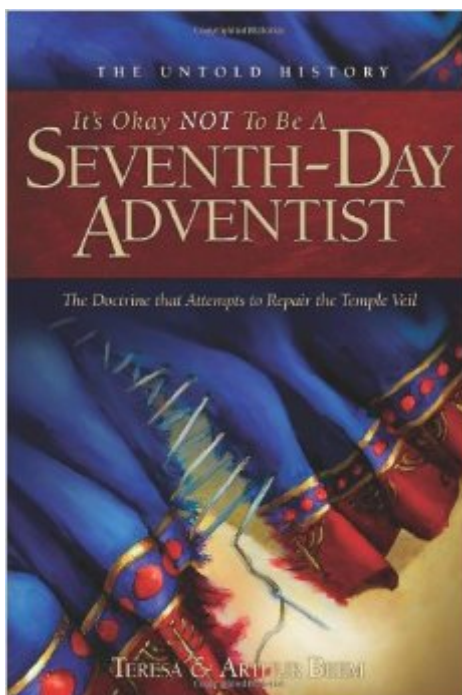


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# It's Ok Not To Be A Seventh-Day Adventist



## Synopsis

This book candidly examines Seventh-day Adventist history and doctrines. Beginning with self-appointed prophet William Miller who convinced over 50,000 New Englanders that in 1844 Christ would come again in fiery judgment. Then the birth of Adventism as those who explained that Miller had misunderstood the prophecy and judgement had begun not on earth but in heaven. The book explores SDA prophetess, Ellen White whose "visions" urge their members to proclaim that in end-times all Christians worshipping on the first day of the week will receive the Mark of the Beast, then hunt down and torture Adventists. The book thoroughly documents the history of Sunday church services to disabuse members' belief that those who worship on Sunday are disobeying the fourth commandment. Written to lift the wounded Adventists' eyes to Christ for healing; however pastors, theologians, those with Adventist family, neighbors, colleagues and friends will find this book a treasure in understanding Adventism.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

2/11/11 My Dear Tesa and Author, I usually do not spend time reading Adventist anti-apologetic books, but because you both are my friends, and I was concerned about the effect your views might have on yourself and others, I have read your book. It seems to me that the work you set out to do was already so elegantly done in the terrific book by Walter Martin entitled "Kingdom of the Cults". The main difference being that he is an actual biblical scholar and theologian and he tried not to have any particular obvious bias against the SDA church which is markedly different than the tone of your book. I guess you thought it was necessary to reprint much of the inaccurate, much of it out

of context, anti-SDA rhetoric that has been going around for many years and pile it all up in one place for others to read; that's quite an accomplishment. I have listed a few of the things that I am concerned about for your thought not because I think you will listen to me, but because you have been my friends, your influence has touched me in a personal way, and most specifically affected my children as they respected you and loved you. Time will tell whether your book is doing more good than harm. I fear for the later and the tone within your current websites suggest a defensive and even hateful spirit at times. I would have to write an entire book myself if I were to try and address all of the issues that I have with your book, but I will only go over some important topics to me personally. And to be fair, I recognize at the onset, that your book was in your own words "not written for me". You mention this over and over, I assume because you realize that so many Adventist will think themselves unfairly represented in the book.

The Beems are very sloppy with historical details. They fail to footnote in such a way that people can evaluate sources for themselves. They fail to use credible sources. They make major historical errors, such as the claim that "Most SDA's are completely unaware that the Church of God Seventh-day, Advent Christian Church, the Jehovah's Witnesses, the Worldwide Church of God, 7th day Sabbath Creationists, the First day Adventists and the Second Adventists are all children of the same movement." Most Adventists know well that Miller's movement gave birth to the Advent Christian Church. This point is made in every history of the subject. But the rest is mistaken. The Jehovah's Witnesses were not part of the same movement; their founder, Charles Taze Russell, wasn't even born until 1852. The Worldwide Church of God wasn't part of the Millerite movement; it was founded in 1933 by Herbert W. Armstrong, who was born in 1892. The Church of God (Seventh-Day) was an offshoot from Sabbatarian Adventism that rejected the leadership of James and Ellen White; that history is covered in SDA courses on church history and Ellen White. As to 7th Day Sabbath Creationists, maybe she means the Creation 7th Day Adventists, who left the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1988. Lots of books have been written on Millerism by fair and reliable historians, including, most recently, David Rowe, *God's Strange Work: William Miller and the End of the World*. That's a better place for the interested non-Adventist to start. Who is the intended audience of the book? This is really confusing. Teresa has said elsewhere it was former Adventists who didn't get "the real truth."

I must start by saying that I have only read about half the book so far but really felt like I needed to speak up. Many of the facts in this book are taken way out of context. Some of the really important

quotes that seem controversial aren't even referenced so you can't tell where they came from. I am not saying that the Adventists have it ALL right by any means but I think you have to be careful not to judge an entire religion by SOME of the people in it. Everyone is human. I, like the authors, was raised Adventist but fell away from the church many times. I bought this book hoping to find some proof that the end times wouldn't be as bad as Adventists say. What I found in this book is much history but many things out of context, sometimes the authors are grasping at straws to make a point. Example: Book states Ellen White wrote in Spiritual Gifts that Satan repented and that God would not forgive him. The authors then state that to Ellen white..."Satan was in reality a repentant victim and God's mercy was not big enough to cover his sin" WHOA! No where did Ellen White say that. Yes, she did say his sin had been so great that God could not blot it out (this is what they took out of context) but a few paragraphs later it explains itself, God knew Satan's heart. She didn't say God's mercy was not big enough. I am not saying Ellen White never made any mistakes, on the contrary she has written some questionable passages. This review isn't about Ellen White it is merely about the fact that the authors material needs to be very carefully reviewed and researched for yourself. They also rag on the Adventists about perfectionism and salvation by works.

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