

# Contents

*The Gospel, 1844, and Judgment*

1. “Rulers and Authorities” (June 24-30) .....	4
2. Judgment Must Begin (July 1-7) .....	11
3. Daniel 2 (July 8-14) .....	18
4. Daniel 7 (July 15-21) .....	24
5. Daniel 8 (July 22-28) .....	31
6. Daniel 9 (July 29–August 4) .....	38
7. 70 Weeks (August 5-11) .....	45
8. 1844 Made Simple (August 12-18) .....	51
9. Day-Year Principle (August 19-25) .....	58
10. Rome and Antiochus (August 26–September 1) .....	65
11. The Sanctuary and the Little Horn (September 2-8) .....	72
12. The Pre-Advent Judgment (September 9-15) .....	80
13. The Gospel and Judgment (September 16-22) .....	87
14. The Meaning of the Judgment Today (September 23-29) .....	95

---

**Editorial Office:** 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904-6600

**Printing and Circulation Office:** Pacific Press® Publishing Association, 1350 N. Kings Road, Nampa, ID 83687-3193

**Principal Contributor**

Clifford R. Goldstein

**Editorial Assistant**

Jean A. Kellner

**Art and Design**

Lars Justinen

**Editors**

Lyndelle Brower Chiomenti

Jim Hovey

George Belser

**Pacific Press® Coordinator**

Paul A. Hey

**Line Drawings**

Robert Wright

**Publication Manager**

Soraya Homayouni Parish

The *Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide* is prepared by the Office of the Adult Bible Study Guide of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. The preparation of the guides is under the general direction of a worldwide Sabbath School Manuscript Evaluation Committee, the members of which serve as consulting editors. The published Bible study guide reflects the input of the committee and thus does not solely or necessarily represent the intent of the author(s). The Easy Reading Edition is prepared by the Office of the Adult Bible Study Guide in cooperation with Adventist Deaf Ministries, PO Box 6114, Mesa, AZ 85216.

## Introduction

### ***THE GOSPEL, 1844, AND JUDGMENT***

Many of the Adventist doctrines<sup>1</sup> are not one of a kind as we think. For example, Seventh Day Baptists and other Christians (but not very many) keep the seventh-day Sabbath too.

Most Christians believe that the soul lives forever. They also believe in eternal<sup>2</sup> happiness in heaven or eternal suffering in hell after death. But there are other Christians who understand that the dead sleep in the grave until the first resurrection<sup>3</sup> or the second resurrection.

Different “Adventist” teachings, such as eternal destruction (instead of eternal suffering in hell) or the belief in the millennium (1,000 years) can be found among other Christians, too. In fact, almost all our doctrines are scattered throughout the Christian world.

Except one doctrine: the 1844 pre-Advent judgment.<sup>4</sup> This is our doctrine alone!

Several people may be concerned about this fact. Why do more Christians not understand the judgment? For others, this special doctrine points even more powerfully to the special work and mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. This is because no one else teaches about this judgment. This doctrine of the judgment, perhaps more than any other, makes us unique (one of a kind) as Seventh-day Adventists.

This quarter, we will study the 1844 pre-Advent judgment. As the title of this quarterly suggests, we are going to look at the judgment within the framework of the gospel. This is because judgment without the gospel is like law without grace. It leads only to fear, condemnation, and death. But judgment with the gospel (like law with grace) leads to faith, assurance,<sup>5</sup> and hope.

Perhaps the clearest connection between the gospel and judgment is the first angel’s message: “And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting<sup>6</sup> 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). As far as God is concerned, the “everlasting gospel”

---

<sup>1</sup>doctrines—church beliefs.

<sup>2</sup>eternal—forever; without beginning or end.

<sup>3</sup>resurrection—return to life from the dead.

<sup>4</sup>the pre-Advent judgment—the judgment that will take place before Jesus’ second coming. Adventists believe that God’s judgment comes in three parts. The first part began in 1844, and is continuing until Jesus’ return to the earth. This is the pre-Advent judgment. The pre-Advent judgment is also called the investigative judgment.

<sup>5</sup>assurance—strong faith and belief in the hope of salvation.

<sup>6</sup>everlasting—lasting forever; eternal.

includes judgment. How foolish it would be for us to remove judgment from the gospel!

Our study this quarter will be divided into different parts. First, we will let the Bible fill in the background for the judgment and the plan of salvation. That background is the great controversy.<sup>7</sup> The great controversy shows that the issues about sin, rebellion, and God's law go far beyond the borders (limits) of our planet.

Next, we will establish the Bible basis for the 1844 judgment. We will see just what a strong Bible basis we have for this teaching. This teaching is rooted in the Cross. If you learned about this judgment in an evangelistic series, this quarterly will help to establish you in this truth. For people who have already had a deep study of this judgment, this quarter will support what you already know and help you understand it even better.

We will then look at some questions about the teaching of the 1844 judgment. We will use these questions to help us better understand the Bible basis for the pre-Advent judgment.

Most important, we will look at the judgment within the framework of the gospel. We will study Christ's death for our sake. This will help us understand that His death gives us hope and assurance. As Paul wrote: "Those who belong to Christ Jesus are no longer under God's sentence [condemnation]" (Romans 8:1). There is no condemnation now. There will be no condemnation in the judgment.

Finally, we will try to answer such questions as:

1. What does a judgment, which began in 1844, mean to us in 2006?
2. What does the judgment tell us about ourselves, our church, and the God who promises to return and take us home?

Understanding the 1844 judgment will help us better understand Christ's death for us while we wait for the Second Coming. Perhaps that is why God has asked Seventh-day Adventists to preach about the judgment. The judgment brings the Cross into greater focus. As we come closer to the end of the world, it is more important that we understand the Cross as clearly as we can. For this reason, we want these lessons to give you a better understanding of charts, dates, and numbers. More importantly, we want these lessons to help you to come away with a greater understanding of Jesus, of the Cross, and of His ministry (work) in heaven for us.

---

<sup>7</sup>great controversy—war between Christ and Satan.