



# Spirit of Prophecy Newsletter

A Bimonthly Publication by the  
Ellen G. White Seventh-day  
Adventist Research Centre,  
Northern Caribbean University.

Volume 10, No. 1  
October– November, 2010

## Commemorating our Name: 150 years as a Seventh-day Adventist (1860-2010) Basil A. Reid

This year the Seventh-day Adventist church celebrates 150 years since the name was chosen. It identifies the church and made it a legal entity. Other names such as "the remnant," "believers," "the scattered flock," "Seventh-day people," "Advent Sabbath keepers," "Church of God," and "Seventh-day Door shutters," were suggested.

On the 26th of March 1987, James Nix, board chair of the Adventist Heritage Ministry, published an article entitled "Seventh-day Adventist—how we get the name?" in the *Adventist Review*, which was later compiled in the *Adventist Scrapbook* p. 23. Excerpts from this article is presented below:

"The early pioneers of this movement greatly feared organizing into a church and even taking a name. They saw any form of organization as Babylon, a return to the fallen state of the churches out of which they had first come as Millerites. Early in 1860, R. F. Cottrell wrote in the REVIEW that "to make us a name" or to legally incorporate as an organization in the state of Michigan would not only mean becoming a part of Babylon but would also constitute a union of church and state.

"James White sparked the discussion early in 1860 when in the REVIEW he called for organization of the publishing house into a legal corporation. From the very beginning James White held the press in his name. But since many had donated funds for its operation, he also considered it as church property. He pointed out that if he should die, under Michigan law it would pass to his children and not to the church." (Continued on p. 2)

### Inside this issue:

<i>Commemorating our name:</i>	1
<i>Delegates at the 1860 session</i>	3
<i>Pioneer of the month</i>	3
<i>The benefits of fasting</i>	4
<i>Did you know?</i>	4
<i>Talk Back</i>	5
<i>Book of the month</i>	6

### The Spirit of Prophecy Newsletter

The Spirit of Prophecy Newsletter is a publication dedicated to the promotion of the biblical truth concerning God's revelation through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit of Prophecy. This newsletter is published by the Ellen G. White SDA Research Centre to equip readers to participate in the ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

**Editorial Staff:** Basil A. Reid, Director; Manifa Riley, Secretary.

**Then Samuel took a stone, and set it between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it Ebenezer, saying, Hitherto hath the Lord helped us. 1 Samuel 7:12.**

## Commemorating our Name: 150 years as Seventh-day Adventist (1860-2010) *continued from p. 1*

"For several months the discussion continued in the pages of the REVIEW until church leaders convened a meeting in Battle Creek Michigan, September 28- October 1. Delegates from five states assembled, with Joseph Bates serving as chairman."

"Discussion revolved around the need for sufficient organization to hold property legally, including the publishing house and church buildings in several states. J.N. Loughborough pointed out that they had already lost two churches because they were held in the names of individuals. He did not feel that organizing for protection against recurrence of this kind of loss would make Sabbath keepers part of Babylon. The realization prevailed that something had to be done and eventually delegates adopted constitution for a publishing association."

"After this, selection of a name became imperative. Some were against the adoption of a general name for all Sabbath keepers, while others opposed the practice of each local congregation choosing its own name. During the discussion James White is reported to have said, "It seems to me that the child is now so grown that it is exceedingly awkward to have no name for it.' "

"He also said, "I don't see how we get along without some name, if we do not take one, we shall have a variety applied to us. And it is not possible for us to hold property without a name....It is objected that we shall be classed among the denominations. We are classed with them already and I do not know that we can prevent it, unless we disband and scatter, and

give up the thing all- together."

"Some recommended the name "church of God" while others felt it sounded boastful. David Hewitt eventually offered the resolution that "we take the name Seventh-day Adventists." Brother Poole modified this to read that we call ourselves Seventh-day Adventists," and it was adopted with only one dissenting vote and two abstentions."

"Ellen White, who had not taken part in the deliberations, later wrote: "the name Seventh-day Adventist is a standing rebuke to the protestant world....It carries the true features of our faith in front and will convict the inquiring mind. Like an arrow from the Lord's quiver, it will wound the transgressor of God's law, and will lead to repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ" (*Testimonies*, Vol.1pp.223, 224)"

With prayerful consideration and prophetic guidance the name *Seventh-day Adventist* now belts the world with a people anticipating the Second Advent. The church's programs in evangelism , education, health and printing ministry continue to advance the kingdom of God and prepare a people for the Second Advent. Even if another 150 years will be spent before the visible return of our Savior, the name will still be relevant and the promise of our Lord will be fulfilled.

## Delegates at the 1860 Session

Below is a list of the delegates reconstructed from various accounts

Amadon, Geo. W. (Battle Creek, MI)

Andrews, J. N. (NY tent)

Appleton, Wm. (Greenville, MI)

Bates, Joseph (Monterey, MI)

### Chair

Belden, Stephen T. (Battle Creek, MI)

Bracket (Ezra?)

Butler, T. J. (from Gilboa, OH)

Clarke, J. (from Lovett's Grove, OH) [John or Joseph?]

Cornell, M. E. (Iowa)

Craw, H. A. (from Lovett's Grove, OH)

Edgar, J. L. (MI)

Frisbie, J. B. (MI)

Hewitt, David (Battle Creek, MI)

Holt, G. W. (OH)

Hull, Moses (Iowa)

Ingraham, Wm. S. (WI)

Lawrence, R. J. (MI)

Lay, Geo. T.

Loughborough, J. N. (Battle Creek, MI)

Palmer, Daniel R. (Jackson, MI)

Poole (E. A.?) from Lincklaen, Chenango County, NY

Smith, Uriah (Battle Creek, MI)

### Secretary

Sperry, C. W. (NY)

Waggoner, J. H. (Burlington, MI)

White, James (Battle Creek, MI)

## PIONEER OF THE MONTH—JOSEPH BATES (1792-1872)

Joseph Bates chaired the meeting on October 2, 1860 in which the name Seventh-day Adventist was chosen.

He was a co-founder of the Seventh-day Adventist Church along with James and Ellen White. Bates experienced the 1844 disappointment without losing his faith. In 1845 he read a tract by T. M. Preble on the Sabbath, published near Washington, New Hampshire.

Bates traveled there to study for himself. On returning to Fairhaven, he met a friend, Captain Hall, at the old bridge approach. Hall asked him, "What's the news, Captain Bates?" He replied, "The news is that the seventh day is the Sabbath." Hall became a convert to the Sabbath as well.

Joseph Bates often chaired the "Sabbath conferences" of 1848-1850. He became

more closely associated with the Whites at that time. He traveled to many places, including Battle Creek, winning the first convert there. In his last year of life he preached at least 100 times. He died at the age of 80 at the Health Reform Institute in Battle Creek and is buried at Monterey, Michigan.



## FASCINATING FACTS

### Did you know that...

- \* The General Conference (GC) organized in Battle Creek, Michigan, on May 20, with 20 delegates present. At the 59th GC session in Atlanta, Georgia 2, 410 delegates were present. (source: *Adventist Review* , June 25, 2010 p. 12, 20)
- \* Battle Creek was the site of 26 of 31 GC session . The first session held west of Mississippi River was in November 1887– Oakland, California. (Source: *Adventist Review*, June 25, 2010 p. 15)

## HEALTH CORNER

### The Benefits of Fasting

"In many cases of sickness, the best remedy for your patient is to fast a meal or two, that the over-worked organs of digestion may have an opportunity to rest.... Many times a short period of entire abstinence from food, followed by simple moderate eating, has led to recovery through

nature's own recuperative effort. An abstemious (self-restraining) diet for a month or two will convince many sufferers that the path of self-denial is the path to health." Nedley, Neil (1999) *Proof Positive* p.159

"If they cannot at first enjoy plain food, they should fast until they can.

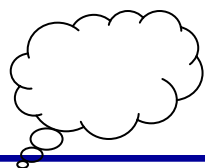
That fast will prove to them of greater benefit than medicine, for the abused stomach will find that rest which it has long needed, and real hunger can be satisfied with a plain diet. It will take time for the taste to recover from the abuses which it has received, and to gain its natural tone."

*Spiritual Gifts Vol.4* p. 130



## THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

" In reviewing our past history, having traveled over every step of advance to our present standing, I can say, Praise God! As I see what the Lord has wrought, I am filled with astonishment, and with confidence in Christ as leader. We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history."—Life Sketches. 196 (1902).



## TALK BACK: Say what's on your mind

### 1. What do you think about the name Seventh-day Adventist?

“Its OK for it makes no difference what the church of God is called , as long as it is a modest name, because it is not the name that define the church but the teachings”— *Jason Miller*, student NCU

“ It fully captures our peculiar identity and mission.” *Ricardo Reid*, student NCU

“A set of people who worship on the seventh day and are looking for the second coming of Christ .”- *Rayon Daley*, Albion SDA church

### 2. What does the name Seventh- day Adventist mean to you personally?

“It means that I believe in keeping the Seventh- day Sabbath as well as I have the hope of God's return”— *Melecia Cox- Snow- staff*, NCU

“Personally observing the 7th day Sabbath and other commands of God including respecting and using the writings of Ellen G, White.”- *Monique McKenzie*, Heywood Hall SDA church, St. Mary

“It means that we must go into all the world and teach the gospel. Because we all have the message so we all can prepare for the coming of Christ.” -*Letisha young*, student, NCU



## GIFT OF PROPHECY QUESTION

Are Ellen White's words intended to be part of the Bible, or an addition to the Bible?

No. Doctrines come from the Bible alone. As an end-time prophet, her aim was to stress the love of Jesus and His imminent return. She urged people to serve Him and accept His righteousness as a free gift. She also directed people's attention to the Bible prophecies for the end-time—especially Jesus' three-point message for the world today (Revelation 14:6-14)—and the urgent need is that they share these messages of hope quickly to all the world.



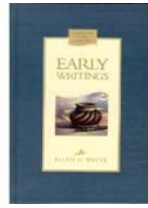
**Ellen G. White Seventh—Day Advent-  
ist Research Centre**

Northern Caribbean University  
Mandeville, Manchester Jamaica W.I

**We're on the web: [http://  
egw-edaresearch.ncu.edu.jm](http://egw-edaresearch.ncu.edu.jm)**

## **WE RECOMMEND: Early Writings**

**by Ellen G. White**



This volume is a comprehensive selection of Ellen G. White's published writings from the 1850s, along with a prologue explaining the historical background of the text. The autobiographical section of the book describes the authors conversion experience, the Millerite movement of 1840-1844 and the early visions that formed the foundation of her theology and ministry. A second section contains counsels on various matters pertaining to the experience of early advent believers. The final half of the book traces salvation history from the fall of Satan in heaven to the final end of sin and sinners. This material forms the core of the later five- volume Conflict of Ages Series.

## **Sabbath Programmes at the Research Centre**

**The Centre opens its doors to one church per month to come and worship on a Sabbath at our facilities. We also conduct seminars, and AY programmes at local churches. For appointments call or e-mail us at the addresses on this page.**

**Do you have any questions or comments on Spirit of Prophecy matters?**

**If you do, please call us or send your questions at:**

**Ellen G. White SDA Research Centre**

**Northern Caribbean University, Mandeville, Manchester**

**Jamaica, W.I.**

**Tel: (876) 963-7768-9**

**Email: [breid@ncu.edu.jm](mailto:breid@ncu.edu.jm)/ [egw-sdaresearch@ncu.edu.jm](mailto:egw-sdaresearch@ncu.edu.jm)**