

Seventh-day Adventist *Sabbath School Bible Study Guide* for the Third Quarter of 2023

This is a review of the entire *Seventh-day Adventist Adult Teachers Sabbath School Bible Study Guide* (SSBSG) for the third quarter of 2023 titled “Ephesians.” On the back of the front cover of the SSBSG the “Scripture references” used are allegedly listed. In this SSBSG only five different bibles were listed but ELEVEN different ones were, in fact, referenced.

I counted the number of times each was referenced. I did not count them twice so my count could be off a little. I did not count bible versions that were part of another quotation. If I find more, the numbers will be updated.

In the SSBSG abbreviations for the bible versions used are listed in italicized capital letters but King James Version (KJV) passages are generally not advertised in that way. This SSBSG was an exception because one KJV passage was referenced and advertised in italicized capital letters. In this SSBSG, as in others, many would get the impression that the multitude of fake bibles used were the best ones to use.

New King James Version (NKJV) quotations: 91.

King James Version (KJV) quotations: 5.

New American Standard Bible (NASB) quotations: 43.

Holman Christian Standard Bible (HCSB) quotations: 1.

Revised Standard Version (RSV) quotations: 1.

New Revised Standard Version quotations (NRSV): 6.

New International Version quotations (NIV): 16.

Lexham English Bible (LEB) quotations: 2.

New Living Translation (NLT) quotations: 5.

English Standard Version quotations: 169.

American Standard Version quotations: 1.

There were eight memory texts from the ESV, three from the NKJV and three from the NIV.

Except for those listed on the back of the front cover, I had to identify the different bibles by the abbreviations used. I was able to do that since those bibles have been used in previous editions of the SSBSG.

The ESV was the clear winner. Mine has the nihil obstat of “+Bishop J. Susaimanickam” and the imprimatur of “+Oswald Cardinal Gracias Archbishop of Bombay and President, Conference of Catholic Bishops of India.”

Page numbers referenced will be as in the Standard Edition of the SSBSG unless otherwise noted.

LESSON 1. Paul *and the Ephesians*. (June 24-30)

On page 7 in speaking of Ephesus it says, “Artemis, regarded as the protector goddess of the city, was supreme. Her worship was the focus of civic ceremonies, athletic games, and annual celebrations. (Artemis was called Diana by the Romans: *see Acts 19:24, 35, KJV; NKJV*.)”. If John K. McVay, PhD (hereafter to be referred to as John), the principal contributor to this SSBSG, had stayed with the real Bible he wouldn’t have had to explain this and he wouldn’t have had to contradict the Spirit of Prophecy. He wouldn’t even have had to be wrong.

“Once a year, special ceremonies were held at Ephesus in honor of the goddess Diana.” *The Acts of the Apostles* page 291.

“So that not only this our craft is in danger to be set at nought; but also that the temple of the great goddess Diana should be despised, and her magnificence should be destroyed, who all Asia and the world worshippeth.” Acts 19:27 from the KJV.

“And there is danger not only that this trade of ours may come into disrepute but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis may be counted as nothing, and that she may even be deposed from her magnificence, she whom all Asia and the world worship.” Acts 19:27 from John’s favorite fake bible, the ESV.

“**Dian’*a*** (dī-ān’*à*). This Latin word, properly denoting a Roman divinity, is the representative of the Greek *Artemis*, the tutelary goddess of the Ephesians, who plays so important a part in the narrative of Acts 19. The Ephesian Diana was, however, regarded as invested with very different attributes, and is rather to be identified with Astarte and other female divinities of the East.” *Peloubet’s Bible Dictionary* with a copyright date of 1925.

First of all, saying the name of the goddess of Acts 19 should be Artemis which is definitely implied by John and is said plainly in his favorite fake bible, is a put down of the Spirit of Prophecy. These subtle put downs of the Spirit of Prophecy frequently occur in various *Sabbath School Bible Study Guides*. Remember that Genesis 3:1 says “the serpent was more subtil” and you’ll be able to identify the origin of the put downs.

Notice that both the KJV and John’s favorite fake bible both say the goddess of Ephesus was one that “all Asia” AND “the world” worshipped. Notice that “Diana” properly denotes a ROMAN divinity as opposed to the GREEK Artemis. The whole world did not worship Artemis but the whole civilized world at that time did worship Diana. At the time Acts 19 was written Greece was not the ruler of the whole world; Rome was. Therefore, as the KJV says, the name of the goddess was Diana and John’s favorite fake bible is wrong.

The Greek lessons start on page 11 where John apparently believes it’s important for you to understand that *ekklēsia* means “church.” The Greek lessons are important to give John credibility and to make you think you have learned something important in your Sabbath School class. If you wish to learn Greek, *ekklēsia* is an important word. If you

wish to study your real English Bible you will never need to know that. A more useful word for you to learn would be *iglesia*.

LESSON 2. God's Grand, Christ-Centered Plan. (July 1-7)

The memory text for this lesson is from John's favorite fake bible. Here it is from the ESV and from the KJV.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places," Ephesians 1:3 from the ESV.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:" Ephesians 1:3 from the KJV.

Notice the phrase "heavenly places." That phrase only occurs in Ephesians. Here are the other places it occurs.

"that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places," Ephesians 1:20 from the ESV.

"Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places," Ephesians 1:20 from the KJV.

"and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus," Ephesians 2:6 from the ESV.

"And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:" Ephesians 2:6 from the KJV.

"so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places." Ephesians 3:10 from the ESV.

"To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God," Ephesians 3:10 from the ESV.

"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places." Ephesians 6:12 from the ESV.

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Ephesians 6:12 from the KJV.

Yes, I know. The phrase "heavenly places" isn't in Ephesians 6:12 in the KJV; instead it's "high places." Do you see anything in those verses that says there is

anything impure in “heavenly places” in the KJV? If you’re real ambitious get out your real Bible, if you have one, and the concordance for it and see if anything is said about any type of wickedness associated with the word “heavenly” anywhere in the Bible.

“The Son of God and true, loyal angels prevailed ; and Satan and his sympathizers were expelled from Heaven. All the heavenly host acknowledged and adored the God of justice. Not a taint of rebellion was left in Heaven.” *Spirit of Prophecy* volume 1 page 23.

There are no “spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places” but there is definitely “spiritual wickedness in high places” and that could even include some leaders of our church and I’m not the first person that said this.

“And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:” Revelation 3:14-17 from the KJV.

In this passage “angel” means a messenger and the “faithful and true witness” and “the beginning of the creation of God” is speaking to that angel or messenger. The principal messengers of the Seventh-day Adventist Church are its leaders. In fact, some leaders were responsible for publishing this SSBSG.

Here’s something else to notice about the ESV.

“and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things,” Ephesians 3:9 from the ESV.

“And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:” Ephesians 3:9 from the KJV.

By removing “Jesus Christ” from Ephesians 3:9, He has been demoted from being the Creator and yes, I know Jesus is God.

At the bottom of page 15 there is a Scripture passage in quotation marks but with nothing to designate what bible version it’s from. Since no credit to a specific version is given, one might assume it’s unique to the KJV. Actually, the phrase “before the foundation of the world” occurs in the KJV, the NKJV and the NRSV so I didn’t credit any of those bibles with being used.

LESSON 3. The Power of the Exalted Jesus. (July 8-14)

On page 26 John says, “Turning from the dimension of space to that of time, Paul stresses the unlimited chronology of Jesus’ exalted rule. His rule over all powers applies “not only in this age but also in the one to come” (*Eph 1:21, ESV*).

Here’s the entirety of that verse from the ESV and from the KJV.

“far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.” Ephesians 1:21 from the ESV.

“Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:” Ephesians 1:21 from the KJV.

If you say there is an “age” that’s “to come” it would not exclude the possibility of multiple future ages. It also aligns with New Age doctrine in which there are long ages defined by the position of stars. The “world” that “is to come” would mean the new earth.

LESSON 4. How God Rescues Us (July 15-21)

On page 31 it says, referring to Satan, “ ‘He is the prince of the power of the air’ (*Eph. 2:2, NKJV*) since ‘the air’ (or ‘the heavenly places’) is identified as the location of supernatural powers, including evil ones (*compare Eph. 1:3, Eph. 3:10, Eph. 6:12*).”

John is saying that “the air” and “the heavenly places” are synonyms and presents three bible verses that he apparently thinks support this conclusion.

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,” Ephesians 1:3 from the NKJV.

“to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places,” Ephesians 3:10 from the NKJV.

“For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.” Ephesians 6:12 from the NKJV.

The “heavenly places” issue was already covered in the review of lesson 2 but here is something interesting to try. Johnny has said “the air” and “the heavenly places” mean the same thing so we’ll try substituting “the air” for “the heavenly places” in the above verses.

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in **the air** in Christ,” Ephesians 1:3 (modified) from the NKJV.

“to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in **the air**,” Ephesians 3:10 (modified) from the NKJV.

“For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in **the air**.” Ephesians 6:12 (modified) from the NKJV.

Really??? The air? LOL.

On page 32 Johnny teaches English grammar. This is good since English grammar is a lot more important to English speaking people than Greek or Hebrew grammar. He says, “it is important to note that Paul employs past tense.”

On page 33 Johnny teaches more English grammar, i.e., about compound verbs.

On page 55 of the teachers edition in the teachers comments section it says, “While justification means we are clothed in Christ’s righteousness, sanctification means we are clothed in Christ’s robe of good works and are walking in it.”

John K. McVay, PhD, the principal contributor to this SSBSG, is the president and a professor of religion at Walla Walla University. This thing about being clothed in Christ’s good works would be from Georghe Rasmerita who is an associate professor in the Historical Theological Department in the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary in Silang, Cavite, Philippines. Where would Georghe come up with being clothed in good works?

“Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.” And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.” Revelation 19:7-8 from the NKJV.

“Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear.” (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of God’s holy people.)” Revelation 19:7-8 from the NIV.

“Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.” Revelation 19:7-8 from the KJV.

“The fine linen, says the Scripture, ‘is the righteousness of saints.’ It is the righteousness of Christ, His own unblemished character, that through faith is

imparted to all who receive Him as their personal Saviour.” *Christ’s Object Lessons* page 310.

If you’re using a fake bible, look up that passage and chances are the “fine linen is the righteousness of saints” will have been changed to the fine linen being righteous deeds, acts or some other variation of righteousness by works.

I recently received *Adventist Journey* which is a periodical published by the North American Division. In it there is an ad for the Andrews Bible Commentary. Said commentary is allegedly “an easy read” and “The Adventist standard for the next generation”. Pictured is the *Andrews Bible Commentary* and the NIV version of the Andrews Study Bible. If you wish to have a Bible commentary seasoned with drivel such as is in this SSBSG, go ahead and buy it. I’m not wasting my money or my time on it.

LESSON 5. Horizontal Atonement: The Cross *and the Church* (July 22-28)

The memory text for this lesson is taken from the ESV. Let’s see how a fundamental Seventh-day Adventist doctrine fares with Johnny’s favorite fake bible. That’s the one about the remnant churching HAVING the Spirit of Prophecy. There are two bible verses that are needed to show this.

“Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, ‘You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God.’ For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” Revelation 19:10 from the ESV.

“And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” Revelation 19:10 from the KJV.

“Then the dragon became furious with the woman and went off to make war on the rest of her offspring, on those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus. And he stood on the sand of the sea.” Revelation 12:17 from the ESV.

“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 from the KJV.

The ESV doesn’t say anything about a “remnant” and doesn’t say anything about having “the testimony of Jesus” which “is the spirit of prophecy.” The ESV only says the “brothers” and “offspring” “hold to the testimony of Jesus.” Holding to just means past prophetic gifts and it doesn’t mean there is any genuine prophetic gift that the end time church has.

LESSON 6. The Mystery of the Gospel (July 29-August 4)

The NIV has been especially honored in this lesson because the memory text is taken from it.

Remember what I mentioned about the recent *Adventist Journey* in which there is an ad for the Andrews Bible Commentary that's accompanied by a picture of the NIV version of the Andrews Study Bible? Here is a sample passage from that "the Bible" along with the relevant commentary written by an Andrews University Scholar.

“ ‘Are you so dull?’ he asked. ‘Don’t you see that nothing that enters a person from the outside can defile them? For it doesn’t go into their heart but into their stomach, and then out of the body.’ (In saying this, Jesus declared all foods clean.)” Mark 7:18-19 from the NIV.

“In these verses, Jesus was not declaring that a person can eat anything.” Part of the commentary on the above passage from the NIV version of the Andrews Study Bible.

The WHOLE THING about unclean and clean foods in the Old Testament was about what one was allowed to EAT and/or use as a sacrifice. If God had to tell the Israelites that certain flesh products were unclean, it's obvious that some had to be told that because they considered those flesh products good food. According to the retard at Andrews University, Jesus declaring all foods clean in the Andrews Study Bible apparently doesn't really mean they're all clean.

On page 52, part of an Ellen G. White quotation asks, “Do we really believe the Bible?” The answer is that neither of the authors of this SSBSG believe there is one single Bible in the world that they can believe one hundred percent cover to cover. Chances are good that your minister doesn't believe that either.

LESSON 7. The Unified Body of Christ (August 5-11)

The first paragraph after the memory text from the favorite fake bible is devoted to one of Aesop's fables.

“In the education of children and youth, fairy tales, myths and fictitious stories are now given a large place. Books of this character are used in the schools, and they are to be found in many homes. How can Christian parents permit their children to use books so filled with falsehood?” *The Ministry of Healing* page 446.

And now we have fairy tales for big people. What a disgrace.

I was recently in a church service for big people. There was a six year old girl sitting near the front row with her parents. During the service, the speaker asked various questions which that little girl answered out loud. LOL. She was obviously listening attentively to the speaker and her answers made sense. She wasn't fidgeting or misbehaving. Her parents are obviously doing something right. What I usually see are

kids walking in and out during a service, eating, drinking and otherwise acting in an irreverent manner.

“Only those who have been diligent students of the Scriptures and who have received the love of the truth will be shielded from the powerful delusion that takes the world captive. *The Great Controversy* page 625.

“If we have not a deep experience in the things of God, if we have not a thorough knowledge of His Word, we shall be beguiled to our ruin by the errors and sophistries of the enemy. False doctrines will sap the foundations of many, because they have not learned to discern truth from error. Our only safeguard against the wiles of Satan is to study the Scriptures diligently, to have an intelligent understanding of the reasons of our faith, and faithfully to perform every known duty.” *Selected Messages Book Two* page 58.

On page 58, Johnny mentions “an extended description of God as ‘one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all, and in all’ (*Eph. 4:6, ESV*).” In the next paragraph he says, “Paul is not dabbling in the heresies of pantheism.” Actually, in Johnny’s favorite fake bible, Paul is dabbling in the heresies of pantheism.

“one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.” Ephesians 4:6 from the ESV.

“One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.” Ephesians 4:6 from the KJV.

Paul could in truth say “in you all” because he was speaking to consecrated Christians. The majority in the world don’t have God dwelling in them. To say “in all” is pantheism.

At the bottom of page 61 the question is asked, “What are some of the ‘winds of doctrine’ blowing through our church today, and how can we stand firm against them?” I can think of a few. One wind coming from a minister was that Jesus didn’t become the only begotten Son of God until he was resurrected from the dead. My bet is that he got that from some expert at some Seventh-day Adventist seminary.

On page 62 it says, regarding Ephesians 4:9, “Some translations indicate that the descent occurs before the ascent (e.g., *NKJV*, ‘He also first descended’; *KJV, RSV, ESV, NASB*). Other translations follow the Greek text more closely, leaving the issue of the timing of the ascent and descent open (e.g., *NIV*, ‘What does ‘he ascended’ mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions?’ *ASV, HCSB, LEB, NLT*), which allows for the view, expressed in Tuesday’s study that the narrative order of Psalm 68:18 should be followed with Christ’s exaltation to heaven (the ‘ascent’) occurring first, followed by his ‘descent’ in the Spirit”

And that’s a great illustration of how confused things get when using fake bibles and, just notice, that Johnny decided to go with what four fake bibles said purely because he liked what they said.

In the next paragraph, Paul is said to have been quoting from the Septuagint. The Septuagint, meaning a Greek translation of the entire Old Testament written before Christ's birth, didn't exist until after Paul was dead and there were at least three different ones. The one I have (an English translation of it) says Methuselah didn't die until fourteen years after the flood. That would mean Methuselah was a very good swimmer or that there were at least nine people on the ark when Peter said there were only eight.

LESSON 8. Christ-Shaped Lives *and* Spirit-Inspired Speech (August 12-18)

This is another lesson that uses the NIV for the memory text and, for your review, here's another thing you can learn from the NIV that's endorsed by Andrews University as being a fantastic bible. Jesus lied! Yes, according to the NIV Andrews Study Bible, Jesus lied even though He said in Revelation 22:15 that all who practice falsehood will be excluded from heaven.

“Therefore Jesus told them, ‘My time is not yet here; for you any time will do. The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify that its works are evil. You go to the festival. I am not going up to this festival, because my time has not yet fully come.’ After he had said this, he stayed in Galilee. However, after his brothers had left for the festival, he went also, not publicly, but in secret.” John 7:6-10 from the NIV.

The verse passage clearly says Jesus told his brothers He wasn't going to the festival but then he went. Since Jesus knew His time hadn't come, he obviously would have known when His time would come. Therefore Jesus told His brothers that he wasn't going to the festival when He knew full well that He was going. That is a lie. Surely the Andrews University scholars have an explanation? Of course. Here's part of the explanatory footnote.

“**he went also.** He apparently intended to go (see margin note on v.8) but not publicly at this time.”

The scholar apparently agrees; Jesus intended to go to the festival but told his brothers He wasn't going. I'm confident that the Andrews University scholars will give you more misinformation in the new Andrews University bible commentary.

There is no problem with the real Bible.

“Go ye up unto this feast: I go not up yet unto this feast; for my time is not yet full come.” John 7:8 from the KJV.

The little word “yet” makes all the difference. And, did you know? Elijah also lied but we'll save that for another discussion about a memory text from a fake bible.

On page 67 Johnny says, “Paul's exhortation to ‘speak truth’ is not an invitation to confront other church members with a tactless recitation of facts.” I would say that sometimes church members should be confronted with facts and that said members may consider truth and facts tactless.

“It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife. And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you.” 1 Corinthians 5:1-2 from the KJV.

“Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear.” 1 Timothy 5:20 from the KJV.

“And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money, Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost. But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money.” Acts 8:18-20 from the KJV.

LESSON 9. Living Wisely (August 19-25)

At the top of page 73 it says, “In what sense does Paul intend believers to be ‘imitators of God’?. See *Ephesians 5:1, 2, NKJV*.”

“Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.” Ephesians 5:1-2 from the NKJV.

“Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.” Ephesians 5:1-2 from the KJV.

The NKJV says to be “imitators of God” and the real Bible says to be “followers of God.” What’s the difference? If you are a follower of God, you follow God as your example and endeavor to conform your life to His example of holiness. You can imitate God without following Him; Satan does that.

“For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.” 2 Corinthians 11:13-15 from the KJV.

On page 78 it says, “Someone might argue that Paul’s ban against speaking of sexual immorality among believers (*Eph. 5:3,4*) means that we should not deal with issues of sexual misbehavior and abuse. Why is that an inappropriate conclusion?”

“But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks.” Ephesians 5:3-4 from the KJV.

The reason that's an inappropriate conclusion is because the passage DOES NOT SAY there is a "ban against speaking of sexual immorality among believers." What it says is that under no circumstances should there be any fornication, covetousness, filthiness, foolish talking or jesting among the believers.

LESSON 10. Husbands *and* Wives: Together *at the* Cross (August 26-September 1)

The memory text for this lesson is from the NKJV. The NKJV is another "Bible" that has been published as an Andrews Study Bible by Andrews University. Remember the ad for the new Bible commentary where you can feast on wisdom from Andrews University scholars? Here's a sample of that wisdom.

"And the king said to Hazael, 'Take a present in your hand, and go to meet the man of God, and inquire of the LORD by him, saying, 'Shall I recover from this disease?' So Hazael went to meet him and took a present with him, of every good thing of Damascus, forty camel-loads; and he came and stood before him, and said, 'Your son Ben-Hadad king of Syria has sent me to you, saying, 'Shall I recover from this disease?' And Elisha said to him, 'Go, say to him, 'You shall certainly recover.' However the LORD has shown me that he will really die.'" 2 Kings 8:9-10 from the NKJV.

What happened to the king is recorded a little further down in the chapter.

"Then he departed from Elisha, and came to his master, who said to him, "What did Elisha say to you?" And he answered, "He told me you would surely recover." But it happened on the next day that he took a thick cloth and dipped it in water, and spread it over his face so that he died; and Hazael reigned in his place." 2 Kings 8:14-15 from the NKJV.

Notice that Elisha said to tell Ben-Hadad that he would recover when he knew he would die. There are two problems with that. The most obvious is that Elisha told Hazel to lie. A just as serious problem is that Elisha was a designated mouthpiece for God and that statement would make God a liar. Did the Andrews University scholar see the problem? Apparently not since the only relevant footnote says, "***he will really die.*** By the hand of Hazael."

Here's what the real Bible says.

"And the king said unto Hazael, Take a present in thine hand, and go, meet the man of God, and enquire of the LORD by him, saying, Shall I recover of this disease? So Hazael went to meet him, and took a present with him, even of every good thing of Damascus, forty camels' burden, and came and stood before him, and said, Thy son Ben-hadad king of Syria hath sent me to thee, saying, Shall I recover of this disease? And Elisha said unto him, Go, say unto him, Thou mayest certainly recover: howbeit the LORD hath shewed me that he shall surely die." 2 Kings 8:8-10 from the KJV.

The difference in the message comes from changing just a few words. To say "shall certainly recover" means the king would recover from his disease but he never recovered

because he was killed by Hazael before he recovered. The real Bible says “mayest certainly recover” which means his disease was one he could certainly recover from but it doesn’t mean he would recover from it.

So no; neither God nor Elisha were liars in the real Bible.

LESSON 11. Practicing Supreme Loyalty to Christ (September 2-8)

One again there is a memory text from the NIV which was pictured along with Andrews University’s new bible commentary in a full page ad in the recent issue of *Adventist Journey*. Remember, said commentary is said to be “an easy read” and “The Adventist standard for the next generation”. Here is another sample of wisdom for the next Adventist generation from the NIV version of the Andrews Study Bible.

“For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits—to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water,” 1 Peter 3:18-20 from the NIV.

“For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison; Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.” 1 Peter 3:18-20 from the KJV.

In very easy to read ENGLISH the NIV says Jesus was put to death in the body but made alive in the spirit meaning it wasn’t his body that was made alive but rather his Spirit. It then says in very easy to read ENGLISH that he made “proclamation” to disobedient “spirits” that had died in the flood. If those spirits weren’t awake there would have been no reason for Jesus to talk to them. What a fantastic passage to teach the doctrine of purgatory.

The KJV says Jesus was quickened (made alive)) “by the Spirit.” That would be the Holy Spirit. It then says it was that Spirit (Holy Spirit) that had preached to the wicked people that died in the flood. How did the Holy Spirit preach to them?

“And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;” 2 Peter 2:5 from the KJV.

The Holy Spirit spoke through Noah to the wicked people that subsequently died in the flood.

Surely, the Andrews University scholar has an explanation for this?

“The contrast between body and spirit does not refer to material and immaterial aspects of Jesus’ person (e.g., ‘body’ vs. ‘soul’). Jesus was raised with a body (Lk 24:36-43).”

“Christ spoke by His Spirit through Noah, proclaiming the message of salvation. This passage cannot be used to teach that between His crucifixion and His resurrection, Christ went and preached to immortal souls of people of Noah’s time.”

For any native-born English speaker, the passage in the NIV clearly teaches that Jesus was resurrected “in the Spirit.” It’s true that the passage doesn’t “teach that between His crucifixion and His resurrection, Christ went and preached to immortal souls of people of Noah’s time” but it can be used to teach that after his resurrection “in the Spirit” He preached to those immortal souls.

On page 90 there is a quotation from Sirach 30:1 from the NRSV. Sirach is one of the books of the Apocrypha you’ll find in Roman Catholic bibles and in some other bibles. My NRSV is the Catholic edition copyrighted by the National Council of the Churches of Christ.

LESSON 12. The Call *to* Stand (September 9-15)

On page 102 part of Ephesians 6:12 is quoted from the KJV where it says “spiritual wickedness in high places” and on the very same page in the next paragraph reference is made to the same passage except it says “in heavenly places.” A bit of confusion, I would say.

On page 161 of the teachers edition it mentions a quotation of Martin Luther when speaking before the Diet of Worms where he said, “Here I stand, I cannot do otherwise.” According to the SSBSG, “Historians have noted that the words ‘Here I stand I cannot do otherwise’ are not present in the official written records of the Diet but are included in the earliest printed version of the speech (Banton, p. 185). Ellen G. White describes Luther as having pronounced these words (see *The Great Controversy*, p. 160). Many historians believe Luther did say these words but posit that the clerk was so overwhelmed by the discourse that he missed recording these specific words. Regardless of how he worded his defense, the fact remains that Luther’s stand before the Diet of Worms was a courageous act: he stood up for truth, for the gospel, for God, and for the salvation of humanity.”

That’s more subtle dissing of the Spirit of Prophecy.

LESSON 13. Waging Peace (September 10-22)

Johnny’s favorite fake bible is used once again for a memory text in this lesson. Here’s something else you can learn from that bible.

“

” Acts 8:37 from the ESV.

That's a big blank replacing an important verse about baptism. If you're one who believes gems of truth are gleaned by comparing what multiple fake bibles say, look it up in the NIV, the NRSV, The Message and some others and you'll find they teach the same thing.

“And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.” Acts 8:36-37 from the KJV.

Acts 8:37 teaches that one has to have a mind old enough to believe before being baptized which poses a problem for denominations that teach infant baptism is OK.

On page 110 “prayer warriors” are mentioned. Being a prayer warrior is fine up to a point.

“And Joshua said, Alas, O Lord GOD, wherefore hast thou at all brought this people over Jordan, to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us? would to God we had been content, and dwelt on the other side Jordan!” Joshua 7:7 from the KJV.

Joshua was being a prayer warrior.

“And the LORD said unto Joshua, Get thee up; wherefore liest thou thus upon thy face? Israel hath sinned, and they have also transgressed my covenant which I commanded them: for they have even taken of the accursed thing, and have also stolen, and dissembled also, and they have put it even among their own stuff.” Joshua 7:10-11 from the KJV.

LESSON 14. Ephesians in the Heart (September 23-29)

The memory text for this lesson was taken from the NKJV. Remember the Andrews Study Bible that has commentary by Andrews University scholars? Here's another sample of their wisdom.

“For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken later about another day.” Hebrews 4:8 from the NIV.

“For if Jesus had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day.” Hebrews 4:8 from the KJV.

“ ‘Our ancestors had the tabernacle of the covenant law with them in the wilderness. It had been made as God directed Moses, according to the pattern he had seen. After receiving the tabernacle, our ancestors under Joshua brought it with them when they took the land from the nations God drove out before them. It remained in the land until the time of David,’ Acts 7:44-45 from the NIV.

“Our fathers had the tabernacle of witness in the wilderness, as he had appointed, speaking unto Moses, that he should make it according to the fashion that he had

seen. Which also our fathers that came after brought in with Jesus into the possession of the Gentiles, whom God drove out before the face of our fathers, unto the days of David;" Acts 7:44-45 from the KJV.

In both of those passages, what had been "Jesus" in the KJV was changed to "Joshua." This is despite the fact that THE SAME GREEK WORD was translated "Jesus" OVER NINE HUNDRED OTHER TIMES in the New Testament and never as Jesus in any other verses. Why would they do that? Look at Psalms 95. Putting Psalms 95 together with Hebrews 4:8 shows that JESUS was the Lord, God, King and Creator that led the children of Israel. Acts 7:44-45 in the KJV gives a similar message.

So, what is the explanation of the Andrews University scholar? The marginal reading says in very small letters, "Gr. *Jesus*, same as Heb. *Joshua*." OK, I'll give it to you in larger print. "*Gr. Jesus, same as Heb. Joshua.*" Could it be that Paul who said "Jesus" thirteen other times just in the book of Hebrews didn't know how to distinguish Jesus Christ from the human Joshua who led the children of Israel after Moses died?

"And Jesus, which is called Justus, who are of the circumcision. These only are my fellowworkers unto the kingdom of God, which have been a comfort unto me." Colossians 4:11 from the KJV.

Apparently he did know how.

SatanIsDead.com
InfallibleBible.com
DeathConfusion.com
AdventistsToday.com
SabbathSchoolGuide.com