Let it be understood that Seventh-Day Adventists can make no compromise. In your opinions and faith there must not be the least appearance of wavering...” [CW95]

“...the fact that a movement to establish error is connected with a work which is in itself good, is not an argument in favor of the error. We may disguise poison by mingling it with wholesome food, but we do not change its nature. On the contrary, it is rendered more dangerous, as it is more likely to be taken unawares. It is one of Satan’s devices to combine with falsehood just enough truth to give it plausibility. [GC 587]

“The Prince of heaven was called Beelzebub, and His disciples will be misrepresented in like manner. But whatever the danger, Christ’s followers must avow their PRINCIPLES. They should scorn concealment. They cannot remain uncommitted until assured of safety in confessing truth. They are set as watchmen, to warn men of their peril.” [DA 335]

3. STATE-RELATED

“The State was, and is, the result of the apostasy of men from God.” [A.T. Jones (7)]

“...with men’s relationship to God, rulers and States can have nothing whatever to do.” [A.T. Jones (8)]

“...no State can ever rightly require anything that is due to God; and that when it is required by the State, it is not to be rendered.” [A.T. Jones (9)]

“The founders of the nation [U.S.A.] wisely sought to guard against the employment of secular power on the part of the church, with its inevitable result – intolerance and persecution.” [GC 442]

“The Constitution provides that ‘Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.’...” [GC 442]

“...the authority of this nation [U.S.A.] is to be exercised in enforcing SOME OBSERVANCE which shall be an act of homage to the papacy.” [GC 442]

“To protect liberty of conscience is the duty of the state, and this is the limit of its authority in matters of religion. Every secular government that attempts to regulate or enforce religious observances by civil authority is sacrificing the very principle for which the evangelical Christians [of sixteenth century Germany] so nobly struggled.” [GC 201]

“Note: ... with the directing, prescribing, proscribing or interfering with religion or its free exercise, civil governments can of right have nothing whatever to do.” (10) “...the only position the State can take, and have the approval of God, is to guard the rights of every individual, permitting no oppression to come upon any one because of religious belief.” [ST, February 27, 1912]

“[Moses] became God’s instrument in giving to men those principles that are the safeguard alike of the home and of society, that are the cornerstone of the prosperity of nations – principles recognized today by the world’s greatest men as the foundation of all that is best in human governments.” [ED 69]

4. CHURCH-RELATED

“...whenever the church forms ANY CONNECTION with any State or kingdom on the earth, in the very doing of it she REJECTS GOD.” [A.T. Jones (11)]

“...no people can ever form a union of religion and the State without REJECTING GOD.” [A.T. Jones (12)]

“THE UNION OF THE CHURCH WITH THE STATE, BE THE DEGREE EVER SO SLIGHT, while it may appear to bring the world nearer to the church, does in reality but bring the church nearer to the world.” [GC 297]

“WHENEVER THE CHURCH HAS OBTAINED SECULAR POWER, she has used it to punish dissent from her doctrines. Protestant churches that have FOLLOWED IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ROME BY FORMING ALLIANCE WITH WORLDLY POWERS have manifested a similar desire to restrict liberty of conscience...” [GC 443]

“Let the PRINCIPLE BE ONCE ESTABLISHED in the United States that the CHURCH MAY EMPLOY or control the POWER OF THE STATE; that **RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES** [see APPENDIX] MAY BE ENFORCED BY SECULAR LAWS... and the TRIUMPH OF ROME IN THIS COUNTRY IS ASSURED.” [GC 581 – Note: This has been fulfilled in the trademark law]

“When first constrained to separate from the English Church, the Puritans had joined themselves together by a solemn covenant, as the Lord’s free people, ‘to walk together in all His ways made known or to be

made known to them.’... Here was the TRUE SPIRIT OF REFORM, the VITAL PRINCIPLE OF PROTESTANTISM.” [GC 291]

“When a religion is good, I can see that it will support itself; and when it cannot support itself, and God does not take care to support it, so that its professors are obligated to call for the HELP OF THE CIVIL POWER, it is a sign, I say, of its being a bad one.” [Benjamin Franklin]

“One of the principles most firmly maintained by Luther was that there should be NO RESORT TO SECULAR POWER in support of the Reformation, and no appeal to arms for its defense. He rejoiced that the gospel was confessed by princes of the empire; but when they proposed to unite in a defensive league, he declared that ‘the doctrine of the gospel should be defended by God alone’...” [GC 209]

“All who refuse compliance [with the customs of the church]... will be visited with civil penalties, and it will finally be declared that they are deserving of death.” [GC 604]

“... When professed Protestant churches repudiate the fundamental principle of Protestantism by accepting human speculation, tradition, or POLITICAL POWER in place of the authority and power of God’s Word, they may be regarded as DAUGHTERS OF BABYLON. Their fall is THEN included in hers, and calls for a PROCLAMATION OF THE FALL OF MODERN BABYLON.” (13)

“...The church, therefore, demanded that the state should interfere and promote Sunday observance by law... THIS UNION OF CHURCH AND STATE SERVED TO ESTABLISH THE PAPACY IN POWER. A SIMILAR COURSE OF ACTION NOW WILL PRODUCE THE SAME RESULTS.” (14)

“Note: in this way [the SECURING OF RELIGIOUS LAWS] church and state were united. In this way the church gained CONTROL OF THE CIVIL POWER, which she later used as a means of carrying on most bitter and extensive persecutions. In this way she DENIED CHRIST and the power of godliness, and demanded that the civil power should be exerted to compel men to serve God as the church should dictate.” (15)

“If the church preaches to the world about the power of God, and yet is not ashamed to ASK THE WORLD FOR HELP, and to admit that it cannot succeed without that help, it virtually confesses to the world that it does not possess the power of which it speaks.” [Francis Hope (16)]

“When a church in ALLIANCE WITH THE STATE EMPLOYS SECULAR POWER TO ENFORCE ITS DOCTRINES by punishing heretics, it repudiates the essential idea of Christianity.” [W.W. Prescott (17)]

“Let there be no question on this point. It is not merely true of the Church which will ASK, it is true as well of the Church which will ALLOW the State to come into her domain and thrust her ordinances by police power down the throats of unwilling citizens. In either case it is true of her that she has betrayed her trust, and made the Master a liar, and whatever else she may be, she is an UNCHRISTIAN CHURCH, TOTALLY AND NOT IN DEGREE.” [J.T. Ringgold (18)]

“...we conclude that all attempts to coerce men’s consciences, or to enforce upon them religious observances or religious faith, are unChristlike, and consequently antiChristian. This opinion we hold in regard to RELIGIOUS COMPULSION OF ANY KIND. This is not the kind of work required of the Christian Church. [G.C. Tenney (19)]

“It has ever been true that a backslidden body – one that has turned from God’s word to men, from God’s power to the State – WAS NEVER REFORMED IN ITSELF. INVARIABLY GOD’S MESSAGE HAS CALLED OUT THOSE FROM THE FALLEN CHURCH who would do His will and preach His gospel. Israel went down to Egypt for help, and their captivity and loss of power followed. Out of the captives God gathered a faithful band to do His work. The Jewish church failed, and God called out the apostolic church to do His bidding. The Roman Church failed, and out of it God called the churches of the Reformation. Some of these churches failed to advance, and God called out others to bear His gospel to the world – such as the Baptist, Methodist, Congregationalist, Disciple, Adventists. His LAST ‘CALLED-OUT PEOPLE WILL KNOW NO STANDARD but HIS WORD, NO POWER but HIS SPIRIT.’ (20)

“Now we have referred to a time or to the Jewish Church, as an illustration of the situation in which we are. We found there that the church turned its back upon God, and JOINED ITSELF TO CAESAR, in order to put Christ out of the way, and to execute their mind concerning him. Then the Lord CALLED OUT OF THAT CHURCH and nation ALL WHO WOULD OBEY HIM, and who would serve Him, BEFORE THE NATION WAS DESTROYED, and HE did that work by those few disciples that believed in Jesus when He ascended to Heaven.” [A.T. Jones (21)]

“PROTESTANTISM sets the power of conscience above the magistrate, and the authority of the word of God above the visible church...” [GC 204]

“...the word of God must be recognized as above all human legislation. ‘Thus saith the Lord’ is not to be set aside for Thus saith the church or the state... The PRINCIPLE we are to uphold at this time is the same that was maintained by the adherents of the gospel in the great Reformation.” [6T 402]

“The Lord Jesus will ALWAYS HAVE A CHOSEN PEOPLE TO SERVE HIM. When the Jewish people rejected Christ, the Prince of Life, He took from them the kingdom of God and gave it unto the Gentiles. God will CONTINUE TO WORK ON THIS PRINCIPLE with every branch of His work. When a church proves unfaithful to the work of the Lord, WHATEVER THEIR POSITION MAY BE, HOWEVER HIGH AND SACRED THEIR CALLING, the Lord can no longer work with them. Others are then chosen to bear important responsibilities.” [UL 131] “The churches have become as described in the eighteenth chapter of Revelation. Why are the messages of Revelation fourteen given? Because the PRINCIPLES OF THE CHURCHES HAVE BECOME CORRUPTED.” [7BC 979]

“...FORCE IS THE LAST RESORT OF EVERY FALSE RELIGION...The papacy has exercised her power to compel men to obey her, and she will continue to do so.” [7BC 976]

The foregoing authoritative statements can be summarized in their respective categories in the following ways:

1. INDIVIDUALS are to answer to God alone in matters of conscience. The Word of God is to be their exclusive guide. Uncompromising obedience to the Law of God is required of all believers, and one who remains true to principle will never be forsaken by God. A life of holiness will be manifested by a supreme love to God and impartial love to man. Man cannot associate with the unfaithful and expect to remain faithful himself.

Those who work ill to their neighbor make void the Law of God. The MARK OF THE BEAST will be received by agreeing with the Church-State union, either by active involvement or passive compromise. Whatever a man sows he shall reap, and the “curse without a cause” does not exist. (Proverbs 26:2)

2. Any Church-State combination makes void the Law of God and is an abomination to Him. Persecution is the sure result of a Church-State union. Seventh-day Adventists can expect to be oppressed as they make no compromise in their opinions and faith, because no one can serve God without experiencing opposition from unprincipled men. History indicates that the wicked always persecute the righteous. To receive the MARK OF THE BEAST is to make void the law of God by agreeing with the papacy or any of her family.

3. The STATE has no jurisdiction in matters of religion or conscience except to protect the individual from oppression. The principles of our Constitution have been, and will be further repudiated.

4. Any CHURCH which requests aid from a secular power reveals her destitution and rejection of God. When the church unites with the state, persecution inevitably follows, and the FORCE exercised is proof of her fallen status. After such a spiritual fall, God always calls out the faithful ones to continue His work; He will always have a chosen people to serve him.

THE TEST

“To stand in defense of truth and righteousness when champions are few – this will be OUR TEST.” [5T 136]

“...if I deliver my body to be burned [for keeping the right day], but do not have LOVE, it profits me nothing.” (cf. 1Corinthians 13:3)

“The time is not far distant when the test will come to every soul. The observance of the FALSE SABBATH will be urged upon us. The contest will be between the commandments of God and the commandments of men. Those who have yielded step by step to worldly demands, and conformed to worldly customs, will then yield to the powers that be, rather than subject themselves to derision, insult, threatened imprisonment, and death. At that time the gold will be separated from the dross... Many a star that we have admired for its brilliance will then go out in darkness. Those who have assumed the ornaments in the sanctuary, but are not clothed with Christ’s righteousness, will then appear in the shame of their own nakedness.” [PK 188]

“The Sabbath [rest principle] will be the great test of loyalty, for it is the point of TRUTH especially controverted. When the final TEST shall be brought to bear upon men, THEN the line of distinction will be drawn between those who serve God and those who serve Him not. While the observance of the false sabbath [or false experience] in compliance with the LAW of the STATE, contrary to the fourth commandment, will be an avowal of allegiance to a power [or spirit] that is in opposition to God, the keeping of the true Sabbath [or true experience], in obedience to God’s law [of love] is an evidence of loyalty to the Creator.” [GC 605]

“The Sabbath question [or Sabbath Rest Principle which includes not only the letter, but the spirit of the law] is to be the issue in the great final conflict in which all the world will act a part.” [6T 352]

“God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in SPIRIT and TRUTH.” (John 4:24)

“...if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him... For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons [and daughters] of God.” (Romans 8:9, 14)

We see then the two parts of the test. There is the examination of the theoretical [or faith experience] which pertains to the SPIRIT. Next the practical aspect [or living testimony] is tested revealing the adherence to TRUTH. “Faith without works is dead.” (James 2:20)

It is obvious that an exam must present a challenge and be valid or it is no test at all. For example, it would be absurd to administer a first grade test to a twelfth-grader. Would it be considered ethical to give the student a copy of the test prior to the testing? Of course not! However, it is only JUST to make available all necessary information and requirements for passing. God has provided in His dear Son all we need to pass the test. “He that has the Son has life, and he that has not the Son of God has not life.” (1John 5:12) He has given us the most thorough and powerful Instruction Manual ever known to man. And He has provided His “remnant people” with inspired commentary to eliminate common misapplications.

In the FINAL TEST, those who are lacking the SPIRIT will not stand in the TRUTH. Those without spiritual eye salve will be deceived. Seventh-day Adventists who are to be grades above the world will not be given the same level of trial. To those who have much, much is required. The man who neglects opportunity will lose even what he has. His “candle-stick will be removed.”

Do you think, my brothers and sisters, that your test will be choosing between Saturday and Sunday? Or do you believe the Sunday Law will be your test? If so, you will be deceived. Please be enlightened. “I tell you now that you must have divine enlightenment. If you do not seek this, SATAN will set up his hellish banner right in your homes, and you will be so blinded to the real nature of his deceptions that you will reverence it as the BANNER of CHRIST.” [*MS 18, 1888*, p. 4]

When Abraham was tested, he had to make a difficult decision. He was required to be willing to give up the most precious “thing” possible. It was in total contradiction to God’s promise – that he would be “father of a great multitude.” The requirement made no logical sense from a human perspective. But because he was led of the SPIRIT, he prevailed in the TRUTH. He knew the faithfulness of the Father, and trusted in His Divine wisdom.

Dear Seventh-day Adventist, your test has come. The Son of God has been Crucified Afresh, and what will you do? The contest is between “the commandments of God and the commandments of men.” Where do you now stand?

THE FALSE SABBATH

“It is much easier to accept sophistry and fables than the truth. But it is a very serious matter for us to endanger our souls and forfeit immortality by worshipping a spurious institution. We cannot rely upon man’s assertions any more safely than could the Jews upon their false theories in the time of Christ. Men’s statements do not make truth falsehood or falsehood truth. We cannot with safety build our faith upon a false foundation, and give heed to fables because they have been passed down to us as tradition, even though they are hoary with age. Christ said of the Jews, who were loading down the law of God with the sayings and maxims of the ancient rabbis, ‘In vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.’ These words are addressed to every soul who is doing likewise.” [*RH 07-06-97*]

“To a large degree the religious world is following in the path of the Jews. The Pharisees taught for doctrine the commandments of men, making the word of God void by their traditions [or FALSE SABBATH], and this the teachers of today [1890s] are doing by upholding the first day of the week – a day that bears not the divine credentials. They clothe their FALSE SABBATH with a garb of sanctity, and many would compel its observance by imprisonment or fine. Under the enemy’s training, their zeal will grow until, like the Jews, they will think they are doing God a service by heaping reproach on those who have the moral courage to keep the commandments.” [RH 03-08-98]

The FALSE SABBATH in our time comes in several forms. The most obvious of these is Sunday sacredness for which there is no Scriptural evidence of support. The Sunday, or first day of the week, has become “the mark of authority” of the Roman Catholic Church in her blatant attempt to alter the immutable law of God. Thus the “mark of the beast” is said to be enforced when the Sunday-Sabbath is forced upon the conscience of God’s commandment-keeping people.

In the “new world,” a reflection of “the beast” or “image of the beast” creates a false sabbath which is much more subtle than that which “the beast” of “the old world” contrived. Satan seeks to “deceive, if possible, the very elect.” (Mat 24:24)

So, as “the beast” attempted to alter the *letter* of God’s law, the “image of the beast” attempts to abrogate the *spirit* of God’s Holy Sabbath. In this work, Satan chooses for his instrument of deception an ecclesiastical organization that was “once pure” but now corrupt. To summarize: “The beast’s mark” consists in the *letter* of the law, while the “image’s mark” is associated with *only the spirit* of the law. Both marks are equivalent to the same “false sabbath.” Notice that in Revelation 13:17 how it reads in the NIV: “...so that no one could buy or sell unless he had THE MARK, [1] which is the *name* of the beast or [2] *the number* of his name.” We can see from this Scripture, which corresponds to the Greek of the received texts, that *the mark*, or *false sabbath*, can be manifested in either of two forms – [1] “the name of the beast,” or [2] “the number of his name.” In the first case, “the name” represents *the character or spirit* of “the beast and his image,” and in the second, “the number” represents the conversion of the *letters* of the beast’s literal name into numerical values in order to “identify the beast and his [conspirator].”

In any case, the false sabbath is in the heart of the one creating it. The mark is indicative of a carnal mind set on the flesh and at enmity with God. Simply stated, the true Sabbath [or Creation 7th Day] represents God’s way; the mark or false sabbath is the sign of man’s rebellious way in opposition to God’s plan.

Can you see, based upon the PRINCIPLES outlined before, how a “**trademarked church name**” would be a **FALSE SABBATH**? When the “trademarked church name” is *forced* upon the consciences of God’s commandment-keeping people, would this not be to all intents and purposes “the mark of the beast” imposed on them?

THE IMAGE

“...the image of the beast will be formed before probation closes; for it is to be the GREAT TEST for the people of God, by which their eternal destiny will be decided...” [7A 976]

“This IMAGE [Nebuchadnezzar] set up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon, to be worshipped, and called all his... people... to worship it. This was a positive setting up of his OWN IDEA against that of God. This was to declare to all people that his golden kingdom was to ENDURE FOREVER; that there

was to be no such thing as another kingdom [church] arising SEPARATE from his and inferior to it... No! There should be only his golden kingdom of Babylon, and it should never be broken or interrupted [it would go through to the end]...” [A.T. Jones (22)]

“...when the state shall use its power to enforce the decrees and sustain the institutions of the church – THEN will Protestant America have formed an IMAGE to the papacy...” [7BC 976]

“When [the church]... shall influence the state to enforce their decrees and to sustain their institutions, THEN Protestant America will have formed an IMAGE of the ROMAN HIERARCHY, and the infliction of civil penalties upon dissenters will inevitably result.” [GC 445]

“The ‘IMAGE to the beast’ represents that form of apostate Protestantism which will be developed when the Protestant churches shall seek the AID OF THE CIVIL POWER for the enforcement of their dogmas.” [GC 445]

“...in the VERY ACT of enforcing a religious duty by secular power, the churches would themselves FORM AN IMAGE to the beast...” [GC 449] “The special characteristic of the beast, and therefore of his IMAGE, is the breaking of God’s commandments.” [GC 446]

“Note: The beast ‘which had the wound by the sword, and did live,’ is the Papacy. That was a church dominating the civil power, a union of church and state, enforcing its religious dogmas by civil power, by confiscation, imprisonment, and death. An IMAGE to this beast would be another ecclesiastical organization clothed with civil power – another UNION OF CHURCH AND STATE – to enforce religion by law.” (23)

“I need not undertake to give a definition in detail of what the IMAGE of the beast is; we all know well that it is the CHURCH POWER USING THE GOVERNMENT, THE CIVIL POWER, FOR CHURCH PURPOSES...

“Now I want to state a little further upon the PRINCIPLE that no Christian, being a citizen of the kingdom of God, can of right start any procedure in connection with civil government. After it is started by the government itself, that is another question.... I repeat therefore, that upon the PRINCIPLES which govern kingdoms and governments, the very PRINCIPLE of the law in heaven, or law in earth, a Christian cannot start any procedure in connection with civil government.

“And of all Christians, SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS CANNOT DO IT. THE VERY KEEPING OF THE SABBATH FORBIDS IT.” [A.T. Jones (24)]

“...it has been written, that the testimony of two men is true.” (John 8:17) Dear reader, do you have any question in your mind as to what forms “the IMAGE to the beast”?

THE KINGDOM

“My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting, that I might not be delivered up to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm.” (John 18:36)

“...Jesus never, in any manner nor to any degree, took any part in political matters nor in any affairs of the State. Jesus was then, and is forever, the embodiment of true religion. Therefore, in His whole life’s conduct of absolute separation from everything political, from all affairs of the State, there is taught to all the world, and especially to all believers in Him, the complete separation of the religion of Christ, and of all who hold it, from everything political and from all affairs of State.” [A.T. Jones (25)]

“Not by decisions of courts, or councils, or legislative assemblies, not by the patronage of worldly great men, is the kingdom of Christ established...” [DA 509]

“There is a kingdom now in existence into which only the righteous can enter. They enter it by coming into a personal, saving relation to Jesus Christ. That kingdom is not of the world; its government is not exercised by worldly government or States, and in the administration of its affairs NO FORCE is used. Its officers strive not for position nor for authority over others. They are all brethren.” [M.E. Kellogg (26)]

“The exercise of FORCE is contrary to the PRINCIPLES of God’s government; He desires only the service of Love; and love cannot be commanded; it cannot be won by force or authority. Only by LOVE is love awakened.” [DA 22] “The germ in the seed grows by the unfolding of the LIFE-PRINCIPLE which God has implanted. Its development depends on NO HUMAN POWER. So it is with the kingdom of Christ. It is a new creation. Its PRINCIPLES of development are the opposite of those that rule the kingdoms of this world. Earthly governments prevail by PHYSICAL FORCE... but the founder of the new kingdom is the Prince of Peace... In His plan of government there is no employment of brute FORCE TO COMPEL THE CONSCIENCE. The Jews looked for the kingdom of God to be established in the same way as the kingdoms of the world. To promote righteousness they RESORTED TO EXTERNAL MEASURES. They DEvised METHODS AND PLANS. But Christ implants a PRINCIPLE... [COL 77]

“There is no place for tradition, for man’s theories and conclusions, or for CHURCH LEGISLATION. NO LAWS ORDAINED BY ECCLESIASTICAL AUTHORITY are included in the commission... ‘The law and the prophets,’ with the record of His own words and deeds, are the treasure committed to the disciples to be given to the world... Nothing that does not bear His superscription is to be recognized in His kingdom.” [DA 826]

“The loyal and true bear the credentials of heaven, not of earthly potentates... The Lord has provided His church with capabilities and blessings, that they may present to the world an image of His own sufficiency, and that His church may be complete in Him, a continual representation of another, even the eternal world, of laws that are higher than earthly laws. [TM 17]

Are you in the kingdom of God or still supporting the kingdoms of this world? No man can serve two masters. Either make the tree good so the fruit will be good, or make it bad so your true character will be revealed. (Mat 12:33) WARNING: “Halfhearted Christians are WORSE than INFIDELS; for their deceptive words and noncommittal position lead many astray. The infidel shows his colors. The lukewarm Christian deceives both parties. He is neither a good worldling nor a good Christian. Satan uses him to do a work no one else can do.” [7BC 963]

“Prophecy represents Protestantism as having lamblike horns, but speaking like a dragon.” [7BC 975] Apostate Protestantism has become a “wolf [or dragon] in sheep’s clothing” and is now “the false prophet.” Are you being deceived by “the false prophet”? Satan has come as an “angel of light.” Have you seen or heard him? Can you recognize his devices? You must know the voice of God to avoid him. Please awake!

Awake, virgins, awake! “The Bridegroom cometh.” The end is now at hand. The kingdom of God is in the midst of you! The Bride must make herself ready today!

THE MARRIAGE

“God is the HUSBAND of His church. The church is His BRIDE, the Lamb’s wife... She should keep herself PURE, SANCTIFIED, HOLY. NEVER should she indulge in any foolishness; for she is the bride of a King. Yet she does not realize her exalted position.” [7BC 986] “...the sacred and enduring character of the relation that exists between Christ and His church is presented by the union of Marriage... The unfaithfulness of the church to Christ in permitting her confidence and affection to be turned from Him, and allowing the love of worldly things to occupy the soul, is likened to the violation of the marriage vow... “thou wast exceeding beautiful and thou didst prosper into a kingdom. And thy renown went forth among the heathen for thy beauty; for it was perfect through My comeliness, which I had put upon thee... but thou didst trust in thine own beauty, and playedst the harlot because of thy renown.” [GC 381]

“Again, Christ represents His Church as His bride and He her Husband. Thus Paul says to the Corinthian Church, ‘I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.’ (2Cor 11:2; also Rom 7:4) Christ is, therefore, the Protector and Defender of His Churches; but whenever the Church allows someone else to PROTECT and rule over her she acts just as a woman who leaves her husband and seeks protection of some other man. In a union of the Church and State the Church becomes MARRIED as it were, to the State...” [Letter 51a, 1898]

“The true church is a chaste virgin. (2Cor 11:2) The church that is joined with the world in friendship, is a harlot. It is this unlawful connection with the kings of the earth that constitutes her the great harlot of the Apocalypse (Rev 17). Thus the Jewish Church, at first espoused to the Lord (Jer 2:3, 31, 32), became a harlot (Eze 16)... The unlawful union with the world of which Babylon is guilty, is positive proof that it (Babylon) is not the civil power...For these reasons, it is very evident that the Babylon of the Apocalypse is the professed church united with the world.” [Uriah Smith (27)]

We unhesitatingly apply the Babylon of the Apocalypse to all corrupt Christianity. The term signifying confusion, is perfectly applicable to the many different sects, each holding different sentiments, and all united with the world. The Protestant sects are fitly represented by the harlot daughters of the woman of Rev 17:4,5. The woman that would leave her husband, and unite with and SEEK PROTECTION from, another, would be called thus. The professed church of Christ has left the arm of her true Husband, and now leans upon the strong arm of the law. She seeks protection, and to be nourished by the corrupt governments of the world, and is properly represented by the harlot daughters of the old mother, she being a symbol of the Catholic church. As the woman should cleave to her husband, so should the church cleave to Christ, and instead of SEEKING THE ARM OF THE LAW FOR PROTECTION in the worship of God, lean ONLY on the potent arm of her Beloved.” [James White (28)]

“When the early church departed from God and imbibed pagan errors, she became Babylon. When she united with the state, she FELL, and AS AN ORGANIZATION, was the body of Christ no longer. While the Reformation churches held fast the word of Christ was with them. Then they crystallized their various errors into creeds and endeavored thus to confine God’s word, they made themselves daughters of Babylon. When some of them united with the state, they fell, and God had to use other people, called out of Babylon to carry forward His work. Now among these very churches which came out of the second Babylon, confusion reigns; and now great Babylon, including later daughters, is in adulterous union with the kings

of the earth, and is endeavoring to make that union stronger. God calls no church Babylon which holds to His word, and follows the light that shines from it, even though there are in its membership many who do not know Christ. When the controlling influence of a church is downward, it erects some other standard beside God's word." [(29), 1896]

"...we understand that all the corrupt religious bodies which have ever existed, or which exist at the present time, united to the world, and sustained by the civil power, constitute the Babylon of John's vision, which shall be thrown down as a millstone is cast into the mighty deep." [J.N. Andrews (30)]

"Babylon is also charged with the sin of unlawful connection with 'the kings of the earth.' It was by departure from the Lord, and alliance with the heathen, that the Jewish church became a HARLOT; and Rome, corrupting herself in LIKE MANNER BY SEEKING THE SUPPORT OF WORLDY POWERS, receives a like condemnation." [GC 382]

"By her [Babylon's] daughters must be symbolized churches that cling to her doctrines and tradition, and follow her example of sacrificing the truth and the approval of God, in order to form an UNLAWFUL ALLIANCE with the world. The message of Revelation 14, announcing the fall of Babylon must apply to religious bodies that were ONCE PURE and have become corrupt." [GC 382, 383]

"The church leaning on the arm of another; separated from her own husband, turning to another, leaning upon the arm of another than her rightful Lord – that is what made Babylon. The Church, pretending to be the Church of Christ, joining herself to another lord, makes the adulteress, the HARLOT. [A.T. Jones (31)]

Notwithstanding, notice this: "If the church of God becomes LUKEWARM, it does not stand in favor with God any more than do the churches that are represented as having fallen and become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and the cage of every unclean and hateful bird [or Babylon]." [Letter 35, January 1, 1898]

"It is written, 'What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.' And by the same token it can be authoritatively written, What God hath put asunder, let no man, nor any combination of men, join together." [A.T. Jones (32)]

There is absolutely no way a church can be joined to God and the State at the same time. It is an impossibility! Applying the above testimony gathered from proven church representatives of the last century, you can make intelligent decisions concerning the present organization of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Space does not permit to publish the entire indictment here. However, it is common knowledge that the Seventh-day Adventist Church joined hands in unholy alliance with the U.S. Federal Government in November 1981. Not only has the General Conference Corporation registered, under the United States trademark laws, the church name "Seventh-day Adventist," but it has also, since 1986, been initiating litigation to FORCE compliance with said laws. Please regard the following statement from the General Conference President, Neal C. Wilson (June 18, 1988); "We've got to PROTECT that name ["Seventh-day Adventist"], because we are giving a false impression to the world... And this church/state business; be a little careful how you use that, because that is not in scripture: separation of church and state. That is a particular North American philosophy. It exists no where else in the world." (33) [All emphases/brackets supplied]. See APPENDIX for the "Trademark Guidelines" which were published in the *Adventist Review*, November 24, 1983.

“As reformers they [Seventh-day Adventists] have come out of the denominational churches, but they now act a part similar to that which the churches acted. We hoped that there would not be the necessity for another coming out.” [*Manuscript 30*, 1889]

THE CRUCIFIXION(S)

The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary contains the following insightful words regarding the previously cited passage from John 18:36:

“During the course of His trial Jesus said, ‘If my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight.’ It is only when Christians mistakenly come to believe that Christ’s kingdom is of this world that they resort to force in defending what they take to be its interests.” [*SDA Bible Commentary Vol. 5*, p. 527]

“When the early church became corrupted by departing from the simplicity of the gospel and accepting heathen rites and customs, she lost the Spirit and power of God; and in order to control the consciences of the people, she sought the SUPPORT OF THE SECULAR POWER. The result was the PAPACY, a church that controlled the power of the state and employed it to further her own ends, especially for the punishment of ‘heresy.’ In order for the United States to form an image of the beast, the religious power must so control the civil government that the authority of the state will also be employed by the church to accomplish her own ends.” [*GC 443*]

“It was apostasy that led the early church to seek the aid of civil government, and this prepared the way for the development of the papacy...” [*GC 443*]

“Contentions, strife, and lawsuits between brethren are a disgrace to the cause of truth. Those who take such a course expose the church to the ridicule of her enemies and cause the powers of darkness to triumph. They are piercing the wounds of Christ afresh and putting Him to open shame.” [*5T 242, 243*] This quote applies to brethren; but how much more would it pertain to a CHURCH BODY entering into litigation against anyone, believer or not?

“...Some, when God reproves them for wanting their own way, make the world their confidence, and bring church matters before the world for decision. THEN... Christ is *crucified afresh* and put to open shame. Those church members who appeal to the courts of the world show they have chosen the world as their judge, and their NAMES [whether it be individuals or CHURCHES] are registered in heaven as one with unbelievers. [*MS 64, 1898*]

What does this tell us about the NAME: General Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists?

The following is a chronology published by *Church and State Observer*, Special Edition, 1990:

- 1980...General Conference hires Catholic attorney to trademark the name “Seventh-day Adventist.”
- 1981...SDA name trademarked. General Conference remains silent during a “five year” waiting period: a time when the trademark could have been contested had it been known.
- 1986...General Conference took legal action against one hundred thirty-five different cases charged with violating trademark laws.

- 1987...John Marik, pastor of the 12 member Seventh-day Adventist Congregational Church, Kona, Hawaii loses court case in trademark lawsuit brought by the General Conference.
- 1989...May 5, the U.S. Court of Appeals refers Marik case back to Hawaii to be tried in lower court. Marik remains in hiding since February, 1988.
- 1989...Pastor John Marik jailed for contempt of court and released after five days on \$25,000 bail. Trademark case in lower courts pending.
- 1990...April 11, the charges of contempt of court lifted against John Marik; the fines have been eliminated and the bail money returned. General Conference continues pressing Trademark case in lower court as of July, 1990.

The following events have thereafter come to pass:

- 1996...November 6, The Rogue Valley Historic Seventh-day Adventist Church in Talent, Oregon receives a letter of request by Walter E. Carson of the General Conference advising them to drop all references to the denomination's protected name, stating, "I am sure you do not want to intentionally violate applicable law."
- 1997...September 15, Pastor Raphael Perez of the Eternal Gospel SDA Church in Miami, FL receives a letter from the General Conference requesting that the fellowship desist from using the name Seventh-day
- Adventist" or the initials "S.D.A." in its name due to various anti-Catholic statements made by the Eternal Gospel church.
- 1997...October 22, Pastor Perez requests the legal documents pertaining to the trademark for his records so that he could avoid using the "official registered trademarked name for the denomination."
- 1997...November 5, The Conference responds to pastor Perez, expressing its approval of the Oct 22 letter, in which Perez seems willing to compromise with the request, however he does not continue his communications with the Conference, and does not drop the initials SDA from the name of his church.
- 1998... January, the *Adventist Review* publishes the intention of the General Conference to bring civil suit against the Emanuel Seventh-day Adventist Church of Bronx, NY, for "improper use of the Seventh-day Adventist Church's name."
- 1998...March 17, The Law Office of Diller, Ramik and Wight sends a letter of demand to pastor Perez of the Eternal Gospel church, on behalf of the denomination, enjoining him to immediately cease using the names "Seventh-day Adventist" and its initials in any of its written communications.
- 1998...August, The Emanuel Seventh-day Adventist Church in New York loses the suit against the General Conference "by default" having been unable to raise sufficient funds to successfully contest the Conference's complaint.
- 2000...March 13, The General Conference takes the Eternal Gospel Church to trial in the U.S. Federal District Court of Miami, FL.
- 2000...April 27, The judge in the case upholds the validity of the General Conference's trademark, and enjoins the Eternal Gospel church from using the name "Seventh-day Adventist," the initials S.D.A. or the Spanish equivalents of these. The Eternal Gospel board member Andres Roman issues a statement that "We can't go along with that ruling.... [Ellen White] told us that this name was given to us by God. We must always call ourselves by that."

- 2001...February 14, Pastor Perez drops his appeal against this decision, settling out of court, and agreeing to give up the name "Seventh-day Adventist" in the name of his organization. Instead, Perez' church adopted the compromised title: "ETERNAL GOSPEL CHURCH, Founded [...] by Seventh-day Adventist Believers." Walter E. Carson, associate counsel in the Office of General Counsel explains, "We achieved, in the agreement, precisely what we sought in the litigation. Mr. Perez can no longer use the Seventh-day Adventist Church's name as the name of his church."
- 2002...September 16, The Law Office of Diller, Ramik and Wight sends a notice of contest to the Troy Seventh-day Adventist Church of Troy, Montana, informing them of intended litigation.
- 2003...May 15, The General Conference sends a letter of request to Henry Black of the Canadian independent SDA group "Be bold for Jesus Christ" ministry, advising them to cease using the trademarked church name, and to "destroy those documents in your possession [...] that you have so labelled."

[See Appendix for details of the Eternal Gospel Church case and other related documents.]

The unholy alliance of Church with State occurred in 1981; but inevitable persecution did not begin until 1986, at which time the first of a long line of crucifixions began. It is what you might label a "civilized inquisition" in the United States.

With the blessing of protection from her "new husband," the U.S. Federal government, apostate Protestantism [the Seventh-day Adventist General Conference Corporation] continued to coerce and press her dogmas in the legal system of America. "The force of persecution follows the steps of the dragon." [Letter 55, 1886]

After the imprisonment of Pastor John Marik in December 1989, a second petition was filed [January 18, 1990] by two constituents of the General Conference Church, to cancel the Corporation's "trademark church name." Since the SDA Kinship International [homosexual support group] case in Southern California was then pending, the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board in Washington, D.C. delayed their action on the petition to cancel until disposal of "the Kinship case."

Pilgrims' Rest reported, "As of last summer (1989), a knowledgeable attorney who worked on the case tells us that the Marik case had already cost the General Conference about \$700,000. That is three-quarter of a million dollars to put nine people 'out of business.'" (*Tract WM 308*) In a letter drafted April 10, 1989, Robert W. Nixon, Associate General Counsel, wrote, "Secondly, you inquired whether tithe is used to pay church litigation. Treasury informs me that all litigation is paid from the annual appropriation made at the Annual Council, and that appropriation comes from tithe." (Facsimile published in *Tract WM 264*)

In October 1991, Judge Mariana R. Pfaelzer of the U.S. district court for central California ruled that the homosexual support group, SDA Kinship International, "is entitled to use the term 'Seventhday Adventist' to identify the religion of the group's membership." But the judge limited application of the decision to the homosexual group. "Arguably, use of the name 'Seventh-day Adventist' in conjunction with 'church' would require a different result," she wrote. In *Spectrum*, March 1992, pp. 63-64, the author penned, "The church did not appeal the decision, Nixon [Associate General Counsel] said, 'mainly because it [the decision] was so narrow.' He added, 'We didn't think it did that much damage.' [Nixon also said], "Our major thrust is to protect the name of the church... [The decision] still leaves the Seventh-day Adventist Church fully protected."

On December 5, 1991, *Adventist Review* reported:

“Hawaii Judgment Favors GC. The Federal District Court in Honolulu, Hawaii, has issued a [Nov. 14] judgment in favor of the General Conference following a request by John Marik and his congregational church to conclude the dispute... The judgment enjoins Marik and the members of the congregational church from using the church’s trademarks ‘Seventh-day Adventist’ and ‘SDA’ in the name of their organization...”

“As America, the land of religious liberty, shall unite with the papacy in forcing the conscience and compelling men to honor the false sabbath, the people of every country on the globe will be led to follow her example” [6T 18] “Foreign nations will follow the example of the United States. Though she leads out, yet the same crisis will come upon our people in all parts of the world.” [6T 395]

In various parts of the world, the General Conference has flexed her “legal muscles” in the nations’ court systems. Her international trademark was favored against Fredy Hertig in Switzerland in 1995. A FAX, dated May 28, 1995, from Brother Hertig says, “We told [a Sunday-keeper] of our court case and he was very surprised that such a thing can happen in Switzerland. We asked him if he would like to have our [small keyboard organ] free of charge... First he didn’t dare to take this present, but he understood, that it would be better for us if he takes it, than the old Laodicea [General Conference] through the governmental power.”

A letter [dated July 16, 1995] from Brother Kurt Hitzke in Germany reads, “Because of this [SDA] name, a fight has begun by the SDA Incorporated Church, or so called the old Laodicea. This corporation has tried to take our name from us. They used the courts to disown us from the name... This is the way they wanted to treat us, like brother Hertig, in Switzerland...” The result of this case was that the defendants must publish a disclaimer, along with their name, identifying them as separate from the General Conference Churches.

Meanwhile, in our own land, the General Conference was temporarily held in check, awaiting the Washington, D. C. Trademark Trial and Appeal Board’s decision regarding the petition to cancel the Corporation’s federal trademark/service mark SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST. Since the judgment handed down in favor of Kinship in the GCC vs. SDA Kinship case, most SDA members were under the false impression that the “trademark issue” was finally and forever a moot point. This erroneous conclusion was enhanced by publications such as Jan Marcussen’s October 1993 Newsletter stating, “The good news is 1) Since you, and SDAs all over the world now know that it is illegal to trademark the name of a church, no one can legally win a lawsuit for a sign with the name of God’s church on it!... Good news #3) On my CCA video #7, I showed you that the Catholic lawyer got up in a GC meeting and told them that they cannot sue people any more for using the name, because they lost the case to the homosexuals and the judge ruled that the name {of the SDA church} is generic, and is the name of a religion, {which cannot be trademarked.}

{The judge caught what the trademark office should have caught}.”

Then, in a surprise announcement, over six years following the second petition to cancel the trademark, the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board delivered their landmark decision. It was reported as follows by the Adventist News Network, March 8, 1996:

Seventh-day Adventist Church Wins Trademark Ruling

Silver Spring, Maryland, USA...[ANN] The Trademark Trial and Appeal Board (TTAB) of the Patent and Trademark Office found the trademark and service mark “Seventh-day Adventist,” used by the Seventh-day Adventist Church for 130 years in its worldwide Christian ministry, to be validly and federally registered.

The TTAB majority decision came because of third party efforts to cancel the registered trademark based on allegations of fraudulently claiming first use and generic ness.

According to the February 15 ruling, the TTAB unanimously disposed of the fraud issue by stating that the Church believed, when it filed the application for registration, that its rights to “Seventh-day Adventist” as a trademark and service mark, dating back to 1863 when the Church was established, were superior to those of any other group which might have used the name or similar designation in connection with their activities. Because “there is no proof of fraud here... that portion of petitioners’ claims must fail,” the report said.

In a majority ruling of the generic ness claim, the TTAB board said: “We find that the petitioners have not established by a preponderance of the evidence that the registered trademark is generic. To the contrary, we find that the evidence of records shows that for a period of over 130 years, the primary significance of the designation ‘Seventh-day Adventist’ has been to identify the source of origin of religious publications and services emanating from respondent [the Seventh-day Adventist Church].”

The above news release prompted *The Creation 7th Day Adventist Church* into action, raising the standard of religious liberty in this country. On May 1, 1996, *Creation Ministries* published the book entitled, *LIBERTY of CONSCIENCE – A Gift Worth Preserving!* This publication unveils the historic position of the SDA movement with regards to church-state relations, by adapting several pioneer SDA articles. It further applies these principles to modern day developments in the SDA Church and fulfillment of Bible prophecy. The book also offers a short commentary on the Biblical principles involved in the petition to cancel the SDA trademark, including the presentation of the Sabbath Rest Principle which presents the *spirit* of Sabbath-keeping. In short, filing suit in civil court amounts to a violation of the Sabbath commandment – demonstrating a lack of trust in the Creator for deliverance from every curse.

A letter of warning and entreaty was drafted on May 22, 1996, and mailed to every SDA Conference Office in the United States. Letters were distributed to SDA church members for several months, that they might be intelligently informed of their responsibility in this crisis. Every letter offered an invitation to sign a form testifying that the name “Seventh-day Adventist” should be defined as a generic term. This testimony of signatures was designed as a potential witness for the then-future appeal requested by the Davidian Seventh-day Adventists to reverse the decision of the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board which, in fact, never materialized. (see APPENDIX for full text of the letter, entitled *AWAKE VIRGINS – AWAKE!!*)

“The people of the United States have been a favored people; but when they restrict religious liberty, surrender Protestantism, and give countenance to popery, the measure of their guilt will be full, and ‘national apostasy’ will be registered in the books of heaven.” [RH 05-02-93]

In 1880 Ellen White wrote of a principle which has present day application. “If most earnest vigilance is not manifested at the great heart of the work to protect the interests of the cause [of religious liberty], the church will become as corrupt as the churches of other denominations [daughters of Babylon].” [4T 513]

And in 1891, she stated that “The world must not be introduced into the church, and married to the church, forming a bond of unity [church-state union]. Through *this means* the [SDA] church will become indeed corrupt, and as stated in Revelation (18:2), ‘a cage of every unclean and hateful bird’ [Babylon fallen].” [TM 265]

Seeing a parallel between Ancient Israel and the Seventh-day Adventist Denomination, we cite the following:

1) “They cried out for the crucifixion of Christ and, as representatives of the Jewish nation, placed themselves under the Roman jurisdiction, which they despised, by saying, ‘We have no king but Caesar.’ **When they said this they unchurched themselves.**” [MR 999-4] They united with civil government for the enforcement of their wishes. The Jewish nation, in securing that alliance, broke their covenant relationship with God. (See 5BC 1149 and DA 737, 738)

2) “When Christ cried out, ‘it is finished,’ the Holy Watcher that was an unseen guest at Belshazzar’s feast pronounced the Jewish nation to be **a nation unchurched**. The same hand that traced on the wall the characters that recorded Belshazzar’s doom and the end of the Babylonian kingdom, rent the veil of the temple from top to bottom, opening a new and living way for all, high and low, rich and poor, Jew and Gentile. From henceforth people might come to God without priest or ruler.” [5BC 1109]

As a corporate body, the Jewish nation’s probation was officially closed at the crucifixion of Christ. In like manner, probation for the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Church Denomination closed when they “Crucified Afresh the Son of God, and put Him to open shame.” (Hebrews 6:6)

“...to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine... you did it to me,” Christ says. (Matthew 25:40)

“The eighteenth chapter of Revelation speaks of mystic Babylon, fallen from her HIGH ESTATE to become a persecuting power. Those who keep the commandments of God and have the faith of Jesus are the object of the wrath of this power...” [7BC 980]

“The pillars of truth were revealed, and we accepted the foundation PRINCIPLES that have made us what we are – **Seventh-day Adventists**, keeping the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.” [UL 352]

THE NAME

“Christianity is that system of religion founded by Christ, of which His life and teachings are the true exponents. Uppermost in His life we clearly see the principle of devotion to His Father’s will. This will was embraced in two considerations, which from their nature are inseparable – a life of irreproachable holiness, and a forgetfulness of self in ministering to the wants of others... If Seventh-day Adventism does not embrace those principles in theory and in practice, then it is something distinct from Christianity. And in that case it is utterly useless and worse than useless... It is always a great pleasure to find any article to be just what it pretends to be. In verity, a NAME is a SIGN of CHARACTER... every man is honor bound to make his NAME a guaranty of integrity and purity.

How much more so when we bear the name of Christ! ... Our aim should not be to obtain the NAME. That is worthless. But with largeness of heart let us strive to comprehend the breadth of Christian principles. The

sacred obligations under which we, by our profession, are placed, do not consist in contending for a NAME or a sect, but in the maintaining of a character that exhibits the fullness of the graces of Christ. It is better to have the thing itself WITHOUT THE NAME, than to have the NAME WITHOUT THE OBJECT... Let our lives, our characters, give us our names, and be it our best endeavor to deserve the NAME which means to the world, Christlikeness. If we are FAITHFUL TO OUR PRINCIPLES, Seventh-day Adventism may mean that.” [G.C. Tenney (34)]

From the above extract it is apparent that the Seventh-day Adventist attitude of 1895 was greatly diverse from the present-day Denominational “trademark policy.” To those who own “THE NAME” by the character they live, and suffer persecution, Jesus says, “I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich) and the blasphemy by those who say they are Jews [Seventh-day Adventists] and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.” (Revelation 2:9)

“A company was presented to me under the name Seventh-day Adventist who were advising that the banner or sign which makes us a distinctive people should not be held out so strikingly.” [2SM 385]

“In a special sense Seventh-day Adventists have been set in the world as watchmen and light bearers. To them has been entrusted the last warning for a perishing world. On them is shining wonderful light from the word of God. They have been entrusted the last warning for a perishing world. On them is shining wonderful light from the word of God. They have been given a work of the most solemn import – the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels’ messages. There is no other work of so great importance.” [9T 19]

“We are Seventh-day Adventists. Are we ashamed of our name? We answer, ‘No, no! We are not. It is the name the Lord has given us. It points out the TRUTH that is to be the TEST of the churches.” [2SM 384]

But we must ever remember, “We are not saved as a sect; no denominational name has any virtue to bring us into favor with God. We are saved individually as believers in the Lord Jesus Christ.” [RH February 10, 1891]

“We may claim to be Seventh-day Adventists, and yet fail of realizing how EXALTED the STANDARD to which we must attain in order to deserve this NAME. Some have felt ashamed of being known as Seventh-day Adventists. Those who are ashamed of this name should never connect with those who feel it an honor to bear this name. And those who are Christ’s witnesses, standing where the truths of the Bible have placed them, are worthy of the NAME they bear.” [Letter 6, 1903]

Note this concept, if you will. Just as “the sanctification of the Spirit signalizes the DIFFERENCE between those who have the SEAL OF GOD and those who keep a SPURIOUS REST DAY” [7BC 980], the sanctification of the Spirit differentiates between the true Seventh-day Adventist and the spurious Seventh-day Adventist. Since “no man should be forced to act in harmony with human laws that are in direct opposition to the law that God has given” [Letter 187, 1903], we cannot honor the papal trademark law. You might rightly ask, “What law has God given?” This is the Word of the Lord: “...put your trust in the Lord your God, and you will be established. Put your trust in His prophets and succeed.” (2Chronicles 20:20) And following the unmistakable counsel of the prophet:

1) “We are Seventh-day Adventists...It is the name the Lord has given us.” [Letter 110, 1902] “Christ was a Seventh-day Adventist, to all intents and purposes.” [MM 49]

2) “We are Seventh-day Adventists, and of this name we are never to be ashamed. As a people we must take a firm stand for truth and righteousness. Thus we shall glorify God.” [*Letter 106*, 1903]

3) “Our institutions have taken a name which sets forth the character of our faith, and of this name we are NEVER to be ashamed. I have been shown that **THIS NAME MEANS MUCH**, and in adopting it we have followed the light given us from heaven...This distinctive banner is to be borne through the world to the CLOSE OF PROBATION.” [*MS 15*, 1896]

4) “No line of truth that has made the Seventh-day Adventist people what they are is to be weakened. We have the old landmarks of truth, experience, and duty, and we are to stand firmly in the defense of our principles, in full view of the world.” [*6T 17*]

5) “No name which we can take will be appropriate but that which accords with our profession and expresses our faith and **MARKS US** as a peculiar people. The name Seventh-day Adventist is a standing rebuke to the Protestant world. Here is the line of distinction between the worshippers of God and those who worship the beast and receive his mark. The great conflict is between the commandments of God and the requirements of the beast...The name Seventh-day Adventist carries the true features of our faith in front and will convict the inquiring mind. Like an arrow from the Lord’s quiver, it will wound the transgressors of God’s law, and will lead to repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.” [*IT 223, 224*]

Given the abundance of counsel and Bible principles which have been set before us, one concludes as follows:

1) To change the name “Seventh-day Adventist” would be akin to changing the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday. This prerogative is God’s alone.

2) To devise a law protecting the name “Seventh-day Adventist” or to control its use by civil law would be equivalent to a Sunday law [or Sabbath law].

Those who “keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus” cannot conform to either of these postures. We must “...come to the front, gird [ourselves] with the whole armor of God, and exalt His law, adhere to the faith of Jesus, and maintain the cause of religious liberty which reformers defended with toil and for which they sacrificed their lives.” [*1888 Materials 378*]

We would further allege that the following points must be considered in light of PRINCIPLE and the prophetic diversion of the Seventh-day Adventist Denomination, in her linking up with Apostate Protestantism:

1) To agree with and support the General Conference Trademark Policy, with the enforcement of it, would be the “mark of the beast” received in the forehead.

2) To support the General Conference Trademark Policy, with the enforcement of it, by the contribution of tithes, offerings, time, or continued membership in the fallen organization would be the “mark of the beast” received in the hand.

3) To “Come out from among them and be ye separate, and touch not the unclean thing,” along with bearing “the third angel’s message to the world, warning men against the worship of the beast and his image and directing them to take their places in the ranks of those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus” [*RH October 9, 1894*], is to continue preparing for the Seal of the Living God in heralding the Loud Cry which “has already begun in the revelation of the righteousness of Christ, the sin-pardoning Redeemer. This is the beginning of the light of the angel whose glory shall fill the whole earth.” [*RH November 22, 1892*]

THE JUDGMENT

Did you ever wonder when “the judgment of the living would begin? You do remember that “judgment must begin at the house of God.” (1Peter 4:17)

“In the balances of the sanctuary the Seventh-day Adventist church is to be weighed. She will be judged by the privileges and advantages that she has had. If her spiritual experience does not correspond to the advantages that Christ, at infinite cost, has bestowed on her, if the blessings conferred have not qualified her to do the work entrusted to her, on her will be pronounced the sentence: ‘Found wanting.’ By the light bestowed, the opportunities given, will she be judged.” [*8T 247*]

“The [SDA] church cannot measure herself by the world nor by the opinion of men nor by what she once was. Her faith and her position in the world as they now are must be compared with what they would have been if her course had been continually onward and upward. The [SDA] church will be weighed in the balances of the sanctuary. If her moral character and spiritual state do not correspond with the benefits and blessings God has conferred upon her, she will be found wanting. ...If her talents are unimproved, if her fruit is not PERFECT before God, if her light has become darkness, she is indeed found wanting.” [*5T 83* (see *3T 248*)]

“There is danger that God’s commandment-keeping people will be found, as were the Jews, weighed in the balance of the heavenly sanctuary, and found wanting.” [*YI 10-14-97*]

“...as Belshazzar of old was interrupted in his midnight revelry by the handwriting on the wall and too late learned his terrible fate for disregarding the law of heaven, so will all who spurn God’s holy law, or ANY PART THEREOF, in order that they may enter into an UNHOLY ALLIANCE WITH THE WORLD... find, when it is too late, that the Lord has used the very balances they have cast aside as worthless, in which to weigh their characters; and they, too, have been found wanting.” [A.H. Antisdale (35)]

The “judgment of the living” has begun in that the “house of God” must make a decision concerning the worship of idols and the crucifixion of their Redeemer. The choices are plain. “How long will you hesitate between two opinions? If the Lord be God, follow Him; but if Ba’al, follow him.” (1Kings 18:21)

“By continual resistance the sinner places himself where he knows nothing but resistance. When he disregards the calls of God’s mercy, and continues to sow the seeds of unbelief, the dread mark is placed over his doorway, ‘Ephraim is joined to his idols; let him alone.’” [*4BC 1174*]

“Your only safety is in coming to Christ, and ceasing from sin this very moment. The sweet voice of mercy is sounding in your ears today, but who can tell if it will sound tomorrow?” [*ST August 29, 1892*]

“Let no one despair of gaining the victory. Victory is sure when self is surrendered to God.” [7BC 1095]

THE SEPARATION

During the early centuries of the church – “The doctrine of religious freedom was termed heresy, and its upholders were hated and proscribed. After a long and severe conflict, the faithful few decided to dissolve all union with the apostate church if she still refused to free herself from falsehood and idolatry. They saw that SEPARATION was an absolute necessity if they would obey the word of God. They dared not tolerate errors fatal to their own souls, and set an example which would imperil the faith of their children and children’s children.

To secure peace and unity they were ready to make any concession consistent with fidelity to God; but they felt that even peace would be too dearly purchased at the sacrifice of principle. If unity could be secured only by the compromise of truth and righteousness, then let there be difference, and even war. Well would it be for the church and the world if the PRINCIPLES that actuated those steadfast souls were revived in the hearts of God’s professed people.” [GC 45, 46]

“That night the angel of the Lord stood by my bed and said to me many things which I will not attempt to write here, but I was commanded to stand at my post of duty, and there was a spirit coming in taking possession of the [SDA] churches, that if permitted would separate them from God as verily as the churches who refused light that God sent them in the messages of warning and of light that they might advance in regard to His second coming to our world.” [1888 *Materials*, p. 296]

“I will relate what I remember of the 1888 General Conference in Minneapolis, Minn. It rings in my ears still how Sister White earnestly appealed to the conference to accept the message of justification by faith. She used some very strong terms such as the following, ‘Don’t think that wisdom is going to die with you! The Lord has men all prepared to step right in and carry the message to success. God is not dependent on you to finish His work in the earth.’ She said that she had almost lost confidence in humanity and the Lord seemed to be on the point of taking the blessings of carrying the message to the world out of the hands of our [SDA] people and raising up others to do the work.” [Letter from F.H. Westphal to W.C. White, 1932]

“It is impossible for you to unite with those who are corrupt, and still remain pure. God and Christ and the Heavenly Host would have man know that if he unites with the corrupt, he will become corrupt.” [RH January 2, 1900]

“Shall I obey the voice of God that bids me shake off the lethargy of the world, and escape from the world as did Lot from Sodom, or shall I listen to the voice of the world that cries peace and safety to my soul? Shall I wait for a more convenient season? All the sophistry of Satan is bound up in that one word, ‘WAIT.’ O that those who are now moved by the Spirit of God, would make a decided stand for God and for the truth!” [RH September 19, 1893]

Israel... “became corrupt, immoral and rebelled against the Lord, turning from Him to the worship of IDOLS. God bore long with them, calling them often to repentance. But they refused to hear... He saw that they were determined to have their own way... The alliances made by the Israelites with their heathen neighbors resulted in the loss of their identity as God’s people... The experience of Israel will be the experience of all who go to the world for strength, turning away from the living God. Those who forsake the mighty One, the Source of all strength, and affiliate with worldlings, placing on them their dependence,

become weak in moral power, as are those in whom they trust. God comes with entreaties and assurances... to show them their error, and lead them to repentance. But if they refuse to humble their hearts before Him, if they strive to exalt themselves [or their NAME] above Him, He must speak to them in judgment. No semblance of nearness to God, no assertion of connection with Him, will be accepted from those who persist in dishonoring Him by leaning upon the arm of worldly power. Today God's word to His people is: 'Come out from among them, and be ye separate, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters.'" [RH 08-04-04]

"No longer have the hosts of evil power to keep the Church captive; for 'Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city,' which hath 'made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication;' and to spiritual Israel is given the message, 'Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.'" [PK 715]

The prayer of Christ in John 17, "that they all may be one" as the Father and Son are one, is our only church creed. We have taken the name God gave to His remnant people. We have covenanted with the Father to "keep the commandments of God" and to have "the faith of Jesus." We have witnessed the transforming power of the Holy Spirit which has separated us from sin and sinners, but not from His Church.

THE SAINTS

"In every age God's chosen messengers have been reviled and persecuted, yet through their affliction the knowledge of God has been spread abroad. Every disciple of Christ is to step into the ranks and carry forward the same work, knowing that its foes can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth. God means that truth shall be brought to the front and become the subject of examination and discussion, even through the contempt placed upon it. The minds of the people must be agitated; every controversy, every reproach, every effort to restrict liberty of conscience, is God's means of awakening minds that otherwise might slumber." [Mount of Blessing, p. 33]

"Not all had bowed knee to the idolatrous SYMBOL [or trademark] of human power... there were some who dared disobey his [Nebuchadnezzar's] mandate... firmly the Hebrews testified to their allegiance to the God of heaven, and their faith in His power to deliver. The act of bowing to the image was understood by all to be an act of worship." [PK 506, 507]

"He who was our example kept aloof from earthly governments... because the remedy did not lie in the human heart and external measures. To be efficient, the cure must reach men individually, and must regenerate the heart... Not by the decisions of courts or councils or legislative assemblies, not by the patronage of worldly great men, is the kingdom of Christ established..." [DA 509]

"I saw the nominal church and nominal Adventists, like Judas, would betray us to the Catholics to obtain their influence to come against the SAINTS. The SAINTS will be AN OBSCURE PEOPLE, little known to the Catholics, but the churches and nominal Adventists will know of our faith and customs, and will betray the SAINTS and report them to the Catholics, as those who disregard the institutions of the pope, that is, that they keep the Sabbath [and the NAME that represents it] and disregard Sunday [and the combination of church and state which represents it]. [Unpublished Manuscript – on permanent loan from the Ellen G. White Estates]

“And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the remnant of her seed, who keep the commandments of God and the testimony of Jesus.” (Revelation 12:17) “Here is the patience of the SAINTS: here are they that keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.” (Revelation 14:12)

Now you know the answers to the questions in *THE PARABLE* on page 2 of this document. You are now well-informed and can make intelligent decisions concerning the present crisis in Adventism. If you knew before this reading who the two women were, and had not yet separated from the “sister-harlot,” your heart had previously been hardened by unbelief. But there is still a final moment of mercy remaining for you. Who knows how much longer grace will linger? Please receive God’s repentance as a “gift from Heaven,” be rebaptized, and “go and sin no more,” joining the ranks of those who “keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.”

Regarding those of you who do not agree with the position of this writing, we pray for you. We have devoted our lives to securing your religious liberty that you may be free to differ with us in good conscience without reprisals. We further desire an opportunity to reason with you from the Holy Bible. If you are willing to sacrifice a small segment of time for this most solemn appeal, we are pleased to meet with you.

THE STONE

“And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock; and he rolled a large stone against the entrance of the tomb...” (Matthew 27:59, 60) “Now on the next day [the Sabbath]... (v. 62) they set a seal on the stone (v. 66).”

Then the king gave orders, and Daniel was brought in and cast into the lions’ den. The king spoke and said to Daniel, ‘Your God whom you constantly serve will Himself deliver you.’ And a stone was brought and laid over the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet ring... so that nothing might be changed in regard to Daniel.” (Daniel 6:16, 17)

“...a stone was cut out without hands, and it struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay, and crushed them... But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.” (Daniel 2:34, 35)

“And David put his hand into his bag and took from it a stone and slung it, and struck the Philistine on his forehead. And the stone sank into his forehead, so that he fell on his face on the ground.” (1Samuel 17:49)

The symbolism of the above Scriptures is revealing. Notice that the enemies of God use the stone in an attempt to protect their carnal plans from failure or embarrassment. The Creator utilizes the stone in overcoming the enemy’s schemes.

The General Conference has thought to secure the destruction of the saints with trademark name protection. Just as Rome devised a church from a man called Peter (or “small stone”), and sealed it by authority of the Roman State, the General Conference has based her “trademark church” on a law sealed by the authority of man (United States government), and engraved on a “stony heart.”

In the ancient kingdom of Babylon, the leader’s insecurity led to *making* the stone for their salvation. They intended to fabricate *their own way* to heaven and “eternal security.” Their “stony heart” would not submit to God’s plan. “And they used brick for stone... And they said, ‘Come, let us build *for ourselves* a city, and

a tower whose top will reach into heaven, and let us make *for ourselves* A NAME – lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.’ ... Therefore its name was called Babel...” (Gen 11:3, 4, 9a)

The stone used of the enemies of God always fails in its selfish application. Any stone cut out by the hand of man is doomed to failure. Consider the tomb of Joseph. The large stone cut out by human hands to secure the Savior inside could not hold Him. Think of the stone set at the opening of the lions’ den. It served no ill to the prophet Daniel and no advantage to the king. All of man’s inventions poised against the kingdom of heaven shall come to naught, for nothing can be done against the truth.

Have you ever noticed that the chief priests and Pharisees violated the letter of the Sabbath commandment to “set a seal on the stone” at Joseph’s tomb? But they had *already* broken the *spirit* of Sabbath by having Christ crucified. The seal of carnal man or “the mark of the beast” is equivalent. Any stone placed in the way of the Lord and sealed by man compromises a “mark of the beast.” Whether man contrives a Sunday law to stone the way of the Lord, or whether he secures a trademark law to further his goals, the effect is the same – “the mark of the beast.”

YAH’s law of Ten Commandments are on “tablets of stone, written by the finger of God.” (Exodus 31:8) The Sabbath is the seal inscribed on the stone, guaranteeing that “all who call upon the name of *YAH* [and obey His will] shall be delivered.” (Joel 2:32) And “To him who overcomes... I will give a white stone, and a NEW NAME written on the stone...” (Revelation 2:17)

THE CONCLUSION

The two-horned beast of Revelation chapter 13 is the United States of America in her fallen condition, which now exists. This indictment should not come to you as a surprise, since several contemporary writers have alleged the same. Spiritualism has usurped the principles of republicanism and Protestantism on which this once great nation was founded. “[God] pronounced stern judgment on a king who sent for counsel to a heathen oracle: ‘Is it not because there is not a God in Israel, that ye go to inquire of Ba’al-zebub the god of Ekron?’” [*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 290]

As **CRUCIFIED AFRESH!** plainly points out, the General Conference Seventh-day Adventist Church is in adulterous union with the apostate nation. For some twenty-one years since the tradeMARKing of her church name in 1981, she has not demonstrated any fruit of repentance from her spiritual fall. Thus, her condemnation is the epitome of “Apostate Protestantism.” The General Conference has sought counsel from “the god of Ekron,” joining hands with *spiritualism*. Apply principles from the following passage in this matter:

Matters have been presented before me that have filled my soul with keen anguish. I saw men linking up arm in arm with lawyers, but God was not in their company. Having many ideas regarding the work, they go to the lawyers for help to carry out their plans. I am commissioned to say to such that they are not moving under the inspiration of the Spirit of God.

“Is it not because there is not a God in Israel, that ye go to inquire of Ba’al-zebub the god of Ekron?” 2Kings 1:3 Men in responsible positions are uniting with those in the church and those out of the church, whose counsel is misleading. Is it necessary for the Lord to come to you with A ROD to show you that you need a higher experience before you can be fitted for connection with the family above? Will you link up with men who have a faculty for

accusing, for thinking and speaking evil of the things that God approves? [*Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 8, page 69*]

“The apostle’s admonition to the Ephesian church should be heeded by the people of God today: ‘Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.’ Ephesians 5:11” [*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 290]

“And I saw coming out of the mouth of *the dragon* (spiritualism), and out of the mouth of *the beast* (papal supremacy), and out of the mouth of *the false prophet* (apostate Protestantism), three unclean spirits like frogs; for they are the spirits of demons performing signs, which go out to the [governments] of the whole world, to gather them together for the war of the great day of God, the Almighty.” (Revelation 16:13, 14)

In seeking the counsel of worldly lawyers and adopting worldly trademark policy, the General Conference has joined hands with *spiritualism*. The abomination of restricting liberty of conscience in religious matters, instigated by the Papacy, is now employed by the General Conference. This proves to be a linking of the Papacy and the Seventh-day Adventist Church hierarchy. The securing of secular religious government to enforce church business policy in the realm of personal religious faith is perpetuated by the General Conference, just as it was done by the Roman church.

“The Protestants of the United States will be foremost in stretching their hands across the gulf to grasp the hand of spiritualism; they will reach over the abyss to clasp hands with the roman power; and under the influence of this threefold union, this country will follow in the steps of Rome in trampling on the rights of conscience.” [GC 588]

This triune conspiracy [or counterfeit *three angels’ messages*], forming a state-church, and uniting *modern spiritualism* [worldly lawyers and court systems], *papal supremacy* [Roman Catholic policy], and *modern apostate Protestantism* [General Conference hierarchy] in the United States, is *the last* to wage war against the church and the saints who keep “the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.” “This power, the last that is to wage war against the church and the law of God, was symbolized by a beast with lamblike horns... the United States government...” [*Signs of the Times, November 1, 1899*] This false prophet is the deceitful “Elijah impostor.”

“I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich), and the blasphemy of those who say they are [Seventh-day Adventists], and are not, but lie – behold, I will make them to come and bow down at your feet, and to know that I have loved you.” (Revelation 3:9) “I know where you dwell, where Satan’s throne is; and you hold fast My NAME, and did not deny my faith...” (Revelation 2:13) Having “a little power,” the church of Philadelphia announces probation’s close for the “synagogue of Satan.” This unified body, having received “the key of David,” (Rev 3:7), stands boldly in the final battle as young David did against the armored Philistine giant. The judgment of the living beings.

The light is shining as the dawn of a new day. Wisdom says, “Do not look into the light; it will blind you.” The only safe course is to let “the lamp” guide you up the “Holiness Highway.” You are held accountable for all the glory received and all that you had opportunity to receive. “The conclusion when all has been heard is: fear God and keep His commandments, for this applies to every person. For God will bring every act to judgment, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil.” (Ecclesiastes 12:13, 14) “Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free...” (Galatians 5:1)

“Not one who is earnest will fail of success. The race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong. The weakest saint, as well as the strongest, may wear the crown of immortal glory. All may win who, through the power of divine grace, bring their lives into conformity to the will of Christ. The practice, in the details of life, of THE PRINCIPLES laid down in God’s word, is too often looked upon as unimportant – a matter too trivial to demand attention. But in view of the issue at stake, nothing is small that will help or hinder. EVERY ACT casts its weight into the scale that determines life’s victory or defeat. And the reward given to those who win will be in proportion to the energy and earnestness with which they have striven.” [AA 313-314]

“YAH is our righteousness.” (Jeremiah 23:6, 33:16)

We do not want to be accused of “unfair competition” with the General Conference Corporation, therefore we are expressly not soliciting funds. But we do appeal to you to cease supporting the apostate organization in order that the physical fall which follows the spiritual fall will occur more rapidly. The longer the “sister-harlot” operates, the longer she shall continue to “merchandise souls” and persecute God’s saints. “The whole system must be swept away.” [*The Desire of Ages*, page 36]

If you desire to support us in our stand for truth, please copy and broadcast this document as “the leaves of autumn.” Any group or individual desiring an evangelist to visit their area, offering Bible seminars on the three angels’ message, should call or write to the following address:

Creation Seventh Day Adventist Church

www.faithofjesus.to/index2.html

IP: <http://93.88.247.151/>

National Toll-free number: **1 888 284 2487 OR 1 800 754 8021**

csdachurch@gmail.com

THE REFERENCES

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- (2) A.T. Jones, *The National Sunday Law*, (Oakland, Pacific Press, 1889), "APPENDIX A" p. 185
- (3) A.T. Jones, *Christian Patriotism, or Religion and the State* (New York: Pacific Press, 1900) pp. 59, 60
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- (5) Samuel Webster (quoted in *The Ministry*, August, 1957, p. 11)
- (6) *Bible Readings for the Home*, p. 474
- (7) A.T. Jones, *Christian Patriotism...* p. 15
- (8) Ibid, p. 59
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- (10) *Bible Readings for the Home*, p. 460
- (11) A.T. Jones, *Christian Patriotism...* p. 15
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- (18) J.T. Ringgold, *Church and State*, pp. 22, 23
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- (27) Uriah Smith, *Daniel and the Revelation*, p. 648
- (28) James White, *Review and Herald*, Mar. 10, 1859
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- (30) J.N. Andrews, *Review and Herald*, Feb. 21, 1854
- (31) A.T. Jones, *1895 General Conference Bulletin*, p. 38
- (32) A.T. Jones, *Christian Patriotism*... p. 75
- (33) Neal C. Wilson, *P.U.C. Sanctuary*, June 18, 1988
- (34) G.C. Tenney, "Christian, but not Seventh-day Adventist," *Review and Herald*, Oct. 15, 1895
- (35) A.H. Antisdale, "Weighed in the Balance," *Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*, Aug. 29, 1893

**All other references are designated within the text. Ellen G. White quotations from books have been keyed according to abbreviations in the *Comprehensive Index to the Writings of Ellen G. White*, Pacific Press, 1962, p. 14. Other E.G. White quotes keyed "BC" are from *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, Vol. 7A, 1957.

Note: Brackets, capitals, and other emphases added.

THE APPENDIX

“RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES”

In the *Official Gazette*, August 18, 1981, the trademark/service mark, SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST, was published before completion of the registration process. The various classes protected by trademark law are listed as follows:

Class 16 – Paper Goods and Printed Matter

For Religious Books, Magazines, Pamphlets, Newsletters, Brochures, Encyclopedias, Dictionaries, Commentaries, Fliers, Bulletins, Yearbooks, Booklets, and Bibles (U.S. Cl. 38). First use 1861; in commerce 1861.

Class 36 – Insurance and Financial

For Establishment and Administration of Employee Health Care and Benefit Programs and Medical Insurance Programs (U.S. Cl. 102). First use 1894; in commerce 1894.

Class 41 – Education and Entertainment

For Educational Instruction Services in Academies at Grade School, High School, and College Level; Film Production and Distribution Services (U.S. Cl. 107). First use 1894; in commerce 1894.

Class 42 – Miscellaneous Services

For Health Care Services – Namely, Hospital, Dental, Pharmaceutical, Nursing Home, and Medical Laboratory Services, Conducting Religious Observances and Missionary Services (U.S. Cl. 100). First use 1860; in commerce 1860.

Int. Cls.: 16, 26, 41 and 42

Prior U.S. Cls.: 38, 100, 102 and 107

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Reg. No. 1,177,185
Registered Nov. 10, 1981

TRADEMARK
SERVICE MARK
Principal Register

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

General Conference Corporation of Seventh-Day
Adventists (Division of Publishing Corporation)
2840 Eastern Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20012

FOR RELIGIOUS BOOKS, MAGAZINES,
PAMPHLETS, NEWSLETTERS, BROCHURES,
ENCYCLOPEDIAS, DICTIONARIES, COMMENTARIES,
FLIER, BULLETINS, YEARBOOKS,
BOOKLETS AND BIBLES, in CLASS 16 (U.S. CL.
30).

First use 1851; in commerce 1860.
FOR ESTABLISHMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF EMPLOYEE HEALTH CARE AND
BENEFIT PROGRAMS AND MEDICAL INSURANCE PROGRAMS, in CLASS 36 (U.S. CL. 100).

First use 1870; in commerce 1911.
FOR EDUCATIONAL INSTRUCTION SERVICES IN ACADEMICS AT GRADE SCHOOL,

HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE LEVEL; FILM PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION SERVICES, in CLASS 41 (U.S. CL. 105).

First use 1894; in commerce 1894.

FOR HEALTH CARE SERVICES—HOSPITAL, HOSPITAL, DENTAL, PHARMACEUTICAL, NURSING HOME, AND MEDICAL LABORATORY SERVICES; CONDUCTING RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES; AND MISSIONARY SERVICES, in CLASS 42 (U.S. CL. 100).

First use 1890; in commerce 1891.

Reg. No. 281,134, filed May 7, 1980.

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

BRUCE A. TASSAN, Esquire

REGISTERED FOR A TERM OF 10 YEARS FROM November 10, 1981



Attest

NOV 20 1985

Assistant Director

Certified to be a true copy of the registration
issued by the United States Patent & Trademark
Office, which registration is in full force
and effect. Record title is in

Register.

COMMISSIONER OF PATENT
AND TRADEMARKS

PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT
5

“TRADEMARK GUIDELINES”

Trademark – Seventh-day Adventist – Guidelines

VOTED, to adopt the following report of the *ad hoc* SDA Trademark Committee as guidelines and procedures for possible future insertion into the GC/NAD *Working Policies*:

1. Guidelines

Church trademarks, such as “Seventh-day Adventist,” “Adventist,” and “Ministry,” may be used only in connection with denominational ministries and non-commercial activities of approved lay and professional groups. Use of these trademarks shall be controlled by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists through its Trademark Committee. Church trademarks shall not be used in any manner that will jeopardize the church’s tax-exempt status.

2. Procedures

a. Existing Entities: Church entities that have denominational status and are included in the Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook at the time of adoption of this policy and procedure may use the trademarks in their names and ministries.

b. New Denominational Administrative Entities: New administrative entities, such as missions, conferences, union conferences, and divisions that are approved by the General Conference Committee may use the trademarks in their names and ministries.

c. New Denominational Institution: When new institutions apply for denominational status (see NAD C47), the Retirement Plan Committee shall refer all applications of institutions using one of the trademarks to the Trademark Committee of the General Conference for clearance before the application is approved by the Retirement Plan Committee.

d. Local Churches: Local churches and companies may use the trademarks in their ministries once their status has been approved by the local conference or mission.

e. Lay Groups: Lay and professional groups must apply for written permission to the secretary of the Trademark Committee of the General Conference. The articles and bylaws of such groups must indicate that they are independent of the church and are not its agents. After receipt of written notice of General Conference approval, such groups may use the trademarks solely for noncommercial purposes.

f. Revocation of Permission: For cause the General Conference Committee may revoke permission of any denominational entity or lay group to use the trademarks. “For cause” includes, but is not limited to, conflict with the objectives or doctrines of the Church as determined by the General Conference and commercial use by nonchurch groups.

3. Internal Procedure of SDA Trademark Committee

a. Requests for Use of a Church Trademark

- 1) Trademark Committee considers request
- 2) If Trademark Committee approves, it sends requests to officers for consideration.
- 3) If officers approve, Trademark Committee notifies General Conference Corporation.
- 4) Trademark Committee sends written notice of approval to applicant.

b. Evaluation of Unauthorized Use of a Church Trademark

- 1) Trademark Committee evaluates problem, with input from Office of General Counsel and trademark counsel.
- 2) Trademark Committee reports to officers.
- 3) If officers so authorize, Office of General Counsel sends conciliatory letter stating the problem and offering to discuss possible solutions.
- 4) If response is negative, Trademark Committee and then officers again consider the problem. If officers so authorize, trademark counsel sends polite cease-and-desist letter.
- 5) If trademark counsel receives negative response, Trademark Committee and officers reconsider the situation for possible litigation or other action.

c. Revocation of permission for use of a church trademark will follow the same basic procedure outlined in subsection b. of this internal procedure, with final action on revocation, however, voted by the General Conference Committee.

4. Divisions other than North America are requested to take appropriate actions in harmony with these guidelines.

These guidelines were adopted by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Executive Committee for insertion into the GC/NAD Working Policies at the Annual Council Session in Washington, D.C., October 11, 1983.

TINY CHURCH IN HAWAII BATTLES CHURCH OVER TRADEMARK USE

By Russell Chandler,
Times Religion Writer
Los Angeles Times,
November 27, 1988

It is only a 4-foot-by-8-foot sheet of plywood with hand-painted lettering on a rainbow background.

The board hangs in Kona, Hawaii, outside a small rented hall where a few souls quietly worship God each Saturday morning.

But the sign contains a forbidden name, and a legal battle over its use has stirred a tsunami of church reaction on the mainland. The case is now pending in the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco.

“What we are faced with is a Goliath vs. David situation.” said a defendant in the unusual lawsuit, which pits the 5.5-million-member Seventh-day Adventist Church against an 11-member splinter congregation.

“The real issue is forcing us to change our name, not allowing any use of the words ‘Seventh-day Adventist’ because it is a registered trade name.” Lily Anne Deniz, a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Congregational Church of Kona, wrote in an unorthodox court defense for the tiny group.

Trademark Involved

A lawyer for the church corporation said that a trademark is a property right and the Kona congregation is not entitled to the church's "good name" because its members no longer subscribe to the denominational form of government and discipline.

Attorney Richard Johns said the Seventh-day Adventist Church does not want to be cast in the bully role of "a Goliath-and-David situation." But, he said, "the church believes 'Seventh-day Adventist' is a unique name that needs to be protected."

Until a court ultimately decides who is right, the little Kona congregation is being fined \$500 a day and its pastor, John R. Marik, is in hiding to avoid jail. The federal district court in Hawaii issued a warrant for Marik's arrest and found him and his flock in contempt last May when they refused to take down the sign, "Seventh-day Adventist Congregational Church," and to stop using "Seventh-day Adventist" and "SDA" in church correspondence and promotion.

At least six independent Adventist publications are churning out material supporting the Kona congregation. And protesters have organized a petition drive demanding that the denominational headquarters drop the litigation, which could easily cost \$100,000 from church members' tithes.

About the only thing both sides agree on is that around 1860 the church's prophet, Ellen G. White, mandated "Seventh-day Adventist" as the "Godgiven name" to identify the faithful until the second coming of Jesus Christ. The two basic distinctives of Seventh-day Adventism are the beliefs that the Sabbath should be observed on the seventh day of the week, and that Jesus will return to Earth soon.

In 1981, the Seventh-day Adventist General Conference registered the words "Seventh-day Adventist" as a trade name with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Although common in the commercial world, it is unusual for churches and religious organizations to seek trademarks. Court documents involving disputes over church trademarks are few and far between, according to attorneys familiar with church-state litigation. The Kona case had its genesis in 1980 when Marik, a Seventh-day Adventist intern minister, began relating "dreams and visions," which he said came from God, to his congregation during worship services.

Drew Some Objections

Local church authorities "frowned on that," Marik said in a telephone conversation from California, where he is holding up until the case is resolved.

The following July, Marik was fired for "insubordination." He and his mother, wife, and daughter, along with a handful of followers, formed a separate congregation and rented a \$765-a-month suite on the second floor of a corrugated metal industrial building near Kailua Bay.

Church officials issued repeated - and unheeded - warnings to Marik to stop using the name "Seventh-day Adventist Congregational Church" because of the trademark. Finally, the denomination filed suit on April 9, 1987. Marik, who has no legal training, a month later filed a rambling paper defending himself and the church. Marik's congregation did not secure legal counsel until after the Hawaii District Court handed down a judgment and injunction against it on Dec. 8, 1987.

Essentially, Marik argued that the Bible forbids Christians to use secular courts to settle differences, citing 1 Corinthians 6:1-8, and that, adding the word "Congregational" to the title of his church sets it apart from

congregations affiliated with the Seventh-day Adventist General Conference, headquartered in Takoma Park, Md.

Additionally, Marik and Max Corbett, a Seventh-day Adventist lawyer in Houston who has taken Marik's case without fee, claim that Seventh-day Adventist is a generic name in the same way they consider the names Methodist, Baptist, or Catholic to be and therefore not a valid trademark. They also maintain that since the Kona congregation does not market anything, it is not subject to trademark regulation anyway; the name is used on the church sign only to note the place of worship and invite the public.

Marik's cause was soon dramatized and championed by independent-minded and dissident Adventists around the world. "The little group . . . that calls themselves 'Seventh-day Adventist Congregationalists' have a truly distinctive name," said Vance Ferrell, editor of *Pilgrim's Rest*, a newsletter published in Beersheba Springs, Tennessee. "Why should our leadership . . . try to sue 11 little folk in a tiny church on the Kona Coast?"

Then Ferrell, who sends out packets of more than a thousand pages of court testimony and other papers detailing the case to anyone who is interested, answered his own question.

"It is not the numbers but the legal precedent that counts: By winning a lawsuit against 11 people on a far-off island, a precedent will have been established in the court systems of America. . . ."

"Hottest Ruckus"

Corbett, Marik's twangy-voiced Texas attorney, said: "This has stirred up one of the hottest ruckuses I've ever seen. . . . It's a suit of tremendous import, for if the judgment is not overturned on appeal, it will open the door for mass persecution of one's religion, be it . . . Christian, Buddhist, Muslim, Hindu."

Other Church Groups Are Indeed Watching Nervously.

Three Davidian Seventh-day Adventist groups - they have differed with the General Conference over doctrinal matters since the 1930s - have filed a friend of the court brief backing Marik. None have been sued by the General Conference so far, but a Southern California-based homosexual group called Seventh-day Adventist Kinship International, with 600 members in chapters around the nation, is locked in a federal court fight with the General Conference over its name. That case is expected to be tried in Los Angeles in February.

Two other small groups, a black congregation in Alabama and a Samoan congregation in Southern California, settled out of court after the 27 denomination sued and pressured them into not using the name "Seventh-day Adventist."

The denomination's trademark committee "doesn't go out beating the bushes looking for cases" said Thomas Wetmore, the church corporation's associate general counsel. Of 40 that have been considered, only four have gone to court and only the Kona and Kinship cases remain unsettled, he said.

Nevertheless, Peter Fowler, a San Francisco attorney who wrote the friend of the court brief for the Davidian groups, voiced the heart of the dissidents' concern.

Applying trademark laws to the Seventh-day Adventist Congregational Church's activities, he said, "fails to pass constitutional muster since it strikes at the very essence of the religious enterprise, namely, the expression and communication of one's religious beliefs by means of clearly protected First Amendment activities such as speech, press, and distribution of religious literature."

Fowler thinks the true dispute is over who is a Seventh-day Adventist. "Who is entitled to use the name in connection with their religious beliefs and ministry?"

To decide that, he said, "would require the civil courts to engage in the forbidden process of interpreting and weighing church doctrine."

Earlier Case Cited

Fowler and Corbett cite a 1987 case in which a group disassociated itself from the First Church of Christ, Scientist - the so-called mother church in Boston - to form the "Independent Christian Science Church of Plainfield, N.J."

Even though the denominational body had trademarked the names "Christian Science" and "Church of Christ, Scientist," the New Jersey Supreme Court held that "'Christian Science Churches' is a generic name for churches in which Christian Science is practiced . . . and not entitled to trademark status."

Lawyers for the Seventh-day Adventist General Conference, however, insist that neutral principles of law can be applied in all property disputes without violating freedom of religion and speech protected by the First Amendment.

In papers filed with the appeals court in San Francisco, these lawyers point to a 1944 case in which seceding members of the "Methodist Episcopal Church, South" were not allowed to continue using that name to describe themselves.

Good Will Issue

"Men have the right to worship God according to the dictates of conscience; but they have no right in doing so to make use of a name which will enable them to appropriate the good will which has been built up by an organization with which they are no longer connected," wrote the judge (U.S. 4th Circuit Court of Appeals; Purcell vs. Summers).

General Conference attorneys said that they have tried to reach a compromise with Marik, suggesting that his church could use either "Seventh-day" or "Adventist" as part of its name - but not both.

"If they would simply remove the sign and not use the name, we'd settle and waive damages," said lawyer Johns, who represented the General Conference in early stages of the case.

Marik firmly refuses to do that. "If we were to call ourselves by some other name, wouldn't . . . that be concealing our true identity and . . . who we truthfully claim to be?" he asks.

APPEAL DOCUMENT IN THE HAWAII CASE

FOR PUBLICATION

**UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT**

GENERAL CONFERENCE CORPORATION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS, <i>Plaintiff-Appellee,</i> v. SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH; JOHN R. MARIK, <i>Defendants-Appellants.</i>	No. 88-2506 D.C. No. CV-87-0274 RES OPINION
---	--

Appeal from the United States District Court
for the District of Hawaii
Russell E. Smith, Senior District Judge, Presiding

Argued and Submitted
May 11, 1989—San Francisco, California

Filed October 5, 1989

Before: Procter Hug, Jr., Mary M. Schroeder and
William C. Canby, Jr., Circuit Judges.

Opinion by Judge Canby

SUMMARY

Copyright, Patent and Trademark/Courts and Procedure

Reversing and remanding the district court's judgment, the
court held that a judgment on the pleadings is improper

12431

CLIENT COPY

ROGUE VALLEY HISTORIC SDA LETTER

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL
(301) 680-1325



General Conference of

Seventh-day Adventists

CHURCH WORLD HEADQUARTERS 12501 OLD COLUMBIA PIKE SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20904 USA
TEL: (301) 680-6000 • TLX: 440106 • FAX: (301) 680-6378 • CBL: ADVENTIST WASHINGTON

6 November 1996

Dear Sir:

It has come to my attention that you are identifying your Church as the Rogue Valley Historic Seventh-day Adventist Church. The General Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists has registered the name Seventh-day Adventist with the U.S. Trademark Office. I have enclosed a copy of that registration for your information.

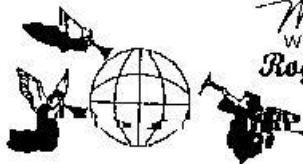
To prevent the likelihood of confusion, I am requesting that you discontinue using Seventh-day Adventist in the name of your religious organization; and to drop any further reference to Seventh day Adventist in your communications. I am sure you do not want to intentionally violate applicable law.

Please acknowledge in writing, within 10 days, receipt of this letter together with assurances of your intent to comply with my request. Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,


Walter E. Carson

Rogue Valley Historic S.D.A. Church



DEAR JAN,

TRIED TO CALL FOR "LIVE" TALK BUT WILL TRY FAX TO GET THROUGH. AS PER FAX PREVIOUSLY SENT, YOU CAN SEE WE ARE UNDER "CONFERENCE-ATTACK" AS TO OUR USING THE NAME SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST.

I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR COPYRIGHTED SIGN.

PRESENTLY, WE ARE DISPLAYING THE NAME OUTSIDE: ROGUE VALLEY HISTORIC SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH. THIS HAS SENT THEM BALLISTIC

LETTER TO RAFFAEL PEREZ RE NAME USE

GENERAL
CONFERENCE
OF THE
SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST
CHURCH

NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

September 15, 1997

Raffael Perez, Pastor
Eternal Gospel SDA Church
P. O. Box 15138
West Palm Beach, FL 33416

Dear Mr. Raffael:

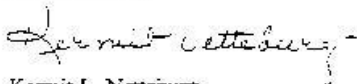
We have received information that the Eternal Gospel SDA Church has placed advertisements in *The Washington Times*, *The Miami Herald*, and *The New York Daily News*. We checked with both the Florida Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and the Southeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in an attempt to contact the leadership of the Eternal Gospel SDA Church through the appropriate denominational channels. We learned from those conferences that the Eternal Gospel SDA Church is not part of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination. We learned from those conferences that the Eternal Gospel SDA Church is an independent church without any formal ties to the Seventh-day Adventist denomination. I understand from informal channels that you are the leader of this church. Can you confirm for me that the Eternal Gospel SDA Church is not part of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination?

If that is true, I need to ask you to stop using the initials "S. D. A." in your name. The advertisement that appeared in *The Washington Times* produced a great deal of confusion. There were several angry letters to the editors of *The Washington Times* — letters that accused the Seventh-day Adventist denomination of being intolerant and bigoted. Obviously, the use of the initials, "S. D. A." by Eternal Gospel SDA Church has resulted in significant confusion with the Seventh-day Adventist denomination.

You may not be aware that the Seventh-day Adventist denomination has trademarked our name in order to prevent just such confusion and misunderstanding in the minds of members of the public. The advertising of the Eternal Gospel SDA Church is leading to the kind of misunderstanding and confusion that we have sought to avoid. For that reason, I must ask you to either cease using the term "S. D. A." in your name.

I would appreciate hearing from you as soon as possible. This is a matter of great urgency to the Seventh-day Adventist denomination.

God bless you,



Kermit L. Nettiburg
Assistant to the President for Communication

4m

c: Walter E. Carson, Seventh-day Adventist Church attorney

Office of the President

12501 Old Columbia Pike, Ellicott City, MD 21094-0001 • Tel: (301) 838-0400 • Fax: (301) 838-0712 • E-mail: o22551@adventist.org

Adventists Sue Over Use of Name

.c The Associated Press

By CATHERINE WILSON

MIAMI (AP) - The national headquarters of the Seventh-day Adventist Church asked a federal judge Monday to bar a West Palm Beach church it considers "a hate group" from using the denomination's trademark name.

Newspaper and radio advertising run nationally by the Eternal Gospel Church of Seventh-day Adventists denounces Catholics and most Protestants for worshipping on Sunday, likening them to satanists and pagans.

Jeffrey Tew, an attorney for the national denomination, called the offshoot church "a hate group" and branded the campaign "a classic case of a breakaway church trying to use the mother church's name." The name "Seventh-day Adventist" was registered as a trademark in 1980.

Robert Pershes, the attorney for the West Palm Beach church, told U.S. District Judge James Lawrence King that "Seventh-day Adventist" is a generic term describing the religion.

"What we have here is the trademark law being used in a religious context when it was intended to be used commercially," Pershes argued. "One particular religion, even if it's a large segment of the religion, should not be allowed to get a monopoly."

The court fight has attracted worldwide interest among the denomination's 10 million followers.

Russell Standish, an evangelical pastor from Melbourne, Australia, plans to testify in support of church pastor Rafael Perez's right to use the Adventist name.

"The issue is vital to religious liberty," Standish said outside court. "Anyone who wants to can call themselves a Seventh-day Adventist, but you must remember there's a day of judgment."

The religion's name is based on its two basic tenets of honoring Saturday as the Sabbath and anticipating the second coming of Christ.

AP-NY-03-13-00 1457EST

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ETERNAL GOSPEL CORRESPONDENCE

Due to the length of the letters and space limitations, the letters between Mr. Perez and the Conference office may be found online at http://faithofjesus.to/tm_alert.html

GC TO ENTER TRADEMARK CASE IN NEW YORK

The General Conference has authorized its attorneys to file a trademark infringement lawsuit against an independent New York congregation for that body's improper use of the Seventh-day Adventist Church's name.

The unincorporated body separated from the Immanuel Seventh-day Adventist Church in Brooklyn, New York, and goes by the name Emanuel Seventh-day Adventist Church. This group has asserted claims against tithes and offerings belonging to the established Adventist Church that is recognized by the Greater New York Conference. The claims were subsequently brought to civil court.

The GC became involved because of the independent body's continued use of the former church's name, though the group uses a slightly different spelling. GC officials are concerned about the integrity of the Seventh-day Adventist name and wants to prevent confusion with its unauthorized use. The Greater New York Conference made unsuccessful attempts to clear the matter.

Adventist Review, Newsbreak, January 1998, page 22

JUDGE RULES IN TRADEMARK CASE

The 70-member Eternal Gospel Church of Seventh-day Adventists near West Palm has been told not to use the last half of its name.

By Joel Engelhardt
Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

The Bible, they say, decrees that disputes are better settled within the church.

The 19th-century prophet Ellen White says the name Seventh-day Adventist is theirs, a gift from God.

So it comes as little surprise that the word of a federal judge holds little sway for the tiny, fundamentalist Eternal Gospel Church of Seventh-day Adventists on Southern Boulevard, west of Haverhill Road.

Trademark law overcame religious dogma in a ruling released Thursday by U.S. District Judge James Lawrence King. The little church must stop using the name Seventh-day Adventist because it infringes on a trademark filed in 1980 by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, which claims about 900,000 U.S. members.

The West Palm Beach-area Eternal Gospel Church says about 70 people attend regularly. But it won't be denied its preferred name, even in the face of a federal mandate and possible contempt citations.

"We can't go along with that ruling," board member and assistant pastor Andres Roman said Friday. "It's absurd. There's no way we're going to allow our freedoms to be taken away."

The name will stay, he and pastor Raphael Perez said. It's more than a name; it's their belief. They say the name came to them in the writings of their prophet, Ellen White.

"She told us that this name was given to us by God. We must always call ourselves by that," Roman said.

The small church was forced into court by the 1998 lawsuit. It never would have gone voluntarily, Roman said, because in 1 Corinthians, the Bible says disputes should be settled within the church and not "before the unjust."

But that book of the Bible also exhorts the faithful "to suffer the loss" rather than get caught up in a court fight, according to John Fitzgerald, a University of Miami religious studies professor.

The court rejected the argument that Seventh-day Adventist was a general term under which a number of different branches or churches could

Church defiant of federal ruling

25 THE PALM BEACH POST

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2000

C

Judge rules national church has name rights

ADVENTISTS

From 1B

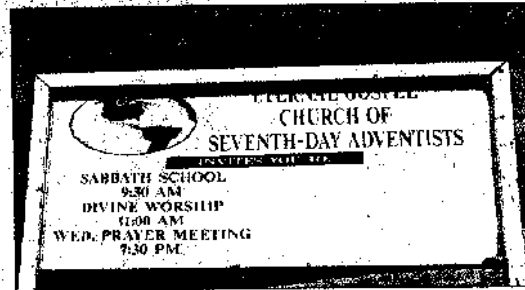
exist, like, for example, Baptists.

But King ruled Seventh-day Adventist is mostly identified with the Silver Springs, Md.-based General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Roman said his church will appeal.

In the meantime, it must stop using the name, said Jeffrey Tew, the Miami attorney for the national church. "If they don't comply, we'll ask the judge to enforce it," he said.

While the case hinged on trademark law, Perez's preach-



RICHARD GRAULICH/Staff Photographer

The Eternal Gospel Church of Seventh-day Adventists, at 5419 Southern Blvd., refuses to change its name or sign.

ing against Catholicism produced undercurrents in the case.

The denomination considers Perez's church a "hate group" for denouncing Catholics for worshipping on Sunday and likening them to Satanists.

Perez was not ordained in the church, and his congregation, founded in 1991, was de-

nied admission to Seventh-day Adventists' conference over his anti-Catholic broadcasts.

The religion's name is based on a belief in honoring Saturday as the Sabbath and in the second coming of Christ.

The Associated Press contributed to this story.

joel_engelhardt@ppost.com

PEREZ SETTLES OUT OF COURT

RAPHAEL PEREZ CASE SETTLED!

A settlement has been reached between the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and Raphael Perez and the Eternal Gospel Church of West Palm Beach, Florida. This Agreement was contingent upon Pastor Perez dropping his Appeal. Pastor Perez agreed, providing the General Conference allow this settlement to be recorded in the Miami Federal Court as applying to *everyone*, and not just to Pastor Perez or the Eternal Gospel Church. The General Conference agreed to this stipulation.

The agreement states, in part:

4. GENERAL CONFERENCE and PEREZ agree henceforth PEREZ shall use only the language (or its foreign equivalent), format, size and style contained in this paragraph and as set forth in Exhibit "A" to this Agreement and GENERAL CONFERENCE agrees that such use will not violate the Court's Order of April 27, 2000:

Line 1: "ETERNAL GOSPEL CHURCH" — This first line will be in all upper case letters.

Line 2: "Founded in (1990 or any later year) by Seventh-day Adventist Believers" — This second line will be in upper and lower case letters precisely as quoted, will be in the same color as the first line and the words "Seventh-day Adventist" will not be emphasized in any fashion, e.g., will not be in a different color, will not be in a different type style, will not be bolded etc.

The second line will not be more than 60% in size of the first line.

The first and second line will be positioned one on top of the other and centered, exactly as they appear in the example attached as Exhibit A hereto.

ETERNAL GOSPEL CHURCH

Founded in (1990 or any later year) by Seventh-day Adventist Believers

(See the sign on the back cover. This is not the actual sign from The Eternal Gospel Church, but a computer generated sample.)

"Thank you for your prayers and support. Now we can all get back to the work of spreading the Three Angels' Messages to the world," Pastor Perez stated.

Over 500 newspapers have written Pastor Perez stating that they would like to publish the two-page *Earth's Final Warning* ad. If you would like to help spread this message, please send your donations to:

Eternal Gospel Church
PO Box 15138
West Palm Beach, FL 33416

Please continue to pray for God's work to go forward.

LETTER TO TROY SDA CHURCH

89/26/2002 15:31 5093235889

GONZAGA CAPFER SVCS

PAGE 02

LAW OFFICE
DILLER, RAMIK & WIGHT

PATENT & TRADEMARK CAUSES

STATE 101

7345 NEWPORTER PLACE

ANNANDALE, VIRGINIA 22003-5647

TELEPHONE
(703) 442-8708
FAX
(703) 442-2117

E-MAIL
DWR@DILLERAMIK.COM

September 16, 2002

Secretary of State
State of Montana
Montana State Capitol
P.O. Box 202801
Helena, MT 59620-2801

Re: TROY SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
Troy, Montana
Corporate Name

NOTICE OF CONTEST
Pursuant to Section 35-1-310, MCA

Dear Sir:

The undersigned, on behalf of the General Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists and the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, herewith contests the registration of the name TROY SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH recorded as a "Business Entity" in the records of the Montana Secretary of State.

The NOTICE OF CONTEST is in the form of an affidavit accompanying this letter executed by the undersigned upon information and belief setting forth facts, opinions and arguments in support of striking the contested name from the records of the Secretary of State. An order from the Secretary of State to the latter effect, including any and all future uses of SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST or legal equivalents thereof, such as SDA, is herewith respectfully requested.

Very truly yours,

DILLER, RAMIK & WIGHT



Vincent L. Ramik

VLR/tja

Enclosure: Affidavit

HENRY BLACK LETTER AND AUDIO

The two part telephone audio and the demand letter from the GC to Henry Black, in .mp3 and .pdf format respectively, may be downloaded at http://faithofjesus.to/tm_alert.html

“AWAKE VIRGINS – AWAKE!!”

COVER LETTER:

Pentecost: May 22, 1996

Dear SDA Christian,

“All who believe [in the Son of God] are to be gathered into one church.” [*Acts of the Apostles*, p. 28, John 10:16] The Creation 7th Day Adventist Church professes to be God’s Remnant Church (Rev 12:17), and final movement (Rev 18:1-4; *The Great Controversy*, page 604), to prepare a people to stand in the last great day. (Acts 3:21, James 1:4) They are presently heralding the “loud cry” which awakens the “ten virgins.” (Mat 25:1-13)

As their claims are true, you must heed the warning and join with them as one disciplined (Rev 3:19, 1Cor 11:32), unified company (John 17:22, 23), keeping “the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus” (Rev 14:12) or be found wanting. (Dan 5:27, John 12:46-48, Rev 14:9-12, 1John 4:6) Once the “ire of the dragon” is kindled against this holy band, the earth will be lightened with the glory of our Father’s character.

With news released from Washington of the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board’s “landmark decision,” (Feb 15, 1996), upholding the General Conference Corporation’s “trademark church name,” we are compelled to broadcast the warning of the third angel with renewed determination. The “four winds” are to be held for only a brief season – then the storm of persecution is to “break upon us.”

It is my sincere prayer that you will read the enclosed letter drafted for you and every individual bearing the historic name of Seventh-day Adventist. Your decision carries an eternal weight.

“Behold, the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet Him.” (Mat 25:6)

Your Servant and Friend,

Walter “Chick” McGill
Enclosures

MAIN LETTER:

Pentecost: May 22, 1996

AWAKE, VIRGINS – AWAKE!! The Voice of One Crying Aloud to Those Bearing the Historic Name of Seventh-day Adventist

Dearly Beloved,

Hear a Parable:

A certain man who owned a valuable dwelling departed on a long journey, leaving with his two servants explicit directions how to prevent desolation by fire or flood until the house-holder's return. An enemy was plotting to destroy the dwelling by fire and, providentially, one of the man's servants overheard the wicked plan in the making. He promptly shared the arsonist's strategy with his fellow servant. The two men diligently guarded the property day and night, insuring it from loss. Days, and even weeks, passed, and no obvious attempt was made by the enemy to burn the building.

One servant conjectured, "Maybe the arsonist changed his strategy?" The other servant followed, "Perhaps I could have misunderstood the enemy's real plan?"

Finally, the two men became negligent in guarding the premises. One night, as they were both sleeping, a violent storm suddenly approached, bringing with it a desolating flood. The structure was utterly destroyed, but the two servants narrowly escaped with their lives to the neighbor's cottage. One servant asked the cottage owner, "Sir, how did you avert the desolating flood?" The proprietor explained how he had known the house-holder for many years. During that time, he had learned the house-holder's principles of avoiding "desolation by fire or flood." He continued, "When I heard the storm alert broadcast, I secured my property just as the house-holder had instructed me years ago."

Some of us have so focused on the enemy's fire that we have been overtaken by his flood. If we do not escape to the neighboring cottage, we will be desolated within the structure. "He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God and he will not go out from it anymore; and I will write upon him... My new name." (Rev 3:12)

In these dark and troublous times, with every wind of doctrine blowing – each faction striving for the mastery, "Come now, and let us reason together..." (Isaiah 1:18) "...those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever..."

Many will be purged and refined; but the wicked shall act wickedly, and none of the wicked will understand, but those who have insight will understand." (Dan 12:3,10) The "lesser light" continues, "I tell you know that you must have divine enlightenment [eye salve, Rev 3:18]. If you do not seek this, Satan will set up his hellish banner right in your homes, and you will be so blinded to the real nature of his deceptions that you will reverence it as the banner of Christ." [*Ms. 18*, 188, p. 4]

The fourth angel's movement [*Great Controversy*, p. 604] of Revelation, chapter 18, comes together with the third angel's swelling at just the right moment to give the cry that awakens the sleeping virgins, and announces the complete fall of Babylon and the hour of "God's judgment" (Rev 14:6) of the living.

There are several reasons why most have not yet joined with the fourth angel at this time. Briefly, these can be summarized as follows:

They have neglected a thorough, daily conversion. Talking, and even preaching about victory, teaching the possibility of living the victorious life of Christ, they have failed to have Christ formed within, the hope of glory (Col 1:27), bringing every thought captive to the obedience of Christ (2Cor 10:5). Hence there is no living testimony in the experience. (Rev 12:11, Rom 1:16)

Implicit trust in the Word of God has been yielded; "sight" has usurped faith.

They have not studied the prophecies of Daniel and Revelation with a desire to know what the various symbols mean in their fulfillment (e.g. the dragon, the beast, the false prophet, the image of the beast, the mark of the beast, the number 666 etc.). Almost none know the difference between the condition of “Babylon” and the hopeless plight of “Babylon fallen.” A casual knowledge has sufficed them, when the Savior requires perfect application of living spiritual principles. (Rev 13:11-18; 16:13; 1Cor 2:13, 14)

They have talked about Laodicea, and even confessed the condition for themselves, but have not accepted the loving invitation of the Master to repent and be healed. (Rev 3:14-22) Their benumbed senses and clouded minds have not realized the most solemn warning in all of Holy Writ – the third angel’s message of Rev 14:9-11.

The commandments, and even the “statutes” (with some) have been exalted until the people become “as dry as the hills of Gilboa” [*1888 Materials*, p. 557], and all at the expense of “the faith of Jesus.” The letter of God’s law has been developed to a science, while the spirit and power of holiness have been trampled underfoot. (Heb 10:29)

They professed to maintain “the Bible, and the Bible only, as the standard of all doctrine and basis of all reforms” [*Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4*, p. 557], but the various “creeds” devised are based upon the church fathers’ “historic” views of Adventism, with Ellen G. White being the final, *almost infallible* authority. This always sets the stage for schism after the mass confusion. The progressive light streaming from God’s Holy Word has been somehow veiled from their view. (Prov 4:18)

Looking for a light from the past, they are unaffected by the precious Light leading on ahead. In an attempt to avoid judging and faultfinding, many have committed the very worst hostility against God – “indifference and neutrality in a religious crisis.” [*Testimonies, Vol. 3*, p. 281] (1 Cor 6:3; 2 John 9-11; 2) Cowards will certainly have their part in the lake of fire [to the Father’s dismay]. (Rev 21:8, 2 Peter 3:9, Isa 28:21)

The *principles* of religious liberty have not been appreciated sufficiently to arouse the members to broadcast the warning against worshipping the beast and his image. Various definitions of words such as “Christian” and “Protestant” have been diluted to the degree that most churches are lulled to sleep in a carnal security, and hypocrites abound! (Luke 21:34, 26; 1 Cor 15:34; Luke 12:1) The Roman Catholic system is regarded to be “Christian” when it is such in *name only*. The inroads of Romanism have been disregarded by Seventh-day Adventists in general.

Through perverted appetite, they have followed their own lusts and inclinations, indulging the base passions and remaining bound to their ill tempers. “Having a form of Godliness, they deny the power thereof.” (Rom 1:16, Phil 3:19, 2 Tim 3:1-5) As slaves, they have yielded the avenues of their souls to the enemy causing the flood of defeat.

They have not learned of Christ the meek and lowly, teachable spirit. The sinful flesh has not been crucified that the life which measures with that of the divine may develop and mature. (Gal 2:20, 5:24; John 17:3) John, chapter 17, has not been their “church creed” [*Selected Messages, Vol. 3*, p. 21], and consequently, their attempt at a “true church salvation” is “dishonoring to God” with its confusion, division and oppression. (Mat 7:21-23; 1 Cor 12:12, 13; 1 Cor 1:10) The same self-exaltation which caused war in Heaven by the arch deceiver is being coveted by the majority professing to be God’s people. (Isa 14:13, 14)

Their self-righteousness and stubbornness (seeking to be “right” instead of righteous) have disqualified them from wearing the “spotless robe of Christ’s righteousness.” (Rev 3:18) They have desecrated the Sabbath Rest of the LORD God, which is symbolized by the Creation 7th Day. (Gen 2:2, 3; Exo 20:8-11; Eze 20:12, 20; Heb 4:1-12) In seeking to establish a righteousness of their own, they have formed an image of themselves which they worship in place of the Creator. (Rom 1:21, 22; 10:3) Their “name” has become their praise (Gen 11:4), rather than the “Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.” He writes His name in “the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations done” in the church, according to His righteous judgment. (Ezek 9:4; Isa 66:22; Rev 3:12, 14:1)

Will you bear the test of the straight testimony of the True Witness, calculated to save the soul from sin and death? (Rev 3:14-20) All who “hunger and thirst after righteousness... shall be satisfied.” (Mat 5:4) If you *are* a “wise virgin,” your “Amen’s” are shouted from the housetops. (Josh 6:16, 20; Luke 12:3) “Let your lips declare that you have gained the victory.” [*Testimonies to Ministers*, p. 517] “Let the redeemed of the LORD say so.” (Psa 107:2) Make the seventeenth chapter of John your “church creed,” and join the ranks of those who “keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.” (Rev 14:12) Heed the warning of the third angel. (Rev 14:9-12) Obey the call of the fourth angel. (Rev 18:4) “Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; be zealous therefore, and repent.” (Rev 3:19)

I ask you, “Shall Antichrist be respected? Shall the true doctrines and principles given us by God, which have made us what we are, be ignored?” [CW p. 95] Would anyone bearing the “historic” name of *Seventh-day Adventist* regard the Roman Catholic Church as a Christian church?” W.W. Prescott writes the following:

Carnal weapons cannot be used to any advantage in a spiritual warfare. When Peter cut off the ear of the high priest’s servant, Christ rebuked him and healed the wound. When a church in alliance with the state employs the secular power to enforce its doctrines by punishing heretics, it repudiates the essential idea of Christianity. [*The Protestant Magazine*, Nov. 1915, p. 517]

The Roman Catholic Church has repudiated “the essential idea of Christianity” and can be considered “Christian” in name only! On Feb. 10, 1904 the following words were published in *Signs of the Times*:

Half a century ago it was a rare thing for a Protestant to recognize Roman Catholicism as Christianity. But today the most prominent among professed Christian ministers recognize the Roman institution as a Christian denomination... Christian Romanism is another last-day delusion.

Protestantism and Romanism fraternizing as boon companions is the veriest “Babylon,” notwithstanding the assumption of the name “Christian;” and millions will go down to perdition through this great deception... Be not deceived by the name; it is the character that counts.

By the mid 1970’s Seventh-day Adventist NAD President, Neal C. Wilson testifies:

Although it is true that there was a period in the life of the Seventh-day Adventist Church when the denomination took a distinctly anti-Roman Catholic viewpoint, and the term “hierarchy” was used in a pejorative sense to refer to the papal form of a church governance, that attitude on the church’s part was nothing more than a manifestation of

widespread antippery among conservative Protestant denominations in the early part of this century and the latter part of the last, and which has now been consigned to the historical trash heap so far as the Seventh-day Adventist Church is concerned. EEOC vs. PPPA, C-74-2025-CBR, Feb. 6, 1976.

Scarcely over one year later the infamous gold medallion was presented to Pope Paul VI by Dr. B. B. Beach, Secretary of the Northern Europe-West Africa Division of SDA (May 18, 1977). A Catholic newspaper named *Glas Koncila* in Zagreb, Yugoslavia, reported on the meeting and is translated as follows:

The present secretary of the conference and chief secretary of the Seventh day Adventist Church, Mr. Beach, submitted to Radio Vatican an announcement in which he distinctly emphasized the importance of that first meeting of an Adventist with the Pope. He is quoted as saying, "It is a distinct honor to be present as the secretary of the conference in an audience herein Rome with the holy father upon which I presented to the Pope a book describing the work of the Adventist Church throughout the world."

"The people were wholly deceived. They were taught that the popes and priests were Christ's representatives, when in fact they were the representatives of Satan, and those who bowed to them worshipped Satan." [*Early Writings*, p. 214]

"It is a backsliding church that lessens the distance between itself and the Papacy." [*Signs of the Times*, Feb. 19, 1894] (Compare: 2 Thess 2:3, 4; 1 John 2:18, 4:3; James 4:4) Remember? "If you do not seek [divine enlightenment], Satan will set up his hellish banner right in your homes, and you will be so blinded to the real nature of his deceptions that you will reverence it as the banner of Christ." [*MS 18, 1888*, p.4] But, "the banner of truth and religious liberty which the reformers held aloft has in this last conflict been committed to us." [*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, p. 402] And "while the [nominal Adventist Church] is by her attitude making concessions to Rome, let us arouse to comprehend the situation and view the contest before us in its true bearings. Let the watchmen now lift up their voice and give the message which is present truth for this time. Let us... arouse the spirit of true Protestantism, awaking the world to a sense of the value of the privileges of religious liberty so long enjoyed." [*Testimonies*, Vol. 5, p. 716] We must "... come to the front, gird [ourselves] with the whole armor of God, and exalt His law, adhere to the faith of Jesus, and maintain the cause of religious liberty which reformers defended with toil and for which they sacrificed their lives..." [*1888 Materials*, p. 378] Are you a "*present truth Seventh-day Adventist*?"

God is love, and His law is a reflection of His mind, a transcript of His character, hence His law is a law of love. Love leads to willing sacrifice and cheerful obedience, hence love is necessary to the fulfilling of the law. This is the only service God will accept, because when any other principle than love, or any other motive than to please God, actuates us in religious exercises or religious observances, we are governed by a wrong principle, by a selfish motive, and therefore we worship and serve the creature more than the Creator. In this we worship another God before the LORD. (Rom 1:25)

Religious observances rendered because of human influence or pressure cannot be acceptable to God, because it is not prompted by the love of God and the influence of His Spirit.

Obedience in the realm of religion is the highest form of worship, for it is the test of allegiance and loyalty; so those who seek by law to enforce any religious observance or institution are really enforcing a false worship instead of the worship of God. This would be true whether the observance was commanded in the Scriptures or not; for if men outwardly observe a religious institution because it is enforced by civil law,

their observance is not rendered to God, but to the power enforcing the law, and thus, they give their allegiance and worship to an earthly power instead of the LORD of Heaven. It is in this way that the beast and his image are worshipped. (Rev 13:11-15; 14:9)

All true “historic Seventh-day Adventists” know that the mystery of iniquity, which began to work in Paul’s day and developed into the “man of sin,” who sat in the temple of God and opposed and exalted himself above God (2 Thess 2:3-7), was none other than the apostate church of Rome, with the Papacy as her head, symbolized in the Revelation by “Mystery, Babylon the Great, the Mother of Harlots.” By forsaking her LORD and forming a connection with the State, she made use of the civil power to enforce obedience to her will, and thus caused those who submitted to her power to worship the beast, while those who refused to yield went down to martyr’s graves, and she is represented as drunken with their blood. (Rev 17:6)

In Romish Church history we have the logical result and the necessary fruit of compulsion in matters of religion, and when placed in contrast with the life, character and teachings of the Prince of Peace and His apostles, and the fruit of their unselfish labors in winning by love, beseeching, persuading, exhorting, and entreating the people to be reconciled to God, we have an object lesson which is very instructive to those who are willing to be taught of God.

When professed Seventh-day Adventists forsake their LORD by uniting with the world and seeking the power of the State to enforce their will upon the people in religious matters, will not the same terrible results follow as were seen when the Church of Rome pursued the same course? Will not like causes produce like effects? When professed Seventh-day Adventists adopt the same principles and the same policy, and use the same means, that Rome did to extend her religion and advance her cause, do they not become Romanists in fact?! And will not their work result as disastrously, and bring the same ruin in its train, as the work of Rome?

When professed Seventh-day Adventists gain control of the civil power, as they did in 1981 in this country, trade-marking their church name, and *seek to use* that power in the interest of their religion, they secure a union of Church and State, and make an image of the beast. And then, controlling the civil power by manipulation and deception, and thus securing enforcement of Federal and State laws through “religio-commercial policy,” they compel obedience to their will, and enforce the worship of the image of the beast, which they have made and set up. Hence, professed Seventh-day Adventists, by abandoning the principles of the Gospel of peace, and losing the Spirit of the Prince of Peace, and substituting compulsion for persuasion, and force for love, are repeating the history of Rome, and they cannot escape her fate by continuing to walk in her pathway. They have become so drunken with the wine of Babylon, and so largely partaken of the spirit of Antichrist, that they are deceived into believing that they are doing God’s service, and protecting their “good name,” when they compel obedience to their own will, and use the power of the State to enforce their own “trademark guidelines.” (See: *Adventist Review*, Nov. 24, 1983, p. 26) This is the papal principle. This is the method of Rome. It is not Christian, but decidedly antiChristian. It is called the “General Conference Trademark Policy.” [*Ministry*, Dec. 1988, p. 4-7]

(See also: *Adventist Review*, Nov. 24, 1983. pp. 26,27; *Working Policy*, 1988-1989 Edition, pp. 52-54.) For those “historic SDAs” who listen to “church fathers,” let a host of respected sources speak as follows:

“None but a fallen church will call for the civil power to enforce a tradition upon observers of God’s word.” [*Review and Herald*, Dec. 22, 1891 by G.I.B.]

“And this seeking alliance with earthly governments is the prominent sin of Babylon – fornication with the kings of the earth. Rev. 18:3. Professing to be married to Christ, and at the same time asking and receiving the aid of civil government to enforce their religious teaching, is spiritual fornication or adultery... When they obtain the power, then will come the trial of the faith of all those who believe and obey the truth.” [Review and Herald, March 24, 1891 by R.F.C.]

“The world must not be introduced into the church, and married to the church, forming a bond of unity [church-state union]. Through this means the church will become indeed corrupt, and as stated in Revelation (18:2), ‘a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.’ [Babylon fallen].” [Testimonies to Ministers, p. 265, 1891] “No semblance of nearness to God, no assertion of connection with Him, will be accepted from those who persist in dishonoring Him by leaning upon the arm of worldly power. Today God’s word to His people is: ‘Come out from among them, and be ye separate, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you...’ [RH, August 4, 1904, E.G.W. – Brackets supplied]

“It has ever been true that a backslidden body – one that has turned from God’s Word to men, from God’s power to the state – was never reformed in itself. Invariably God’s message has called out those from the fallen church who would do His will and preach His gospel.” [International Sabbath School Lessons, First Quarter, Mar. 7, 1896, p. 35]

“The utter corruption of Babylon is accomplished by her alliance with the State – her descent into the arena of politics.” [Review and Herald, Nov. 12, 1901 by L.A.S.]

Let it be understood that a multitude of witnesses from the early historical writings and teachings of the Seventh-day Adventist Church could be cited. I shall save the space. But let us quote an author, writing in modern Adventist history, taken from *Adventist Review*, Dec. 13, 1894, page 12, article entitled: “Christian Citizenship.”

“The unholy alliance between church and state is the ultimate rejection of God’s providential love and is the acceptance of Satan as ruler and provider. [by John V. Sevens, Sr.]

The Gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation (Rom 1:16). That power is the power of love in *drawing, winning, persuading*, and it always leaves every man, however vile, the freedom of choice. “Whosoever will, let him come.” (Rev 22:17) The world’s Redeemer graciously invites all to come to the fountain and drink freely. He never asked, nor would accept earthly power in carrying out His work, even though offered to Him. He clearly taught that His kingdom was not of this world, and hence His servants could not fight or use force to advance or protect it (John 18:36), and that those who take the sword (the emblem of *human* power – 666) shall perish by the sword. (Mat 26:52) When any church, no matter how high her profession, appeals to the State for power to enforce her policy in religious matters, she turns away from that Gospel which is the power of God, she substitutes human (666) for divine power, compulsion (666) for persuasion, force (666) for love, and *human* law (666) for God’s law. Thus God’s law is made void. The ministers of this church become ministers of the law of man, to spy out, convict, fine, imprison, and visit the extreme penalties of the law upon the very ones which Christ came not to condemn but to save. Are they doing the work of the Savior while engaged in such work?” God forbid! Would they not better exemplify the life and teachings of the humble Man of Calvary if they would be truly ministers of the Gospel, seeking by precept and example to lift the fallen, to aid the unfortunate, to minister to the sick and needy, to point sinners to the Lamb of God, and like Jesus, go about doing good? Will the infidel, skeptic,

heathen, dissenter, and schismatic be won to Christ by law, with its pains and penalties, or by the Gospel, with its gracious invitations, its tender ministrations, and its labors of love? The answer is obvious. And “force is the last resort of *all false religion*.” [7BC, 976]

The golden rule forbids compulsion, and teaches persuasion in all matters of religion. It breathes the spirit of freedom, and will cause all who heed it to freely grant to others what they *claim for themselves*. It excludes from the fold of Christ the lordly bishops, ambitious ecclesiastics, self-inflated churchmen, who seek to lord it over God’s heritage by taking to themselves divine authority, and claiming to be representatives of God in executing the divine will upon those who, according to their infallible (?) judgment, are violating the divine will by bringing a reproach upon their “good name.” These professed servants of Jesus Christ, in the work they are doing and the position they are taking, are exalting themselves above the LORD, and following the example of the bishops of Rome. Christ would not judge between two brothers who disagreed in their property matters, saying, “Who made me judge over you?” (Luke 12:14) Now His professed servants are exalting themselves to judge between *brethren* (but not defining them as brothers), even in matters of faith and conscience, and they proceed to use all the earthly power they can grasp to uphold the one and punish the other. Do they not in this show that they are not the servants of Christ? They exalt themselves above Him, and claim an authority and a power which He not only did not exercise, but which He expressly disclaimed, and thus it is seen that they partake of the spirit and nature of him who exalted himself above the stars of God, and declared that he would be like the Most High. (Isa 12:12-14) The “messenger” writes:

“Every disciple of Christ is to step into the ranks and carry forward the same work, knowing that its foes can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth. God means that truth shall be brought to the front and become the subject of examination and discussion, even through the contempt placed upon it. The minds of the people must be agitated, every controversy, every reproach, every effort to restrict liberty of conscience, is God’s means of awaking minds that otherwise might slumber.” [*Mount of Blessing*, p. 33]

Let every lover of liberty, and every lover of true Christianity labor by precept and example to inculcate the principle taught in the golden rule, namely, persuasion based on love, which wins the heart, instead of compulsion based on fear, which makes hypocrites and idolaters, or martyrs, who choose to obey God rather than men. (Acts 5:29) Remember:

“...the word of God must be recognized as above all human legislation... The banner of truth and religious liberty which [the] reformers held aloft has in this last conflict been committed to us... Those Reformers whose protest has given us the name Protestant felt that God had called them to give the gospel to the world, and in doing this they were ready to sacrifice their possessions, their liberty, and their lives. Are we in this last conflict of the great controversy as faithful to our trust as were the early Reformers to theirs?”
[*Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. 6, pp. 402, 403]

The National Sunday Law Dilemma

“We have many lessons to learn, and many, many to unlearn. God and heaven alone are infallible. Those who think that they will never have to give up a cherished view, never have occasion to change an opinion, will be disappointed.” [*Review & Herald*, July 26, 1892]

“Let all prove their positions from the Scriptures and substantiate every point they claim as truth from the revealed word of God.” [*Evangelism*, page 256] “There is no excuse for any one in taking the position that

there is no more truth to be revealed and that all our expositions of Scripture are without error. The fact that certain doctrines have been held as truth for many years by our people, is not proof that our ideas are infallible.” [Review & Herald, Dec. 20, 1892] “The truth of God is progressive; it is always onward, going from strength to greater strength, from light to greater light.” [Signs, May 26, 1890]

As pointed out by Luis Munilla in his Jan. 28, 1995 newsletter, “...Mexico, Canada, Italy, France, Germany and other countries around the world [including England], have already designated Sunday as their day of rest.” (Brackets mine.) In the past we have understood that the United States would be *the first* to enforce a National Sunday Law. “Foreign nations will follow the example of the United States, though *she leads out*, yet the same crisis will come upon our people in all parts of the world.” [6T, p. 395] In context, Ellen White was referring to the restriction of religious liberty when writing of “the same crisis.” On the same page she continues, “... when they [the authorities] command us not to proclaim the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, then it will be necessary for us to say as did the apostles: ‘whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heart.’ Acts 4:19, 20.” [Ibid.] Clearly the principle to be understood regarding a crisis arising in our land is the *restriction of religious liberty* to the degree that Seventh-day Adventists “cannot proclaim the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.”

While this state of things could have been brought about by the National Sunday Law, any “oppressive law” abridging the free exercise of the Seventh-day Adventist faith would fulfill the prophecy.

In 1888 the Blair Sunday Rest Bill was before Congress, and the final test of the image of the beast was soon to be enforced upon the people of God. “...the image of the beast...is to be the great test for the people of God, by which their eternal destiny will be decided...” [SDA Bible Commentary, Vol. 7, page 976]

Much of Ellen White’s writing on the subject of the National Sunday Law was pertaining to this event and the efforts by the National Reform Movement of that era. In 1889 Ellen wrote, “Events which for more than forty years we have upon the authority of the prophetic word declared to be impending are *now taking place* before our eyes. *Already* the question of an amendment to the Constitution *restricting liberty of conscience* has been urged upon the legislators of the nation. The question of enforcing Sunday observance has become one of national interest and importance. We well know what the result of *this movement* will be.” [5T, p. 711] By providence, the National Reform Movement failed in their attempts to bring about a national law enforcing Sunday observance. The proposed amendment to the Constitution restricting *liberty of conscience* was also foiled. But “Foreign nations [have] follow[ed] the example of the United States,” and religious liberty has been restricted for Seventh-day Adventists in various “parts of the world.” However, the image of the beast has never been given life “that the image of the beast might even speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast [might] be killed.” (Rev 13:15) This “oppressive law” has not yet been fully enforced upon God’s Remnant in the United States.

Very little effort is required to research the Sunday question around the world. Library databases are replete with this information. As we research the subject, we discover that many countries have passed national Sunday legislation, and in the recent past many of those laws have been repealed. Even in Rome, Italy, where one might think Sunday would be a popular day of rest, controversy over Sunday closing laws has been keen. The difficulty in obtaining support for Sunday closing laws might be demonstrated in a recent statement by Lord’s Day Alliance president Paul J. Craven, Jr., in 1988:

We have found we live in a day very different from yesteryear. Most legislation supporting Sunday closing has been struck down. Fewer and fewer enterprises are interested in closing on Sundays, and still fewer are sensitive to the desires of individuals who would choose to keep Sunday as a day of worship and rest.

So where do we go from here? We who comprise the Board of Managers must pool our creative energies constantly to look for and produce new approaches to our mission. What no longer has the support of legislation may now need the support of persuasion. [*Liberty Sentinel*, Vol. 13, 1989-90, Number 5] emphasis supplied.)

In *Liberty Alert*, Vol. 2 No. 1, Jan/Feb 1993, Roland R. Hegstad writes:

Through the years I've seen Sunday laws disappear from the books of 21 states – most recently from Virginia, which in its colonial phase had a law containing the death penalty. An additional 18 states have so liberalized their laws that it would take a psychopath to search out an illegal act. In the remaining states, county by county, municipality by municipality, Sunday laws are being removed from the books.

Over the 30 years the growing secularization of society has been a greater threat to our church than have Sunday Laws.

Even though other countries followed the example of our country by enforcing Sunday laws of their own, the prophecy of the two-horned beast of Revelation 13 was never fulfilled. “This power, the last that is to wage war against the church and the law of God, was symbolized by a beast with lamb-like horns... the ‘two horns like a lamb’ will represent the character of the United States government...” [*Signs*, Nov. 1, 1899] This *Signs* article is entitled, “The Seal of God,” and describes the oppressive powers that sought to force God’s people to disobey God’s law and the final struggle of commandment-keepers against the beast and his image. The mark of the beast has never been enforced in this country as required by the prophecy. And note that the mark does not necessarily need to be enforced through the means of a National Sunday Law. The mark of the beast is enforced when “...this country [U.S.A.] will follow in the steps of Rome in *trampling on the rights of conscience*.” [*Great Controversy*, page 588]

Remember, “to receive the mark of the beast means to come to the same decision as the beast has done, and to advocate the same ideas, in direct opposition to the word of God.” [*SDA Bible Commentary*, Vol. 7, p. 979] And “while one class, by accepting the sign of submission to earthly powers, receive the mark of the beast, the other, choosing the token of allegiance to divine authority, receive the seal of God.” [*Great Controversy*, p. 605] In this, the discerning mind clearly understands the principles involved in the enforcement of the mark of the beast. The particular “form” through which it is enforced does not matter, but we must recognize the power and institution through which it comes. The *restriction of religious liberty* is the sure result of the U.S. government enforcing the mark of the beast upon God’s remnant people. “The contest is between the commandments of God and the commandments of men.” [*Maranatha*, p. 200] And *the Creation 7th Day* (the Sabbath) is the great object of controversy.

“In every age there is a new development of truth, a message of God to the people of that generation. The old truths are essential; new truth is not independent of the old, but an unfolding of it... it is the light which shines in the fresh unfolding of the New that glorifies the Old. He who rejects the New, does not really possess, the Old. For him it loses vital power, and becomes but a lifeless form.” [*Signs*, June 20, 1902] Adventists have focused on the concept of a National Sunday Law until they have lost sight of the Sabbath

Rest Principle which secures the believer in a child-like faith relationship with the Creator and Savior of the world. Professed Sabbath-keepers have held up Saturday as if it was a god to be worshipped.

Through this extremism, the final test for Christ's professed disciples has been purported to be a choice between resting on Saturday vs. resting on Sunday (or some variation thereof). This can not be the test, for "if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I deliver my body to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing." (1Cor 13:3 NASB) There is no way that a national law requiring Sunday rest would fulfill the prophecy of Revelation 13 unless it prohibited the keeping of Jehovah's rest. The mark of the beast will make void the law of God and *restrict the liberty of Seventh-day Adventists* who profess to be keeping "the commandments of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ."

The February 15, 1996 Trademark Trial and Appeal Board's ruling, which gives life to the General Conference Trademark Policy, opens the floodgates to religious persecution in this country. By *restricting the liberty* of any Seventh-day Adventist, openly professing the *name* "Seventh-day Adventist" in declaration of their faith, and without permission of the General Conference Corporation, the U.S. government in protecting the General Conference fulfills the prophecy of Rev 13. Careful study of the mark of the beast will reveal that the mark is "*the name of the beast*." Even the *SDA Bible Commentary, Vol. 7*, page 883 reads as follows on Revelation 13:17:

Or the name. Important textual evidence may be cited for the omission of the "or." If it is omitted, the phrase "name of the beast" may be considered to be in apposition with the word "mark." The passage would then read, "the mark, that is, the name of the beast." This would imply that the mark John saw in vision was the name of the beast.

What is the name of the beast? It is the tradeMARK church name:

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST®

We have gathered documentation and written much on this subject since 1991. For those who are seekers of truth, we encourage you to rise quickly and slumber no longer. The test will surely come. Five years ago [as of 1996] I was shown that what is now transpiring would take place, that the observance of an institution of the papacy would be enforced upon Adventists by the trademark law, while the sanctified rest of Jehovah would be trampled underfoot (see *5T*, p. 137)

All who are yet holding membership in the Conference Churches are held accountable to God for this travesty. Even though you may have been *ignorant*, you are just as cursed as the children of Israel by the sin of Achan (see Joshua 7). You are guilty as the Jews who *ignorantly* crucified the "Prince of life" (see Acts 3:14-21 NASB). For this reason, in God's mercy, the mighty angel of Revelation 18 is calling you out of these fallen churches, "that you may not participate in her sins and that you may not receive of her plagues." (Rev 18:4) Judgment has come to your house.

"An evil and adulterous generation craves for a sign [National Sunday Law]; and yet no sign shall be given to it but the sign of Jonah the prophet... The men of Nineveh shall stand up with this [last] generation at the judgment, and shall condemn it because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and behold, something greater than Jonah is here." (Matt 12:39 NASB – Brackets mine.)

Yes, the mighty angel of Revelation 18 has come in latter rain power and says with a loud voice:

Fear God and give Him glory because the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made the heaven and the earth and sea and spring of waters...

Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great, she who has made all the nations drink of the wine of the passion of her immorality... Come out of her my people that you may not participate in her sins and that you may not receive of her plagues... If anyone [by not coming out] worships the beast and his image, and receives a mark on his forehead or upon his hand, he also will drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is mixed in full strength in the cup of His anger, and he will be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.

And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever; and they have no [Sabbath] rest day and night, those who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the [trade] mark of his [church] name. (Revelation 14:7, 8; 18:4; 14:9-11 NASB – Brackets supplied.)

“Here is the patience of the saints [Creation 7th Day Adventists]: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.” (Revelation 14:12 – Brackets mine.)

“We are [Creation 7th] Day Adventists... It is the name the Lord has given us.” [*Letter 110*, 1902]

“We are [Creation 7th] Day Adventists, and of this name we are never to be ashamed. As a people we must take a firm stand for truth and righteousness. Thus we shall glorify God.” [*Letter 106*, 1903]

“[This name] *marks* us a peculiar people. The name [Creation 7th] Day Adventist is a standing rebuke to the Protestant world [including the General Conference Churches]. Here is the line of distinction between the worshippers of God and those who worship the beast and receive his mark. The great conflict is between the commandments of God and the requirements of the beast... [*IT*, p. 223 – Brackets mine.] Our “name means much, and in adopting it we have followed the light given us from heaven... this distinctive banner is to be borne through the world to the close of probation.” [*MS 15*, 1896] We are “the movement symbolized by the angel coming down from heaven, lightening the earth with His glory and crying mightily with a loud voice, announcing the sins of Babylon. In connection with his message the call is heart:

‘Come out of her My people.’ These announcements, unifying with the third angel’s message, constitute the final warning to be given to the inhabitants of the earth.” [*Great Controversy*, page 604] You are invited to join with us in this closing work.

“Repent therefore and return, that your sins may be wiped away in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord; that He may send Jesus, the Christ appointed for you, whom heaven must receive until the period of restoration of all things [by the EliYah people]...” (Acts 3:19-21 NASB – Brackets supplied.)

“Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet Him.” (Mat 25:6 NASB)

For your information: The Davidian Seventh-day Adventists are appealing the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board’s February 15th decision. Creation 7th Day Adventists are willing to intercede for God’s people by offering a witness for truth and righteousness. We are not a party in the lawsuit and make no appeal to the

Court, but the truth prevails and our Father's character will be vindicated. [The appeal was foiled soon after the TTAB's 1996 decision and is no longer current at the time of this revision.]

Enclosed you may find copies of the following:

- 1) "CONTACT PERSON'S" INFORMATION SHEET
 - 2) "THE RELEVANT PUBLIC" FACT SHEET
 - 3) TESTIMONY FROM "THE RELEVANT PUBLIC"
- (Further instructions provided upon request.)

This collective testimony is to be presented before the Court if allowed. Should you wish to join "a certain man clothed in linen with a writing case at his loins" (Eze 9:2), "take a firm stand for truth and righteousness," and finish the work of the third angel in the earth, contact us by phone or letter. "We must work the works of Him who sent [us], as long as it is day; night is coming, when no man can work." (John 9:4)

Your Devoted Servant,

Walter "Chick" McGill

Enclosures

P.S. For those having honest questions and/or objections, we fervently pray for the opportunity to arrange a conference. On bowed knees we shall labor with all searching for "the truth as it is in Jesus."

THE THREE ENCLOSURES

PLEASE NOTE: These enclosures represent a survey that was undertaken by the Creation Seventh Day Adventist Church for a period of time beginning in 1996. Although the information is outdated to some degree – for example, the appeal by the Davidian Seventh-day Adventists never came to pass, and the survey is no longer current – we include the enclosures along with the letter for the information which they provide.

#1 "CONTACT PERSON'S" INFORMATION SHEET

The first amendment to the U.S. Constitution reads:

"Congress shall make no law respecting *an establishment of religion*, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or of the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances." [emphasis supplied.]

The law of this land provides that *religious institutions* (churches) are entitled to protection of trademark laws no less than are *commercial companies*. This appears to be a violation of the above first amendment, amounting to a union of the Church with the State. In other words, the Church can obtain a *legal* trademark and have the government protect it against misuse. When this condition occurs, it is, in effect, "an establishment of religion" by the government. Several churches have attempted to obtain trademark

protection for their names. For example, the Methodist, Presbyterian, and others have tried to secure trademark protection, but have failed because of the “genericness” of their names. When a name is “generic,” it means that the name describes a *general class* of goods and/or services and *not the source* from which the goods and/or services originate. So, since there are so many Methodist or Presbyterian churches, there is no way for the court to define the source of Methodist or Presbyterian. These terms describe the religious faith of each denomination, but not necessarily the source from which that faith comes.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church has succeeded in retaining their trademark protection in the recent ruling by the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board (Feb. 15, 1966). This is a *flagrant* violation of Seventh-day Adventist faith and practice, since the position of Seventh-day Adventists from the beginning has been to avoid all union of church with state. It is common knowledge that the Seventh-day Adventists do not believe in pursuing disputes in worldly courts. We exemplify this in “THE RELEVANT PUBLIC” FACT SHEET with Anthony Ugolnik’s article.

“Contact persons” are asked to *educate* “the relevant public” (utilizing “THE RELEVANT PUBLIC” FACT SHEET and their own understanding) as to the present crisis of the U.S. government *establishing* the Seventh-day Adventist Church as “the source” of the Seventh-day Adventist faith. *The Source* of all *true* Christian faith is *Christ Himself*. We are to “render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s; and to God the things that are God’s.” (Mat 22:21) Thus, the Church is to remain totally separate from the State, and the State from the Church. All Christians, willing to protest the governmental interference in religion, qualify as “contact persons.”

We desire to offer a witness to the Court (the State) of *the truth*. When Jesus was before Pilate (the State), He gave this testimony, “My kingdom is not of this world... I have come into the world, to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice.” (John 18:36, 36) The truth to be discovered in this controversy, regarding the Seventh-day Adventist name, is that the religion’s name is “generic” just like the Methodist, Presbyterian and others. Hence, *it should be illegal* for the SDA Church to own a federally registered trademark, protected by federal trademark laws.

Our duty is to collect the opinions, by signature, of “the relevant public.” The “contact person” should print his or her name, address, and phone number at the bottom of “THE RELEVANT PUBLIC” FACT SHEET. (Please sign in the “signature” blank also). Study the information sheet and fact sheet *thoroughly*. Coordinate with the staff by phone at 1-800-754-8021. After educating qualified individuals, invite them to testify by signature. Use no coercive or oppressive methods. Our time limitation is not yet determined; so please act promptly. Mail completed signature forms to the address below. If there are any questions, please call 1-800-754-8021, (913) 242-6817 or (913) 755-2132.* As needed, make copies, or order copies of the three forms:

- 1) “CONTACT PERSON’S” INFORMATION SHEET
- 2) “THE RELEVANT PUBLIC” FACT SHEET,
- 3) TESTIMONY FROM “THE RELEVANT PUBLIC”

Contact pastors of all “relevant public” churches and provide forms for their use. Educate them to be “contact persons.” Remember, our goal is to testify to the truth as it is in Jesus and avert any potential for restriction of liberty of conscience in this country through the employment of trademark laws by religious

institutions. Contact persons, please mail completed forms to **The Association of Creation 7th Day Adventists.***

*NOTE: The previously supplied numbers and mailing address are outdated. As this survey is no longer current, and the P.O. Box is inactive, persons wishing to contact the Association may use the following information

Creation Seventh Day Adventist Church

www.faihofjesus.to/index2.html

IP: <http://93.88.247.151/>

National Toll-free number: **1 888 284 2487 OR 1 800 754 8021**
csdachurch@gmail.com

#2 “THE RELEVANT PUBLIC” FACT SHEET

As of April 15, 1996, an appeal was to be filed in Washington, D.C. by the Davidian Seventh-day Adventists, praying for cancellation of the federal trademark and service mark registration issued to the General Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists – a District of Columbia Corporation. This action comes in response to the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board’s Feb 15, 1996 ruling in favor of the General Conference Corporation’s federally registered trademark and service mark, “Seventh-day Adventist.”

While Creation 7th Day Adventists are not a party to the lawsuit, we are voluntarily collecting testimony from “the relevant public” – as defined by the court. Here, “the relevant public... comprises Christians and, more specifically Adventist Christians (that is, those who believe in the nearness of the second coming of Christ).” [*Stocker v. General Conference Corporation of SDA’s* (TTAB, 1996; majority, p. 23.)] Creation 7th Day Adventists, being qualified as “relevant public,” are *in no way associated* with the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. We protest the union of Church with the State to any degree, and decry the fact “that religious institutions are entitled, no less than are commercial enterprises, to the protection of trademark laws.” [*ibid.*, p. 15]

Creation 7th Day Adventists also follow the Biblical understanding that Christians are forbidden to initiate lawsuits in civil court. This stand is based on the “Sabbath Rest Principle” (Exodus 20:8-11; Heb 4:8-11), and the prohibition written by the Apostle Paul to the Corinthians (1Cor 6:1-8). Anthony Ugolnik, priest of the Orthodox Church who writes on religion and culture, was published in *The New York Times*, March 28, 1993, Section 4, page 14. He testified that “Some [SDAs] were chosen to participate in a ‘white coat’ program, where they served as human subjects for what they thought was humanitarian research. Later the program was identified was a facet of our germ warfare program. (Cynics point out that Seventh Day Adventists were chosen as guinea pigs because *their beliefs forbid them to bring suit in civil court.*)” [emphasis supplied] Although we do not recognize the State as having any jurisdiction in religious controversies, our willingness to witness for truth and righteousness in this crisis exemplifies the intercessory mission of Christ for our Brethren. The question controverted in this lawsuit is whether the name “Seventh-day Adventist” is a “source identifier” for “the goods and services” of the Seventh-day Adventist Church or whether the term “Seventh-day Adventist” is “generic.”

The court says, “A term is generic if it names the class of goods or services to which it is applied... The test for determining whether a term is generic is its primary significance to the relevant public, that is, whether the term is used or understood, by purchasers or potential purchasers of the goods or services at issue, primarily to refer to the class of such goods or services... [Stocker v..., p. 16] thus, petitioners... must show by a preponderance of the evidence that the term SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST is used or understood, by the relevant public, primarily to refer to the class of such goods and/or services with which the term is registered.” [ibid., p. 17]

Ellen G. White was “co-founder of the SDA Church, writer, lecturer, and counselor to the church, who possessed what SDAs have accepted as the prophetic gift described in the Bible.” [Seventh-day Adventist Encyclopedia, p. 1406] In her *Letter 51*, 1901 she penned the following: “Christ was a Seventh-day Adventist, to all intents and purposes.” [quoted in *Medical Ministry*, p. 49] Having “the prophetic gift described in the Bible,” Ellen White, “co-founder of the SDA Church,” shows by her writing that “Seventh-day Adventist” is a generic term representing a religious faith and practice.

This must be true, since Jesus Christ was a member of the Jewish Church more than 18 centuries before the founding of the SDA Church. The term “Seventh-day Adventist,” which is the name describing the religion of Christ, “names the class of the goods or services to which it is applied” – thus a generic term by the court’s definition. [Stocker v..., p. 16]

The Creation 7th Day Adventist Church is a separate denomination from the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. We have used the term “7th Day Adventist” since 1991, publishing literature, audio tapes, and video tapes, and conducting weekly Sabbath observances. Our materials have been widely circulated to “the relevant public,” including members of the General Conference Churches. To this date, none have contested the Creation 7th Day Adventist Church in the use of their name. (This “fact sheet” is respectfully published this 22nd day of May, 1996, by representatives of the Creation 7th Day Adventist Church.)

CONTACT PERSON: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

#3 TESTIMONY FROM “THE RELEVANT PUBLIC”

We, the undersigned, being members of the Adventist Christian faith, and therefore meeting the definition of the court, with respect to “the relevant public” in the SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST trademark/service mark contest, do testify by our signatures that the term “Seventh-day Adventist” is the name which applies to Christian faith and practice. This is illustrated by Ellen G. White, cofounder of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, who wrote, “Christ was a Seventh-day Adventist, to all intents and purposes.” [Medical Ministry, p. 49, 1901]

We also have knowledge of the existence of the Creation 7th Day Adventist Church which publishes religious materials and conducts religious observances weekly, and is in no way connected with the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. It is our understanding that the term “Seventh-day Adventist” is, therefore, “generic,” and not a “source identifier.”

CONTACT PERSON: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

HOME CHURCH: _____

The following letter was drafted by Walter “Chick” McGill in the winter of 1996. No rebuttal or answer has been received as of the date of this revision:

December 19, 1996
General Conference of SDAs
Communications Department
Kermit Netteburg
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20904-6600

Dear Brother Netteburg,

Thank you for your prompt e-mail dated December 16th.

In answer to your “unrelated, irrelevant question,” I do not know of having a home page in Arkansas. We were assigned an address with “Hot Springs” (www.geocities.com/HotSprings/2786/), perhaps relating to the health field in which our home page majors--mental, physical, and spiritual. Links and web site development are yet under way. Please forgive me for the misunderstanding, but I really had nothing to do with the address assignment.

I do not know how familiar you are with the General Conference Corporation’s federally registered trademark/service mark “SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST.” While your understanding might be that this trademark “is a term related strictly to the protection of business interests,” this is not the actual case, in view of litigation on record since the mid-1980s. I am enclosing a packet of “hand-outs,” providing much of the documentation which we have on file.

At this juncture it may be fitting to look at the ancient uses of “marks,” published in the *Review and Herald* (1913), as I begin to develop a connection between trademarks and the mark of the beast in Revelation 13. “When the Lord called Israel out of Egypt and its idolatries and warned his people against the ways by which the heathen round about worshiped their gods, he gave commandment: ‘Ye shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead [demon- or spirit- worship], nor print any marks upon you: I am the Lord.’ Lev. 19:28.

“The distinguishing mark of God’s people was to be found in their loyal obedience to his commandments, the fourth precept particularly pointing out the sign of the great Creator: ‘Keep therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes.’ Deut. 4:6. ‘Hallow my Sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I am the Lord your God.’ Eze. 20:20.

“From the earliest days, it is evident, the heathen were accustomed to mark themselves with the signs or symbols of their gods. Marks were also sometimes carried to indicate the master that a man served. An old author, Dr. John Potter, in a work on the *Antiquities of Greece*, says of these ancient practices:

Slaves were not only branded with stigmata for a punishment of their offenses, but (which was the common end of these marks) to distinguish them, in case they should desert their masters: for which purpose it was common to brand their soldiers; only with this difference, that whereas slaves were commonly stigmatized in their forehead, and with the name or some peculiar character belonging to their masters, soldiers were branded in the hand, and with the name or character of their general.

After the same manner, it was likewise customary to stigmatize the worshipers and votaries of some of the gods: whence Lucian, speaking of the votaries of the Syrian goddess, affirms, “They were all branded with certain marks, some in the palms of their hands, and others in their necks: whence it became customary for all the Assyrians thus to stigmatize themselves.” And Theodoret is of opinion that the Jews were forbidden to brand themselves with stigmata, because the idolaters by that ceremony used to consecrate themselves to their false deities. The marks used on these occasions were various. Sometimes they contained the name of the god, sometimes his particular ensign; such were the thunderbolt of Jupiter, the trident of Neptune, the ivy of Bacchus: whence Ptolemy Philopater was by some nick-named Gallus, because his body was marked with the figures of ivy leaves.

Or, lastly, they marked themselves with some mystical number; whereby the god’s name was described. Thus the sun, which was signified by the number 608, is said to have been represented by these two numeral letters XH. These three ways of stigmatizing are all expressed by St. John, in the book of Revelation: “And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.” Vol. 1, page 75.

“Still the mark is used in modern heathenism. Most of the Hindu sects in India have their special marks to distinguish the god or gods of their chief devotion. On the festivals, after the ceremonial bathing and worship, the marks are painted afresh on the devotee’s forehead or breast or arm. It is the sign of allegiance and submission to the authority whose badge it is.

“So the prophetic scriptures represent the Papacy, and the “image of the beast” (the likeness to the Papacy formed in the falling away from Protestant principles) as joining in enforcing the mark of papal authority, upon the world.

“The whole matter of papal authority turns upon the question as to whether God’s Word or the church is supreme. As a mark of the superior power of the church, Rome sets forth the Sunday institution. God’s law says that the seventh day is the Sabbath. That is the sign of Jehovah, the Creator of heaven and earth. By

church tradition the change has been made to Sunday, the first day. The famous Council of Trent, Rome's answer to the Reformation, cited the general acceptance of the Sunday as proof that the church is above the Holy Scriptures." RH 04-24-13, p. 393.

Applications to our time can be made from the above article. An elementary study of the history of "marks", i.e., "trademarks" reveals the relationship of the modern "mark" to that which distinguished one's allegiance to an "owner", "master", "ruler", or "god." The SDA trademark is "taken" by the devotee at baptism showing their allegiance to the SDA Church.

In *Ministry*, December, 1988, the article "General Conference trademark policy" contains the following:

"Yes. The General Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists, on behalf of the ENTIRE DENOMINATION, has registered under the United States trademark laws the name 'Seventh-day Adventist'..." [emphasis supplied.] Thus, every baptized member receives the mark, Seventh-day Adventist.

What is a corporation? One dictionary in my library says it is a "fictitious person." A more comprehensive definition is given by Chief Justice Marshall (1819):

A corporation is an artificial being, invisible, intangible and existing only in contemplation of law. Being the mere creature of law, it possesses only those properties which the charter of its creation confers upon it, either expressly or as incidental to its very existence. These are such as are supposed best calculated to effect the object for which it was created. Among the most important are immortality, and if the expression may be allowed, individuality; properties by which a perpetual succession of many persons are considered as the same, and may act as a single individual. (4 Wheat, (U.S.) 518)

It is interesting to me that this "fictitious person" has "individuality", "immortality", and a "perpetual succession of many persons" acting as a single person. This character reminds me suspiciously of the office of the "pope." In fact, the historical roots of "ecclesiastical entities" is revealed by Ludwig Teller in *CORPORATIONS* (1949):

The corporation does not appear to have originated as a state franchise, nor as a means of securing limited liability. Roman corporations, originally unregulated by the state, were later licensed by the Emperor apparently to abridge their political activities. . . . After the advent of Christianity, ecclesiastical entities were similarly created by the Pope, who took the view that his fiat was necessary for such purpose. (p.4)

We could argue in depth regarding these things, but the point I intend to make is that the "corporation" is a "fictitious person" or "image" of a person. You may say that the General Conference Corporation is required for the legal holding of property. So be it. An image may be carved from stone, and we know that image has no life. We would be loath to worship it. The commandment prohibits carving that stone and "bowing down to worship" it. Any sensible person would not bow to a carved stone. But what if something gave "life" to that image? Review with me the story of the image in Daniel, chapter 3:

Then the satraps, the prefects, and the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the justices, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces, were assembled for the dedication of the image that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up; and they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had

set up. (v. 3) And the herald proclaimed aloud, “You are commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages, (v. 4) that when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, you are to fall down and worship the golden image that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up; (v. 5) and whoever does not fall down and worship shall immediately be cast into a burning fiery furnace.” (v. 6) Therefore, as soon as all the peoples heard the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, all the peoples, nations, and languages fell down and worshiped the golden image which King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. (v. 7)

Trace, if you will, the steps taken in giving “life” to Nebuchadnezzar’s image. They are listed as follows:

1. The king “creates” the image as a representation of himself.
2. The image is given special recognition and adoration by the “powers that be.”
3. A decree is made requiring all individuals, under the jurisdiction of the king and his “powers that be,” to give special recognition and adoration to the image.
4. A test of loyalty to the “creator” of the image is contrived, instituting the death penalty for civil disobedience, in order to control the sympathies of the population. It was understood that to bow to this image was an act of worship and adoration of the king.

Plainly, the image had no life at step # 1. It had no life at step #2. So far, the image was nothing more than “an amusement.” Suddenly, in step #3, a law is set in place requiring something of the population with respect to the image. There was a requirement of worship, special recognition and act of adoration on pain of punishment (i.e., death). When one is required to make a choice between life and death, the “thing” requiring that choice must have “life.” It “both speaks and causes as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed.” Rev. 13:15. When an individual can be “forced,” on pain of punishment, to give special recognition, adoration, or worship to anything or anyone, there is some kind of “life” given to that agency.

The General Conference Corporation, as a “fictitious person,” without life, and without power to “force” anyone to give special recognition, adoration, or worship to anything or anyone, is nothing more than a “holding company,” or “agency” for the sole purpose of owning and managing church real estate. However, when this “fictitious person” acquires “intellectual property” (i.e., a trademark), and seeks to have “the powers that be” and the entire population to give its “intellectual property” special recognition, adoration, and even worship, upon pain of punishment, this corporation is no longer an agency for holding real estate. This corporation has acquired “life” through the laws of “intellectual property.” Now, the corporation can “both speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed.” Rev. 13:15.

I have made a thorough study of Revelation 13:16, 17 from every Bible version and commentary which I could find “in captivity.” I shall choose one translation here for special illustration: *The Jerusalem Bible*: “. . . and made it illegal for anyone to buy or sell anything unless he had been *branded* with the name of the beast or with the number of its name.” v. 17. (italics mine). Looking up the root word “*brand*” in English dictionaries reveals interesting results. Note the following three which are from my personal library:

Webster’s New World Dictionary, Second College Edition, 1974--... 2. A mark burned on the skin with a hot iron, formerly used to punish and identify criminals, now used on cattle to show

ownership... 4. A mark of disgrace; stigma 5. a) An identifying mark or label on the products of a particular company; trademark b) The kind or make of a commodity c) A special kind or variety...

Webster's New American Dictionary, 1939--... 2 A trade-mark. 3 A certain make of anything. 4 An identifying mark burned in, as, the brand of the ranch was Cross and Star... vt. To put a trade-mark on; to mark with a hot iron, as range cattle; to mark, as, to brand one as a traitor.

Funk & Wagnalls Standard Encyclopedic Dictionary, 1972-- . . . 1. A distinctive name or trademark identifying the product of a manufacturer. 2. The kind or make of a product: a good brand of coffee. 3. A mark made with a hot iron, as on cattle, to indicate ownership. 4. Formerly, a mark burned on criminals...

Since the above English dictionaries show a probable link from the root brand to “trademark,” let me substitute into the Bible text a possible interpretation, and add a brief commentary. McGill version: “and made it illegal for anyone to buy or sell [the Seventh-day Adventist faith] unless he had [the registered trademark] with the name of the [General Conference Corporation of SDAs] or with the number of its name.” (v. 17)

Of course, the number is a “human number” bearing out the “engraving” [see Acts 17:29, “*charagma*”] of a natural man (666-- imperfect mental, imperfect physical, and imperfect spiritual). The ecclesiastical [“religious”] corporation had its original creation by the Papacy (or the beast), as noted in *CORPORATIONS*, by Ludwig Teller (1949, page 4), above. Teller also writes, “The corporation is the *real, though artificial, person* substituted for *the natural persons* who procured its creation” (emphases mine; *ibid*, page 3). As I said before, close examination of the attributes of corporations, as compared to the office of the pope, indicates suspicious similarities between them--“religious corporations,” having originated by the pope’s fiat.

Some may object to my substituting “General Conference Corporation” for “the beast,” since we know “the beast” to be the Papacy. But the phrase “name of ‘x’” (where “x” represents any given person, place, or thing) does not demand the exclusive application of the name to “x.” Let me illustrate, using the Scriptures.

Revelation 14:1 refers to the saints having “His name and his Father’s name written on their foreheads.” The “name of the saints” is the name of the Father and the Son (see also, Rev. 3:12). Note here, the contingency for wearing the Father’s name is to partake of His *character*. This, afore-mentioned taking of the name of another, is applied to “the seal of God” (see also, Rev. 7:3, 4). James asks, “Do they not blaspheme that worthy name by the which ye are called.” What name? Of course, the name of Christ--“Christian.” “. . . Let every one that names the the name of Christ (Christian) depart from iniquity.” 2 Timothy 2:19b.

In parallel comparison, Revelation 13:17 refers to the antithesis, “mark of the beast.” The “image of the beast” having the “name of the beast,” is in line with the children being named after their father, as in the “seal of God.” Those who perfectly reflect the “image of Christ” are called by His name. In like manner, those who perfectly reflect the character of the Papacy are called by his name. In saying, “Ye are of your father the devil . . .,” Jesus spiritually illustrates the *relationship* of “the image of the beast” to “the beast” (John 8:44).

So, in my above substitution-- “name of the General Conference Corporation” for “name of the beast,” I am consistent as we would be justified in substituting “Christian(s)” for “the name of Christ.” The likeness in character-- the intimate family relationship is the relegating principle.

“The Seventh-day Adventist faith” is intended to be the “everlasting gospel” of Rev.14:6. “The registered trademark” is *charagma*, or a man-made “engraving,” “stamp,” or “impress” used to identify “the owner” or “the source” of a particular commodity. In this case, the “special kind or variety” is “the Adventist message.” “The owner” of this “registered trademark” is the General Conference Corporation (artificial person or “image”), which claims ownership of the “intellectual property,” trademark: SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST. The “intellectual property” is none other than a “label” for “the Adventist message,” or “everlasting gospel.” In reality, this amounts to a claim, on the part of the General Conference Corporation, to being “the source” of the gospel of Christ. This claim of ownership is *blasphemy*, in the same sense which the Papacy is guilty, since its inception, of claiming to be the “*Vicar of Christ*.” The Christ is “the source,” the “Pearl of Great Price”—the *only mediator* between God and men (1 Tim. 2:5).

The “Lamb” built His Church upon a solid Rock--Himself, that is, His character written in lasting stone by the very finger of God, and promising to give a “new heart of flesh” preprogrammed with His character. The “dragon” builds his church on the “graven image of the beast,” or himself. It is written upon the selfish “stony heart” by the very hand of Satan and enforced by the natural man’s law (666), being derived from “the mind set on the flesh...” Satan desires to “make for [himself] a name” (see Gen. 11:4) which no one else might have, without bowing to his dominance (oppression and selfishness). The Lamb of God, who has “a name above every name,” became sin for the world that all who believe on the name of the Son of God may freely partake of “His divine name”-- “the **IMPRESS** of the divine name, ‘The Lord our Righteousness.’ Jer.23:6.” (*Evangelism*, p. 307). Notice, when the *unconverted* disciples would *forbid* “non-members” from the “unauthorized use” of Christ’s name in their ministry, the Lamb said, “Do not hinder him. . . .” Mark 9:39. In like manner, the “lamb-like beast” of Rev. 13 would, by the Lamb’s nature, say, “Do not hinder him.” But what happens? The “false prophet”-- the “lamb-like beast” speaks like a dragon. The dragon says, “Forbid them, lest we lose our kingdom.” And is this not the same as it was in the days of Christ? Did the chief priests and elders not fear that Jesus would dethrone them? Isn’t there a controversy over, “Who is the king of the Jews?” “Who is the greatest?” “Who shall sit on God’s throne?”

The contest will be between the commandments of God and the commandments of men. Those who have yielded step by step to worldly demands and conformed to worldly customs will then yield to the powers that be, rather than subject themselves to derision, insult, threatened imprisonment, and death.

At that time the gold will be separated from the dross. True godliness will be clearly distinguished from the appearance and tinsel of it. Many a star that we have admired for its brilliance will then go out in darkness. Those who have assumed the ornaments of the sanctuary, but are not clothed with Christ’s righteousness, will then appear in the shame of their own nakedness. [PK 188]

I emphasized the word “*impress*” above in **bold** because *Vine’s Expository Dictionary of N. T. Words* defines the Greek word for “mark” [*charagma*] as “a stamp, [or] impress”(page 42). This word deserves a bit of discussion. Most SDAs agree that the “seal of God” is represented by the Sabbath, and from a Biblical perspective the NAME (or character) of God-- “. . . having His name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads.” Rev.14:1 (NASB). This “name of God” is nothing more than a transcript of His

character—His *SIGNature*, which is the law of God, written in the hearts of those truly converted to the religion of Christ-- thus,-- “the *impress* of the divine name”

It was common for kings and nobles to seal documents, etc. with the *impress* of their “signet rings.” For example: “And a stone was brought and laid over the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the signet rings of his nobles, so that nothing might be changed in regard to Daniel.” Dan. 6:17 (NASB).

“And they went and made the grave secure, and along with the guard they set a seal on the stone.” Matt. 27:66 (NASB). God shall seal Satan securely in “the abyss” “that he should not deceive the nations any longer. . . .” Rev. 20:3. At this point in time, the saints will have already been “securely sealed” by the “seal of the living God”-- “Just as soon as the people of God are sealed in their foreheads it is not any seal or mark that can be seen, but a settling into the truth, both intellectually and spiritually, so they cannot be moved-- just as soon as God’s people are sealed and prepared for the shaking, it will come.” (MS 173, 1902).

These faithful ones have allowed “*the impress of the divine name*” to be their protection even at a time when they have “no intercessor”-- the time of “Jacob’s trouble.” “Nothing can be changed in regard to” the destiny of the saints who receive God’s “stamp of approval” in” the judgment of the living.”

I wish now to return to the development of trademarks to present more related parallels from Scripture. The following is quoted from *Collier’s Encyclopedia* (1989); Vol. 22, pp.396-97:

...ancient marks [c. 5,000 B.C.] presumably were proprietary in nature, identifying the owner of the property rather than the original source of something bartered or sold. Thus, they did not perform the business function of a modern trademark...

... [among earliest civilizations, introducing specialization] markings on pottery and other objects served the purpose of identifying the maker after the goods had left his hands. They thus approached closely the function of the trademark of modern commerce. However, the primary purpose of such marks apparently was to fix responsibility so that the maker of imperfect merchandise could be located and, if necessary, punished. ... Building stones of that period [c. 3200 B.C.] are marked with symbols that indicate either the quarry from which they came or the masons who prepared them. Roof tiles, as well as bricks, had the names of their makers impressed in them. (emphases mine.)

The Roman civilization, which endured for approximately one thousand years . . . provides our earliest sustained records of an economy in which trademarks evidently were a matter of everyday experience. ... Seals were used for marking cloth. Masons’ marks can be found on building stones. Tiles and bricks bore impressions of marks identifying their makers. As in previous civilizations, however, it is the pottery that survived in the greatest profusion, and trademarks were in common use on pottery ware.

...The economy of England and the rest of Europe [from the 12th century on] was characterized by the organization of industry into guilds, and trademarks were used primarily for the purpose of maintaining the control of an industry in the hands of the members of the guild and their chosen successors. Typical guild regulations required that every article produced by a member bear both

the guild symbol and a mark identifying the individual artisan. The guild mark indicated that the goods were not contraband; the artisan's mark fixed responsibility upon the individual craftsman so that he could be disciplined by the guild if he failed to maintain proper standards of workmanship. ... The modern view of a trademark is that it constitutes a symbol by which the source of goods may be identified. It serves the function guaranteeing that all articles bearing the mark will be uniform in quality, and in this sense it is a descendant of the medieval merchant's mark. It also serves to fix responsibility upon the maker, and in that sense it is a descendant of the obligatory guild marks, which in turn reflect such ancient systems as the marking the bricks in Egypt so that an inept slave could be identified and punished. (all emphases supplied.)

From the foregoing we gain some significant insights. In Pagan Rome [represented as the "dragon" in prophecy] "trademarks evidently were a matter of everyday experience"-- a parallel to our day in the United States [represented as "the Lamb-like beast," speaking as a "dragon"]. Prior to and during the span of the Roman Empire, "building stones" were "impressed" with "the names of their makers." Notice this precious promise from our Maker, describing the *impression of the divine name*, "... To him who overcomes, to him I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and a new NAME written on the stone which no one knows but he who receives it." Rev. 2:17 (NASB).

"You continued looking until a stone was cut out without hands, and it struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay, and crushed them." Dan. 2:34 (NASB). Further commentary comes from Ellen G. White:

The mingling of church craft and state craft is represented by the iron and the clay. This union is weakening all the power of the churches. This investing the church with the power of the state will bring evil results. Men have almost passed the point of God's forbearance. They have invested their strength in politics, and have united with the papacy. But the time will come when God will punish those who have made void His law, and their evil work will recoil upon themselves. [*Ms 63*, 1899, pp. 12, 13. (Untitled Manuscript, April 22, 1899.) *1 MR 5*] (emphases mine.)

"Seals were used for marking" and "Trademarks were in common use on pottery ware." "Woe to the one who quarrels with his Maker-- An earthenware vessel among the vessels of earth! Will the clay say to the potter, 'What are you doing?' Or the thing you are making say, 'He has no hands?'" Isa. 45:9 (NASB). "Behold, like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel." Jer. 18:4b (NASB). "The precious sons of Zion, Weighed against fine gold, How they are regarded as earthen jars, The work of a potter's hands!" Lam.4:2 (NASB).

Anyone who undertakes a work with his hands intended to *improve* God's program or defend it with "carnal weapons," is saying "to the Potter, 'What are you doing?'" We are to "rest in Christ"-- leaving the battles with Him. Herein is the true keeping of the spirit of Sabbath.

In Europe, *labor unions* employed trademarks "primarily for the purpose of maintaining the control of an industry"-- "to maintain proper standards of workmanship." Ephesians 2:10,20-22 says, "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, ... having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone (stamped with a name above every name), in whom the whole building, being fitted together is growing into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit." We could say more about the relationship of *labor unions* to the "mark of the beast" from the "Spirit of Prophecy."

The Roman Catholic Church employed *creeds* as a method of defining heresy. Ultimately, their motivation was to “control the membership of the church and maintain a high standard in the building.” But the only standard they could maintain was that of the “natural man” (666)--as was the case at Babel (Gen. 11:4ff), where they sought to “make for [themselves] a NAME.” And the 1896 *International Sabbath School Lessons* (p. 33) says,” While the Reformation churches held fast to the word, Christ was with them. When they crystallized their various errors into creeds and endeavored thus to confine God’s word, they made themselves daughters of Babylon.”

What is being done with “the 27 fundamentals?” It has become a convenient way to define a true “Seventh-day Adventist”--with the motivation of “maintaining a particular standard.” This exemplifies man’s tradition in opposition to the “commandments of God.” Then, when certain ones depart from “the traditions of men” [i.e., leave the dominance of the hierarchy], the same method of correction is imposed which the Papacy employed--“the strong arm of civil power.” History then repeats with the punishment of heretics and the restriction of the liberty of conscience. Of course, most of these so-called “heretics” conscientiously cling to the Adventist message, the prophetess, and consequently, the NAME. Thus--the trademark law is invoked against them through the civil power--“all in the name of the Lord.” Is this not imaging what the Papacy [does]? The Papacy is the beast--is this not, by definition, “the image of the beast?”

NOTE. The beast “which had the wound by a sword, and did live,” is the Papacy. That was a church dominating the civil power, a union of church and state, enforcing its religious dogmas by the civil power, by confiscation, imprisonment, and death. An image to this beast would be another ecclesiastical organization clothed with civil--power another union of church and state--to enforce religion by law. [*Bible Readings for the Home*, page 236]

And coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected by men, but choice and precious in the sight of God, you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For this is contained in Scripture: ‘Behold I lay in Zion a choice Stone, a precious Corner Stone, and he who believes in Him shall not be disappointed.’ This precious value, then, is for you who believe. But for those who disbelieve, ‘the Stone which the builders rejected, this became the very Corner Stone,’ and, ‘a Stone of stumbling and Rock of offense’; for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this doom they were also appointed. (1 Peter 2:4-8 NASB).

The religion of Christ is sincerity itself. *Zeal for God’s glory is the motive implanted by the Holy Spirit*; and only the effectual working of the Spirit can implant this motive. Only the power of God can banish self-seeking and hypocrisy. This change is the sign of His working. When the faith we accept destroys selfishness and pretense, when it leads us to *seek God’s glory and not our own*, we may know that it is of the right order. ‘Father, glorify Thy name’, was the keynote of Christ’s life... [*The Desire of Ages*, page 409] (emphases supplied.)

But what is the motive of the General Conference in invoking trademark protection?

The Trademark Committee was organized to respond to local conference requests for legal protection from identification with groups whose activities have obvious potential to harm the church’s image or bring material liability.

...Our effort, in even the most obviously embarrassing cases, has been to restrain groups, usually by means of injunction, from trading on or profiting by the use of the name “Seventh-day Adventist.” *Adventist Review*, “Protecting Our Good Name,” Sept. 26, 1996, p. 27. (emphases supplied.)

The wording of this article by Calvin B. Rock demonstrates the self-centered, faithless motivation of the General Conference and local conferences in organizing the Trademark Committee.

Let us look at the Spirit’s counsel when a NAME or reputation is an issue. The following illustrations should suffice:

Here is an example of how God would have you overcome a tarnished name.

I do not consider your case hopeless; if I did, my pen would not be tracing these lines. In the strength of God you can redeem the past. Your name is already a byword in ____; but you can change this by using the powers which God has given you. You may even now gain a moral excellence so that your name may be associated with things pure and holy. You can be elevated. God has provided for you the necessary helps. He has invited you to come to Him, and has promised to bear your burdens and give you rest of soul. “Learn of Me,” says the divine Teacher, “for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.” [2T 562]

Consider an example of how to *preserve* a holy name.

Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth. And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so. And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye? And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. And this was known to all the Jews and Greeks also dwelling at Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified. Acts 19:13-17.

Here, the holy name of Jesus was being misused by “vagabond Jews.” The apostles did not do anything but leave them to their own destruction. “The law of the Lord is perfect.” “Whatsoever a man sows, that shall he also reap.” “Do not hinder them.”

This Scripture shows how a name is blasphemed.

But if you bear the name “[SDA],” and rely upon the Law, and boast in God, and know His will, and approve the things that are essential, being instructed out of the Law, and are confident that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness, a corrector of the foolish, a teacher of the immature, having in the Law the embodiment of knowledge and of the truth, you, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach that one should not steal, do you steal? You who say that one should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? You who boast in the Law, through your breaking the Law, do you dishonor God? For “THE NAME OF GOD IS BLASPHEMED AMONG THE GENTILES BECAUSE OF YOU,” just as it is written. For indeed circumcision is of value, if you practice the Law; but if you are a transgressor of the Law, your circumcision has become uncircumcision.

If therefore the uncircumcised man keeps the requirements of the Law, will not his uncircumcision be regarded as circumcision? And will not he who is physically uncircumcised, if he keeps the Law, will he not judge you who though having the letter of the Law and circumcision are a transgressor of the Law? For he is not a [SDA] who is one outwardly; neither is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh. But he is a [SDA] who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that which is of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter; and *his praise is not from men, but from God.* (Romans 2:17-29 NASB).

Must I say more? Let Jesus say it.

I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are [SDAs], and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.” Rev. 2:9. “Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are [SDAs], and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.” Rev. 3:9. “Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name? and in Thy name have cast out devils? and in Thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from Me, ye that work iniquity. (Matt. 7:22, 23)

Let James say it. James 2:6, 7 (NASB):

But you have dishonored the poor man. Is it not the rich who oppress you and personally drag you into court? Do they not blaspheme the fair name by which you have been called?

My last example is a Scriptural answer to give when the name your conscience requires you to use is forbidden by man:

And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered and said unto them, *Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye.* For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard. (Acts 4:18-20)

In conclusion, the February 15, 1996, Trademark Trial and Appeal Board's ruling, which gives life to the General Conference Trademark Policy, opens the floodgates to religious persecution in this country. By restricting the liberty of any Seventh-day Adventist, openly professing the name Seventh-day Adventist, in declaration of their faith, and without permission of the General Conference Corporation, the U.S. government in protecting the General Conference fulfills the prophecy of Rev. 13. Careful study of the mark of the beast will reveal that the mark is the name of the beast. Even the *SDA Bible Commentary, Vol.7*, page 822 reads as follows on Revelation 13:17:

Or the name. Important textual evidence may be cited for the omission of the “or.” If it is omitted, the phrase “name of the beast” may be considered to be in apposition with the word “mark.” The passage would then read, “the mark, that is, the name of the beast.” This would imply that the mark John saw in vision was the name of the beast.

What is the name of the beast? It is the tradeMARK church name: SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST.

We have gathered documentation and written much on this subject since 1991. I encourage every “truth-seeker” to rise quickly and slumber no longer. The test shall surely come to every soul. Five years ago I was shown that what is now transpiring would take place, that the observance of an institution of the papacy would be enforced upon Adventists by the trademark law, while the sanctified rest of Jehovah would be trampled underfoot (see *5T*, page 137).

All who are yet holding membership in Conference Churches are held accountable to God for this travesty. Even though you may have been ignorant, you are just as cursed as the children of Israel by the sin of Achan (see Joshua 7). You are guilty as the Jews who *ignorantly* crucified the Prince of life (see Acts 3:14-21, NASB). For this reason, in God’s mercy, the mighty angel of Revelation 18 is calling you out of these fallen churches “that you may not participate in her sins and that you may not receive of her plagues.” Rev. 18:4. Judgment has come to your house.

In the final analysis, the General Conference and its supporters claim that their corporation’s trademark is necessary to “protect their good image.” But the loss in civil court to the homosexual support group, *SDA Kinship International*, proves that supposition to be a falsehood. Had God been their General, the battle would have been won by the GC. But God allowed his name to be “tarnished,” similar to the experience at Ai hoping to bring revival and reformation to His people,--sadly, they refused to be healed. The General Conference has continued to pursue trademark protection with “carnal weapons” abroad in 1995-96. And indications are, with “exclusive right to the name” granted by the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board of the U. S. PTO, the General Conference will soon revive the prosecutions of trademark violators in this country. The recent letter dated 6 November 96, and drafted by Walter E. Carson, to the *Rogue Valley Historic SDA Church*, stands as prima facie evidence.

“He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.” Rev. 13:10. The only “image” which is protected in civil courts is “the image of the beast.”

Dear Brother, I pray that the peace of God and the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the conviction of their Holy Spirit will rest upon you for now, and forever, as I remain

Your Devoted Servant,

Walter “Chick” McGill

Pastor, The Creation 7th Day Adventist Church

END OF APPENDIX

THE FINAL QUESTION

As a Sabbath-keeper, you use Isaiah 66:22, 23 as proof of seventh-day Sabbath-keeping in the future new earth. In fact, it is the ONLY TEXT in all of the Bible which can be employed to support such a conclusion. The question you shall have to answer at last is, “Why do you not keep the New Moon day as well as the Sabbath day?” You see how it is nicely connected there in the same text with the Sabbath. Another question you may ponder is, “If the New Moon was done away, when did type meet anti-type; and then, how is it to be observed *again* in the future kingdom of heaven?” Christ’s Church has the answer for you. We would

be pleased to present the light of truth from the Scriptures and the writings of Ellen G. White on this interesting subject.

“And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the MOON under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars...” (Revelation 12:1) – Christ’s Church.

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