

Seventh-day Adventist Sabbath School Bible Study Guide for the Fourth Quarter of 2020 titled “Education”

This is a review of the entire *Seventh-day Adventist Adult Teachers Sabbath School Bible Study Guide* (SSBSG) for the fourth quarter of 2020 titled “Education.” This SSBSG doesn’t have a single principal contributor but rather principal contributors; i.e., “Seventh-day Adventist College Presidents.” It doesn’t say who said presidents are or what college they president at. Since unnamed college presidents wrote this SSBSG, it should give you a clue as to what your kids might learn in college.

As is usually the case with the SSBSG, phrases in the singular such as “the Bible” and the “Written Word” are used even though eight different bibles were used. All of those bibles except one have self-contradictions and three of them are Roman Catholic bibles. I counted the number of times each was used. I did not count them twice so my count could be off a little. I also did not count those places where a particular bible was part of a quotation from another book. The numbers were as follows:

New King James Version (NKJV) quotations: 59.

King James Version quotations: 45.

New English Translation quotations: 3.

New Revised Standard Version quotations: 17.

New International Version quotations: 5.

New Life Version quotations: 1.

English Standard Version quotations: 28.

The Message (TM) quotations: 1.

All memory texts were from the NKJV.

Since by their use the principal contributors, whoever they were, legitimized the above “Bible” versions, it’s only proper that I should be able to use any one of them in the following discussions since it’s implied that they’re all the same. Also be aware that the above bibles came in various editions. For example, TM has copyright dates of 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2013. Maybe there are more TM editions after 2013. If they needed a new copyright date, it probably means there was a material change or changes in the edition. I do not have all the editions of the above referenced bibles so mine might read a little differently than yours.

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

LESSON 1. Education in the Garden of Eden

On page 8, emphasis is placed on the fact that in Genesis 2:17 God said “surely die” but Eve, when repeating that to the Serpent left out the “surely.” In the TM there is no “surely” in Genesis 2:17.

At the bottom of page 9 mention is made of “deceptive irony” in Genesis 3:5 in the New King James Version (NKJV). The “deceptive irony” is because the Serpent allegedly said they would “be like God.” The point is made that Genesis 1:27 said “they were already like God.” We’ll compare what the fake bible said with what the real Protestant Bible says.

“For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” Genesis 3:5 from the NKJV.

“For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.” Genesis 3:5 from the King James Version (KJV).

Did the NKJV improve God’s Word? As the Bible says in Genesis 1:27, man was made in the “image” of God. Wanting to be “like God” was not wrong; wanting to be “as gods” was sin as that means Eve wanted to be a god.

“To the tempter’s ensnaring question she replied: “We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.” *Patriarchs and Prophets* page 54.

“Many talk of the narrowness of those who obey God’s commandments, while they themselves claim to have broader ideas and to enjoy greater liberty. What is this but an echo of the voice from Eden, ‘In the day ye eat thereof’—transgress the divine requirement—‘ye shall be as gods’?” *Patriarchs and Prophets* page 55.

“Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.” Matthew 5:48.

Please notice that in two places, Ellen G. White was perfectly happy with “be as gods” as in the KJV. Also notice we are to be “perfect” like God the Father. It was NO sin to wish to be perfect like God; it was a sin to want to “be as gods” and make their own rules. It is also a sin to edit God’s Word according to our own wisdom.

The question is asked at the bottom of page 10, “How do we know the difference between good and bad knowledge?” The answer is, don’t use a fake bible.

On page 11, part of 2 Peter 2:9 and 2 Peter 2:1 are quoted from the NKJV. The part quoted from 2 Peter 2:1 is about people who will “secretly bring in destructive heresies.” Here is why you should be using a real bible and not take anyone’s word for what “the Bible says.”

“The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgement to be punished.” 2 Peter 2:9 from the KJV.

“then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment,” 2 Peter 2:9 from the NKJV.

“So God knows how to rescue the godly from evil trials. And he knows how to hold the feet of the wicked to the fire until Judgment Day.” 2 Peter 2:9 from The Message (TM).

The KJV says the wicked will be reserved (held) unto (until) the judgement and then will be punished. The NKJV says they are being reserved (held) “under punishment.” In other words, the NKJV says the wicked are being punished while waiting for the judgment. I don’t think I need to explain the meaning of TM in this verse.

It used to be that in Bible class only the KJV was used. As a kid I never thought it was hard to read or understand. Unfortunately, the lesson being taught for many years is that the KJV is too hard to understand so Satan’s helpers are there to give you easy-to-understand bibles that contain serious errors. Keep in mind that it’s Seventh-day Adventist college presidents that chose the bibles used in this *Sabbath School Bible Study Guide*. These college presidents preside over institutions that teach various complex subjects. Get a biochemistry textbook in modern English and read a few paragraphs from it. Then get out a King James Version bible with its “archaic” words such as thee, thou, ye, wist, shambles, sith, rereward, hast, wot, etc. and see which is easiest to understand. If you have any trouble with the KJV, get out an ENGLISH dictionary.

LESSON 2. The Family

On page 15 of the *Sabbath School Bible Study Guide*, you’re asked to look up a number of verses. Pretend you’re a kid or even a college student and have decided to use The Message (TM) since it’s “the Written Word” endorsed by a college president. You’re asked to read Galatians 3:11 but to give the verse context, I’ll include Galatians 3:10.

“And that means that anyone who tries to live by his own effort, independent of God, is doomed to failure. Scripture backs this up: ‘Utterly cursed is every person who fails to carry out every detail written in the Book of the law.’ The obvious impossibility of carrying out such a moral program should make it plain that no one can sustain a relationship with God that way. The person who lives in a right relationship with God does it by embracing what God arranges for him. Doing things for God is the opposite of entering into what God does for you. Habakkuk had it right: ‘The person who believes God, is set right by God—and that’s the real life.’” Galatians 3:10-11 from TM.

Now for those verses from the hard-to-read KJV.

“For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them. But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith. Galatians 3:10-11 from the KJV.

Do you see anything about “faith” in TM? I didn’t think so. So where did “Habakkuk” come from? Habakkuk isn’t mentioned in that verse in the KJV. The phrase, “the just shall live by faith” is from Habakkuk 2:4; in other words, Paul is quoting from the Old Testament. Let’s see what TM has for Habakkuk 2:4.

“Look at that man, bloated by self-importance—full of himself but soul-empty. But the person in right standing before God through loyal and steady believing is fully alive, really alive.” Habakkuk 2:4 from TM.

“Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.” Habakkuk 2:4 from the KJV.

In the verses quoted above, the KJV got the point across in about half the space as the easy-to-read and confusing TM.

Look at the last sentence in Habakkuk 2:4 from TM again. It is saying we aren't “really alive” unless we believe God loyally and fully. It is, in fact, saying that no one really dies, as in goes to sleep and never wakes up. It changes the definition of death to be a state of the conscious mind. It is teaching the immortality of the soul and I'll bet that never dawned on you when first reading that verse. Even with this explanation, it may take you a bit to comprehend it. The KJV, on the other hand, teaches that one will be spared eternal death by faith in Jesus Christ.

Keep in mind that TM was used as a supposedly authoritative source of Scripture by a Seventh-day Adventist college president. I can't think of any bible worse than TM.

On page 16 there are several texts that are supposed to teach about Mary and Joseph. One of the passages is Matthew 1:18-24. We'll discuss Matthew 1:22-23.

“Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.” Matthew 1:22-23 from the KJV.

“So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: ‘Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,’ which is translated, ‘God with us.’” Matthew 1:23-23 from the New King James Version (NKJV).

For what the “prophet” said, we'll go to Isaiah.

“Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.” Isaiah 7:14 from the KJV.

“Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.” Isaiah 7:14 from the NKJV.

This was a prophecy spoken by Isaiah to Ahaz, one of Judah's kings a few hundred years before the birth of Christ. To say “the virgin” means a specific virgin was known to both of them at that time. It means “the virgin” would have had to give birth to Immanuel around the time Isaiah and Ahaz were still alive unless “the virgin” was still alive and capable of bearing children several hundred years later. That would be a bit unlikely unless it was the Virgin Mary also known as the Queen of Heaven they were talking about.

I briefly looked at the 3 Angels Broadcasting Network's Sabbath School Panel's presentation on this lesson to see what they would do with Matthew 1:22-23. The luck, if you can call it that, of discussing this passage fell on Jason Bradley at 16 minutes into the presentation. As expected, he read it out of the NKJV with the "the virgin" and all. Jason can probably be excused because as far as I know he isn't an ordained minister. He is probably just following the example of those ministers who should know better.

So, which bible do you like the best; the fake bible or the Protestant King James Version?

LESSON 3. The Law as Teacher

On page 25 of the *Sabbath School Bible Study Guide* (SSBSG), one of the verses to look up is Revelation 12:17. This is a key text for Seventh-day Adventists; at least it is in some bibles. Rather than the suggested memory verse for this lesson, I recommend you memorize this verse from the King James Version (KJV).

"And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." Revelation 12:17 from the KJV.

"Then the dragon was angry with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her children, those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus." Revelation 12:17 from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV).

In the KJV the "remnant" has "the testimony of Jesus Christ." In the NRSV they "hold to" the Testimony of Jesus. To "have the testimony" means the remnant still has it whatever it is. To "hold to the testimony of Jesus" means all of that testimony is recorded in the bible; i.e., it's not something the remnant still has.

To show the importance of that distinction here is another key verse for Seventh-day Adventists.

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

Seventh-day Adventists as the remnant church believe that we have the spirit of prophecy which is the testimony of Jesus. You can't support that view with the NRSV.

I reviewed parts of "Hope Sabbath School Lesson 3 The Word Of God As Our Teacher" that was posted on YouTube by HopeSabbathSchool on 10/11/20. This YouTube channel has 54,100 subscribers and at the time I looked at it, this particular video had accumulated 9,971 views. The Hope Sabbath School is set up like a very prim and proper classroom with the humble students looking attentively at the "professor;" in this case Pastor Derek Morris in costume with his shirt enhanced with an embroidered "Hope Channel" badge.

Badges on the shirts of expounders of Bible doctrine are becoming popular. Steve Wohlberg of White Horse Media has a badge on his shirt with “White Horse Media” and an image of a white horse on it. Dustin Pestlin of Hope Through Prophecy has his personal badge with “Hope Through Prophecy” and an image of a lion with wings on it. I guess a badge along with a sprinkling of what the Greek and Hebrew says proves you should believe them even though they don’t always know what their bible says in English and don’t believe there is an infallible Bible of any kind anywhere in the world. Since they don’t believe there is any Bible without flaws their humble students come to the same conclusion.

“There stood the young Galilean, bearing no earthly honor nor royal badge. His dress was coarse and travel-stained. Surrounding him were priests in their gorgeous apparel, rulers with robes and badges significant of their exalted position, and scribes with scrolls in their hands to which they made repeated reference.” Spirit of Prophecy volume 3 page 56.

In this Sabbath School class, the bibles used were the New King James Version, the English Standard Version, the 21st Century King James Version and the New International Version (NIV). Around 44:40 the NIV was used.

“Then the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to wage war against the rest of her offspring—those who keep God’s commands and hold fast their testimony about Jesus.” Revelation 12:17 from the NIV.

Compare that to what the real Bible says.

“And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.” Revelation 12:17 from the KJV.

Revelation 12:17 as it reads in the KJV is a key text for Seventh-day Adventists as it shows the remnant church keeps all Ten Commandments and has the Spirit of Prophecy which is the testimony of Jesus (see Revelation 19:10 in the real Protestant Bible). The connection to the Ten Commandments has been obscured in the NIV and instead of having the testimony of Jesus, i.e., the Spirit of Prophecy, the woman’s offspring just talk about Jesus.

Do any other Bible verses prove the remnant church has the Spirit of Prophecy? Right now, none come to mind. I am aware of Joel 2:28 and Acts 2:17 where Joel 2:28 was quoted where it says God’s Spirit will be poured out upon “all flesh” and that there would be prophesying. I believe those verses do apply to the remnant church but Revelation 12:17 and 19:10 are needed to shore them up.

I’m quite sure the pretty young thing reading this verse had no idea about the significance of the change from the reading of the KJV. It is not at all her fault. Her Sabbath School teacher failed her as did the contributors to this SSBSG.

LESSON 4. “The Eyes of the Lord”: The Biblical Worldview

On the first page of the weekly lesson of the *Sabbath School Bible Study Guide* (SSBSG), there are some Scripture passages one is to read. Two of them are frequently used by Seventh-day

Adventists and commonly misunderstood. I don't think even Mark Finley or Doug Batchelor understand them.

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.” Ephesians 6:12 from the King James Version (KJV).

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

The KJV says there is “wickedness in high places” and the NKJV says there is “wickedness in the heavenly places.” The phrase “heavenly places” occurs four times in the KJV and five times in the NKJV; all of those places are in Ephesians. Here are the others from the NKJV.

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

“which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,” Ephesians 1:20 from the NKJV.

“and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.” Ephesians 2:6 from the NKJV.

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

Do you see ANY evidence that there should be “wickedness in the heavenly places?” Here's your assignment if you're using the NKJV. The word “heavenly” occurs in nineteen other places in the NKJV. Take your NKJV concordance off the shelf, look them all up and see if there is ANY place where “heavenly” is associated with wickedness. If you're using one of the other fake bibles, you can look them up as well using the concordance for your fake bible.

Here is what Mark Finley, Doug Batchelor, at least one college president and the translators of various modern versions don't know that the translators of the KJV knew back in the early 1600s. The verse should read “high places.” Spiritual wickedness in high places can refer to the pope and even to Seventh-day Adventist college presidents, General Conference dignitaries and other princes of our church.

In the next commonly used passage, the meaning depends upon one little word that our illuminati seem to choke on. It is recommended that you read John 1:1-14 but we'll concentrate on verse 3 where it's referring to the Word also known as Jesus Christ.

“All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.” John 1:3 from the KJV.

“All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.” John 1:3 from the NKJV.

“All things came into existence through him, and apart from him not even one thing came into existence.” John 1:3 from the New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures (NWTHS); the bible of the Jehovah’s Witnesses.

I have never seen the NWTHS used by any Seventh-day Adventist minister or in any Seventh-day Adventist publication because it is known to contain errors. Imagine that. The NWTHS can’t be used but the NKJV can be used with its errors? That’s a mystery that needs to be explained. The meaningful different between the two readings is “by him” versus “through him.

My NWTHS has some notes in the back that may help explain why this matters. Under “Trinity” it says, “God is not three persons” and “Son created; God alone before.” It says Jesus Christ was a “created” being. If Jesus Christ, the Word, was a created being then he was merely the conduit “through” which God created everything. Therefore, in the mind of Jehovah’s Witnesses things were not created by Jesus but by God and Jesus is not God.

This is another thing many Seventh-day Adventist ministers and college presidents don’t seem to understand.

On the bottom of page 33 the question is asked, “What are some teachings of the Bible that contradict other beliefs that people hold?” I will go one better; what are some teachings of “the Bible” that contradict what Seventh-day Adventists believe? Since the college presidents refer to a multitude of bibles as “the Bible” and “the Written Word” they must all be the same and I should be able to use any of the ones they use; right?

“When people began to multiply on the face of the ground, and daughters were born to them, the sons of God saw that they were fair; and they took wives for themselves of all that they chose. The Nephilim were on the earth in those days—and also afterward—when the sons of God went in to the daughters of humans, who bore children to them. These were the heroes that were of old, warriors of renown.” Genesis 6:1-2, 4 from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV).

“When human beings began to increase in number on the earth and daughters were born to them, the sons of God saw that the daughters of humans were beautiful, and they married any of them they chose. The Nephilim were on the earth in those days—and also afterward—when the sons of God went to the daughters of humans and had children by them. They were the heroes of old, men of renown.” Genesis 6:1-2, 4 from the New International Version (NIV).

“More and more people were born, until finally they spread all over the earth. Some of their daughters were so beautiful that supernatural beings came down and married the ones they wanted. The children of the supernatural beings who had married these women became famous heroes and warriors. They were called Nephilim and lived on the earth at that time and even later. Genesis 6:1-2, 4 from the Contemporary English Version (CEV).

Yes, I know; the CEV wasn't used in this *Sabbath School Bible Study Guide* (SSBSG) but let me explain. It was used in the SSBSG titled "The Book of Revelation" for the first quarter of 2019 with the principal contributor being Ranko Stefanovic. Ranko Stefanovic, PhD, a professional theologian and professor of New Testament at Andrews University, should know as much about a good "the Bible" as college presidents, shouldn't he? Besides, it got by Clifford Goldstein who is the long-time editor of the SSBSG.

The NIV quotation above is especially authoritative because that's what the Andrews Study Bible based on the NIV says. Also, right on the title page it says, "Light. Depth. Truth." so I should be able to trust it. That Andrews Study Bible has a footnote for that verse which says the sons of God were "most likely the righteous and God-fearing descendants of Seth" and that the daughters of men may be "the corrupt descendants of Cain." Instead of studying Hebrew, whichever Seventh-day Adventist scholar wrote that should give more attention to ENGLISH and read page 81 of *Patriarchs and Prophets* which clears up all questions as to who the sons of God and the daughters of men were.

LESSON 5. Jesus as the Master Teacher

At the bottom of page 39 of the *Sabbath School Bible Study Guide*, part of Ephesians 5:1 is quoted from the New King James Version (NKJV).

"Therefore be imitators of God as dear children." Ephesians 5:1 from the NKJV.

"Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children;" Ephesians 5:1 from the King James Version (KJV).

Satan imitates God as best he can but does not follow Him.

On page 41 part of Philippians 2:7 is quoted from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV).

"but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, and being born in human likeness. And being found in human form," Philippians 2:7 from the NRSV.

"but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men." Philippians 2:7 from the NKJV.

"But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:" Philippians 2:7 from the KJV.

A bondservant is the same as a slave. A slave works involuntarily for no compensation other than food, clothing and a place to live. A servant works for wages and serves voluntarily. Speaking of Jesus, Isaiah 53:12 says, "he shall divide the spoil with the strong" so He got wages. Jesus came to our world voluntarily and in the redeemed will get his wages; He was thus a servant and not a slave.

On page 44 are three different quotations from *Education* that reference the Revised Version (RV) of the Bible. I suspect that most have never seen or laid hands on the RV so a little history is in order. Depending on what source you use, there may be minor differences in this history. For this explanation, I've referenced The International Standard Bible Encyclopaedia of 1915.

The widely accepted Protestant Bible had been the King James Version of 1611 until some thought the translation should be improved. A committee was formed that was dominated by Brooke Foss Westcott and Fenton John Anthony Hort. These men had made their own Greek text “corrected” mainly by two Roman Catholic manuscripts that aren’t nearly as old as most scholars say they are; i.e., Vaticanus (Codex B) and Sinaiticus (Codex Aleph). Being occultists, they were both members of the Ghostly Guild which investigated paranormal occurrences. The complete revision of the Bible based on the committee’s work was completed in 1885 and was known as the Revised Version or the English Revised Version (ERV). It was felt that the English of England was so different from American English (no, I’m not kidding) that an Americanized version was wanted but by agreement it couldn’t be published within fourteen years of the publication of the RV. The American Revised Version (ARV) as a complete bible was published in 1901. The ARV is also known as the American Standard Version (ASV). Quite a few modern bible versions are derivatives of the ASV.

A fair question is, if Ellen G. White used the RV, why isn’t it OK for us to use the NKJV, NRSV, etc? It would be nice if Sister White were still alive so we could ask her. Failing that, we must refer to her writings which can be found on the web site of the Ellen G. White Estate.

In “Letters and Manuscripts – Volume 13 (1898)” she said, “There is no contradiction in the Word of God.” That statement eliminates the majority of modern bible versions as being the Word of God. She went on to say, “There is to be no cutting out of Scripture, no mutilating the Word, as the Catholics have done.” Note that the ESV, TM and the NRSV used in this SSBSG are all Roman Catholic bibles and the NIV has probably cut out more than they have.

In “Letters and Manuscripts – Volume 22 (Manuscript 188, 1907) which is from the sermon, “Thoughts on Revelation 22” she says in paragraph 26, “They come to me, those that are copying my writing, and say, ‘Now here is the better revised words, and I think I will put that in.’” The “revised words” are referring to the RV and she said she refused to let them change even a word. She went on to say “there will be revised editions, plenty of them, just before the close of this earth’s history” and said they were never to change what she had written. That’s been ignored. There is a *Desire of Ages* and a *The Great Controversy* where NKJV verses were substituted for what she had written. Several versions of Steps to Christ, published under other titles, were published using Today’s English Version (TEV) and The Living Bible (LB) verses. The TEV and LB are both Roman Catholic bibles. Another book published with Ellen White listed as the author, *The Ministry of Health and Healing*, uses NKJV passages.

So, I don’t know if the use of the RV in *Education* was approved by Sister White. *The Ministry of Healing* of 1909 has used passages from the RV, the Leeser Bible, Noyes Translation and the ARV. I don’t know if Sister White approved that or if publishers who thought they knew better than she changed it for her. A later version of *The Ministry of Healing* used the Revised Standard Version which was never published in Sister White’s lifetime so she couldn’t have approved it.

Finally, if Sister White approved the use of the RV, I don’t really care. Paul quoted pagan poets in Acts 17:28. The Lord’s Messenger and an Apostle has the authority to use those writings if they like. Our deluded scholars and ministers don’t have the right to promote corrupt bibles or change what Sister White wrote.

LESSON 6. More Lessons From the Master Teacher

On page 48 of the *Sabbath School Bible Study Guide*, Genesis 28:16 is referenced from the New King James Version (NKJV).

“Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, ‘Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it.’” Genesis 28:16 from the NKJV.

There is nothing wrong with that verse. There is similar wording in the New International Version (NIV), the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV), the New English Translation (NET), the New Life Version (NLV) and the English Standard Version (ESV) so they’re also OK in this verse. The problem is with another verse.

“I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, as God Almighty, but by My name LORD I was not known to them.” Exodus 6:3 from the NKJV.

Just a little contradiction? Did Moses, the author of both Genesis and Exodus, forget God had appeared to Jacob as the LORD? The NIV, the NRSV, the NET, NLV and the ESV have the same problem. Fortunately the real Bible got it right.

“And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of God Almighty, but by my name JEHOVAH was I not known to them.” Exodus 6:3 from the King James Version (KJV).

LESSON 7. Worship in Education

In every *Sabbath School Bible Study Guide* (SSBSG) I’ve looked at, a contributor manages to get in something about what the Greek, Aramaic or the Hebrew says. Without a LOT of study there isn’t any way to confirm whether or not what the Greek, Aramaic or Hebrew allegedly said is what they really said. Even if you were given a couple hundred years of studying Sabbath School lessons, you will never learn any of those languages by reading what a word here and there meant. Sister White got along fine with her ENGLISH Bible and without knowing Greek, Aramaic or Hebrew. The only function having Greek, Aramaic, Hebrew or Latin serve in a SSBSG is to demonstrate the learning of the contributor. After all, if they’re so smart and so learned, you should believe them and, best of all, since you don’t know those languages you can’t object to anything they say about them. So, you can ignore *Tehillim* on page 58; you’ll do just fine with the English word Psalms.

Further down on page 58, there’s an English lesson! The college president, whoever she was, is using the New Life Version (NLV) and The Message (TM) to define the word “dark” in the context of “dark sayings of old” found in Psalms 78. In the NLV dark is translated “secret.” In TM “dark” is translated as “sweet old truths.”

I have a suggestion; look up “dark” in an ENGLISH dictionary and don’t use a fake bible to define words. In my Noah Webster’s 1828 American Dictionary of the English Language there are fifteen different shades of meaning that “dark” can have and it can mean “secret.” To translate it “sweet old truths” can, in a word, be called stupid. If the truths were “sweet” or “old” they wouldn’t be “secret” or “dark.”

LESSON 8. Jesus as Teacher

On page 66 of the *Sabbath School Bible Study Guide* there is a good illustration of how one can get confused by knowing too much Greek and using a fake bible. It says, “They called Him ‘Master,’ or ‘Rabbi.’ Both mean the same thing, namely, ‘Teacher.’”

“But you, do not be called ‘Rabbi’; for One is your Teacher, the Christ, and you are all brethren. And do not be called teachers; for One is your Teacher, the Christ.” Matthew 23:8, 10 from the New King James Version (NKJV).

“to which I was appointed a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles.”
2 Timothy 1:11 from the NKJV.

Do you see the problem? Jesus said not to be called a teacher in the fake bible and the apostle Paul says he is a teacher. Either Paul is going contrary to Jesus’ instruction or the fake bible is wrong. I choose number two.

There is another big problem in the rendition of Matthew 23:8, 10 that’s just as serious. Notice it says “the Christ.” That is New Age terminology. It means there can be a number of Christs just like “the President” refers to one who holds the office of President at a particular time but others follow.

Here are those verses from the real Bible.

“Be ye not called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren. Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, even Christ.”
Matthew 23:8, 10 from the King James Version (KJV).

“Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles.” 2 Timothy 1:11 from the KJV.

It should be perfectly clear that “Master” and “Rabbi” don’t both mean “Teacher.” The KJV reading also leaves room for only one Christ.

In the “Teachers Comments” section there are secret things just for teachers. That’s so they can cram for the Sabbath School lesson on Friday and have something wise to say on Sabbath. On page 108 of the “Teachers Comments” section it says, “Many are bewildered as to why they should send their children through to higher Adventist education when they already have the Bible, the writings of Ellen G. White, and the Holy Spirit at their disposal. Why not save the thousands of dollars and perhaps do an evangelistic Bible study course through the mail?” I would suggest you peruse the resumes of some of the professors at Seventh-day Adventist centers of higher education and see how many of them got degrees from nonadventist universities. Just a little hypocrisy there.

Many parents don’t have much knowledge as to what the real Bible and Ellen White’s writings say so they have no defense against the error taught by professors they think they can trust. The kids are even more handicapped. It might be less deceptive to attend a secular university where the wolves are in wolves’ clothing and not in sheep’s clothing.

I consider myself fortunate. My parents respected the Spirit of Prophecy and God's Holy Word. I attended Seventh-day Adventist schools from first grade through college at Pacific Union College. Fortunately, I attended Pacific Union College in happier times before our church exported Desmond Ford from Australia to teach his apostate doctrines there.

LESSON 9. The Church and Education

On page 78 of the *Sabbath School Bible Study Guide* the question is asked, regarding the cultural biases of society, "What are ways your church can teach others to rise above those biases and follow, instead, the teachings of the Scriptures?"

It's kind of hard to use "the teachings of the Scriptures" when you don't believe any English Bible on earth is the infallible Word of God without any error and when those alleged "Scriptures" teach conflicting doctrines.

Whichever college president worked on this lesson, only quoted from the New King James Version and the New International Version. You're asked to look up certain passages with no advice as to which "the Bible" to use so I guess you could use any "the Bible" that they or people smarter than them used. Here are some "the Bible" quotations to consider.

"And he saith unto them, Are ye so without understanding also? Do ye not perceive, that whatsoever thing from without entereth into the man, it cannot defile him; Because it entereth not into his heart, but into the belly, and goeth out into the draught, purging all meats? Mark 7:18-19 from the King James Version (KJV).

"So He said to them, 'Are you thus without understanding also? Do you not perceive that whatever enters a man from outside cannot defile him, because it does not enter his heart but his stomach, and is eliminated, thus purifying all foods?'" Mark 7:18-19 from the New King James Version (NKJV).

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

Jesus' disciples had been censured for not washing their hands before eating. Jesus was explaining why his disciples hadn't sinned in thus violating the law on hand washing invented by the priests and rabbis.

To explain these passages from "the Bible" a very brief lesson on anatomy and the gastrointestinal tract will be given. I'm sure the average person already knows this. Food goes into the mouth, from the mouth it goes to the stomach (belly) and finally waste matter is eliminated and goes into the sewer (draught). That's what the KJV says. The NKJV says the food goes into the stomach and is then purified. Purified means that digested food that has become feces is pure so you should be able to eat it.. The NIV says Jesus declared all foods clean; that would include pig.

The NIV Andrews Study Bible that allegedly has “Light. Depth. Truth.” Has a footnote for those verses that says in part, “Jesus was not declaring that a person can eat anything.” Some Seventh-day Adventist scholars and probably college presidents are having trouble reading ENGLISH.

LESSON 10. Education in Arts and Sciences

On page 83 of the *Sabbath School Bible Study Guide*, with the lesson of the day ironically titled “Experts in Error,” it is recommended the question be asked, “what are the pursuits against which Paul warns?” The recommended reading is 1 Timothy 6:9-10.

“But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.” 1 Timothy 6:9-10 from the King James Version (KJV).

“But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.” 1 Timothy 6:9-10 from the New King James Version (NKJV).

The significant difference between the KJV and the NKJV is that the former says the love of money is “the root” of “all evil” while the NKJV says it’s merely the root of “all kinds of evil.” The NKJV also specifies that “greediness” is the problem. Can one love money without being considered greedy? I would say yes.

Some would say there are other roots of evil besides money so the NKJV is right and the KJV is wrong. First we’ll do some simple math and then we’ll discuss something Doug Batchelor, Mark Finley, the college presidents, whoever they are, and maybe even Denis Fortin don’t know.

If $a=b$ and $b=c$ then I can say that $a=c$ or even that $a=b=c$.

It is misunderstood what “money” is in the KJV. Yes, really. To get an understanding of the meaning of that word, we’ll go to Noah Webster’s 1828 American Dictionary of the English Language. Definitions under money included “1. Coin; stamped metal,” etc., “2. Bank notes or bills of credit” and “3. Wealth; affluence.” I doubt Paul was speaking specifically against numismatic pursuits and paper currency wasn’t used until used by the Chinese perhaps as early as 618 A.D. That leaves number “3” with two more words to define since they’re apparently synonymous with “money.” Remember the part about $a=b=c$?

Under “wealth” we find, “prosperity” and “riches” and “opulence.” Under “affluence” we have “wealth.” Under opulently we have “Richly; with abundance or splendor.” We have another word; i.e., “splendor.” One of the definitions of “splendor” is “Great brightness; brilliant luster; as the splendor of the sun.”

Speaking of Satan, Ezekiel said:

“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.” Ezekiel 28:17 from the KJV.

Who was the root of all evil? What was his problem?

LESSON 11. The Christian and Work

In the Teachers Comments section of the *Sabbath School Bible Study Guide* on page 147 the Septuagint is mentioned (probably so your teacher can impress you) and is used to show “the Hebrew word *qarav* (to approach) is translated *prosporeuomai*.” Isn’t that helpful information? A Hebrew word is translated as a Greek word in a fake bible.

Just so you don’t need to be so impressed the next time someone refers to the Septuagint (also known as the LXX) I’ll let you in on a few things it’s unlikely your teacher knows. The legend starts with a Ptolemy Philadelphus II who reigned around 285 to 250 B.C. He allegedly requested that the Jews make a Greek translation of the entire Hebrew Old Testament for him. The Jewish ecclesiastical hierarchy was only too happy to comply (you know, the same hierarchy that didn’t like Gentiles). Six scholars from each of the twelve tribes (that makes 72 and not 70 or LXX) of Israel (even though the identity of the ten northern tribes had pretty much been lost through apostasy) were sent to complete the mission. This was all recorded in the Letter of Aristeas (you can find it online) that has been proven fraudulent.

It has been alleged that the Septuagint is the fifth column of Origin’s Hexapla. Origin was a scholar of Alexandria, Egypt who castrated himself (a brave act I would say) so as not to be beguiled by women, believed everyone including Satan would be saved, etc. Anyway, there is not a scintilla of proof that Origin’s fifth column is the Septuagint though many scholars think it is. What is called the Septuagint, a complete Greek translation of the Hebrew Old Testament Scriptures, consists of at least three versions (maybe as many as five) and were ALL written AFTER Jesus and the apostles were dead (contrary to what some would have you believe).

The Septuagint does come in handy, if you believe it ever existed, in confirming the genuineness (even though some genealogies are wrong) of some Roman Catholic manuscripts.

LESSON 12. Sabbath: Experiencing and Living the Character of God

The Christian world currently rejects keeping the seventh day Sabbath of the fourth commandment saying it was for the Jews and not for observance in the Christian era. Let’s review part of the fourth commandment in “the Bible.”

“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:” Exodus 20:10 from the King James Version (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.” Exodus 20:10 from the New International Version (NIV).

The KJV says “the sabbath” and the NIV says “a sabbath.” “The” is the definite article and “a” is the indefinite article. To say “a sabbath” lumps “the sabbath” together with the other ceremonial sabbaths of the children of Israel who later became known as the Jews. It should say “the sabbath” because there was only one specific day that the Creator Himself rested on and thus made holy.

The memory text for this lesson says Jesus is “Lord of the Sabbath.” Seventh-day Adventists rightly teach that Jesus, who said he was Lord of the Sabbath, is still Lord of the seventh day Sabbath. Many other denominations teach that Sunday is the Lord’s Day.

“I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet.” Revelation 1:10 from the KJV.

“It was Sunday and I was in the Spirit, praying. I heard a loud voice behind me, trumpet-clear and piercing.” Revelation 1:10 from The Message (TM).

“On the Lord’s day [probably a reference to the first day of the week, Sunday, when Christians met for worship] I was in the Spirit [or spirit; a state of deep spiritual communion with God], and I heard a loud voice behind me that sounded like a trumpet [trumpet blasts often precede a divine appearance or speech; Ex. 19:16, 19].” Revelation 1:10 from The [expanded] Bible (EXP).

TM has removed “Lords day” but implies that John made the day special by apparently praying and worshipping on that day, i.e., Sunday. The EXP confirms that early Christians met for worship on Sunday.

You may object to me using the EXP as an example because it wasn’t used in this *Sabbath School Bible Study Guide* (SSBSG) and you have a point. It was, however, used in the SSBSG for third quarter of 2019. It’s true that the principal contributor for that SSBSG, Jonathan Duffy, might not be as smart as a college president but that “the Bible” did get by the long time SSBSG editor, Clifford R. Goldstein, who should know better.

LESSON 13. Heaven, Education, and Eternal Learning

One of the verses it suggests one read (found on page 104) is Zechariah 13:6. It’s also found in full on page 109 as in the King James Version (KJV). Even though the New King James Version (NKJV) was used for the memory verse, the college president apparently thought the KJV would be a bit better for this verse.

“And one shall say unto him, What are these wounds in thine hands? Then he shall answer, Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends.” Zechariah 13:6 from the KJV.

“And one will say to him, ‘What are these wounds between your arms?’ Then he will answer, ‘Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends.’” Zechariah 13:6 from the NKJV Andrews Study Bible.

“If someone asks, ‘What are these wounds on your body?’ they will answer, ‘The wounds I was given at the house of my friends.’” Zechariah 13:6 from the New International Version (NIV) Andrews Study Bible.

The footnote in the NKJV Andrews Study Bible for that verse says, “When confronted about the ‘wounds’ on his torso (‘between your arms’ probably refers to the chest or back), scars which probably resulted from self-mutilation while participating in idolatrous rituals (1 Kin. 18:28), the false prophet lies about how he received them.” The NIV, the Revista e Atualizada and the Reina-Valera 1995 Andrews Study Bibles have similar wording in the footnote for that verse. That is notwithstanding the fact that the Revista e Atualizada and the Reina-Valera 1995 say the wounds were in the hands.

“Even the manner of His death had been shadowed forth. As the brazen serpent had been uplifted in the wilderness, so was the coming Redeemer to be lifted up, ‘that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.’ John 3:16. ‘One shall say unto Him, What are these wounds in Thine hands? Then He shall answer, Those with which I was wounded in the house of My friends.’ Zechariah 13:6.” The *Acts of the Apostles* page 226.

Satan must be laughing.

If you wish to read more of the unauthorized history of Seventh-day Adventists and about fake bibles, web sites that may be of interest are:

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