

The Remnant

Truth Seekers

www.nelsonfontaine.com



2 Kings 19:30-31 KJV

[30] And the remnant that is escaped of the house of Judah shall yet again take root downward, and bear fruit upward.

[31] For out of Jerusalem shall go forth a remnant, and they that escape out of mount Zion: the zeal of the LORD of hosts shall do this.

47,000

This is the *AI high estimate* of the number of Christian denominations on earth today. Separate, distinct, autonomous religious groups. 47,000

This includes the 1.4 billion Catholics, the 300 million Orthodox (with separate organizations), and the 1 billion plus Protestants. Non denominations probably are a large part of that number.

Here's a very simplified graphic of the situation,

Church Eras

Antiquity Church

Early Church

Medieval Church

Renaissance Church

Reformation Church

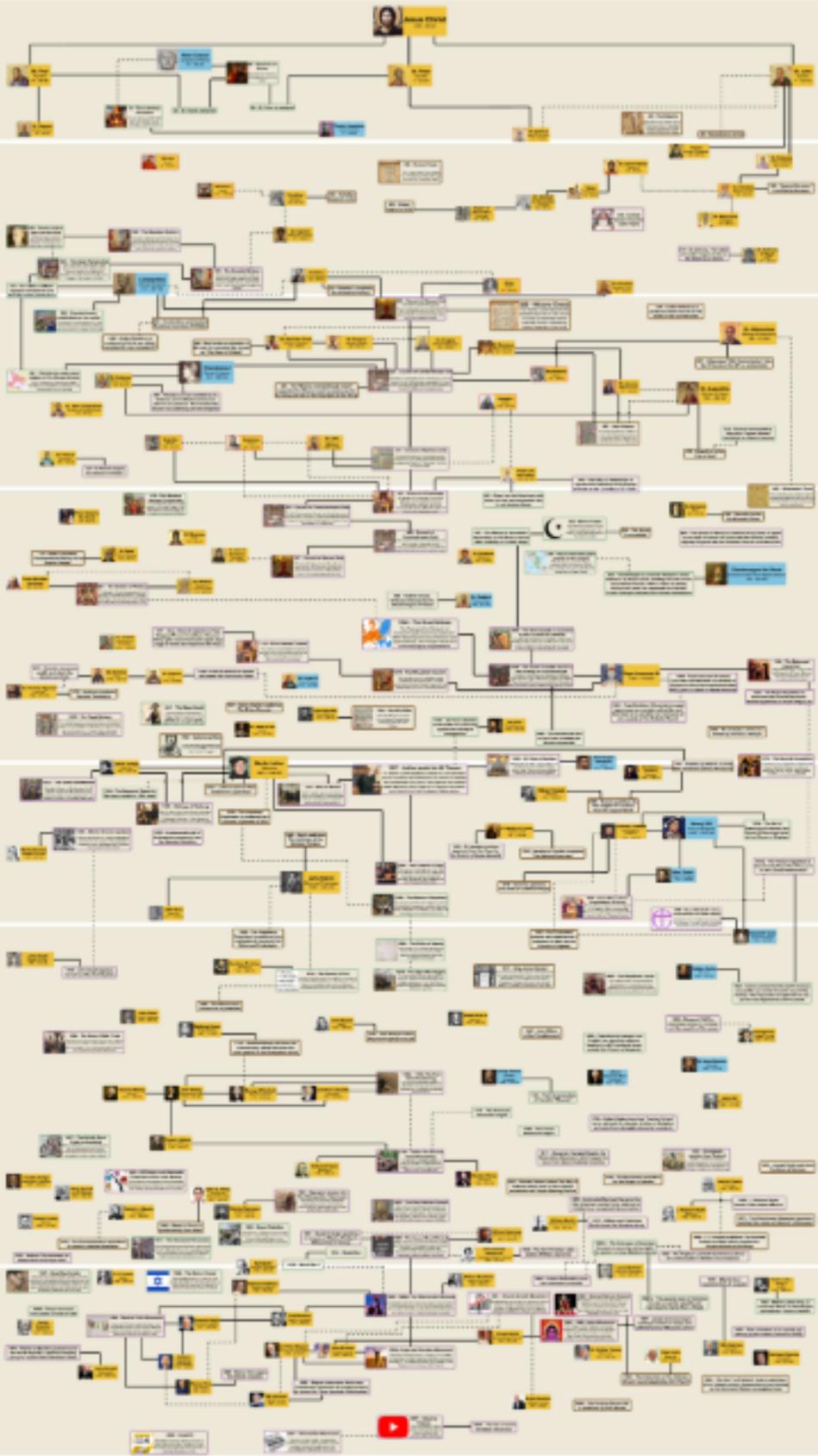
Enlightenment Church

Contemporary Church

Key

- Church
- Heresy
- Movement
- Person
- Event
- Text
- Location
- Other

Movements & Heresies



But why are there so many?? We will

definitely answer that, and show how it's connected to Bible prophecy,

This is going to be a multi-part, epic, sweeping, comprehensive presentation with the sole purpose to answer one simple two part question.. **Is there a remnant church? and if so who is it?**

By the time we're finished, you will be rock solid and settled on this question. And you will need to be considering the deceptions that are coming against us. The voices *from our own people* are going to get **loud**, trying to confuse and discourage us on this particular matter. So we need to know it to the core.

Genesis 3.13 Eve said the serpent tricked her. Jesus said in **Matt 24.4** "see that no one deceives you" Is it possible to trick you into leaving the remnant church for a counterfeit?

Testimonies for the Church, Vol 5

"The days are fast approaching when there will be great perplexity and confusion. Satan, clothed in angel robes, will deceive, if possible, the very elect. There will be gods many and lords many. Every wind of doctrine will be blowing"

Three parts.. History and foundation, the remnant in the Bible, the end time remnant church identified.

CHAPTER 1

CHURCH HISTORY *remnant foundation*

It started of course with **one church** that we read about in the new testament. The first century church that Jesus Christ founded,

Ephesians 2:19-20

19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; **20** and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;

Towards the end of his life, Jesus's epic prayer recorded in **Jn 17** is a prayer for unity,

John 17:23 KJV

I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one;

Notice that God's goal for His people is

nothing short of **perfect unity**.

The original church was, as we'll read about in a minute. Fast forward to the end.. EGW saw the **final church** in her *very first vision* in 1844. She describes us like this,

"The 144,000 were all sealed and perfectly united."

The end **exactly** like the beginning.

However, as the first century church was getting started, there were already storm clouds gathering ☁️

Critical theological error was already creeping in after Jesus died.. the *Enemy* of Christ himself was creeping in and gaining a foothold. Even in *their day* the Great Controversy was raging,

Galatians 1:6-7 KJV

[6] I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: [7] which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.

Notice that it's all about the **Gospel**, that would include *everything* that we believe as a people. "Gospel of Christ" means that it is holistic and complete and 100 true with zero error. Pure. Just like it was at the beginning.

The Spirit of Prophecy, Vol 4

"The great adversary now endeavored to gain by *deception* what he had failed to secure by *force*. Persecution ceased, and in its stead were substituted the dangerous allurements of temporal prosperity and worldly honor. Idolaters were led to receive a part of the Christian faith, while they rejected other

essential truths."

Galatians 2:5 KJV

to whom we gave place by subjection, no, not for an hour; that the **truth of the gospel** might continue with you.

The true gospel.

And then as the original apostles died, and a new generation took over, and as time went by.. **much of the truth was replaced with a counterfeit.** The Gospel was perverted. In so many different ways the simplicity and beauty of the original first century church was systematically *replaced*. Here's a picture of the ideal,



Acts 2.41-47

The papacy was established in the year **538 AD** when the Bishop of Rome was crowned the King of all Christian churches. I have much historical information on that if you're interested.

And then during the next **1260 years..** a prophetic time period mentioned 7 different times in the Bible.. All associated with the *persecution* of God's true people.. plain Bible truth was *ransacked*. But through it all, God had a

remnant of faithful people, and the Word of God was preserved. It is prophetically unfolded in **Rev 12**,

It hit rock bottom on October 31, 1517, when a young Catholic priest, Martin Luther had had enough of the nonsense, and published his **95 Theses** in Wittenberg, Germany. The tide began to turn. We went from that, to this...



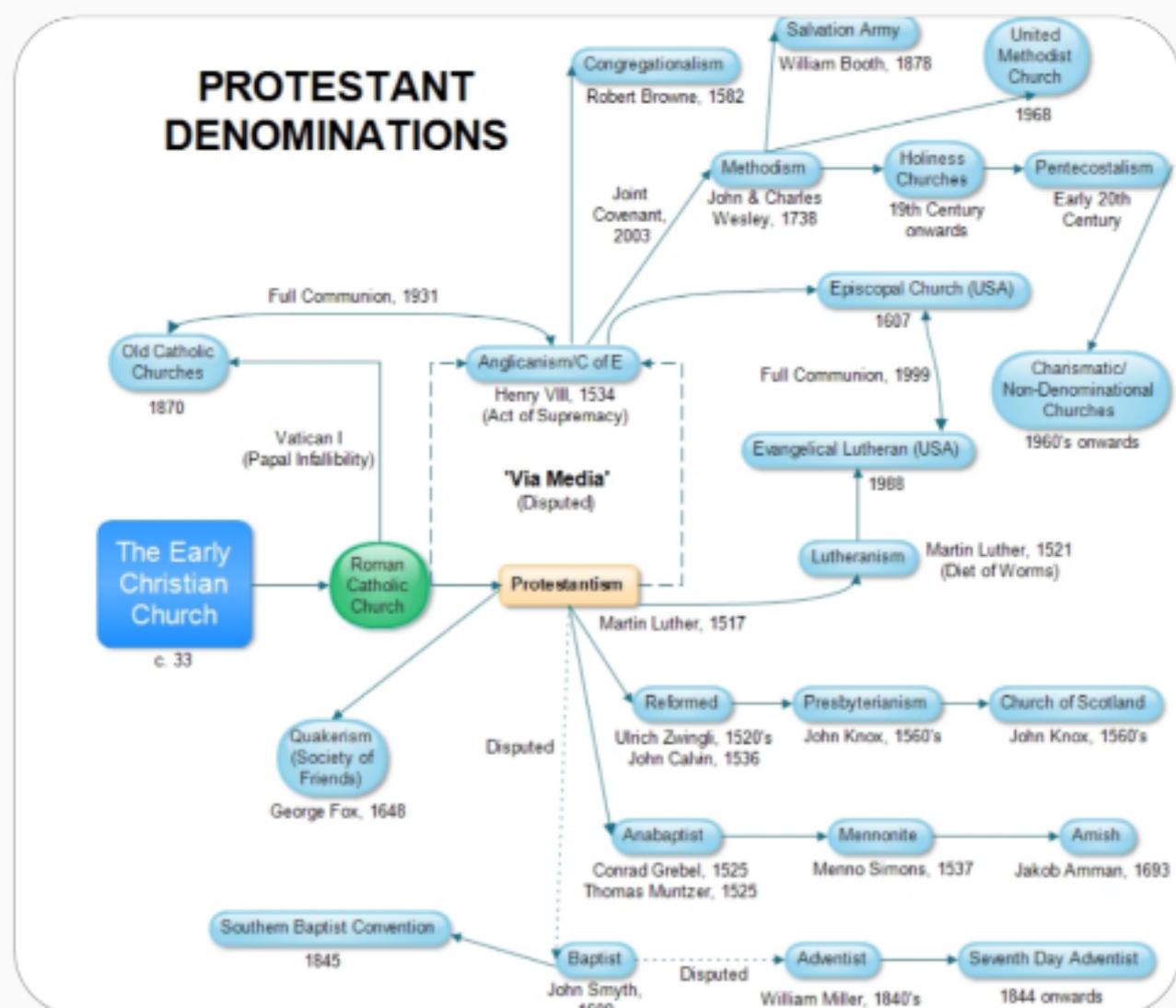
Talk about worldly honor!

Audience Hall @Vatican City



Slowly Luther's reformation began to take hold.

Here's a simplified image of the **Reformation** and its aftermath, and the branches of the mainline denominations that came out of it,



Notice that every separate group came

from another group.

The Stairs of Truth

Truth was lost, truth was restored. But slowly, over time. God is patient, God is persistent,



ONE EXAMPLE of how we got to this many,

It is more complicated than this of course, but one example from church history tells the story of why there are so many denominations,



John Smyth began as a priest and theologian in the Church of England,

when he became dissatisfied with the many doctrines and practices that remained from the Roman Catholic Church. From there he became convinced of **Puritan** beliefs and was promptly excommunicated from the Church of England, and was ordained as a Puritan minister. After some time, because he studied his Bible, he went to his Puritan brethren, probably over potluck, and said.. Hey guys have you ever read,

Romans 6:3-4 KJV

[3] Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? [4] Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

≡ ○ Why aren't we doing this!

- ≡ ○ Bible baptism is a public declaration of following Christ, which a baby can't do.
- ≡ ○ The underlying theology is Original Sin (Guilt)
- ≡ ○ Jason and I will talk more about that in RbyFaith
- ≡ ○ Sprinkling destroys the beautiful symbolism of baptism.
- ≡ ○ Sprinkling isn't biblical, it's a Catholic tradition.

He had some good points! But the Puritan brothers were like.. Yeah no. We like our tradition John, we've always done it this way. We're good. So John Smyth and those who agreed with him left and were deemed to be *heretics* by the Puritans. Out of this move, John Smyth went on to develop the core of **Baptist theology** and churches were planted around England and in Holland.

And just like that, we have a brand new **separate denomination**. John Smyth went one step back up the stairs of truth, but no further.

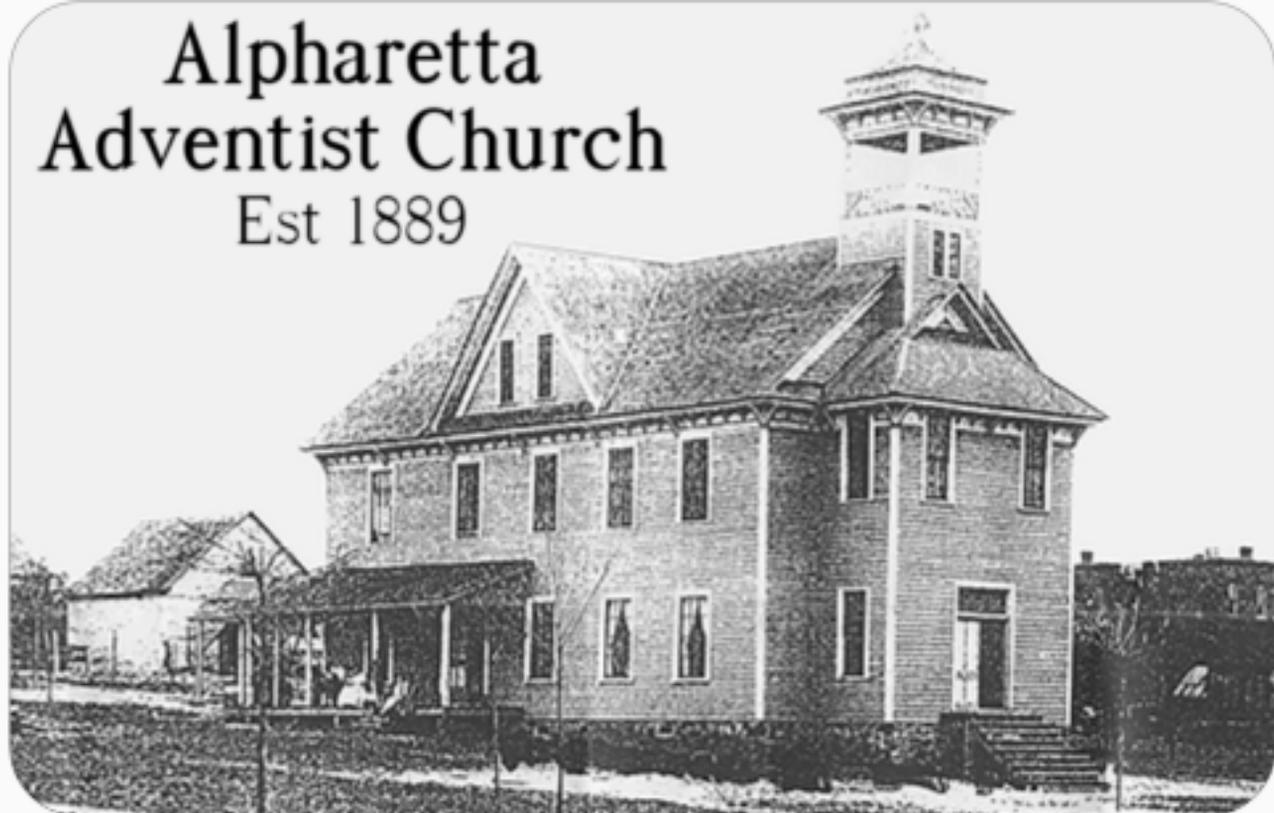
Now multiply that thousands of times and you get the picture. The Adventist beggining was no different in 1843.

Now, what I'm going to show you occurred in hundreds of Protestant churches on the east coast during the 1800s, but let's use one example that's close to home,

Alpharetta church history example,

Alpharetta Adventist Church

Est 1889



sign missions
sequent course
influence of his
Hannah, she
vice of God,
course marked
s will be, the

With Mills
attended the
While there
missionary spirit
and another
ere two of the
the General
oly should be
ting six mis-
e withdrawn.
ent two years
in 1815, and
a missionary.
health failed,
Good Hope,
inuing to per-
portant serv-
ylon, Aug. 2,
alden, Mass.,
nan's "Star

for the harvest of the world?

W. A. C.

Special Mention.

EXPERIENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS IN GEORGIA.

THE Atlanta (Ga.) *Constitution*, of Oct. 26, 1889, under the heading, "Expelled from Church. Three Milton County Females Become Seventh-day Adventists," publishes the following special dispatch from Alpharetta, Ga., under date of Oct. 25:—

Four well-known members of the Methodist church here have been expelled for heresy.

They are Mrs. J. M. Howell, Mrs. Rinnie Letson, Mrs. J. M. Dodds, and Miss Minnie Dodds.

The story is thus told by the *Democrat* this week: Some of the members of the Methodist church at this place having indorsed the doctrines preached by the Seventh-day Adventists, a committee was appointed to wait on them and investigate the matter.

DEMANDING A TRIAL.

When approached by the committee, five of them withdrew from the church and four demanded a church trial. The five who withdrew are Dr. J. M. Howell, Mr. J. M. Dodds, Mrs. Maud Brooke, Miss Lula Rainwater, and Mrs. H. I. Seale. Those who demanded a trial are Mrs. J. M. Howell, Mrs. J. M. Dodds, Miss

our exertions,

The arduous
past year, paid
public sentiment
position which
cess, but oppo-
overcome if w

Why not
American Sab-
other wise les-
caution, but t-
the ministers,
religion on th-
quite common
an organizatio-
should push t-
for success.

heartiest co-op-
All State su-
if they will ai-
with petition
be procured o-
ance secretary
me. Will no-
these (inclosi-
the superinter-
dorsement aga-
tion of every
valuable, Je-

Interesting to me that the **Methodists** took issue with the Bible Sabbath and eternal hell fire. At least those were the two doctrines mentioned in the article.

During the mid 1800s *droves* of believers left the Protestant churches and joined with the growing **Adventist community**. A brand new denomination.

But *more* than a denomination we'll see.

 **47,000**

Is there **one** out of all of those denominations that is God's *true church* on earth today? That is God's final, remnant church? A group of people who *perfectly* reflects His character? Who have all of the doctrines correct without exception? Who are following the Lamb wherever He goes? Who are completely surrendered and united? Who hunger and thirst for righteousness, Matt 5.6?



The concept of the **remnant** is a theme that runs throughout the entire Bible. For example,

Isaiah 10:21-22 KJV

[21] The **remnant** shall return, even the remnant of Jacob, unto the mighty God.

[22] For though thy people Israel be as the sand of the sea, yet a **remnant** of them shall return: the consumption decreed shall overflow with righteousness.

Revelation 12:17 KJV

And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the **remnant** of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

We'll dig more into this next time as we study the **theme** of the remnant throughout the Bible. And we'll see, the

remnant pre-dates Israel, going all the way back to Cain and Able. It's a **thread** that's woven through the story of the Great Controversy and history.

Speaking of **threads**, the *concept* of the remnant - the translated English word itself - comes from the textile industry. Here's AI's take on it,

★ AI Overview



A **remnant bolt of cloth**, often referred to as an "end of bolt" piece, is the final, shorter length of fabric remaining on a roll after the desired yardage has been cut for customers. These pieces are typically considered **identical** in quality, material, and design to the **beginning** of the bolt. [🔗](#)

We're going to talk more about this idea of the ending being **exactly** like the beginning. It's important.

Biblically, here's what the word

"remnant" means. Found in both the old and new testament in Greek and Hebrew, it speaks to a profound reality in this great controversy,

New Testament

Revelation 12:17 KJV

And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the **remnant of her seed**, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Deep dive the word remnant,

Lexical Summary

loipos: Remaining, rest, other

Original Word: λοιπός

Part of Speech: Adjective

Transliteration: loipos

Pronunciation: loy-POS

Phonetic Spelling: (loy-poy')

KJV: other, which remain, **remnant**, residue, rest

NASB: rest, finally, others, else, now, remaining, still

Old Testament

It means essentially the same thing,
Our scripture reading in part,

2 Kings 19:31 KJV

For out of Jerusalem shall go forth a **remnant**, and they that escape out of mount Zion: the zeal of the LORD of hosts shall do this.

Lexical Summary

sheerith: Remnant, remainder, residue

Original Word: שְׂאֵרִית

Part of Speech: Noun Feminine

Transliteration: sh'eriyyth

Pronunciation: shay-ay-reeth'

Phonetic Spelling: (sheh-ay-reeth')

KJV: that had escaped, be left, posterity, remain(-der), remnant, residue, rest

NASB: remnant, rest, survivors, left, those who had escaped

Word Origin: [from H7604 (שָׂאַר - left)]

1. a remainder or residual (surviving, final) portion

Remnant by definition = a remaining, surviving, final group. And in the context of the Great Controversy, it is the remaining group of *believers*.

It would be more accurate to add a word at this point.. the **faithful** group of

remaining believers.

We see this concept pretty clearly in the iconic number 144,000 found in Revelation chapters 7 and 14.

Besides, remnant means **small**.

Revelation 7.1-4

Sound good so far, sound reasonable?

The question is.. remaining from *what*?

Let's let an object lesson, then the Bible help us answer that question 📷

Chocolate covered peanut jar analogy

The jar itself, the container, is the **entire context** of Christianity on earth today.

There are other jars out there representing other types of religions. The peanuts *inside* this jar represents 47,000 denomination.

Is there **one** peanut in here among all the others that is God's remnant church? **Only one,**

If there is, and I'm going to show you that there is.. that means all the rest of the peanuts in this jar - except one - are in *apostasy* to one degree or another.

Babylon.

AND they will form the *foundation* of the **image of the beast** in the future.

That's quite a statement I know, and I'll unpack that in future presentations.

But for now, we want to look for the **One**

Let's take our denomination for now, and assume this remnant peanut represents us, the organized **Seventh-day Adventist Church,**

- ≡ ○ 23.7 million baptized members
- ≡ ○ 175,000 congregations
- ≡ ○ In 235 countries, essentially every country recognized by the UN
- ≡ ○ Global, worldwide, everywhere
- ≡ ○ Coca-Cola and Adventists

Now imagine the **entire jar** representing this one peanut. Now the *jar itself* represents the context of Adventism.

This jar represents the remnant church

There's now 23.7 million chocolate covered peanuts in this jar that represents the **people** of the remnant church. This is biblical,

1 Corinthians 12:14, 20 KJV

[14] For the body is not one member, but many.

[20] But now are they many members,

yet but one body.

Ephesians 2:19-22 KJV

ONE body.. the jar. **The body of Christ.** You are all a part of that body. You are in the jar! But you're not a nut 😊

Are all who are in this jar faithful? They are not, and let me prove it to you, if you believe Ellen White was a prophet and wrote what God told her to write,

Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers

A Living Church

“Has God no living church? He has a church, but it is the church militant, not the church triumphant. We are sorry that there are defective members, that there are tares amid the

wheat.

In the parable of the wheat and the tares, we see the reason why the tares were not to be plucked up; it was lest the wheat be rooted up with the tares. Human opinion and judgment would make grave mistakes. But rather than have a mistake made, and one single blade of wheat rooted up, the Master says,

“Let both grow together until the harvest;” Matt 13.30

Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers

A Living Church

The church of Christ on earth will be imperfect, but God does not destroy His church because of its

imperfection.

While the Lord brings into the church those who are truly converted, Satan at the same time brings persons who are not converted into its fellowship. While Christ is sowing the good seed, Satan is sowing the tares. There are two opposing influences continually exerted on the members of the church. One influence is working for the purification of the church, and the other for the corrupting of the people of God. ”

Clear enough? There is one peanut in here that represents the faithful. Not one literal person, but *represents the few*. Wheat vs Tares. **So there is indeed a remnant within the remnant.** A subset of the larger church. Make sense?

This was the case at the start of the movement in 1844, to the final generation. There has always been a remnant within the remnant.

Is this biblical? When someone presents something like this, *your very first question* should be.. Is this taught in the Bible? Be a Berean.

Acts 17:11 KJV

These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and **searched the scriptures** daily, whether those things were so.

- ≡ ○ Considered Paul's reputation
- ≡ ○ Followed the logic and reasoning
- ≡ ○ Understood the history
- ≡ ○ Asked good questions
- ≡ ○ Eager to hear the truth

But at the end of the day, they searched the scriptures to determine truth.

John 17:17 KJV

Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

Is it biblical? That's what we will look at next time when The Remnant continues,

The remnant throughout the Bible and history + how to positively identify the end time remnant church.



CHAPTER 2

THE REMNANT *in the Bible*

God's remnant people are a **thread** that runs throughout the entire Bible as we'll see. The *characteristics* of the remnant people remains the same, remains consistent, from beginning to end. The *purpose* of the remnant church is integral with the unfolding Great Controversy, **and** is central to our understanding of our identity, mission and purpose.

So it's a pretty important thing to understand.

Today we're going to continue with our *remnant journey* together to discover the truth AND answer the question, **are we in the right place?**

RECAP it started with one church, and

over time, as the Enemy pulled the strings, bible truth was replaced with theological error. Lots of it. Like descending down stairs until you hit rock bottom. Until the Protestant reformation began the long uphill climb back to truth, back to the original.

RECAP *jar of carob covered peanuts*

- ≡ ○ The jar itself represents the context of Christianity on earth
- ≡ ○ The peanuts *in the jar* are the 47,000 different denominations
- ≡ ○ There are even more jars!
- ≡ ○ There's only **one peanut** in here that represents the true church
- ≡ ○ Notice that it's *only found* within the context of Christianity
- ≡ ○ Is that one peanut the organized Seventh-day Adventist Church?
- ≡ ○ I'll prove to you biblically and historically that we are

- ≡ ○ That would mean the rest of nuts would *have to be* Babylon
- ≡ ○ Now the *entire jar* represents the corporate SDA church
- ≡ ○ The peanuts represents the 23.7 million baptized members

“God has a church upon the earth, who are His chosen people, who keep His commandments. He is leading, not stray offshoots, not one here and one there, but a people.”

Counsels for the Church, p 240

- ≡ ○ **But..** there's only **one** in here that represents the faithful remnant
- ≡ ○ **A remnant within the remnant.**

Is this biblical? Does it align with EGW? We're going to see that it does indeed.

It began with God's choose people

Was the **nation of Israel** *special* among all the other nations on earth?

God loves all people, but there was a *single nation* that was **His**. One nation that He created from the faith of one man. One nation that He had an everlasting covenant with.

Deuteronomy 7.6-11

And He called this nation to a *purpose*,

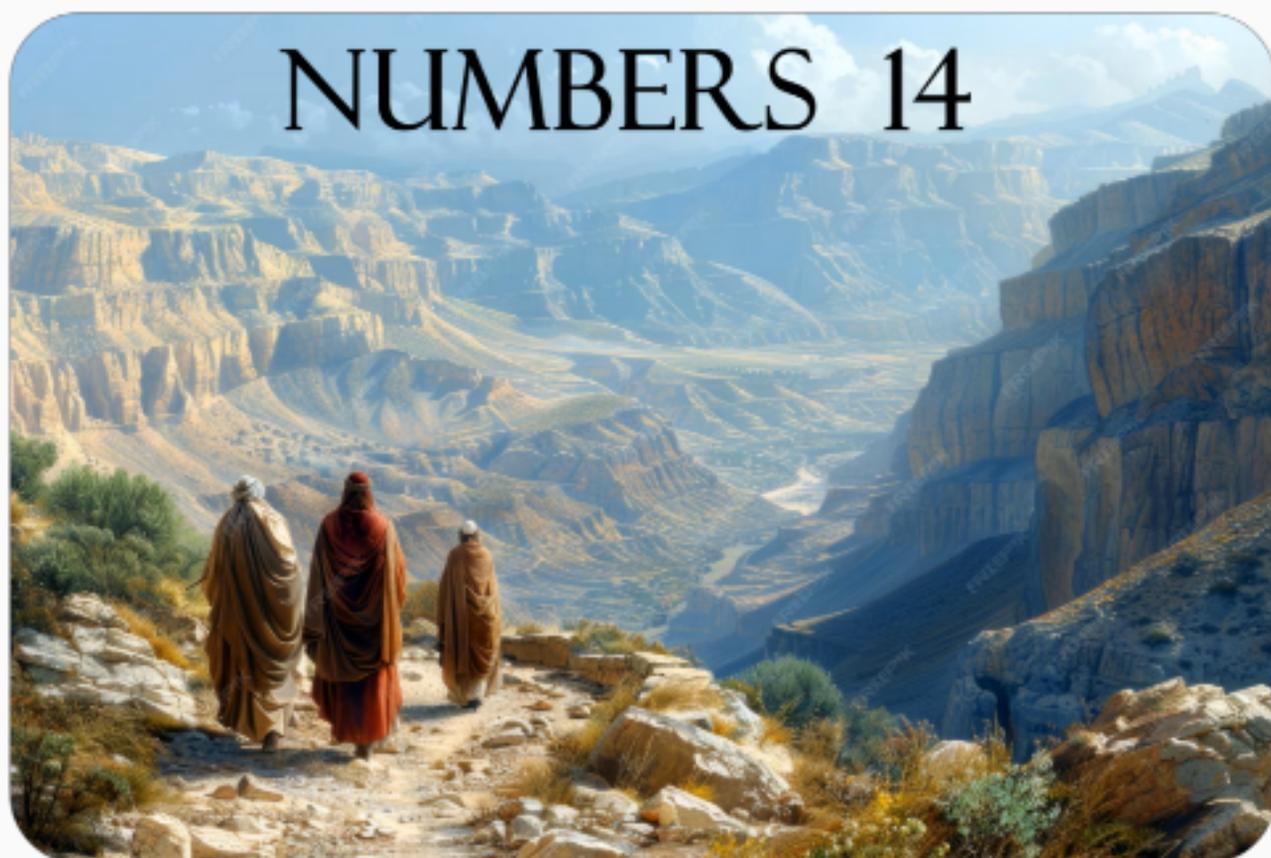
- ≡ ○ To show God's character of love to the people of the earth,
- ≡ ○ Through the symbols of the sanctuary, to show what had to be done to deal with sin,
- ≡ ○ To prepare the way for the Meshiah.

Israel at one point in history, was this

jar of peanuts. The remnant church. Everyone in it, with some exceptions of joining, all of them were part of this jar because of bloodline. So was everyone in this jar faithful? *Numbers chapter 14*

The Promised Land 🌿

NUMBERS 14



An entire generation was left on the brink of the land of milk and honey because of a lack of faith. And by the way.. that lack of faith is directly connected to not being fully

surrendered to God. One foot in, one foot out. But not everyone! They were all Israelites, but there was a **faithful remnant** to be found *among them*,

Numbers 14:24 KJV

but my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring into the land whereinto he went; and his seed shall possess it.

THE Holy Spirit vs the spirit of rebellion, compromise, unbelief, sin.. That's what made the difference. We're going to see this theme over and over.

"Followed me fully" echos the 144,000 at the end, following the Lamb wherever He goes. Fully surrendered. Zero compromise.

1 KINGS 19



1 Kings 19

God finds Elijah, as EGW puts it in P&K "a weary and discouraged prophet" hiding in a cave, terrified for his life. He had been rock solid until that point, and then he had a moment. Of low faith.

[1 Kings 19:9-10 KJV](#)

[9] And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the LORD came to him, and he said unto him, What doest thou here, Elijah? [10] And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.

Elijah thought he was the **only one left** who was faithful to Yahweh. One solitary peanut in the jar! God's response speaks directly to our question regarding the remnant,

1 Kings 19:18 KJV

Yet I have left me **seven thousand** in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him.

7000 out of millions in Israel. 7000 who **remained faithful** in the face of, as EGW puts it in P&K "the tide of evil that is sweeping over the world". Directly applying Israel's condition **then**, to the remnant church *today*.

Here's an important point,

Note that Elijah is speaking in the context of his *own Hebrew people* when he says they have "forsaken the covenant". They were the only ones *with* a covenant with God. **So Elijah is not speaking universally, or globally about humankind.. only locally about his own people.** This is what the extent of the jar itself represents.. the *context* from where the remnant of 7000 is found. This is an important point and will be *crucial* in understanding EGW remnant quotes later in the presentation.

These is a deception out there that gets this point twisted.

The prophet **Ezekiel** says the same thing,

Ezekiel 9:4 KJV

and the LORD said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof.

Some received God's seal, others didn't. *All in the context of the nation of Israel, not outside of it.*

At the end of time, the remnant within the remnant will be the context of the one true church.

Another way of looking at it,

If we can prove biblically and historically that the nation of Israel were God's distinct people with a mission and a

purpose to prepare the world for the first advent. **Then we should be able to biblically and historically prove who God's end time remnant church is.** Also with a purpose and a mission to prepare the world for the second advent. The remnant people of God are indeed one organized, visible, global, identifiable church.. *exactly like* Israel of old was.

It's the same today, this jar represents the **one true church** on earth, with a faithful remnant within.

Bottom line: were the 7000 faithful found scattered throughout the nations of the world? Or were they found only and exclusively within the nation of Israel?

Many former brethern get mixed up on this point, thinking that the remnant isn't an organized, visible group. But are

rather individuals or small companies scattered *throughout* the 47,000 denominations, or no denomination.

Isolated and independent groups perhaps loosely connected, they say. As our series progresses, I'll show you that this cannot be true, not if you believe EGW was a prophet.

But, there are those yet to come in.

So beyond those 7000 who remained faithful, there are *more* who are **reachable**. The tares *can* become wheat *within* the remnant. The lukewarm can get blazing hot 🔥

INSIDE AND OUTSIDE

Fast forward to the end of time

God has people *outside the context* of the remnant, and *inside* Babylon. Through our efforts, He calls them out,

Revelation 18:4 KJV

And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, **Come out of her**, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

Come out of her and into **what?** Into thousands of disorganized independent groups scattered around the world? Or into the *only organized, identifiable, visible remnant church*.

Joel 2:32 KJV

And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the **remnant** whom the LORD shall call.

This is speaking of the end times... Still in the future. Notice salvation is not

found outside of the remnant during the end times... Still in our future, but in progress right now. God calls his faithful people out of error and **into the truth,**

“I saw that God has honest children among the nominal Adventists and the fallen churches, and before the plagues shall be poured out, ministers and people will be called out from these churches and will gladly receive the truth. Satan knows this; and before the loud cry of the third angel is given, he raises an excitement in these religious bodies, that those who have **rejected the truth** may think that God is with them. He hopes to deceive the honest and lead them to think that God is still

working for the churches. But the light will shine, and all who are honest will leave the fallen churches, and take their stand with the remnant.”

Early Writings, p 261

God also has His people **within the remnant church** that aren't a part yet. Just look around this room. Tares ready to become righteous wheat. Jesus speaks to them here,

Revelation 3:20 KJV

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

This is written to the Laodicean church, to His true church.

So some of God's people are in **Babylon**,

waiting to come out and join the remnant. And some are *already inside* the remnant church, in the jar, ready to join the remnant they are already sitting next to. Ready to become wheat. In this statement from Early Writings, and the next one, she is addressing both..

“Yet this apostasy, widespread as it has come to be, is not universal. Not all in the world are lawless and sinful; not all have taken sides with the enemy. God has many thousands who have not bowed the knee to Baal, many who long to understand more fully in regard to Christ and the law, many who are hoping against hope that Jesus will come soon to end the reign of sin and death. And there are many who have been worshiping Baal ignorantly, but with whom the Spirit of God is still striving.”

Prophets & Kings

Chapter 13

She goes on to say in the next paragraph that it is up to us to lead

them to truth... "These need the personal help of those who have learned to know God and the power of His word. In such a time as this, every child of God should be actively engaged in helping others."

Actively engaged in **sharing truth** through personal bible studies, being a good witness through our lifestyles and helping and praying for others.

"God has many thousands who have not bowed the knee to Baal" she writes.
So a remnant within the remnant.

Acts of the Apostles

'Steadfast to the End'

"Not all, however, would be ensnared by the enemy's devices. As the end of all things earthly should approach, there would be faithful ones able to discern the [536] signs of the times. While a

*large number of professing believers would deny their faith by their works, there will be a **remnant** who will endure to the end."*

The apostle Paul agrees with this truth,

First he establishes the biggest picture with this one, shocking, *scaldous* (in his day) statement,

Galatians 3:28-29 KJV

[28] There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. [29] And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

And then Paul narrows it down,

Romans 9:6-7 KJV

[6] Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they are not all

Israel, which are of Israel: [7] neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called.

Romans 11:4-5 KJV

[4] But what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal. [5] Even so then at this present time also there is a **remnant** according to the election of grace.

So there's no confusion about the word "election" or chosen in some translations,

The Greek word translated to *election* is **ekleo**, meaning "to select out of".. And in our context of the remnant, select out of the larger group. Out of the entire jar. Select *doesn't mean pre determine*, but rather elect or select those who have

chosen to be faithful. It's always about free will.

A thread that is present throughout all of history, to Paul's day ("present time") .. to the very end of time, to the final generation. EGW, *endure to the end*

7 CHURCHES ^{OF} REVELATION



EPHESUS | SMYRNA | PERGAMOS | THYATIRA | SARDIS | PHILADELPHIA | LAODICEA

And then we have another angle we can see this truth. The **seven churches** of Rev 2 + 3 are *snapshots* of the Christian church as history unfolds. The church of **Laodicea** is the final and last church before the Second Coming.

In *Testimonies to the Church*, Vol 3, Chapter 27 Ellen White goes into great detail of the Laodicean condition, and applies it to the SDA church specifically,

"The Laodicean message applies to the people of God who profess to believe **present truth**. The greater part are lukewarm professors, having a name but no zeal. . . .

There's a *greater* part, tares.
And a lesser part, wheat.

Growing together. A remnant within the remnant.

But the question remains.. Are we the Remnant Church, the final Laodicean church of Rev 3?

We're definitely getting there!



Bible prophecy is amazing. God's Word is stunningly accurate,

God introduced us to all the main players in the great controversy in the very first prophecy in the Bible. God's remnant people are seen there. Immediately after the Fall of Man,

And I will put enmity between thee and the **woman**, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Genesis 3:15 KJV

- ✓ Thee: Satan, the serpent
- ✓ Woman: The true church
- ✓ Her seed: Jesus Christ
- ✓ Thy seed: the world, Babylon

We see the prophetic unfolding of these four main players in Rev 12, where the **woman**, God's true church, the remnant church.. is seen persecuted, protected and surviving. Rev 17 shows us a picture of the *other woman* in bible prophecy, the false church, Babylon.

Part of our mission as a church is to identify Babylon and warn of its destruction, found in Rev 14.

Also in this very first prophesy after the fall is the promise of a **Redeemer**. We're told of the great struggle that'll take place between Jesus leading his church, and Satan deceiving his people (emnity). **The Great Controversy**. We see that same conflict continuing to the end of time,

Revelation 12:17 KJV

And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the **remnant of her seed**, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Going back to the beginning of the history of Man, it doesn't take long in the Bible narrative to see this war in real life,

Genesis 4 tells the story of two brothers. One faithful, the other not so much. One represents the remnant, the

other represents Babylon and the spirit of antichrist,



"Cain came before God with murmuring and infidelity in his heart in regard to the promised sacrifice and the necessity of the sacrificial offerings. His gift expressed no penitence for sin. He felt, as many now feel, that it would be an acknowledgment of weakness to follow the exact plan marked out by God, of trusting his salvation wholly to the atonement of the promised Saviour. He chose the course of **self-dependence**. He would come in his own merits. He would not bring the lamb, and mingle its blood with his offering, but would present his fruits, the products of his labor. He presented his offering as a favor done to God, through which he expected to secure the divine approval. Cain obeyed in building an altar, obeyed in bringing a sacrifice; but he rendered only a *partial obedience*. The essential part, the recognition of the need of a Redeemer, was left out." EGW, PP, Ch 5

In this story we see the **difference** between the *remnant*, and those who are not. Able represents the faithful, the obedient. Cain represents all the rest, Babylon.

This contrast comes up in scripture over and over, and defines the issues at the end of time, and can be summed up in one word: **faith in God**.

Hebrews 11:4 KJV

By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

Faith leads to righteousness.

It's important to add "in God" because we all put our faith in *something*, even the billions who will put their faith in

what the government, society and so called religious leaders are telling them to do when the Mark of the Beast rolls out. Not much different than the *billions* who put their faith and trust in medical science and the government when the pandemic was introduced. *Interesting similarities.*

God's Church *is based on a promise*

The basis, the *foundation* of God's true church is a **promise** God made to one man, Abraham. The realization of that promise is **Jesus**, and the *reality* of it for us is our **destiny**.



The Promise see *Genesis 15:1-7*

There's actually multiple promises that God made to Abraham in this dialog, all subservient to the **ultimate promise**.

The *ultimate promise* is not the nation of Israel that God would establish, the

land or His blessings and protection.
The ultimate promise is found in vs 1..
God *Himself* is the Promise. **I AM**

Revelation 21 shows us the ultimate fulfillment of that promise for the remnant people,

Revelation 21:3 KJV

And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is **with** men, and he will dwell **with** them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be **with** them, and be their God.

God with us.. Immanuel

Israel was the means to the end. The *purpose* of the remnant church is God establishing a forever family, with **himself** at the heart and center of it. In other words, God comes out of this Great Controversy with a redeemed

people that belong to Him.. **A forever family.** Those who are translated alive and never see death + all who are redeemed and come forth from the grave *at the second coming,*

"I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it." [Revelation 21:22](#). The people of God are privileged to hold open communion with the Father and the Son. "Now we see through a glass, darkly." [1 Corinthians 13:12](#). We behold the image of God reflected, as in a mirror, in the works of nature and in His dealings with men; but then we shall see Him face to face, without a dimming veil between. We shall stand in His presence and behold the glory of His countenance. [{GC 676.4}](#)

AND with Jesus as our forever Brother,

"By His life and His death, Christ has achieved **even more** than recovery from the ruin wrought through sin. It was Satan's purpose to bring about an **eternal separation** between God and man; but in Christ we become **more closely united to God** than if we had never fallen. In taking our nature, the Saviour has bound Himself to humanity by a tie that is never to be broken. Through the **eternal ages** He is linked with us" **Desire of Ages, p 25-26**

God Wins!

But in order to get there, we have to go through the *Great Controversy* that

we've been thrown into. And remain faithful.

Genesis 15.1

John 17:1-3

I think it's pretty cool that all of this, the 30,000 foot view of everything important in this brief life, our purpose and destiny... is seen in these **two verses**. One in the old testament, the other in the new from Jesus himself.

And Abraham's **reaction** to the promise is what the remnant church is all about,

"And he *believed* in the Lord, and He accounted it to him for *righteousness*."

We see that same foundational belief and trust in **God's Word** with the first remnant person.. Able, and onward, like a thread throughout scripture,

- ✓ Able who simply brought the sacrifice God said.. in faith
- ✓ Noah who built the ark on a sunny day and was ridiculed
- ✓ Abram who followed God's voice and did what he asked without question
- ✓ The three Hebrews who refused to bow or even tie their shoes in spite of the waiting furnace
- ✓ John the Baptist who preached a hard message and lost his head
- ✓ The Apostles who left their nets to follow Jesus
- ✓ The Waldensians hiding out in the Alpine valleys out of reach of Catholic persecution during the 1260 years. Imagine living like *that* generation after generation.
- ✓ The Millerites who left the comfort of their churches to follow truth
- ✓ The 144,000 who follow the Lamb wherever He goes and refuse the mark of the beast in spite of unimaginable pressure and consequences

Revelation 14:4 KJV

These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.

Revelation 14:12 KJV

Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that **keep** the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

“John saw a Lamb on Mount Zion, and with Him 144,000 having His Father's name written in their foreheads. They bore the signet of heaven. They reflected the image of God. They were full of the light and the glory of the Holy One. If we would have the image and superscription of God upon us, we must separate ourselves from all iniquity. We must forsake every evil way, and then we must trust our cases in the hands of Christ. While we are working out our own salvation with fear and trembling, God will work in us to will and to do of His own good pleasure. While you must do your part, yet it is God that must give you aid, and sanctify you. Christ makes us penitent that he may forgive us. We have an idea that we must do some part of the work alone. We have thought that there are two or three steps that we must take without any help or support. But this is not so. The Spirit of God is continually wooing and drawings the soul to right purposes, and in harmony with the law of God.”

Review and Herald, March 19, 1889

This **simple faith** is the hallmark trait of God's remnant people throughout.

Ellen White wrote in *Education*, 1903

“**Faith** is trusting God—believing that He loves us and knows best what is for our good. Thus it leads us to choose His way instead of our own. In place of our ignorance, it accepts His wisdom; in place of our weakness, His strength; in place of our sinfulness, His righteousness. Our lives are already His; **faith acknowledges His ownership** and accepts its blessing. Truth, uprightness, purity, have been pointed out as secrets of life’s success. Faith puts us in possession of these principles.” *Education, p 253, 1903*

If only Israel had that kind of faith..

Luke 18:8 KJV

I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find **faith** on the earth?

Notice Jesus moves beyond the literal nation of Israel.. on earth. His movement will be **global**. The *remnant* is global, and faithful at the end.

Revelation 14:6 KJV

And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,

Revelation 17:1 KJV

And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters:

It started with *literal* Israel, and ends with *spiritual* Israel. Israel endures!



Exodus 1:6-7 KJV

[6] And Joseph died, and all his brethren, and all that generation. [7] And the children of Israel were fruitful, and increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed exceeding mighty; and the land was filled with them.

Purpose of Israel 🇦🇷

It's important to point out that even though there was clearly a *remnant* within the corporate nation of Israel, the **entire nation** was given a purpose and identity. It's exactly the same with the remnant church today. It's interesting that the biblical purposes for ancient Israel are the same as the **final church** today, except from a different perspective,

***Testimonies for the Church*, Vol 5**

"The Lord called out His people Israel and separated them from the world that He might commit to them a sacred trust... God has called His church in this day, as He called ancient Israel, to stand as a light in the earth... He has separated them from the churches and the world to bring them into a sacred nearness to Himself. "

PURPOSES

- ✓ The temple services pointed to the promised Savior. Compare Lev 22:17-21 with 1 Peter 1:19. Something innocent had to die to pay for *your* sins.
- ✓ The prophecies of the Messiah and history were given to the Jewish nation. Dan 2, 7, 8, 9 | Isaiah 53, 66 examples
- ✓ Make God's character and His law *known* to a lost and sinful world.
- ✓ Prepare the world for the first advent

Isaiah 43:10 KJV

Ye are my **witnesses**, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me.

Acts 17:22-24

“Yet God had chosen Israel. He had called them to preserve among men the knowledge of **His law** and of the symbols and prophecies that pointed to the Saviour. He desired them to be as wells of salvation to the world. What Abraham was in the land of his sojourn, what Joseph was in Egypt, and Daniel in the courts of Babylon, the Hebrew people were to be among the nations. **They were to reveal God to men.**”

The Desire of Ages

Chapter 2

Compare with what she wrote about the end time remnant church,

“God has a church on earth who are lifting up the downtrodden law, and presenting to the world the Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world... There is but **one church** in the world who are at the present time standing in the breach and making up the hedge, building up the old waste places... God has a **distinct people**, a church on earth, second to none, but superior to all in their facilities to teach the truth, to vindicate the law of God. My brother, if you are teaching that the Seventh-day Adventist Church is Babylon, you are wrong.”

Testimonies to Ministers & Gospel Workers, 1893

God went **all in** with Israel, and with us! Fulfilling all of His promises, giving us an identify and a purpose, unending blessings and incredible patience and

grace,

Deuteronomy 14:2 KJV

For thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God, and the LORD hath chosen thee to be a peculiar people unto himself, above all the nations that are upon the earth.

Is it any wonder of God's intense **jealousy** over his people. It's right in the second commandment,

Exodus 20:5-6

Compare with the New Testament,

2 Corinthians 11:2 KJV

For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

Sadly, the nation of Israel failed God

time and time again. It's really a long sad downward **spiral**. When Jesus arrived right on time, they had hit rock bottom. And never recovered,

Jeremiah 13:27 KJV

I have seen thine adulteries, and thy neighings, the lewdness of thy whoredom, and thine abominations on the hills in the fields. Woe unto thee, O Jerusalem! wilt thou not be made clean? when shall it once be?

Compare with Jesus's words,

Matthew 23:13 KJV

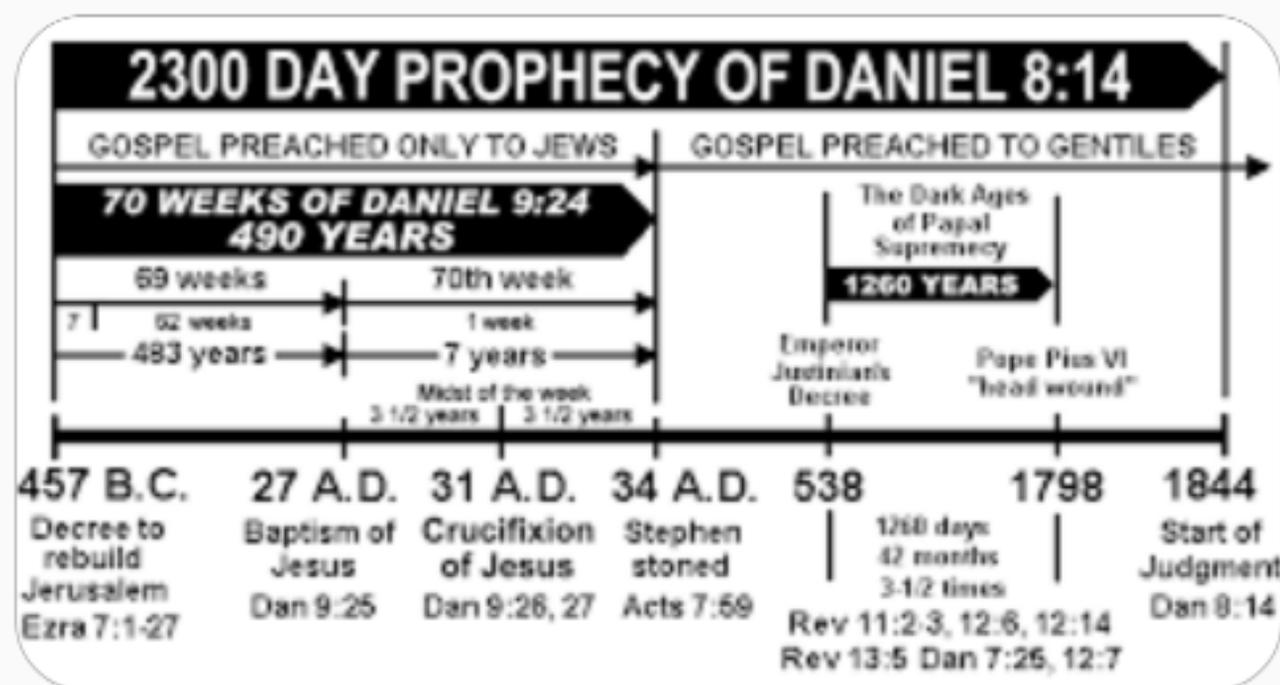
But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in.

The 70 weeks prophecy found in Dan 9 was a **countdown** for the nation of

Israel,

Daniel 9:24 KJV

Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.



According to Jesus himself they failed. And here are the **consequences**, same chapter, and right before his unfolding

of end time events in Chapter 24,

Matthew 23:37-38

Right after telling the parable of the vineyard owner who sends servants (prophets) to see how it's being cared for, finally his **own son**, all of which are killed, he says..

Matthew 21:42-45

That should be enough biblical proof that the privileges and responsibilities of God's chosen people were forever **taken from literal Israel** and given to another people. But Paul in the new testament nails it down in a profound way that we'll soon see.

From *Prophets & Kings*, Ch 59

"The whole nation was forfeiting His blessings and bringing ruin upon itself"

The entire jar. But the **remnant** within the jar would continue and endure.

In the parable of the vineyard, Christ near the close of His earthly ministry called the attention of the Jewish teachers to the rich blessings bestowed upon Israel, and in these showed God's claim to their obedience. Plainly He set [711] before them the glory of God's purpose, which through obedience they might have fulfilled. Withdrawing the veil from the future, He showed how, by failure to fulfill His purpose, the whole nation was forfeiting His blessing and bringing ruin upon itself.

From Prophets & Kings, Ch 59

"That which God purposed to do for the world through Israel, the chosen nation, He will finally accomplish through His church on earth today"

That which God purposed to do for the world through Israel, the chosen nation, He will finally accomplish through His church on earth today. He has "let out His vineyard [714] unto other husbandmen," even to His covenant-keeping people, who faithfully "render Him the fruits in their seasons." Never has the Lord been without true representatives on this earth who have made His interests their own. These witnesses for God are numbered among the spiritual Israel, and to them will be fulfilled all the covenant promises made by Jehovah to His ancient people.

Also of interest is Israel's **motivation** for disobedience. We've seen this story before,

From Prophets & Kings, Ch 59

"Not content with the ordinances which God Himself had appointed, the encumbered the divine commands with countless exactions of their own divising"

In other words, they made up their own religion. They were idolizing the religion

itself! Exactly what the **Beast** has done today with Christianity.

At the same time the Jews were, by their sins, separating themselves from God. They were unable to discern the deep spiritual significance of their symbolic service. In their self-righteousness they trusted to their own works, to the sacrifices and ordinances themselves, instead of relying upon [709] the merits of Him to whom all these things pointed. Thus "going about to establish their own righteousness" (Romans 10:3), they built themselves up in a self-sufficient formalism. Wanting the Spirit and grace of God, they tried to make up for the lack by a rigorous observance of religious ceremonies and rites. Not content with the ordinances which God Himself had appointed, they encumbered the divine commands with countless exactions of their own devising. The greater their distance from God, the more rigorous they were in the observance of these forms.

Cain relied on his *own devising* when he brought the wrong offering. **Israel** continued this tradition of self-reliance and a man made religion. And it

culminates with an end time *forced false religion*. See the theme? A false religion devoid of the *truth* in God's Word, and prominently *without* the atonement of Jesus.

Exactly like **Israel** when Jesus arrived on the scene.. going through the motions, playing church, no heart change, clean on the outside, unconverted on the inside,

Mark 7:6 KJV

He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with their lips, But their heart is far from me.

Now compare to the condition of God's end time remnant church | Leodecia

Revelation 3:16-17 KJV

[16] So then because thou art lukewarm,

and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. [17] Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

Read 

Testimonies for the Church, Vol 8, p 115

"The religion which is current in our day is not of the pure and holy character that marked the Christian faith in the days of Christ and his apostles. It is only because of the spirit of compromise with sin, because the great truths of the Word of God are so indifferently regarded, because there is so little vital godliness in the church, that Christianity is apparently so popular with the world. Let there be a revival of the faith and power of the early church, and the spirit of persecution will be revived, and the fires of persecution will be rekindled." *The Great Controversy*, pg 48

Revival brings godliness which brings persecution. Are we persecutable?

Spiritual Israel | *God's promises*



God's promises are sure. He promised Abraham a forever family, and that's what will be. Except this final family will not contain even one unfaithful or unredeemed person. And it won't depend on bloodline but rather on faith. And this final family, the final church, the final generation.. will be *persecuted*.

THE REMNANT IN NEW TESTAMENT TIMES

In *The Acts of the Apostles*, pages 376 and 377, we read: "Notwithstanding Israel's failure as a nation, there remained among them a goodly remnant of such as should be saved. At the time of the Saviour's advent there were faithful men and women who had received with gladness the message of John the Baptist. . . . When the early Christian church was founded, it was composed of these faithful Jews who recognized Jesus of Nazareth as the one for whose advent they had been longing."

Faithful Jews. *The remnant.*

The **Church** they would establish with Jesus Himself as the "chief cornerstone" was the first century church that we've been discussing.

Ellen White on spiritual Israel

“What God intended to do for the world through Israel, the chosen nation, He will finally accomplish through His church.

“But, thank God, the privileges given the people of God when they were delivered from Babylon have been restored to spiritual Israel. In every part of the earth, men and women are responding to the Heaven-sent message, “Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come.”

“Babylon is fallen.. God has given spiritual Israel the message, “Come out of her, My people.

Testimonies for the Church, Vol 2, p 350

"The Seventh-day Adventist Church sees itself as **spiritual Israel**, inheriting the mission and responsibilities of God's covenant people."
Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual,
19th Edition, p. 23

Prophets & Kings, Ch 31

"The word of God through His prophet to those who should **yield themselves** to Him and **observe His law** was that they should thenceforth be numbered among *spiritual Israel*—His church on earth.

Prophets & Kings, Ch 31

"The Spirit of God was to be poured out upon all flesh. Those who **hunger and thirst after righteousness** were to be numbered among the *Israel of God*."

Notice she *directly connects* the Three Angels Message with **Spiritual Israel**. Therefore directly connecting the three angels message to the **Remnant**.

The faithful thread continues however. Therefore the **New Covenant** language will ring true,

Hebrews 8:11 KJV

And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, And every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: For all shall know me, From the least to the greatest.

Also found in Jeremiah 31

Jeremiah 31:31-33

Right away we recognize God is speaking not of the **literal nation of Israel**, but those who believe by faith. After Israel's probation period ended with the 70 week prophecy. "The house of Israel after those days" referenced in that verse is the **remnant**. It is you.



Spiritual Israel flows naturally from literal Israel..

There are numerous intersections with the nation of Israel, and the promised Messiah. EGW wrote that God would have continued with them as his chosen people had they obeyed and fulfilled their purpose of presenting the Jesus to the world, and cooperated with his work of calling people to repentance. They did not, *but the work of the Kingdom advances.*

Ancient Israel actually flows seamlessly into Jesus, and then into the New Testament Church, and into the 144,000. That's because God has always had a remnant people, from Able to John the Baptist, to the Advent movement, to the final generation.

These **connections and parallels** are not coincidence. They are intentional to reveal to the *truth seeker* the bigger picture of God's divine plan,

Check it | *connections and parallels*

✓ In the Old Testament, a man named Joseph has dreams and goes into Egypt to preserve his family, Gen 45:5. In the New Testament, another Joseph likewise had dreams and goes into Egypt to preserve *his* family, Matt 2:13.

✓ When the young nation of Israel comes out of Egypt, God calls it "my son" Exodus 4:22. When Jesus comes out of Egypt, God says "Out of Egypt have I called my son" Matthew 2:15.

✓ Israel leaves Egypt and goes through the Red Sea. Paul says in 1 Cor 10:2 they were "baptized unto Moses." Jesus is also baptized "to fulfill all righteousness," and immediately afterward God proclaims Him, "my beloved Son" Matthew 3:15-17.

✓ Israel spends 40 years in the

dessert. Jesus is led by the Spirit into the wilderness for 40 days, Matt 4:1-2.

✓ At the end of the 40 years, Moses writes Deuteronomy. At the end of Jesus' 40 days, He resists Satan's temptations by quoting three Scriptures—all from Deuteronomy!

✓ In Psalm 80:8, God calls Israel a "vine" that He brought "out of Egypt." Jesus later declares, "I am the true vine" John 15:1.

1 Corinthians 10:1-5 KJV

[1] Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; [2] and were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; [3] and did all eat the same spiritual meat; [4] **and did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them:**

and that Rock was Christ. [5] But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

✓ In John 4.14 Jesus declares that He is the living water.

✓ In the Old Testament, the name Israel first applied to one man: Jacob—representing his spiritual victory over sin. In the New Testament, Jesus Christ is the Israel who came “out of Egypt.” He is the one victorious man who overcame all sin! Jesus is the heart, soul and foundation of Israel.

The continuity *part of God's plan*

THE
REMNANT

THREAD

When we move from old to new testament, **we see a continuity.**

The Gospel, Law & Grace, God's character of love, Jesus himself. All clearly seen in the pages of the OT and echoed with *amazing clarity* in the New.

And a **continuity** with God's people. Notice almost identical language between these two verses separated by thousands of years,

[Exodus 19:6 KJV](#)

and ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.

1 Peter 2:9 KJV

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

God had it planned all along!

Notice here that a **mission** is added, or rather clarified, or *emphasized* from the old testament passage. To proclaim!

Rev 14 the first angel saying with a loud voice, *to the entire world*. This point becomes key in identifying the remnant church as we move forward.

The Foundation of the Remnant

THE most audacious, polarizing, over the top thing Paul ever wrote, not only infuriated the Jews, but also clearly teaches the truth of Spiritual Israel and the foundation of the remnant.

Romans 9:6-8

The implications of this one statement is *brehtaking* in its scope not only for the Jewish people, but for everyone.

It means that **family lineage is irrelevant** in determining who is God's child and who isn't. This means we can all be God's children! By faith alone.

Romans 11:19-21 KJV

[19] Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in. [20] Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear: [21]

for if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee.

"While there are single expressions in the eleventh chapter of Romans that are difficult to understand, the chapter as a whole is very simple. Under the figure of an olive tree, the people of God are represented, and by the figure of grafting, the relation of all men to God is shown." *Signs of the Times* 1896

This means everyone who believes, trusts, has faith in... Yah·weh is part of God's family, part of the Kingdom. They claim his grace and his name, by faith alone. This is why the Seal of God is the Father's name on our forehead. We are **his** by faith, not by birthright, and not by church membership. **Faith alone**

Hebrews 2:10-11

But you have to have that **faith** to be part of the remnant, to be wheat. As we've seen, it has always been that way.

Just as the *faithless* of Israel were not children of the promise, so too at the end of time, the **lukewarm** in the remnant church are not part of the remnant. Church membership is *useless* when it comes to salvation, and receiving the seal of God,

“It is a solemn statement that I make to the church, that not one in twenty whose names are registered upon the church books are prepared to close their earthly history, and would be as verily without God and without hope in the world as the common sinner. They are professedly serving God, but they are more earnestly serving mammon. This half-and-half work is a constant denying of Christ, rather than a confessing of Christ.”

General Conference Bulletin, 1893, p 132

However.. you are in the right place!

A forever family, saved by grace through faith. If you want to be *sure* you're a part of the remnant, come to our ongoing series and learn on the last Sabbath of each month,

Chestatee Prayer Ministry Team presents

Righteousness by Faith



PART 3 THE REMNANT CHURCH *Identified*

THE REMNANT

A PLACE OF LIGHTS

Chestatee

SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST
CHURCH



When I do Bible studies, I usually start with **Daniel 2**. Which is an amazing chapter that gives the *biggest picture* of world history in the context of God's people. One dream given to a pagan king lays it all out in stunningly accurate detail. And then 30 years later in chapter 7, *Daniel himself* is given a vision that tells the same basic worldview story, except with different images. And more details. Daniel Ch 7 adds details that weren't seen in Ch 2. Expand and enlarge. Details like a judgment scene in heaven, and a **little horn** (kingdom) coming up among ten other kingdoms. It's that **little horn** that Daniel spends a lot of time describing. He gives a *dozen historical identifiers* of the little horn power in chapter 7, **but is it ever named?** Something this historically important to God's people, the ultimate enemy of God's people.. you would think God would want us to

know for sure what it is.

There are enough clues, enough historical identifiers given, that we can come to **reasonable conclusions** to its identity. Plus we can look back and see what the *Protestant Reformers* thought as well and that gives us confidence. And then we apply that to Revelation 13 and we know for sure what the **Sea Beast** is. And that knowledge helps understand the Mark of that Beast.

All from comparing the biblical description to history and looking at what's right in front of us all along.

So, if we can use this method successfully to identify the great worldwide enemy of the church throughout history, it stands to reason that we can do the *exact same thing* to **identify God's end time remnant church**. Which is given many historical biblical

identifiers as we'll see.



Before the **Adventist Church** was even established as a denomination, we had laid claim to the title **remnant church**.

And the press and other denominations wanted to know why?

So in a series of articles in the *Review*, Uriah Smith, JN Andrews and James White gave clear, concise, biblical answers to the inquires. 1856 was 7 years *before* official church organization, and only 12 years from the great disappointment of 1844, so in the *youth of the church* we answered with confidence. Why? Because it's biblical.

THE REVIEW AND HERALD

BATTLE CREEK, MICH., FEB. 28. 1856.

Who are the Remnant?

A CORRESPONDENT writes from Niles, N. Y., as follows:—
“One thing I would like to know; and that is, why you claim to be the remnant. What are you the remnant of? I always supposed that the remnant had reference to the stock of Israel, the seed of Abraham; and in support of this I will refer you to Rom. ix, 27, and its references. Do you claim to be of the stock of Israel?”

Though we do not claim to be of the literal stock of Israel, we trust nevertheless that we are Christ's and therefore *heirs* according to the promise. Gal. iii, 7, 29. For since the middle wall of partition was broken down, he is *not* a Jew which is one outwardly; [Rom. ii, 29;] neither are all they Israel which are of Israel. Chap. ix. 6.

To learn what we claim to be the remnant of, read Rev. xii, 17: “And the dragon was wroth with the woman and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which *keep the Commandments of God* and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.” The “woman” is an admitted symbol of the true church; and the same dragon spirit which animated Pagan Rome to crucify our Lord and persecute the primitive church, will actuate the wicked to wage war upon the remnant or last end of that church, who are found in these last days keeping the Commandments of God and the Faith of Jesus. Show us the church besides those who profess the Third Angel's Message, who are keeping the Commandments of God *and* the faith of Jesus, and we will go with them; for they are our people.

That the church of the last days is called the remnant, read Joel ii, 28-22. After the signs of “the great and terri-

Notice he goes right to Revelation 12

All of the historical identifiers of the end time remnant church are found in bible prophecy, in Revelation chapters 12+14

So we will start with **12** and without going into a deep study of it we'll give an *overview*, which is important in understanding the context of the final verse in the chapter, where it's all happening,



Revelation 12, 13, 14 are particularly

unique for us because the narrative of the story clearly moves from the past, to our future. But not necessarily in perfect linear order, but it still progresses. These chapters paints the picture of the unfolding of history and Bible prophecy particularly related to God's people. And reveals events that haven't happened yet. The main characters in the future are the same from the past, but the scope and global scale is far bigger.

All of the first people and events in the first few chapters of **Genesis**, are representative - or foreshadow or are types of - the global conflict between good and evil at the end of time that we see in Revelation 12-14. The first human family represents the entire human family, and especially the Church family.

The serpent in the garden is Satan who "leads the whole world astray" Rev 12:9

Adam and Eve represent how susceptible humans are to sin, and how helpless we are against the power of Satan, and the power of choice that is the bedrock of the Great Controversy.

The entire narrative of Rev 12 is the first prophecy found in the Bible in Genesis 3.15, unfolded in real time in history.

It's pretty cool!

All the major players in that Gen 3.15 prophecy are at play in Revelation 12. The **Woman** taking center stage and representing *God's true church*, His faithful remnant people. But she is in trouble.



We see the **1260 years** of allowed persecution in verse 14. That period of time is so important that it's mentioned **7** times in the Bible as you can see in the image.

538 AD the papacy was established
1798 AD the papacy ended, for a time.
Exactly 1260 years

Also predicted with the little horn,

Daniel 7:21 KJV

I beheld, and the same **horn** made war with the saints, and prevailed against them;

It was during this period of time that *Fox's Book of Martyrs* conservatively estimates 50 million died for their faith at the hands of the Roman Catholic Church. In spite of this seeming victory, God indeed preserved a **remnant**.

Ellen White on the 1260 years of persecution

“For many centuries, secular and religious law prohibited preaching the gospel in its purity. As a result, the Lord’s great moral “vineyard” was almost unoccupied. The people were deprived of the light of God’s Word. Error and superstition threatened to blot out true religion. God’s church was as surely in captivity during this long period of persecution as the children of Israel were during the exile in Babylon.”

Testimonies for the Church, Vol 2, p 350

The *Waldenseans* for example.

The **woman** seen all through Rev 12 is God's faithful who endured the 1260 years of persecution. **The remnant of her seed** in verse 17 is *different* from the woman. It's the same remnant *thread*, just at a different place in history. Actually, right at the end of history.

Revelation 12:17

“And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.”

The **remnant of her seed** are her *children*, her offspring. It's those faithful

believers who would come *after* her. Since the Woman of Rev 12 ended at the conclusion of the 1260 years, this means her children would arise **after the year 1798**. Are you tracking with me? This means the *end time* remnant church can't begin until **after** this date in history. This rules out most Protestant denominations because of this first **historical identifier**. Most being established before 1798. Including Messianic Jewish groups who trace their roots back to the first century church. Can't be them.

✔ Established in **1863**, the organized Seventh-day Adventist Church fits.

Revelation 12:17 KJV

And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Wroth means "enraged". Satan is *enraged* because he couldn't eliminate the remnant during the 1260 allotted years. Therefore he goes to make war with her *children*, the final remnant. There's no place in bible prophecy where *grandchildren* are mentioned, so this has to be the **final group**.

✔ The Seventh-day Adventist Church publically teaches and practices **commandment keeping**, all of them.

Sunday churches have forgotten the fourth commandment, so they are **all** ruled out because of this. And a main reason *each and every one* is in a state of **apostasy**, or being in a position of opposition to Bible truth and ultimately to God Himself.

However, there are other Sabbath keeping, Ten Commandment upholding

Christian churches in the jar, but.. And here's the point.. **They do not fit all of the historical identifiers.**

Revelation 19:10 KJV

And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: **for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.**

✔ From almost the beginning of the Advent movement, we have publically identified a prophet among us. **Ellen G. White** functioned as a prophet for 70 years of ministry. She passes all of the biblical tests for a prophet, had over 2000 public witnessed visions, and is the most translated author in literature. With a third grade education!

"Have you read her?" will usually silence most critics. **She herself** identified us as

the genuine remnant church,

God is leading out a people. He has a chosen people, a church on the earth, whom He has made the depositaries of His law. He has committed to them sacred trust and eternal truth to be given to the world. He would reprove and correct them. The message to the Laodiceans is applicable to Seventh-day Adventists who have had great light and have not walked in the light. It is those who have made great profession, but have not kept in step with their Leader, that will be spewed out of His mouth unless they repent. The message to pronounce the Seventh-day Adventist Church Babylon, and call the people of God out of her, does not come from any heavenly messenger, or any human agent inspired by the Spirit of God. {GRC 44.3}

Note that she uses the terms "remnant people" and "Church" **interchangeably** with "Seventh-day Adventist" *all through her writings*. To her the remnant people are synonymous with the organized, corporate denomination that she helped to start. This point is lost on our former brethren who have left for a lie. If there's

any place where she's referring to an *isolated group of former members* and **not** the corporate church, I would love to see that. It's not there. In fact she *condemned* breaking away, as we'll see.

Recap so far,

- ≡ ○ After the year 1798
- ≡ ○ Keeps the Ten Commandments
- ≡ ○ Has the Spirit of Prophecy

Moving on,



Revelation 14:6 KJV

And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,

✓ God's end time remnant church with its final message of hope and warning will be a **global movement**. The Seventh-day Adventist Church fits this

requirement, with established churches in every county recognized by the UN.

Conversely, the enemy of God's people is also global,

Revelation 17:1 KJV

And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon **many waters:**

Revelation 17:15 KJV

And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are **peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.**

Revelation 17:18 KJV

And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which **reigneth over the kings of the earth.**

Only the Catholic Church and Adventist Church can *legitimately claim* worldwide coverage. And if you include internet, radio, satellite, literature and TV, the saturation is *total*.

Matthew 24:14 KJV

And this **gospel of the kingdom** shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

Acts 1:8 KJV

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judæa, and in Samaria, and unto the **uttermost part of the earth**.

Revelation 14:6 KJV

And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the **everlasting**

gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to *every nation*, and kindred, and tongue, and people,

A diverse group of people of various ages and ethnicities smiling together. The group includes an elderly man with a white beard, a young woman, a man with a grey beard, a man with a dark beard, an elderly woman with white hair, a young girl, a woman with blonde hair, and another elderly woman. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera.

ARE ADVENTISTS THE MOST
**ETHNICALLY
DIVERSE
CHURCH?**



[Seventh-day Adventists](#) are considered the most racially and ethnically diverse Christian denomination in the United States, according to Pew Research Center data. A 2015 analysis revealed that in the U.S., the group was 37% white, 32% black, 15% Hispanic, 8% Asian, and 8% other or mixed races. 

It's on this point that all independent former Adventist groups who are opposed to the corporate church, whatever their theological beef might be, and claim to be the remnant, **fail this test**. They are simply not global. None of them. The *Shepherd's Rod* fell into this category, falsely claiming to be the real remnant church. But were only localized, and not teaching the holistic gospel anyway.

So they would *all* fall into the category of **Babylon**. And their people would have

to *come out of her*, and join the real remnant church. We'll talk more on this point in the next presentation.

THE
THREE MESSAGES
—OF—
REVELATION 14 : 6-12.
PARTICULARLY THE
THIRD ANGEL'S MESSAGE
—AND—
TWO-HORNED BEAST.

BY ELD. J. N. ANDREWS.

Fourth Edition Revised.

THE PACIFIC PRESS,
CASINO STREET, BETWEEN ELEVENTH AND TWELFTH,
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA.
1876.

Another **historical identifier** is that the remnant church will be publically and globally *teaching and preaching* the Three Angels Message of Rev 14

✓ The organized Seventh-day Adventist Church has been doing this from the beginning and will continue to do so until the end. In spite of voices from among us to just Stop already. We won't stop, because in it we find our **purpose** and our **identity**.

At the heart of the third angel's message is **righteousness by faith**,

are evil.

Christ and his righteousness,—let this be our platform, the very life of our faith. That which he taught, we are to teach. His commission to his followers is: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature;" "and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

"Several have written to me, inquiring if the message of justification by faith is the third angel's message, and I have answered, "it is the third angel's message in verity."

E.G. White
Review & Herald
April 1, 1890

God showed John the Revelator heaven,

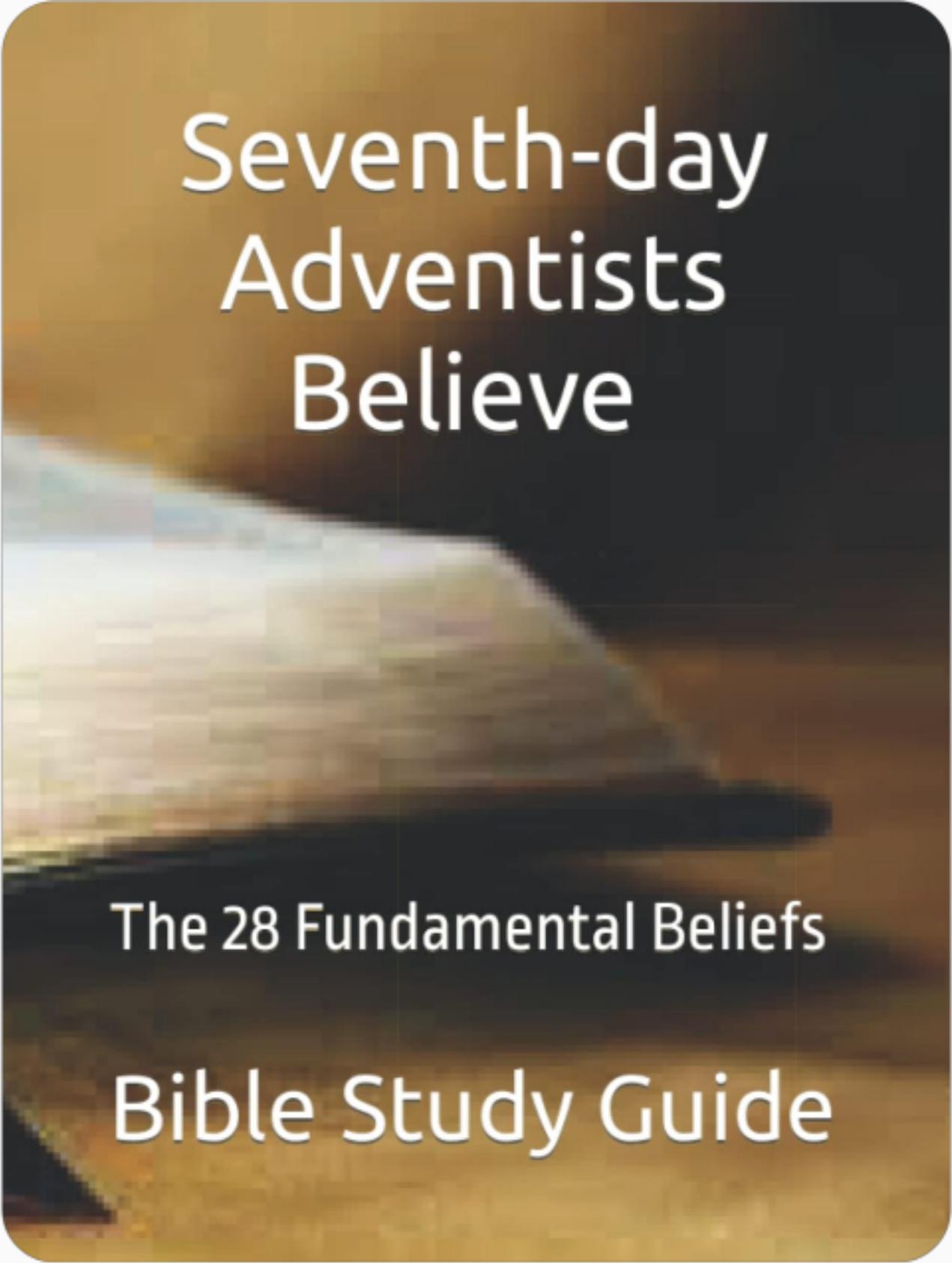
and he described it for us in Rev 4+5.
God pulled back the curtain.

At the **epicenter** of heaven is something you don't expect to see there, but it is at the heart and soul of our message,

Revelation 5:6 KJV

And I beheld, and, lo, in the *midst* of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the *midst* of the elders, **stood a Lamb as it had been slain**, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.

That Lamb slain represents God's unimaginable **Love** 



Seventh-day Adventists Believe

The 28 Fundamental Beliefs

Bible Study Guide

The next **historical identifier** is found in the description of the *redeemed* 144,000,

Revelation 14:4 KJV

These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are **virgins**. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.

There's are **two women** in bible prophecy. One in Rev 12 representing the true church, the other in Rev 17 representing the apostate church. Both claim to have the truth. There's only one way to know which is right! Be a Berean. Study for yourself. This is exactly what this last generation has done.. **Not defiled by women** means *rejected* false doctrine from the Roman Catholic Church.

≡ ○ Sunday Sabbath

≡ ○ Immortality of the Soul

- ≡ ○ Dispensationalism
- ≡ ○ Ecumenicalism
- ≡ ○ 1000 years of millennial peace
- ≡ ○ Once saved always saved
- ≡ ○ Feelings over It Is Written

The end time remnant church is an *exact copy* of the first century church with pure doctrine.. **0% error.**

Study our published **Fundamental Beliefs** and show me error. It's not there. However, we do not stand or fall on what the pioneers of the church may have taught. EGW herself said this is dangerous business, and we should study for ourselves,

“We should come to the investigation of God’s word with a contrite heart, a teachable and prayerful spirit. We are not to think, as did the Jews, that our own ideas and opinions are infallible; nor with the papists, that certain individuals are the sole guardians of truth and knowledge, that men have no right *to search the Scriptures for themselves*, but must accept the explanations given by the **Fathers of the church**. We should not study the Bible for the purpose of sustaining our preconceived opinions, but with the single object of learning what God has said.” *Gospel Workers*, 125

“There is no excuse for anyone in taking the position that there is no more truth to be revealed, and that all our expositions of Scripture are without an error.”

Ellen G. White

“Christ Our Hope” article

Review and Herald, Dec 20, 1892

The **seventh and final** identifier of the remnant church is the character of those in it,

They are healthy, happy, joyful, balanced, focused, mission minded followers of Christ. And they are just

nice people!

- ≡ ○ Showing the fruits of the Spirit
- ≡ ○ Prayer is like breathing
- ≡ ○ Helping others when nobody else will ever know
- ≡ ○ A servant's heart
- ≡ ○ Knowing the Bible well
- ≡ ○ Settled on Bible truth
- ≡ ○ Bold in the faith

Recap,

Identity of the Remnant Church

———— Biblical and Historical Identifiers ————

- After the Year 1798
- Keeps the Ten Commandments
- Has the Spirit of Prophecy
- A Global Movement
- Preaches Publicly Revelation 14
- All Published Beliefs **Are True**
- Fruits of the Spirit

Only the **organized Seventh-day Adventist Church** fits *all* of these historical identifiers. It's also interesting that only the SDA church and the Catholic Church can legitimately claim worldwide coverage.. *to every nation, kindred, tongue and people.. and all world wondered after the beast.*

Only two sides 🌍

Matthew 7:13-14 KJV

[13] Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: [14] because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

Ellen White agrees with this assessment. She identified us as the remnant.. specifically, uniquely.

“**Seventh-day Adventists** have been chosen by God as a peculiar people, separate from the world. By the great cleaver of truth He has cut them out from the quarry of the world and brought them into connection with Himself. He has made them *His representatives* and has called them to be ambassadors for Him in the last work of salvation. The greatest wealth of truth ever entrusted to mortals, the most solemn and fearful warnings ever sent by God to man, have been committed to them to be given to the world.”

-7T p 138, 1902

"I was shown in regard to the **remnant people of God** taking a name... No name

which we can take will be appropriate but that which accords with our profession and expresses our faith and marks us a peculiar people. The name **Seventh-day Adventist** is a standing rebuke to the Protestant world. Here is the line of distinction between the worshipers of God and those who worship the beast and receive his mark." 1 Testimonies, p. 224.1

Notice the implications of that statement: "line of distinction".. The entire religious world stands on one side, the Remnant Church on the other.

Only within the context of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is the remnant found. Not the thousands of off-shoots that are in orbit *around* the SDA church. These are not the genuine, according to the SOP. Therefore, every denomination, group or religion outside of the SDA Church is Babylon. And none

of them have 100 truth in doctrine.

If you can find something different in the Bible or Ellen White, please let me know, I would love to see it.

PART 4

THE REMNANT IN THE END TIMES



A day is coming, Ellen White predicts, when everything will change for this remnant jar of peanuts.. *Shake jar.*

The Shaking 🧨

Matthew 24.4 + 12

Hebrews 12:27 KJV

And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.

The Shaking is basically a war *within* the remnant Church. There are only two sides,

"While the Lord brings into the church those who are truly converted, Satan at the same time brings persons who are not converted into its fellowship. While Christ is sowing the good seed, Satan is sowing the tares. There are two opposing influences continually exerted on the members of the church. One influence is working for the purification of the church, and the other for the corrupting of the people of God." GRC,

Based on a vision received in **1857**,
Ellen White wrote,

"I asked the meaning of the shaking I had seen and was shown that it would be caused by the straight testimony called forth by the counsel of the **True Witness** to the Laodiceans. This will have its effect upon the heart of the receiver, and will lead him to exalt the standard and pour forth the straight truth.

Some will not bear this straight testimony. They will rise up against it, and this is what will cause a shaking among God's people."

Early Writings, pg 270.2

"I saw that the testimony of the True Witness has not been half heeded. The solemn testimony upon which the

destiny of the church hangs has been lightly esteemed, if not entirely disregarded. This testimony must work deep repentance, and all that truly receive it will obey it and be purified." *Review & Herald*, Dec 31, 1857

The True and Faithful Witness is **Jesus**, see Revelation 1:5,

Jesus, who speaks to the churches throughout the ages. The Laodicean church is *exclusively* the SDA church at the end of time as we've clearly seen.

Read *Testimonies*, Vol 3, Chapter 27 she goes into great detail of the Laodicean condition.

"The Laodicean message applies to the people of God who profess to believe present truth." *Testimonies*, Vol 4, pg 87

That's the Seventh-day Adventist Church

She writes that a **great deception** is coming upon the church, and that deception IS the Laodicean condition, which is most likely the church becoming like the world instead of the other way around.

"The religion which is current in our day is not of the pure and holy character that marked the Christian faith in the days of Christ and his apostles. It is only because of the spirit of compromise with sin, because the great truths of the Word of God are so indifferently regarded, because there is so little vital godliness in the church, that Christianity is apparently so popular with the world. Let there be a revival of the faith and power of the early church, and the spirit of persecution will be revived, and the fires of persecution will be rekindled." *The Great Controversy*, pg 48

The **Shaking** is a supernatural separation of the wheat from the tares. This is God's work! When the Shaking is over, only the *wheat* will be left together, the 144,000, symbolically. **The Church will be purified.** The tares are gone, only the wheat remains. We'll leave it at that. We are specifically told not to speculate on the 144,000..

"It is not His will that they shall get into controversy over questions which will not help them spiritually, such as, Who is to compose the hundred and forty-four thousand? This those who are the elect of God will in a short time know without question." 1SM 174, 1901

"In summer there is no noticeable difference between evergreens and other trees; but when the blasts of winter come, the evergreens remain unchanged, while other trees are

stripped of their foliage. So the false-hearted professor may not now be distinguished from the real Christian, but the time is just upon us when the difference will be apparent. Let opposition arise, let bigotry and intolerance again bear sway, let persecution be kindled, and the half-hearted and hypocritical will waver and yield the faith; but the true Christian will stand firm as a rock, his faith stronger, his hope brighter, than in days of prosperity." Great Controversy, pg 602

We're in the summertime now. So what is the Shaking? We're not told exactly, but more than likely it will be an attempted sweeping away of all that makes us a distinctive movement, especially the Spirit of Prophecy.

"The very last deception of Satan will be to make of none effect the testimony of

the Spirit of God. "Where there is no vision, the people perish" (Proverbs 29:18). Satan will work ingeniously, in different ways and through different agencies, to unsettle the confidence of God's remnant people in the true testimony. —Selected Messages 1.48

A war within the remnant church. **With the gunfire coming from within!** At stake? Who we are as a people, our beliefs and purpose. It'll all be on the table to be realigned, redefined, deconstructed. All for the sake of unity with the world. Fitting in. Until the wheat stand up and say "No". And preach the straight truth.

Two distinct sides will be formed, and will be **opposed to each other**. One side upholding the straight truth: which is our mission, message, heritage and purpose. The other intentionally undermining and altering everything we

are as the remnant people. And moving us into ecumenicalism. This will attack directly,

1 Peter 2:9 KJV

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

The Biblical Research Institute

The Remnant and the Adventist Church

A. Contact with Other Christians

Probably one of the most significant elements in the present discussion of the remnant concept in the Adventist Church has been the negative way other Christians have perceived us. Evangelicals did not consider us part of the evangelical world, or even Christians, because, among other reasons, our emphasis on the remnant gave them the impression that we perceived ourselves as **the exclusive children of God**, the only true Christians. ² Under such pressure the natural human tendency would be to try to find ways to change that image and to persuade the accusers to believe that we are part of the Christian community. The risk in this enterprise is the temptation to modify or re-negotiate our identity. It is precisely that accusation that has been raised by some against the authors of the book *Questions on Doctrine*.

"The leaven of godliness has not entirely lost its power. At the time when the danger and depression of the church are greatest, the little company who are standing in the light will be sighing and crying for the abominations that are done in the land. But more especially will their prayers arise in

behalf of the church because its members are doing after the manner of the world." **5T 209**

But until then,

Until the Shaking happens, there is nothing in the Spirit of Prophecy telling anyone to separate from the Adventist Church. That would be apostasy.

It's not our job to decide who is or isn't part of the remnant **before** the Shaking. We will find out after it happens who

will take the stand for truth,

Finite man is likely to misjudge character, but God does not leave the work of judgment and pronouncing upon character to those who are not fitted for it. We are not to say what constitutes the wheat, and what the tares. The time of the harvest will fully determine the character of the two classes specified under the figure of the tares and the wheat. The work of separation is given to the angels of God, and not committed into the hands of any man. {GRC 32.2}

As the **Shaking** builds in its intensity, so does **The Test** that comes upon the Earth. Having the **Father's Seal** during this time is crucial,



Revelation 7:2-3

The **Seal of God** is specific obedience to the 4th commandment. And it comes into sharp focus and contrast when the Mark of the Beast becomes a reality. EGW agrees,

The Israelites placed over their doors a signature of blood, to show that they were God's property. So the children of God in this age will bear the signature God has appointed. They will place themselves in harmony with God's holy law. A mark is placed upon every one of God's people just as verily as a mark was placed over the doors of the Hebrew dwellings, to preserve the people from the general ruin. God declares, "I gave them my sabbaths, to be a sign between me and them, that they might know that I am the Lord that sanctify them." [Ezekiel 20:12](#).²⁹[SDA Bible Commentary 7:968, 969](#).

The Great Controversy, 604

"The Sabbath 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 humanity, then the line of distinction will be drawn between those who serve God and those who serve Him not."

There will be groups out there during this time trying to confuse the issues, trying to convince people that other, side issues is the real test. **Don't be fooled!** We have it given to us very plainly.

Able to Stand

Settled in the Truth

Manuscripts Releases, 173, 1902

"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."

Settled into the truth means studying it for yourself, and become convinced of its truthfulness. If you can't intelligently and reasonably defend our beliefs now, you will be wide open to the deception that's coming upon the church.



What is the result of the Shaking?

A supernatural separation of the wheat and tares. Followed by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the **Latter Rain**. Then the final effort to win as many as possible to the truth, the **Loud Cry**.

The tares are replaced with God's people leaving Babylon,

"The numbers of this company had lessened. Some had been shaken out and left by the way. The careless and indifferent, who did not join with those who prized victory and salvation enough to perseveringly plead and agonize for it, did not obtain it, and they were left

behind in darkness, **and their places were immediately filled by others taking hold of the truth and coming into the ranks.** Evil angels still pressed around them, but could have no power over them." *Testimonies, Vol 1, p 179*

"I saw that God has honest children among the nominal Adventists and the fallen churches, and before the plagues shall be poured out, ministers and people will be called out from these churches and will gladly receive the truth. Satan knows this; and before the loud cry of the third angel is given, he raises an excitement in these religious bodies, that those who have rejected the truth may think that God is with them. He hopes to deceive the honest and lead them to think that God is still

lead them to think that God is still working for the churches. But the light will shine, and all who are honest will leave the fallen churches, **and take their stand with the remnant."**

Early Writings, p 261, 1858

God finally has a ***faithful remnant*** ready for the Bridegroom! And with a mission and a purpose to finish the work.

Who leaves the corporate church, the tares or the wheat? *Before probation closes on humanity, and while the Loud Cry is going out.*

SDA Bible Commentary, Vol 7

"Satan will work his miracles to deceive; he will set up his power as supreme. The church may appear as about to fall, but it does not fall. It remains, while the sinners in Zion **will be sifted out**—the chaff separated from the precious wheat. This is a terrible ordeal, but nevertheless it must take place. None but those who have been overcoming by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony will be found with the loyal and true, without spot or stain of sin, without guile in their mouths.... The remnant that purify their souls by obeying the truth gather strength from the trying process, exhibiting the beauty of holiness amid the surrounding apostasy."

"Prosperity multiplies a mass of professors. Adversity **purges them out** of the church." 4T, p 89, 1876

Where do they go? They leave for Babylon. Babylon is Satan's counterfeit

Remnant.

One thing is sure, *after* probation closes, when the three angels message is completed, we will be on the run during the Time of Trouble,

Daniel 12:1 KJV

And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

Great Controversy, Chapter 39

"When the third angel's message closes, mercy no longer pleads for the guilty inhabitants of the earth. The people of God have accomplished their work."

Testimonies for the Church, Vol 9

The remnant church will be brought into great trial and distress. Those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus will feel the ire of the dragon and his hosts. Satan numbers the world as his subjects. He has gained control of the apostate churches; but here is a little company that are resisting his supremacy. **if he could blot them from the earth, his triumph would be complete.** As he influenced the heathen nations to destroy Israel, so in the near future he will stir up the wicked powers of earth to destroy the people of God.—*Testimonies for the Church* 9:231 (1909). {LDE 256.1}

But until these things come to pass, the **organized corporate SDA church** endures, and is never Babylon,

Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, 50, 58, 59, 1893

"Let all be careful not to make an outcry against the only people who are fulfilling the description given of the remnant people, who keep the commandments of God and have faith

in Jesus.... **God has a distinct people**, a *church* on earth, second to none, but superior to all in their facilities to teach the truth, to vindicate the law of God.... My brother, if you are teaching that the **Seventh-day Adventist Church** is Babylon, you are wrong."

Is there a **time frame** on the above quote? Not in what she wrote.. No. This then applies until the end.

Will the SDA Church ever fall or dissolve into complete apostasy?

Ellen White paints this picture of God's remnant church at the end of time,

I am encouraged and blessed as I realize that the God of Israel is still guiding His people, and that He will continue to be with them, even to the end.⁴⁶The General Conference Bulletin, May 27, 1913. {Mar 203.4}

We cannot now step off the foundation that God has established. We cannot now enter into any new organization; for this would mean apostasy from the truth.⁴⁷Selected Messages 2:390. {Mar 203.5}

- ✓ The Church endures to the **end**
- ✓ No new organizations
- ✓ Any other course is apostasy
- ✓ After the Shaking, everything is different. Not before!

The Church Not to Be Broken Up

Again I say, The Lord hath not spoken by any messenger who calls the church that keeps the commandments of God, Babylon. True, there are tares with the wheat; but Christ said He would send His angels to first gather the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into the garner. I know that the Lord loves His church. It is not to be disorganized or broken up into independent atoms. There is not the least consistency in this; there is not the least evidence that such a thing will be. Those who shall heed this false message and try to leaven others will be deceived and prepared to receive advanced delusions, and they will come to nought. There is in some of the members of the church, pride, self-sufficiency, stubborn unbelief, and a refusing to yield their ideas, although evidence may be piled upon evidence which makes the message to the Laodicean church applicable. But that will not blot out the church that it will not exist. Let both tares and wheat grow together until the harvest. Then it is the angels that do the work of separation.

{GRC 45.3}

- ✓ The remnant people and non-remnant people, the wheat and the tares, grow together until the end. In the same church, side by side
- ✓ The Church will not dissolve
- ✓ Advanced delusions
- ✓ It is the Laodicean church for reason
- ✓ No *separation* until the **Shaking**

Selected Messages, V2

"The remnant that purify their souls by obeying the truth, gather strength from the trying process, exhibiting the beauty of holiness *amid* the **surrounding apostasy**."

The remnant within the remnant!

Those who have had opportunities to hear and receive of the truth and who have united with the Seventh-day Adventist church, calling themselves the commandment-keeping people of God, and yet possess no more vitality and consecration to God than do the nominal churches, will receive the plagues of God just as verily as the churches who oppose the law of God.-
-19MR 176 (1898).

Satan is working that the history of the Jewish nation may be repeated in the experience of those who claim to believe present truth. 2SM, 111

Selected Messages Book 2, p. 111

I was pointed back to ancient Israel. But two of the adults of the vast army that left Egypt entered the land of Canaan. Their dead bodies were strewn in the wilderness because of their transgressions. Modern Israel are in greater danger of forgetting God and being led into idolatry than were His ancient people. Many idols are worshiped, even by professed Sabbathkeepers. God especially charged His ancient people to guard against idolatry, for if they should be led away from serving the living God, His curse would rest upon them, while if they would love Him with all their heart, with all their soul, and with all their might, He would abundantly bless them in basket and in store, and would remove sickness from the midst of them. 1T 609.1

Testimonies for the Church, vol. 1, p. 609.1

Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, pp. 45, 49

"Although there are evils existing in the church, and will be **until the end of the world, the church in these *last days*** is to be the light of the world that is polluted and demoralized by sin. The church, enfeebled and defective, needing to be reproved, warned, and counseled, is the only object upon earth upon which Christ bestows His supreme regard"

Note the GC corrupt in Ellen White's day

The enemy is among us, even in leadership, Jesuits in the church?
"Where else would they be?"

Gere Franklin

No longer the voice of God

“It has been some years since I have considered the General Conference as the voice of God.” – Manuscript Releases 17, p. 216, 1898; Last Day Events, p. 50.3

“That these men should stand in a sacred place, to be as the voice of God to the people, as we once believed the General Conference to be—THAT IS PAST.” – Ellen White, The General Conference Bulletin, April 3, 1901, p. 25; Last Day Events, p. 50.

General Conference is corrupt

"I do not find rest in spirit. Scene after scene is presented in symbols before me, and I find no rest until I begin to write out the matter. I have not slept since two o'clock. I think we will institute at least once each day a season of prayer for the Lord to set things in order at the center of the work. Matters there are being shaped so that every other institution is following in the same course. And the General Conference is itself becoming corrupted with wrong sentiments and principles. In the working up of plans the same principles are manifest that have controlled matters at Battle Creek for quite a length of time." – Ellen White, Letter 55, September 19, 1895, par. 2

However, the Church remains

“There is no need to doubt, to be fearful that the work will not succeed. **God is at the head of the work,** and He will set everything in order. If matters need adjusting at the head of the work, **God** will attend to that, and work to right every wrong. Let us have faith that God is going to carry the noble ship which bears the people of God safely into port”

Review and Herald

September 20, 1892

"Safely into port" means until the work is finished.

So instead of God's faithful remnant separating from the Church, the *tares* are **sifted out** by the coming shaking. God's faithful remain, the Church remains. Sifted out means they literally leave our fellowship,

I am instructed to say to **Seventh-day Adventists** the world over, God has called us a people to be a peculiar treasure unto Himself. He has appointed that His church on earth shall stand perfectly united in the Spirit and counsel of the Lord of hosts to the end of time. Letter 54, 1908. (Jan.21, 1908.) {GRC 48.3}

"His church on earth shall stand perfectly united.... **to the end of time**"

So in light of this information, it should be clear **no one** is called out of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. In all her writings, nowhere does she say or imply we are to **separate** from the SDA Church

and strike out on our own before the Shaking.

From a manuscript read before the delegates at the General Conference Session, Washington, D.C., May 30, 1909. —Testimonies for the Church Vol 9, pg 257 (1909)

"Some have advanced the thought that, as we near the **close of time**, every child of God will act independently of any *religious organization*. But I have been instructed by the Lord that in this work there is no such thing as every man being independent."

"Those who start up to proclaim a message on their own individual responsibility, who, while claiming to be taught and led of God, still make it their special work to tear down that which God has been for years building up, are not doing the will of God. **Be it known**

that these men are on the side of the great deceiver. Believe them not."

The Faith I Live By, pg 305

God does not call anyone out of the remnant church, only *into it*

We see the unbelief, and the stout resistance of some who have had great light, and although evidence has been piled upon evidence, they have kept themselves in stubborn resistance. The Lord has sent messages of warning and entreaty, messages of reproof and rebuke, and they have not been in vain. But, we have *never* had a message that the Lord would disorganize the church. We have *never* had the prophecy concerning Babylon applied to the Seventh-day Adventist Church, or been informed that the "loud cry" consisted in calling God's people to come out of her; for this is not God's plan concerning Israel.

Review and Herald, October 3, 1893, emphasis supplied

Notice that the **Loud Cry** she mentions here is *right before* the close of probation, right at the very end. God's people are being **called into** the remnant church until the very end.

"We have never had a message that God would disorganize the church" *she writes*.

The church she is speaking of is the

organized SDA church.

Wise words by Colin & Russell Standish in *Winds of Doctrine*,

With the strong evidence before us, we cannot account for the number of God's people who have been trapped by this call to come out of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. This error has two major consequences: (1) the separated one is in danger of losing his way altogether, and (2) the separated one leaves the Seventh-day Adventist church more firmly in the hands of apostates and the worldly. Surely Satan's greatest hope is to call faithful people out of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, the church that God has raised up to be His special agency, to take the everlasting gospel to the world. If the Seventh-day Adventist Church does not take this message to the world, no one else can, because there is no other church that is capable of presenting more than a small part of the everlasting gospel.

Satan's plan is to deceive the very elect. His purpose is to call people out of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, which he despises. That will be easy in terms of the half-hearted and indifferent, for when the final persecution comes they have no strength to stand and will quickly abandon their former position. On the other hand, it will take a more "noble" deception to convince "faithful" people to come out of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Obviously he has set upon a plan, a plan that appears to call for a "noble" response to the abject condition of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Thus, because of "godly reasons" and a desire to uphold "truth and righteousness," people are abdicating their membership in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Such a move will make it difficult ever to come back into God's fold because of their disillusionment with the Seventh-day Adventist Church. When God makes up His final fold, the majority of such people are unlikely to rejoin that fold, for they have developed hostility and contempt for the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

In closing,

"The work is soon to close. The

members of the church militant who have proved faithful will become the church triumphant." Letter 32, 1892

No name which we can take will be appropriate but that which accords with our profession and expresses our faith and marks us a peculiar people. The name Seventh-day Adventist is a standing rebuke to the Protestant world. Here is the line of distinction between the worshipers 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 is because the saints are keeping all ten of the commandments that the dragon makes war upon them. If they will lower the standard and yield the peculiarities of their faith, the dragon will be at peace; but they excite his ire because they have dared to raise the standard and unfurl their banner in opposition to the Protestant world, who are worshiping the institution of the papacy. {GRC 50.2}

Counsels for the Church, p 240

“God has a church upon the earth, who are His chosen people, who keep His

commandments. He is leading, not stray offshoots, not one here and one there, but a people."

Review & Herald

September 20, 1892

"Let us have faith that God is going to carry the noble ship which bears the people of God safely into port."

Revelation 14:1 KJV

And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.

