

RESTING G TRUTHS

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Testing truths are biblical truths that separate the Seventh-day Adventist Church from other religious denominations.

- ◉ **Sabbath**
- ◉ **Law and Grace**
- ◉ **State of the dead**
- ◉ **Sanctuary (Investigative Judgment)**
- ◉ **Healthful living**
- ◉ **2nd coming (Signs, Manner [Rapture Theory], Promise)**
- ◉ **Baptism**
- ◉ **Spirit of Prophecy**
- ◉ **The Millennium**





If these Biblical truths separate us from the other religious denominations then they must be presented before and after an individual is accepted as a member of the SDA Church.

○ **The Law**

○ **The Sabbath**

○ **The state of the dead**



HOW TO PRESENT THE LAW

1. Present the law as something good that makes us happy.

- ◉ Proverbs 29:18 - Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.

2. Show that Jesus died to save us from transgressing the law and not from keeping it.

- ◉ 1John 3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.
- ◉ Romans 3:20 Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

HOW TO PRESENT THE LAW

3. Show that the confusion in Christianity stems from two misunderstandings:

There were two distinct important laws:

The ceremonial law which was nailed to the cross.

The moral law written with God's finger.

- ◉ 2 Kings 21:8 Neither will I make the feet of Israel move any more out of the land which I gave their fathers; only if they will observe to do according to all that I have commanded them, and according to all the law that my servant Moses commanded them.

HOW TO PRESENT THE LAW

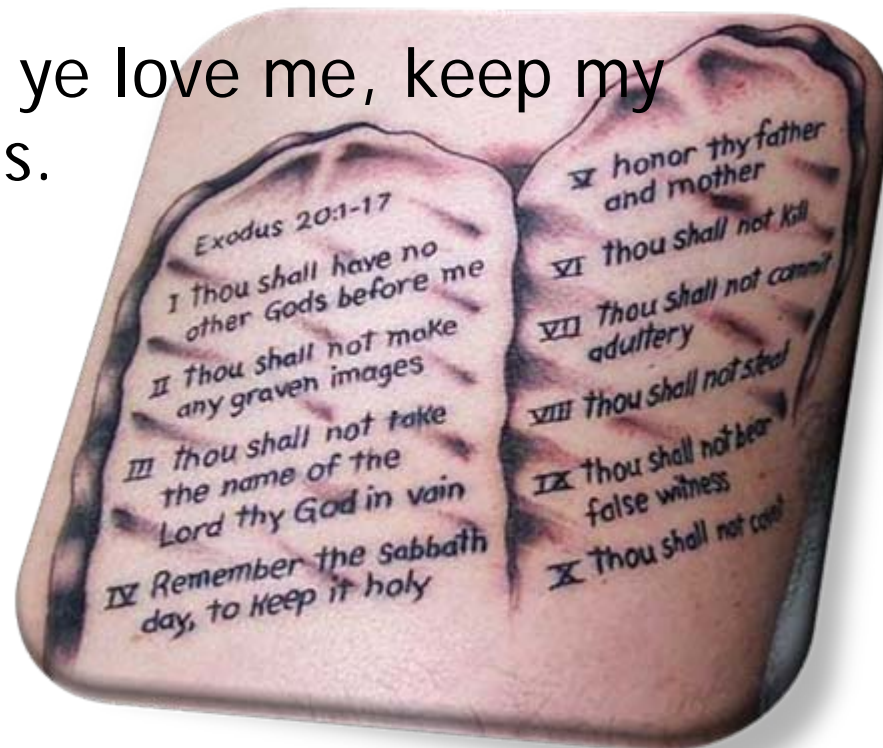
4. The death of Jesus shows the eternal nature of the law.

- ◉ Matthew 5:17 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.
- ◉ Romans 8:3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:

HOW TO PRESENT THE LAW

5. *When we love Jesus, we demonstrate this love by willing obedience.*

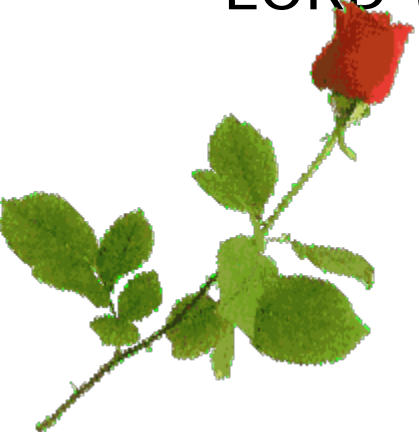
⦿ John 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.



HOW TO PRESENT THE SABBATH

1. *Show that the Sabbath is a sign of creation and re-creation.*

Ezekiel 20:12 Moreover also I gave them my sabbaths, to be a sign between me and them, that they might know that I *am* the LORD that sanctify them.



HOW TO PRESENT THE SABBATH

- 2. Show that the Sabbath was in Eden before sin, continued through the ages and will be in Eden restored after the termination of sin.*
- 3. Show that Sunday keeping came from Rome and is man-made. Make the issue clear and simple: Will you follow Jesus or man?*

HOW TO PRESENT THE SABBATH

4. *Show the blessings one gets from keeping the Sabbath.*

- Isaiah 58:13 If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, *from* doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking *thine own* words:
- Isaiah 58:14 Then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken *it*.

HOW TO PRESENT THE SABBATH

5. In presenting the change of the Sabbath, simply charge the apostate church with the change. Do not call names!

- ◉ There is danger that our ministers will say too much against the Catholics and provoke against themselves the strongest prejudices of that church. There are many souls in the Roman Catholic faith who are looking with interest to this people; but the power of the priest over his charges is great, and if he can prejudice the people by his stay-away arguments, so that when the truth is uttered against the fallen churches they may not hear it, he will surely do it. But as laborers together with God, we are provided with spiritual weapons, mighty to the pulling down of the strongholds of the enemy.-- Letter 39, 1887. {Ev 574.2}

HOW TO PRESENT THE SABBATH

6. Present the Sabbath truth as a testimony. This is very effective. Tell people in a casual way, why you keep the Sabbath. Do not press for a decision until you are sure that the person has sufficient facts to make an intelligent decision.

HOW TO PRESENT THE SABBATH

7. Your presentation must be highly christocentric. Show that the Sabbath is important to Jesus and that is why He kept it. What is important to Jesus MUST be important to the person that believes in Him.

- Luke 4:16 And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read.
- Matthew 12:8 For the Son of man is Lord even of the sabbath day.

HOW TO PRESENT THE STATE OF THE DEAD

- 1. Establish the fact that no one has eternal life in himself and that life after death comes only through Jesus.*
- John 17:3 And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

HOW TO PRESENT THE STATE OF THE DEAD

2. *Establish the meaning of a soul.*

- Genesis 2:7 And the LORD God formed man *of* the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

3. *Show clearly what happens to a person at death.*

- Job 7:9 As the cloud is consumed and vanisheth away: so he that goeth down to the grave shall come up no *more*.

HOW TO PRESENT THE STATE OF THE DEAD

4. *Use the story of Lazarus; it shows that man goes to the grave after death and can only be raised by the power of Jesus.*
 5. *Show that man's only hope in the first resurrection is dying in Christ.*
- ◉ 1Corinthians 15:13 But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen:
 - ◉ 1Corinthians 15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

HOW TO PRESENT THE STATE OF THE DEAD

6. Expose the devil's deception.

- Genesis 3:4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:
- 2 Corinthians 5:8 We are confident, / say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

HOW TO PRESENT THE STATE OF THE DEAD

7. End the sermon by celebrating the second coming of the Lord and the events that will accompany His parousia.

- 1Thessalonians 4:16 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:
- 1Thessalonians 4:17 Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

⦿ In presenting testing truths, the preacher's aim is to achieve cognitive balance. For example, if a person loves Jesus and Jesus loves the Sabbath but the person does not value the Sabbath, then there is a state of imbalance.



In achieving cognitive balance this three step power formula is recommended:

- ⦿ **Get the prospect to love Jesus deeply**
- ⦿ **Present each testing truth as being important to Jesus.**
- ⦿ **Provide your prospect with an opportunity to express his/her acceptance of the**

