

1 ADCOM/ADCOM/PREXAD/GCDO13AC/13AC to AAS-BRI(DIV)+ADCOM+GCDO14AC+  
2 14AC+15GCS  
3  
4 133-13GS FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS -  
5 AMENDMENT

6  
7 RECOMMENDED, To amend the Fundamental Beliefs of Seventh-day Adventists, to read as  
8 follows:

9  
10 Fundamental Beliefs of Seventh-day Adventists

11  
12 Seventh-day Adventists accept the Bible as their only creed and hold certain fundamental  
13 beliefs to be the teaching of the Holy Scriptures. These beliefs, as set forth here, constitute the  
14 church's understanding and expression of the teaching of Scripture. Revision of these statements  
15 may be expected at a General Conference Session when the church is led by the Holy Spirit to a  
16 fuller understanding of Bible truth or finds better language in which to express the teachings of  
17 God's Holy Word.

18  
19 1. The Holy Scriptures

20  
21 The Holy Scriptures, Old and New Testaments, are the written Word of God, given by  
22 divine inspiration through holy ~~men~~ persons of God who spoke and wrote as they were moved by  
23 the Holy Spirit. In this Word, God has committed to ~~man~~ humanity the knowledge necessary for  
24 salvation. The Holy Scriptures are the final authority and the infallible revelation of His will.  
25 They are the standard of character, the test of experience, the authoritative revealer of doctrines,  
26 and the trustworthy record of God's acts in history. (Ps. 119:105; Prov 30:5, 6; Isa. 8:20;  
27 John 17:17; 1 Thess. 2:13; 2 Tim. 3:16, 17; Heb. 4:12; 2 Peter 1:20, 21.) ~~(2 Peter 1:20, 21;~~  
28 ~~2 Tim. 3:16, 17; Ps. 119:105; Prov. 30:5, 6; Isa. 8:20; John 17:17; 1 Thess. 2:13; Heb. 4:12.)~~

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 9:53 AM

**Comment [1]:** Inclusive language

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 9:53 AM

**Comment [2]:** Inclusive language

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 9:53 AM

**Comment [3]:** This addition aims to make explicit the principle of *sola scriptura*.

29  
30 2. The Trinity

31  
32 There is one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, a unity of three coeternal Persons. God is  
33 immortal, all-powerful, all-knowing, above all, and ever present. He is infinite and beyond  
34 human comprehension, yet known through His self-revelation. He is forever worthy of worship,  
35 adoration, and service by the whole creation. (Gen. 1:26; Deut. 6:4; Isa. 6:8; Matt. 28:19;  
36 2 Cor. 1:21, 22; 13:14; Eph. 4:4-6; 1 Peter 1:2.) ~~(Deut. 6:4; Matt. 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14;~~  
37 ~~Eph. 4:4-6; 1 Peter 1:2; 1 Tim. 1:17; Rev. 14:7.)~~

38  
39 3. The Father

40  
41 God the eternal Father is the Creator, Source, Sustainer, and Sovereign of all creation. He  
42 is just and holy, merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and  
43 faithfulness. The qualities and powers exhibited in the Son and the Holy Spirit are also  
44 revelations of the Father. (Gen. 1:1; Exod. 34:6, 7; Deut. 4:35; Ps. 110:1, 4; John 3:16; 14:9;  
45 1 Cor. 15:28; 1 Tim. 1:17; 1 John 4:8; Rev. 4:11.) ~~Rev. 4:11; 1 Cor. 15:28; John 3:16; 1 John~~  
46 ~~4:8; 1 Tim. 1:17; Ex. 34:6, 7; John 14:9.)~~

Contd  
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133-13GS FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS -  
AMENDMENT - 2

4. The Son

God the eternal Son became incarnate in Jesus Christ. Through Him all things were created, the character of God is revealed, the salvation of humanity is accomplished, and the world is judged. Forever truly God, He became also truly human, man, Jesus the Christ. He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He lived and experienced temptation as a human being, but perfectly exemplified the righteousness and love of God. By His miracles He manifested God's power and was attested as God's promised Messiah. He suffered and died voluntarily on the cross for our sins and in our place, was raised from the dead, and ascended to minister in the heavenly sanctuary in our behalf. He will come again in glory for the final deliverance of His people and the restoration of all things. (Isa. 53:4-6; Dan. 9:25-27; Luke 1:35; John 1:1-3, 14; 5:22; 10:30; 14:1-3, 9; Rom. 6:23; 1 Cor. 15:3, 4; 2 Cor. 3:18; 5:17-19; Phil. 2:5-11; Col. 1:15-19; Heb. 2:9-18; Heb. 8:1, 2.) (~~John 1:1-3, 14; Col. 1:15-19; John 10:30; 14:9; Rom. 6:23; 2 Cor. 5:17-19; John 5:22; Luke 1:35; Phil. 2:5-11; Heb. 2:9-18; 1 Cor. 15:3, 4; Heb. 8:1, 2; John 14:13.~~)

5. The Holy Spirit

God the eternal Spirit was active with the Father and the Son in Creation, incarnation, and redemption. He inspired the writers of Scripture. He filled Christ's life with power. He draws and convicts human beings; and those who respond He renews and transforms into the image of God. Sent by the Father and the Son to be always with His children, He extends spiritual gifts to the church, empowers it to bear witness to Christ, and in harmony with the Scriptures leads it into all truth. (Gen. 1:1, 2; 2 Sam. 23:2; Ps. 51:11; Isa. 61:1; Luke 1:35; 4:18; John 14:16-18, 26; 15:26; 16:7-13; Acts 1:8; 5:3; 10:38; 1 Cor. 12:7-11; 2 Cor. 3:18; 2 Peter 1:21.) (~~Gen. 1:1, 2; Luke 1:35; 4:18; Acts 10:38; 2 Peter 1:21; 2 Cor. 3:18; Eph. 4:11, 12; Acts 1:8; John 14:16-18, 26; 15:26, 27; 16:7-13.~~)

6. Creation

God is Creator of all things, and has revealed in Scripture the authentic and historical account of His creative activity. In six days a recent six-day creation the Lord made "the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them" and rested on the seventh day. "the heaven and the earth" and all living things upon the earth, and rested on the seventh day of that first week. Thus He established the Sabbath as a perpetual memorial of His creative work performed and completed during six literal days that together with the Sabbath constituted a week as we experience it today. ~~completed creative work.~~ The first man and woman were made in the image of God as the crowning work of Creation, given dominion over the world, and charged with responsibility to care for it. When the world was finished it was "very good," declaring the glory of God. (Gen. 1-2; Ex. 20:8-11; Ps. 19:1-6; 33:6, 9; 104; Isa. 45:12; Acts 17:24; Col. 1:16; Heb. 11:3; Rev. 10:6; 14:7.) (~~Gen. 1; 2; Ex. 20:8-11; Ps. 19:1-6; 33:6, 9; 104; Heb. 11:3.~~)

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 10:02 AM

**Comment [4]:** Inclusive language

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 10:15 AM

**Comment [5]:** This may be the best place to incorporate the historicity of the narrative. We can explore other possibilities, but the impression we have is that if we place it somewhere else within the Statement, we may have to elaborate on it.

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 10:15 AM

**Comment [6]:** This is the best place to introduce the idea of a recent creation.

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 10:19 AM

**Comment [7]:** The quote is not from Genesis 1:1, but from Exodus 20:11. The reason is that terminology used in Exodus seems to restrict the creative act to what took place during the six days of creation and is not necessarily dealing with the creation of the cosmos. The Bible makes clear that during the creation of the earth, other intelligent beings already existed in the cosmos (Job 38:7). We also believe that sin originated in heaven among the angels before the creation of humans. Therefore our creation statement should reflect this biblical information without developing it. By quoting Exodus instead of Genesis, we leave open the possibility that Genesis 1:1 is dealing with the creation of the cosmos and the creation week is about life on the planet.

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 10:31 AM

**Comment [8]:** This is already included in the biblical quotation from Exodus.

Boward, Tami 10/17/13 4:48 PM

**Comment [9]:** We retain the verb "completed" to indicate that the biblical creation account is not describing a still ongoing process.

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 10:32 AM

**Comment [10]:** The question of a real week is considered to be important, but it is difficult to find a proper place for it and to express it in language that is clear and that does not add too much to the text.

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133-13GS FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS -  
AMENDMENT - 3

1  
2 7. The Nature of **Humanity** ~~Man~~

3  
4 Man and woman were made in the image of God with individuality, the power and  
5 freedom to think and to do. Though created free beings, each is an indivisible unity of body,  
6 mind, and spirit, dependent upon God for life and breath and all else. When our first parents  
7 disobeyed God, they denied their dependence upon Him and fell from their high position under  
8 God. The image of God in them was marred and they became subject to death. Their descendants  
9 share this fallen nature and its consequences. They are born with weaknesses and tendencies to  
10 evil. But God in Christ reconciled the world to Himself and by His Spirit restores in penitent  
11 mortals the image of their Maker. Created for the glory of God, they are called to love Him and  
12 one another, and to care for their environment. (Gen. 1:26-28; 2:7, 15; 3; Ps. 8:4-8; 51:5, 10;  
13 58:3; Jer. 17:9; Acts 17:24-28; Rom. 5:12-17; 2 Cor. 5:19, 20; Eph. 2:3; 1 John 4:7, 8, 11, 20.)  
14 (Gen. 1:26-28; 2:7; Ps. 8:4-8; Acts 17:24-28; Gen. 3; Ps. 51:5; Rom. 5:12-17; 2 Cor. 5:19, 20;  
15 Ps. 51:10; 1 John 4:7, 8, 11, 20; Gen. 2:15.)  
16

17 8. The Great Controversy

18  
19 All humanity is now involved in a great controversy between Christ and Satan regarding  
20 the character of God, His law, and His sovereignty over the universe. This conflict originated in  
21 heaven when a created being, endowed with freedom of choice, in self-exaltation became Satan,  
22 God's adversary, and led into rebellion a portion of the angels. He introduced the spirit of  
23 rebellion into this world when he led Adam and Eve into sin. This human sin resulted in the  
24 distortion of the image of God in humanity, the disordering of the created world, and its eventual  
25 devastation at the time of the worldwide flood, as presented in the historical account of  
26 Genesis 1-11. ~~flood.~~ Observed by the whole creation, this world became the arena of the  
27 universal conflict, out of which the God of love will ultimately be vindicated. To assist His  
28 people in this controversy, Christ sends the Holy Spirit and the loyal angels to guide, protect, and  
29 sustain them in the way of salvation. (Gen. 3; 6-8; Job 1:6-12; Isa. 14:12-14; Ezek. 28:12-18;  
30 Rom. 1:19-32; 5:12-21; 8:19-22; 1 Cor. 4:9; Heb. 1:14; 1 Peter 5:8; 2 Peter 3:6; Rev. 12:4-9.)  
31 (Rev. 12:4-9; Isa. 14:12-14; Eze. 28:12-18; Gen. 3; Rom. 1:19-32; 5:12-21; 8:19-22; Gen. 6-8;  
32 2 Peter 3:6; 1 Cor. 4:9; Heb. 1:14.)  
33

34 9. The Life, Death, and Resurrection of Christ

35  
36 In Christ's life of perfect obedience to God's will, His suffering, death, and resurrection,  
37 God provided the only means of atonement for human sin, so that those who by faith accept this  
38 atonement may have eternal life, and the whole creation may better understand the infinite and  
39 holy love of the Creator. This perfect atonement vindicates the righteousness of God's law and  
40 the graciousness of His character; for it both condemns our sin and provides for our forgiveness.  
41 The death of Christ is substitutionary and expiatory, reconciling and transforming. The bodily  
42 resurrection of Christ proclaims God's triumph over the forces of evil, and for those who accept

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 11:48 AM

**Comment [11]:** Inclusive language

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 11:51 AM

**Comment [12]:** There are a couple of reasons for placing this sentence here. First, this is the only place in the Statement of Fundamental Beliefs in which the flood is mentioned; second, the phrase "worldwide flood" is the equivalent of the originally suggested reading ("and that the flood was global in nature"); and third, Statement #8 takes us back to creation and the fall making it possible to make a reference to Genesis 1-11 and not only to chapters dealing with the flood.

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 11:55 AM

**Comment [13]:** This makes explicit what is already implicit in the statement.

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133-13GS FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS -  
AMENDMENT - 4

1 the atonement assures their final victory over sin and death. It declares the Lordship of Jesus  
2 Christ, before whom every knee in heaven and on earth will bow. (Gen. 3:15; Ps. 22:1; Isa. 53;  
3 John 3:16; 14:30; Rom. 1:4; 3:25; 4:25; 8:3, 4; 1 Cor. 15:3, 4, 20-22; 2 Cor. 5:14, 15, 19-21;  
4 Phil. 2:6-11; Col. 2:15; 1 Peter 2:21, 22; 1 John 2:2; 4:10.) (~~John 3:16; Isa. 53; 1 Peter 2:21, 22;~~  
5 ~~1 Cor. 15:3, 4, 20-22; 2 Cor. 5:14, 15, 19-21; Rom. 1:4; 3:25; 4:25; 8:3, 4; 1 John 2:2; 4:10;~~  
6 ~~Col. 2:15; Phil. 2:6-11.~~)

7  
8 10. The Experience of Salvation  
9

10 In infinite love and mercy God made Christ, who knew no sin, to be sin for us, so that in  
11 Him we might be made the righteousness of God. Led by the Holy Spirit we sense our need,  
12 acknowledge our sinfulness, repent of our transgressions, and exercise faith in Jesus as Saviour  
13 and Lord, Lord and Christ, as Substitute and Example. This faith, which receives salvation, faith  
14 ~~which receives salvation~~ comes through the divine power of the Word and is the gift of God's  
15 grace. Through Christ we are justified, adopted as God's sons and daughters, and delivered from  
16 the lordship of sin. Through the Spirit we are born again and sanctified; the Spirit renews our  
17 minds, writes God's law of love in our hearts, and we are given the power to live a holy life.  
18 Abiding in Him we become partakers of the divine nature and have the assurance of salvation  
19 now and in the judgment. (Gen. 3:15; Isa. 45:22; 53; Jer. 31:31-34; Ezek. 33:11; 36:25-27; Hab.  
20 2:4; Mark 9:23, 24; John 3:3-8, 16; 16:8; Rom. 3:21-26; 8:1-4, 14-17; 5:6-10; 10:17; 12:2;  
21 2 Cor. 5:17-21; Gal. 1:4; 3:13, 14, 26; 4:4-7; Eph. 2:4-10; Col. 1:13, 14; Titus 3:3-7;  
22 Heb. 8:7-12; 1 Peter 1:23; 2:21, 22; 2 Peter 1:3, 4; Rev. 13:8.) (~~2 Cor. 5:17-21; John 3:16;~~  
23 ~~Gal. 1:4; 4:4-7; Titus 3:3-7; John 16:8; Gal. 3:13, 14; 1 Peter 2:21, 22; Rom. 10:17; Luke 17:5;~~  
24 ~~Mark 9:23, 24; Eph. 2:5-10; Rom. 3:21-26; Col. 1:13, 14; Rom. 8:14-17; Gal. 3:26; John 3:3-8;~~  
25 ~~1 Peter 1:23; Rom. 12:2; Heb. 8:7-12; Eze. 36:25-27; 2 Peter 1:3, 4; Rom. 8:1-4; 5:6-10.~~)

26  
27 11. Growing in Christ  
28

29 By His death on the cross Jesus triumphed over the forces of evil. He who subjugated the  
30 demonic spirits during His earthly ministry has broken their power and made certain their  
31 ultimate doom. Jesus' victory gives us victory over the evil forces that still seek to control us, as  
32 we walk with Him in peace, joy, and assurance of His love. Now the Holy Spirit dwells within us  
33 and empowers us. Continually committed to Jesus as our Saviour and Lord, we are set free from  
34 the burden of our past deeds. No longer do we live in the darkness, fear of evil powers,  
35 ignorance, and meaninglessness of our former way of life. In this new freedom in Jesus, we are  
36 called to grow into the likeness of His character, communing with Him daily in prayer, feeding  
37 on His Word, meditating on it and on His providence, singing His praises, gathering together for  
38 worship, and participating in the mission of the Church. We are also called to follow Christ's  
39 example by compassionately ministering to the physical, mental, social, emotional, and spiritual  
40 needs of humanity. As we give ourselves in loving service to those around us and in witnessing  
41 to His salvation, His constant presence with us through the Spirit transforms every moment and  
42 every task into a spiritual experience. (1 Chron. 29:11; Ps. 1:1, 2; 23:4; 77:11, 12;

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 2:13 PM

**Comment [14]:** The reason for using the title "Christ" is not clear. The connection between the two Christological titles and the final clause in the sentence ("as Substitute and Example") also needs clarification. The suggested changes resolve both items.

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 12:03 PM

**Comment [15]:** Proper English punctuation.

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 12:12 PM

**Comment [16]:** This addition summarizes a genuine Seventh-day Adventist concern for service to suffering human beings that is not emphasized in the Statement of Fundamental Beliefs and will make it unnecessary to add a new statement of faith on Christian Social Responsibility.

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133-13GS FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS -  
AMENDMENT - 5

1 Matt. 20:25-28; 25:31-46; Luke 10:17-20; John 20:21; Rom. 8:38, 39; 2 Cor. 3:17, 18;  
2 Gal. 5:22-25; Eph. 5:19, 20; 6:12-18; Phil. 3:7-14; Col. 1:13, 14; 2:6, 14, 15;  
3 1 Thess. 5:16-18, 23; Heb. 10:25; James 1:27; 2 Peter 2:9; 3:18; 1 John 4:4.) (~~Ps. 1:1, 2; 23:4;~~  
4 ~~77:11, 12; Col. 1:13, 14; 2:6, 14, 15; Luke 10:17-20; Eph. 5:19, 20; 6:12-18; 1 Thess. 5:23;~~  
5 ~~2 Peter 2:9; 3:18; 2 Cor. 3:17, 18; Phil. 3:7-14; 1 Thess. 5:16-18; Matt. 20:25-28; John 20:21;~~  
6 ~~Gal. 5:22-25; Rom. 8:38, 39; 1 John 4:4; Heb. 10:25.)~~

7  
8  
9

12. The Church

10 The church is the community of believers who confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.  
11 In continuity with the people of God in Old Testament times, we are called out from the world;  
12 and we join together for worship, for fellowship, for instruction in the Word, for the celebration  
13 of the Lord's Supper, for service to humanity, all mankind, and for the worldwide proclamation  
14 of the gospel. The church derives its authority from Christ, who is the incarnate Word revealed in  
15 the Scriptures. ~~Word, and from the Scriptures, which are the written Word.~~ The church is God's  
16 family; adopted by Him as children, its members live on the basis of the new covenant. The  
17 church is the body of Christ, a community of faith of which Christ Himself is the Head. The  
18 church is the bride for whom Christ died that He might sanctify and cleanse her. At His return in  
19 triumph, He will present her to Himself a glorious church, the faithful of all the ages, the  
20 purchase of His blood, not having spot or wrinkle, but holy and without blemish. (Gen. 12:1-3;  
21 Exod. 19:3-7; Matt. 16:13-20; 18:18; 28:19, 20; Acts 2:38-42; 7:38; 1 Cor. 1:2; Eph. 1:22, 23;  
22 2:19-22; 3:8-11; 5:23-27; Col. 1:17, 18; 1 Peter 2:9.) (~~Gen. 12:3; Acts 7:38; Eph. 4:11-15; 3:8-~~  
23 ~~11; Matt. 28:19, 20; 16:13-20; 18:18; Eph. 2:19-22; 1:22, 23; 5:23-27; Col. 1:17, 18.)~~

24  
25  
26

13. The Remnant and Its Mission

27 The universal church is composed of all who truly believe in Christ, but in the last days, a  
28 time of widespread apostasy, a remnant has been called out to keep the commandments of God  
29 and the faith of Jesus. This remnant announces the arrival of the judgment hour, proclaims  
30 salvation through Christ, and heralds the approach of His second advent. This proclamation is  
31 symbolized by the three angels of Revelation 14; it coincides with the work of judgment in  
32 heaven and results in a work of repentance and reform on earth. Every believer is called to have  
33 a personal part in this worldwide witness. (Dan. 7:9-14; Isa. 1:9; 11:11; Jer. 23:3; Mic. 2:12;  
34 2 Cor. 5:10; 1 Peter 1:16-19; 4:17; 2 Peter 3:10-14; Jude 3, 14; Rev. 12:17; 14:6-12; 18:1-4.)  
35 (~~Rev. 12:17; 14:6-12; 18:1-4; 2 Cor. 5:10; Jude 3, 14; 1 Peter 1:16-19; 2 Peter 3:10-14; Rev.~~  
36 ~~21:1-14.)~~

37  
38  
39

14. Unity in the Body of Christ

40 The church is one body with many members, called from every nation, kindred, tongue,  
41 and people. In Christ we are a new creation; distinctions of race, culture, learning, and  
42 nationality, and differences between high and low, rich and poor, male and female, must not be

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 1:22 PM  
**Comment [17]:** Inclusive language

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 1:24 PM  
**Comment [18]:** The sentence implies that there are two sources of authority for the Church, namely Christ and the Scripture. But what we know about Christ is what the Scripture says or has revealed to us. The revision seeks to clarify this point.

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 1:24 PM  
**Comment [19]:** This clause is now redundant.

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1 divisive among us. We are all equal in Christ, who by one Spirit has bonded us into one  
2 fellowship with Him and with one another; we are to serve and be served without partiality or  
3 reservation. Through the revelation of Jesus Christ in the Scriptures we share the same faith and  
4 hope, and reach out in one witness to all. This unity has its source in the oneness of the triune  
5 God, who has adopted us as His children. (Ps. 133:1; Matt. 28:19, 20; John 17:20-23;  
6 Acts 17:26, 27; Rom. 12:4, 5; 1 Cor. 12:12-14; 2 Cor. 5:16, 17; Gal. 3:27-29; Eph. 2:13-16;  
7 4:3-6, 11-16; Col. 3:10-15.) (~~Rom. 12:4, 5; 1 Cor. 12:12-14; Matt. 28:19, 20; Ps. 133:1;~~  
8 ~~2 Cor. 5:16, 17; Acts 17:26, 27; Gal. 3:27, 29; Col. 3:10-15; Eph. 4:14-16; 4:1-6; John 17:20-23.~~)  
9

10 15. Baptism

11  
12 By baptism we confess our faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and testify  
13 of our death to sin and of our purpose to walk in newness of life. Thus we acknowledge Christ as  
14 Lord and Saviour, become His people, and are received as members by His church. Baptism is a  
15 symbol of our union with Christ, the forgiveness of our sins, and our reception of the Holy Spirit.  
16 It is by immersion in water and is contingent on an affirmation of faith in Jesus and evidence of  
17 repentance of sin. It follows instruction in the Holy Scriptures and acceptance of their teachings.  
18 (Matt. 28:19, 20; Acts 2:38; 16:30-33; 22:16; Rom. 6:1-6; Gal. 3:27; Col. 2:12, 13.) (~~Rom. 6:1-6;~~  
19 ~~Col. 2:12, 13; Acts 16:30-33; 22:16; 2:38; Matt. 28:19, 20.~~)  
20

21 16. The Lord's Supper

22  
23 The Lord's Supper is a participation in the emblems of the body and blood of Jesus as an  
24 expression of faith in Him, our Lord and Saviour. In this experience of communion Christ is  
25 present to meet and strengthen His people. As we partake, we joyfully proclaim the Lord's death  
26 until He comes again. Preparation for the Supper includes self-examination, repentance, and  
27 confession. The Master ordained the service of foot-washing to signify renewed cleansing, to  
28 express a willingness to serve one another in Christlike humility, and to unite our hearts in love.  
29 The communion service is open to all believing Christians. (Matt. 26:17-30; John 6:48-63; 13:1-  
30 17; 1 Cor. 10:16, 17; 11:23-30; Rev. 3:20.) (~~1 Cor. 10:16, 17; 11:23-30; Matt. 6:17-30; Rev.~~  
31 ~~3:20; John 6:48-63; 13:1-17.~~)  
32

33 17. Spiritual Gifts and Ministries

34  
35 God bestows upon all members of His church in every age spiritual gifts ~~which~~ **that** each  
36 member is to employ in loving ministry for the common good of the church and of humanity.  
37 Given by the agency of the Holy Spirit, who apportions to each member as He wills, the gifts  
38 provide all abilities and ministries needed by the church to fulfill its divinely ordained functions.  
39 According to the Scriptures, these gifts include such ministries as faith, healing, prophecy,  
40 proclamation, teaching, administration, reconciliation, compassion, and self-sacrificing service  
41 and charity for the help and encouragement of people. Some members are called of God and  
42 endowed by the Spirit for functions recognized by the church in pastoral, evangelistic, ~~apostolic,~~

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 2:30 PM

**Comment [20]:** Editorial change based on English usage.

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 2:31 PM

**Comment [21]:** If this term is retained, it would need to be clearly defined or it could be misunderstood.

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133-13GS FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS -  
AMENDMENT - 7

1 administrative, and teaching ministries particularly needed to equip the members for service, to  
2 build up the church to spiritual maturity, and to foster unity of the faith and knowledge of God.  
3 When members employ these spiritual gifts as faithful stewards of God's varied grace, the  
4 church is protected from the destructive influence of false doctrine, grows with a growth that is  
5 from God, and is built up in faith and love. (Acts 6:1-7; Rom. 12:4-8; 1 Cor. 12:7-11, 27, 28;  
6 Eph. 4:8, 11-16; 1 Tim. 3:1-13; 1 Peter 4:10, 11.) (~~Rom. 12:4-8; 1 Cor. 12:9-11, 27, 28; Eph. 4:8,~~  
7 ~~11-16; Acts 6:1-7; 1 Tim. 3:1-13; 1 Peter 4:10, 11.~~)

8  
9 18. The Gift of Prophecy

10 One of the gifts of the Holy Spirit is prophecy. This gift is an identifying mark of the  
11 remnant church and was manifested in the ministry of Ellen G. White. As the Lord's messenger,  
12 her writings are a continuing and authoritative source of truth which that provide for the church  
13 comfort, guidance, instruction, and correction. They also make clear that the Bible is the standard  
14 by which all teaching and experience must be tested. (Num. 12:6; 2 Chron. 20:20; Amos 3:7;  
15 Joel 2:28, 29; Acts 2:14-21; Heb. 1:1-3; Rev. 12:17; 19:10; 22:8, 9.) (~~Joel 2:28, 29; Acts 2:14-21;~~  
16 ~~Heb. 1:1-3; Rev. 12:17; 19:10.~~)

17  
18  
19 19. The Law of God

20 The great principles of God's law are embodied in the Ten Commandments and  
21 exemplified in the life of Christ. They express God's love, will, and purposes concerning human  
22 conduct and relationships and are binding upon all people in every age. These precepts are the  
23 basis of God's covenant with His people and the standard in God's judgment. Through the  
24 agency of the Holy Spirit they point out sin and awaken a sense of need for a Saviour. Salvation  
25 is all of grace and not of works, but its ~~fruitage~~ fruit is obedience to the Commandments. This  
26 obedience develops Christian character and results in a sense of well-being. It is an evidence of  
27 our love for the Lord and our concern for our fellow human beings, ~~men~~. The obedience of faith  
28 demonstrates the power of Christ to transform lives, and therefore strengthens Christian witness.  
29 (Exod. 20:1-17; Deut. 28:1-14; Ps. 19:7-14; 40:7, 8; Matt. 5:17-20; 22:36-40; John 14:15; 15:7-  
30 10; Rom. 8:3, 4; Eph. 2:8-10; Heb. 8:8-10; 1 John 2:3; 5:3; Rev. 12:17; 14:12.) (~~Ex. 20:1-17; Ps.~~  
31 ~~40:7, 8; Matt. 22:36-40; Deut. 28:1-14; Matt. 5:17-20; Heb. 8:8-10; John 15:7-10; Eph. 2:8-10; 1~~  
32 ~~John 5:3; Rom. 8:3, 4; Ps. 19:7-14.~~)

33  
34  
35 20. The Sabbath

36 The ~~beneficent~~ gracious Creator, after the six days of Creation, rested on the seventh day  
37 and instituted the Sabbath for all people as a memorial of Creation. The fourth commandment of  
38 God's unchangeable law requires the observance of this seventh-day Sabbath as the day of rest,  
39 worship, and ministry in harmony with the teaching and practice of Jesus, the Lord of the  
40 Sabbath. The Sabbath is a day of delightful communion with God and one another. It is a symbol  
41 of our redemption in Christ, a sign of our sanctification, a token of our allegiance, and a foretaste  
42

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 2:33 PM

**Comment [22]:** Editorial change based on English usage.

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 2:35 PM

**Comment [23]:** Upgrading language

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 2:36 PM

**Comment [24]:** Inclusive language

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 2:38 PM

**Comment [25]:** Upgrading language

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AMENDMENT - 8

1 of our eternal future in God's kingdom. The Sabbath is God's perpetual sign of His eternal  
2 covenant between Him and His people. Joyful observance of this holy time from evening to  
3 evening, sunset to sunset, is a celebration of God's creative and redemptive acts. (Gen. 2:1-3;  
4 Exod. 20:8-11; 31:13-17; Lev. 23:32; Deut. 5:12-15; Isa. 56:5, 6; 58:13, 14; Ezek. 20:12, 20;  
5 Matt. 12:1-12; Mark 1:32; Luke 4:16; Heb. 4:1-11.) (~~Gen. 2:1-3; Ex. 20:8-11; Luke 4:16;~~  
6 ~~Isa. 56:5, 6; 58:13, 14; Matt. 12:1-12; Ex. 31:13-17; Eze. 20:12, 20; Deut. 5:12-15; Heb. 4:1-11;~~  
7 ~~Lev. 23:32; Mark 1:32.~~)  
8

9 21. Stewardship

10 We are God's stewards, entrusted by Him with time and opportunities, abilities and  
11 possessions, and the blessings of the earth and its resources. We are responsible to Him for their  
12 proper use. We acknowledge God's ownership by faithful service to Him and our fellow human  
13 beings, men, and by returning tithes, tithe and giving offerings for the proclamation of His gospel  
14 and the support and growth of His church. Stewardship is a privilege given to us by God for  
15 nurture in love and the victory over selfishness and covetousness. The steward rejoices in the  
16 blessings that come to others as a result of his faithfulness. (Gen. 1:26-28; 2:15; 1 Chron. 29:14;  
17 Haggai 1:3-11; Mal. 3:8-12; Matt. 23:23; Rom. 15:26, 27; 1 Cor. 9:9-14; 2 Cor. 8:1-15; 9:7.)  
18 (~~Gen. 1:26-28; 2:15; 1 Chron. 29:14; Haggai 1:3-11; Mal. 3:8-12; 1 Cor. 9:9-14; Matt. 23:23; 2~~  
19 ~~Cor. 8:1-15; Rom. 15:26, 27.~~)  
20

21 22. Christian Behavior

22 We are called to be a godly people who think, feel, and act in harmony with the  
23 principles of heaven. For the Spirit to recreate in us the character of our Lord we involve  
24 ourselves only in those things which that will produce Christlike purity, health, and joy in our  
25 lives. This means that our amusement and entertainment should meet the highest standards of  
26 Christian taste and beauty. While recognizing cultural differences, our dress is to be simple,  
27 modest, and neat, befitting those whose true beauty does not consist of outward adornment but in  
28 the imperishable ornament of a gentle and quiet spirit. It also means that because our bodies are  
29 the temples of the Holy Spirit, we are to care for them intelligently. Along with adequate  
30 exercise and rest, we are to adopt the most healthful diet possible and abstain from the unclean  
31 foods identified in the Scriptures. Since alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and the irresponsible use  
32 of drugs and narcotics are harmful to our bodies, we are to abstain from them as well. Instead,  
33 we are to engage in whatever brings our thoughts and bodies into the discipline of Christ, who  
34 desires our wholesomeness, joy, and goodness. (Gen. 7:2; Lev. 11:1-47; Rom. 12:1, 2;  
35 1 Cor. 6:19, 20; 10:31; 2 Cor. 10:5; 6:14-7:1; Eph. 5:1-21; Phil. 4:8; 1 Tim. 2:9, 10;  
36 1 Peter 3:1-4; 1 John 2:6; 3 John 2.) (~~Rom. 12:1, 2; 1 John 2:6; Eph. 5:1-21; Phil. 4:8;~~  
37 ~~2 Cor. 10:5; 6:14-7:1; 1 Peter 3:1-4; 1 Cor. 6:19, 20; 10:31; Lev. 11:1-47; 3 John 2.~~)  
38  
39  
40

Boward, Tami 10/7/13 8:46 AM

**Comment [26]:** Inclusive language

Boward, Tami 10/7/13 8:46 AM

**Comment [27]:** The plural "tithes" could be read as including the second tithe.

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 2:43 PM

**Comment [28]:** Editorial change based on English usage.



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23. Marriage and the Family

Marriage was divinely established in Eden and affirmed by Jesus to be a lifelong union between a man and a woman in loving companionship. For the Christian a marriage commitment is to God as well as to the spouse, and should be entered into only between a man and woman partners who share a common faith. Mutual love, honor, respect, and responsibility are the fabric of this relationship, which is to reflect the love, sanctity, closeness, and permanence of the relationship between Christ and His church. Regarding divorce, Jesus taught that the person who divorces a spouse, except for fornication, and marries another, commits adultery. Although some family relationships may fall short of the ideal, marriage partners a man and a woman who fully commit themselves to each other in Christ through marriage may achieve loving unity through the guidance of the Spirit and the nurture of the church. God blesses the family and intends that its members shall assist each other toward complete maturity. Parents are to bring up their children to love and obey the Lord. By their example and their words they are to teach them that Christ is a loving, tender, and caring counselor loving disciplinarian, ever tender and caring, who wants them to become members of His body, the family of God. Increasing family closeness is one of the earmarks of the final gospel message. (Gen. 2:18-25; Exod. 20:12; Deut. 6:5-9; Prov. 22:6; Mal. 4:5, 6; Matt. 5:31, 32; 19:3-9; Mark 10:11, 12; John 2:1-11; 1 Cor. 7:10, 11; 2 Cor. 6:14; Eph. 5:21-33; 6:1-4.) (Gen. 2:18-25; Matt. 19:3-9; John 2:1-11; 2 Cor. 6:14; Eph. 5:21-33; Matt. 5:31, 32; Mark 10:11, 12; Luke 16:18; 1 Cor. 7:10, 11; Ex. 20:12; Eph. 6:1-4; Deut. 6:5-9; Prov. 22:6; Mal. 4:5, 6.)

24. Christ's Ministry in the Heavenly Sanctuary

There is a sanctuary in heaven, the true tabernacle which that the Lord set up and not humans. In it Christ ministers on our behalf, making available to believers the benefits of His atoning sacrifice offered once for all on the cross. He was inaugurated as our great High Priest and began His intercessory ministry at the time of His ascension, which was symbolized by the work of the high priest in the holy place of the earthly sanctuary. In 1844, at the end of the prophetic period of 2300 days, He entered the second and last phase of His atoning ministry, which was symbolized by the work of the high priest in the most holy place of the earthly sanctuary. It is a work of investigative judgment which is part of the ultimate disposition of all sin, typified by the cleansing of the ancient Hebrew sanctuary on the Day of Atonement. In that typical service the sanctuary was cleansed with the blood of animal sacrifices, but the heavenly things are purified with the perfect sacrifice of the blood of Jesus. The investigative judgment reveals to heavenly intelligences who among the dead are asleep in Christ and therefore, in Him, are deemed worthy to have part in the first resurrection. It also makes manifest who among the living are abiding in Christ, keeping the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, and in Him, therefore, are ready for translation into His everlasting kingdom. This judgment vindicates the justice of God in saving those who believe in Jesus. It declares that those who have remained loyal to God shall receive the kingdom. The completion of this ministry of Christ will mark the close of human probation before the Second Advent. (Lev. 16; Num. 14:34;

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 2:49 PM  
**Comment [29]:** The term "partners" and the phrase "marriage partners" could be misused by those promoting homosexuality. The revision removes any ambiguity.

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 2:50 PM  
**Comment [30]:** The term "partners" and the phrase "marriage partners" could be misused by those promoting homosexuality. The revision removes any ambiguity.

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 2:50 PM  
**Comment [31]:** The phrase "through marriage" reintroduced the term "marriage" deleted from the previous line.

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 4:57 PM  
**Comment [32]:** The English term "disciplinarian" has undergone some change in meaning, giving to the sentence a negative tone. The additions aim at correcting this.

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 5:05 PM  
**Comment [33]:** Editorial change based on English usage.

Boward, Tami 10/7/13 8:49 AM  
**Comment [34]:** Inclusive language

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 5:04 PM  
**Comment [35]:** The statement does not mention the typological significance of the work of the high priest in the holy and most holy places of the earthly sanctuary. These additions make the connections clear.

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 5:05 PM  
**Comment [36]:** The statement does not mention the typological significance of the work of the high priest in the holy and most holy places of the earthly sanctuary. These additions make the connections clear.

133-13GS FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS -  
AMENDMENT - 10

1 Ezek. 4:6; Dan. 7:9-27; 8:13, 14; 9:24-27; Heb. 1:3; 2:16, 17; 4:14-16; 8:1-5; 9:11-28; 10:19-22;  
2 Rev. 8:3-5; 11:19; 14:6, 7; 20:12; 14:12; 22:11, 12.) (~~Heb. 8:1-5; 4:14-16; 9:11-28; 10:19-22;~~  
3 ~~1:3; 2:16, 17; Dan. 7:9-27; 8:13, 14; 9:24-27; Num. 14:34; Eze. 4:6; Lev. 16; Rev. 14:6, 7;~~  
4 ~~20:12; 14:12; 22:12.)~~

6 25. The Second Coming of Christ

8 The second coming of Christ is the blessed hope of the church, the grand climax of the  
9 gospel. The Saviour's coming will be literal, personal, visible, and worldwide. When He returns,  
10 the righteous dead will be resurrected, and together with the righteous living will be glorified and  
11 taken to heaven, but the unrighteous will die. The almost complete fulfillment of most lines of  
12 prophecy, together with the present condition of the world, indicates that Christ is coming soon.  
13 ~~Christ's coming is imminent.~~ The time of that event has not been revealed, and we are therefore  
14 exhorted to be ready at all times. (Matt. 24; Mark 13; Luke 21; John 14:1-3; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Cor.  
15 15:51-54; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 5:1-6; 2 Thess. 1:7-10; 2:8; 2 Tim. 3:1-5; Titus 2:13; Heb. 9:28;  
16 Rev. 1:7; 14:14-20; 19:11-21.) (~~Titus 2:13; Heb. 9:28; John 14:1-3; Acts 1:9-11; Matt. 24:14;~~  
17 ~~Rev. 1:7; Matt. 24:43, 44; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 1 Cor. 15:51-54; 2 Thess. 1:7-10; 2:8; Rev. 14:14-~~  
18 ~~20; 19:11-21; Matt. 24; Mark 13; Luke 21; 2 Tim. 3:1-5; 1 Thess. 5:1-6.)~~

Boward, Tami 9/25/13 5:08 PM

**Comment [37]:** It is better to use the biblical term "soon."

20 26. Death and Resurrection

22 The wages of sin is death. But God, who alone is immortal, will grant eternal life to His  
23 redeemed. Until that day death is an unconscious state for all people. When Christ, who is our  
24 life, appears, the resurrected righteous and the living righteous will be glorified and caught up to  
25 meet their Lord. The second resurrection, the resurrection of the unrighteous, will take place a  
26 thousand years later. (Job 19:25-27; Ps. 146:3, 4; Eccl. 9:5, 6; Dan. 12:2, 13; Isa. 25:8;  
27 John 5:28, 29; 11:11-14; Rom. 6:23; 16; 1 Cor. 15:51-54; Col. 3:4; 1 Thess. 4:13-17; 1  
28 Tim. 6:15; Rev. 20:1-10.) (~~Rom. 6:23; 1 Tim. 6:15, 16; Eccl. 9:5, 6; Ps. 146:3, 4; John 11:11-14;~~  
29 ~~Col. 3:4; 1 Cor. 15:51-54; 1 Thess. 4:13-17; John 5:28, 29; Rev. 20:1-10.)~~

32 27. The Millennium and the End of Sin

34 The millennium is the thousand-year reign of Christ with His saints in heaven between  
35 the first and second resurrections. During this time the wicked dead will be judged; the earth will  
36 be utterly desolate, without living human inhabitants, but occupied by Satan and his angels. At  
37 its close Christ with His saints and the Holy City will descend from heaven to earth. The  
38 unrighteous dead will then be resurrected, and with Satan and his angels will surround the city;  
39 but fire from God will consume them and cleanse the earth. The universe will thus be freed of sin  
40 and sinners forever. (Jer. 4:23-26; Ezek. 28:18, 19; Mal. 4:1; 1 Cor. 6:2, 3; Rev. 20; 21:1-5.)  
41 (~~Rev. 20; 1 Cor. 6:2, 3; Jer. 4:23-26; Rev. 21:1-5; Mal. 4:1; Eze. 28:18, 19.)~~

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133-13GS FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS -  
AMENDMENT - 11

1           28.    The New Earth  
2

3           On the new earth, in which righteousness dwells, God will provide an eternal home for  
4 the redeemed and a perfect environment for everlasting life, love, joy, and learning in His  
5 presence. For here God Himself will dwell with His people, and suffering and death will have  
6 passed away. The great controversy will be ended, and sin will be no more. All things, animate  
7 and inanimate, will declare that God is love; and He shall reign forever. Amen. (Isa. 35;  
8 65:17-25; Matt. 5:5; 2 Peter 3:13; Rev. 11:15; 21:1-7; 22:1-5.) (~~2 Peter 3:13; Isa. 35; 65:17-25;~~  
9 ~~Matt. 5:5; Rev. 21:1-7; 22:1-5; 11:15.~~)

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