

Christianity, Cults & Religion

Scientology

New Age

SDA



Islam

Buddhism



Christianity

Taoism



Judaism

Hinduism



Christian
Science

Jehovah's
Witnesses

Mormonism

Christianity, Cults & Religion

Purpose –

- To strengthen our foundation as Christians
 - Know what others believe
 - Know what their beliefs are founded on
 - Compare those beliefs and foundations with Christianity
- To be better prepared in evangelism

Overview

Week 1 Hinduism

Week 2 Buddhism

Week 3 New Age

Week 4 Islam

Week 5 Scientology

Week 6 Christian Science

Week 7 Jehovah's Witness

Week 8 Mormons

Week 9 Seventh Day Adventists



Seventh Day Adventists

It is my conviction that...it is perfectly possible to be a Seventh-day Adventist and be a true follower of Jesus Christ despite certain heterodox (contrary to accepted belief) concepts.



Walter Martin

I felt it was necessary to include here Seventh-day Adventism as a proper counterbalance-presenting the other side of Adventism and representing the theology of Adventism as the Adventists themselves believe it and not as many critics have caricatured it.

Seventh Day Adventists

For six years he pastored in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. In 1982, the Adventist Church became indignant as Mark began to teach God's grace and he was forced to resign and was ostracized from the church.



J. Mark Martin

Seventh-day Adventism has long been a misunderstood group. This is because beginning in the 1950's they began to seek acceptance by evangelical, born-again Christians. They opened up a dialogue with Walter Martin at Donald Grey Barnhouse's insistence. What followed was a stunning piece of public relations work that began a cover-up of the real truths of Adventism. Adventists desperately want to be accepted so that they may proselytize Christians.

Seventh Day Adventists

11 million adherents 900,000 in U.S.



World Headquarters

Seventh Day Adventists

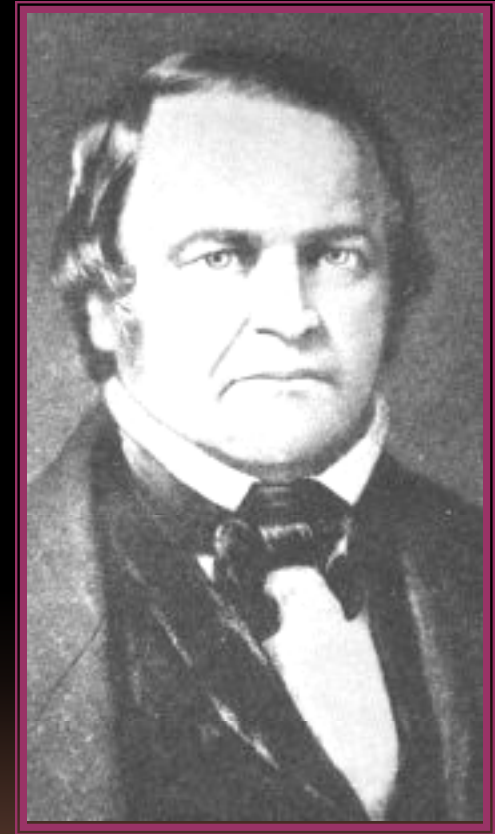
William Miller a Baptist preacher,
believed Jesus would return in 1844.

Daniel 8:14

457 BC + 2300 years = 1844 AD

The Great Disappointment

Miller acknowledged his error



William Miller

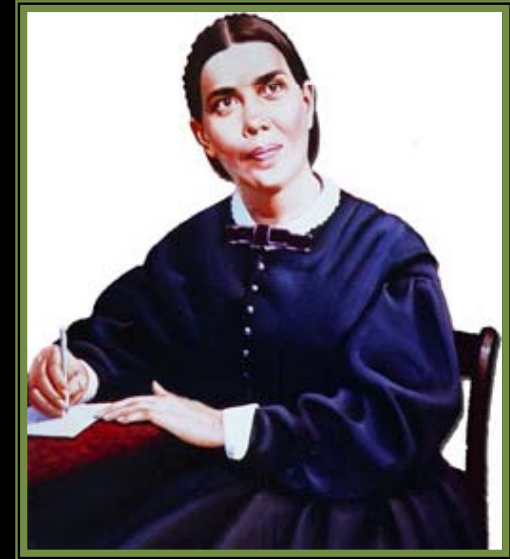
Seventh Day Adventists



Hiram Edson, a devout Adventist and follower of William Miller, allegedly received a great spiritual revelation that Jesus entered the Holy of Holies to begin the
Investigative Judgment

Seventh Day Adventists

She claimed to have the “spirit of prophecy,” and that her messages were direct from God for the guidance and instruction of the church.



Ellen G. White

Having only a third grade education, Ellen White said for years she was unable to read, bolstering the claim that her beautiful prose was inspired by God. However, it has been discovered that she not only read, but plagiarized other Christian authors throughout virtually all her writings.



A diagram illustrating a religious transition. A horizontal black line starts from the left edge of the slide. On this line, there is an orange rounded rectangle containing the word "Baptists". To the right of this rectangle is a yellow starburst shape containing the text "AD 1844". From the right side of the starburst, a black line extends diagonally downwards and to the right, ending at a purple rounded rectangle containing the word "Adventists".

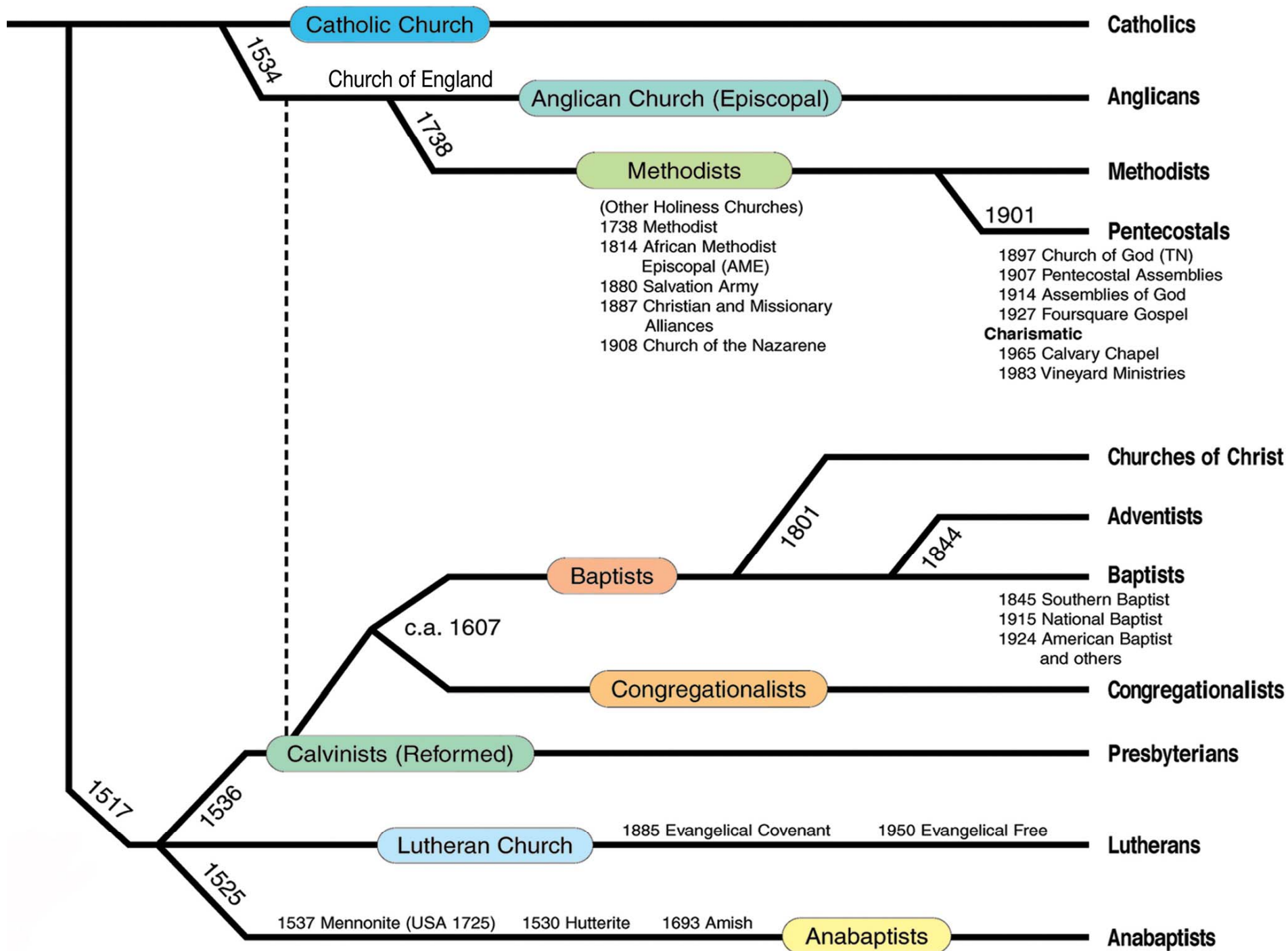
Baptists

AD 1844

Adventists

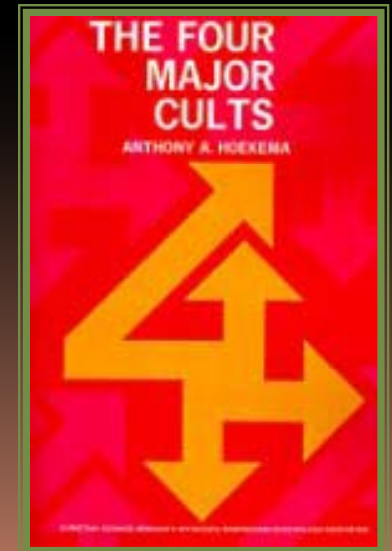
In 1844, William Miller's prediction that Christ's "advent" (return) would occur in 1844, failed.

This marked the beginning of the Adventist movement.



Seventh Day Adventists

1. An extra-scriptural source of authority (Ellen G. White)
2. The denial of justification by grace alone.
 - The investigative judgment
 - The keeping of the Sabbath
3. The devaluation of Christ
 - Identified as Michael the Archangel
4. The group as the exclusive community of the saved.



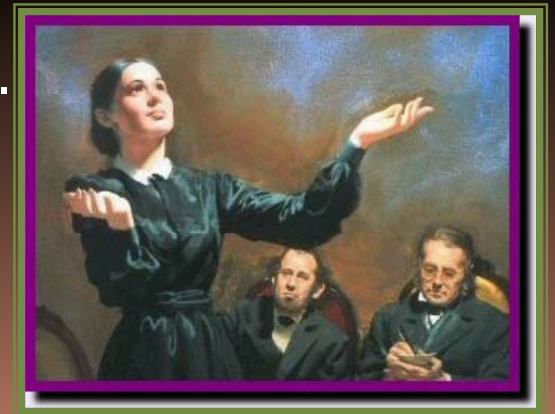
Seventh Day Adventists

The doctrine teaches that in the Holy of Holies in the Heavenly Sanctuary Christ is now conducting an investigation into the lives of all who have ever professed belief in Christ. He is judging all their works, by the standard of God's Law. All those whose lives fail to measure up to the standard of the Law are rejected and condemned as not having true faith. Those whose lives meet that standard and thus manifest the perfect character and righteousness of Christ are recognized as having true faith, and so their sins are "blotted out." SDAs say, "This judgment vindicates the justice of God in saving those who believe in Jesus. It declares that those who have remained loyal to God shall receive the kingdom."



Seventh Day Adventists

“...[O]ur High Priest enters the holy of holies [in 1844]...to perform the work of investigative judgement and to *make an atonement* for all who are shown to be *entitled* to its benefits... Every man’s work passes in review before God and is registered for faithfulness or unfaithfulness... Sins that have not been repented of and *forsaken* will not be pardoned and blotted out of the books of record, but will stand to witness against the sinner... [Christ] had kept His Father’s commandments, and *there was no sin in Him... this is the condition in which those must be found who shall stand in the time of trouble*”
(*Great Controversy*, pp. 480, 482–84, 486, 623).



The Bible Says,

John 19:30

So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!"

Hebrews 1:3

... when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

Romans 3:24

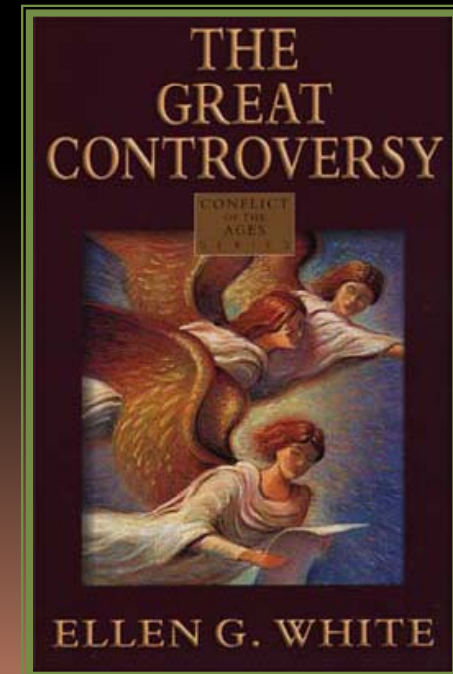
being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

Seventh Day Adventists

Sabbatarianism: Generally the view that the Old Testament Sabbath commandment is to be observed unchanged by the church. As used in this index, Sabbatarianism refers to an extreme form of the belief in which membership in the true church, or even salvation, is conditional upon keeping the Sabbath law. As such, Sabbatarianism is at the least a form of legalism and at most a denial of salvation by grace. In most cases, the Jewish Sabbath (Saturday) must be observed by refraining from work, sports, and travel from sundown Friday evening to sundown Saturday evening. The belief is often accompanied by the observance of Jewish dietary laws and/or other Old Testament feasts.

Seventh Day Adventists

"...[T]he divine institution of the Sabbath is to be restored... The delivering of this message will precipitate a conflict that will involve the whole world. The central issue will be obedience to God's law and the observance of the Sabbath....Those who reject it will eventually receive the mark of the beast"
(*Great Controversy*, pp. 262–63).



Seventh Day Adventists

"I saw that the Holy Sabbath is, and will be, the *separating wall* between the true Israel of God and *unbelievers*" (*Early Writings*, p. 33; emphasis added).

"Sabbath... observance was of sufficient importance to draw a line between the people of God and unbelievers" (*Ibid.*, p. 85).



The Bible Says,

Exodus 31:13

“Speak also to the children of Israel, saying: ‘Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am the Lord who sanctifies you.

Romans 14:5-6

One person esteems one day above another; another esteems every day alike. Let each be fully convinced in his own mind. He who observes the day, observes it to the Lord; and he who does not observe the day, to the Lord he does not observe it. He who eats, eats to the Lord, for he gives God thanks; and he who does not eat, to the Lord he does not eat, and gives God thanks.

The Bible Says,

Colossians 2:16-17

So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.

The Bible Says,

Jude 9

Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"

The Bible Says,

Revelation 12:17

And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Seventh Day Adventists

Soul Sleep

Adventists believe that the Scriptures teach that the soul of man represents the whole man, and not a particular part...the soul can't exist apart from the body.



The Bible Says,

James 2:26

For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

2 Corinthians 5:8

We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

Philippians 1:23-24

For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better.
Nevertheless to remain in the flesh is more needful for you.

Seventh Day Adventists

Annihilation

The Punishment of the wicked is not an endless process of punishment, but an effectual punishment, which will be final and forever (KC 538)

Rejected because...

1. Wicked do not have everlasting life (therefore their existence ceases)
2. Revelation 21:4 says pain will cease
3. Would be a plague throughout eternity, God couldn't abolish it.
4. It would detract from the attribute of love
5. The atoning work of Christ was to put away sin from the individual and the universe.

The Bible Says,

Revelation 20:10

The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

Revelation 14:11

And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

Matthew 25:41

"Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:

Adventist Churches

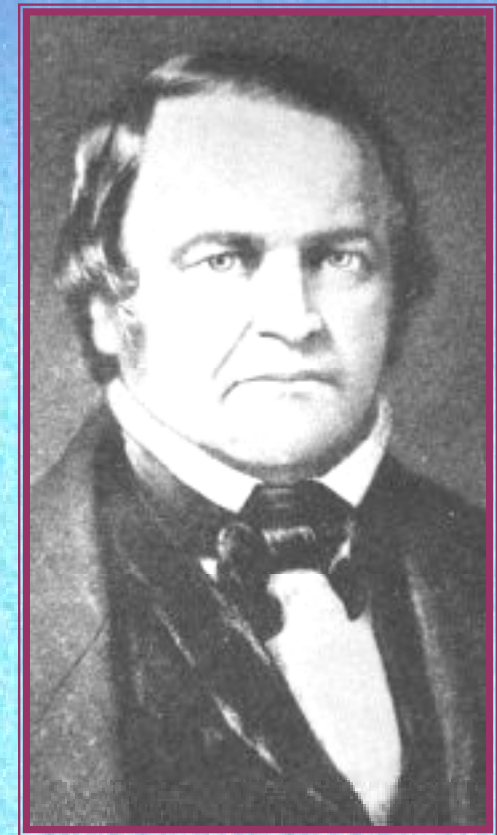


WHEN WAS IT FOUNDED AND BY WHOM?

In 1844, William Miller's prediction, that Christ's "advent" (return) would occur in 1844, failed.

It was later interpreted as a heavenly event, not as an actual return.

In 1863, the Seventh-day Adventist Church is organized.



William Miller

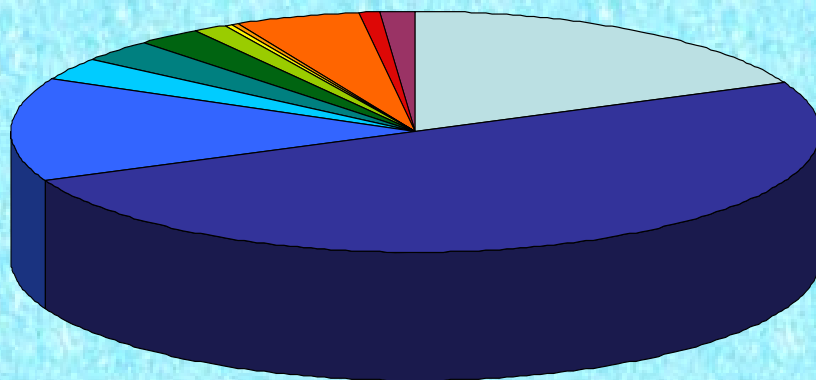
Adventist Churches



HOW MANY ADHERENTS IN 2000?

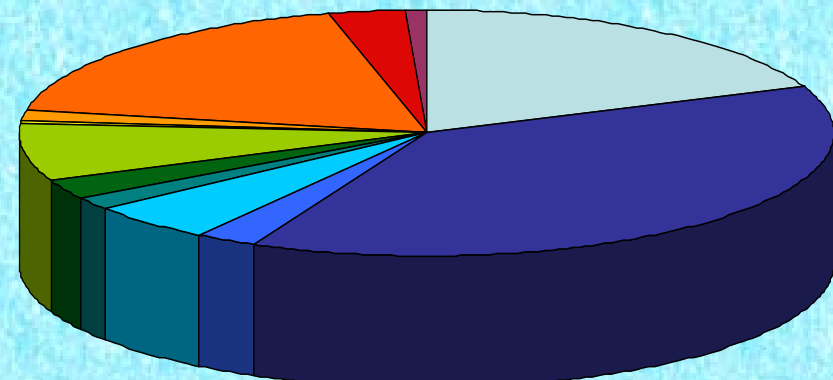
There are approximately 11 million worldwide, and about 900,000 in the United States.

Denominations Worldwide



Other
Lutheran
Methodist
Baptist

Denominations in the USA



Catholic
Anglican
Anabaptist
Churches of Christ

Orthodox
Presbyterian
Congregational
Adventist

Adventist Churches



HOW IS SCRIPTURE VIEWED?

Scripture is inspired and without error, the final, totally trustworthy rule of faith.

The standard Protestant canon is accepted.

Ellen G. White, a leader in the early Seventh-day Adventist church, was a prophet, and her writings authoritatively impart instruction in the Scriptures.



Ellen G. White

Adventist Churches



WHO IS GOD?

The one Creator, and Lord of all, existing eternally as the Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit).

WHO IS JESUS?

The eternal Son incarnate, fully God and fully human, conceived and born of the virgin Mary, died on the Cross for our sins, rose bodily from the grave, ascended into heaven, and will come again in glory to judge us all.

Adventist Churches



SALVATION

To be saved, we repent, believe in Christ as Example (in his life) and Substitute (by his death), and so by grace are made right with God and made alive by the Spirit to live in obedience to God's commandments.

Those so found at the end will be saved.

Adventist Churches



WHAT HAPPENS AFTER DEATH?

Death for all people is an unconscious state.

At Christ's return the righteous will be raised for life in heaven.

After one thousand years, the wicked will be raised only to be annihilated; the righteous will live forever on a new earth.

Adventist Churches



WHAT IS THE CHURCH?

The universal church includes all who believe in Christ.

The last days are a time of apostasy during which a remnant (the Seventh-day Adventist Church) keeps God's commandments faithfully.

The General Conference, composed of delegates from regional "union missions," governs the whole church.

Adventist Churches



WHAT ABOUT THE SACRAMENTS?

Baptism is immersion of believers only, as a symbol of their faith in Christ.

The Lord's Supper is a symbolic memorial of Christ's death and is practiced in conjunction with foot washing.



Adventist Churches



WHAT ARE SOME OTHER BELIEFS AND PRACTICES?

In 1844 Christ began the Investigative Judgment, a work in heaven of determining who among the dead and living are true, loyal believers obeying God's law.

Rest and worship on Saturday is an essential element of that obedience.

When the Judgment work is done, Christ will return.

Adventist Churches



WHAT ARE THE MAJOR DIVISIONS OR TRENDS?



The Seventh-day Adventist Church is by far the largest Adventist body.

Most of the smaller offshoots, such as the Church of God General Conference, reject the Trinity and other traditional Christian doctrines.

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Islam

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