

Tried Stone Ministries

Isaiah 28:16

“Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.”

TriedStoneMinistries.org

*Welcome to the Tried Stone Ministries
Monthly Newsletter!*

*Tried Stone Ministries is intended to
bring light to current events, expose
darkness, and to encourage those
journeying to follow in the footsteps of
the Tried Stone - **Jesus** the Rock of our
Salvation.*



THE OMEGA

-Brian Nichols

In the late 1800's the fledgling Seventh Day Adventist denomination was surrounded by a storm of false doctrines; Evolution, Communism, Spiritism, Theosophy, all of which comprised the Babylonian flood that Satan endeavored to use to sweep away the truth from the world. But despite his efforts, here in 2024 the church is alive and well and still maintains its stand as the repository of the light of Protestantism. Or does it? Yes indeed, the light of God's revealed word shines bright among his professed people. Inspired pen traces down through time that God will have His people, a remnant, that will carry the torch until His revelation. But the enemy has not lost his potency, and what he could not accomplish outside the House of God, he has brought in. He cannot remove the truth from God's chosen repository, but he can fill the halls with trash, to prevent the searcher for truth, from finding it. Let's take a look at one of the major devices used to obscure the truth: Ecumenism.

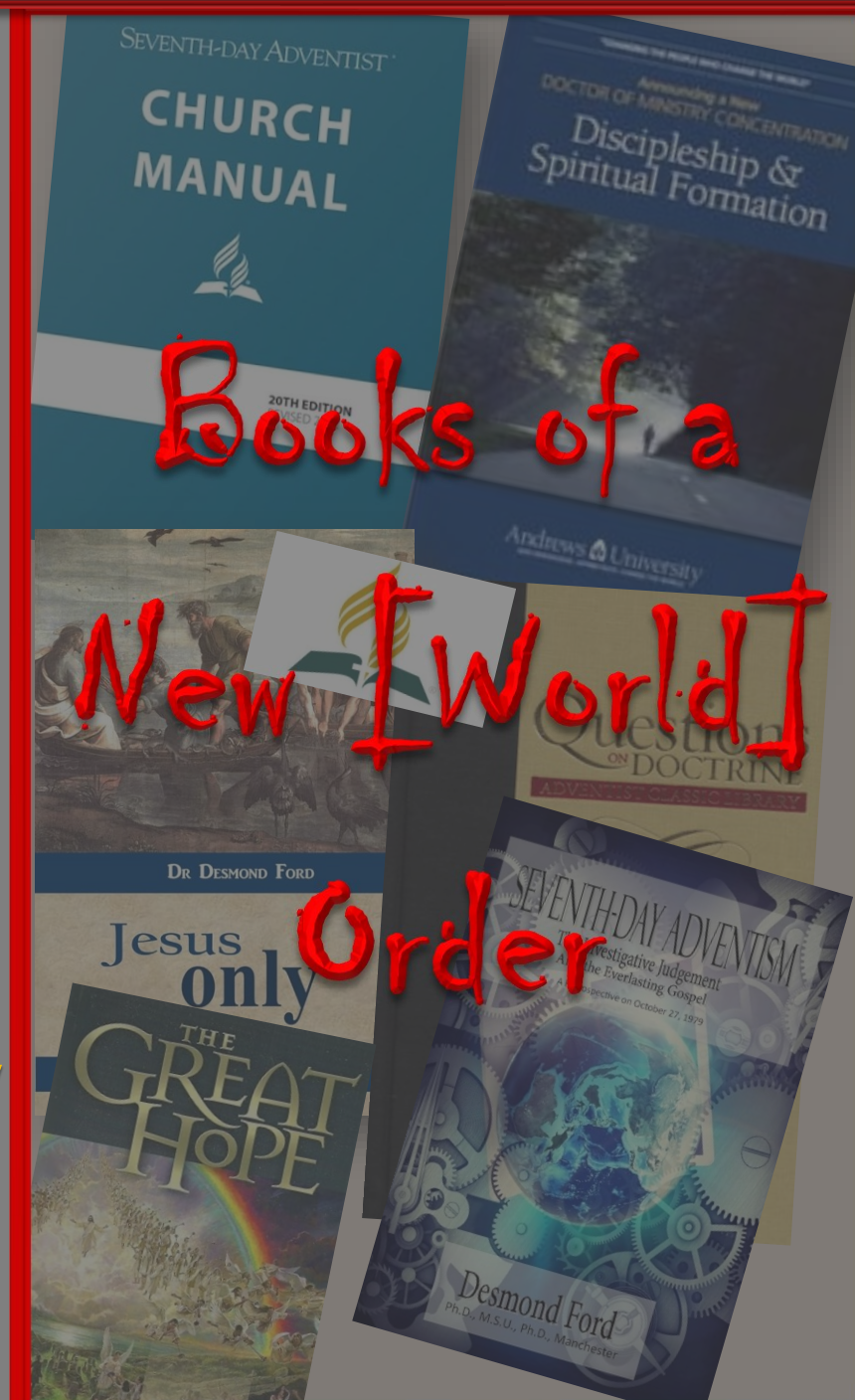
"In a special sense Seventh-day Adventists have been set in the world as watchmen and light bearers. To them has been entrusted the last warning for a perishing world. On them is shining wonderful light from the word of God. They have been given a work of the most solemn import—the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels' messages. There is no other work of so great importance. They are to allow nothing else to absorb their attention.

The most solemn truths ever entrusted to mortals have been given us to proclaim to the world. The proclamation of these truths is to be our work. The world is to be warned, and God's people are to be true to the trust committed to them. They are not to engage in speculation, neither are they to enter into business enterprises with unbelievers; for this would hinder them in their God-given work." {9T 19.1-2} Ellen G. White

There is no other denomination with such a message for the world. Yet I have been told that mentioning the inspired writings of Sister White from the pulpit is "cultish". I wonder what her thoughts would be....

"The enemy of souls has sought to bring in the supposition that a great reformation was to take place among Seventh-day Adventists, and that this reformation would consist in giving up the doctrines which stand as the pillars of our faith, and engaging in a process of reorganization. Were this reformation to take place, what would result? The principles of truth that God in His wisdom has given to the remnant church, would be discarded. Our religion would be changed. The fundamental principles that have sustained the work for the last fifty years would be accounted as error. A new organization would be established. Books of a new order would be written. A system of intellectual philosophy would be introduced. The founders of this system would go into the cities, and do a wonderful work. The Sabbath of course, would be lightly regarded, as also the God who created it. Nothing would be allowed to stand in the way of the new movement. The leaders would teach that virtue is better than vice, but God being removed, they would place their dependence on human power, which, without God, is worthless. Their foundation would be built on the sand, and storm and tempest would sweep away the structure." {1SM 204.2}

Shocking heresies have sought to remove the church from its base. From "Holy Flesh" to "anti-trinitarianism", the devil is on full display to lower the flag of the 3 angels and put in its place some other theory to pull the mind and attention away from doing the final work. With zeal and energy worthy of a better cause Satan stirs the minds of these adherents to feel that others must accept their point of "doctrine" otherwise the door of salvation will be closed to those who do not accept these false suppositions. The source of all these false movements is Rome.





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The artful mastery of these false theories has Satanic origins. The writings of H. Blavatsky and Alice Bailey sought to bring in a new spirituality in which sin is a nonissue and salvation is just a form of enlightenment. These are not a far cry from the theology introduced and supported at our Seminaries. There has been a desire to move away from Bible religion to something more accommodating. Spiritual Formation, the spiritualism exercises of Ignatius Loyola have been adapted to the Adventist palette and are taught at our schools and preached from our pulpits. Hardly the messages that Inspired pen says should be our work. “The love of Jesus” is to be our focus, so we have been told, not a message of warning to the doomed millions who’s lives may be snuffed out in a nuclear exchange.

“As the Protestant churches have been seeking the favor of the world, false charity has blinded their eyes. They do not see but that it is right to believe good of all evil; and as the inevitable result, they will finally believe evil of all good. Instead of standing in defense of the faith once delivered to the saints, they are now, as it were, apologizing to Rome for their uncharitable opinion of her, begging pardon for their bigotry.” {GC88 571.3}

“A large class, even of those who look upon Romanism with no favor, apprehend little danger from her power and influence. Many urge that the intellectual and moral darkness prevailing during the Middle Ages favored the spread of her dogmas, superstitions, and oppression, and that the greater intelligence of modern times, the general diffusion of knowledge, and the increasing liberality in matters of religion, forbid a revival of intolerance and tyranny. The very thought that such a state of things will exist in this enlightened age is ridiculed. It is true that great light, intellectual, moral, and religious, is shining upon this generation. In the open pages of God’s holy Word, light from Heaven has been shed upon the world. But it should be remembered that the greater the light bestowed, the greater the darkness of those who pervert or reject it.” {GC88 572.1}

“Be not deceived; many will depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils. We have now before us the alpha of this danger. The omega will be of a most startling nature.” {SpTBo2 16.2}

Here we see the real issue coming into view. Sin has been so lightly regarded that the watchmen have lowered the banner and false doctrine has entered in at every level of our denomination. How will the Lord deal with this issue?

“The Lord is soon to come. There must be a refining, winnowing process in every church, for there are among us wicked men who do not love the truth or honor God.” —The Review and Herald, March 19, 1895 .{LDE 173.3}

“Divisions will come in the church. Two parties will be developed. The wheat and tares grow up together for the harvest.” —Selected Messages 2:114 (1896).

“We are in the shaking time, the time when everything that can be shaken will be shaken. The Lord will not excuse those who know the truth if they do not in word and deed obey His commands.” —Testimonies for the Church 6:332 (1900).

“There will be a shaking of the sieve. The chaff must in time be separated from the wheat. Because iniquity abounds, the love of many waxes cold. It is the very time when the genuine will be the strongest.” —Letter 46, 1887.

“The history of the rebellion of Dathan and Abiram is being repeated, and will be repeated till the close of time. Who will be on the Lord’s side? Who will be deceived, and in their turn become deceivers?” —Letter 15, 1892.



Dr. Ganoune Diop is Director of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty for the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church. Before his election in July 2015 at the 60th General Conference Session in San Antonio, Texas, he served as the church’s liaison to the United Nations in New York and Geneva, and as its representative within the international community of civic and political leaders.

Dr. Diop’s passion for God has led him to extensive theological, philosophical, and literary studies. Dr. Diop has a Masters in Exégèses and Theology from Collonges, France, a Masters degree in Philology from the University of Paris, and a PhD in Old Testament Studies from Andrews University. He is currently a PhD candidate in New Testament Studies. Most recently he was honored with a Doctorate Honoris Causa, granted for his contributions to developing a global culture of human rights and respect for human dignity.
<https://www.adventistliberty.org/dr.-ganoune-diop>

It is not without reason that the claim has been put forth in Protestant countries, that Catholicism differs less widely from Protestantism than in former times. There has been a change; but the change is not in the papacy. Catholicism indeed resembles much of the Protestantism that now exists, because Protestantism has so greatly degenerated since the days of the reformers. {GC88 571.2}

A company was presented before me under the name of Seventh-day Adventists, who were advising that the banner or sign which makes us a distinctive people should not be held out so strikingly; for they claimed it was not the best policy in securing success to our institutions. This distinctive banner is to be borne through the world to the close of probation. In describing the remnant people of God, John says, “Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus” (Revelation 14:12). This is the law and the gospel. The world and the churches are uniting in harmony in transgressing the law of God, in tearing away God’s memorial, and in exalting a sabbath that bears the signature of the man of sin. But the Sabbath of the Lord thy God is to be a sign to show the difference between the obedient and the disobedient. I saw some reaching out their hands to remove the banner, and to obscure its significance.... {2SM 385.2}



We may have heard it said that we must appeal to the youth. That we must bring in contemporary music, customs, dress and even diet, all to appease the fickle wants of the young. That is not how God works. We must lay off the lethargy of sin and raise the banner as it is in Jesus. Telling the truth is hard, but it is the ONLY Heaven approved method.

“The Lord does not now work to bring many souls into the truth, because of the church members who have never been converted and those who were once converted but who have backslidden. What influence would these unconsecrated members have on new converts? Would they not make of no effect the God-given message which His people are to bear?” {6T 370.3}

If we are to understand our failings as messengers, we must first look at ourselves. Maybe we should go into our bathrooms, look ourselves in the mirror and be honest about our dedication to the Lord’s service. Then we may need to ask for forgiveness from the Lord. Then we need to forgive ourselves. That done, we need to shake out the sins that hold us back from giving all to the Lord’s service and begin the work afresh.

“I call upon those who have been connected with these binding influences to break the yoke to which they have long submitted, and stand as free men in Christ. Nothing but a determined effort will break the spell that is upon them.” {SpTBo2 16.1}

We have nothing to be ashamed of, we have a “more sure word of prophecy”, despite the fear of others thinking we are a cult. Do not let “groupthink” or fear of reprisal remove the words of God out of our mouths.

“Our physicians have lost a great deal out of their lives because they have seen wrong transactions and heard wrong words spoken, and seen wrong principles followed, and have not spoken in reproof, for fear that they would be repulsed.” {SpTBo2 15.4}

These are the last days; the condition of the church and the world speak to us as waymarks on the prophetic path to the return of Jesus. Deception is the order of the day. We will be tried from within and without.

“There is to be no compromise with those who are worshiping an idol sabbath. We are not to spend our time in controversy with those who know the truth, and upon whom the light of truth has been shining, when they turn away their ear from the truth to turn to fables. I was told that men will employ every policy to make less prominent the difference between the faith of Seventh-day Adventists and those who observe the first day of the week. In this controversy the whole world will be engaged, and the time is short. This is no time to haul down our colors.” {2SM 385.1}

The evidence of entering into Ecumenical unions is evident. WE are the ones expected to compromise while “Rome never changes”. Why would we enter into counsels with those who have persecuted God’s people throughout the centuries as if we are now on even ground? The very truths Rome hates are the foundation of Bible based religion. We dare to make an image to Rome as if she has converted?

“We are in danger of becoming a sister to fallen Babylon, of allowing our churches to become corrupted, and filled with every foul spirit, a cage for every unclean and hateful bird; and will we be clear unless we make decided movements to cure the existing evil?” {21MR 380.1}

“Popery is just what prophecy declared that she would be, the apostasy of the latter times. [2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4.] It is a part of her policy to assume the character which will best accomplish her purpose; but beneath the variable appearance of the chameleon, she conceals the invariable venom of the serpent. “We are not bound to keep faith and promises to heretics,” she declares. Shall this power, whose record for a thousand years is written in the blood of the saints, be now acknowledged as a part of the church of Christ?” {GC88 571.1}

Are we to just keep going until God fixes what we have broken? Do we leave the church or seek to reform it?

“Reforms must be made, for spiritual weakness and blindness were upon the people who had been blessed with great light and precious opportunities and privileges. As reformers they had come out of the denominational churches, but they now act a part similar to that which the churches acted. We hoped that there would not be the necessity for another coming out. While we will endeavor to keep the “unity of the Spirit” in the bonds of peace, we will not with pen or voice cease to protest against bigotry.” —The Ellen G. White 1888 Materials, 356, 357 (1889). {LDE 48.1}

John 16:1-4

“These things have I spoken unto you, that ye should not be offended. They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service. And these things will they do unto you, because they have not known the Father, nor me. But these things have I told you, that when the time shall come, ye may remember that I told you of them...”

Photos8.com



We must not sit in silence; we must demand that the church of God would do the will of God. Never mind the semantics that the opposition likes to play. We must meet it with a thus saith the Lord and leave the rest to Him. Clear counsel has been given as to our structure and purpose. Maybe we should start there.

“It is not wise to choose one man as president of the General Conference. The work of the General Conference has extended, and some things have been made unnecessarily complicated. A want of discernment has been shown. There should be a division of the field, or some other plan should be devised to change the present order of things.”

—Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, 342 (1896). {LDE 50.1}

“I have the word of the Lord for presidents of conferences. They should shoulder the responsibilities involved in the trusts reposed in them. In your work, do not try to meet a human standard, but the standard of God’s work. If you will not do this, if you will not seek the Lord most earnestly, if you will not be burden bearers, but choose to lay your whole weight of responsibilities upon the president of the General Conference, then, week by week, month by month, you are disqualifying yourselves for the work. You should leave it, and engage in common business transactions, which do not so decidedly involve eternal responsibilities.” {TM 343.1}

Jeremiah 6:16,17

“Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein. Also I set watchmen over you, saying, Hearken to the sound of the trumpet. But they said, We will not hearken.”

At the recent General Conference session, the President shut down a request to discuss vaccination exemptions on religious grounds. Even the world will allow for a redress of grievances, but our denominational leaders seem to believe their opinions to be of a higher order. This is not new; in the days of Sister White, she met the same arrogance. Listen to her response.

“The voice from Battle Creek, which has been regarded as authority in counseling how the work should be done, is no longer the voice of God.” —Manuscript Releases 17:185 (1896). {LDE 50.2}

Psalms 89:34

“My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips.”

“It has been some years since I have considered the General Conference as the voice of God.” —Manuscript Releases 17:216 (1898). {LDE 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.” —The General Conference Bulletin, April 3, 1901, p. 25. {LDE 50.4}

What does the Master of our salvation have to say about wayward leaders? Did not our Saviour meet the same apostasy in His day?

Matthew 7:13-18

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: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

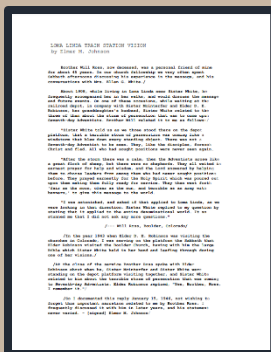
Our Saviour used similar language to that of John the Baptist, yet another evidence that the work of John the Baptist was of God. Did not John reprove Herod over Herodias?

Matthew 3:1-3, 7-12

In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord,

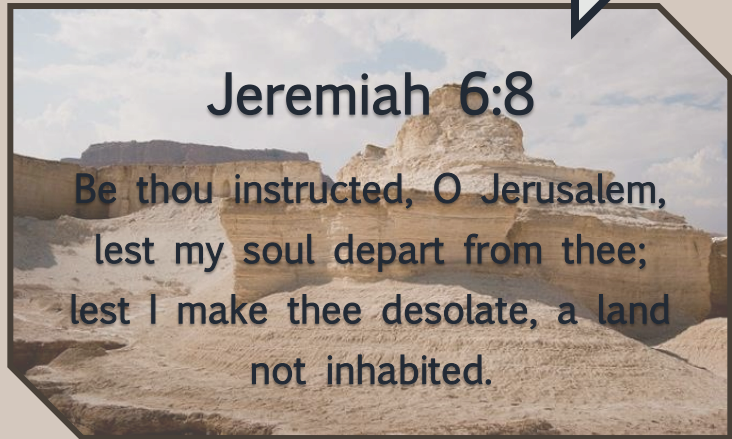
Isaiah 55:11

“So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.”



Do you have a copy of Sister White's *Loma Linda Train Station Vision*? Click Here!

make his paths straight. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance: And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.



You may ask, what proof is there that Papal Rome has made inroads within the SDA organization? Beside the unbiblical teachings currently sweeping through the church, friendship with Rome and the surrender of our doctrines has been taking place for decades. For the sake of time let us look at just a few examples.



Dr. Ganoune Diop is Director of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty for the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church.

In a recent video Dr. Diop stated:

“Now the following presentation also is purposed to dispel misinformation and discourage the spread of disinformation accusing the GC of compromising the Adventist message.”

“We have to remember, we are a restorationist movement not a sectarian violent breed of believers, closet terrorists in fact. No rather we follow the Prince of Peace.”

“I was told that men will employ every policy to make less prominent the difference between the faith of Seventh-day Adventists and those who observe the first day of the week. In this controversy the whole world will be engaged, and the time is short. This is no time to haul down our colors.” {2SM 385.1}

Cross of the Knights Templar

Masonic Handshake



Dr. Bert Beverly Beach, former Director of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty for the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists (1980-1995)



“The world and the churches are uniting in harmony in transgressing the law of God, in tearing away God's memorial, and in exalting a sabbath that bears the signature of the man of sin. But the Sabbath of the Lord thy God is to be a sign to show the difference between the obedient and the disobedient. I saw some reaching out their hands to remove the banner, and to obscure its significance....” {2SM 385.2}

Book, Medallion Presented to Pope

In connection with a recent consultative meeting of secretaries of World Confessional Families held in Rome, B. B. Beach, secretary of the Northern Europe-West Africa Division, one of the 15 participants and the only Adventist in the group, presented a book and a medallion to Pope Paul VI on May 18.

The book presented was the Adventist missionary book *Faith in Action*, and the medallion was a gold-covered symbol of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The medallion is an engraved witness

to the Adventist faith in Christ as Creator, Redeemer, and soon-coming Lord, in the cross and Bible, and in the lasting validity of the Ten Commandments. While the other commandments are represented simply as Roman numerals, the words of the fourth—“Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy”—are written out.

The Conference of World Confessional Families usually meets once a year. It is not an organization, but an informal, unstructured forum for consultation and the exchange of useful information.

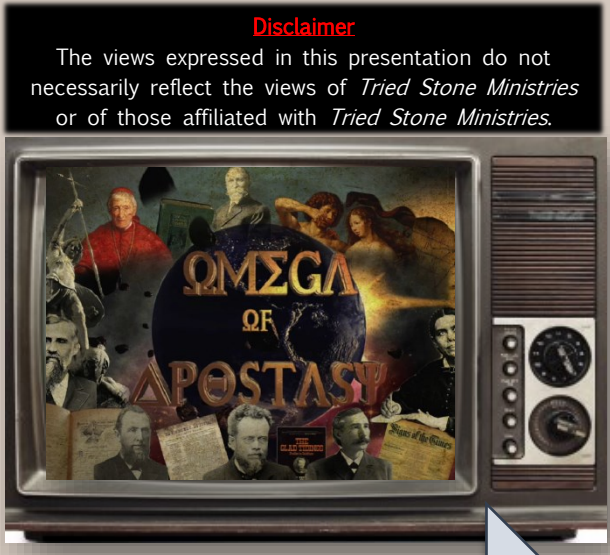
W. D. EVA



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Neal C. Wilson,
past president of
the Seventh-day
Adventist General
Conference
(1979-1990)

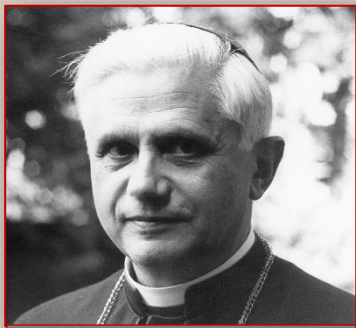


Check out this amazing series for more information!

"Although it is true that there was a period in the life of the Seventh-day Adventist Church when the denomination took a distinctly anti-Roman Catholic viewpoint...that attitude on the church's part was nothing more than a manifestation of widespread anti-popery among conservative Protestant denominations in the early part of this century and the latter part of the last, and which has now been consigned to the historical trash heap so far as the Seventh-day Adventist Church is concerned."

(Neal C. Wilson, past president of the Seventh-day Adventist General Conference, Court Transcript of United States vs the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission vs the Pacific Press Publishing Association and the General Conference, Reply Brief for Defendants, p 4, Civil Case #74-2025 CBR, presided over by Judge Charles B. Renfrew, U.S. District Court, San Francisco, California, 1974-1975.)

"Instead of standing in defense of the faith once delivered to the saints, they are now, as it were, apologizing to Rome for their uncharitable opinion of her, begging pardon for their bigotry." {GC88 571.3}



Joseph Ratzinger
(Pope Benedict XVI)

Academic career: 1951–1977

In 1966, Ratzinger was appointed to a chair in dogmatic theology at the University of Tübingen, where he was a colleague of Hans Küng.

Ratzinger continued to defend the work of the Second Vatican Council, including *Nostra aetate*, the document on respect of other religions, ecumenism, and the declaration of the right to freedom of religion. Later, as the Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Ratzinger most clearly spelled out the Catholic Church's position on other religions in the 2000 document *Dominus Iesus* which also talks about the Catholic way to engage in "ecumenical dialogue". During his time at Tübingen University, Ratzinger published articles in the reformist theological journal *Concilium*, though he increasingly chose less reformist themes than other contributors to the magazine such as Küng and Schillebeeckx.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pope_Benedict_XVI#Pre-papaL_career:_1951%E2%80%931977

The University of Tübingen has a history of innovative thought, particularly in theology, in which the university and the Tübinger Stift are famous to this day. Philipp Melanchthon (1497–1560), the prime mover in building the German school system and a chief figure in the Protestant Reformation, helped establish its direction. Among Tübingen's eminent students (and/or professors) have been the astronomer Johannes Kepler; the economist Horst Köhler (President of Germany); Joseph Ratzinger (Pope Benedict XVI), poet Friedrich Hölderlin, and the philosophers Friedrich Schelling and Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_T%C3%BCbingen#Notable_alumni

Jan Paulsen

19th President of the General Conference of Seventh day Adventists

In office
1 March 1999 – 23 June 2010

Preceded by [Robert S. Folkenberg](#)
Succeeded by [Ted N. C. Wilson](#)

Vice president of the General Conference of Seventh day Adventists

In office
1995–1999

President of the Trans-European Division of Seventh-day Adventists

In office
1983–1995

Personal details

Born 5 January 1935 (age 89)
[Narvik, Norway](#)

Spouse [Kari Trykkerud](#)

Children 3

Alma mater [Andrews University, Adventist Theological Seminary, Potomac University, University of Tübingen](#)

Profession [Pastor](#)

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"It is not without reason that the claim has been put forth in Protestant countries, that Catholicism differs less widely from Protestantism than in former times. There has been a change; but the change is not in the papacy. Catholicism indeed resembles much of the Protestantism that now exists, because Protestantism has so greatly degenerated since the days of the reformers." {GC88 571.2}



Jan Paulsen receiving the Norwegian Order of Merit cross. Not too dissimilar from the Order of the Knights of Malta or the Knights Templar cross.



(Left to Right) Dr. Ganoune Diop P.A.R.L. Director, Ted Wilson SDA General Conference President, Ban Ki-moon UN Secretary General, Joseph Verner Reed, dean of the UN undersecretaries-general, John Graz, director of the public affairs and religious liberty department.

In April of 2015, PARL Director Dr. Ganoune Diop and SDA General Conference President Ted Wilson met with UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, Joseph Verner Reed Dean of the UN undersecretaries-general and John Graz Director of the Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department at the United Nations in New York. SDA President Ted Wilson commented after the meeting:

"We had an excellent meeting with the secretary-general and some of his staff, sharing with them about the Adventist Church's activities," Wilson said. "We focused on certain things that the Adventist Church can help with, such as religious liberty, freedom of conscience, ethical and spiritual values, respect for human dignity, family guidance, encouragement for young people, and basic human necessities like pure water and fundamental education."

<https://adventistreview.org/news/adventist-church-president-holds-first-meeting-with-un-chief/>



Jonathan Zirkle

General Conference (GC)

Delegate Jonathan Zirkle wished to have the most recent General Conference session in St. Louis in 2022, address the impact of the official church position on the COVID-19 vaccination. Many people's lives were upturned as they refused to follow vaccine mandates. Bad enough that people were faced with a moral dilemma but the fact that people could no longer receive a religious exemption as stated:

Vaccination Exemption: We are not the conscience of the individual church member, and recognize individual choices The choice not to be immunized is not and should not be seen as the dogma nor the doctrine of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

<https://www.southerntidings.com/feature/adventist-church-issues-covid-19-vaccination-statement/#:~:text=We%20value%20the%20health%20and,the%20Seventh%2Dday%20Adventist%20Church.>



Ted N. C. Wilson

President of the General Conference

In an unexpected move, SDA President Ted Wilson shut down Zirkle's appeal for a discussion. Is this the type of cooperation that was discussed 7 years earlier at the UN? Mr. Wilson stated:

"I want to strongly urge ... that we stand united in asking this body not to put that issue on the agenda."

"The General Conference has not mandated that people take the vaccination. It has given people a choice."

"This is not an agenda item for the General Conference. It is an administrative item. It has been dealt with and some people don't like the way it has been dealt with, and that is their right."

"We respectfully, kindly, and very much in a determined manner ask that you, the delegates, vote 'no' on placing this item as an agenda item."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9BQoWO11LC8&t=11s>

"It is not wise to choose one man as president of the General Conference. The work of the General Conference has extended, and some things have been made unnecessarily complicated. A want of discernment has been shown. There should be a division of the field, or some other plan should be devised to change the present order of things...."

{TM 342.1}

Acts 20:28-31

Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

Matthew 16:6,12

Then Jesus said unto them, **Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees....** Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.



Isaiah 8:16,20

Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples.... To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

Satan is attempting to draw the earnest believers into controversy. This is to be expected. We read in the second letter to Timothy: 2 Timothy 4:1-5

“I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.”

We who follow the Lamb in Spirit and in Truth, are evangelists, searching for the lost sheep of Israel. Despite the noise and confusion, we have our mission. We must make full proof of the ministry. Sound doctrine will win out in the end. In Paul’s letter to the Galatians, he states the difference between sound doctrine and being man pleasers: Galatians 1:6-12

“I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed. For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ. But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

We have far more to fear from within our denominational ranks than from the world. The harvest is ready, and Satan will use those who profess to share our faith as the very weapons to stop the everlasting gospel from circling the globe. Earnest believers will be touted as the vilest threat to humanity. Jesus says: Matthew 5:10-12

“Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.”

Jesus later said: Matthew 23:34,37 **Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and some of them ye shall kill and crucify; and some of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute them from city to city... O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!**

The end is soon, sooner than we think. The house will be swept clean of anything that defiles, and Christ will purify His church, maybe not the General Conference, but a remnant of believers which represent the greatest need.

“The greatest want of the world is the want of men—men who will not be bought or sold, men who in their inmost souls are true and honest, men who do not fear to call sin by its right name, men whose conscience is as true to duty as the needle to the pole, men who will stand for the right though the heavens fall.” {Ed 57.3}

Jesus will soon separate that which is His from those that carry the name only. His fan is in His hand, and He will make it plain who is on the Lord’s side. Revelation 3:9

“Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.”

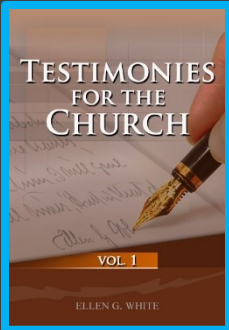
Who will those be that worship at the feet of the saints who have stood firmly for the truth?

“You think, that those who worship before the saint’s feet, (Revelation 3:9), will at last be saved. Here I must differ with you; for God shew me that this class were professed Adventists, who had fallen away, and “crucified to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.” And in the “hour of temptation,” which is yet to come, to show out every one’s true character, they will know that they are forever lost; and overwhelmed with anguish of spirit, they will bow at the saint’s feet.” {WLF 12.2}

Brothers and Sisters, the Lord is bundling the two groups together. May we make our calling and election sure. We ought to follow Jesus rather than men. ■

“That night I dreamed that I was in Battle Creek looking out from the side glass at the door and saw a company marching up to the house, two and two. They looked stern and determined. I knew them well and turned to open the parlor door to receive them, but thought I would look again. The scene was changed. The company now presented the appearance of a Catholic procession. One bore in his hand a cross, another a reed. And as they approached, the one carrying a reed made a circle around the house, saying three times: “This house is proscribed. The goods must be confiscated. They have spoken against our holy order.” Terror seized me, and I ran through the house, out of the north door...” {1T 577.2}

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A Note from the Editor

Weighty. That's the word that comes to mind when I think of the issue that is focused on in this edition of Tried Stone Ministries Newsletter. We should take courage from these inspired words:

"To stand in defense of truth and righteousness when the majority forsake us, to fight the battles of the Lord when champions are few,—this will be our test. At this time we must gather warmth from the coldness of others, courage from their cowardice, and loyalty from their treason. The nation will be on the side of the great rebel leader."

{RH January 11, 1887, par. 2}

Perhaps the author of the 74th Psalm lived in a time of apostacy similar to what we are seeing here at the end of time. He who has ears to hear let him hear:

Psalm 74

(Maschil of Asaph.)

O God, why hast thou cast us off for ever? why doth thine anger smoke against the sheep of thy pasture? Remember thy congregation, which thou hast purchased of old; the rod of thine inheritance, which thou hast redeemed; this mount Zion, wherein thou hast dwelt. Lift up thy feet unto the perpetual desolations; even all that the enemy hath done wickedly in the sanctuary. Thine enemies roar in the midst of thy congregations; they set up their ensigns for signs. A man was famous according as he had lifted up axes upon the thick trees. But now they break down the carved work thereof at once with axes and hammers. They have cast fire into thy sanctuary, they have defiled by casting down the dwelling place of thy name to the ground. They said in their hearts, Let us destroy them together: they have burned up all the synagogues of God in the land. We see not our signs: there is no more any prophet: neither is there among us any that knoweth how long. O God, how long shall the adversary reproach? shall the enemy blaspheme thy name for ever? Why withdrawest thou thy hand, even thy right hand? pluck it out of thy bosom. For God is my King of old, working salvation in the midst of the earth. Thou didst divide the sea by thy strength: thou brakest the heads of the dragons in the waters. Thou brakest the heads of leviathan in pieces, and gavest him to be meat to the people inhabiting the wilderness. Thou didst cleave the fountain and the flood: thou driedst up mighty rivers. The day is thine, the night also is thine: thou hast prepared the light and the sun. Thou hast set all the borders of the earth: thou hast made summer and winter. Remember this, that the enemy hath reproached, O LORD, and that the foolish people have blasphemed thy name. O deliver not the soul of thy turtledove unto the multitude of the wicked: forget not the congregation of thy poor for ever. Have respect unto the covenant: for the dark places of the earth are full of the habitations of cruelty. O let not the oppressed return ashamed: let the poor and needy praise thy name. Arise, O God, plead thine own cause: remember how the foolish man reproacheth thee daily. Forget not the voice of thine enemies: the tumult of those that rise up against thee increaseth continually.

The path that Christ walked was just as it is today. He was outcast from the dogmatic philosophies of the leaders of His time. He did not seek approval for His representation of the character and love of the Father. He spoke with authority, and deep understanding of scripture. This is our example. *"Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth."* John 17:17. There is only one source for sanctification, only one source for Truth. May we always strive to enter in at the narrow gate.

Our sojourn is nearly over, take courage in knowing: *"These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."* John 16:33.

Your brother in Christ,

-Brian Nichols

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