

Questions concerning Seventh-day Adventist Church

Does the Seventh-Day Adventist Church teach these things?

1. SDA believes Satan (not the Lord Jesus) is going to reign on earth for a thousand years?
2. The bottomless pit is actually the earth?
3. When Jesus died...His death only covered sins resulting from the breaking of Mosaic ceremonial law only... not our sins from breaking the ten commandments?
4. The Great White Throne Judgment began over a century ago in 1844?
5. Satan bore our sins, not Jesus Christ? Because Satan is the scapegoat of the Old Testament?
6. The mark of the beast is Sunday worship?
7. Ellen Whites writings...are they inspired (not of human origin) commentary on Scripture? Her writings are unquestionable? She claimed her writings were direct revelation from God?
8. To be baptized... a person must confess that her writings are inspired?
9. Are these prophecies from Ellen White false?
 - a. Old Jerusalem will never be rebuilt?
 - b. England will attack the U.S. during the Civil War? She wrote that Jesus would return in a few months afterward?... (page 67 "Early Writings")
 - c. She stated in 1856 that some living at that time would see the 2nd Coming of Christ?
 - d. Christ would return before slavery was abolished? He would free the slaves?

Answers

1. Millennium & Satan's Reign

Adventists do not teach that Satan reigns for 1,000 years. Revelation 20 shows Satan is *bound* on a desolate earth ("bottomless pit" = abyss, a symbol of emptiness) with no one to tempt. Meanwhile, the redeemed are reigning with Christ in heaven (Rev. 20:4–6). Satan is confined in defeat, not ruling.

2. Jesus' Death

Jesus' death covers *all sin* — both ceremonial and moral law. Romans 3:23–25 and 1 John 1:7 make it clear His blood cleanses us from *every sin*. It's not limited to Mosaic regulations.

3. Judgment (1844)

We believe the “investigative judgment” (Dan. 8:14) began in 1844 — but this is not the Great White Throne judgment (Rev. 20). That final judgment occurs after the Millennium. In 1844, Christ entered His final mediatorial phase in heaven, reviewing lives before His return. This is about God’s transparency and fairness, not condemnation for believers.

4. Scapegoat (Satan)

Only Christ bore our sins on the cross (Isa. 53:6). The scapegoat imagery (Lev. 16) shows that Satan ultimately bears responsibility for the ruin he caused. He doesn’t atone — he simply faces the penalty for his role in sin.

5. Mark of the Beast

We understand the “mark” to symbolize enforced Sunday worship in earth’s final crisis (Rev. 13). The issue is worship and loyalty. It’s not about sincere Sunday worshipers today, but about a future time when false worship is legislated and set against God’s Sabbath.

6. Ellen White

We believe Ellen White was given the prophetic gift (Rev. 12:17; 19:10). Her writings are not equal to Scripture but serve as a “lesser light” pointing to the greater light of the Bible. Adventists are not required to confess belief in her writings to be baptized. Baptism is based on faith in Jesus, His Word, and the core SDA doctrines. As you know, I rarely quote her in sermons — my foundation is always the Bible.

7. Alleged Prophecies

- *Jerusalem not rebuilt*: She meant it would never regain its former spiritual role (Matt. 23:38).
- *England & Civil War*: These were conditional warnings — many early prophetic statements depended on circumstances and prayer.
- *1856 vision*: Prophecy can be conditional (like Jonah 3–4). God’s timing often hinges on human response.
- *Slavery*: Again, conditional. She pointed to the nearness of Christ, but never set fixed dates.

Bottom line: Adventists do not worship Ellen White or see her as infallible. Everything is tested by Scripture. Her purpose was always to point people back to Jesus and His Word.

For More Questions, please contact Pastor Ed Anderson at
PastorEdAnderson@gmail.com!