

Questions About Identifiers of Gods True Last Day church & What Catholics Say About Adventist

By Pastor Ed Anderson

From strictly a biblical basis, what are all the identifiers of Gods true last day church?
What do Catholics say about Adventist?

Answer:

Here's a two-part answer that responds directly to your question:

—

PART 1: All Biblical Identifiers of God's True Last-Day Church

From **Scripture alone**, especially from the books of **Revelation**, **Daniel**, and the **New Testament epistles**, the following identifiers emerge as markers of God's true church in the last days.

1. Keeps the Commandments of God

- **Revelation 12:17**

"Then the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to make war against the rest of her offspring—those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus."

- God's remnant church will be **commandment-keeping**, including the **seventh-day Sabbath** (Exodus 20:8–11).

—

2. Has the Testimony of Jesus / Spirit of Prophecy

- **Revelation 19:10**

"The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

- The church will **affirm and manifest the prophetic gift**, as seen in both Scripture and last-day guidance.

—

3. Rises After 1798 (End of 1,260 Years of Papal Power)

- **Daniel 7:25; 12:7; Revelation 13:5**

This symbolic period of “time, times, and half a time” (1,260 prophetic days = 1,260 years) ends in **1798**.

- The remnant church **emerges after this prophetic period**, meaning **after 1798**.
-

4. Preaches the “Hour of His Judgment Has Come”

- **Revelation 14:6–7**

“Fear God and give Him glory, for the hour of His judgment has come.”

- This message is **time-specific**, declaring the **judgment is now**—not just future.
-

5. Proclaims the Three Angels’ Messages Globally

- **Revelation 14:6–12**
 - Calls people to **worship the Creator**
 - Warns against **Babylon (false religion)**
 - Warns of the **mark of the beast**
 - God’s last-day church will give this **final gospel warning** to the whole world.
-

6. Worldwide Mission Scope

- **Revelation 14:6**

“...to every nation, tribe, language and people.”

- The remnant must be a **global movement**, not a local or regional group.
-

7. Calls People Out of Babylon

- **Revelation 18:4**

“Come out of her, my people, so that you will not share in her sins.”

- God’s last-day church **calls people out of religious confusion**, not to destroy them, but to **preserve them**.
-

8. Uplifts Jesus as the Only Way of Salvation

- **John 14:6, Acts 4:12**

“No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

- Any true church must teach that **Jesus alone saves**, not rituals, saints, or human authority.

9. Teaches According to the Whole Bible

- **Isaiah 8:20**

“To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.”

- All teachings must be **firmly grounded in the Word of God**, not tradition or councils.

10. Persecuted by the Dragon (Satan)

- **Revelation 12:17**

The dragon (Satan) is enraged at this church.

- Historically and prophetically, God’s faithful people are **always opposed**, even persecuted.

11. Baptizes by Immersion

- **Romans 6:3–5; Acts 8:38–39**

Symbolizing death, burial, and resurrection with Christ.

- The biblical mode of baptism is **full immersion**, not sprinkling or infant baptism.

12. Encourages Holiness and Readiness for Christ’s Return

- **1 John 3:2–3; Titus 2:13–14**

“Everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself...”

- True faith leads to **obedience, transformation, and hope in the Second Coming**.

These biblical points—when viewed together—describe a **very specific profile**, which Seventh-day Adventists believe applies uniquely to their movement.

PART 2: What Do Catholics Say About Adventists?

The **Roman Catholic Church** does not officially recognize Seventh-day Adventists as heretical in the same way it does for some other groups (e.g., Jehovah’s Witnesses or Mormons), but here are some **typical Catholic perspectives**:

◆ **1. View Adventists as “Separated Brethren”**

- Official Catholic teaching since Vatican II refers to non-Catholic Christians as *“separated brethren.”*
 - Adventists are respected as **Bible-based, Christ-centered, and morally upright**, though in **error** from the Catholic view on:
 - The Sabbath (instead of Sunday)
 - Authority of the pope
 - Interpretation of prophecy
 - Rejection of the Eucharist as transubstantiation
 - “Anti-Catholic” interpretations of Revelation 13
-

◆ **2. Reject SDA Identification of Papacy as the Beast**

- Adventists identify the **first beast of Revelation 13** with the **Papacy**.
 - This is considered highly offensive and false by the Catholic Church.
 - Catholic scholars often reinterpret these texts symbolically or apply them to **Roman emperors (e.g., Nero)** or to general evil systems.
-

◆ **3. Disagree with SDA Sabbath Theology**

- Catholics uphold **Sunday worship** as a valid **apostolic tradition**, not commanded in the Ten Commandments, but authorized by the Church.
 - Adventists view this as **man-made authority replacing God’s law**.
-

◆ **4. Question the Authority of Ellen White**

- Catholics do not accept the legitimacy of **Ellen White's prophetic role**.
 - They generally view modern prophecy as unnecessary since revelation is seen as complete with the apostles.
-

◆ 5. Appreciate SDA Moral Lifestyle

• Many Catholic thinkers and interfaith advocates appreciate Adventist contributions to:

- Health
 - Education
 - Religious liberty
 - Global humanitarian work
-

Summary of Catholic View:

- **Respect** for lifestyle and moral emphasis
- **Disagreement** with key doctrines (especially prophecy and Sabbath)
- **Rejection** of anti-papal interpretations
- **No formal ecclesiastical communion**