



# Fundamental Principles

A Foundation

**Psalm 103:1 (KJV)** — 1 Bless the LORD, O my soul: and  
all that is within me, bless his holy name.

**Psalm 105:3 (KJV)** — 3 Glory ye in his holy name: let  
the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD.

**Psalm 145:21 (KJV)** — 21 My mouth shall speak the  
praise of the LORD: and let all flesh bless his holy name  
for ever and ever.

**Psalm 138:2 (KJV)** — 2 I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.

But God will have a people upon the earth to maintain the Bible, and the Bible only, as the standard of all doctrines and the basis of all reforms. The opinions of learned men, the deductions of science, the creeds or decisions of ecclesiastical councils, as numerous and discordant as are the churches which they represent, the voice of the majority,—not one or all of these should be regarded as evidence for or against any point of religious faith. Before accepting any doctrine or precept, we should demand a plain “Thus saith the Lord” in its support. (*The Spirit of Prophecy*, vol. 4, p. 413.2)

**Psalm 11:3 (KJV)** — 3 If the foundations be destroyed,  
what can the righteous do?

**Revelation 12:13–17 (KJV)** — 13 And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child. 14 And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent. 15 And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. 16 And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth. 17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

**Revelation 10:7-11 (KJV)** — 7 But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets. 8 And the voice which I heard from heaven spake unto me again, and said, Go and take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel which standeth upon the sea and upon the earth. 9 And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey. 10 And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter. 11 And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings.

**Colossians 1:26–27 (KJV)** — 26 Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: 27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:

**Revelation 14:6–7 (KJV)** — 6 And 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, 7 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 14:8 (KJV)** — 8 And 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 14:9–12 (KJV)** — 9 And 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, 10 The same shall drink of the wine 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: 11 And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. 12 Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

**Revelation 10:11 (KJV)** — 11 And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings.

Many of our people do not realize how **firmly the foundation of our faith has been laid**. . . . after the passing of the time in 1844, [we] **searched for the truth as for hidden treasure**. . . . Often we remained together until late at night, and sometimes through the entire night, praying for light and studying the Word. . . . Thus light was given that helped us to understand the scriptures in regard to Christ, His mission, and His priesthood. **A line of truth extending from that time to the time when we shall enter the city of God**, was made plain to me, and I gave to others the instruction that the Lord had given me. (*Early Writings*, p. xxii.4)

The principles of truth that God has revealed to us are our only true foundation. (*Selected Messages*, bk. 1, p. 201, 1904)

This foundation was built by the Master Worker, and will stand storm and tempest. (*Selected Messages*, bk. 1, p. 204 1904)

The principles for which we fought in the early days and which were brought out in the power of the Holy Spirit, would be maintained. (*Selected Messages*, bk. 1, p. 206 1904)

We have our Bibles. We have our experience, attested to by the miraculous working of the Holy Spirit. We have a truth that admits of no compromise. Shall we not repudiate everything that is not in harmony with this truth? (*Selected Messages*, bk. 1, p. 205, 1904)

The principles for which we fought in the early days and which were brought out in the power of the Holy Spirit, would be maintained. (*Selected Messages*, bk. 1, p. 206)

**Proverbs 22:28 (AV)** — 28 Remove not the ancient  
landmark, which thy fathers have set.

Messages of every order and kind have been urged upon Seventh-day Adventists, to take the place of the truth which, point by point, has been sought out by prayerful study, and testified to by the miracle-working power of the Lord. But the waymarks which have made us what we are, are to be preserved, and they will be preserved, as God has signified through His Word and the testimony of His Spirit. He calls upon us to hold firmly, with the grip of faith, to the fundamental principles that are based upon **unquestionable authority**. (*Selected Messages*, bk. 1, p. 208, 1904)

We can confidently say, The truth that has come to us through the Holy Spirit's working is not a lie. The evidences given for the last half century bear the evidence of the Spirit's power. (*The Paulson Collection of Ellen G. White Letters*, p. 257, To Elder Butler, June 23, 1905)

Ever we are to keep the faith that has been substantiated by the Holy Spirit of God from the earlier events of our experience until the present time. (*The Upward Look*, p. 352; December 4, 1905)

We have no doubt, neither have we had a doubt for years,  
that the doctrines we hold today [1870] are present truth,  
and that we are nearing the judgment. (*Testimonies for the  
Church*, vol. 2, page 355.1)

It is as certain that we have the truth as that God lives; and Satan, with all his arts and hellish power, cannot change the truth of God into a lie. While the great adversary will try his utmost to make of none effect the word of God, truth must go forth as a lamp that burneth. (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 4, p. 595.4, 1881)

**Jeremiah 5:13 (KJV)** — 13 And the prophets shall  
become wind, and the word is not in them: thus shall it be  
done unto them.

**Ephesians 4:11–15 (KJV)** — 11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: 14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; 15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

When the power of God testifies as to what is truth, that truth is to stand forever as the truth. No after suppositions contrary to the light God has given are to be entertained. Men will arise with interpretations of Scripture which are to them truth, but which are not truth. The truth for this time God has given us as a foundation for our faith. He Himself has taught us what is truth. One will arise, and still another, with new light, which contradicts the light that God has given under the demonstration of His Holy Spirit. A few are still alive who passed through the experience gained in the establishment of this truth.

God has graciously spared their lives to repeat, and repeat till the close of their lives, the experience through which they passed even as did John the apostle till the very close of his life. And the standard bearers who have fallen in death are to speak through the reprinting of their writings. I am instructed that thus their voices are to be heard. They are to bear their testimony as to what constitutes the truth for this time.

*(Selected Messages, bk. 1, p. 161.1)*

We are not to receive the words of those who come with a message that contradicts the special points of our faith. They gather together a mass of Scripture, and pile it as proof around their asserted theories. This has been done over and over again during the past fifty years. And while the Scriptures are God's word, and are to be respected, the application of them, if such application moves one pillar from the foundation that God has sustained these fifty years, is a great mistake. (*Selected Messages*, bk. 1, p. 161.2)

**Proverbs 9:1 (KJV)** — 1 Wisdom hath builded her house,  
she hath hewn out her seven pillars:

- ☐ The Law and the Sabbath (Counsels to Writers and Editors, p. 30.2)
- ☐ The personalities of God and of Christ (Ye Shall Receive Power, p. 235.4)
  - ☐ The Faith of Jesus (Counsels to Writers and Editors, p. 30.2)
    - ☐ The Sanctuary (The Great Controversy, p. 409.1)
- ☐ The Three Angels' Messages (Counsels to Writers and Editors, p. 30.2)
- ☐ The Testimony of Jesus (Testimonies for the Church, vol. 1, p. 300.1)
- ☐ The non-immortality of the wicked (Counsels to Writers and Editors, p. 30.2)

# The Pillars of Our Faith

The entire message of Seventh-day Adventism rests upon these pillars and upon this foundation:

The Law/Sabbath  
CEW, pp. 30, 31

The Personalities of  
God and of Christ  
YRP, p. 235

The Faith of Jesus  
CEW, pp. 30, 31

The Sanctuary  
GC, p. 409

The Three Angels'  
Messages  
CEW, pp. 30, 31

The Testimony  
of Jesus  
Testimonies, vol. 1, p. 300

The Non-immortality  
of the Wicked  
CEW, pp. 30, 31

The Foundation of Our Faith: Jesus is the Son of God  
Matthew 16:13-19, *The Desire of Ages*, pp. 412, 413

The scripture which above all others had been both the foundation and the central pillar of the advent faith was the declaration: “Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.”

Daniel 8:14. (*The Great Controversy*, p. 409.1)

The only safety now is to search for the truth as revealed in the word of God, as for hid treasure. The subjects of the **Sabbath, the nature of man, and the testimony of Jesus** are the great and important truths to be understood; these will prove as an anchor to hold God's people in these perilous times. But the mass of mankind despise the truths of God's word and prefer fables. 2 Thessalonians 2:10, 11: "Because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie."

*(Testimonies for the Church, vol. 1, p. 300.1)*

The passing of the time in 1844 was a period of great events, opening to our astonished eyes the cleansing of the sanctuary transpiring in heaven, and having decided relation to God's people upon the earth, [also] **the first and second angels' messages and the third**, unfurling the banner on which was inscribed, "**The commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.**" One of the landmarks under this message was **the temple of God**, seen by His truth-loving people in heaven, and the ark containing the law of God. **The light of the Sabbath of the fourth commandment** flashed its strong rays in the pathway of the transgressors of God's law. **The nonimmortality of the wicked** is an old landmark.

*(Counsels to Writers and Editors, p. 30.2)*

Those who seek to remove the old landmarks are not holding fast; they are not remembering how they have received and heard. Those who try to bring in theories that would remove **the pillars of our faith concerning the sanctuary or concerning the personality of God or of Christ** are working as blind men. They are seeking to bring in uncertainties and to set the people of God adrift without an anchor. (*Ye Shall Receive Power*, p. 235.4)