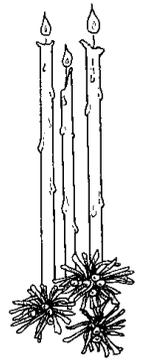


ELMIRA
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2010



The Remnant

“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 12:17

When one reads the above verse the question may come to mind, what is the remnant?

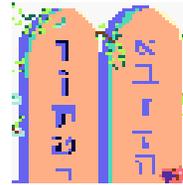
A closer examination of the definition for remnant will be helpful for further study.

Remnant: 1. a remaining, usually small part, quantity, number, or the like. 2. A fragment or scrap. In other words, it is simply that which was or is left over. Let’s look further into the Biblical understanding of this class of people, the remnant, the leftovers.

First, the “dragon was angry/wroth with the woman.” There are two things to note here in this portion of the verse. 1. The dragon is the devil, according to Revelation 12:9: “And the great dragon . . . that old serpent, called the Devil and Satan. . .” 2. The Woman is God’s church on earth, according to Jeremiah 6:2, “I have likened the daughter of Zion to a comely and delicate woman”; Eph 5:23, “For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church”

With this understanding the picture becomes clearer. The devil is angry with God’s church and went to make war with the remnant. We must pause for a moment, once again, and ask, for what reason is the devil angry with God’s church? We may note the obvious, the devil has been at odds with God since the creation of this world and anyone or anything that sides with the Creator of the universe, is under

Satan’s attacks. But this is not accurately interpreting the above verse. Nor does it give credence to Satan’s attacks. Further reading of the above verse tells us exactly why the devil is angry with the remnant church! . . . “Which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.” Revelation 12:17



So why is this remnant church under the attacks of the devil? We will examine two reasons.

1. Because they keep the commandments.
2. They have the Testimony of Jesus Christ.

They obey all the commandments, including the fourth, the Sabbath command, which all are under obligation to obey. Throughout the ages, the Seventh-day Sabbath (Saturday) has been trampled upon by the transfer of its solemnity from Saturday the 7th day of the week to Sunday the 1st day of the week. This transfer was the work of man and not of God. Thus the vast majority of the civilized world is disregarding one of the greatest commands of all. The Sabbath is a day to honor our Creator. It was the Seventh day that God rested from all His (creating) work and called it good. Thus God made the seventh day a holy day; a day to memorialize God’s creation and God as our Creator. Its observance is to be kept from sunset to sunset. For further study read Genesis 2:1-3 and Exodus 20:8-11. Thus, the devil knows full well that by observing the fourth commandment, the world would be reminded of the Creator God and as such, all authority, power, worship and praise would be attributed to the God of creation. Man would obviously be under God’s dominion. The devil is

ever trying to remove God out of the equation.

They have the Testimony of Jesus Christ. What is this Testimony of Jesus Christ? There are several points we must consider.

1. Testimony – one’s personal experience with Jesus as their Lord and Savior. One could conclude without a doubt that the devil would be angry with any person who publicly demonstrates his or her faith in Jesus.

2. Testimony – is a work of prophecy according to Revelation 19:10 . . . “for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”

The testimony of Jesus would include a proper understanding and interpretation of the key prophetic books of the Bible, Daniel and Revelation. For further study read Isaiah 8:20; II Peter 1:21.

3. Testimony – the prophetic office. The church in the last days would continue with the office of a Prophet. For further study read II Chronicles 20:20; Ephesians 4:1-14.

With this insight, the identity of this remnant people becomes clear. Where did they come from? It was during the dark ages of papal supremacy that God’s people felt the greatest attacks. However, it was during this time of the reformation, a movement of people that opposed this order of papal supremacy, and because of their faithfulness and tenacity, that the remnant was born.

The following is a list of reformers who held to their faith despite the onslaught of death:

The Waldenses stood upon the Bible and the Bible alone. Huss believed that obedience to God took priority over obedience to man. Luther believed it was grace through Jesus Christ alone that secured one’s salvation, and not the merits or pardon of any man.

The list continues. Calvin believed in growth in Jesus. The Anabaptists believed in baptism by immersion, Wesley in holiness of living. It was the history of these reformers, through death and suffering, that brought us the remnant; the leftovers from the dark ages.

In the 1800’s, a man by the name of William Miller began to study the prophecies of the book of Daniel, which caused a stir in the then known modern world. He believed that Jesus was soon to return in 1844. Because of his teachings, the Adventist people emerged. Thus we have today the remnant people; the Seventh-day Adventist Church, who not only adopted the principles and teachings of the reformers of old, but also included the fourth commandment (the Sabbath) which had been violated for hundreds of years. And they proclaimed the soon return of Jesus.

Identity of the church of revelation is not difficult to search out. Here are a few of the identifying marks of the remnant church:

1. Uplifts Jesus
2. Keeps the 10 Commandments
3. The Sabbath
4. Three Angels Messages – Revelation 14
5. Judgment / Sanctuary
6. True Worship
7. Come out of Babylon
8. Identifies The Beast and its Mark
9. Has the Spirit of Prophecy
10. State of the Dead
11. Baptism by Immersion
12. Second Coming and its nearness
13. Arises sometime after 1798

The only church on earth that fits these criteria is the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The following is a statement of belief of the Seventh-day Adventist Church:



“The universal church is composed of all who truly believe in Christ, but in the last days, a time of widespread apostasy, a remnant has been called out to keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. This remnant announces the arrival of the judgment hour, proclaims salvation through Christ, and heralds the approach of His second advent. This proclamation is symbolized by the three angels of Revelation 14; it coincides with the work of judgment in heaven and results in a work of repentance and reform on earth. Every believer is called to have a personal part in this

worldwide witness.” Fundamental Beliefs, number 13.

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, “All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” Matthew 28:18-20

Our Master calls us to go into the world. Will you

stand with me as the reformers did? Know that Jesus is with us at every step. He has set up His church, His remnant on earth. Being a part of this class of people brings no merit of salvation, except that which comes from Jesus. We must be workers for Jesus, we must tell others, and we must combine our efforts for its advancement. Today, will you ask Jesus what you can do to advance the message of truth?

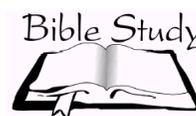
Maranatha,
Pastor Roger E. Curtis

CHURCH NEWS



BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study is held each Tuesday evening, 7:00 PM at the church with Pastor Brutus from the Friendship Church.



2011 DEVOTIONAL AND SHARING BOOKS

A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board for this year’s devotional and sharing books. Special Church Price – only if we order ten or more. Otherwise, use the regular price, plus shipping and handling.

CAMP CHEROKEE

Elder Dan Whitlow, New York Conference Youth Ministries Director, was able to join us for the November Church Business meeting to discuss Camp Cherokee.

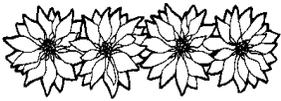


The purpose of Cherokee is evangelism – a way to reach individuals for Jesus. The staff is a team of evangelists.

This year, out of 41 teens, there were 31 requests for Bible studies and 22 requests for baptism. Bible lessons and a mini CD with lessons and Bibleuniverse.com/Bibleinfo.com are sent home. Approximately 60 Bibles and 75 Bible lessons & CDs were given out this year. Cards are sent so the local churches can continue working with those who have made decisions for baptism. Extra funding is needed to cover Bibles, Bible lessons, and CDs.

The children’s offering taken each week during the worship service is designated to sponsor our local children at Camp Cherokee.

POINSETTIAS



Anyone wishing to provide poinsettias in memory of a loved one, please contact Lois Shappee by December 11.

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEONS

All are invited to join us each Sabbath following the worship service for lunch and fellowship. Please bring a dish to pass. All are invited. There will be some vegan dishes provided the third Sabbath of each month. Soup & Sandwiches will be the **fourth** Sabbath of each month during the winter. **There will be no luncheons Christmas or New Year's Day.**



CONGRATULATIONS



... to Martha and John Pack on the birth of a great-granddaughter. Audrey Vaughn Myers was born August 30, weighing 7 pounds and 12 ounces in Baltimore, MD. She is the daughter of John and Stacy (Pack) Myers.

3ABN UPDATE

Help raise \$31,800 to upgrade Channel 21 to digital. Mark your tithe envelope 3ABN upgrade. We currently have \$5,782.00 toward our goal.



LABELS AND BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION



Please continue to save your General Mills Box tops and Campbell's UPC symbols for the Holbrook SDA Indian School in Arizona. Box tops and UPC symbols can be given Joyce Cmelko. Currently they have 167,613 Campbell's points toward a goal of 1,600,000 toward a new mini van. For General Mills Box Tops their total is \$753. Each box top is worth ten cents. They get two checks per year. The money is used for the registration of the campus vehicles. Thank you again for your support.

Check out our Church website at: www.elmirasda.com
Downloadable sermons are available at this site.



PRAYER LIST

Don & Alice Congdon
Bill & Marie Kaiser
Theresa Kerr
Frances McMillen



John & Martha Pack
Lorraine Parker
Doris Stewart
Our Shut-ins

SABBATH SCHOOL



Our adult Sabbath School studies continue in *Background Characters in the Old Testament*, looking at some of the overlooked and forgotten figures in the Old Testament. During the first quarter of 2011, our topic will be *Jesus Wept: The Bible and Human Emotions*.

Please join us as we study each Sabbath morning. Song service begins at 9:20. Classes are provided for adults and children. Mission DVDs are shown the first Sabbath of each month. This quarter they are from the Inter-American Division. The report in December will be from Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

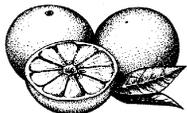
INVESTMENT

Thank you for saving your newspapers, magazines, and health food labels for Investment. See Alvin Jackson, our Investment leader. **Please be sure the UPC symbol is on the food labels.**



NATURE'S GARDEN

STORE HOURS Thursday, 4:00-7:00 p.m., OR by appointment,
Call Larry Taft – 732-0463, Or Mac & Hilda Dwyer – 739-7748.



FRUIT SALES

2010-2011 Fruit Sale Dates are planned for: December 19, January 23, February 20, March 20 in the Nature's Garden building. Sales will be from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Oranges and Pink Grapefruit are available by the full case, half or quarter. To order fruit or to offer your help, contact Malcolm Dwyer, 739-7748.

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – January 20 – CONTACT Sharon and Jim Reynolds at 734-1560 with newsletter information. You may also send your articles to: 813 Maple Avenue, Elmira, NY 14904 or e-mail us at: shareyn@gmail.com





Angels from heaven informed the shepherds of the advent of Jesus, and light and glory from God accompanied their testimony. The heavenly host touched their harps and glorified God. They triumphantly heralded the advent of the Son of God to a fallen world to accomplish the work of redemption, and by His death to bring peace, happiness, and everlasting life to man. God honored the advent of His Son. Angels worshiped Him.
The Story of Redemption, p. 196



For unto us a Child is born,
unto us a Son is given:
and the government shall be upon His shoulder:
and His name shall be called
Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God,
The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

**Elmira Seventh-day Adventist Church
c/o Jim & Sharon Reynolds
813 Maple Avenue
Elmira, NY 14904**



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED