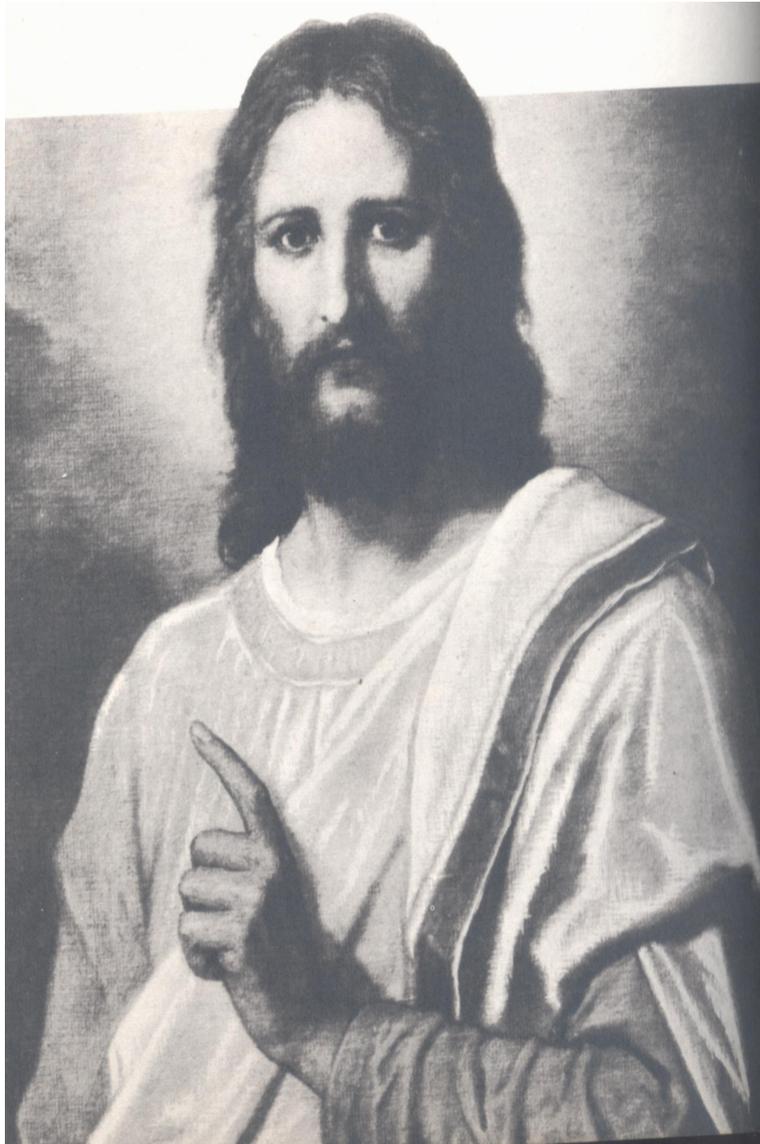


**DOES THE S.D.A. CHURCH TEACH
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WITHIN THE BELIEVER?**



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The Seventh-day Adventist Church was raised up by God to develop the 144,000. This group of latter day saints are thus described in the Bible. “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. And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps: And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. 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. And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.” Revelation 14:1-5. The fact that this last body of Christians are truly **sinless** is seen in that they are not defiled by women, which is being **free from false religions**; they are virgins, meaning they **profess a pure faith**; in their mouth was found no guile or **deceit** for the **Truth alone** is in them, and they are **without any moral fault** in their lives.

This group is **sinlessly perfect** in their actual existence; but they are not made so by their own ability, they are made sinless by the new birth and by keeping the seed of the word of God (Luke 8:11) in their lives. “Whosoever is born of God doeth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.” 1 John 3:9. This group **actually** and **truly** lives **sinless**, this is why they are referred to in the following verse. “Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.” Revelation 14:12.

We see here that the last group of Christians do not make-believe keep the Law of God, they do not keep the Law by proxy, they do not claim that Jesus kept the Law in their place, and as they believe in Him, His obedience is counted to them **as if** it were their own; and even more so, they do not claim this while believing that at that same time they have sin in their lives in any form. The 144,000 actually “keep” the Law of God, knowing full well that the Scriptures admonishes them to “So speak ye, and so **do**, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.” James 2:12. The very fact that the Bible is so plain on these points should lead all who understand these truths to seek for real sinlessness. Yet in the S.D.A. Church, a new doctrine contrary to these Scripture truths have arisen through the influence of apostate Protestant theology that has being brought into the Church by ignorant and misled, sin-loving ministers. These false teachings have now become the norm and common gospel to Adventist members so that they are presented in various ways too numerous to document. In Short, the teaching states, that when a person repents and believe, God justifies him. We are told that this justification does **not** change the sinful human character, the person is sanctified by the gift of the Holy Spirit within, but the person is still not sinless, sin still resides in some form within the believer, but as Christ’s sinless character is imputed to him and His perfect obedience is put to the person’s account, he is counted as sinless and God sees him as sinless even though he has sin in his life or is yet

imperfect. The person must struggle with the aid of grace to reach the goal of total freedom from sin although in this life he will **never** reach it. Thus if he overcomes as much as possible in sanctified obedience, when Christ comes again and the believer is glorified, then he will be redeemed in such a way as to stop sinning. In various ways this doctrine is taught in the S.D.A. Church with slight changes more or less. It is this same doctrine that is so deceitfully represented in this Adventist authoritative book printed by the Ministerial Association of General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. "... each fully surrendered Christian is being changed daily from glory to glory, until, at the Second Advent, his or her transformation into the image of God will be completed." **Seventh-day Adventist Believe, A Biblical Exposition of 27 Fundamental Doctrines**, p. 125. What is this transformation into the image of God that is to be completed at the second Advent? Is it a transformation that does not involve ceasing to sin? Is the person sinless when that transformation occurs? Or do they still have sin in their existence? The book deceitfully tells us of "hidden faults" in the believer. "Realizing the sinfulness of the human heart, David requested forgiveness for his "hidden faults." Speak specifically of the sins of believers ..." **Ibid**, p. 129.

Thus the complete transformation is to be deliverance from sin at the second Advent, until then, one can only be sinlessly perfect "in Christ" and not within himself. Here is what the book says. "Sanctification is a lifelong process. Perfection now is ours in Christ, but the ultimate, all comprehensive transformation of our lives into the image of God will take place at the Second Advent." **Ibid**, p. 130.

This obviously would mean that we are not fully in the image of God, we are partly in the image of God with sin still within; this accounts for the various outrageous teachings found in Adventist literature. Look at this horrible teaching.

"For too many people, Christian living consists in seeking to be good by not being bad." George R. Knight, **I Used to be Perfect**, p. 45. Could we seek to be good by being bad? This book is published by the authoritative S.D.A. organization, yet they allow these obviously erroneous statements into print, why? Because it is in harmony with this false doctrine of "salvation in sin". Here we are told that perfection does not mean sinlessness, so we are to think of a person as perfect with sin. "It is now time to turn to the Bible words used to express the English word *perfection*. *None of them mean "sinlessness" or have absolutist connotation.*" **Ibid**, p. 71. In various ways, S.D.A. authors under the influence of anti-sinlessness teachings pervert the plainest statements of the Bible. Here we are told that the very Scriptures that mean sinlessness does not mean that no sin must be in the believer. "It is important to note that in all the passages in 1 John demanding sinlessness, the Greek verbs describing people who sin are in the present tense, thereby denoting people who live in a state of continual or habitual sinning." **Ibid**, p. 74. We are even told that when the Bible describes men as sinless they still commit acts of sin. "Those in this second group are defined by John as being sinless, even though they still commit acts of sin for which they need to be forgiven" **Ibid**, p. 75. "Christians still commit sins of ignorance and sins of infirmity." **Ibid**, p. 77. This teaching is in harmony with what we saw in the "**27 Fundamentals**" because we are told that as long as we have this body we WILL sin, so obviously, it is only at the Second Advent when our bodies are glorified, then we will stop sinning.

“For want of better bodily organs, they must at times think, speak or act wrong; not indeed, through a defect of love, but through a defect of knowledge.” **Ibid**, p. 77. Finally, we are told this equally outrageous idea that we can have a sinless attitude while having sinful actions. “Thus we can be perfect or sinless in attitude without being perfect or sinless in action. John, Paul, and Wesley agree on that point.” **Ibid**, p. 78.

An ex-General Conference president has even gone so far to tell us when **wrong** is **right** and when our **holy** God accepts the wrong. “.. I believe that my specific behavior is often of less importance than whether my will is surrendered to God’s will. Because if my will is right my behavior will be right—even if it’s wrong! How can that be? It comes down to motive. If my motive is to please God in everything I do, if my will is surrendered to His will, then even when I unwittingly do something contrary to His law, my motive is still to please Him. And He accepts that misguided action, because He knows I did it from love.” Robert S. Folkenberg, **We Still Believe**, p. 44. Clearly the S.D.A. Church is sick both theologically and morally, this Church can NEVER produce the 144,000. How can ministers who claim to be teachers of Christ expect to raise the standards of people whom they tell that they cannot stop sinning after they are born again of the Spirit? How can ministers who claim to be God’s mouth piece instruct sinners that through the power of grace they still cannot truly overcome sin but must remain in it? These false shepherds obviously mislead the flock by lying on the Scriptures and misrepresenting them. These ministers are not to be trusted. Do not believe what they say when they misinterpret the Bible or Spirit of Prophecy teachings about sinless perfection, let us follow the Bible which says: “Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Romans 6:11. Amen.

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