

## HALF A CENTURY OF COVER UP

The conclusion is simple: LeRoy Froom and all the other theologians that have taken a pro-Trinitarian position since the death of Ellen White have a difficult decision to make. They must admit that the Catholic doctrine of the Trinity is wrong and the pioneers were right. Or, justify the modern pro-Trinitarian position by distorting history, twisting facts, and even making outright lies to validate the many modern Adventist publications containing the pro-Trinitarian position. A brief historical sketch of the pro-Trinitarian position is as follows:

- 1903-The pro-Trinitarian position advocated by J.H. Kellogg.
- 1919-Debate over the Trinity during the teachers Bible Conference.
- 1928-The pro-Trinitarian position in L.E. Froom's book "The Coming of the Comforter."
- 1931-First time the term "Trinity" appears in any statement of Adventist beliefs and yearbook.
- 1932-The pro-Trinitarian statement of beliefs added to the first church manual and all succeeding Adventist yearbooks.
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- 1955-The pro-Trinity position taken with the Evangelicals (Martin & Barnhouse). The private repudiation of historic Adventist belief.
- 1957-The pro-Trinity position in the official S.D.A. beliefs book "Questions on Doctrine." The public repudiation of historic Adventist belief.
- 1980-The pro-Trinitarian position voted in the 27 fundamentals beliefs. First time the Trinity doctrine is voted and officially accepted.
- 1984-The pro-Trinitarian position in the revised Baptismal vow.
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- 1993-Candid admissions that the Adventist pioneers were non-Trinitarian. A public challenge to Independent Ministries to accept the non-Trinity belief of the "Historic Adventists." (Issues p. 39).
- 1994-Bold admissions in denominational papers, that Historic Adventists would not be admitted, nor would they desire membership within the Seventh-day Adventist denomination today because of their non-Trinitarian beliefs. Independent Ministries deciding where they will stand on this issue.
- 1995-Entire Sabbath School quarterly devoted to the subject of the Holy Spirit. Bold and blatant encouragement during the 56th General Conference Session for all Adventists world wide to pray to, and worship the Holy Spirit.

Spoken words, what did  
the Pioneers believe?

that if the spirit of Him that raised up Christ from the dead dwell in you, he shall quicken also your mortal bodies by that Spirit which dwelleth in you; that is, the Spirit of Christ. Rom. 8:11. ...

Uriah Smith described the Holy Spirit as the Spirit of God and the Spirit of Christ. He referred to this Spirit using the word "it" rather than "He" sixteen times in this one paragraph. Just seven paragraphs later he makes the following statement.

*You will notice in these few verses the apostle brings to view the three great agencies which are concerned in this work: God, the Father; Christ, his Son; and the Holy Spirit.* (Uriah Smith, March 14, 1891, *General Conference Daily Bulletin*, Volume 4, pages 146, 147)

This statement is very interesting as it explains that the Pioneers understood the use of the term, "three great agencies" in a way that is in harmony with the teaching that the Holy Spirit is not a third, separate being, but rather the Spirit of the Father and His Son.

When "The Coming of the Comforter" was first printed in 1928 it was not generally accepted by Adventists at the time. LeRoy Froom received a great amount of opposition from church leaders opposing his Trinitarian teaching regarding the personality of the Holy Spirit.<sup>116</sup> This in itself proves that the church had not accepted the Trinity teaching by 1928.

In his efforts to justify and substantiate this new doctrine, Froom became the greatest advocate and defender of Trinitarianism within the Seventh-day Adventist denomination.

#### FIRST "TRINITY" STATEMENT (1931)

Many church historians believe that the S.D.A. denomination accepted the doctrine of the Trinity in 1931. Yet, the facts reveal this not to be true. Until 1931, every statement of Adventist beliefs was non-Trinitarian. In 1931, one man (F.M. Wilcox) drafted a statement of fundamental beliefs and included the term trinity as item number two. "That the Godhead, or Trinity, consists of the Eternal Father...the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Eternal Father...the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Godhead..."<sup>117</sup>

## DISFELLOWSHIPPING CHURCH MEMBERS OVER THE TRINITY

True to the threats in "Questions on Doctrine," faithful Adventist Church members have been disfellowshipped for not adhering to the Catholic doctrine of the Trinity.<sup>138</sup> After the Trinity was accepted as the official doctrinal position of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination, Adventist pastors could more easily begin to disfellowship members who still held to the historic non-Trinitarian belief of the Pioneers.

The very fact that our Adventist pioneers could not subscribe to the 27 fundamental beliefs and would be disfellowshipped from the church today, is the greatest evidence that the Trinity teaching is the "omega" of doctrinal apostasy within the Seventh-day Adventist denomination.

### BOOKS OF A "NEW ORDER"

In 1988, the book entitled, "Seventh-day Adventists Believe...A Biblical Exposition of 27 Fundamental Doctrines" was written as a modern sequel to "Questions on Doctrine." Not only is this book an exposition of the 27 fundamental beliefs, it also reveals how the Trinitarian doctrine has adversely affected every other fundamental teaching of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It can be clearly demonstrated that through accepting the false doctrine of the Trinity as the foundational concept of God, the following doctrines have been confused, distorted, and in some cases entirely rejected:

- The One God
- The Son of God
- The Holy Spirit of God
- Ministry of Angels
- Origin of Evil
- Creation
- Nature of man
- Marriage
- The Sabbath
- Law of God
- Nature of Sin
- Christ as mediator
- The Sanctuary
- The Atonement
- Who is the Church
- Nature of Christ
- Life of Christ
- Death of Christ
- State of the Dead
- Resurrection of Christ
- Righteousness by Faith
- Character Perfection
- Three angels' messages
- The Millennium

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