

Seventh-day Adventist *Sabbath School Bible Study Guide* for the Fourth Quarter of 2021

This is a review of the entire *Seventh-day Adventist Adult Teachers Sabbath School Bible Study Guide* (SSBSG) for the fourth quarter of 2021 titled “Present Truth in Deuteronomy.” The principal contributor to this SSBSG is Clifford Goldstein, the long time editor of the SSBSG. In this SSBSG five different bibles were used including a Roman Catholic bible (the English Standard Version (ESV)). I counted the number of times each was used. I did not count them twice so my count could be off a little. The numbers were as follows:

New King James Version (NKJV) quotations: 238.

King James Version (KJV) quotations: 9.

New International Version (NIV): 5.

English Standard Version: 1

JPS quotations: 1.

Unknown quotations: 1.

Author’s Translation: 1. See page 81 of the teachers edition.

I found no quotations from *The Five Books of Moses: A Translation with Commentary* Clifford allegedly used.

Small snippets of Scripture that could be from either the KJV or another bible were not counted.

All memory texts were from the NKJV.

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

LESSON 1. Preamble to Deuteronomy

It is much safer to use one “Bible” when trying to teach something from it. Clifford has used five different ones thus endorsing them all as Scripture that is to be believed. Of course, one of the bible quotations is from an unknown source. Let’s pretend you have all of the known bibles Clifford used. On page 7 Lucifer is discussed and you are advised to read Isaiah 14:12-14 and Ezekiel 28:12-17.

“How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which did weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.” Isaiah 14:12-14 from the KJV.

“How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! For you

have said in your heart: ‘I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.’” Isaiah 14:12-14 from the NKJV.

“How you have fallen from heaven, morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations! You said in your heart, ‘I will ascend to the heavens; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of Mount Zaphon. I will ascend above the tops of the cloud; I will make myself like the Most High.’” Isaiah 14:12-14 from the NIV.

“How you are fallen from heaven, O Day Star, son of Dawn! How you are cut down to the ground, you who had laid the nations low! You said in your heart, ‘I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God I will set my throne on high; I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north; I will ascent above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.’” Isaiah 14:12-14 from the ESV.

“How are you fallen from heaven, O Shining One, son of Dawn! How are you felled to earth, O vanquisher of nations! Once you thought in your heart, ‘I will climb to the sky; Higher than the stars of God I will set my throne. I will sit in the mount of assembly, On the summit of Zaphon: I will mount the back of a cloud—I will match the Most High.’” Isaiah 14:12-14 from the JPS also known as the Tanakh which is said to be a translation according to the traditional Hebrew text.

Isaiah 14:12 is the only verse in the whole real Bible that names Lucifer. Clifford must think verse is important because on the same page where he recommend you read Isaiah 14:12-14 he says, “Lucifer, was a perfect being created by a perfect God.” Three of Clifford’s fake bibles don’t name Lucifer anywhere and, in fact, many more fake bibles don’t name Lucifer. The unknown bible Clifford used probably doesn’t have it. Not even the Septuagint (more to come on that later) which Clifford thinks is special names Lucifer.

See the name “Day Star” in the ESV? See the name “morning star” in the NIV?

“The worship of God through sacrificial offerings was established, and those who feared God acknowledged their sins before Him, and looked forward with gratitude and holy trust to the coming of the Day Star, which should guide the fallen sons of Adam to heaven, through repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.” *Selected Messages Book One* page 231.

“We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn and the day star arise in your hearts.” 2 Peter 1:19.

“I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.” Revelation 22:16.

Just insert the name Jesus in place of “Day Star” in the ESV and “morning star” in the NIV and see where that leads you.

Oh, and what is “Zaphon?” The answer is found in the footnote for this passage in the Tanakh that’s special because it’s “according to the traditional Hebrew text” and has the books in a different order than in the real Bible. “Zaphon” is the “abode of the gods.”

Next we’ll look at Ezekiel 28:12-18 from the real Bible. Yes, I know Clifford just wanted you to look at Ezekiel 28:12-17 but he shouldn’t mind if you read just one more verse, should he? Only Ezekiel 28:18 will be quoted from the fake bibles in the interest of brevity. If you’re using one of the fake bibles, feel free to read the entire passage.

“Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set the so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy way from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee. Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee.” Ezekiel 28:12-18 from the KJV.

“You defiled your sanctuaries By the multitude of your iniquities, By the iniquity of your trading; Therefore I brought fire from your midst; It devoured you, And I turned you to ashes upon the earth In the sight of all who saw you.” Ezekiel 28:18 from the NKJV.

“By your many sins and dishonest trade you have desecrated your sanctuaries. So I made a fire come out from you, and it consumed you, and I reduced you to ashes on the ground in the sight of all who were watching. Ezekiel 28:18 from the NIV.

“By the multitude of your iniquities, in the unrighteousness of your trade you profaned your sanctuaries; so I brought fire out from your midst; it consumed you, and I turned you to ashes on the earth in the sight of all who saw you.” Ezekiel 28:18 from the ESV.

“By the greatness of your guilt, Through the dishonesty of your trading, You desecrated your sanctuaries, So I made fire issue from you, And it has devoured you; I have reduced you to ashes on the ground, In the sight of all who behold you.” Ezekiel 28:18 from the JPS.

There is a simple fact that has escaped many who have studied too much Greek and Hebrew and not enough English. What happened to the covering cherub also known as Lucifer, Satan, the Devil and the Dragon is in future tense in the KJV and is in past tense in the NKJV, the NIV, the ESV and the JPS. In other words, according to the NKJV, the NIV, the ESV and the JPS Satan is ALREADY DEAD AND TURNED TO ASHES.

I only use the name “JPS” because Clifford, to be hereafter known as Cliff, used it. “JPS” stands for “The Jewish Publication Society” and that Society has published more than one bible. It would be better designated as the Tanakh.

On page 10 there is one of many useless Hebrew lessons in this SSBSG. You are told that “special treasure” is “*segullah*” in Hebrew. So what.

On page 12, reference is made to “the whole Bible.” Notice that “Bible” is singular and Cliff has use five different ones.

There is something special for teachers on page 14 of the teachers edition. It says, “The word ‘Deuteronomy,’ the title of the book, is derived from the Greek translation (the Septuagint) of a phrase found in Deuteronomy 17:18, ‘copy of this law,’ which means literally, ‘a second [i.e., a repetition] of this law.’”

The Septuagint of myth and legend was allegedly a translation of the entire Hebrew Scriptures into Greek at the request of Ptolemy Philadelphus II who died in 246 BC. This history is supported by the fraudulent Letter of Aristaeus. There are some other things about the Septuagint that Cliff may not be aware of. First of all, there were at least three different Septuagints and all were written after Jesus (that would be AD) and all the authors of the New Testament were dead. Cliff said that the title of Deuteronomy is derived from a phrase in “Deuteronomy 17:18,” i.e., “copy of this law,” found in the Septuagint. I have two different translations of the Septuagint so let’s see what they say.

“And when he shall be established in his government, then shall he write for himself this repetition of the law into a book by the hands of the priests the Levites;” Deuteronomy 17:18 from a Septuagint.

“And when he is settled in his government, he shall write for himself this repetition of the law in a book, from that which is in the custody of the priests, the Levites.” Deuteronomy 17:18 from another Septuagint.

“Do you see “copy of this law” in either of those Septuagints? Both the KJV and the NKJV say “copy of this law” in Deuteronomy 17:18. I think Cliff got a bit mixed up.

LESSON 2. Moses’s History Lesson

Cliff’s bible editing starts on page 15 where he says, “Fascinating enough, in Exodus 32:32, when Moses asks God to ‘forgive their sin,’ the verb actually means ‘to bear.’” Interesting. Cliff thinks he is a more competent Hebrew translator than probably several hundred other bible translators. ALL of the bibles Cliff used in this SSBSG say “forgive their sin” or something equivalent and I could list more that say that including my two Septuagints.

On page 16 Cliff says, “God’s prophetic Word is as trustworthy as God Himself.” Go up and review the discussion on Ezekiel 28 and you should be able to figure out which is the real “God’s prophetic Word.”

On page 19 Cliff says we believe “all Scripture is given by inspiration of God.” Once again, review Ezekiel 28 and you should be able to discern what is the real Scripture.

LESSON 3. The Everlasting Covenant

On page 24, speaking of the children of Israel and God’s covenant with them, Cliff says, “central to that covenant was gospel and the law, the Ten Commandments.” On page 28 one of the discussion questions is, “Why do you think so many Christians say that the gospel nullifies the need to keep the Ten Commandments?”

Most Christians think all of the Ten Commandments are important to keep except the one about keeping the seventh day holy. They think that one was for the Jews. They are unaware that there were NO Jews at the time the Ten Commandments were given and some fake bibles, including two used by Cliff, give credence to that belief.

“But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and hallowed it.” Exodus 20:10-11 from the KJV.

“but the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and made it holy.” Exodus 20:10-11 from the NIV.

“but the seventh day is a sabbath of the LORD your God: you shall not do any work—you, your son or daughter, your male or female slave, or your cattle, or the stranger who is within your settlements. For in six days the

LORD made heaven and earth and sea, and all that is in them, and He rested on the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and hallowed it.” Exodus 20:10-11 from the JPS.

“But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thin ox, nor thine ass, nor any of thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates; that thy manservant and thy maidservant may rest as well as thou.” Deuteronomy 5:14 from the KJV.

“but the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your ox, your donkey or any of your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns, so that your male and female servants may rest, as you do.” Deuteronomy 5:14 from the NIV.

“but the seventh day is a sabbath of the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your ox or your ass, or any of your cattle, or the stranger in your settlements, so that your male and female slave may rest as you do.” Deuteronomy 5:14 from the JPS.

Do you see the problem? If not, don't feel bad. I asked two different Seventh-day Adventist ministers about it and they didn't seem to have a clue. One, who was working on his PhD in Hebrew studies from Andrews University, thought that in the Hebrew it didn't make a difference and the other said he would have to ask a professor at Andrews University about it. It really takes no knowledge of Hebrew to understand the problem; you just need to understand English.

Notice that the passage in the KJV says “the sabbath” while the other two say “a sabbath” in both Exodus and Deuteronomy. “A sabbath” makes it possible to lump the seventh day Sabbath together with the various sabbaths of the ceremonial law that were just for the children of Israel who became known as Jews. It should be “the sabbath” because it is the only day that God Himself rested on; it is His rest day.

LESSON 4. To Love the Lord Your God

This lesson discusses many Hebrew words which will never do you a bit of good unless your goal is to learn a few so you can convince others that you are such a knowledgeable Bible student that you should be believed. On page 32, the biblical definition of “fear” could have used some help from an English dictionary. Cliff said, “No wonder, then, that they both loved and feared God at the same time.” That sentence clearly sets forth the word “loved” and “feared” as opposites. Here is the relevant definition of fear from Noah Webster's 1828 American Dictionary of the English language.

“In scripture, fear is used to express a filial or a slavish passion. In good men, the fear of God is a holy awe or reverence of God and his laws, which springs from a just view and real love of the divine character, leading the subjects of it to hate and shun every thing that can offend such

a holy being, and inclining them to aim at perfect obedience. This is filial fear. I will put my fear in their hearts. Jer. xxxii. Slavish fear is the effect or consequence of guilt; it is the painful apprehension of merited punishment. Rom. viii. The love of God casteth out fear. 1 John iv.

LESSON 5. The Stranger in Your Gates

Except for the use of a fake bible, I found nothing wrong with his lesson.

One of the recommended readings was Psalms 146:5-10. The two verses before this passage, Psalms 146:3-4, is a favorite passage of Seventh-day Adventist ministers speaking on the state of the dead but, if they've been using the NKJV, they abandon it for the KJV. Here's why.

“Put not your trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help. His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish.” Psalms 146:3-4 from the KJV.

“Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man in whom there is no salvation. When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.” Psalms 146:3-4.

The NKJV can't be used to show that a still conscious soul or spirit doesn't depart from the body at death. The other fake bibles used in this SSBSG are equally worthless in this passage. Plans perishing merely means that what was planned for life on this earth come to an end at death.

LESSON 6. For What Nation Is There So Great?

On page 52 the question is asked, “What does it mean to add to or to take away from God's commands? Outside of the obvious, such as the attempted change of the Sabbath, how might something like that happen so subtly we don't even realize what is happening?”

Cliff himself doesn't realize what is happening as witnessed by fake bibles he used that say “a Sabbath” instead of “the Sabbath.” Here is another example from Deuteronomy from Cliff's revered NKJV.

“There shall be no ritual harlot of the daughters of Israel, or a perverted one of the sons of Israel. You shall not bring the wages of a harlot or the price of a dog to the house of the LORD your God for any vowed offering, for both of these are an abomination to the LORD your God.” Deuteronomy 23:17-18 from the NKJV.

“There shall be no whore of the daughters of Israel, nor a sodomite of the sons of Israel. Thou shalt not bring the hire of a whore, or the price of a dog, into the house of the LORD thy God for any vow: for even both these are abomination unto the LORD thy God.” Deuteronomy 23:17-18 from the KJV.

Do you know what a “ritual harlot” is? How about a “perverted one?” Are the words “whore” and “sodomite” used in the KJV too hard to understand? Is it less sinful to fornicate with one who isn’t a “ritual harlot?” What is a “perverted one?” How were they perverted? Did they eat pork?

To know what a sodomite is, one need only read Genesis 18 and 19 in the KJV to know the name derives from the attempted gang rape of male visitors by male inhabitants of Sodom. The NKJV is been changed so as not to be offensive to homosexuals. After all, consenting sexual intercourse between men isn’t perverted sex say they. There are other verses in the NKJV that have been changed so as not to be offensive to homosexuals.

There is a unique “translation” quoted on page 81 of the teachers edition of the SSBSG which is exactly as follows with quotation marks as Cliff put them.

Israel’s response to the gift of the law accounts for this process: “We shall do, then we shall understand” (*Exod. 19:8, author’s translation*).

Cliff believes he should be able to edit God’s Word. Go back and review some of the egregious errors in previous lesson quarterlies that he edited and then decide if he should be trusted.

LESSON 7. Law and Grace

On page 56 Cliff demonstrates that though he wishes to teach you Hebrew, he should work on English. Get out your real Bible, if you have one, and then compare it with the following verse and see if you can detect the problem.

“Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness.”
1 John 3:4 from the NKJV.

Here is the pertinent definition of “lawless” from Webster’s Third New International Dictionary (unabridged).

“being without law : having no laws : not regulated by law”

This is REALLY easy but those used to studying from fake bibles will probably have trouble with it. Lawless is “having no laws.” Do you know many sinners that have no laws? They will stop at stop signs, have the Sunday for their day of worship, won’t commit adultery, etc. They have laws they keep so they’re not lawless and therefore, by the NKJV definition of sin, they can’t be called sinners.

Just so you know, “law” derives from the Saxon *laga*, *lage*, *lag*, or *lah*. Knowing that will do you as much good as Cliff’s Hebrew lessons.

Here is that verse from the real Protestant Bible.

“Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.” 1 John 3:4 from the KJV.

Notice that in the original ENGLISH it is “the law” with the definite article which means there is a specific law referred to. That law is the Law of God or the Ten Commandments. Transgression means to violate any part of that law; you don’t have to be lawless and transgress all of that law to commit sin.

On page 57, Cliff writes about “Lucifer,” a name that doesn’t exist in any of Cliff’s fake bibles except in the NKJV.

On page 58, Cliff quotes part of a verse that is a key text for Seventh-day Adventists. It would be well to memorize it if you haven’t already done so.

“Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.” Revelation 14:12 from the NKJV.

“Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.” Revelation 14:12 from the KJV.

“Here is a call for the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus.” Revelation 14:12 from the ESV.

“This calls for patient endurance on the part of the people of God who keep his commands and remain faithful to Jesus.” Revelation 14:12 from the NIV.

“_____” From the JPS. Right; it’s not there because there is no New Testament in the JPS because, well, the Jews rejected Christ and in so doing rejected all taught by the Christian holy men of God that were moved by the Holy Ghost as they wrote the New Testament Scriptures. The “faith of Jesus” has no relevance to practicing Jews.

The meaning of this verse in the NKJV is the same as in the real Protestant Bible but notice how much easier to read the NKJV is. A semicolon is used after “saints” instead of a colon in the NKJV; that makes it easier to read. “They” was used in the KJV which was too hard to read so the NKJV changed it to “those. If you notice, “ose” instead of “ey” made all the difference. The NKJV also eliminated that pesky comma after “God.”

The ESV says you have to have faith “in Jesus” instead of having the faith “of Jesus.” Those are different concepts. I could believe “in Jesus” without keeping the “faith of Jesus.”

The NIV has substituted “commands” for “commandments” thus lessening the connection to the Ten Commandments. Cliff, if he were fully versed in English, would see the importance of that change.

On page 59, Cliff says, “Skeptics, those looking for reasons to reject the Bible, often point to some strong words of God that appear in the Old Testament.” Actually, all

skeptics have to do to reject the Bible is to find out about the glaring errors in Cliff's favorite fake "Bible."

On page 59, Cliff wants you to know that, in Deuteronomy 10:13-14, "All through the Hebrew in these verses the words for 'your' and 'you' are in singular form." He must think that's important and must be unaware that ENGLISH also has singular forms for "your" and "you." The translators of the King James Version of 1611 knew that and Cliff apparently doesn't. The ENGLISH singular for "your" is "thy" or "thine" and the singular for "you" is "thee" or "thou." You will not find the words thou, thine, thee or thy anywhere in Cliff's favorite fake bible because, among other things, the translators thereof apparently didn't think singular forms of "your" and "you" were important. Cliff is a professional.

On page 62 Cliff says, using John 1:1-3 from the NKJV as his authority, that all things were made "through Him" (Jesus or the Word). This means that Jesus was merely the conduit through which God created everything so is useful for those holding to the one God theory in which Jesus was a being created by God the Father. The KJV says all things were made "by" Jesus which isn't the message Unitarians wish to hear.

On page 93 of the teachers edition of the SSBSG Cliff quotes part of a key Seventh-day Adventist text that you should memorize in full.

"To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." Isaiah 8:20 from the KJV.

"To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." Isaiah 8:20 from the NKJV.

"Consult God's instruction and the testimony of warning. If anyone does not speak according to this word, they have no light of dawn." Isaiah 8:20 from the NIV.

"To the teaching and to the testimony! If they will not speak according to this word, it is because they have no dawn." Isaiah 8:20 from the ESV.

"for instruction and message,' surely for one who speaks thus there shall be no dawn." Isaiah 8:20 from the JPS.

Three of Cliff's fake bibles make no mention of "the law." Should "the law" be there? Some people will want to know. What does having "no dawn" mean? Is it just me or is the verse a bit incoherent in the NIV, the ESV and the JPS?

On page 94 of the teachers edition parts of Exodus 19:4-5 is quoted. That is the passage used in the SSBSG for the second quarter of 2021 in lesson seven to show that eagles push their babes out of the nest and then catch before they die. You should go back and review that lesson.

On page 95 of the teachers edition Cliff notes that in heaven “there is no sin there (at least after Lucifer and the fallen angels had been cast out).” Notice what Cliff’s favorite fake bible says.

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

If you use the fake bible Cliff likes, you should have a concordance for it. You will find that the context of the phrase “heavenly places” is heaven where, according to Cliff, there is no sin at this time. Paul wrote Ephesians 6:12 after Satan and the fallen angels were expelled from heaven so there should have been no “wickedness in heavenly places.” The KJV speaks of “spiritual wickedness in high places” which could mean the pope or even some princes of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

LESSON 8. Choose Life

On page 66 one of the verses suggested for review is John 3:16. We’ll assume you are using one of the fake bibles used in this and prior *Sabbath School Bible Study Guides*. You know that fake “Bible” is OK because it has been used by various ministers and scholars. In addition, your fake bible is an Andrews Study Bible so it’s definitely OK.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16 from the NIV.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” John 3:16 from the KJV.

The meaning of the verse is the same in both bibles. The problem is not here but somewhere else.

“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” Luke 2:14 from the NIV.

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.” Luke 2:14 from the KJV.

John 3:16 says God loved the “world” which means EVERYONE in the world. In Luke 2:14 the NIV doesn’t have good will toward “all men” but only peace to those “on whom his favor rests.” The verse in the NIV teaches predestination in which God has arbitrarily selected some for eternal life and some for hell.

LESSON 9. Turn Their Hearts

On page 74 Cliff believes some translators got Deuteronomy 4:30 wrong. He says, “The word in Deuteronomy 4:30, often translated ‘turn’ really means ‘to return.’ That is, they

are going back to the Lord, to where they were supposed to have been all along.” Let’s see how much of a problem that is.

“When thou art in tribulation, and all these things are come upon thee, even in the latter days, if thou turn to the LORD thy God, and shall be obedient unto his voice; (For the LORD thy God is a merciful God;) he will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he sware unto them.” Deuteronomy 4:30-31.

“When you are in distress, and all these things come upon you in the latter days, when you turn to the LORD your God and obey His voice (for the LORD your God is a merciful God), He will not forsake you nor destroy you, nor forget the covenant of your fathers which He swore to them.” Deuteronomy 4:30-31 from the NKJV.

“When you are in distress and all these things have happened to you, then in the latter days you will return to the LORD your God and obey him. For the LORD your God is a merciful God; he will not abandon or destroy you or forget the covenant with your ancestors, which he confirmed to them by oath.” Deuteronomy 4:30-31 from the NIV.

“When you are in tribulation, and all these things come upon you in the latter days, you will return to the LORD your God and obey his voice. For the LORD your God is a merciful God. He will not leave you or destroy you or forget the covenant with your fathers that he swore to them.” Deuteronomy 4:30-31 from the ESV.

“when you are in distress because all these things have befallen you and, in the end, return to the LORD your God and obey Him. For the LORD your God is a compassionate God: He will not fail you nor will He let your perish; He will not forget the covenant which he made on oath with your fathers.” Deuteronomy 4:30-31 from the JPS.

“And all these things shall come upon thee in the last days, and thou shalt turn to the Lord thy God, and shalt hearken to his voice. Because the Lord thy God is a God of pity: he will not forsake thee, nor destroy thee: he will not forget the covenant of thy fathers, which the Lord sware to them.” Deuteronomy 4:30-31 from the Septuagint.

Notice that NONE of the above bibles have it exactly as Cliff would like. This means that Cliff believes he is a more competent translator than the approximately 50 translators of the KJV and the multiple translators of the fake bibles he used. Not even the Septuagint which, according to legend was translated by twelve scholars from each of the twelve tribes (that would make seventy-two scholars) agrees with Cliff. After a bit of searching, I did find a bible that says “to return” like Cliff thinks it should say.

“When you are in sore straits and all these words have found you out at the close of the days, then you will have to return to Jehovah your God and to listen to his voice. For Jehovah your God is a merciful God. He

will not desert you or bring you to ruin or forget the covenant of your forefathers that he swore to them.” Deuteronomy 4:30-31 from the New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures (NWTHS).

Congratulations to the Jehovah’s Witnesses; they got “to return” in the verse like Cliff thinks it should say.

Read the verses in the above bible versions again. There is a problem in some of them but it has NOTHING to do with them not saying “to return.” Cliff is under the delusion that some said “turn” instead of “to return.” The only bibles that have “turn” in that passage are the KJV, the NKJV and the Septuagint; all of the others have “return.” Furthermore, the word Cliff is concerned about, wasn’t translated “turn” it was translated “turn to” which in ENGLISH means “to return.”

That’s not all. Both the NIV and the ESV say “you will return to the LORD your God.” There is no “if” so this has been changed from a promise to a prophecy. Did even the majority of those people return to God? History tells us no. That’s something Cliff should have considered before endorsing those fake bibles.

On page 123 of the teachers edition it says, “Select a particular day in the religious calendar (Christmas, Easter, Communion, the Sabbath). When you have selected the day, you’re supposed to “record your failures, your regrets, and your victories” and report that to a partner you have selected. Do Seventh-day Adventists have a “religious calendar?” Are you aware that “Christmas” is “Christ Mass” (see page 149 of *Catholicism and Fundamentalism* by Karl Keating)? Did you know that “Easter is nothing else than Astarte, one of the titles of Beltis, the queen of heaven, whose name, as pronounced by the people of Nineveh, was evidently identical with that now in common use in this country” (see page 103 of *The Two Babylons* by Alexander Hislop)? Did you know that Roman Catholics refer to the Virgin Mary as the “Queen of Heaven?” “Is “Communion” on the “religious calendar?” I have no issue with “the Sabbath” that comes on the seventh day every week on every legitimate religious calendar.

By the way, confessing your sins, also known as “failures,” to your partner will be good practice for confessing to a priest some day.

LESSON 10. Remember, Do Not Forget

On page 135 of the teachers edition it says, “We used to learn by heart entire passages of the Bible. Meditate on and discuss the value of learning Bible verses by heart. Keeping in mind the literary fact that most of the Bible was written to be learned by heart, challenge yourself to learn by heart the creation story, a text that has been uniquely constructed with its parallels and repetitions, to be committed to memory.”

I have some questions.

1. Do you know any Scripture passages by heart; word for word with book, chapter and verse(s)?

2. How many verses would you have to memorize to learn the “creation story?” That would be fifty-six.
3. If you are going to witness to someone and don’t have your Bible with you, what would be more useful; to recite the creation story or maybe something like the fourth commandment or a passage on the state of the dead?
4. Cliff has used a number of bibles and I would assume he did so because he didn’t think his fake bible of choice, the NKJV, said it quite right. Will Cliff be available to tell you which bible version to use when you memorize bible verses? If Cliff isn’t available, who will you ask?
5. Would a SSBSG replete with passages from fake bibles help you in your quest to memorize Scripture?

LESSON 11. Deuteronomy in the Later Writings

On page 89 the question is asked, “In our own homes or even in church institutions, what things might we need to purge thoroughly in order to truly serve the Lord with all our heart and soul?”

I think I can help. A good start would be to stop endorsing fake bibles. Those who have been given the illegitimate office of ordained (or the sneakier commissioned) female ministers and elders should be given something else to do. Chaplains in medical institutions should be committed and faithful Seventh-day Adventists. Books that are sold, published, promoted or used by Seventh-day Adventist affiliated enterprises should not be authored by infidels nor should they promote spiritual formation or other heresies. Ministers who insist on denigrating the Word of God or who promote the acceptance of homosexuality or other iniquity should be fired. I’m sure there’s more.

On page 94 it says, “In class, go over the 70-week prophecy of Daniel 9:24-27. We’ll assume all the class members are using the NIV Andrews Study Bible. What could be better? The NIV is endorsed by Cliff, Jon Dybdahl, Mark Finley, Denis Fortin, Roy Gane, Ganoune Diop (Seventh-day Adventist’s emissary to the Vatican), George Knight, Jon Paulien and by the flagship seminary of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Andrews University.

“Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.” Daniel 9:24 from the KJV.

““Seventy ‘sevens’ are decreed for your people and your holy city to finish transgression, to put an end to sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the Most Holy Place.” Daniel 9:24 from the NIV Andrews Study Bible.

Now look at what the NIV Andrews Study Bible says about itself.

“We have prioritized accuracy, clarity and literary quality with the goal of creating a translation suitable for public and private reading, evangelism, teaching, preaching, memorizing and liturgical use.” Page xix.

How do you think they did? Does anyone in their right mind think “Seventy ‘sevens’” makes this “Bible” more clear or more suitable for private reading, evangelism, teaching, preaching, memorizing and liturgical use than the KJV. That’s not all.

“The work of translating the Bible is never finished. As good as they are, English translations must be regularly updated so that they will continue to communicate accurately the meaning of God’s Word.” Page xix.

That was inspired by the Prince of Demons himself and means you can never be sure of what God said AND that the translators can change what God said whenever they feel appropriate.

On page 147 of the teachers edition, Cliff expresses dissatisfaction with the wording of the NKJV in Nehemiah 9:38. He believes it should say “and yet” like in the JPS and not “and because” as in the NKJV. You might be a bit confused though because his listed reference is Nehemiah 9:34, 37. No worries; Cliff is also confused.

“Neither our kings nor our princes, Our priests nor our fathers, Have kept Your law, Nor heeded Your commandments and Your testimonies, With which You testified against them. And it yields much increase to the kings You have set over us, Because of our sins; Also they have dominion over our bodies and our cattle At their pleasure; And we are in great distress.” Nehemiah 9:34, 37 from the NKJV.

“And because of all this, we make a sure covenant and write it; Our leaders, our Levites, and our priests seal it.” Nehemiah 9:38 from the NKJV.

Can you tell me how “and yet” makes more sense than “and because?” Now let’s look at Nehemiah 9:38 from the JPS. There is NO SUCH THING! Never mind, I found it.

“In view of all this, we make this pledge and put it in writing; and on the sealed copy [are subscribed] our officials, our Levites, and our priests.” Nehemiah 10:1 from the JPS.

Did you find the “and yet” in there? I didn’t either.

LESSON 12. Deuteronomy in the New Testament

On page 97, Cliff actually wrote something worthwhile when he explained that the word “tempt” can mean “try” or “test.” That is true. If he would quit using fake bibles and concentrate on explaining English words where some might be confused, it would be much more useful than explaining what Hebrews words mean.

On page 102 Cliff mentions the Septuagint, also known as the LXX, and claims it contains the entire Old Testament that was translated into Greek by the second century B.C. That is false. There is NO evidence that that was so. No Greek manuscript of even one book of the Old Testament has ever been found that was written before Christ and all the authors of the New Testament were dead. In addition, there were at least three different Septuagints.

On page 159 of the teachers edition Cliff says, “The Hebrew text says literally, ‘Man shall live on all that will come out from the mouth of God’ (*Deut. 8:3; compare Robert Alter’s translation; compare JPS*).” You would think that at least one of those bibles would have it worded as Cliff likes; at least I thought so.

“And He afflicted you and made you hunger and fed you the manna, which you did not know nor did your fathers know, in order to make you know that not on bread alone does the human live but on every utterance of the LORD’s mouth does the human live.” Deuteronomy 8:3 from Robert Alter’s translation.

“He subjected you to the hardship of hunger and then gave you manna to eat, which neither you nor your fathers had ever known, in order to teach you that man does not live on bread alone, but that man may live on anything that the LORD decrees.” Deuteronomy 8:3 from the JPS.

As far as I can tell, Cliff quoted the Cliff Translation.

LESSON 13. The Resurrection of Moses

The memory text for this lesson is from Jude and it has been on my memory list for a long time as has another one that we’ll look at first.

“For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first.” 1 Thessalonians 4:16 from the KJV.

“For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.” 1 Thessalonians 4:16 from the NKJV.

“For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.” 1 Thessalonians 4:16 from the NIV.

“For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.” 1 Thessalonians 4:16 from the ESV.

Seventh-day Adventists believe that Michael is Jesus Christ and the one and only archangel. Roman Catholics believe there are other archangels such as Raphael and Gabriel. The KJV and the NIV say “the archangel” which means there is one archangel while saying “an archangel” in the NKJV and the ESV implies there are other archangels.

“Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.” Jude 1:9 from the KJV.

“Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, ‘The Lord rebuke you!’” Jude 1:9 from the NKJV.

“But even the archangel Michael, when he was disputing with the devil about the body of Moses, did not himself dare to condemn him for slander but said, ‘The Lord rebuke you.’” Jude 1:9 from the NIV.

“But when the archangel Michael, contending with the devil, was disputing about the body of Moses, he did not presume to pronounce a blasphemous judgment, but said, ‘The Lord rebuke you.’” Jude 1:9 from the ESV.

Which of those bibles teach there is ONE archangel in this verse? That would be both the KJV and the NKJV because they both say “Michael the archangel” using the definite article. The other two bibles teach there is more than one archangel by just rearranging the same words, i.e., “the archangel Michael.” The KJV is right in both verses and the ESV is wrong in both verses.

On page 109 Cliff says, “How long Moses slept in the ground we don’t know, but as far as he was concerned, it didn’t matter. He closed his eyes in death, and whether it was three hours or 300 years, for him it was the same.” It’s true it didn’t matter to Moses how long he was in the ground but Seventh-day Adventists can have a pretty good idea of how long it was or how long it wasn’t.

“As it was, Moses passed through death, but the Son of God came down from Heaven and resurrected him before his body had seen corruption.”
Spirit of Prophecy Vol. 2 page 330.

We can know with certainty that Moses wasn’t in the ground any longer than three days.

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