

These Perilous Times

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**What Do God's People Believe?
Part III**

There are many skeptics in our society who have distinct reasons for not wanting to become part of any Christian denomination!

Some don't want to believe in God because they have been taught specifically that "God the Father," is a vengeful ogre. They fear that the Father is just waiting for them to make a wrong move so when they die He can thrust them into a burning hell, to be tormented forever! Can we blame them?

Nowhere does the Bible teach or allude to such erroneous doctrines, {i.e. an everlasting hell of torment, and God as an unforgiving tyrant}!

Yes, soon, the world will face the "final judgment hour." However, "God the Father," has committed the judgement to the Son, Jesus

Christ our righteousness,¹ the Righteous Judge!
Amen!

We, as Seventh-day Adventists know that we are now living in the end-time; the time of the “Investigative Judgment,”² {to be covered in another issue of TPT}.

Good News! Jesus stated very plainly to Phillip, “...he that hath seen Me hath seen the Father...”³ Jesus, the Father, and the Holy Ghost are one in character, and in purpose!

“God the Father is frequently misunderstood. Many are aware of Christ’s mission to earth for the human race and of the Holy Spirit’s role within the individual, but what has the Father to do with us?

Is He in contrast to the gracious Son and Spirit, totally removed from our world, the absentee Landlord, the Unmoved First Cause? **Or is He, as ‘some’ think of Him,** the “Old Testament God”- a God of vengeance, characterized by the dictum, “an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth,” {Matt. 5:38-48; cf. Ex. 21:24} an exacting God who requires perfect works-or else!”⁴ {Emphasis supplied}.

¹ John 5:19-23

² Revelation 14:6, 7.

³ John 14:9

⁴ Seventh-day Adventists believe, “ A Biblical Exposition of Fundamental

What does this mean for us?

Obvious Signs Do Tell The Season

Seventh-day Adventist Believe ...

3. God the Father

“God the eternal Father is the Creator, Source, Sustainer, and Sovereign of all creation. He is just and holy, merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

The qualities and powers exhibited in the Son and the Holy Spirit are also revelations of the Father, ⁵ {Emphasis supplied} Gen. 1:1; Rev. 4:11; I Cor. 15:28; John 3:16; I John 4:8; I Tim. 1:17; John 14:9; Ex. 34:6, 7.



Beliefs,” Boise, ID, Pacific Press Pub. Assn., General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 12501 Old Columbia pike, Silver Spring, Md. 20904-6600, 2005, pp. 35-37.

⁵ Ibid., p. 35.