

Volume 3, Issue 27

Newsletter Date
June 25, 2014

Auburn SDA Church

Weekly Newsletter

Important Information

- Sunset Times June 28
- This Sabbath 8:51 pm.
- Next Friday Night 8:50 pm.

The Church in Study.	9:30 am - 10:40 am.
Worship Service.	11:00 am.
Sermon Speaker	Pastor Jeff Westberg
Sermon Title	The only way to God
Sermon Text	Exodus 27:9-19

Inside this issue:

Pastor Jeff's Message.	2
Church & Community Outreach Activities.	3
Photo's of Interest.	4
Various Thoughts or Items of Interest for the Week.	1
Spiritual Text to Ponder.	3
Prayer Meeting Date and Info.	3
Future Items for You to Schedule on your calendar	4
Contact Information	4

The Trial Of our Faith

In this time of trial we need to be encouraged and comforted by one another. The temptations of Satan are greater than ever before, for he knows that his time is short and that very soon every case will be decided, either for life or for death. It is no time now to sink down beneath discouragement and trial, we must bear up under all our afflictions and trust wholly in the almighty God of Jacob.. The Lord has shown us that his grace is sufficient for all our trials, and although they are greater than ever before, yet if we trust wholly in God, we can overcome every temptation and through His grace come off victorious.. If we overcome our trials and get victory over the temptations of Satan, then we endure the trial of our faith, which is more precious than gold, and are stronger and better prepared to meet the next.. But if we sink down and give way to the temptations of Satan, we shall grow weaker and get no reward for the trial and shall not be so well prepared for the next. In this way we shall grow weaker and weaker , until we are led captive by Satan at his will. We must have on the whole armor of God and be ready at any moment for a conflict with the powers of darkness.. When temptations and trials rush in upon us, let us go to God and agonize with Him in prayer.. He will not turn us away empty, but will give us grace and strength to overcome, and to break the power of the enemy..

Early Writings Ellen G. White.....(Review & Herald Publishing Association.)

Pastor Jeff's Message

Seventh-day Adventist eschatology

The Seventh-day Adventist Church holds a *unique* system of eschatological (or **end-times**) beliefs which is based on a **historicist interpretation of prophecy**. It is characterized primarily by the pre-millennial second coming of Jesus Christ. The Bible teaches the second coming will be preceded by a global crisis with the Sabbath as a central issue. At Jesus' return, the righteous will be taken to heaven for one thousand years and the wicked will be slain. After the millennium, the unsaved will be punished by complete annihilation while the saved will live on a recreated Earth for eternity.

Basis of teaching

Seventh-day Adventism derives its end-times teaching in large part from interpreting the books of [Daniel](#) and [Revelation](#), as well as the [apocalyptic](#) teachings of Jesus Christ found in [Matthew](#) Chapter 24. Adventists interpret Biblical prophecies using the [historicist](#) method, although some of the prophecies of Revelation have a future application. This [futurist](#) aspect of the church's interpretation of the book of Revelation has played a major part in shaping Adventist eschatology. Adventists believe some Old Testament prophecies were conditional, and hence unfulfilled.

Adventists base their theology directly and ***completely on the Bible***. After discovering the truth from in-depth Bible study, often [Ellen G. White](#) confirmed their discoveries. She has been highly influential, particularly with her book, [The Great Controversy](#).

Outline of Adventist eschatology

In Adventist teaching, the end times consists of four distinct periods:

1. The **Investigative Judgment**, beginning in 1844 and ending at the close of probation
2. The "**Time of Trouble**", beginning at the close of probation and ending at the second coming of [Jesus](#)
3. The **millennium**
4. The destruction of sinners and the coming of new earth, *after* the 1,000 years

Background: Four kingdoms of Daniel

The background to Adventist eschatology is found in the book of Daniel, which has strong thematic and literary links to Revelation. A key passage is the interpretation of King Nebuchadnezzar's vision of a statue in Daniel 2. The sequence of world kingdoms in his dream represent: Babylonia, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome, in turn. The feet of iron and clay in the vision represent the nations of Europe subsequent to the breakup of the Roman Empire.

Events prior to 1844

The Roman Empire was a "world" power active during the ministry of Jesus that continued several centuries into the Christian era. Then it was ultimately replaced by the papacy which is identified as the "man of sin" in 2 Thessalonians, the "Antichrist" in 1 John and the "little horn" in Daniel chapters 7 and 8. Adventism agrees with the Reformers which saw the Roman Catholic religion as having become corrupt ~~ no longer the original, authentic Christianity. For example, it tried to change God's day of worship from Saturday to Sunday.

The period AD 538 to 1798 is the "1260 days", "42 months" or "time, times and dividing of time" of apocalyptic prophecy. Adventists see the 1260 days as the time of papal supremacy and oppression as prophesied in Revelation 12:6, 14-16. This period began with the defeat of the Ostrogoths by General Belisarius and ended with the successes of Napoleon; specifically, the capture of Pope Pius VI by General Louis Alexandre Berthier. This capture of the pope by the French army was the "deadly wound" of Revelation 13:3. The healing of the wound occurred with the Lateran Treaty, signed by Italian Prime Minister Benito Mussolini in 1929.

After the end of the 1260 days (1798), and prior to 1844, several significant events took place. In 1755 a massive earthquake hit Lisbon. On May 19, 1780, northeastern America experienced a day of extraordinary darkness followed by a blood-red moon that night. On November 13, 1833, a spectacular Leonid's meteor shower occurred. These three events are the fulfillment of Revelation 6:12, paving the way for the final events of history. Also, during the 1830s and 1840s the Millerite movement proclaimed the soon return of Jesus. Adventists have traditionally interpreted this as the initial proclamation of the three angels' messages.

Pastors messages continued

The Investigative Judgment

The investigative judgment commenced in 1844 "at the end of the prophetic period of 2300 days". During this time, Jesus is ministering in the Most Holy Place of the heavenly sanctuary, "blotting out" the sins of all who are found to truly believe in him. Meanwhile on earth, the remnant church proclaims the "three angels' messages" of Revelation 14; it "announces the arrival of the judgment hour, proclaims salvation through Christ, and heralds the approach of His second advent." As a result, there is "a work of repentance and reform on earth."

The completion of the investigative judgment marks the "close of probation". This is a crucial moment when sinners will no longer be able to repent and be forgiven, because Christ will have ceased His intercessory ministry.

The time of trouble

Following the close of probation, there will be a "time of trouble", a brief but intense period of time immediately preceding the second coming of Jesus Christ. Adventists believe the Roman Catholic Church will return to prominence during the end times, fulfilling the prophecy of the first beast of Revelation 13 (the leopard-like beast from the sea) whose "deadly wound" (i.e. the deposal of the Pope in 1798) will be healed. The United States of America, meanwhile, will establish ties with the Papacy, in fulfillment of the second beast of Revelation 13 (the lamb-like beast from the earth).

Ultimately, the Protestant churches of America will join the confederation between the beasts, forming the "image to the beast" (Revelation 13:14-15). At this time, a conflict will ensue that will "involve the whole world", and in which "the central issue will be obedience to God's law and the observance of the Sabbath." Religious and civil authorities will combine to enact a "Sunday law" which requires all people to observe Sunday as a sacred day. The "Sunday law" is interpreted as the meaning of the "mark of the beast", described in Revelation 13:16-17.

In contrast to those who choose to obey the "Sunday law", and therefore receive the "mark of the beast", people who observe the seventh-day Sabbath will receive the "Seal of God" (mentioned in Revelation 7:2). Sabbath keepers will experience fierce persecution from world governments, which will include economic coercion and ultimately the death penalty. Despite being almost overwhelmed by persecution, the people of God will be delivered by the [Second Coming](#) of Jesus Christ, when He returns to earth in glory.

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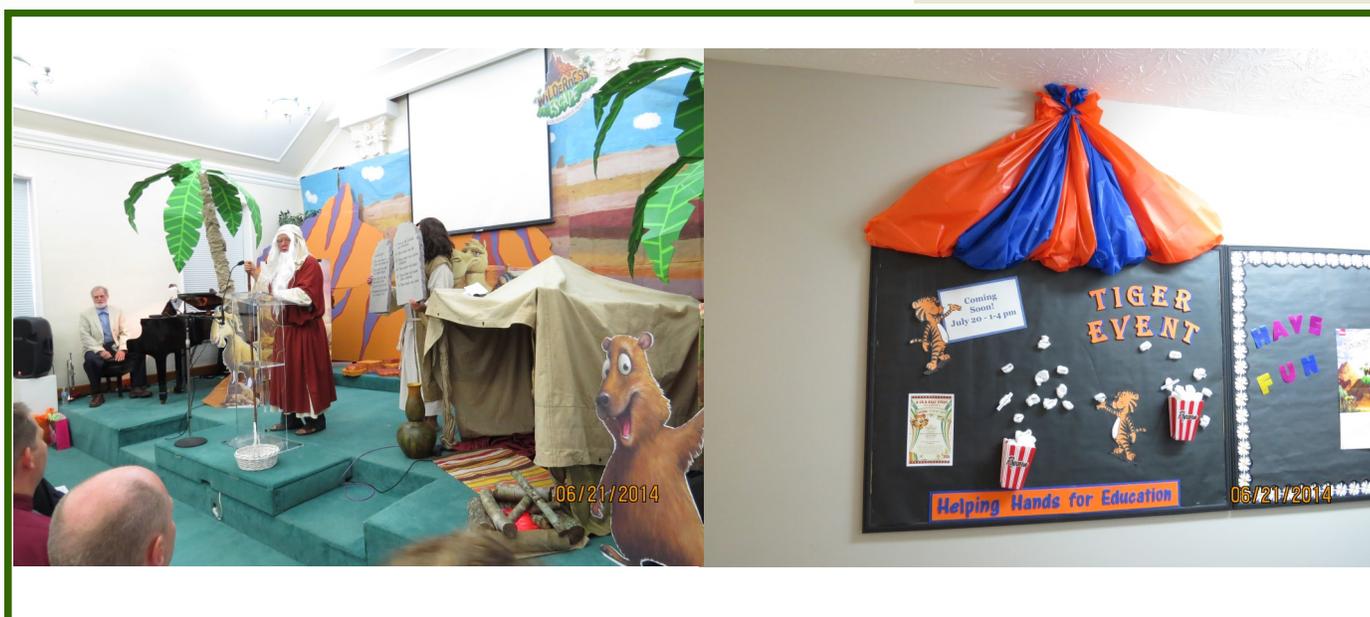
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Future Items for you to Schedule on your Calendar.

- Reminder: Every Sabbath Afternoon at 6 pm. Auburn SDA Church will have an Adventist Youth Meeting to study and celebrate God working in our lives. Please join the celebration.
- June 28** Pastor would like to meet with all Deacons and Deaconesses who will be serving during 2014–2015 after worship. Please meet downstairs in the fellowship hall.
- June 28 Parents, Your children need you to bring them ON TIME for a special 13th Sabbath Program. This is for all the children's divisions. Meet downstairs at 9:30 am for some fun together. We will have class promotions for the kids moving up to different divisions. Please don't let your kids miss it.
- July 20. Tiger Event —1:00pm – 4:00pm. Fund raising for school supplies is here. Please mark your tithe envelope "Tiger Event" without your support this event could not take place, Thank you.
- Aug 10 –17 OSHKOSH PATHFINDER CAMPOREE**