

HAS THE TRUTH CHANGED?

THE HISTORICAL POSITION VERSUS THE NEW VIEW

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"Those to whom. the message of truth is spoken seldom ask, 'Is it true?' but, 'By whom is it advocated?' Multitudes estimate it by the numbers who accept it; and the question is still asked, 'Have any of the learned men or religious leaders believed?' Men are no more favorable to real godliness now than in the days of Christ." The Desire of Ages, page 459

MILITARY SERVICE

THE HISTORIC POSITION

But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you." Matthew 5:44

1863

"I was shown that God's people, who are His peculiar treasure, cannot engage in this perplexing war, for it is opposed to every principle of their faith. In the army they cannot obey the truth and at the same time obey the

requirements of their officers. There would be a continual violation of conscience." *Testimonies for the Church*, Volume 1, page 361

1864

"In none of our denominational publications have we advocated or encouraged the practice of bearing arms." Francis M. Wilcox, *Seventh-day Adventists in Time of War*, page 58

1865

"We are compelled to decline all participation in acts of war and bloodshed as being inconsistent with the duties enjoined upon us by our divine Master toward our enemies and toward all mankind." *The Review and Herald*, May 23, 1865

1867

"Resolved, That it is the judgment of this conference, that the bearing of arms, or engaging in war, is a direct violation of the teachings of our Saviour and of the spirit and letter of the law of God." *Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*: May 28, 1867

NOTE: Christians should not participate in the military. They should be conscientious objectors.

MILITARY SERVICE

THE NEW VIEW

1916

"The Conference Committee of the German Union takes the stand that in regard to the bearing of arms or to military duties, it is a civil demand to which the established governments of God are entitled, according to 1 Peter 2:13, 14 and Romans 13:3-5. This stand was also taken by the General Conference Committee in November 1915, while in session." *Zionswächter*, March 20, 1916

1972



"Membership? Would a Seventh-day Adventist lose his membership if he became a regular soldier? No. While the church position is that of non-combatancy, the individual must make his own decision in this matter, and the church respects the conscience of those who choose to bear arms." *Signs of the Times* (Australia), January 1, 1972, page 25

1989

"We have a number of members who serve on the police force, others who work as private agency security guards, and a few who work with the FBI and other such federal agencies. Most of these individuals bear arms but are not subject to discipline for bearing arms under the terms of our Church Manual. Neither are persons in the armed forces who choose to carry weapons." *Adventist Review*, March 30, 1989



1991

"The General Conference Adventist Chaplaincy Ministry assumes between 2,000 and 2,500 of the 500,000 U. S. troops in the Gulf War were Adventists. . . . One Adventist military chaplain estimates that 90 percent of the Adventists in the U. S. military - including, presumably, those in the Gulf - are combatants bearing arms." *The Journal of the Association of Adventist Forums*, March 1991

NOTE: Today the Seventh-day Adventist Church sanctions the taking of human life in time of war. Is this biblical? Has the church the authority to give liberty to transgress the sixth commandment? Absolutely not!

"Men are not at liberty to make a standard of law for themselves, to avoid God's law and please their own inclination. They must come to God's great moral standard of righteousness." *The Adventist Home*, page 342

"God has given men no liberty to depart from His requirements." *Patriarchs and Prophets*, page 634

"Conscience is not to take the place of 'Thus saith the Lord.'" *Mind; Character, and Personality*, Volume 1, page 322



"Remove not the ancient landmarks which thy fathers have set." Proverbs 22:28



MEAT EATING



THE HISTORIC POSITION

“And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat." Genesis 1:29

1890

"Among those who are waiting for the coming of the Lord, meat-eating will eventually be done away; flesh will cease to form a part of their diet." *Counsels on Health*, page 450

1897

"The meat diet is the serious question. Shall human beings live on the flesh of dead animals? The answer, from the light that God has given is, No, decidedly No." *Counsels on Diet and Foods*, page 388

"It has been clearly presented to me that God's people ate to take a firm stand against meat eating." *Ibid.*, page 383

"Let not any of our ministers set an evil example in the eating of flesh meat." *Ibid.*, page 399

1903

"Not an ounce of flesh meat should enter our stomachs. The eating of flesh is unnatural. We are to return to God's original purpose in the creation of man." *Ibid.*, page 380

1909

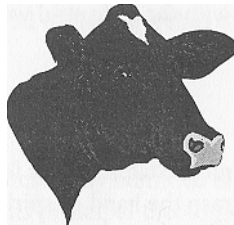
"Those who have received instruction regarding the evils of the use of flesh foods, tea, and coffee, and rich and unhealthful food preparations, and who are determined to make a covenant with God by sacrifice, will not continue to indulge their appetite for food that they know to be unhealthful." *Ibid.*, page 381

MEAT EATING

THE NEW VIEW

1996

" If Pork were good, God wouldn't hold it back from us. God won't hold back anything good from us, but since it's not good, He says: 'Don't eat it.' Cows, yes, you may eat." Mark Finley, *Discoveries in Prophecy: The Bible's Ancient Health Secrets Revealed*; page 8



NOTE: All Seventh-day Adventist Church members, including ministers, are permitted to eat meat.

If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." 1 Corinthians 3:17



ECUMENISM

THE HISTORIC POSITION

" **Be** ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? . . . Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you." 2 Corinthians 6: 14, 17

"And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them." Ephesians 5: 11

1884

"The Protestants of the United States will be foremost in stretching their hands across the gulf to grasp the hand of spiritualism; they will reach over the abyss to clasp hands with the Roman power; and under the influence of this threefold union, this country will follow in the steps of Rome in trampling on the rights of conscience." *The Great Controversy*, page 588

1891

"The professed Protestant world will form a confederacy with the man of sin, and the church and the world will be in corrupt harmony." *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, Volume 7, page 975

1910

"In their day, God has called His church, as He called ancient Israel, to stand as a light in the earth. By the mighty cleaver of truth - the messages of the first, second, and third angels - He has separated a people from the churches and from the world, to bring them into a sacred nearness to Himself." *Signs of the Times*, January 25, 1910

NOTE: God's true church will not form alliances with other churches.



ECUMENISM

THE NEW VIEW

1960

" The Seventh-day Adventist [Church] is an associate member of the National Council of Churches. . . . The Seventh-day Adventists have been affiliated with a unit of the Council since its formation in 1950." Letter from the National Council of the Churches of Christ, March 21, 1960

1968

"The World Council of Churches today admitted nine Roman Catholic theologians to membership in its principal theological body, the Commission on Faith and Order. . . . Also admitted to full membership were six representatives of other nonmember churches, including the Seventh-day Adventist Church." *New York Times*, July 12, 1968

1995

"Baptism will be the theme at the Roots and Branches Convocation, Thursday through Sunday at Union College [this is a Seventh-day Adventist college in Lincoln, Nebraska], sponsored by Interchurch Ministries of Nebraska.

"Speakers include William Cardinal Keeler, archbishop of Baltimore and president of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops; the Rev. Michael Kinnamon, dean of Lexington Theological Seminary in Kentucky; the Rev. Gayle Felton of Duke University Divinity School; and Brigalia Bam, general secretary of the South Africa Council of Churches.

"Convocation 1996 and 1997 will focus on communion and ministry. Together with baptism, they represent the three key ecumenical issues facing efforts at church cooperation and unity worldwide, Davis said.

"The convocation is an opportunity for people 'to come together and celebrate together, worship together, talk together, enjoy together.' " *Lincoln Journal Star*, October 21, 1995

NOTE: In different parts of the world, the Seventh-day Adventist Church is a member of the World Council of Churches.

"THE RELATION WITH THE ECUMENICAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE WORLD AND IN EUROPE"

"In the last years the collaboration of the Adventist Church with other religious organizations abroad has increased. In some countries the respective unions are members of the National Evangelical Federations or are in the process of becoming members.

"For years, different commissions of study appointed by the Adventist Church and by the Ecumenical Council of the Churches (ECC) have cooperated to consider the possibility of the Adventist Church to join this organization. The requirements of the ECC would not create obstacles at a theological level.

"The Adventist Church prefers to adopt the position of observer. **Nevertheless, it is a member** of the **World Council** of Churches."

Spain-

"At a local level the involvement and joining have increased. In 1990 the Spanish Adventist Union joined the Evangelical Federation of its country. It participated in the collective agreement with the government for the legal recognition of the Evangelical Churches.

France and Belgium-

"In France the Assembly of the French-Belgium Federation of the Adventist Churches has already agreed to join the Protestant Federation. There would probably be some resistance from one of the two French Federations due to insufficient information. Attempts are being made to overcome it.

"In Belgium the Protestant Federation recognized by the State asks for the Adventist Church to join it, but requires us to allow their pastors to preach in our churches, which causes reservations. Another Evangelical Federation of a more conservative type raises problems to our possible joining.

Germany-

"In 1993 the Northern and Southern Unions of the German Adventist Church joined as advisory members to the „Arbeitsverband Christlicher Kirchen," an association of German Christian Churches. A part of the Adventist churches (about 10%) has opposed the decision.

"Because of the imposition of the communist regime in the former Eastern Germany, the Adventist Church has been a member of the National Federation of the Evangelical Churches for several years.

Other Countries-

"In Portugal, Switzerland, and other European countries positive and continuous contacts are being made between the Adventist Church and representatives of the Protestant churches." *The Adventist Messenger*, February 1995 (translation from Italian)

ECUMENICAL MEETING

"Cremona - On Wednesday, January 25, the community of Cremona participated at the Ecumenical Meeting organized on the occasion of the week of prayer for the unity of Christians. The meeting, which took place in the Methodist Church, was attended by about 50 people: Catholics, Methodists, and Adventists." David Ferraro, *The Adventist Messenger*, March 1995 (translation from Italian)

AN ECUMENICAL RETREAT IN LIGURIA

"Genoa - The weekend between Friday, September 30, and Sunday, October 1, was characterized by a very important event for the Evangelical Ecumenism in Liguria.

"In fact, at Borgio Verezzi's Waldean house we had the first joint spiritual retreat between the Adventist Churches and the churches of the region belonging to the IFEC (Italian Federation of the Evangelical Churches). . . .

"The most significant aspect was the celebration of the Lord's Supper and feet washing, in which many Evangelical brothers took part.

"The spiritual retreat was very successful, thanks to Pastor Vincenzo Castro, who led these two days in a simple and well-organized way so that the evangelical brothers expressed their wish to have another meeting." Lidia Bongini, *Ibid.*

"We are to unify, but not on a platform of error." *Special Testimonies, Series B, # 2, page 47*

THE 144,000 AND THE GREAT MULTITUDE

THE HISTORIC POSITION

1846

"**Soon** we heard the voice of God like many waters, which gave us the day and hour of Jesus' coming. **The living saints, 144,000 in** number, knew and understood the voice, while the wicked thought it was thunder and an earthquake." *Early Writings*, page 15

"I was pointed down to the time when the third angel's message was closing. . . . I saw angels hurrying to and fro in heaven. An angel with a writer's inkhorn by his side returned from the earth and reported to Jesus that his work was done, and the saints were **numbered and** sealed. Then I saw Jesus, who had been ministering before the ark containing the ten commandments, throw down the censer. He raised His hands, and with a loud voice said, 'It is done.' . . . Every case had been decided for life or death." *Ibid.*, pages 279-280

1897

"The third message will therefore result in fitting **144,000** for the coming of the Lord. This is called, in Revelation 7, sealing them with the seal of the living God in their foreheads." Uriah Smith, *Review and Herald*; August 10, 1897

NOTE: After the sealing of the 144,000, probation will close. There will be no missionary work after this time period. No more people will then be saved among the living. Only 144,000 will be sealed and numbered. It is a literal number and not a symbolical number.

1989

"He points to the tokens of His triumph; He presents to God the wave sheaf, those raised with Him as representatives of that great multitude who shall come forth from the grave at His second coming." *The Desire of Ages*, page 834

1916

"The seer of Patmos, looking down through the ages to the time of their restoration of Israel in the earth made new, testified: 'I beheld, and, 10, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb. I II *Prophets and Kings*, pages 720-721

NOTE: In the end time, there will be only two classes of people - the living saints, 144,000 in number, and the great multitude (Revelation 7:9), who will come out of their graves when Jesus returns to earth. See 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17.

THE 144,000 AND THE GREAT MULTITUDE

THE NEW VIEW

1966

"If you want to read the inspired account of the triumph of the Advent Movement, turn with me to the words of the disciple out there on the Isle of Patmos, recorded in Revelation 7:9: 'After this I beheld, and, 10, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands.' . . . I want us to consider the formula for a finished work, for the final triumph of this movement." Robert H. Pierson, *Review and Herald*, June 26, 1966

1989

"John does not see the actual sealing take place, but hears the number of those involved. We should note two things of interest here: 1. The number itself, 144,000. It makes the most sense when we understand it symbolically. We may arrive at it by multiplying 12 by 12, and then by multiplying that number (144) by 1,000." Joseph J. Battistone, *God's Church in a Hostile World*, page 95

"The seven last plagues will not come until God's people are sealed. The symbolic **number**, 144,000, are redeemed from every nation. Their robes are made white and pure by the blood of the Lamb." *Adult Sabbath School Lessons*, May 20, 1989, page 55 (Note: The *Adult Sabbath School Lessons* are prepared by the Department of Church Ministries of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.)

1996

"In the last days, Jesus will use 144,000 (12 times 12,000) spiritual apostles, whose primary mission is to reach the world with the news of His second coming. The great multitude spoken of in Revelation chapter 7 is converted by the influence and preaching of the 144,000 following the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the latter rain." Doug Batchelor, *Inside Report*, March 1996

NOTE: Nowhere is it written in the Spirit of Prophecy that during the latter rain, the 144,000 will bring in a great multitude of people. This is wishful thinking.

"Turn, O backsliding children, saith the Lord; for I am married unto you: and I will take you one of a city, and two of a family, and I will bring you to Zion."
Jeremiah 3:14



THE COMMUNION SERVICE

THE HISTORIC POSITION

1850

"Then I was pointed back to the time that Jesus took the disciples away alone, into an upper room, and first washed their feet, and then gave them to eat of the broken bread to represent His broken body, and the juice of the vine to represent His spilled blood. I saw that all should move understandingly and follow the example of Jesus in these things, and when attending to these ordinances, should be as separate from unbelievers as possible." *Present Truth*, November 1850, pages 86-87

1867

"Resolved, that in our judgment the ordinances of the Christian church belong only to those who accept the duties and responsibilities of church membership." *Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*; May 28, 1867

1871

"We do not think it consistent for a Sabbath-keeper to partake of the sacrament with those whom he regards as violating the commandments of God." *Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*., January 24, 1871

1885

"The supper is for those only who are fully church members, and it is celebrated repeatedly. . . .

"As the Lord's supper belongs to **church members only**, it becomes important that we understand who are church members, or who are entitled to the privilege of communion. . . .

"Many seem to suppose that, whatever may be their church relations, or if they have no relation to any church, they are entitled to the privilege of 'communion' by virtue of their conversion; by reason of what they 'feel' or have 'experienced,' rather than by virtue of their conformity to the rules and regulations laid down for the guidance of the church members. **Against their claim we enter our hearty protest.**" *Signs of the Times*, August 6, 1885

1900

"The ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper are two monumental pillars, one **without** and one **within** the church. Upon these ordinances Christ has inscribed the name of the True God." *Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. 6, page 91

NOTE: The communion service takes place within the church. Only church members can take part.

THE COMMUNION SERVICE

THE NEW VIEW

1995

"Who May Participate - The Seventh-day Adventist Church practices open communion. All who have committed their lives to the Saviour may participate." *Seventh-Day Adventist Church Manual*, revised 1995, 15th edition, page 71

NOTE: In other words, visitors from different denominations may participate in the communion service.

THE WEDDING BAND AND JEWELRY

THE HISTORIC POSITION

" Moreover the Lord saith, Because the daughters of Zion are haughty, and walk with stretched forth necks and wanton eyes, walking and mincing as they go, and making a tinkling with their feet: therefore the Lord will smite with a scab the crown of the head of the daughters of Zion, and the Lord will discover their secret parts. In that day the Lord will take away the bravery of their tinkling ornaments about their feet, and their cauls, and their round tires like the moon, the chains, and the bracelets, and the mufflers, the bonnets, and the ornaments of the legs, and the headbands, and the tablets, and the earrings, the rings, and nose jewels." Isaiah 3:16-21

"In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array." 1 Timothy 2:9

"Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; but let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price." 1 Peter 3:3-4

1875

"To dress plainly, abstaining from display of jewelry and ornaments of every kind, is in keeping with our faith." *Testimonies for the Church*, Volume 3, page 366

1881

"That ring encircling your finger may be very plain, but it is useless, and the wearing of it has a wrong influence upon others." *Testimonies for the Church*, Volume 4, page 630

1895

"Not one penny should be spent for a cirlet of gold to testify that we are married." *Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers*, page 181

1933

"The wearing of gold, and pearls, and costly array, including the wedding ring, is condemned by God's Holy Word. 1 Timothy 2:5-10; 1 Peter 3:3-5; Isaiah 3:16-24." Baptismal certificate issued December 9, 1933, by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Vacaville, California

NOTE: Obviously, in 1933 the wearing of a ring was a test of fellowship.

THE WEDDING BAND AND JEWELRY

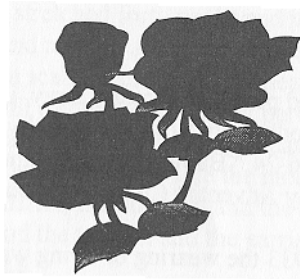
THE NEW VIEW

1986

“To recognize that, in harmony with the position stated in the church manual (pp. 145, 146), some church members in the North American Division, as in other parts of the world, feel that wearing a simple marriage band is a symbol of faithfulness to the marriage vow and to declare that such persons should be fully accepted in the fellowship and service of the church.” Action voted upon at the North American Division 1986 annual meeting

1987

"We have altered by official action our stand on remarriage, the **wedding ring**, and mixed swimming." Joe Crews, *Enemy at the Gate*, page 79



“The line of demarcation between wordings and many professed Christians is almost indistinguishable. Many who once were earnest Adventists are conforming to the world – to its practices, its customs, its selfishness. Instead of leading the world to render obedience to God’s law, the church is uniting more and more closely with the world in transgression.” Testimonies for the Church, Volume 8, pages 118-119

DIVORCE AND REMARRIAGE

THE HISTORIC POSITION

“For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man.” *Romans 7:2-3*

"The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth; but if her husband be dead, she is at liberty to be married to whom she will; only in the Lord." 1 Corinthians 7:39

1938

“The right to remarry of the guilty party to a divorce secured on Scriptural grounds, is not recognized. The right of either party to a divorce secured on any other than Scriptural grounds, to remarry, is not recognized by the church.” *Seventh-Day Adventist Church Manual, the General Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist, 1938, page 177*

1942

“That a church member who is the **guilty party** to the divorce forfeits the right to marry another, and . . . that should such a person marry another, he be **not readmitted to church membership** so long as the unscriptural relationship continues.” *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual, the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 1942, page 188*

NOTE: In other words, a guilty spouse in a divorce was not permitted to remarry.

DIVORCE AND REMARRIAGE

THE NEW VIEW

1987

“Look at the liberalization of the modern church on most of these issues. We have altered by official action our stand on **remarriage**, the wedding ring, and mixed swimming.” Joe Crews, *Enemy at the Gate*, page 79

1995

“A **guilty spouse** who has violated his or her marriage vow and has been divorced and disfellowshipped and who **has remarried** ... shall be considered as standing under the disapproval of the church and thus ineligible for membership **except** as hereafter provided.

“The marriage contract is not only sacred but also infinitely more complex than ordinary contracts in its possible involvements; for example, in the factor of the children who may be born. Hence, in a case where any endeavor by a genuinely **repentant** offender to bring his marital status into line with the divine ideal presents apparently insuperable problems, his or her plea for **readmittance** shall, before final action is taken, be brought by the church through the pastor or district leader to the conference committee for counsel and recommendation as to any possible steps that the repentant one, or ones, may take to secure such readmittance.

“Readmittance to membership of those who have been disfellowship for reason given in the foregoing, shall be on the basis of **rebaptism**.”

“When a person who has been involved in divorce proceeding is finally **readmitted to church** membership, as provided in section 8, every care should be exercised to safeguard the unity and harmony of the church by not giving such a person responsibility as a leader; especially in an office which requires the rite of ordination, unless be very careful counsel.” *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual, revised 1995, 15th edition, pages 183-184*

NOTE: Divorce and remarriage of a guilty spouse is permitted. This stand is the official position of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.



“Prophecy must be fulfilled. The Lord says: “Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord.” Somebody is to come in the spirit and power of Elijah, and when he appears, man may say: “You are too earnest, you do not interpret the Scriptures in the proper way. Let me tell you how to teach your message.”” *Testimony to Ministers and Gospel Workers, page 475*



HOMOSEXUALITY

THE HISTORIC POSITION

“For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.” *Romans 1:26-27*

“Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind.” *1 Corinthians 6:9*

NOTE: An active homosexual lifestyle cannot be tolerated within the church. This is strictly forbidden in God’s Word as follows:

“Christ has plainly taught that those who persist in open sin must be separated from the church, but He has no committed to us the work of Judging character and motive.” *Christ’s Object Lessons, page 71*

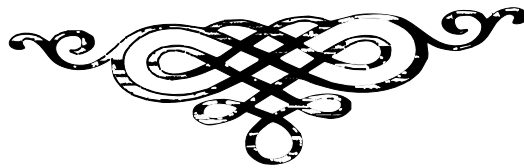
Sodom and Gomorrah’s destruction is a classic example of the Lord’s displeasure of this practice of homosexuality.

HOMOSEXUALITY

THE NEW VIEW

1997

“As caring Christians, we can make special efforts to include homosexuals as warmly loved and appreciated **members** of our church family. Since the Seventh-day Adventist Church teaches that God asks them to give up hope of fulfilling their desire for sexual expression, we need to surround them with loving support and acceptance. If they occasionally lose a battle, we should demonstrate the same patience and tolerance for them as we do for ourselves and fellow Christians who slip in their struggle with pride, selfishness, or temper.” *Adventist Review*, April 1997, page 29



“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.” *Jeremiah 6:16*



ABORTIONS

THE HISTORIC POSITION

“Thou shalt not kill.” Exodus 20:13

“Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.” *Psalms 127:3*

THE NEW VIEW

1992

“The church does not serve as conscience for individuals; however, it should provide moral guidance. Abortions for reasons of birth control, gender selection, or convenience are not condoned by the church. Women at times, however, may face exceptional circumstances that present serious moral or medical dilemmas, such as significant threats to the pregnant woman’s life, serious jeopardy to her health, severe congenital defects carefully diagnosed in the fetus, and pregnancy resulting from rape or incest. The final decision whether to terminate the pregnancy or not should be made by the pregnant woman after appropriate consultation. She should be aided in her decision by accurate information, biblical principles, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Moreover, these decisions are best made within the context of healthy family relationships.” *Adventist Review*, December 31, 1992, page 12

CELEBRATION CHURCHES

THE HISTORIC POSITION

“Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.” *1 Timothy 4:1*

"Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved." *2 Thessalonians 2:9-10*

"And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty." *Revelation 16:13-14*

1899

"If we work to create an excitement of feeling, we shall have all we want, and more than we can possibly know how to manage. Calmly and clearly 'Preach the word.' We must not regard it as our work to create an excitement. . . . New and strange things will continually arise to lead God's people into false excitement, religious revivals, and curious developments." *Selected Messages, Book 2, pages 16-17*

1900

"There is danger of those in our ranks making a mistake in regard to receiving the Holy Ghost. Many suppose an emotion or a rapture of feeling to be an evidence of the presence of the Holy Spirit." *Ibid.*, page 18

Undated manuscript **111**

" A new order of things has come into the ministry. There is a desire to pattern after other churches, and simplicity and humility are almost unknown. The young ministers seek to be original, and to introduce new ideas and new plans for labor. Some open revival meetings, and by this means call large numbers into the church. But when the excitement is over, where are the converted ones?" *Ibid*, pages 18-19

CELEBRATION CHURCHES

THE NEW VIEW

1997

"WHEN NORTH AMERICA GETS TOGETHER

"New survey data on worship reveal some interesting trends. . . . **The atmosphere in the worship service in my local church can be best described as**

	Persent
Formal	57
CELEBRATION	29
Lifeless	10
Chaotic	4

"Source: A random sample of 1,735 members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America to be published early next year in *Trends in Adventism*, by Monte Sahlin." *Adventist Review*, October 30, 1997, page 13

"Those who will not act when the Lord calls upon them, but who wait for more certain evidence and more favorable opportunities, will walk in darkness, for the light will be withdrawn. The evidence given one day, if rejected, may never be repeated." *Testimonies for the Church*, Volume 3, page 258

