



Church Heritage

A Pathfinder Honor offered by the
Florida Conference of Seventh-Day Adventist Youth Department

Power Point developed by J. Roger Huff, MG, PLA
Arkansas/Louisiana Conference of Seventh-Day Adventist 2009

**1. What were the three
spectacular signs in the natural
world that pointed to the coming
of Christ? (in 1755, 1780, and 1833)**



Ellen G. White says

"These signs were witnessed before the opening of the nineteenth century. In fulfillment of this prophecy there occurred, in the year 1755, the most terrible earthquake that has ever been recorded. Though commonly known as the **earthquake of Lisbon**, it extended to the greater part of Europe, Africa, and America." *Great Controversy*, p. 304.

Does the Lisbon earthquake of **November 1, 1755** compare to the one described in Revelation 6 with mountains and islands moving out of their places and the Kings of the earth hiding in caves and rocks?

THE DARK DAY:

The 19th of May, 1780, was a remarkable day. Candles were lighted in many houses; the birds were silent and disappeared, and the fowls retired to roost. The legislature of Connecticut was then in session at Hartford. A very general opinion prevailed, that the day of judgment was at hand. The house of Representatives, being unable to transact their business, adjourned. A proposal to adjourn the Council was under consideration. When the opinion of Colonel Davenport was asked, he answered, "I am against an adjournment. The day of judgment is either approaching, or it is not. If it is not, there is no cause of an adjournment: if it is, I choose to be found doing my duty. I wish therefore that candles may be brought."

Stars Fall From Heaven

"And the stars shall fall from heaven." **Matthew 24:29**

The great star shower took place on the night of November 13, 1833. It was so bright that a newspaper could be read on the street. One writer says, "For nearly four hours the sky was literally ablaze."* Men thought the end of the world had come. Look into this. It is most fascinating, and a sign of Christ's coming.



2. Summarize the Three Angels' Message and give the Bible texts where they are found.



First angel

"I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, 'Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.'" (Revelation 14:6,7 KJV)

The first angel's message is a prophecy that states that the gospel will be preached to every nation on earth.



Second angel

"There followed another angel, saying, 'Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.'" (Revelation 14:8 KJV)

The second angel's message is a call to repentance. Broadly taken, it is a call to everyone everywhere to leave their sins ("Babylon") behind them and give them up.



Third angel

"The third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, 'If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: and the smoke of their torment will ascend for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receives the mark of his name. Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.'" (Revelation 14:9-12 KJV)

The third angel's message is a warning to the people of the earth, not to worship the beast or his image. (The "beast" and his "image" were introduced in chapter 13 of Revelation.)



3. Who was the first and most prominent American preacher on the second coming of Christ?





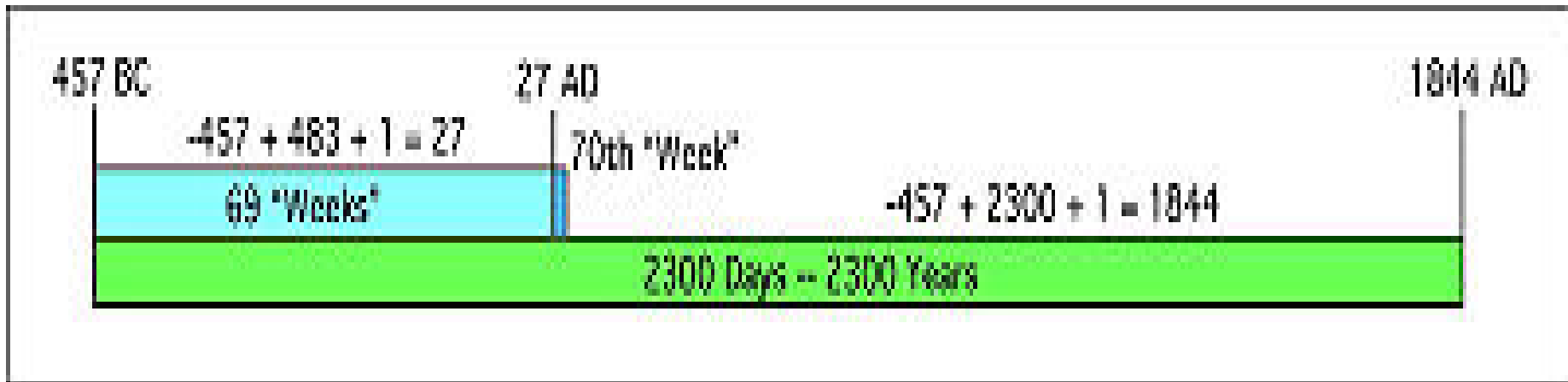
William Miller (February 15, 1782–December 20, 1849) was an American Baptist preacher whose followers have been termed Millerites. He is credited with the beginning of the Adventist movement of the 1830s and 1840s in North America. Among his direct spiritual heirs are several major religious denominations including Seventh-day Adventists and Advent Christians. Later movements found inspiration in Miller's emphasis on Bible prophecy

4. What prophecy did Miller study to set the time for Christ's coming, and what date was finally set?



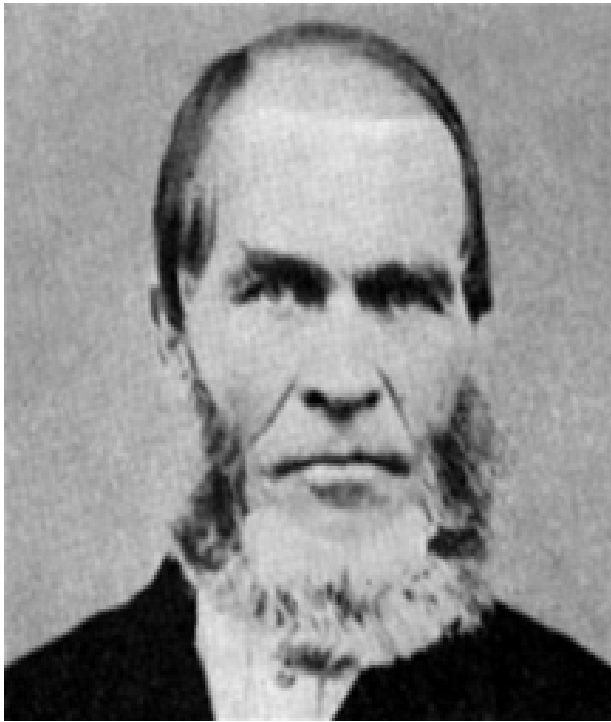
Miller's interpretation of the 2300 day prophecy and its relation to the 70 week prophecy

Basing his belief principally on Daniel 8:14: "Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed," Miller assumed that the *cleansing of the sanctuary* represented the Earth's purification by fire at Christ's Second Coming. Then, using an interpretive principle known as the "day-year principle", Miller, and others, interpreted a *day in prophecy* to read not as a 24-hour period, but rather as a calendar year. Further, Miller became convinced that the 2,300 day period started in 457 B.C. with the decree to rebuild Jerusalem by Artaxerxes I of Persia. Simple calculation then revealed that this period would end in 1843. Miller records, "I was thus brought... to the solemn conclusion, that in about



5. Who had a vision that helped the early believers understand the real meaning of this prophecy and what did the vision show?





Hiram Edson (1806–1882) was a pioneer of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, known for introducing the investigative judgment doctrine to the church. Edson spent October 22, 1844 with friends waiting for the event, and was heart-broken when Jesus did not return as expected.

On the morning of October 23 as Edson and some friends were passing through Edson's grain field he claimed to have seen a vision. In this vision, **Edson came to understand that "the cleansing of the sanctuary" meant that Jesus was moving from the Holy Place to the Most Holy Place in the heavenly sanctuary, and not to the Second Coming of Jesus to earth:**

"We started, and while passing through a large field I was stopped about midway of the field. Heaven seemed opened to my view, and I saw distinctly and clearly that instead of our High Priest coming out of the Most Holy of the heavenly sanctuary to come to this earth on the tenth day of the seventh month, at the end of the 2300 days, He for the first time entered on that day the second apartment of that sanctuary; and that He had a work to perform in the Most Holy Place before coming to the earth."

**6. Where is the church of
the first Sabbath-keeping
Adventists located, and who
was their first
minister?**



Washington New Hampshire

Frederick Wheeler,
First Sabbath Keeping Pastor



7. How old was Ellen Harmon when she received her first vision, and what was the first vision about?



In 1844, at age of 16, Ellen White reported her first “message from God”

At this time I visited one of our Advent sisters, and in the morning we bowed around the family altar. It was not an exciting occasion, and there were but five of us present, all females. While praying the power of God came upon me as I never had felt it before, and I was wrapt up in a vision of God's glory, and seemed to be rising higher and higher from the earth and was shown something of the travels of the Advent people to the Holy City...

In this vision she reportedly saw the “Advent people” traveling a high and dangerous path towards the city of New Jerusalem [heaven]. Their path was lit from behind by “a bright (light)...which an angel told me was the midnight cry.” According to her vision, some of the travelers grew weary and were encouraged by Jesus; others denied the light, the light behind them went out, and they fell “off the path into the dark and wicked world below.” The vision continued with a portrayal of Christ’s second coming, following which the Advent people entered the New Jerusalem: and



8. Ellen White wrote many books. What name is used for them?

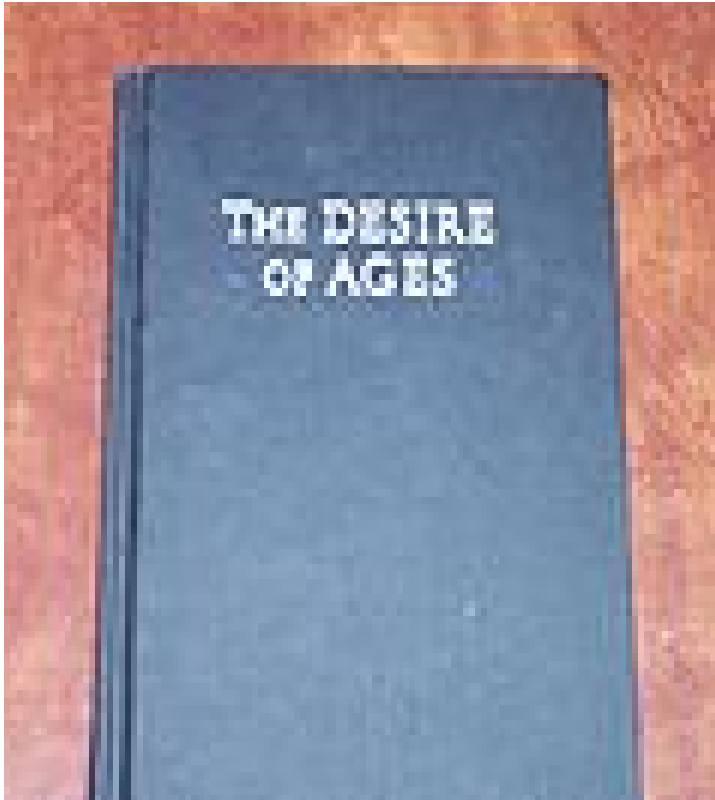


During her lifetime Ellen
White wrote more than
5,000 periodical articles
and 40 books
commonly referred to
as **“The Spirit of
Prophecy”**



9. Which of Mrs. White's books deals especially with the life of Christ?





***The Desire of Ages* is a book about the life of Jesus Christ authored by Seventh-day Adventist pioneer and prophetess, Ellen G. White. It is part of her five volume Conflict of the Ages series. A contemporary adaptation named *Messiah* has been authored by Jerry D. Thomas.**

10. What early pioneer in the Advent movement was noted for the following:

- a. Encouraging the organization of the early church.
- b. Wrote the first Sabbath School lessons.
- c. Was elected the first president of the General Conference but declined.
- d. Later held this position for three terms.
- e. Became the husband of Ellen Harmon.



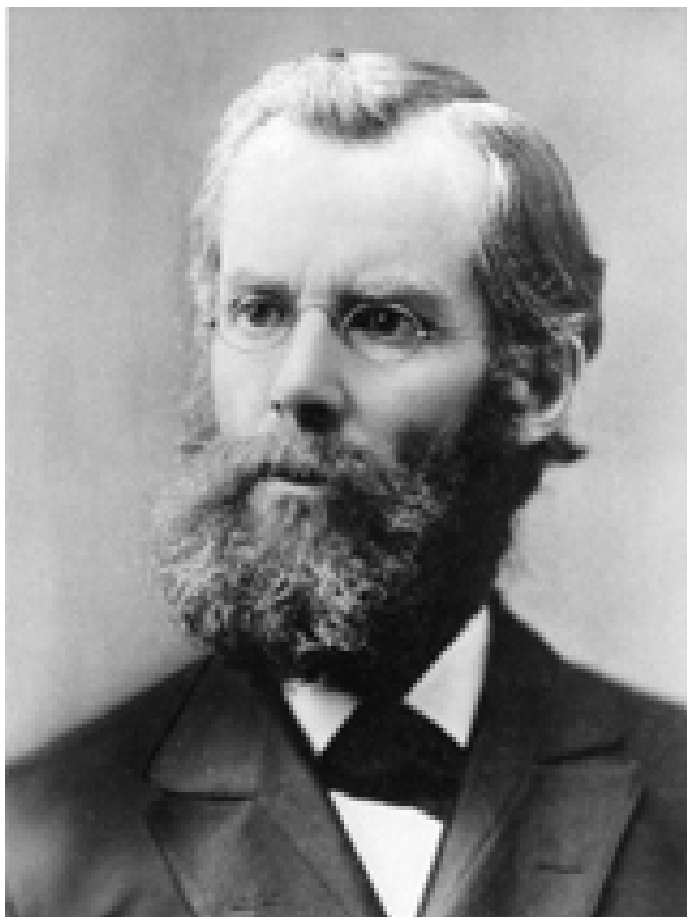
James White



James Springer White also known as **Elder White** was a co-founder of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and husband of Ellen G. White. In 1849 he started the first Sabbatarian Adventist periodical entitled "*The Present Truth*" (now the *Adventist Review*) in 1855 he relocated the fledgling center of the movement to Battle Creek, Michigan, and in 1863 played a pivotal role in the formal organization of the denomination. He later played a pivotal role in the development of the Adventist educational structure beginning in 1874 with the formation of Battle Creek College (which is now Andrews University).

11. Who was the first official overseas missionary of the SDA church and to what country did he go?





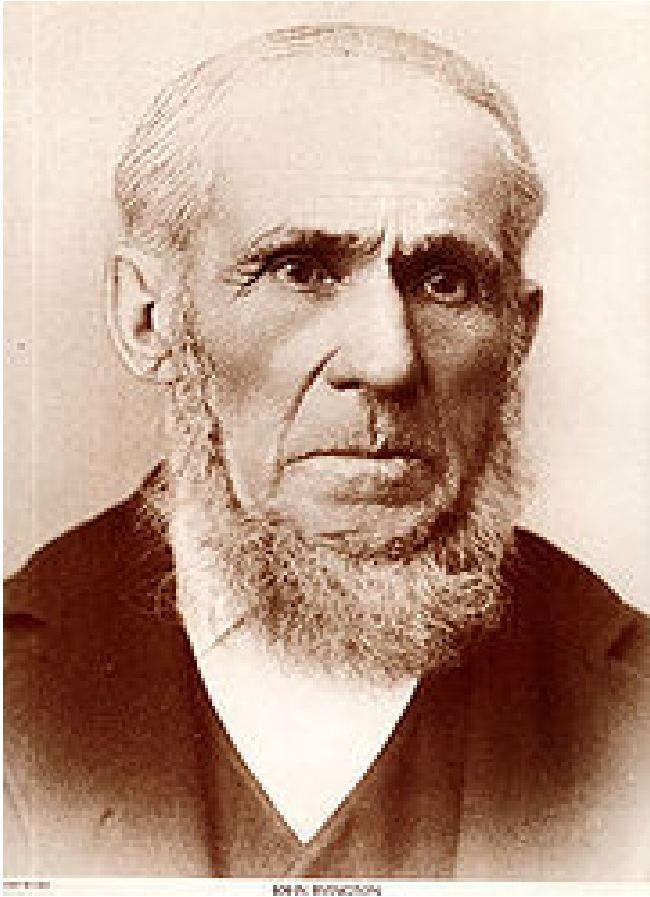
J. N. Andrews
(John Nevin Andrews)

Born in Poland, Maine in 1829, Andrews became a Millerite in February 1843 and began to observe the seventh-day Sabbath in 1845. He met James White and Ellen G. White in September 1849. Later, the Whites boarded with the Andrews family.

In 1874 , John, along with his two surviving children, Charles and Mary, were sent as the **first official Seventh-day Adventist missionaries to Europe**. Andrews helped start a publishing house in **Switzerland** and an Adventist periodical in French, *Les Signes des Temps* (1876).

12. Who was the first president of the General Conference?





John Byington
(1798–1887)

In 1852, upon reading a copy of the *Review and Herald*, Byington began to keep the seventh-day Sabbath. For three years he conducted Sabbath meetings in his home, then he erected and owned a church building on his property. This is reputed to have been the first Seventh-day Adventist-built church. In a nearby home his daughter, Martha taught what is thought to be the first Adventist elementary school (1853). Byington relocated to Battle Creek, Michigan in 1858. He worked closely with James White and J. N. Andrews. In 1863 at the initial organization of the General Conference in Battle Creek, Michigan, he became the denomination's first president - an office he held for two one-year terms. James White, who was elected first, declined the position.

**13. Who wrote the book,
Daniel and the Revelation,
and was a leader in the
discussions of
righteousness by faith?**



Uriah Smith was born in 1832 in New Hampshire. His family accepted the Millerite message and in 1844 experienced the Great Disappointment.

That same year, Smith had his left leg amputated due to an infection. Following the Disappointment, Smith lost interest in religion and went to school. Around 1852, he became involved in the early Seventh-day Adventist Church. In 1853, he began working at the offices of the Advent Review and Sabbath Herald, becoming its editor in 1855. His main contribution to Adventist theology was a commentary on the prophetic Biblical books of Daniel and the Revelation, but he also wrote extensively on conditional immortality and other topics.



Uriah Smith

14. What was the name of the ship sent by the Sabbath Schools of North America to take missionaries to the many islands of the South Pacific?

Today there is an island inhabited almost entirely by SDAs that has the same name as the ship.





The Pitcairn Islands, are a group of four volcanic islands in the southern Pacific Ocean. The islands are best known as home of the descendants of the *Bounty* mutineers and the Tahitians who accompanied them, an event retold in numerous books and films. This story is still apparent in the surnames of many of the islanders. With only 50 inhabitants (from nine families), Pitcairn is also notable for being the least populated jurisdiction in the world. The Pitcairners also converted to Christianity; later they would convert from their existing form of Christianity to Seventh-day Adventism after a successful Adventist mission in the 1890s.

15. When was the Pathfinder Club officially adopted by the General Conference?





The *Pathfinder Club* is a worldwide program organized and directed by the Youth Department of the General Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It offers a wide range of learning experiences for youth age 10-15.

The first camp was held in Town Line Lake, Michigan USA in 1926. Activities include community service, camping, crafts, classwork, marching, Bible study, Seventh-day Adventist Church history, and leadership training.

Pathfinders officially became a ministry of the Seventh Day Adventist Church in 1953.

16. Where is our General Conference located, and who is the current president?



General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904, USA



Elder Jan Paulsen
President

General Conference of Seventh-Day Adventist

Time for a Quiz!

Quiz

1. What Sign of Christ's second coming happened in 1833. ?
2. Who was the First American preacher of the second coming ?
3. How many books did Ellen White write?
4. Who was the first SDA Missionary ?
5. What was the name of the Adventist Mission ship to the South Pacific ?
6. Who was President of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church 3 times ?
7. How many angels carried special messages to the world ?
8. The book “The Desire of Ages” was written by who ?
9. When did Pathfinders officially become a ministry of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church ?
10. Who is currently President of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church ?

**Proceed to the Next
Slide to Check Your
Quiz Answers**

Quiz Answers

- 1.Stars fell
2. William Miller
- 3.40
4. J.N. Andrews
5. The Pitcairn
- 6.James White
- 7.3 angels
- 8.Ellen G. White
- 9.1953
10. Jan Paulsen

Congrats!

You're Finished!

Make sure you have your instructor, club director, or a Master Guide sign your paperwork.