



## STATEMENT OF BELIEFS

### Article II – Word of God

---

**The Bible, both Old and New Testaments, is the living, inspired Word of God, 2Timothy 3:15-17; written by men who were inspired by the Holy Spirit, 2Peter 1:19-21; is the authoritative revelation of God's will to man, Hebrews 4:12; is the sole weapon of offense that God has provided the believer with, Ephesians 6:17; and is the only infallible rule of faith and practice. John 17:17. But it can only be properly discerned through the Spirit of God, 1Corinthians 2:10-14. Thus, it is a spiritual Word with a spiritual message, which we are to feed and fill our spirits with continually. John 6:35, 51; 7:36, 37.**

How many today are guilty of not believing what the Bible says, make a mockery of what it says, or go through 20 translations (of which few can be trusted to any degree) in order to find a way around what the most authentic (KJV) firmly and emphatically states: **who God is; what His will is for our lives; the Plan of Salvation; Justification; Sanctification; the Sanctuary; the Three Angels' Messages, Righteousness by His Faith; Christ's Second Advent; the State of the Dead; Creation;** and all other doctrinal and practical truths we claim to believe as Free Seventh-day Adventists. Ellen White herself said that she was but a lesser light, pointing to the greater light, the Word of God. It is to be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. **Psalm 119:105.** It is to keep us from sin. **Psalm 119:11.** It is our sole weapon of offense to defeat Satan. **Ephesians 6:17.** We are to feed on it daily. **Deuteronomy 8:3.** It is to be an integral part of our lives, **Deuteronomy 30:11-14,** so that we may enjoy success, particularly over the evil one. **Joshua 1:8.** It is the one and only source of infallible truth, **John 17:17,** and Christ instructs us to study it often. **John 5:39,** as did the Bereans. **Acts 17:10-12;** and as Paul instructed Timothy, **2Timothy 2:15.**

***“Christ's servants are to do the same work. In our day, as of old, the vital truths of God's word are set aside for human theories and speculations. Many professed ministers of the gospel do not accept the whole Bible as the inspired word. One wise man rejects one portion; another questions another part. They set up their judgment as superior to***



## STATEMENT OF BELIEFS

### Article II – Word of God

---

*the word; and the Scripture which they do teach rests upon their own authority. Its divine authenticity is destroyed. Thus the seeds of infidelity are sown broadcast; for the people become confused and know not what to believe. There are many beliefs that the mind has no right to entertain. In the days of Christ the rabbis put a forced, mystical construction upon many portions of Scripture. Because the plain teaching of God's word condemned their practices, they tried to destroy its force. The same thing is done today. The word of God is made to appear mysterious and obscure in order to excuse transgression of His law. Christ rebuked these practices in His day. He taught that the word of God was to be understood by all. He pointed to the Scriptures as of unquestionable authority, and we should do the same. The Bible is to be presented as the word of the infinite God, as the end of all controversy and the foundation of all faith.”* **Ellen G. White, Christ’s Object Lesson, pg. 39**

**“The Bible presents a perfect standard of character. This sacred book, inspired by God, and written by holy men, is a perfect guide under all circumstances of life. It sets forth distinctly the duties of both young and old. If made the guide of life, its teachings will lead the soul upward. It will elevate the mind, improve the character, and give peace and joy to the heart.”** **Ellen G. White, The Bible Echo, October 15, 1893**

*“I took the precious Bible, and surrounded it with the several 'Testimonies for the Church,' given for the people of God. 'Here,' said I, 'the cases of nearly all are met. The sins they are to shun are pointed out. The counsel that they desire can be found here, given for other cases situated similarly to themselves. God has been pleased to give you line upon line and precept upon precept. But there are not many of you that really know what is contained in the Testimonies. You are not familiar with the Scriptures. If you had made God's word your study, with a desire to reach the Bible standard and attain to Christian perfection, you would not have needed the Testimonies. It is because you have neglected to acquaint yourselves with God's inspired book that He has sought to reach you by simple, direct testimonies, calling your attention to the words of inspiration which you had neglected to obey, and urging you to fashion your*



## STATEMENT OF BELIEFS

### Article II – Word of God

---

*lives in accordance with its pure and elevated teachings.”* **Ellen G. White, Life Sketches, pg. 198**

*“The Word of God is a living Word. ‘It is alive and powerful.’* **Hebrews 4:12.** *The Word did not die when it was spoken through Isaiah, and David, and other holy men of old. Nor did it become separated from God when He had breathed it. ‘The Word was God,’* **John 1:1,** *and it is still God. So when we read Isaiah's writings we do not receive the word from Isaiah, but from God. The Scripture is still given by inspiration of God. The word spoken to Isaiah was not spoken to him alone, or for him alone. ‘No prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation.”* **2Peter 1:20.** *“Thus saith the Lord.” “The word which came unto Jeremiah.’ ‘The word of the Lord came unto me.’ ‘The word of the Lord that came to Joel.’ Whoever will hear the same Word today may hear it spoken by the Lord, and it will come to him as it came to the prophets. Whoever hath ears to hear, let him hear. If we only know the Scriptures as words that have been once written in a book, they will not be alive and powerful in us. The Scripture must come to us individually by inspiration of God, and then we shall have it as the prophets had it, and it will be alive in us as it was in them. Such hearing of the Word will not result in doubts and difficulties and questioning, or in theories as to how far the Bible is inspired. It will give us true faith. ‘Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.’* **Romans 10:17.**

*”“I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom; PREACH THE WORD.’ This is the cure for doubt, for false doctrines, for faint heartedness, and for cowardice, in the hour of trial. This is the whole duty of the servant of Christ. He must receive the word by the in-breathing of God, himself feed on the sincere milk of the Word, and pass it on, ‘alive and powerful’ to others. If he believes it himself, it will work effectually in him (**1Thessalonians 2:13**), and it will work effectually for others. It was by the Word that the heavens were made, and they are upheld by the Word of His power (**Hebrews 1:3**), and this is the Word which by the Gospel is preached. **1Peter 1:25.** In the individual life, in the home circle, and in the church, the Word of God is the power which builds up character (**Acts 20:32**), and*



## STATEMENT OF BELIEFS

### Article II – Word of God

---

*furnishes the man of God unto all good works.” E. J. Waggoner, Present Truth, UK June 11, 1903.*

There are many today with unsanctified minds questioning even the inspiration of God’s Holy Word; Sadly, even in Seventh-day Adventist circles.

**“God committed the preparation of His divinely inspired Word to finite man.** This Word, arranged into books, the Old and New Testaments, is the Guidebook to the inhabitants of a fallen world, bequeathed to them, that by studying and obeying the directions not one soul would lose its way to heaven.

***Those who think to make the supposed difficulties of Scriptures plain, in measuring by their finite rule that which is inspired and that which is not inspired, had better cover their faces as Elijah [did] when the still small voice spoke to him; for they are in the presence of God and holy angels, who for ages have communicated to men light and knowledge, telling them what to do and what not to do unfolding before them scenes of thrilling interest, waymark by waymark in symbols and signs and illustrations.***

And He [God] has not, while presenting the perils clustering about the last days, qualified any finite man to unravel hidden mysteries or inspired one man or any class of men to pronounce judgment as to that which is inspired or is not. When men, in their finite judgement, find it necessary to go into an examination of Scriptures to define that which is inspired and that which is not, they have stepped before Jesus to show Him a better way than He has led us.

**I take the Bible just as it is, as the Inspired Word. I believe its utterances in an entire Bible.** Men arise who think they find something to criticize in God’s Word. They lay it bare before others as evidence of superior wisdom. These men are, many of them, smart men, learned men; they have eloquence and talent, the whole lifework [of whom] is to unsettle minds in regard to the inspiration of the Scriptures. They influence many to see as they do. And the same work is passed on from one to another, just as Satan designed it should be, until we may see the full meaning of the words of Christ, “When the Son of Man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?” Luke 18:8.



## STATEMENT OF BELIEFS

### Article II – Word of God

---

***Brethren let not a mind or hand be engaged in criticizing the Bible. It is a work that Satan delights to have any of you do, but it is not a work the Lord has pointed out for you to do.***

Men should let God take care of His own Book, His living Oracles, as He has done for ages. They begin to question some parts of revelation and pick flaws in the apparent inconsistencies of this statement and that statement. Beginning at Genesis, they give up that which they deem questionable, and their minds lead on, **for Satan will lead to any length they may follow in their criticism and they see something to doubt in the whole Scriptures.** Their faculties of criticism become sharpened by exercise, and they can rest on nothing with a certainty. You try to reason with these men, but your time is lost. They will exercise their power of ridicule even upon the Bible. They even become mockers, and they would be astonished if you put it to them in that light.

***Brethren, cling to your Bible as it reads, and stop your criticism in regard to its validity, and obey the Word, and not one of you will be lost. The ingenuity of men has been exercised for ages to measure the Word of God by their finite minds and limited comprehension. If the Lord, the author of the living Oracles, would throw back the curtain and reveal His wisdom and His glory before them, they would shrink into nothingness and exclaim as did Isaiah, “I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips.” Isaiah 6:5. Ellen G. White, Manuscript 16 1888, Selected Messages, Vol 1 pg. 16-18***

For any additional information on this subject, see ***Bible Readings for the Home Circle, 1914 Edition*** and studies such as: “**The Scriptures,**” “**The Study Of The Scriptures,**” “**Power In The Word,**” “**The Life-Giving Word,**” “**Christ In All The Bible,**” etc.