

**Comparative Religion II**  
**SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS**




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**SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS**



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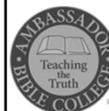
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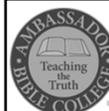
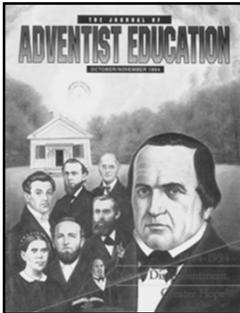

**ADVENTIST WILLIAM MILLER (1782-1849)**



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**THE GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT 1844**

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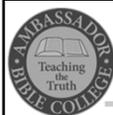
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### SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS

“Our expectations were raised high, and thus we looked for our coming Lord until the clock tolled 12, at midnight. The day had then passed and our disappointment became a certainty. Our fondest hopes and expectations were blasted, and such a spirit of weeping came over us as I never experienced before.”

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“It seemed that the loss of all earthly friends could have been no comparison. We wept, and wept, till the day dawn. I mused in my own heart, saying, My advent experience has been the richest and brightest of all my Christian experience. If this had proved a failure, what was the rest of my Christian experience worth?” (Hiram Edson, Manuscript Fragment from *LIFE AND EXPERIENCE*, pp. 4-5)

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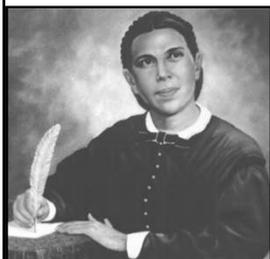
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FOUNDER – ELLEN G. WHITE

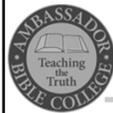


MR. AND MRS. JAMES WHITE



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ONE OF ELLEN G. WHITE'S VISIONS – SEEING HEAVEN



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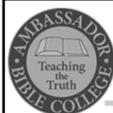


ELLEN G. WHITE'S BOOK ON PROPHECY!



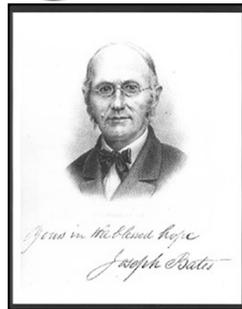
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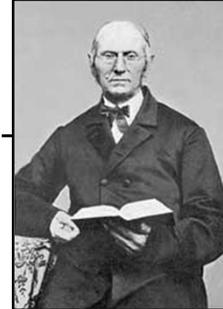


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JOSEPH BATES (1792-1872) – SABBATH AND DIETARY LAWS



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**Hiram Edson  
(1806-1882) –  
Justified the Miller  
vision as  
Investigative  
Judgment**

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#### BACKGROUND

**FOUNDER – Ellen G. White (1827-1915) Joseph Bates and Hiram Edson also helped her. William Miller was a key person in the Adventist movement**

**GOD – the Trinity**

**SCRIPTURES – The Holy Bible as interpreted by Ellen G. White’s writings. (Official teaching is that Mrs. White’s writings are not scripture.)**

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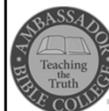
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#### BACKGROUND

**HISTORY – William Miller was a Deist who through studying Daniel 8:14 became convinced that Christ would return 2300 years from 457 BC. He believed Christ would return sometime between March 21, 1843 and March 21 1844. He began preaching this in 1833. His audience came from other congregational affiliations. However, before long they formed their own Adventist movement.**

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#### BACKGROUND

**HISTORY – When March 1844 came and went, they looked into Habakkuk 2:3 and interpreted this to mean that the coming would be on October 22, 1844. Thousands sold or gave away property and possessions and awaited Christ’s return.**

**When nothing happened that day, it became known as the “Great Disappointment”. Millerites disbanded and William Miller admitted that he made a mistake. He died in obscurity in 1849.**

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#### BACKGROUND

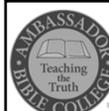
**HISTORY – Hiram Edson (1806-1882), one of Miller’s followers, could not believe they were wrong, so developed the doctrine of “investigative judgment.”**

**Joseph Bates(1792-1872) added dietary laws and the seventh day Sabbath.**

**Ellen G. Harmon (later White) had visions and was looked to for the gift of prophecy.**

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#### BACKGROUND

**HISTORY – The three of them began the Seventh Day Adventist Church in 1846. Ellen G. White became the most prominent of the three.**

**The church has grown at a steady rate and members are quite actively involved. 1,000 baptisms per day according to some sources for a five year period (1979-1984).**

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#### BACKGROUND

**ORGANIZATION** – Representative form of government. Lay members and ministers serve as elected officers. Ministers are usually graduates of SDA colleges.

**CREED** – Seventh-day Adventists accept the Bible as their only creed and hold certain fundamental beliefs to be the teaching of the Holy Scriptures.

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#### BACKGROUND

**SALVATION** – Christ is to take His resurrected people to heaven for 1000 years while the earth lies empty and desolate. The saints will be in heaven judging the deeds of the wicked. All of the wicked will be destroyed at Christ's coming and they and the dead wicked will await the second resurrection to judgment.

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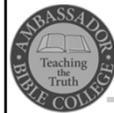
### SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS

#### BELIEFS

- Only true church belief but all who love Christ will have some type of chance
- Believers are baptized by immersion
- Original sin at the fall of Adam
- Lord's Supper is observed four times per year as a memorial with bread and grape juice as symbols.
- Holidays – do not keep Xmas or other holidays

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#### BELIEFS

- They believe in creation and not evolution
- They believe in tithing to support the church
- Socially active with schools and hospitals throughout the world
- They use pictures to depict Christ
- Unofficial women pastors

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#### SPECIAL BELIEFS

- Investigative Judgment – Christ went into the holy of holies in heaven on Oct. 22, 1844 to go over the books and determine who was righteous
- Seventh Day Sabbath is kept from Friday sunset to Saturday sunset.
- Many are vegetarians, but those who aren't adhere to the clean and unclean meat laws
- The soul "sleeps" at death until the resurrection

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#### SPECIAL BELIEFS

- Do not use alcohol, coffee or tea
- Do not countenance smoking
- Will serve in the military in a non-combatant role
- They use Ellen G. White's interpretations to understand the Bible.
- They baptized nearly 1000 per day at one point

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#### PROMINENT LOCATIONS

- United States nearly one million live in the USA
- Have missionaries in over 200 countries of the world
- Membership is over 10 million and attendance is listed as 25 million.

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#### WHAT AM I?

1. VEGETARIANISM
2. SABBATH – MOST IMPORTANT LAW
3. ADVENT OF CHRIST, EARTH DESOLATE
4. SOUL SLEEPS AT DEATH
5. LOOK TO MRS. WHITE'S INTERPRETATIONS

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#### WHAT AM I?

1. VEGETARIANISM  
Two whole chapters on meats to eat – Leviticus 11, Deuteronomy 14; I Timothy 4:3 – not to forbid meats; Genesis 27:4 – Isaac loved meat; Numbers 11:31 – God gave quail to Israel

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#### WHAT AM I?

2. SABBATH – MOST IMPORTANT LAW?  
Matthew 22:36-39 – Great Command; James 2:10 – all important; Exodus 31:13 – a sign.
3. ADVENT OF CHRIST; EARTH IS DESOLATE  
Isaiah 24:1-6 – Mrs. White's use of Scripture; Zechariah 14:16-19 – humans still learning; Isaiah 2: 1-4; 25:6-9 – will have the veil removed to learn

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#### WHAT AM I?

4. SOUL SLEEPS AT DEATH  
Ezekiel 18:4, 20; John 11:11-14; Psalms 17:15; I Corinthians 15:18-20
5. LOOK TO MRS. WHITE'S INTERPRETATIONS  
II Peter 1:20; Isaiah 8:20; Isaiah 28:10; John 10:35

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THE END

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