

TRADEMARK SDA® FOLDER

Compiled by Creation Seventh Day Adventists in
Obedience to Yahweh's Instruction:

“Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.” Isa 58:1

SECTION III: WRITTEN COMUNICATIONS and REPLIES

From: Creation 7th Day Adventists

To: General Conference Lawyers and Elders
Other Independent Ministries

From the G. C. President

August 1996

SPECIAL EDITION

Robert S. Folkenberg

■ **LEGISLATIVE ALERT:** On July 16, leadership of the House of Representatives unveiled its long-awaited revision of the so-called "religious equality" amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The proposed amendment is couched in benign language but represents an attack on fundamental notions of religious liberty and separation of church and state by requiring government to subsidize pervasively sectarian activities and entities while authorizing potentially coercive practices such as officially sanctioned school prayer and government recognition of religion.

The proposed amendment will jettison the time-honored practice of government neutrality toward religion and replace it with state favoritism of religion. As such, this proposal threatens the religious liberty of all Americans by upsetting the delicate balance of church-state relations which has provided an unparalleled degree of protection for all faiths for more than 200 years. A vote is expected in September! This initiative should catch the attention of Seventh-day Adventists given our insight into last day events as described in the closing chapters of *The Great Controversy* and the chapter on Religious Liberty in the book *Christian Service*.

According to information and analysis provided by Wintley Phipps and Alan Reinach, of the General Conference and Pacific Union departments of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty respectively, the proposed amendment would effectively nullify the constitution's Establishment Clause, permitting the government to coerce, control, and compromise religion in the following ways:

1) The amendment authorizes (federal, state, county, city, etc.) government officials acting in their official capacity to favor one religious faith over another. Public school students could be subject to religious teaching, whether or not it is their own faith being taught. The principle of majority rule will trample on the rights and freedoms of minorities. This is religious domination, not religious equality. Thus every level of government could experience intense competition between religions seeking favored status, and the beliefs and practices of that religion promoted by government.

2) Government could declare America, or any portion thereof, a Christian nation or state or county, or one that is Mormon or New Age, and promote the practices and teachings of the dominant faith. Religious minorities in every community could be under pressure to move and live where they can be in the majority, in order to

protect their religious freedom. Religious cleansing? Is this another Bosnia?

3) Government would be required to finance religion, inevitably subjecting religious groups to intrusive regulation, monitoring, and accounting. Currently, religious groups can and do receive funding for non-sectarian services, especially social services, so long as they do not proselytize or engage in sectarian activities with government funds. The amendment would, for the first time, permit churches to promote their religious agendas with government funding.

4) Government funding of religious groups inevitably leads to unholy competition for money. Since government cannot fund everyone, the strongest groups are likely to receive a disproportionate share of funds providing an unfair advantage in their ability to compete in the marketplace of ideas.

5) The amendment will violate the liberty of conscience of taxpayers, since they will be compelled to finance religions in which they disbelieve.

6) The amendment purports to prohibit government discrimination against individuals because of their religious beliefs or practices. But such discrimination is already prohibited under the Free Exercise Clause and the Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

The amendment falsely claims to "clarify" existing law. Instead, it could throw the law into confusion with a myriad of lawsuits and conflicts. The Constitution already protects against the abuses sought to be "corrected" by this amendment. Truly voluntary prayer has always been permitted in public schools. Religious speech and activities are already protected from government coercion.

By requiring equal treatment for religious and secular activities, religious groups could lose many benefits currently enjoyed under many legal provisions. Religious groups could become subject to non-discrimination laws, requiring them to engage in activities which conflict with their beliefs.

You are urged to write your government representatives and petition against the so-called "religious equality" constitutional amendment, HJR 184. For further information contact Wintley Phipps of the General Conference Department of Religious Liberty (301)-680-6000 or obtain a petition for circulating among churches and educating the general public from Alan Reinach at the Pacific Union Conference (805)-497-9457. Please **DO NOT FAIL** to write your congressman and senator. It IS very important.

Subject: Re: [Trademark Church Name Crisis: OPEN LETTER...]

Date: 04 Dec 96 12:36:34 EST

From: "Alan J. Reinach" <74617.631@CompuServe.COM>

To: "INTERNET:crmin@ix.netcom.com" <crmin@ix.netcom.com>

✓ postal

Dear Walter:

Pray tell what and where is Creation SDA Church. And why, if this message is such vital present truth, do you not give a more thorough biblical exposition of your position?

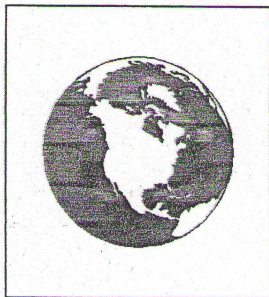
I offer one observation for you. As religious liberty director in the pacific union, my life's work is thinking through religious freedom issues, and opposing coercion. The mark of the beast, in my view, pertains to when religious adherents seek to impose their religious teachings and practices on others not of their own faith. This is far different than a church enforcing discipline upon its own members.

Tell me this: do you believe that adulterers should be disfellowshipped? What about murderers or sabbath breakers? How do you define church discipline, and how far is it appropriate? Should we permit gays to use the SDA name? What if there was a congregation calling themselves SDA's teaching that sunday is the seventh day, and espousing the rapture? Are you saying the church has no right or power to define its own doctrinal position, and enforce discipline among its own members?

Don't get me wrong. I am not advocating the complete absence of religious freedom in the church. If anyone is sensitive to religious freedom issues, surely I am. I ask these questions in a sincere desire to understand your own view and position, since it deals with important religious liberty concerns.

I look forward to your thoughtful reply

alan reinach.



"INTO ALL THE WORLD"

FILE COPY 1

Spring City Remnant Church

of

Creation 7th Day Adventists

Post Office Box 284

Spring City, Tennessee 37381-0284

423-365-7469

Email: crmin@ix.netcom.com

"YAH is Our Righteousness"

December 19, 1996

General Conference of SDAs
Communications Department
Kermit Netteburg
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20904-6600

Dear Brother Netteburg,

Thank you for your prompt e-mail dated December 16th. In answer to your "unrelated, irrelevant question," I do not know of having a home page in Arkansas. We were assigned an address with "Hot Springs" (www.geocities.com/HotSprings/2786/), perhaps relating to the health field in which our home page majors— mental, physical, and spiritual. Links and web site development are yet under way. Please forgive me for the misunderstanding, but I really had nothing to do with the address assignment.

I do not know how familiar you are with the General Conference Corporation's federally registered trademark/service mark "SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST." While your understanding might be that this trademark "is a term related strictly to the protection of business interests," this is not the actual case, in view of litigation on record since the mid-1980s. I am enclosing a packet of "hand-outs," providing much of the documentation which we have on file.

At this juncture it may be fitting to look at the ancient uses of "marks," published in the *Review and Herald* (1913), as I begin to develop a connection between trademarks and the mark of the beast in Revelation 13.

"When the Lord called Israel out of Egypt and its idolatries and warned his people against the ways by which the heathen round about worshiped their gods, he gave commandment: 'Ye shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead [demon- or spirit- worship], nor print any marks upon you: I am the Lord.' Lev. 19:28.

"The distinguishing mark of God's people was to be found in their loyal obedience to his commandments, the fourth precept particularly pointing out the sign of the great Creator: 'Keep therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes.' Deut. 4:6. 'Hallow my Sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I am the Lord your God.' Eze. 20:20.

"From the earliest days, it is evident, the heathen were accustomed to mark themselves with the signs or symbols of their gods. Marks were also sometimes carried to indicate the master that a man served. An old author, Dr. John Potter, in a work on

the *Antiquities of Greece*, says of these ancient practices:

Slaves were not only branded with stigmata for a punishment of their offenses, but (which was the common end of these marks) to distinguish them, in case they should desert their masters: for which purpose it was common to brand their soldiers; only with this difference, that whereas slaves were commonly stigmatized in their forehead, and with the name or some peculiar character belonging to their masters, soldiers were branded in the hand, and with the name or character of their general. After the same manner, it was likewise customary to stigmatize the worshipers and votaries of some of the gods: whence Lucian, speaking of the votaries of the Syrian goddess, affirms, "They were all branded with certain marks, some in the palms of their hands, and others in their necks: whence it became customary for all the Assyrians thus to stigmatize themselves." And Theodoret is of opinion that the Jews were forbidden to brand themselves with stigmata, because the idolaters by that ceremony used to consecrate themselves to their false deities. The marks used on these occasions were various. Sometimes they contained the name of the god, sometimes his particular ensign; such were the thunderbolt of Jupiter, the trident of Neptune, the ivy of Bacchus: whence Ptolemy Philopater was by some nick-named Gallus, because his body was marked with the figures of ivy leaves. Or, lastly, they marked themselves with some mystical number; whereby the god's name was described. Thus the sun, which was signified by the number 608, is said to have been represented by these two numeral letters XH. These three ways of stigmatizing are all expressed by St. John, in the book of Revelation: "And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name." Vol. 1, page 75.

"Still the mark is used in modern heathenism. Most of the Hindu sects in India have their special marks to distinguish the god or gods of their chief devotion. On the festivals, after the ceremonial bathing and worship, the marks are painted afresh on the devotee's forehead or breast or arm. It is the sign of allegiance and submission to the authority whose badge it is.

"So the prophetic scriptures represent the Papacy, and the "image of the beast" (the likeness to the Papacy formed in the falling away from Protestant principles) as joining in enforcing the mark of papal authority, upon the world.

"The whole matter of papal authority turns upon the question as to whether God's Word or the church is supreme. As a mark of the superior power of the church, Rome sets forth the Sunday institution. God's law says that the seventh day is the Sabbath. That is the sign of Jehovah, the Creator of heaven and earth. By church tradition the change has been made to Sunday, the first day. The famous Council of Trent, Rome's answer to the Reformation, cited the general acceptance of the Sunday as proof that the church is above the Holy Scriptures." RH 04-24-13, p. 393.

Applications to our time can be made from the above article. An elementary study of the history of "marks", i.e., "trademarks" reveals the relationship of the modern "mark" to that which distinguished one's allegiance to an "owner", "master", "ruler", or "god." The SDA trademark is "taken" by the devotee at baptism showing their allegiance to the SDA Church.

In *Ministry*, December, 1988, the article "General Conference trademark policy" contains the following: "... Yes. The General Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists, on behalf of the ENTIRE DENOMINATION, has registered under the United States trademark laws the name 'Seventh-day Adventist'" [emphasis supplied.] Thus, every baptized member receives the mark, Seventh-day Adventist.

What is a corporation? One dictionary in my library says it is a "fictitious person." A more comprehensive definition is given by Chief Justice Marshall (1819):

A corporation is an artificial being, invisible, intangible and existing only in contemplation of law. Being the mere creature of law, it possesses only those properties which the charter of its creation confers upon it, either expressly or as incidental to its very existence. These are such as are supposed best calculated to effect the object for which it was created. Among the most important are immortality, and if the expression may be allowed, individuality; properties by which a perpetual succession of many persons are considered as the same, and may act as a single individual. (4 Wheat, (U.S.) 518)

It is interesting to me that this "fictitious person" has "individuality", "immortality", and a "perpetual succession of many persons" acting as a single person. This character reminds me

suspiciously of the office of the "pope." In fact, the historical roots of "ecclesiastical entities" is revealed by Ludwig Teller in **CORPORATIONS**, (1949):

The corporation does not appear to have originated as a state franchise, nor as a means of securing limited liability. Roman corporations, originally unregulated by the state, were later licensed by the Emperor apparently to abridge their political activities. . . . After the advent of Christianity, ecclesiastical entities were similarly created by the Pope, who took the view that his fiat was necessary for such purpose. (p.4)

We could argue in depth regarding these things, but the point I intend to make is that the "corporation" is a "fictitious person" or "image" of a person. You may say that the General Conference Corporation is required for the legal holding of property. So be it. An image may be carved from stone, and we *know* that image has no life. We would be loath to worship it. The commandment prohibits carving that stone and "bowing down to worship" it. Any sensible person would not bow to a carved stone. But what if something gave "life" to that image? Review with me the story of the image in Daniel, chapter 3:

Then the satraps, the prefects, and the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the justices, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces, were assembled for the dedication of the image that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up; and they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up. (v. 3) And the herald proclaimed aloud, "You are commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages, (v. 4) that when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, you are to fall down and worship the golden image that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up; (v. 5) and whoever does not fall down and worship shall immediately be cast into a burning fiery furnace." (v. 6) Therefore, as soon as all the peoples heard the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, all the peoples, nations, and languages fell down and worshiped the golden image which King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. (v. 7)

Trace, if you will, the steps taken in giving "life" to Nebuchadnezzar's image. They are listed as follows:

- 1) The king "creates" the image as a representation of himself.
- 2) The image is given special recognition and adoration by the "powers that be."
- 3) A decree is made requiring all individuals, under the jurisdiction of the king and his "powers that be," to give special recognition and adoration to the image.
- 4) A test of loyalty to the "creator" of the image is contrived, instituting the death penalty for civil disobedience, in order to control the sympathies of the population. It was understood that to bow to this image was an act of worship and adoration of the king.

Plainly, the image had no life at step # 1. It had no life at step #2. So far, the image was nothing more than "an amusement." Suddenly, in step #3, a law is set in place requiring something of the population with respect to the image. There was a requirement of worship, special recognition— an act of adoration on pain of punishment (i.e., death). When one is required to make a choice between life and death, the "thing" requiring that choice must have "life." It "both speaks and causes as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed." Rev. 13:15. When an individual can be "forced," on pain of punishment, to give special recognition, adoration, or worship to anything or anyone, there is some kind of "life" given to that agency.

The General Conference Corporation, as a "fictitious person," without life, and without power to "force" anyone to give special recognition, adoration, or worship to anything or anyone, is nothing more than a "holding company," or "agency" for the sole purpose of owning and managing church real estate. However, when this "fictitious person" acquires "intellectual property" (i.e., a trademark), and

seeks to have "the powers that be" and the entire population to give its "intellectual property" special recognition, adoration, and even worship, upon pain of punishment, this corporation is no longer an agency for holding real estate. This corporation has acquired "life" through the laws of "intellectual property." Now, the corporation can "both speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed." Rev. 13:15.

I have made a thorough study of Revelation 13:16, 17 from every Bible version and commentary which I could find "in captivity." I shall choose one translation here for special illustration: *The Jerusalem Bible*: "... and made it illegal for anyone to buy or sell anything unless he had been *branded* with the name of the beast or with the number of its name." v. 17. (italics mine). Looking up the root word "*brand*" in English dictionaries reveals interesting results. Note the following three which are from my personal library:

Webster's New World Dictionary, Second College Edition, 1974—

... 2. a mark burned on the skin with a hot iron, formerly used to punish and identify criminals, now used on cattle to show ownership ... 4. a mark of disgrace; stigma 5. a) an identifying mark or label on the products of a particular company; trademark b) the kind or make of a commodity c) a special kind or variety ...

Webster's New American Dictionary, 1939—

... 2 A trade-mark. 3 A certain make of anything. 4 An identifying mark burned in, as, the *brand* of the ranch was Cross and Star. ...

vt. To put a trade-mark on; to mark with a hot iron, as range cattle; to mark, as, to *brand* one as a traitor.

Funk & Wagnalls Standard Encyclopedic Dictionary, 1972—

... 1. A distinctive name or trademark identifying the product of a manufacturer. 2. The kind or make of a product: a good *brand* of coffee. 3. A mark made with a hot iron, as on cattle, to indicate ownership. 4. Formerly, a mark burned on criminals. ...

Since the above English dictionaries show a probable link from the root *brand* to "trademark," let me substitute into the Bible text a *possible* interpretation, and add a brief commentary. *McGill version*: "and made it illegal for anyone to buy or sell [the Seventh-day Adventist faith] unless he had [the registered trademark] with the name of the [General Conference Corporation of SDAs] or with the number of its name." (v. 17)

Of course, the number is a "human number" bearing out the "engraving" [see Acts 17:29, "*charagma*"] of a natural man (666— imperfect mental, imperfect physical, and imperfect spiritual). The ecclesiastical ["religious"] corporation had its original creation by the Papacy (or the beast), as noted in *CORPORATIONS*, by Ludwig Teller (1949, page 4), above. Teller also writes, "The corporation is the *real, though artificial, person* substituted for the *natural persons* who procured its creation" (emphases mine; *ibid*, page 3). As I said before, close examination of the attributes of corporations, as compared to the office of the pope, indicates suspicious similarities between them— "religious corporations," having originated by the pope's fiat.

Some may object to my substituting "General Conference Corporation" for "the beast," since we know "the beast" to be the Papacy. But the phrase "name of 'x'" (where "x" represents any given person, place, or thing) does not demand the *exclusive* application of the name to "x." Let me illustrate, using the Scriptures.

Revelation 14:1 refers to the saints having "His name and his Father's name written on their foreheads." The "name of the saints" is the name of the Father and the Son (see also, Rev. 3:12). Note here, the contingency for wearing the Father's name is to partake of His *character*. This, aforementioned taking of the name of another, is applied to "the seal of God" (see also, Rev. 7:3, 4). James asks, "Do they not blaspheme that worthy name by the which ye are called." What name? Of course, the name of Christ— "Christian." "... Let every one that nameth the name of Christ (Christian) depart from iniquity." 2 Timothy 2:19b.

In parallel comparison, Revelation 13:17 refers to the antithesis, "mark of the beast." The "image of the beast" having the "name of the beast," is in line with the children being named after their father, as in the "seal of God." Those who perfectly reflect the "image of Christ" are called by His name. In like manner, those who perfectly reflect the character of the Papacy are called by his name. In saying, "Ye are of your father the devil . . .," Jesus spiritually illustrates the *relationship* of "the image of the beast" to "the beast" (John 8:44).

So, in my above substitution— "name of the General Conference Corporation" for "name of the beast," I am consistent— as we would be justified in substituting "Christian(s)" for "the name of Christ." The likeness in character— the intimate family relationship is the relegating principle.

"The Seventh-day Adventist faith" is intended to be the "everlasting gospel" of Rev. 14:6. "The registered trademark" is *charagma*, or a man-made "engraving," "stamp," or "impress" used to identify "the owner" or "the source" of a particular commodity. In this case, the "special kind or variety" is "the Adventist message." "The owner" of this "registered trademark" is the General Conference Corporation (artificial person or "image"), which claims ownership of the "intellectual property," trademark: SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST. The "intellectual property" is none other than a "label" for "the Adventist message," or "everlasting gospel." In reality, this amounts to a claim, on the part of the General Conference Corporation, to being "the source" of the gospel of Christ. This claim of ownership is *blasphemy*, in the same sense which the Papacy is guilty, since its inception, of claiming to be the "Vicar of Christ." The Christ is "the source," the "Pearl of Great Price"— the *only mediator* between God and men (1 Tim. 2:5).

The "Lamb" built His Church upon a solid Rock— Himself, that is, His character written in lasting stone by the very finger of God, and promising to give a "new heart of flesh" preprogrammed with His character. The "dragon" builds his church on the "graven image of the beast," or himself. It is written upon the selfish "stony heart" by the very hand of Satan and enforced by the natural man's law (666), being derived from "the mind set on the flesh" Satan desires to "make for [himself] a name" (see Gen. 11:4) which no one else might have, without bowing to his dominance (oppression and selfishness). The Lamb of God, who has "a name above every name," became sin for the world that all who believe on the name of the Son of God may freely partake of "His divine name"— "the **IMPRESS** of the divine name, 'The Lord our Righteousness.' Jer.23:6." (*Evangelism*, p. 307). Notice, when the *unconverted* disciples would *forbid* "non-members" from the "unauthorized use" of Christ's name in their ministry, the Lamb said, "Do not hinder him. . . ." Mark 9:39. In like manner, the "lamb-like beast" of Rev. 13 would, by the Lamb's nature, say, "Do not hinder him." But what happens? The "false prophet"— the "lamb-like beast" speaks like a dragon. The dragon says, "Forbid them, lest we lose our kingdom." And is this not the same as it was in the days of Christ? Did the chief priests and elders not fear that Jesus would dethrone them? Isn't the great controversy over, "Who is the king of the Jews?" "Who is the greatest?" "Who shall sit on God's throne?"

The contest will be between the commandments of God and the commandments of men. Those who have yielded step by step to worldly demands and conformed to worldly customs will then yield to the powers that be, rather than subject themselves to derision, insult, threatened imprisonment, and death. At that time the gold will be separated from the dross. True godliness will be clearly distinguished from the appearance and tinsel of it. Many a star that we have admired for its brilliance will then go out in darkness. Those who have assumed the ornaments of the sanctuary, but are not clothed with Christ's righteousness, will then appear in the shame of their own nakedness. PK 188.

I emphasized the word "impress" above in **bold** because *Vine's Expository Dictionary of N. T. Words* defines the Greek word for "mark" [*charagma*] as "a stamp, [or] impress" (page 42). This word

deserves a bit of discussion. Most SDAs agree that the "seal of God" is represented by the Sabbath, and from a biblical perspective the NAME (or character) of God— ". . . having His name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads." Rev. 14:1 (NASB). This "name of God" is nothing more than a transcript of His character— His **SIGNature**, which is the law of God, written in the hearts of those truly converted to the religion of Christ— thus,— "the *impress* of the divine name"

It was common for kings and nobles to seal documents, etc. with the *impress* of their "signet rings." For example: "And a stone was brought and laid over the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the signet rings of his nobles, so that nothing might be changed in regard to Daniel." Dan. 6:17 (NASB). "And they went and made the grave secure, and along with the guard they set a seal on the stone." Matt. 27:66 (NASB). God shall seal Satan securely in "the abyss" "that he should not deceive the nations any longer" Rev. 20:3. At this point in time, the saints will have already been "securely sealed" by the "seal of the living God"— "Just as soon as the people of God are sealed in their foreheads—it is, not any seal or mark that can be seen, but a settling into the truth, both intellectually and spiritually, so they cannot be moved—just as soon as God's people are sealed and prepared for the shaking, it will come." (MS 173, 1902).

These faithful ones have allowed "*the impress of the divine name*" to be their protection even at a time when they have "no intercessor"— the time of "Jacob's trouble." "Nothing can be changed in regard to" the destiny of the saints who receive God's "stamp of approval" in "the judgment of the living."

I wish now to return to the development of trademarks to present more related parallels from Scripture. The following is quoted from *Collier's Encyclopedia* (1989); Vol. 22, pp. 396-97:

. . . ancient marks [c. 5,000 B.C.] presumably were proprietary in nature, identifying the owner of the property rather than the original source of something bartered or sold. Thus, they did not perform the business function of a modern trademark. . . .

. . . [among earliest civilizations, introducing specialization] markings on pottery and other objects served the purpose of identifying the maker after the goods had left his hands. They thus approached closely the function of the trademark of modern commerce. However, the primary purpose of such marks apparently was to fix responsibility so that the maker of imperfect merchandise could be located and, if necessary, punished. . . . *Building stones* of that period [c. 3200 B.C.] are marked with symbols that indicate either the quarry from which they came or the masons who prepared them. Roof tiles, as well as bricks, had *the names of their makers impressed in them.* (emphases mine.)

The Roman civilization, which endured for approximately one thousand years . . . provides our earliest sustained records of an economy in which *trademarks evidently were a matter of everyday experience.* . . . *Seals were used for marking cloth. Masons' marks can be found on building stones.* Tiles and bricks bore *impressions of marks identifying their makers.* As in previous civilizations, however, it is the pottery that survived in the greatest profusion, and *trademarks were in common use on pottery ware.*

. . . The economy of England and the rest of Europe [from the 12th century on] was characterized by the organization of industry into guilds, and *trademarks were used primarily for the purpose of maintaining the control of an industry* in the hands of the members of the guild and their chosen successors. Typical guild regulations required that every article produced by a member bear both the guild symbol and a mark identifying the individual artisan. *The guild mark* indicated that the goods were not contraband; the artisan's mark fixed responsibility upon the individual craftsman so that he could be disciplined by the guild if he failed to *maintain proper standards of workmanship.* . . . The modern view of a trademark is that it constitutes a symbol by which *the source* of goods may be identified. It serves the function *guaranteeing that all articles bearing the mark will be uniform in quality,* and in this sense it is a descendant of the medieval *merchant's mark.* It also serves to *fix responsibility upon the maker,* and in that sense it is a descendant of the obligatory *guild marks,* which in turn reflect such ancient systems as the marking the bricks in Egypt so that *an inept slave could be identified and punished.* (all emphases supplied.)

From the foregoing we gain some significant insights. In Pagan Rome [represented as the "dragon" in prophecy] "trademarks evidently were a matter of everyday experience"—a parallel to our day in the United States [represented as "the Lamb-like beast," speaking as a "dragon"]. Prior to and during the span of the Roman Empire, "building stones" were "impressed" with "the names of their makers." Notice this precious promise from our Maker, describing the *impression of the divine name*, ". . . To him who overcomes, to him I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and a new NAME written on the stone which no one knows but he who receives it." Rev. 2:17 (NASB). "You continued looking until a stone was cut out without hands, and it struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay, and crushed them." Dan. 2:34 (NASB). Further commentary comes from Ellen G. White:

The mingling of church craft and state craft is represented by the iron and the clay. This union is weakening all the power of the churches. This investing the church with the power of the state will bring evil results. Men have almost passed the point of God's forbearance. They have invested their strength in politics, and have united with the papacy. But the time will come when God will punish those who have made void His law, and their evil work will recoil upon themselves. Ms 63, 1899, pp. 12, 13. (Untitled Manuscript, April 22, 1899.) 1 MR 51. (emphases mine.)

"Seals were used for marking" and "Trademarks were in common use on pottery ware." "Woe to the one who quarrels with his Maker—An earthenware vessel among the vessels of earth! Will the clay say to the potter, 'What are you doing?' Or the thing you are making say, 'He has no hands?'" Isa. 45:9 (NASB). "Behold, like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel." Jer. 18:4b (NASB). "The precious sons of Zion, Weighed against fine gold, How they are regarded as earthen jars, The work of a potter's hands!" Lam. 4:2 (NASB).

Anyone who undertakes a work with his hands intended to *improve* God's program or defend it with "carnal weapons," is saying "to the Potter, 'What are you doing?'" We are to "rest in Christ"—leaving the battles with Him. Herein is the true keeping of the spirit of Sabbath.

In Europe, *labor unions* employed trademarks "primarily for the purpose of maintaining the control of an industry"—"to maintain proper standards of workmanship." Ephesians 2:10, 20-22 says, "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, . . . having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone (stamped with a name above every name), in whom the whole building, being fitted together is growing into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit." We could say more about the relationship of *labor unions* to the "mark of the beast" from the "Spirit of Prophecy."

The Roman Catholic Church employed *creeds* as a method of defining heresy. Ultimately, their motivation was to "control the membership of the church and maintain a high standard in the building." But the only standard they could maintain was that of the "natural man" (666)—as was the case at Babel (Gen. 11:4ff), where they sought to "make for [themselves] a NAME." And the 1896 *International Sabbath School Lessons* (p. 33) says, "While the Reformation churches held fast to the word, Christ was with them. When they crystallized their various errors into creeds and endeavored thus to confine God's word, they made themselves daughters of Babylon."

What is being done with "the 27 fundamentals?" It has become a convenient way to define a true "Seventh-day Adventist"—with the motivation of "maintaining a particular standard." This exemplifies man's tradition in opposition to the "commandments of God." Then, when certain ones depart from "the traditions of men" [i.e., leave the dominance of the hierarchy], the same method of correction is imposed which the Papacy employed—"the strong arm of civil power." History then repeats with the punishment of heretics and the restriction of the liberty of conscience. Of course, most

of these so-called "heretics" conscientiously cling to the Adventist message, the prophetess, and consequently, the NAME. Thus—the trademark law is invoked against them through the civil power—"all in the name of the Lord." Is this not imaging what the Papacy [does]? The Papacy is *the beast*—is this not, by definition, "the image of the beast?"

NOTE.—The beast "which had the wound by a sword, and did live," is the Papacy. That was a church dominating the civil power, a union of church and state, enforcing its religious dogmas by the civil power, by confiscation, imprisonment, and death. An image to this beast would be another ecclesiastical organization clothed with civil power—another union of church and state—to enforce religion by law. *Bible Readings for the Home*, page 236.

And coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected by men, but choice and precious in the sight of God, you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For this is contained in Scripture: 'Behold I lay in Zion a choice Stone, a precious Corner Stone, and he who believes in Him shall not be disappointed.' This precious value, then, is for you who believe. But for those who disbelieve, 'the Stone which the builders rejected, this became the very Corner Stone,' and, 'a Stone of stumbling and Rock of offense'; for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this doom they were also appointed. 1 Peter 2:4-8 (NASB).

The religion of Christ is sincerity itself. *Zeal for God's glory is the motive implanted by the Holy Spirit*; and only the effectual working of the Spirit can implant this motive. Only the power of God can banish self-seeking and hypocrisy. This change is the sign of His working. When the faith we accept destroys selfishness and pretense, when it leads us to *seek God's glory and not our own*, we may know that it is of the right order. 'Father, glorify Thy name', was the keynote of Christ's life. . . . *The Desire of Ages*, page 409. (emphases supplied.)

But what is the motive of the General Conference in invoking trademark protection?

The Trademark Committee was organized to respond to local conference requests for *legal protection from identification with groups* whose activities have obvious potential to *harm the church's image or bring material liability*.

. . . Our effort, in even the most obviously embarrassing cases, has been to *restrain groups*, usually by means of injunction, *from trading on or profiting by* the use of the name "Seventh-day Adventist." *Adventist Review*, "Protecting Our Good Name," Sept. 26, 1996, p. 27. (emphases supplied.)

The wording of this article by Calvin B. Rock demonstrates the self-centered, faithless motivation of the General Conference and local conferences in organizing the Trademark Committee.

Let us look at the Spirit's counsel when a NAME or reputation is an issue. The following illustrations should suffice:

Here is an example of how God would have you overcome a tarnished name.

I do not consider your case hopeless; if I did, my pen would not be tracing these lines. In the strength of God you can redeem the past. Your name is already a byword in ____; but you can change this by using the powers which God has given you. You may even now gain a moral excellence so that your name may be associated with things pure and holy. You can be elevated. God has provided for you the necessary helps. He has invited you to come to Him, and has promised to bear your burdens and give you rest of soul. "Learn of Me," says the divine Teacher, "for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls." 2T 562.

Consider an example of how to *preserve* a holy name.

Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth. And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so. And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye? And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame

them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. And this was known to all the Jews and Greeks also dwelling at Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified. Acts 19:13-17.

Here, the holy name of Jesus was being misused by "vagabond Jews." The apostles did not do anything but leave them to their own destruction. "The law of the Lord is perfect." "Whatsoever a man sows, that shall he also reap." "Do not hinder them."

This Scripture shows how a name is blasphemed.

But if you bear the name "[SDA]," and rely upon the Law, and boast in God, and know His will, and approve the things that are essential, being instructed out of the Law, and are confident that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness, a corrector of the foolish, a teacher of the immature, having in the Law the embodiment of knowledge and of the truth, you, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach that one should not steal, do you steal? You who say that one should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? You who boast in the Law, through your breaking the Law, do you dishonor God? For "THE NAME OF GOD IS BLASPHEMED AMONG THE GENTILES BECAUSE OF YOU," just as it is written. For indeed circumcision is of value, if you practice the Law; but if you are a transgressor of the Law, your circumcision has become uncircumcision. If therefore the uncircumcised man keeps the requirements of the Law, will not his uncircumcision be regarded as circumcision? And will not he who is physically uncircumcised, if he keeps the Law, will he not judge you who though having the letter of the Law and circumcision are a transgressor of the Law? For he is not a [SDA] who is one outwardly; neither is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh. But he is a [SDA] who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that which is of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter; and *his praise is not from men, but from God.* Romans 2:17-29 (NASB).

Must I say more? Let Jesus say it.

I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the *blasphemy* of them which say they are [SDAs], and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan." Rev. 2:9. "Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are [SDAs], and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee." Rev. 3:9. "Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name? and in Thy name have cast out devils? and in Thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from Me, ye that work iniquity. Matt. 7:22, 23.

Let James say it. James 2:6, 7 (NASB):

But you have dishonored the poor man. Is it not the rich who oppress you and *personally drag you into court?* Do they not blaspheme the fair name by which you have been called?

My last example is a Scriptural answer to give when the name your conscience requires you to use is forbidden by man:

And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered and said unto them, *Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye.* For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard. Acts 4:18-20.

In conclusion, the February 15, 1996, Trademark Trial and Appeal Board's ruling, which gives life to the General Conference Trademark Policy, opens the floodgates to religious persecution in this country. By restricting the liberty of any Seventh-day Adventist, openly professing the name "Seventh-day Adventist," in declaration of their faith, and without permission of the General Conference Corporation, the U.S. government in protecting the General Conference fulfills the prophecy of Rev. 13.

Careful study of the mark of the beast will reveal that the mark is "the name of the beast." Even the *SDA Bible Commentary*, vol. 7, page 822 reads as follows on Revelation 13:17:

Or the name. Important textual evidence may be cited for the omission of the "or." If it is omitted, the phrase "name of the beast" may be considered to be in apposition with the word "mark." The passage would then read, "the mark, that is, the name of the beast." This would imply that the mark John saw in vision was the name of the beast.

What is the name of the beast? It is the **tradeMARK church name: SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST.**

We have gathered documentation and written much on this subject since 1991. I encourage every "truth-seeker" to rise quickly and slumber no longer. The test shall surely come to every soul. Five years ago I was shown that what is now transpiring would take place, that the observance of an institution of the papacy would be enforced upon Adventists by the trademark law, while the sanctified rest of Jehovah would be trampled underfoot (see 5T, page 137).

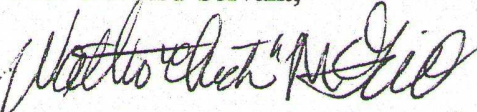
All who are yet holding membership in Conference Churches are held accountable to God for this travesty. Even though you may have been ignorant, you are just as cursed as the children of Israel by the sin of Achan (see Joshua 7). You are guilty as the Jews who *ignorantly* crucified the "Prince of life" (see Acts 3:14-21, NASB). For this reason, in God's mercy, the mighty angel of Revelation 18 is calling you out of these fallen churches "that you may not participate in her sins and that you may not receive of her plagues." Rev. 18:4. Judgment has come to your house.

In the final analysis, the General Conference and its supporters claim that their corporation's trademark is necessary to "protect their good image." But the loss in civil court to the homosexual support group, *SDA Kinship International*, proves that supposition to be a falsehood. Had God been their General, the battle would have been won by the GC. But God allowed his name to be "tarnished," similar to the experience at Ai—hoping to bring revival and reformation to His people,—sadly, they refused to be healed. The General Conference has continued to pursue trademark protection with "carnal weapons" abroad in 1995-96. And indications are, with "exclusive right to the name" granted by the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board of the U. S. PTO, the General Conference will soon revive the prosecutions of trademark violators in this country. The recent letter dated 6 November 96, and drafted by Walter E. Carson, to the *Rogue Valley Historic SDA Church*, stands as *prima facie* evidence.

"He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints." Rev. 13:10. The only "image" which is protected in civil courts is "the image of the beast."

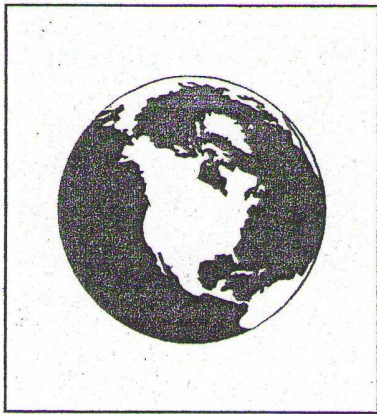
Dear Brother, I pray that the peace of God and the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the conviction of their Holy Spirit will rest upon you for now, and forever, as I remain

Your Devoted Servant,



Walter "Chick" McGill
Pastor, The Creation 7th Day Adventist Church

Enclosures



"INTO ALL THE WORLD"

**The Remnant Church
of
Creation 7th Day Adventists**

Post Office Box 284
Spring City, Tennessee 37381-0284
1-800-754-8021

"YAH IS OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS"

FILE COPY

May 13, 1996

Benjamin Burec, *Reform SDAs*
PO Box 7240
Roanoke, VA 24019

Dear Brother Burec,

Today I have written Brother Anthony Hibbert, enclosing the same materials which you find herein. Our people have had a large measure of the Holy Spirit poured out. As of Pentecost, we will be surveying the Adventist Christian Community for signatures of testimony regarding the genericness of the name "Seventh-day Adventist".

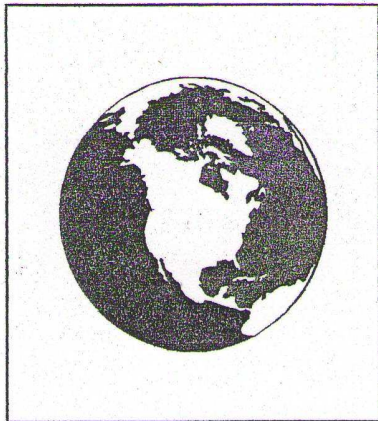
Of course, in this work we see the last warning and final work of the judgment of the living. Christ is soon to appear in the clouds of heaven. We love His appearing and wish to be faithful intercessors with Him until He steps out of the Heavenly Sanctuary.

We trust that you will see our work being commissioned from Heaven. If we can be of any assistance to you or any of the Brethren, please contact us. In the care of our Elder Brother, I remain

Your Devoted Servant,

Walter "Chick" McGill

Enclosures



"INTO ALL THE WORLD"

**The Remnant Church
of
Creation 7th Day Adventists**

Post Office Box 284
Spring City, Tennessee 37381-0284
1-800-754-8021

"YAH IS OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS"

FILE COPY

May 13, 1996

Anthoy Hibbert
PO Box 119
Mountaindale, NY 12163

Dear Bother Hibbert,

Please accept the enclosed materials as we have pondered the present crisis in our midst. Our people desire to act as intercessors with Christ in this closing work. The enclosed letters will be widely distributed among the Adventist Christian Community as of Pentecost. We received the out-pouring of God's Spirit in a large measure at the Spring Camp Meeting, and after receiving the legal documents from Washington, the Lord showed us our work.

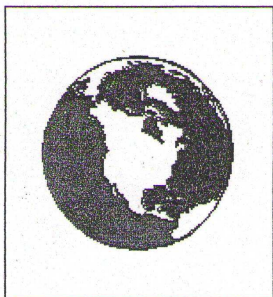
We offer *our* testimony, along with "the relevant public" who wish to testify by signature, if your attorney and the Court will allow it. We know that our efforts will not be in vain, because we are on this planet to testify to the truth as it is in Jesus, who was a Seventh-day Adventist.

Please respond at your convenience, letting us know if and when you desire us to mail you the collected testimony. In the care of the Beloved One, and looking for His soon appearing, I remain

Your Devoted Servant,

Walter "Chick" McGill

Enclosures



"INTO ALL THE WORLD"

FILE COPY

Spring City Remnant Church

of

Creation 7th Day Adventists

Post Office Box 284

Spring City, Tennessee 37381-0284

423-365-7469

Email: crmin@ix.netcom.com

"YAH is Our Righteousness"

February 3, 1997

Pacific Union Conference of SDAs
Alan J. Reinach, Religious Liberty Director
P. O. Box 5005
Westlake Village, CA 91359

Dear Director Reinach,

I was looking forward to receiving mail from you. Today I received and read carefully your letter dated January 24th. I must confess disappointment in your apparently confused state of mind. This letter will be my earnest attempt to show you what appears to be the folly of your reasoning. God forbid that I should be suggesting any manner of ridicule, but that I may mirror your defect sufficiently so as to bring forth "that miracle [for which you] hope and pray."

Your email dated 04 Dec 96, 12:36:34 EST, has as heading: Subject: Re: [Trademark Church Name Crisis: OPEN LETTER...]. In this letter you spend time asking me about my opinions on matters regarding the church "enforcing discipline upon its own members." This question did not (and does not) appear relevant to the trademark question, because of the fact that the Court has ruled that churches can not enjoin the trademark against its own members. You make that clear in your January 24 letter, and I fully agree.

In your letter dated January 24th, you express an objection to my answer, viz., "The fact that you avoided answering directly my question about church discipline indicates to me that you don't understand how that question is related to the trademark litigation." Let me make the observation that you did not *explain* "how that question is related to the trademark litigation" in either ~~your~~ of your letters to me. So if you perceive that I do not understand this, and you have not offered to explain it to me in a concise manner, then what am I to think of your position? What am I to think of your love (or lack of it) for me as a brother in Christ? Let me recapitulate further by presenting a paragraph from my December 17 letter to you. I will emphasize pertinent sections.

In your email you write, "The mark of the beast, in my view, pertains to when religious adherents seek to impose their religious teachings and practices on others not of their own faith. This is far different than a church enforcing discipline upon its own members." The remainder of your letter asks me questions about my positions with respect to church discipline within any

covenanted body. We have pages of inspired writing with respect to how to discipline those within the body of Christ. . . . While the "Roman Catholics" and the "Holy Catholics" were not of the same "faith," they claimed the same religion of Christ— Christianity. So most of the reign of the Papacy [the beast] concerned itself with defining, correcting, and punishing heretics, be they members or non-members of the Roman Catholic Church. On this history most SDAs should agree.

What I see before us are two categories of "believers." Firstly, I see a category which is covenanted to "a body." We can call that "body" "a church." Secondly, I perceive a category outside the fellowship of that "church." The second category could be composed of "independent atoms" or a group of individuals covenanted to a separate "body" or "church." Do you follow me? If we are not in agreement to this point, the remainder of this letter would be wasted. Let me support my concept by Jesus' words.

And if your brother sins, go and reprove him in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother. But if he does not listen to you, take one or two more with you, so that by the mouth of two or three witnesses every fact may be confirmed. And if he refuses to listen to them tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a taxgatherer. . . . Matthew 18:15-17.

Notice carefully the two categories: 1) the group called "the church," and 2) the group labeled as "Gentile" or outside of the church. Since you are professing to be Adventist, it should be permissible for me to use Spirit of Prophecy.

Those church members who appeal to the courts of the world show that they have chosen the world as their judge, and their names are registered in heaven as one with unbelievers. Manuscript 64, 1898.

Here, the two categories are well-defined: 1) church members, and 2) the world(~~unbelievers~~).

Jesus said, "I have given them [the church] Thy word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world." John 17:14.

Now that I have clearly established that Jesus views "the church" and "the world" as being separate entities, I can talk about views on church discipline. None of the policies of the world apply to church discipline. There is gospel order which is given by Christ and the apostles. The worldly courts are not part of this disciplinary process. The church is authorized to hold court and "bind and loose" whatever they deem necessary. Once the church "looses" an individual back into the world, they are then left to the world's system for their source of blessing. The church has no more jurisdiction over them. To emphasize the principle that is to be applied, I cite Ellen White:

A dependence upon professional, worldly lawyers, instead of upon God, is a denial of our faith, and has a weakening influence upon true believers. I have a message: When the church is walking in the path of righteousness, they will not lean on the arm of the law in their business transactions, for this would be appealing to worldly elements, and would dishonor God. Letter B-244, 1906.

I have written largely in regard to Christians who believe the truth placing their cases in courts of law to obtain redress . . . such men may as well stop praying to God, for He will not hear their prayers. 3SM p. 302.

Clearly, Christians have no rightful place in the worldly court system. That means the Church of Christ has no rightful place in such. Consequently, whether an individual is "a member" or "a Gentile," no Christian Church has permission by God to utilize the worldly court system in its disciplinary process.

The above being said and firmly established (whether "persuasive" or not), any church, employing the methods of the worldly system to bring disciplinary action, would be an apostate church at best. But according to the teaching of the Adventist Church fathers, this kind of church is not only apostate, but fallen. Allow me to cite the sources.

When a church in alliance with the state employs the secular power to enforce its doctrines by punishing heretics, it repudiates the essential idea of Christianity. W. W. Prescott (1915).

None but a fallen church will call for the civil power to enforce a tradition upon observers of God's word. *RH* 12-22-91 (G.I.B.).

It has ever been true that a backslidden body—one that has turned from God's Word to men, ^{from} for God's power to the state—was never reformed in itself. Invariably God's message has called out those from the fallen church who would do His will and preach His gospel. *International Sabbath School Lessons* (1896).

The unholy alliance between church and state is the ultimate rejection of God's providential love and is the acceptance of Satan as ruler and provider. John V. Stevens, Sr. (1984).

Let me make one thing crystal clear— "the world," "men," "the state," and "secular power" are synonymous in our present discussion. The policies and traditions of men are of the world and in direct opposition to the law of God.

My question to you now is, "Where do you apply church discipline?" Do you discipline those in your membership AND those outside of your membership? If you say "yes," you do err from the Word of God. You have no jurisdiction over those outside your fold. That is why you would by necessity invoke the State through trademark laws to discipline those outside your fellowship—taking the position that the State has jurisdiction. In this you do err again from the principles of the Word of truth.

What use do you have for the trademark then? By your own admission, members of your church can not be disciplined by use of trademark laws. The homosexual support group case resolved that matter. You are only left to attacking those outside your fellowship, or do you regard those outside your fellowship as being your brothers? If you do regard outsiders as your brothers—

Actually, then, it is already a defeat for you, that you have lawsuits with one another. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be defrauded? On the contrary, you yourselves wrong and defraud, and that your brethren. Or do you not know that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, shall inherit the kingdom of God. 1 Cor. 6:7-10.

Do you say then that those who have separated from your fellowship and established "their own" Seventh-day Adventist church are to be disciplined? Is it because they are really NOT your brethren? How inconsistent! You regard Roman Catholics your brethren in these modern times. At the very least you accept conservative Protestants as brothers. Now, what is the difference with disaffected Seventh-day Adventists? Do you not love them as much as your Catholic and Protestant friends? What about the command to "love your enemies?" Do you not see how the simplicity of the Gospel is lacking here?

I disagree with your statement: "The fact that you avoided answering directly my question about church

1/5/97

FILE COPY 1

Walter E. Carson,
Office of General Counsel
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Col. Pike
Silver Spring, Md. 20904

Dear Walter Carson,

Recently a copy of a letter was shared with me that was written by you on November 6, 1996 and sent to the Rogue Valley Historic Seventh-day Adventist Church. In this letter you requested that they remove their sign, identifying them as Seventh-day Adventists, and that they drop any further reference to Seventh-day Adventist in their communications.

Frankly, I do not understand how you can make such a request! I thought that the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists represented religious liberty! Since the members of Rogue Valley Historic Seventh-day Adventist Church quite apparently consider themselves to be Seventh-day Adventists, shouldn't they have the religious freedom to say that they are? Does the General Conference have the right to say who is and who isn't a Seventh-day Adventist? That right, I believe, belongs to God only! It is a matter of conscience that should be left between these individuals and God.

I have been told that the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists believes that it has this right because of their trademark. If this trademark was obtained for "business purposes", that is one thing. But, to use this trademark to persecute other believers and take away their religious freedom is not Christlike! It should not be done!

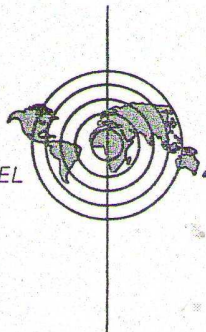
Please pray about this seriously and cease to make this kind of request! Please heed Jesus' response to his disciples in Luke 9:49-50. His disciples told Him of someone who had been casting out demons in Jesus' name, but was not part of their group. Jesus said to them "Forbid him not!". Please, do not forbid others to act in Jesus' name while using the name of Seventh-day Adventist, the name God gave to those who 'keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus', just because they are not part of your "group". They apparently have their own conscientious reasons why they are not part of the General Conference churches.

I plead with you to cease making this type of request, that restricts religious liberty, for Jesus' sake, for your sake, and for the sake of all of God's true people, regardless of what name they believe they should use to represent their faith.

Prayerfully yours,

Barbara McGill
P. O. Box 284
Spring City, Tn. 37381

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL
(301) 680-6320



General Conference of

Seventh-day Adventists

CHURCH WORLD HEADQUARTERS 12501 OLD COLUMBIA PIKE, SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20904 USA
TEL: (301) 690-6000 • TLX: 440186 • FAX: (301) 680-6329 • CBL: ADVENTIST, WASHINGTON

10 January 1997

Barbara McGill
P.O. Box 284
Spring City, TN 37381

Dear Barbara McGill:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter of January 5 expressing concern with the Church's efforts to protect the integrity of its good name. While I think I understand your position, nevertheless, I intend to take such steps as are necessary to prevent the unauthorized use of the name "Seventh-day Adventist."

I ask for your prayers. I shall remember you in my own.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Walter E. Carson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Walter E. Carson

WEC:mw/16JAN97

Walter E. Carson
Office of General Counsel
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring Maryland 20904

Dear Walter Carson,

I have been shown a copy of your letter to the Rogue Valley Historic Seventh-day Adventist Church dated November 6, 1996. In this letter you requested that they abandon the name Seventh-day Adventist and discontinue using this name in any further communications.

Do you not see this request as restricting religious liberty? When, in His earthly ministry, did Jesus restrict anyone from teaching and healing in His name even though He did not agree with them? In Luke 9:49,50 John and the other disciples forbade someone who was casting out demons in Jesus' name. "But Jesus said unto him", verse 50, "Do not forbid him, for he who is not against us is on our side." In other words, "Don't stop him because eventually his fruits will be shown and he will reveal his true character, so he cannot hurt us." Is this the General Conference's attitude about "offshoot movements"? It cannot be because they are persecuting people that "preach in their name". The Conference is depending upon the arm of civil power and not Jesus to uphold their creeds and dictates. As Ben Franklin said in years past, "When a religion is good, I conceive that it will support itself; and when it cannot support itself, and God does not take care to support it, so that it's professors are obliged to call for the help of civil power, it is a sign, I apprehend, of its being a bad one."

The Adventist Church keeps talking about the coming persecution that will test every man and woman. How will they be persecuted if their jobs are protected by law and their "name" is protected by civil powers? Where is their faith in Jesus? They have but one faith and it is in the world and of the world.

Ellen G. White, one of the early founders of the Advent movement says, "No semblance of nearness to God, no assertion of connection with Him, will be accepted from those who persist in dishonoring Him by leaning upon the arm of worldly power. Today God's word to His people is: "Come out from among them and be ye separate, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you...." RH August 4, 1904.

Ellen White also says, "Christ was a Seventh-day Adventist, to all intents and purposes." MM p.49. If Christ so long ago, when the General Conference had never existed, was indeed a Seventh-day Adventist, then this fact puts to shame the trademark law. He was never a member of the General Conference. Says Jesus, "Not every one that says unto Me, 'Lord, Lord' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven." Matt.7:21. Notice, "he who does the WILL OF MY FATHER IN HEAVEN", not he who does the will of the General Conference Association!

Ellen White indicates that those who keep the commandments of God are not to be called Babylon. 2 SM p.68. This would imply that the church which does not keep the commandments is Babylon. The General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists does not keep God's commands. By taking people to court and restricting religious liberty they commit murder against their brethren and do not love their brethren as themselves.

Please heed this warning from God to you.

A servant to you,

Josh Holleyman

Subject: 2nd Request - Important Question

Date: Mon, 20 Jan 1997 15:58:20 -0800

From: "Walter \"Chick\" McGill" <crmin@ix.netcom.com>

Organization: CREATION MINISTRIES

To: IIWTele@aol.com

1-21-97

Dear Pastor Mark Finley,

I know you are a very busy man, but please take the time to read this letter and respond to my very important questions. Thank you for your consideration!

I sent an email a couple of months ago with a question that is very heavy on my heart and mind. I have not received any reply. Please reply ASAP!

Unfortunately, I have lost the copy of the email I sent previously, but I will try to restate my question. Thank you for your prompt answer to this email!

My question has to do with a subject discussed during the Discoveries in Prophecy Seminar. I attended several meetings, which I found very factual. One of them was "The United States in Bible Prophecy". This was very nicely done, but the information presented, which I do believe, is inconsistent with what I see the Gen. Conf. of SDAs doing. Maybe you can explain this to me.

When we believe in religious freedom and that every man is accountable to God alone for his religious opinions, when we believe that a church who uses the state's power to persecute those who believe anything differently than they do, when this action is the same action the beast took, how can the G.C. SDA Church take the kind of action and not be an imitation of or the image of the beast?

The action I am referring to is when the G.C. Corporation takes to court sues other SDA churches, who believe - like Ellen White says - that it is important to keep and uphold the name, Seventh-Day Adventist, but are not part of the G.C. for one reason or another. The way I see it is that the G.C. SDA Church joined with the state in trademarking its name (seeking the state to protect its name instead of trusting to God to protect it). This in itself made an 'image' of the beast. Then when it began using the state's power to persecute (beginning in 1981 suing other SDA churches), the image came to life. The deadly wound was inflicted for awhile while the 'appeal' of the trademark was in process in court. But, it has come back to life again!

The G.C. has begun again, in this country, to approach SDA churches about giving up the name, SDA. (This has been going on abroad during the appeal here in the U.S.)

Is the G.C. SDA Church still the true church? How can it be when it shows itself to be the image of the beast? Rev. 13 warns about the image of the beast.

Jesus also responded differently when His disciples told Him of someone who was casting out demons in Jesus' name, but was not part of them. They wanted this person to cease.

But, Jesus said to them "Leave them alone!" Shouldn't we take the same attitude? Should we not listen to Jesus' instruction and leave others alone who are using the name SDA, but not part of our 'group' and let whether they are SDAs or not be between God and that individual or church? The Bible also has instructions about how to protect one's name - and it isn't by taking others to the courts of law - See Acts 19:13-17 and also 2T page 562.

Please prayerfully consider an answer to this. I know that you are a



OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS Box 5005, Westlake Village, CA 91359 • Telephone: (805) 497-9457 • FAX (805) 495-2644

January 24, 1997

Pastor Walter McGill
Creation Seventh-day Adventist Church
PO Box 284
Spring City, TN 37381-0284

Dear Walter,

Thank you so much for your letter of December 17th, and the enclosures. The enclosures included many materials that I did not yet have access to, and they have been a blessing to me.

Frankly, I find your reasoning less than persuasive. The church surely has many warts--as do all of its members, but I really don't think the trademark litigation is among them. The fact that you avoided answering directly my question about church discipline indicates to me that you don't understand how that question is related to the trademark litigation. You appear to concede that the church does rightfully exercise discipline, but insist that having done so it cannot go further when pastors and members insist on calling themselves a Seventh-day Adventist Church. The irony in the Kinship situation is that the church lacks the kind of autocratic centralized power that it is often accused of wielding. If the church really had the power of a pope, then it could see that all the members of Kinship were disfellowshipped. That would change the legal status of that matter immediately. The only reason the court permitted them to use the name Adventist was because they were, in fact, Seventh-day Adventists. The real issue there was that the church never disciplined them, but then that assumes that all of the members of Kinship are practicing homosexuals. I really don't know if that's true or not. I hope our church does not believe in condemning a homosexual for being one. It is time enough to condemn the act of sin.

In any event, there has been much work done on the issue of separating from the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and many scholars and pastors far wiser than I would have dealt with these issues. I recall a wonderful sermon that Robert Wieland preached at one of the yearly Firm Foundation conferences sponsored by Heartland College in Hendersonville, North Carolina. He raised the question whether any subsequent movement that might arise claiming to be pure would not succumb to the same spiritual declension in subsequent generations. History shows that this happens to every religious movement--no matter how sincere its desire for reform, no matter how much evidence of God's leading. The miracle, Elder Wieland proclaimed, is not that the Adventist church is Laodicea. The miracle is that God will yet heal Laodicea. It is for that miracle that I hope and pray, both in my own heart, and in yours, and in the hearts of leadership and laity alike.

In His Service,

Alan J. Reinach

Alan J. Reinach, Esq., Director
Public Affairs & Religious Liberty

AJR/jn

Subject: Church name controversy

Date: 12 Feb 97 16:59:05 EST

From: Howard Welklin <74617.3573@CompuServe.COM>

To: Barbara Isenburg <crmin@ix.netcom.com>

Hello, Barbara --

I'm sorry that Mark is unable to respond to your message at this time. He operates on a hectic schedule and is called away from the office much of the time for speaking appointments, committee meetings, along with production schedules. Thus, he depends on his staff to care for many items. That's why I'm sending this message to you--in his place. I'm sure you will be understanding.

Here at the IT IS WRITTEN office, we are not conversant with the issue at Rogue River, Oregon. This is a legal matter that is handled in Washington, D.C., and to this date, we have not had opportunity to become acquainted with the ramifications. I'm sure there are sincere individuals who take opposing sides on this.

Since this is not in our area of expertise, I suggest that you contact the Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department of the General Conference. The director is John Graz and the Associate Director is Wintley A. Phipps. These brethren would know about these matters first hand.

When I saw your address as being Spring City, Tennessee, it brought back memories of my pastorate there back in the early 1950's. I held an evangelistic tent meeting right in the center of town one summer, along with pastoring 6 churches in the area.

May the dear Lord bless you abundantly.

Howard Welklin
Assistant to Mark Finley
IT IS WRITTEN TELEVISION

Joshua K. Holleyman
2704 W. Waver Street
Plant City, Florida 33567-4655

*"...more than conquerors through Him that
loved us." Romans 8:37*

"No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but YAH is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it." 1Corinthians 10:13

January 23, 1997

FILE COPY

Walter E. Carson
Office of General Counsel
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring Maryland 20904

Dear Walter Carson,

I have been shown a copy of your letter to the Rogue Valley Historic Seventh-day Adventist Church dated November 6, 1996. In this letter you requested that they abandon the name Seventh-day Adventist and discontinue using this name in any further communications.

Do you not see this request as restricting religious liberty? When, in His earthly ministry, did Jesus restrict anyone from teaching and healing in His name even though He did not agree with them? In Luke 9:49,50 John and the other disciples forbade someone who was casting out demons in Jesus' name. "But Jesus said unto him", verse 50, "Do not forbid him, for he who is not against us is on our side." In other words, "Don't stop him because eventually his fruits will be shown and he will reveal his true character, so he cannot hurt us." Is this the General Conference's attitude about "offshoot movements"? It cannot be because they are persecuting people that "preach in their name". The Conference is depending upon the arm of civil power and not Jesus to uphold their creeds and dictates. As Ben Franklin said in years past, "When a religion is good, I conceive that it will support itself; and when it cannot support itself, and God does not take care to support it, so that it's professors are obliged to call for the help of civil power, it is a sign, I apprehend, of its being a bad one."

The Adventist Church keeps talking about the coming persecution that will test every man and woman. How will they be persecuted if their jobs are protected by law and their "name" is protected by civil powers? Where is their faith in Jesus? They have but one faith and it is in the world and of the world.

Ellen G. White, one of the early founders of the Advent movement says, "No semblance of nearness to God, no assertion of connection with Him, will be accepted from those who persist in dishonoring Him by leaning upon the arm of worldly power. Today God's word to His people is: "Come out from among them and be ye separate, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you...." RH August 4, 1904.

Ellen White also says, "Christ was a Seventh-day Adventist, to all intents and purposes." MM p.49. If Christ so long ago, when the General Conference had never existed, was indeed a Seventh-day Adventist, then this fact puts to shame the trademark law. He was never a member of the General Conference. Says Jesus, "Not every one that says unto Me, 'Lord, Lord' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven." Matt.7:21. Notice, "he who does the WILL OF MY FATHER IN HEAVEN", not he who does the will of the General Conference Association!

Joshua Holleyman to
Walter E. Carson

January 23, 1997
page 02

FILE COPY

Ellen White indicates that those who keep the commandments of God are not to be called Babylon. 2 SM p.68. This would imply that the church which does not keep the commandments is Babylon. The General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists does not keep God's commands. By taking people to court and restricting religious liberty they commit murder against their brethren and do not love their brethren as themselves.

Please heed this warning from God to you.

A servant to you,

Josh Holleyman

1/28/97

FILE COPY

Walter E. Carson
Office of General Counsel
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Springs, Maryland 20904

Dear Walter Carson,

I received your letter yesterday which was dated 1/10/97. Thank you for your quick response.

I have a question concerning your letter. You said, "While I think I understand your position, nevertheless I intend to take such steps as are necessary to prevent the unauthorized use of the name 'Seventh-day Adventist.'" Do you mean that you understand the points I was wanting to get across to you, but are going to ignore them and go against what you know is right? I would certainly hope this is not the case. (I'm sure that we both know the eternal fate of all who take that route.)

Or did you mean that you think you understand where I am coming from with my point of view, but you disagree with it? Do you disagree with what Jesus told his disciples in Luke 9 concerning others using His name that were not part of His group - and do you disagree with the cause of religious liberty?

Or did you mean something else altogether?

Please explain so that I will not have this question in my mind and be tempted to think something that may not be true. Thank you ahead of time for your response..

Sincerely yours,

Barbara McGill



"INTO ALL THE WORLD"

FILE CUI.

Spring City Remnant Church
of
Creation 7th Day Adventists

Post Office Box 284
Spring City, Tennessee 37381-0284
423-365-7469

Email: crmin@ix.netcom.com

"YAH is Our Righteousness"

January 30, 1997

Walter E. Carson
Office of General Counsel
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20904

Dear Brother Carson,

I imagine you have received various kinds of mail regarding the recent developments surrounding the "trademarked church name" SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST.

Having read some of the letters drafted from our members to you, I have been compelled to appeal to your better reason myself. What is it you expect to accomplish by prosecuting Christians over your "trade name?" Do you really think this method will "protect the good name of the church?" Did it work against the homosexual support group? Then how do you expect it to make a difference among those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus? Do you not realize that some who you prosecute will rather die than give up the heritage of their faith? Do you not realize that some who you prosecute are fine, well-ordered, and law-abiding Christians? Do you not realize what you are setting about to do? Dear Brother, if you roll a stone up a mountain, it is sure to roll back and crush you under its weight. The conscience of man is dear to our Heavenly Father. Surely, all who oppress the consciences of the least of these little ones will receive the seven last plagues. Do you not consider these consequences?

In this, my initial plea to you, I shall spare you the Biblical exposition that I have prepared for others upon their request. But, you must seriously consider the warning of the third angel while taking part, or shall we say, leading out in this inquisition. I invite you to read my open letter to you and the remainder of the SDA family. It is found on the web by going to URL: www.netcom.com/~crmin/csdachurch/caution.html. Should you take time to follow the links, you will become intelligently informed as to present truth concerning the "trademarked church name."

I am deeply interested in your soul's salvation. I fear that should you not take heed to the voice crying in the wilderness, your day of grace will pass you by. While in prayer for you, I remain

Your Devoted Servant,

Walter "Chick" McGill
Pastor, The Creation 7th Day Adventist Church

Feb. 1, 1997

Walter E. Carson
Office of General Counsel
General Conference Of Seventh-day Adv.
12501 Old Col. Pike
Silver Spring, Md. 20904

Mr Carson:

I have recently read your letter that you wrote to the Rogue Valley Seventh-day Adventist Church dated November 6, 1996. Sir I guess I am confused to what you are implying here in this letter. You are stating that these fellow Brothers and Sisters in christ CAN-NOT use the name Seventh-day Adventist on their Church. Wasn't that what Mrs. White said that Christ (YAHSHUA) "Was in all intents and purposes" "A 7th Day Adventest" MMp.49. Mr Carson I've been a 7th Day Adventist for 20+ years now and this type of ACTION that you are taking on this body of Christ makes me very SAD to think that the time has now come that people like YOU WILL be coming to ME someday & telling me I can no longer be orcall myself A 7th Day Adventist. My Brother(YAHSHUA) said in Rev.3:21 To HIM that overcometh will I grant to sit with ME(YAHSHUA) in MY throne, Even as I(YAHSHUA) Overcame, and am set down with MY Father (YAHWAH) in His throne. Rev.3:20 says " Behold I stand at the door, and Knock; IF any Man hear MY(YAHSHUA'S) Voice, and open the door, I WILL come in to HIM, and WILL sup with Him, and HE WITH ME. "PLEASE" Mr Carson OPEN the door of YOUR HEART and let HIM(YAHSHUA) come in. Do not harden Your Heart--TODAY is the day of SALVATION. "LISTEN" Who is it that is calling YOU? Rev.3:19 Says "As many as I LOVE, I Rebuke and Chasten: be Zealous therfore, and "REPENT." Please do as our saviour has said and "GO AND SIN NO MORE!" I would like to share another verse with you if I may. Rev.3:8 says "I(YAHSHUA) know thy works: Behold I(YAHSHUA) have set before thee an open door, and NO MAN CAN SHUT IT: for thou hast a little strenght, and Hast Kept My Word, and Hast Not Denied My Name. He was a 7th Day Adventist- and HE taught in the Synagogues as a CHILD and the Teac- hers were AMAZED. Mr Carson if you are stating what I think you are to this church body then you leave me with the thought that you are asking people to do what it says in Rev.13:15-17. You are saying to everyone that claims to be a TRUE 7th Day Adventist and expresses it and display's it, that both small, and great, Rich and poor, freeand bond, to Recieve a MARK in their right hand, or in their foreheads-Save he that had the MARK or the NAME of the BEAST. You want people like ME to WORSHIP you and your Conference.(YAH FORBID) You mean people have to abide by YOUR RULES and LAWS, Instead of the FATHERS. I would have to say to you Mr Carson and your staff that the HOUR OF JUDGEMENT has come to you, and I suggest th- at you and your staff DO as Rev.18:4 says "And I heard another voice from HEAVEN, saying "Come out of her, MY PEOPLE, that YE be NOT PARTAKERS of her SINS, and that YE recieve not of her plaques. Mr Carson it seems like I'm taking this personal by what I have brought to you, I HAVE. I am a 7 th Day Adventist and I will by NO means give up the NAME MY FARTHER in HEAVEN gave ME to DISPLAY. You ask the Rogue Valley Historic Seventh-day Adventist Church to QUIT COMMUCATING. In Matt.25:40(YAHSHUA) Says "To the extent that you did it to one of these BROTHERS of MINE...YOU did it to ME (YAHSHUA). You said Quote "I am sure you do not want to INTENTIONALLY Violate Applicable LAW" What about YAH'S LAW, thats state's in Exodus 20: 3-5 "THOU shalt have NO OTHER GODS before ME.. Thou shalt NOT make unto thee ANY GRAVEN IMAGE or ANY LIKENESS of ANYTHING that is in Heaven ab- ove, or that is in the EARTH beneath, or that is in the water under the

earth: THOU SHALT NOT BOW DOWN THYSELF TO THEM, NOR SERVE THEM: For I YAHWAH THY GOD am a Jealous GOD, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate ME. You and your staff sound like(THEM) that we and they are warned about bowing down to. I have moved quickly-very "Quickly" and done what the angel has told me and "CAME OUT OF HER" Sister White states "It is not the (TRUE) church that makes WAR with those who "KEEP the COMMANDMENTS of YAH and have the FAITH of YAHSHUA." I URGE YOU to "REPENT." Rev.23:2 states THOU (MR CARSON) Shalt NOT FOLLOW A MULTITUDE TO DO "EVIL." Neither shalt thou(SPEAK) in a cause to decline after many to wrest "JUDGEMENT." YAHSHUA says in John 15:17- These things I COMMAND YOU (Mr Carson) that ye "LOVE" ONE ANOTHER." 1John4:20- says "If a man say I love god, and hathet his brother, HE is a LIAR. and verse 18 says There is no FEAR in LOVE, (AGAPE) but "PERFECT" LOVE CASTETH OUT FEAR: because fear hath TORMENT. He that feareth is NOT made PERFECT in LOVE. (What are YOU and the GENERAL CONFERENCE AFRAID OF?

BEHOLD what MANNER of LOVE the FATHER(YAH)
HATH bestowed upon US (7th DAY ADVENTIST)
should be called the SONS of YAH.

I have not written unto YOU because ye know not of the "TRUTH;" BUT because YE KNOW IT, and that NO LIE is of the TRUTH." 1 John2:21.

FOR THIS CAUSE I BOW MY KNEES UNTO(YAH) THE
FATHER OF OUR LORD YAHSHUA THE MESSIAH. EPH:
3:14-I WILL PRAY FOR YOU. Util we all come in
the unity of the FAITH of YAH.(AMEN)

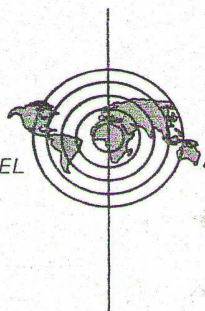
Always in the service of YAHSHUA MY SAVIOR:

WILLIAM M. MARTIN
1512 ARKANSAS Rd.
WILLIAMSBURG, KS.
66095

William M. Martin

P.S. BEHOLD I COME QUICKLY:

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL
(301) 680-6320



General Conference of

Seventh-day Adventists

CHURCH WORLD HEADQUARTERS 12501 OLD COLUMBIA PIKE, SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20904 USA
TEL: (301) 680-6000 • TLX: 440186 • FAX: (301) 680-6329 • CBL: ADVENTIST, WASHINGTON

3 February 1997

Barbara McGill
P.O. Box 284
Spring City, TN 37381

Dear Ms. McGill:

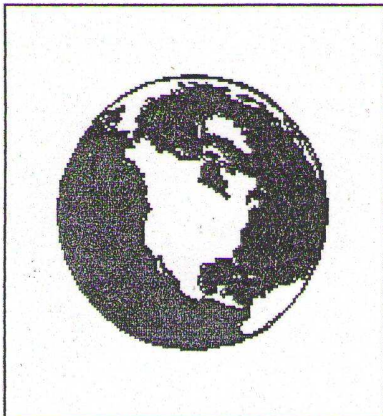
I am in receipt of your January 28 letter and hasten to reply. In response to your question, please know that I think I understand where you are coming from, but I disagree with your point of view. I support religious liberty and agree with what Jesus told His disciples. My position, in both regards, is fully consistent with my efforts on behalf of all members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church: the integrity of their Church's name.

Thank you for your continuing interest in this important matter. With every good wish, I remain

Very truly yours,

Walter E. Carson

WEC:mw/04FEB97



"INTO ALL THE WORLD"

FILE COPY

Spring City Remnant Church
of
Creation 7th Day Adventists

Post Office Box 284
Spring City, Tennessee 37381-0284
423-365-7469

Email: crmin@ix.netcom.com

"YAH is Our Righteousness"

February 3, 1997

Pacific Union Conference of SDAs
Alan J. Reinach, Religious Liberty Director
P. O. Box 5005
Westlake Village, CA 91359

Dear Director Reinach,

I was looking forward to receiving mail from you. Today I received and read carefully your letter dated January 24th. I must confess disappointment in your apparently confused state of mind. This letter will be my earnest attempt to show you what appears to be the folly of your reasoning. God forbid that I should be suggesting any manner of ridicule, but that I may mirror your defect sufficiently so as to bring forth "that miracle [for which you] hope and pray."

Your email dated 04 Dec 96, 12:36:34 EST, has as heading: Subject: Re: [Trademark Church Name Crisis: OPEN LETTER...]. In this letter you spend time asking me about my opinions on matters regarding the church "enforcing discipline upon its own members." This question did not (and does not) appear relevant to the trademark question, because of the fact that the Court has ruled that churches can not enjoin the trademark against its own members. You make that clear in your January 24 letter, and I fully agree.

In your letter dated January 24th, you express an objection to my answer, viz., "The fact that you avoided answering directly my question about church discipline indicates to me that you don't understand how that question is related to the trademark litigation." Let me make the observation that you did not *explain* "how that question is related to the trademark litigation" in either ~~your~~ of your letters to me. So if you perceive that I do not understand this, and you have not offered to explain it to me in a concise manner, then what am I to think of your position? What am I to think of your love (or lack of it) for me as a brother in Christ? Let me recapitulate further by presenting a paragraph from my December 17 letter to you. I will emphasize pertinent sections.

In your email you write, "The mark of the beast, in my view, pertains to when religious adherents seek to impose their religious teachings and practices on others not of their own faith. This is far different than a church enforcing discipline upon its own members." The remainder of your letter asks me questions about my positions with respect to church discipline within any

covenanted body. We have pages of inspired writing with respect to how to discipline those within the body of Christ. . . . While the "Roman Catholics" and the "Holy Catholics" were not of the same "faith," they claimed the same religion of Christ— Christianity. So most of the reign of the Papacy [the beast] concerned itself with defining, correcting, and punishing heretics, be they members or non-members of the Roman Catholic Church. On this history most SDAs should agree.

What I see before us are two categories of "believers." Firstly, I see a category which is covenanted to "a body." We can call that "body" "a church." Secondly, I perceive a category outside the fellowship of that "church." The second category could be composed of "independent atoms" or a group of individuals covenanted to a separate "body" or "church." Do you follow me? If we are not in agreement to this point, the remainder of this letter would be wasted. Let me support my concept by Jesus' words.

And if your brother sins, go and reprove him in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother. But if he does not listen to you, take one or two more with you, so that by the mouth of two or three witnesses every fact may be confirmed. And if he refuses to listen to them tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a taxgatherer. . . . Matthew 18:15-17.

Notice carefully the two categories: 1) the group called "the church," and 2) the group labeled as "Gentile" or outside of the church. Since you are professing to be Adventist, it should be permissible for me to use Spirit of Prophecy.

Those church members who appeal to the courts of the world show that they have chosen the world as their judge, and their names are registered in heaven as one with unbelievers. Manuscript 64, 1898.

Here, the two categories are well-defined: 1) church members, and 2) the world(~~unbelievers~~).

Jesus said, "I have given them [the church] Thy word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world." John 17:14.

Now that I have clearly established that Jesus views "the church" and "the world" as being separate entities, I can talk about views on church discipline. None of the policies of the world apply to church discipline. There is gospel order which is given by Christ and the apostles. The worldly courts are not part of this disciplinary process. The church is authorized to hold court and "bind and loose" whatever they deem necessary. Once the church "looses" an individual back into the world, they are then left to the world's system for their source of blessing. The church has no more jurisdiction over them. To emphasize the principle that is to be applied, I cite Ellen White:

A dependence upon professional, worldly lawyers, instead of upon God, is a denial of our faith, and has a weakening influence upon true believers. I have a message: When the church is walking in the path of righteousness, they will not lean on the arm of the law in their business transactions, for this would be appealing to worldly elements, and would dishonor God. Letter B-244, 1906.

I have written largely in regard to Christians who believe the truth placing their cases in courts of law to obtain redress . . . such men may as well stop praying to God, for He will not hear their prayers. 3SM p. 302.

This is far different than a church enforcing discipline upon its own members." The remainder of your letter asks me questions about my positions with respect to church discipline within any covenanted body. We have pages of inspired writing with respect to how to discipline those within the body of Christ. And please do not be deceived by a name. The Roman Catholic Church is Christian in *name only*, though, they claim to have "apostolic succession." Before this religion became "Roman," it was the Holy Catholic Christian Church, which was God's denominated people for that era. The "mark" [name or character] of "the beast" was "Roman." That is, the pagan Romish ideas corrupted the purity of the Holy Catholic Christian Church. When "the dragon" gained power sufficiently, heretics could be defined and persecuted for their various "errors." While the "Roman Catholics" and the "Holy Catholics" were not of the same "faith," they claimed the same religion of Christ—Christianity. So most of the reign of the Papacy [the beast] concerned itself with defining, correcting, and punishing heretics, be they members or non-members of the Roman Catholic Church. On this history most SDAs should agree.

What is *your* definition of a Seventh-day Adventist Christian?

1) ***Must he believe in "the 27 fundamentals?"*** If so, you have established a man-made test by a church creed. "God will send us direct and practical tests, to teach us, if we will be taught, the benefits of faith. He has no use for man-made tests. The tests that He has given are sufficient." *Pacific Union Recorder*, 10-20-04. "A mere creed, tho every jot and tittle of it may be sound, is not enough to restore in man the moral image of God. An ancestral faith, however tenaciously held, can not correct the evils of the natural heart. It is the willing mind, the earnest spirit, the hearty, self-denying efforts, imbued with love to God and man, which bring results approved by God. The whole heart must be given to God, else we shall fail to love Him supremely, and then, necessarily, we shall fail to love our neighbor as ourselves. We can not obey the law unless it is written on the heart. Only the truth as it is in Jesus can illuminate the soul, enabling us to do good and only good to those with whom we are associated." ST 09-12-00. "The prayer of Christ to His Father, contained in the seventeenth chapter of John, is to be our church creed." 3SM 21. "When God's Word is studied, comprehended, and obeyed, a bright light will be reflected to the world; new truths, received and acted upon, will bind us in strong bonds to Jesus. The Bible, and the Bible alone, is to be our creed, the sole bond of union; all who bow to this Holy Word will be in harmony. Our own views and ideas must not control our efforts. Man is fallible, but God's Word is infallible. Instead of wrangling with one another, let men exalt the Lord. Let us meet all opposition as did our Master, saying, 'It is written.' Let us lift up the banner on which is inscribed, The Bible our rule of faith and discipline." *Review and Herald*, Dec. 15, 1885.

2) ***Must he belong to the organized body of General Conference SDA Churches?***

This cannot be an appropriate definition because the co-founder of the SDA Church wrote, "Christ was a Seventh-day Adventist, to all intents and purposes." MM 49. Obviously, Christ was never a member on the GC Church rolls. This amounts to another "man-made test."

3) ***Must he bear the name "Seventh-day Adventist?"*** This is not a "trick question," though, in reality, it has the possibility of two answers, both "NO" and "YES." The U.S. courts [which have no jurisdiction in God's estimation] have ruled "NO, he cannot, unless he is a member of the GC Churches." (my paraphrase). This would agree with the concept of Christ's being a "Seventh-day Adventist" without ever having employed the name. But the *NAME* did not exist in Christ's day—He had no opportunity to bear the name. The answer is "NO" in the same sense that William Miller did not have to keep the Sabbath to be a Christian and inherit eternal life.

However, what about conscience's sake? When one becomes convicted of becoming a "Seventh-day Adventist," and the conscience demands one to bear that name, what then?—the answer is "YES, and decidedly, YES!—He must bear that name at the peril of his soul."

This man of conscience is bound by certain statements:

"We are Seventh-day Adventists . . . It is the name the Lord has given us."

Letter 110, 1902.

"We are Seventh-day Adventists, and of this name we are never to be ashamed."

Letter 106, 1903.

"I have been shown that this name means much, and in adopting it we have followed the light given us from heaven . . . This distinctive banner is to be borne through the world to the close of probation." Ms 15, 1896.

"No name which we can take will be appropriate but that which accords with our profession and expresses our faith and **MARKS** us a peculiar people. The name Seventh-day Adventist is a standing rebuke to the Protestant world. Here is the line of distinction between the worshipers of God and those who worship the beast and receive **HIS MARK**." 1T 223. (emphases mine).

Sadly, you and I are not of the same "fold," even though we claim the same religion, or at least, the same name. I do not believe in what your "fold" does [taking Christians to court, etc.]. It violates my conscience to support with membership, time, or money your "fold." I am bound by conscience to remain separate from your "fold." But I embrace the truth of "Adventism." I am a "Seventh-day Adventist" in the same sense that the Holy Catholics were "Christians." But, just as the Roman Catholics did not allow them to be called by that name because of their so-called "heresy," the "trademarked church" does not want me, and others like me, to be called by the name "Seventh-day Adventist."

The Bible gives many definitions of a Seventh-day Adventist. Let us review several:

Rev. 14:12: "Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus."

Rev. 12:17: "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."

Isa. 58:12: "And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in."

Jer. 33:16 "In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely: and this is the name wherewith she shall be called, The LORD our righteousness." "Before man can find a home in the church, before passing the threshold of God's spiritual kingdom, he is to receive the **IMPRESS** of the divine name, 'The Lord our righteousness.' Jer. 23:6." *Evangelism*, p. 307. (emphasis mine). Notice here that *charagma*, the Greek word for "mark" in Rev. 13: 16, 17, etc., "denotes a stamp, impress" *Vine's Expository Dictionary of N. T. Words*, page 42. The final generation of Seventh-day Adventists are to be "sealed," "marked," "stamped," or "impressed" with "His name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads." Rev. 14:1 (NASB).

If God's people are to be "stamped" with the name of the Father and the Son, with what are Satan's people "stamped?" Sunday observance? No, Ellen White encouraged us to observe Sunday as a missionary day—even allowing for worship services. (references produced upon request). But, the "mark" must have to do with "the Sabbath question," and it must be the antithesis of the "seal of God." Consider Rev. 13:17 from *The Jerusalem Bible*: ". . . and made it illegal for anyone to buy or sell anything unless he had been *branded* with the name of the beast or with the number of its name." (italics mine). Looking up the root word "*brand*" in the dictionaries reveals interesting results. The following illustrates three from my library:

(#1) "2. a mark burned on the skin with a hot iron, formerly used to punish and identify criminals, now used on cattle to show ownership . . . 4. a mark of disgrace; stigma 5. a) an identifying mark or label on the products of a particular company; trademark b) the kind or make of a commodity c) a special kind or variety . . ." *Webster's New World Dictionary*, Second College Edition, 1974.

(#2) "2 A trade-mark. 3 A certain make of anything. 4 An identifying mark burned in, as, the *brand* of the ranch was Cross and Star. . . .

"vt. To put a trade-mark on; to mark with a hot iron, as range cattle; to mark, as, to *brand* one as a traitor." *Webster's New American Dictionary*, 1939.

(#3) "1. A distinctive name or trademark identifying the product of a manufacturer. 2. The kind or make of a product: a good *brand* of coffee. 3. A mark made with a hot iron, as on cattle, to indicate ownership. 4. Formerly, a mark burned on criminals. . . ." *Funk & Wagnalls Standard Encyclopedic Dictionary*, 1972.

Let me substitute into the Bible text what is possible from the above definitions and add a brief commentary. I'll call this *Rev. 13:17 in modern English by McGill*: "and made it illegal for anyone to buy or sell [the Seventh-day Adventist faith] unless he had [the registered trademark] with the name of the [SDA Corporation] or with the number of its name." Of course, the number is a "human number" bearing out the "engraving" [see Acts 17:29, "*charagma*"] of a natural man (666—imperfect mental, imperfect physical, and imperfect spiritual). The "Lamb" built His Church upon a solid Rock—Himself, that is, His character written in lasting stone by the very finger of God, and promising to give a "new heart of flesh" preprogrammed with His character. The "dragon" builds his church on the "graven image of the beast," or himself. It is written upon the selfish "stony heart" by the very hand of Satan and enforced by carnal man's law, being derived from "the mind set on the flesh . . ." Satan desires to "make for [himself] a name" (see Gen. 11:4) which no one else might have without bowing to his dominance (oppression and selfishness). The Lamb of God, who has "a name above every name," became sin for the world that all who believe on the name of the Son of God may freely partake of "His divine name." When the unconverted disciples would "forbid non-members" from the use of Christ's name in their ministry, "the Lamb" said, "Do not hinder him . . ." Mark 9:39.

So, how does all this pertain to "the Sabbath question?" Yes, this is an important question—it must be answered! What is the Sabbath? It is the *Creation 7th Day*. What is the *Creation 7th Day*? It is the "seal of God." It is the proof of God's "goodness which brings us to repentance." It is that first full day that the Creator spent with His newly-created family—the crown of His creation.. It was the sign of God's ultimate gift of life and sanctification to the human couple—a memorial of His Almighty power and willingness to supply everything man would ever need. That first Sabbath was a symbol of the Creator's supreme and everlasting love and care for His precious children. *The Creation 7th Day* was YAH's bond of trust with His creation—eternal unity. This was the memorial of creation in a world without sin. Following the entrance of sin, Christ came to restore in man the perfect image of God which was lost in Eden. He sought to bring man back to the "bond of trust" experienced on the *Creation 7th Day*. Those who "keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ" know what it is to trust their Creator for all mental, physical, and spiritual needs. They have no reason to resort to "the traditions of men" for any of their provisions. They have a "mighty tower," "a refuge in time of need," a "faithful High Priest." Hence, there is a day that symbolizes to them the "new-birth" experience of complete "rest in Christ" called "the Sabbath of the Lord thy God"—*The Creation 7th Day*. Every time we "remember" it, we know that "all things work together for good, to those who love God, to the ones called according to His purpose"—that is, trusting Him fully and "rejoicing in all things." I pray that you are a *Creation 7th Day*

Adventist. The "impress of the divine name" is the "seal of God," represented by the Sabbath. Those who accept this "divine stamp" will trust the Father for salvation and all temporal protection.

If you insist on "protecting your good name" by the "strong arm" of civil powers, may I share some inspired wisdom from the pen of God's servants? Here is an example of how God would have you overcome a tarnished name.

I do not consider your case hopeless; if I did, my pen would not be tracing these lines. In the strength of God you can redeem the past. Your name is already a byword in ____; but you can change this by using the powers which God has given you. You may even now gain a moral excellence so that your name may be associated with things pure and holy. You can be elevated. God has provided for you the necessary helps. He has invited you to come to Him, and has promised to bear your burdens and give you rest of soul. "Learn of Me," says the divine Teacher, "for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls." 21 562.

Consider an example of how to *preserve* a holy name.

"Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth. And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so. And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye? And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. And this was known to all the Jews and Greeks also dwelling at Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified." Acts 19:13-17.

Here, the holy name of Jesus was being misused by "vagabond Jews." The apostles did not do anything but leave them to their own destruction. "The law of the Lord is perfect." "Whatsoever a man sows, that shall he also reap." "Do not hinder them."

This Scripture shows how a name is blasphemed.

But if you bear the name "[SDA]," and rely upon the Law, and boast in God, and know His will, and approve the things that are essential, being instructed out of the Law, and are confident that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness, a corrector of the foolish, a teacher of the immature, having in the Law the embodiment of knowledge and of the truth, you, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach that one should not steal, do you steal? You who say that one should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? You who boast in the Law, through your breaking the Law, do you dishonor God? For **"THE NAME OF GOD IS BLASPHEMED AMONG THE GENTILES BECAUSE OF YOU,"** just as it is written. For indeed circumcision is of value, if you practice the Law; but if you are a transgressor of the Law, your circumcision has become uncircumcision. If therefore the uncircumcised man keeps the requirements of the Law, will not his uncircumcision be regarded as circumcision? And will not he who is physically uncircumcised, if he keeps the Law, will he not judge you who though having the letter of the Law and circumcision are a transgressor of the Law? For he is not a [SDA] who is one outwardly; neither is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh. But he is a [SDA] who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that which is of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter; and *his praise is not from men, but from God.* Romans 2:17-29 (NASB).

Must I say more? Let Jesus say it.

"I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the *blasphemy* of them which say they are [SDAs], and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan." Rev. 2:9. "Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are [SDAs], and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee." Rev. 3:9. "Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name? and in Thy name have cast out devils? and in Thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from Me, ye that work iniquity." Matt. 7:22, 23.

Let Jamies say it. James 2:6, 7 (NASB):

"But you have dishonored the poor man. Is it not the rich who oppress you and *personally drag you into court*? Do they not blaspheme the fair name by which you have been called?"

My last example is a Scriptural answer to give when the name your conscience requires you to use is forbidden by man:

"And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered and said unto them, *Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye*. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard. Acts 4:18-20.

In the final analysis, the General Conference and its supporters claim that their corporation's trademark is necessary to "protect their good image." But the loss in civil court to the homosexual support group, *SDA Kinship International*, proves that supposition to be false. If God had been leading them, the battle would have been won by the GC. But God allowed his name to be "tarnished," hoping to bring revival and reformation to His people— sadly, they refused to be healed. The General Conference continued to pursue trademark protection with "carnal weapons" abroad in 1995-96. "He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints." Rev. 13:10. The only "image" which is protected in civil courts is "the image of the beast."

I have enclosed various materials for you to read if you are so inclined— your salvation may inevitably depend on it. These are some of the hand-outs and tracts/booklets that we use in our seminars. We fully realize that "The message will be carried not so much by argument as by the deep conviction of the Spirit of God. . . . [then] The rays of light [will] penetrate everywhere, the truth [shall be] seen in its clearness, and the honest children of God [shall] sever the bands which have held them." FLB 332.

Please do not mistake this brief letter as an exhaustive treatise on the "trademark of the beast." I have never developed the subject in quite this manner before, and I do welcome further questions and hope to keep an open dialogue with you. May the Spirit of the living God be poured upon you in latter rain power, as I remain

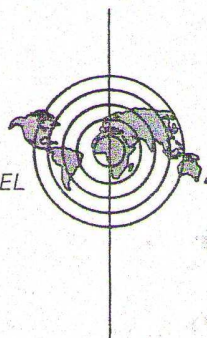
Your Deyoted Servant,



Walter "Chick" McGill
Pastor, Creation 7th Day Adventist Church

Enclosures

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL
(301) 680-6320



General Conference of

Seventh-day Adventists

CHURCH WORLD HEADQUARTERS 12501 OLD COLUMBIA PIKE, SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20904 USA
TEL: (301) 680-6000 • TLX: 440186 • FAX: (301) 680-6329 • CBL: ADVENTIST, WASHINGTON

4 February 1997

Pastor Walter McGill
Creation 7th Day Adventists
P.O. Box 284
Spring City, TN 37381

Dear Pastor McGill:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning use of the name Seventh-day Adventist. I intend to read your open letter if I can find it on the Internet. I appreciate your prayers and, in fact, welcome them.

Perhaps you can answer a few questions for me. Have you ever been a member or had previous association with the Seventh-day Adventist Church? Why does your Church include "7th Day Adventists" in its name? What is significant, if anything, about your Church's name? Does your Church seek new members? Would you care if another church was organized in Spring City, perhaps with former members from your Church and called itself the Historic Spring City Remnant Church of Creation 7th Day Adventists? What if this new church had a leader like David Korèsh? I would genuinely value your responses to these questions.

As I continue to study this matter, your input will be appreciated and carefully considered. I ultimately look to our Heavenly Father for guidance. His will be done.

Very truly yours,

Walter E. Carson

WEC:mw

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL
(301) 680-6320



General Conference of

Seventh-day Adventists

CHURCH WORLD HEADQUARTERS 12501 OLD COLUMBIA PIKE, SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20904 USA
TEL: (301) 680-6000 • TLX: 440186 • FAX: (301) 680-6329 • CBL: ADVENTIST, WASHINGTON

10 February 1997

William M. Martin
1512 Arkansas Road
Williamsburg, KS 66095


Dear Mr. Martin:

Thank you very much for your February 1 letter. I appreciated the time taken to share your thoughts with me on this important matter.

I am grateful for your prayers. As I pursue on behalf of all members efforts to protect the integrity of the Church's name, it is my wish that God's will be done.

With best personal wishes to you, I remain

Very truly yours,



Walter E. Carson

WEC:mw/11FEB97



"INTO ALL THE WORLD"

Spring City Remnant Church of Creation 7th Day Adventists

Post Office Box 284
Spring City, Tennessee 37381-0284
423-365-7469

Email: crmin@ix.netcom.com

"YAH is Our Righteousness"

February 11, 1997

FILE COPY

Walter E. Carson
Office of General Counsel
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20904

Dear Officer Carson,

I was pleased to receive such a prompt response to my letter dated January 30th. Having read your February 4 letter very carefully, and having prayed for wisdom from our Heavenly Father (and received it as per James 1:5), I am prepared to respond to your every question. By the way, all of your questions can be answered also by visiting the web sites listed at www.htmlcreator.com/freepages/sda-church/LINKS-1.html.

While I respect your religious liberty to believe, worship, and propagate your religion as you freely choose, I regard your religion, and consequently your church, to be Christian in *name only*. W. W. Prescott writes the following:

Carnal weapons cannot be used to any advantage in a spiritual warfare: When Peter cut off the ear of the high priest's servant, Christ rebuked him and healed the wound. When a church in alliance with the state employs the secular power to enforce its doctrines by punishing heretics, it repudiates the essential idea of Christianity. *The Protestant Magazine*, Nov. 1915, p. 517.

This fact may shock you, but allow me to explain. *Competition* is the invention of Satan. He instigated competitive strife in seeking to usurp both the authority and position of the Son of God. What was God's response to this *competitive* spirit? Did he *forbid* Satan to propagate *his* religion? No! And when Satan saw that he must employ God's *name* to succeed, did God invoke some higher law and forbid Satan to operate under his crafty *deception*? Well enough—do we take a prerogative that God, Himself, would not exercise? "By their fruits you... know them."

Specifically, *the concept* of trademarks is based on *competition*. You agree in *principle* in your lawsuit with SDA Kinship. In Judge Pfaelzer's "Opinion" (filed Oct. 7, 1991), page 2, we read:

Plaintiff [General Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists] also states claims for false designation or origin under the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1125 (1988), and for trademark infringement, **unfair competition**, trademark dilution, and false advertising under California statutory and common law. [emphasis supplied.]

In the "Discussion" on page 8 ff., Judge Pfaelzer continues about "unfair competition" in this manner:

As one court observed, the law of **unfair competition** has developed primarily in commercial settings, and its language is ill-suited for application to religious institutions. . . . While some courts have questioned whether courts should be resolving such disputes at all, it now appears to be fairly well established that religious institutions are entitled to the protection of trademark and unfair competition laws to the same extent as commercial enterprises. [emphasis supplied.]

When "unfair competition" is a plea in any contest, obviously, the plea is a Satanic one. With "carnal weapons" the Church of Christ will have no part (2 Cor. 10:4). "To lean upon the arm of the law is a disgrace to Christians ..." (Ms. 128, 1903).

"There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear . . ." (1 John 4:18a). God's "perfect love" for Lucifer prevented Him from fearing anything that Satan might do. Jehovah did not *compete* with Satan in the *carnal* sense. The Heavenly Father exhibited "perfect love" in the sacrifice of "His only begotten Son," knowing that all, who have the desire to love and be loved *perfectly*, would respond to Him and turn from Satan.

Now we find ourselves again on Mount Carmel. You say you are a Christian and purport to "protect the integrity of the church's good name," albeit with "carnal weapons." I say I am a Christian, and claim to be living the very life of Christ, exalting His good name. The Historic SDA's claim to be Christians and say they are practicing a faith that more nearly represents "the faith once delivered to the saints." The SDA Reform Movement makes similar claims, etc. Ultimately, God shall discriminate the true from the false, just as He did on Mount Carmel. And that day is not too far distant—we shall live to witness the Divine decision.

Yes sir, you have rightly called us "Creation 7th Day Adventists." We observe the "Creation 7th Day," i.e., the first Sabbath given to man before sin entered this planet. We are preparing a people to stand in the final judgment, being fitted for translation, at the soon "second advent" of Jesus Christ. We look forward with eager expectation to the appearing of our Elder Brother. We are not an "off-shoot;" we are "the remnant church" of Revelation 12:17 and 14:1-12. We are the movement represented by the mighty angel of Revelation 18. We are the voice of God in the earth. "We are from God; he who knows God listens to us; he who is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error" (1 John 4:6). Jesus said, "He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me" (Matt. 10:40). We are *The Creation 7th Day Adventist Church* which took up "the banner of truth and religious liberty" (6T:402), which the General Conference Seventh-day Adventist Church surrendered in marrying the world in 1981—closing her probation in 1988. We love you and all of our brothers and sisters around the world *perfectly*. We dare not *compete* with anyone and dare not allow the sins of Babylon to go unnoticed. When any person agrees *perfectly* with us they are our members, just as the Father and the Son are "members inseparable." Those who *know* who they are will never countenance a *need* to *protect self* or attempt to *control* another. The *secure* ones walk and *rest* in *perfect peace*. This is indicative of "The Sabbath Rest Principle," symbolized by *The Creation 7th Day*. Notice God's Word—

The remnant of Israel will do no wrong and tell no lies, nor will a deceitful tongue be found in their mouths; for they shall feed and lie down with no one to make them tremble. Zephaniah 3:13. These are the ones who have not been defiled with women, for they have kept themselves chaste. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These have been purchased from among men as first fruits to God and to the Lamb. And no lie was found in their mouth; they are blameless. Revelation 14:4, 5.

Yes sir, we loved *perfectly* David Koresh. Neither he, nor his message, had any power over us. We knew him by his voice—"the voice of a stranger" (see John 10:5). This is how we knew you, dear counsellor, by your voice—"the voice of a dragon." In your line of questioning me (letter dated Feb. 4) I recognized "the wolf in sheep's clothing." Now I fear that your day of grace is fast closing, and that you must "make haste" to repent of your wicked course. Remember that "the wine of Babylon" is extremely deceptive *and* effective. Once you are drunken by it, you must "Come out from their midst and be separate" before "[YAH] will welcome you" (2 Cor. 6:17, 18).

In this, my second plea to you, I have begun a Biblical exposition at your request. If you so desire, I shall complete it upon your further request. Feeling a sense of grief in your behalf, I continue seeking to save your soul, and remain

Your Devoted Servant,

Walter "Chick" McGill
Pastor, The Creation 7th Day Adventist Church

P. S. I have judged our present controversy a public matter based on your representing "the Church's efforts to protect the integrity of its good name," and your statement, "... my efforts on behalf of all members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church: the integrity of their Church's name." Should you see it differently and request that I cease publishing our correspondence, please inform me, and I shall consider your wishes in my final decision.

P.O. Box 391
Ottawa, KS 66067
E-Mail Address is:
doc_c@hotmail.com

February 12, 1997

General Conference of
Seventh-Day Adventists
Office of General Counsel
Church World Headquarters
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Springs, MD 20904

Attn: Attorney Walter E. Carson

In your letter of November 6th, you had stated that in order "to prevent the likelihood of confusion," you were "requesting the discontinuation of the use of the Seventh-Day Adventist name in the communications: of this particular church. Your letter has brought confusion to my being and we both know who the originator of confusion is!

I am a home schooler and have been taught that in the name of my school, it is to state: 1) what we are; 2) who we are, and; 3) what type of institute we are. The Rogue Valley Historic, (what they are), Seventh-day Adventist, (who they are, just as Christ stated He was [MM49]), Church, (what type of institute they are), is doing just as the world has been taught and I, personally, see no fault in it.

By trademarking the name of Seventh-Day and/or Adventist, is by no means what the Lord had asked His chosen people to do. By going to the civil power for help has shown to myself and to others how weak in faith the General Conference Seventh-Day Adventist has become. They live in fear of losing something they themselves have never been in control of, but only the Lord should control.

"The church (General Conference) must constantly be alert, however, to prevent a "kingly" type of leadership and control reasserting itself. The reins of church government must not drift into the hands of a few persons or institutions." [PM143] This counsel given many years ago has not been heeded and now the church has a "kingly" type of leadership and control. We were counseled to avoid centralization of power, whether it be of publishing houses or churches. "At times it has been urged that the interests of the cause would be furthered by a consolidation of our publishing houses (or churches), bringing them virtually under one management. But this, the Lord has shown, should not be. It is not His plan to centralize power in the hands of a few persons or to bring one institution under the control of another." [7T171] If this counsel would have been heeded long ago, another people would not have been called out. "The arms of power are being extended more and more widely, seeking to control the work far and near, and to crush that which they cannot control." [8T150] I lift my voice in protest. The Spirit that now controls is not the Spirit of the Lord.

"Men have tried to rob their brethren of their rights, and have selfishly grasped all the available means to turn to their advantage. They have tried to justify themselves by saying, 'I am doing it for the cause of God.' Human preferences and prejudices have swayed the minds of those who confederated to sustain methods contrary to the Word of God. Selfishness has led those who ought to be true to principle to make crooked paths for their feet." [MS29,1911]

Only those who search for the blood of righteousness will eat of the bread of life. This is why I am writing to you today; to invite you to search for true righteousness so that you may become a partaker in His bread of life.

Repent of your sins for today is your day of Judgement. Become blameless in the eyes of our Saviour and go preach Thy Word, which seeks not the help of man or civil power, but of a true Shepherd who guides our footsteps. Let not man be your guide, but Him who knows Thy Way to everlasting life. "Follow what is altogether just, that you may live and inherit the land which the Lord your God is giving you." [DT16:20] "Listen to Me, you who follow after righteousness, you who seek the Lord: look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the hole of the pit from which you were dug." [1S51:4] "What shall we say then? That Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness of faith; but Israel, pursuing the law of righteousness, had not attained to the law (by works) of righteousness. Why? Because they did not seek it by faith, but as it were by works of the law (civil power). For they stumbled at that stumbling stone. As it is written: 'Behold, I lay in Zion a stumbling stone and rock of offense, and whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.'" [RO9:30-33]

I pray for you, brother, that you will, this day, choose to pursue after righteousness so you may not be put to shame. Stand on that firm Rock and "Repent, ye sinner, repent! For the kingdom of heaven is at hand! I am but just one voice crying in the wilderness, preparing the way of the Lord, making His paths straight." [MT3:2-3]

Come and join the Remnant of her seed. "These are the ones who are not defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These are redeemed by Christ from among men, being the firstfruits to God and to the Lamb. And in their mouth was found no guile, for they are without fault." [RE14:4-5]

These chosen ones will not see death and they have the true Sabbath rest!

With the love of Christ,
Your servant,

Crystle A. Martin



"INTO ALL THE WORLD"

FILE COPY

**The Creation 7th Day
Adventist Church**

Post Office Box 284
Spring City, Tennessee 37381-0284
1-800-754-8021

Email: crmin@ix.netcom.com

"YAH is Our Righteousness"

February 17, 1997

Rogue Valley Historic Seventh-day Adventist Church
Post Office Box 34,
Talent, Oregon 97540

Dear Brethren,

I mailed you a letter dated January 14, 1977. I trust it was not lost in the mail. We have been in prayer for you and have written letters to Walter Carson protesting the threat made on your church by the General Conference.

Please let us know what is coming to pass in this controversy. We are keenly interested in your religious liberty and wish to be intelligent as to the developments. We are even more concerned by not having any reply to our initial letter to you.

We look forward to your soon response, as we continue in the harvest message. I remain

Your Devoted Servant,

Walter "Chick" McGill
Pastor, Creation 7th Day Adventist Church

Rachel Martin
1512 Arkansas Road
Williamsburg, KS 66095

February 19, 1997

General Conference of
Seventh-Day Adventists
Office of General Counsel
Church World Headquarters
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Springs, MD 20904

Dear Walter Carson,

In reading your November 6 letter to the Rogue Valley Historic Seventh-Day Adventist Church, I developed a hurting inside myself for you in seeing how you sought the help from the state and not from God.

A.T. Jones states: "The state was and is, the result of apostasy of men from God," and that "no state can ever rightly require anything that is due to God, and that when it is required by the state, it is not to be rendered" (Christian Patriotism p. 15, 64).

Christ Himself was a 7th-Day Adventist, and being His disciples, He gave us that name. (John 17:12)

"There is one lawgiver who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another?" (James 4:12)

"Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins. (James 5:19-20)

"Here are the patience of the saints; here are they that keep the commandments of YAH, and the faith of YAHSHUA."

A servant in Christ,

Rachel R Martin

Rachel R. Martin

Subject: God's in Control!

Date: Sat, 22 Feb 1997 10:30:53 -0500 (EST)

From: Remnantsda@aol.com

To: crmin@ix.netcom.com

Dear Brother "Chick",

Thank you for your letter dated Feb 17 and the one January 14! We truly appreciate your concern as to our 'situation' with the Conference. I am so sorry that it has taken until now, Feb 22, to get in touch with you. We have been in the process of moving since the first of January - maybe you can appreciate the harriness of that situation! All records, computers, letters, typewriters, faxes, etc..... packed, in boxes, not set up, "lost" until found, on and on it goes you know! Anyway, we are at 'capacity' again - the LORD is soooo good, amen?

As to our 'situation' with Walter Carson and those whom he endeavors to please, we immediately took the matter to our God and gave it ALL to Him and like all trials, our Father is BIG enough to take care of our small matters!

If Walter Carson had wanted the threatening words to remain a silent, hidden affair then it was NOT to be. It was picked up on world-wide fax, went to the world of 7th Day Adventists and we were contacted by MANY! We had also contacted attorney Max Corbett and was given some very good advice and cautious admonitions.

To this date, we have had NO contacts or threatenings from Walter Carson or his band of "jesuits" but even if they do (and we fully expect them to) their efforts, THEN the ONLY way they can get to us on anything- is to go through our King Jesus first. And then, if it is alright with our Saviour that we be sued, flayed, boiled-toiled-troubled: WE SHALL REMAIN FAITHFUL SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS FOREVER! We shall be called and known by that name (not that it is a sacred chalice) BUT it is the name that He gave His people and this is WHAT we are and a BANNER that we hold high to rebuke the Protestant world as to their acceptance of the Mark to come.

I have added you to our e-mail address book, Chick, and IF there are any new developments, we shall pass the situation to those interested because we believe that it will come to all those who call themselves SDAs and none will be left untouched.

Stay in the LORD'S Blessings!

Larry Weathers Rogue Valley Historic Seventh-Day Adventists

Fri Feb 28 06:22:54 1997

Dear Brother Larry,

Thank you so much for responding. I like your screen name-- I tried for that one and settled for "SDArem". I usually use "Adventist7" in aol. I am still learning aol, but I think we could arrange a "chat session" sometime if so desired. I am not at all impressed with the "common" connotation of the "chat," but that is the "correct" terminology as they have it.

I had just a few questions to ask regarding your email message. If you see any of these questions too personal feel free to disregard them.

- as
I
time
or
- 1) Was your move personal or church-related?
 - 2) Is your church still meeting and using the same signage before?
 - 3) What is the "world-wide fax"?
 - 4) Would you share some of the counsel that Max Corbett gave? I know him fairly well and talk to him on the phone from time to time.
 - 5) Do you have anything published on the web? If so, where?
 - 6) How much of what you write to me is free to be published or shared with others?

I was surprised in talking to Vance Ferrell that he advised you to give up the name. When I talked to Max, he was not specific on whether he advised you to stand firm in the name or not.

We are pleased that the angels are holding back the winds of strife. Our prayers are answered, of course! Thank you for being willing to keep us posted on the developments.

WE expect to receive "fire from the dragon" soon. You see, the Conference could loose their trademark if they do not contest us on the use of the name on the Internet within a reasonable time of their knowing of it. We have been corresponding with Walter Carson by mail, and if you are interested in reading some of it, you can access the files by beginning at <http://members.tripod.com/~rccsda/letter.html>. You shall recognize this letter easily. At the bottom we have links to letters written to Attny Carson in protest, along with his responses. Not all letters have been published yet. I have not yet received a reply to my last letter to him either.

I was pleased to hear such a positive testimony from you in your email. We have nothing to fear for the future except that we forget how our Father has led us in the past.

When you have a convenient moment, I appreciate your reply, as I remain

Your Brother "riveted to the Rock,"

Pastor "Chick" McGill

-

John Graz, Director
Public Affairs & Religious Liberty Dept.
General Conference of Seventh Day Adventists
12051 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Springs, Maryland 20904-6600

Dear Brother John Graz:

A few months ago, while attending one of the Net 96 meetings entitled "United States in Bible Prophecy", some things were taught as beliefs of the Seventh Day Adventist Church. I see that these teachings are contrary to what the G.C. SDA church is showing that it believes by actions that it is taking.

I have written to Mark Finley regarding this (taking it to him first as he was the speaker). His office has referred my to you regarding this issue. I would sincerely appreciate your consideration of the subject at hand. Perhaps you can help initiate a change in what the Conference is doing. At the least, you may be able to see what I am saying - or explain to me how this action is consistent with the beliefs that appear to me to prohibit this action.

Below is an excerpt from the letter I wrote to Mark Finley. I trust that you do not mind my borrowing from the letter that I wrote to him in order to express my concern to you.

My question has to do with a subject discussed during the Discoveries in Prophecy Seminar. I attended several meetings, which I found very factual. One of them was "The United States in Bible Prophecy". This was very nicely done, but the information presented, which I do believe, is inconsistent with what I see the Gen. Conf. of SDAs doing. Maybe you can explain this to me. When we believe in religious freedom and that every man is accountable to God alone for his religious opinions, when we believe that a church who uses the state's power to persecute those who believe anything differently than they do, when this action is the same action the beast took, how can the G.C. SDA Church take the kind of action and not be an imitation of or the image of the beast?

The action I am referring to is that of the G.C. Corporation taking to court and suing other SDA churches, who believe - like Ellen White says - that it is important to keep and uphold the name, Seventh-Day Adventist, but are not part of the G.C. for one reason or another. The way I see it is that the G.C. SDA Church joined with the state in trademarking its name (seeking the state to protect its name instead of trusting to God to protect it). This in itself made an 'image' of the beast. Then when it began using the state's power to persecute (beginning in 1981 suing other SDA churches), the image came to life. The deadly wound was inflicted for awhile while the 'appeal' of the trademark was in process in court. But, it has come back to life!

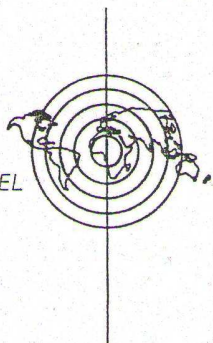
The G.C. has begun again, in this country, to approach SDA churches about giving up the name, SDA. (This has been going on abroad during the appeal here in the U.S.) [The most recent action I am familiar with is the request to the Rogue Valley Historic Seventh Day Adventist Church.]

Is the G.C. SDA Church still the true church? How can it be when it shows itself to be the image of the beast? Rev. 13 warns about the image of the beast. Jesus also responded differently when His disciples told Him of someone who was casting out demons in Jesus' name, but was not part of them. They wanted this person to cease. But, Jesus said to them "Leave them alone!" Shouldn't we take the same attitude? Should we not listen to Jesus' instruction and leave others alone who are using the name SDA, but not part of our 'group' and let whether they are SDAs or not be between God and that individual or church? The Bible also has instructions about how to protect one's name - and it isn't by taking others to the courts of law - See Acts 19:13-17 and also 2T page 562.

Please prayerfully consider and respond to this ASAP! I appreciate your sincere attention to this matter.

Prayerfully Yours with Love in Christ,
Barbara Isenburg

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL
(301) 680-6320



General Conference of

Seventh-day Adventists

CHURCH WORLD HEADQUARTERS 12501 OLD COLUMBIA PIKE, SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20904 USA
TEL: (301) 680-6000 • TLX: 440186 • FAX: (301) 680-6329 • CBL: ADVENTIST, WASHINGTON

4 March 1997

Darren Eidson
P.O. Box 391
Ottawa, KS 66007

Dear Darren:

Thank you for your recent letter. I will keep your thoughts in mind as steps are taken to protect the Church's name.

I welcome your continued input on this important matter. Let's both pray that God's will be done.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Walter E. Carson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Walter E. Carson

WEC:mw

Frances Cook
P.O. Box 419
Seffner, FL 33583
March 4, 1997

Mr. Walter Carson
Office of General Counsel
12501 Old Columbia Pike,
Silver Spring, MD 20904-6600

Dear Mr. Carson,

I feel compelled to write after reading the letter to the Rogue Valley Historic S.D.A. Church in Oregon.

I am very concerned about this matter. Don't you understand the scriptures? Don't you believe the Testimonies? The Word is God and the Word says No, No, taking a brother to court is not Christ-like. Did the General Conference give us the name Seventh Day Adventist? Medical Ministry, page 49 says, Christ was a Seventh Day Adventist to all intents and purposes. What conference gave Him the name? Paul was called an Adventist in The Life of Paul on page 83. My understanding is that a true Seventh Day Adventist is one known by a Christ-like life, one who represents the pure and holy company that will meet around the throne of God.

I fear for you that in doing this court action, you have put your soul in great peril.

Is this our commission? We do not belong to a conference, we belong to God. We're to follow peace with all men. Christ was always at peace, are you? Why do you feel the need to protect the name? Do we not have an all knowing God who can take care of such matters if it is deemed necessary? Are all the hungry fed? Are all the naked clothed? Are the widows and fatherless all provided for? This is our commission!!

Isaiah 55:2 asks, "Wherefore do you spend money for that which is not bread?" Lawyers cost money, and I know that 80% of the church going S.D.A's do not even know a thing about the Trademark issue, because it was never presented to the people. Our precious Lord and Saviour is brought down to the level of toothpaste and cake mixes with this issue. There is a quote in Testimonies Vol. 6, page 81 that says, "We're not to conceal the fact we are Seventh Day Adventists."

Mr. Carson, we're to make a distinct difference between other churches and ours. How often was Christ wronged? The record says "He opened not His mouth." We're not to take brothers to court. In the S.D.A. commentary on 1 Corinthians 6:1-11, it says "For brother to go to law against brother brings dishonor to the church and belittles the power of God to guide and control His people in all affairs of their lives." In Acts of the Apostles, on page 306, it reads,

"Law suits between brethren are a reproach to the cause of truth. Christians who go to law with one another expose the church to the ridicule of her enemies, and cause the powers of darkness to triumph. They are wounding Christ afresh and putting Him to open shame. By ignoring the authority of the church, they show contempt for God who gave to the church its authority."

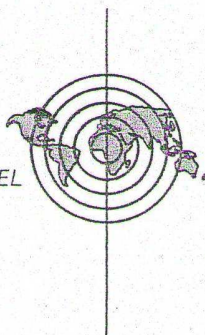
Can we be a royal priesthood, the holy ones, and go to court against each other? Do we dare risk losing our salvation because in pride we reject the Word? There's a most urgent call going abroad. It says, "Come out of her my people." Rev. 18:4.

Sincerely,

Frances Cook

Frances Cook

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL
(301) 680-6320



General Conference of

Seventh-day Adventists

CHURCH WORLD HEADQUARTERS 12501 OLD COLUMBIA PIKE, SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20904 USA
TEL: (301) 680-6000 • TLX: 440186 • FAX: (301) 680-6329 • CBL: ADVENTIST, WASHINGTON

5 March 1997

Pastor Walter "Chick" McGill
Creation 7th Day Adventists
P.O. Box 284
Spring City, TN 37381

Dear Pastor McGill:

I have received and read with interest your February 11 letter. I remain unpersuaded by your arguments.

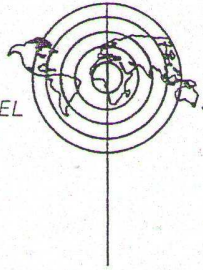
When responding to your personal correspondence I did not expect my letters would be published. I would not, out of respect for your privacy, publish your letters to me. However, I have said nothing of which to be ashamed of; I have spoken both the truth and my conscience. Do whatever your sense of propriety requires.

Very truly yours,

Walter E. Carson

WEC:mw

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL
(301) 680-6320



General Conference of

Seventh-day Adventists

CHURCH WORLD HEADQUARTERS 12501 OLD COLUMBIA PIKE, SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20904 USA
TEL: (301) 680-6000 • TLX: 440186 • FAX: (301) 680-6329 • CBL: ADVENTIST, WASHINGTON

6 March 1997

Tiffany Eidson
P.O. Box 391
Ottawa, KS 66067

Dear Tiffany:

Thank you very much for your recent letter. I am always impressed when a young woman takes the time to express herself on such important matters. I do not think you strange at all, and respect your right to the convictions expressed in the letter. Maybe some day we will have a chance to visit more about these matters.

I will keep your thoughts in mind as I pursue my efforts to protect the integrity of the Church's name. I welcome your prayers. Best wishes to you, Tiffany.

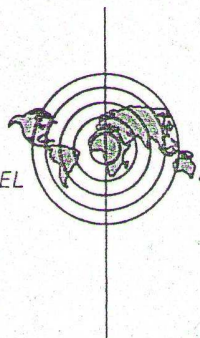
Very truly yours,

Walter E. Carson

WEC:mw/11MAR97

P.S. Please thank Annetta for the very nice picture of Christ.

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL
(301) 680-6320



General Conference of

Seventh-day Adventists

CHURCH WORLD HEADQUARTERS 12501 OLD COLUMBIA PIKE, SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20904 USA
TEL: (301) 680-6000 • TLX: 440186 • FAX: (301) 680-6329 • CBL: ADVENTIST, WASHINGTON

6 March 1997

Rachel R. Martin
1512 Arkansas Road
Williamsburg, KS 66095

Dear Ms. Martin:

Thank you for your February 19 letter and the information therein. I appreciate your concern and will keep your thoughts in mind as I seek ways to protect the integrity of the Seventh-day Adventist Church's good name.

I welcome your prayers and continued comments on this important matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Walt E. Carson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

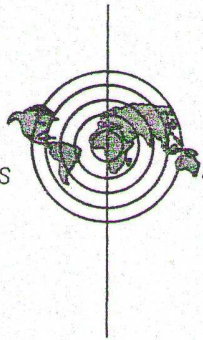
Walter E. Carson

WEC:mw/11MAR97

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

Phone: (301) 680-6680

Fax: (301) 680-6695



General Conference of

Seventh-day Adventists

CHURCH WORLD HEADQUARTERS • 12501 OLD COLUMBIA PIKE, SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND
20904-6600 USA TEL: (301) 680-6000 TLX: 440186 FAX: (301) 680-6090 CBL: ADVENTIST, WASHINGTON

March 10, 1997

Ms Barbara Isenburg
P O Box 284
Spring City, TN 37381-0284

Dear Sister Isenburg:

I read your letter carefully and would like to thank you for your comments and questions.

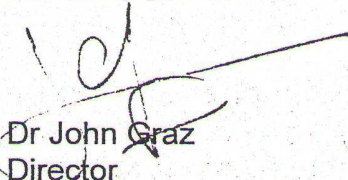
The General Conference is concerned regarding the improper use of the name Seventh-day Adventist. Why? Because through the media, confusion is very easy. For example, look what happened during the David Koresh situation. The media reported that this was a group of Seventh-day Adventists. We had to send a crisis team down to Waco to clear up the misrepresentation issue.

You have your own name and nobody else can use it without hurting you. In the world of today, it is a matter of responsibility. We don't want to be held responsible for things we have not supported. We don't want our church members around the world to be confused with independent groups or organizations that act contrary to our church beliefs.

Why are we using the court system to protect our name? Because the law has to be respected. The Apostle Paul did the same thing.

My dear Sister Isenburg, may God bless you and thanks again for your questions.

Sincerely yours,



Dr John Graz
Director

/lef

Date: Tue, 11 Mar 1997 04:14:47 -0500 (EST)
From: Remnantsda@aol.com
Message-ID: <970311041445_1116118040@emout16.mail.aol.com>
To: crmin@ix.netcom
Subject: Reply to your letter!

Dear Chick,

Thanx for your letter, will try to respond to ?'s you raised.

We did go by the screen name on AOL SDAREMNANT But then I changed from monthly to yearly payment, reinstalled account and lost screen name - I had to change it so I reversed it and became REMNANTSDA. I really would like to arrange a "live" chat some time on AOL. I'm usually on in the evening (6-8 p.m. Pacific Standard Time). An e-mail anytime informing me of your chat availability would be helpful. I set up a private room "SDA FRIENDS" and use it quite often for moving discussions with other Adventists.

No, our recent move was local and only our personal needs.

Our Church family has been meeting together for over 7 years (about 40 members) and we still display the sign out front "ROGUE VALLEY HISTORIC SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH" and NO, we will not take it down because some Kingly Power in Mary-land says so.

By, "world-wide fax" I meant that by informing a few Historic Adventists, that they would send to a few and Europe, Canada, Australia, etc. would get the info immediately. We have had replies from all over the world. We had only originally contacted about 6 independent ministries and it spread.

Max Corbett had told me that the GC will break us, drain us, and win (barring direct intervention of God, of course) and they were out for blood. We and other "non-approved Adventists" are targets.

We personally have nothing at this time on the web, we've enjoyed a few great adventist sites and now yours, too. Thanx!

In answer to whether you can use my written info, yes, Chick, we have nothing to hide or fear, the recording Angels are taking all written and spoken words down, so you have permission to do same.

Vance Ferrell was speaking as a family friend when he advised that we should "comply" and smooth over best as we could, because they were out for blood and maybe not much could be gained to be beligerent.....Advice considered and taken to the Lord to sort out and lead us in the correct Path He would have us go.

We really haven't seen anything yet, & the future holds awesome spectacles that will keep us praising His Holy Name, amen?

Please stay in God's Blessings!



MOVE TO: BUSINESS CHICK & BARB CHURCH FAMILY
 FRIENDS PERSONAL

Date: Tue, 11 Mar 1997 03:01:02 -0500 (EST)
From: Remnantsda@aol.com Save Address
To: JOSHKH@hotmail.com
Subject: WEBSITE

Dear Chick,

Just finished checking out your wb site and I really appreciate (as do our members) the time you have invested in letting others know of the dragon's voice of papal force!

Don't know if you've seen the report just came out in the California SDA paper "PACIFIC UNION RECORDER" dated March 3, 1997----- reads:

Court ruling for Name Trademark for Seventh-day Adventist Church upheld

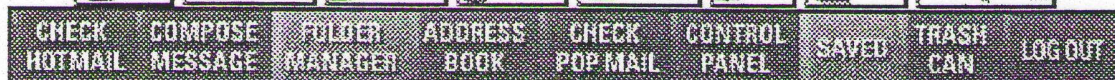
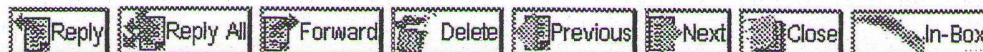
Silver Spring, Maryland (ANN)...On December 18, the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit denied a motion that challenged the Trademark ruling of February 15, 1996.

According to the initial ruling, the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board (TTAB) found the trademark and service mark "Seventh-day Adventist," used by the Seventh-day Adventist Church for 130 years in its worldwide Christian ministry, to be validly and federally registered.

Attorney Walter E. Carson from the office of general counsel at the Seventh-day Adventist world headquarters expressed satisfaction with the Court's ruling. "The way is now cleared for the Church to take all necessary steps to prevent the abuse and misuse of its good name," said Carson. "Our members can rest assured that we will act with dispatch on their behalf."

Chick, so far we still haven't had any more threatenings, but with this latest news report, we are sure that it will start the next stage, and you can count that it will be coming your way also, now that you have identified yourself to "them"!

As stated before, "they" have to go through Christ to get to you, so keep looking up though the heaven's fall.





SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST
CHURCH

General Conference
World Headquarters

March 12, 1997

Ms. Barbara Isenburg
P.O. Box 284
Spring City, TN 37381-0284

Department of Communication

12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, Maryland
20904-6600 USA
Telephone (301) 680-6300
Fax (301) 680-6312
<http://www.adventist.org>

Dear Sister Isenburg:

We are acknowledging receipt of your letter regarding trademarking of the name Seventh-day Adventist Church. As you are sharing with us a number of facts apart from your opinion on the issue, I am referring your inquiry to Walter E. Carson, Esq., from the Office of General Counsel here at the General Conference for response.

Thank you for your comments about this issue.

Yours in the communication of Hope,

Ray Dabrowski
Director

mtg .

cc: Walter Carson

March 16, 1997

John Graz, Director
Dept. of Public Affairs & Religious Liberty
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
12051 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Springs, Maryland 20904-6600

Dear Brother John Graz:

I received your reply to my letter and I thank you for responding.

I can understand why the General Conference could be concerned about being misrepresented by others using the name Seventh-day Adventist that believe differently from the General Conference, especially those causing problems. And, I can see why the General Conference would want to take the position they have chosen regarding protecting the name, Seventh-day Adventist if they neglected some important counsel.

Consider the example given in Acts 19:13-17. There were exorcists using Jesus' name to cast out demons. Because they really didn't believe (and had not the Spirit of Christ), the demons did not recognize any authority in their use of His name and the exorcists reaped bad results. The name of the Lord Jesus was magnified and those who were misusing *His* name were brought to shame. It was obvious to the public who were truly Christ's followers and who were not.

This is an example to show we do not need to fear what will happen as a result of misuse of names. God will protect the name, "Seventh-day Adventist" to the extent He sees the need for protection. If God does not do for the church what the church thinks He ought to, who is the General Conference to object and take it into their own hands?

I believe that the General Conference should follow counsel from the Holy Scriptures and from Ellen G. White and trust in our Heavenly Father for protection rather than listening to and trusting in man. "We ought to obey God rather than men." Acts 5:29.

Please read 1 Cor. 6:1-9 and the following comments by Ellen White from Letter 301, 1905 entitled "A Lawsuit Against the Publishing House":

"When church members have this knowledge [1Cor.6:1-9], their practice will be of a character to recommend their faith. By a well-ordered life, and godly conversation, they will reveal Christ. There will be no lawsuits between neighbors or brothers."

From Manuscript 64, 1898 in "The Very Thing God Told Them Not to Do" read:

"I have written largely in regard to Christians who believe the truth placing their cases in courts of law to obtain redress. They cast aside the inspired counsel God has given, and in the face of the message He gives they do the very thing He has told them not to do."

And in "What Appeals to the Court Reveals" read:

"...Those church members [or churches] who appeal to the courts of the world show that they have chosen the world as their judge, and their names are registered in heaven as one with unbelievers."

From Manuscript 128, 1903 in "Lawyers and Laodiceans" read:

"To lean upon the arm of the law is a disgrace to Christians; yet this evil has been brought in and cherished among the Lord's chosen people."

From these examples, we know that whether we consider others (no matter what they do to us) to be brothers or not to be brothers, we are admonished **not to take them to court!**

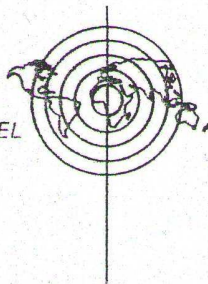
You mentioned that the Apostle Paul "did the same thing" the General Conference is doing. What Scripture are you referring to, please? I have been unable to find where Paul took either his brother or his neighbor to court after he was converted.

Please prayerfully consider heeding these counsels and recommending to the necessary parties to heed these counsels. Thank you for your consideration and thoughtful response.

Prayerfully yours,

Barbara Isenburg
Barbara Isenburg

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL
(301) 680-6320



General Conference of

Seventh-day Adventists

CHURCH WORLD HEADQUARTERS 12501 OLD COLUMBIA PIKE, SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20904 USA
TEL: (301) 680-6000 • TLX 440186 • FAX: (301) 680-6329 • CBL: ADVENTIST, WASHINGTON

19 March 1997

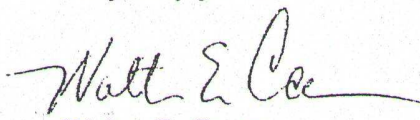
Frances Cook
P.O. Box 419
Seffner, FL 33583

Dear Ms. Cook:

Thank you for your recent letter and the counsel provided. I have read the letter carefully and appreciate your concerns. Please know that I will keep your thoughts in mind as I proceed in this matter.

I welcome your prayers as I seek to do God's will.

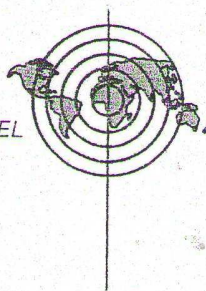
Very truly yours,



Walter E. Carson

WEC:mw

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL
(301) 680-6320



General Conference of

Seventh-day Adventists

CHURCH WORLD HEADQUARTERS 12501 OLD COLUMBIA PIKE, SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20904 USA
TEL: (301) 680-6000 • TLX: 440196 • FAX: (301) 680-6329 • CBL: ADVENTIST, WASHINGTON

19 March 1997

Ms. Barbara Isenburg
P.O. Box 284
Spring City, TN 37381

Dear Ms. Isenburg:

Your recent letter to Mr. Ray Dabrowski concerning steps to protect the integrity of the Church's name has been sent to me for further response. While I am not a theologian, or biblical scholar, I always understood the beast to be another religious organization other than the Seventh-day Adventist Church; and the image/mark of the beast to be related to Sabbath observance. I will ask the Biblical Research Institute here at the General Conference to consider your interpretation of the relevant texts. If you are interested, I will be happy to share with you the results of their investigation.

I appreciate your concerns and observations. Be assured your counsel will inform any action taken by the Church in this matter. I welcome your continued prayers.

Very truly yours,

Walter E. Carson

WEC:mw

March 31, 1997

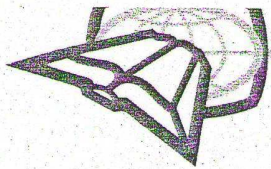
Walter E. Carson
Office of General Counsel
Gen. Conf. of Seventh-day Adventists
Church World Headquarters
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Springs, MD 20904-6600 USA

Dear Water E. Carson,

Thank you for responding to the letter I sent to Ray Dabrowski and for referring it to the Biblical Research Institute for further study. I am interested in receiving a copy of the results of their investigation and of any action taken by the church in this matter. Please do send me a copy. Thank you in advance!

Prayerfully yours,

Barbara Isenburg
P. O. Box 284
Spring City, TN 37381



IT IS WRITTEN

"a full message Bible telecast"

Box O • Thousand Oaks, California 91360

Phone: (805) 373-7733 • FAX: (805) 373-7734

April 7, 1997

Barbara Isenburg
P O Box 284
Spring City, TN 373810-0284

Dear Barbara:

Thank you so much for the time and interest you took in writing to Pastor Finley several weeks ago. As his administrative assistant he has given me the privilege of writing to you in his behalf. As he and I discussed your letter we were impressed with the fact that your questions and concerns were from a sincere heart that seeks each day to stay hidden in Jesus.

As I personally read your letter, I ascertained that you appreciated Pastor Finley's emphasis of people being accountable to God alone for their religious opinions. Personally I can tell you from a close association with him that Pastor Finley does in fact believe this and in his personal relationship with people seeks to grant this freedom to everyone.

I must remind myself that it is important to remember that such personal freedom does not mean the same thing as using something that belongs to someone else. Let me pose a hypothetical situation: Just suppose a bishop of a large diocese, for whatever reason, should decide to start a little church or maybe a club and call it "Seventh-day Adventist." I believe that you and I would both agree that such an action would not be correct for someone who in reality is not a Seventh-day Adventist. Next it must be decided, what technically is a Seventh-day Adventist? My point is this. . . If anyone or any group has officially adopted a name that identifies them and their mission, then that group certainly has the right and privilege to use that name exclusively. Just because an individual independently decides that God has given them that name does not automatically mean that in fact He has, as in the hypothetical case above. This is not religious freedom to be misleading in the use of a name that has already been adopted by a group of people.

In addition, I think you would agree that neither would it be religious freedom for the hypothetical situation mentioned to use the tax exempt status that has been granted to the first users of the name. What about a group of homosexuals who claim to use the name Seventh-day Adventist, that certainly would not be religious freedom for such a misuse of a sacred name, would it? Another example we could use would be for a group of scientists to represent themselves as Seventh-day Adventists but who publically and boldly proclaimed evolution.

Seventh-day Adventists are a corporate body as a whole. The Apostle Paul specifically shows how the body, the church is not made up of separate parts who act independently of one another, one claiming one thing and another claiming something else. You and I both know that the name is certainly not what saves us. Instead it is a saving relationship with Jesus Himself! Therefore as children of the heavenly king, and as we continue on in our journey of life, approaching His soon return, let us not be sidetracked by Satan's attempts to cause us to focus on the wrong things. Remember the church is not perfect because we the people who compose it's membership are not perfect.

God bless you is my and Pastor Finley's prayer as well,

David W. Wolkwitz
Administrative Assistant to Pastor Finley

May 2, 1997

Walter E. Carson
Office of General Counsel
General Conference of
Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, Maryland 20904

Dear Mr. Carson:

It would seem to me, after reading your letter dated November 6, 1996 to the Rogue Valley Historic Seventh-day Adventist Church, that you and those you represent, would seek to place yourselves above God. This decree that has been issued to this church manifests a desire to utterly stifle the consciences of individuals who call themselves SDA's but do not conform to your creeds. Dear brother, this shows a desire on the part of the General Conference Corporation to be lords over God's heritage. 1Pet. 2:11, 5:3; 2Cor. 1:24.

Upon what biblical principle is this persecuting action based? I find none that would sanction it. This does not agree with the word. Christ's Spirit does not compel the conscience, nor does it seek to use civil power to bring under submission those who do not agree with His word. The word will judge in the last day. John 12:47&48. Christ's Spirit gently persuades and simply gives an invitation to "whosoever will." Rev. 22:17.

Are you and the organization so fearful of those who do not agree with you that you must resort to obtaining protection from the civil authorities? The scripture says that perfect love casts out all fear. 1Jn 4:18. If you had perfect love for these individuals who do not agree with you, you would have no fear of what they might do to your "good name." Your dependence for protection is clearly not being put upon the Master of the universe, but upon the master deceiver. Is it really your place to protect the "good name" Seventh-day Adventist? Did you give this name to God's people? Please hear. God gave the name to God's people and it is His to protect and His alone.

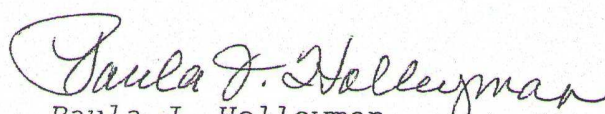
God's true people do not need nor desire the courts of the land to make decisions for them in matters of religion. This, in fact, is an abomination in the eyes of God. This action crucifies Christ afresh because those who do this show that they have chosen another husband. They do not seek protection from God, the giver and sustainer of life. 1st Corinthians 6:1-8 condemns what you and the G.C. Corporation are doing. Please read it if you will.

I have read your responses to some of the letters you have received from other concerned individuals regarding your letter to Rogue Valley. When you write that you will take into consideration their advice while you continue to pursue this action, you belittle and show a spirit of sarcasm. This is

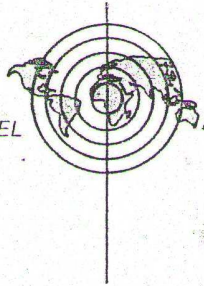
obviously not an honest response. It would be honest to say simply that you do not agree and plan to continue your pursuit. I do not see Christ in your communications.

This letter is a plea from one who loves you and is heartbroken over your decision to participate in the persecution of people who love our Father in Heaven and who love you and those whom you represent. Please don't consider this just another letter. Please hear the plea intended for your heart. Please do not crucify our saviour afresh.

Your servant and friend,


Paula J. Holleyman

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL
(301) 680-6320



General Conference of

Seventh-day Adventists

CHURCH WORLD HEADQUARTERS 12501 OLD COLUMBIA PIKE, SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20904 USA
TEL: (301) 680-6000 • TLX: 440186 • FAX: (301) 680-6329 • CBL: ADVENTIST, WASHINGTON

7 May 1997

Paula Holleyman
2704 West Waver Street
Plant City, FL 33567

Dear Ms. Holleyman:

Thank you for your letter of May 2. I read with keen interest your interpretation of the referenced Bible verses and of the Church's activities in this regard. I respect and appreciate your views; but as a lawyer cannot agree with your conclusion.

I will keep your thoughts and counsel in mind as I proceed to take such steps as may be necessary to protect the Church's good name.

I am grateful for the kindly and caring Christian manner expressed in your letter.

Very truly yours,

Walter E. Carson

WEC:mw

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE

June 13, 1997

David W. Wolkwitz
Administrative Assistant to Pastor Finley
It Is Written
Box O
Thousand Oaks, California 91360

Dear David:

Thank you for responding to my letter on behalf of Pastor Finley. Please accept my apology for taking so long to get back with you regarding this matter.

You said: "Personally I can tell you from a close association with him that Pastor Finley does in fact believe this and in his personal relationship with people seeks to grant this freedom to everyone."

I am pleased that he does this in his personal relationships. I see that this freedom should also be granted by the corporate church body to others.

In the hypothetical examples that you gave (the Roman Catholic Bishop starting a SDA church and a group of scientists calling themselves SDA), it may be true that their use of the name "Seventh-day Adventist" would not be right. There also may be groups of people that truly believe they are Seventh-day Adventist and that they should not give up the name, as Ellen White has stated. But, even if the name is used wrongly, I don't see that that gives the SDA Church any right to take anyone to court over the name. In Luke 9:49-50, Jesus' disciples told Him of someone who had been casting out demons in Jesus' name, but was not part of their group. Jesus said to them "Forbid him not!". The church should not forbid others to act in Jesus' name while using the 'sacred' name of Seventh-day Adventist, the name God gave to those who 'keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus', just because they are not part of the same "group". We should take the same attitude Jesus did and leave them alone, letting the matter of whether or not they are truly SDAs be between God and that individual or church, giving them that religious freedom.

Please read the following regarding taking others to court. 1 Cor. 6:1-9 and the following comments by Ellen White from Letter 301, 1905 entitled "A Lawsuit Against the Publishing House":

"When church members have this knowledge [1Cor.6:1-9], their practice will be of a character to recommend their faith. By a well-ordered life, and godly conversation, they will reveal Christ. There will be no lawsuits between neighbors or brothers."

From Manuscript 64, 1898 in "The Very Thing God Told Them Not to Do" read:

"I have written largely in regard to Christians who believe the truth placing their cases in courts of law to obtain redress. They cast aside the inspired counsel God has given, and in the face of the message He gives they do the very thing He has told them not to do."

And in "What Appeals to the Court Reveals" read:

"...Those church members [or churches] who appeal to the courts of the world show that they

have chosen the world as their judge, and **their names** are registered in heaven as one with unbelievers.

From Manuscript 128, 1903 in "Lawyers and Laodiceans" read:

"To lean upon the arm of the law is a disgrace to Christians; yet this evil has been brought in and cherished among the Lord's chosen people."

From these examples, we know that whether we consider others (no matter what they do to us) to be brothers or not to be brothers, we are admonished **not to take them to court!**

On a similar subject, consider the example given in Acts 19:13-17. There were exorcists using Jesus' name to cast out demons. Because they really didn't believe (and had not the Spirit of Christ), the demons did not recognize any authority in their use of His name and the exorcists reaped bad results. The name of the Lord Jesus was magnified and those who were misusing His name were brought to shame. It was obvious to the public who were truly Christ's followers and who were not.

This is an example to show we do not need to fear what will happen as a result of misuse of names. God will protect the name, "Seventh-day Adventist" to the extent He sees the need for protection. If God does not do for the church what the church thinks He ought to, who is the General Conference to object and take it into their own hands?

I believe that the General Conference should follow counsel from the Holy Scriptures and from Ellen G. White and trust in our Heavenly Father for protection rather than listening to and trusting in man. "We ought to obey God rather than men." Acts 5:29.

You said: In addition, I think you would agree that neither would it be religious freedom for the hypothetical situation mentioned to use the tax exempt status that has been granted to the first users of the name.

Are there groups of people using the G.C. SDA Church's tax exempt status? Are you saying that that is the situation with all groups that the G.C. has taken to court? I was not aware of this. No, that would not be right, but then again, Christ admonishes us not to take people to court.

You said: Therefore as children of the heavenly king, and as we continue on in our journey of life, approaching His soon return, let us not be sidetracked by Satan's attempts to cause us to focus on the wrong things.

Amen! Let us not be sidetracked by Satan, but let us also not be blind to very important truths that are being revealed!

I pray that you and Pastor Finley will seriously and prayerfully consider the content of this letter and what it means that the G.C. is taking this type of action against others. I look forward to hearing from you.

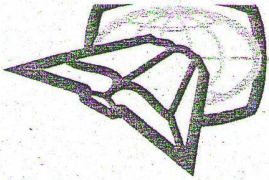
And I pray that God will continue blessing you as you follow His leading.

Sincerely with the love of Christ,

Barbara Isenburg

DAVID W. WOLKWITZ REPLY to BARBARA ISENBURG

Email: c_sda@geocities.com



IT IS WRITTEN

"a full message Bible telecast"

Box O • Thousand Oaks, California 91360

Phone: (805) 373-7733 • FAX: (805) 373-7734

July 31, 1997

Barbara Isenburg
P O Box 284
Spring City, TN 37381-0284

Dear Barbara:

Greetings in the name of our wonderful Lord! We must both be very busy; it certainly has taken me a long time to answer your last letter. This is partly because I get so many letters that along with many other duties, It becomes necessary to search for time. The larger reason why I have taken so long is because it has been my desire to pray over your letter and prayerfully consider my response.

The quotations you have given are certainly powerful ones and I praise the Lord that my faith and confidence in this gift is very strong! I have not been able to study these quotes however in their complete context which might present some enlightening details. I am not privy to any of the "behind-the-scenes" reasons for any of the actions that the leadership of our church may have taken at some point in time.

But having served several years as a conference president I know personally that much of the time, all of the details cannot always be revealed in order to protect the confidentiality of the parties involved. But whenever decisions were made that appeared to be contrary to inspired counsel, I believe that those involved, after studying and praying over the issues and studying the inspired counsel have tried by the grace of God to do the very best thing that God would have them to do.

In other words, the point I am trying to make is, "What is the principle involved in the counsel and how does it apply to the facts of a given case at hand?" I do not believe in "situation ethics." But Scripture and the Spirit of Prophecy make it clear that there are times when "circumstances alter cases." This is sacred ground in which to use to help in making a decision; it certainly can be abused and used for self-justification. But for example: The seventh day is always the Sabbath and in it "thou shalt do no work, thou nor thy..., etc."

However in the life of the minister, it is usually their busiest and involved day of the week. Another example: The law said that the shewbread was holy and not to be eaten by anyone except the priests. Yet Jesus clearly indicated that when David received and ate it, he was not sinning. Or another; Jesus reminded the Pharisees that though it is not right to harvest crops or do general work with cattle, etc on the Sabbath (such as move them from one pasture to another,) yet there are times when even on the Sabbath it is not wrong. (The animal in the ditch or the disciples "harvesting" grain to eat.)

It seems to me that the principle is that the Sabbath of course is holy; it is not simply another day. But given that fact, one must also be careful to not miss the spirit of the law while observing the letter. I am not suggesting that my illustrations here exactly fit the issue that your letters have addressed. But I am appealing that in all our conclusions we faithfully follow the inspired counsel of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, and that we also remember that God is the judge. Even when we err and make mistakes, either individually or corporately, He does not forsake us when it is in our

Barbara Isenberg

Page 2

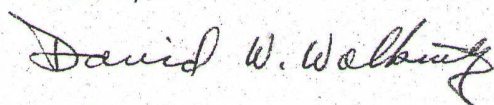
July 31, 1997

hearts to please Him. There have been many times I have learned from my mistakes thus helping me not to continue to make the same mistakes.

So perhaps if I knew all the facts surrounding a given case in which it appears that the church has erred, I want to be more contemplative before assuming anything or in appearing to be judgmental. Of one thing I am very sure, I am so grateful that the Holy Spirit is the divine administrator of God's remnant church. And that even though as a church/a people, we are "defective and enfeebled," we are still "the only object on earth upon which God bestows His supreme regard."

Barbara, in conclusion I want to thank you again for your concerns. Thank you for the quotes; I shall keep them and contemplate them often as a leader in whatever capacity. With this letter, our fourth on the subject, I need to conclude this issue. In other words, this will be my last letter on this topic. Thank you again for the time you have taken. May God richly bless you and me and His church along with all of it's leaders, that all might receive much more of His Holy Spirit so our characters might perfectly reflect Him who died for us. Oh how much I desire this to be true in my life each day. God bless!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David W. Wolkwitz". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

David W. Wolkwitz

Special Assistant to Pastor Finley

September 9, 1997

Elder Wintley Phipps
Assoc. Director
Dept. of Public and Religious Liberty
G.C. of Seventh-day Adventists
12051 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Springs, Maryland 20904-6600

Dear Elder Wintley Phipps,

Thank you for responding to my letter on June 30. I apologize for the long delay in getting back to you. I have been out of town, but I still like to return letters to people on a prompt basis.

In answer to your letter - yes, I am referring to the General Conference suing churches that are Seventh-day Adventist, but not part of the General Conference (and are operating independently). I believe that they should be given "liberty of conscience" and left alone.

As I mentioned in my first letter, I think that it is very wrong for the General Conference, representing all of the affiliated churches and members, to join with the state (by trademarking it's name) and then use the state's power to persecute these churches (by suing them)! That is what the Roman Catholic Church did - they claimed others were not "Christians" that did not "affiliate" themselves with their church - and persecuted them using the state's power. Do you not see that the General Conference is doing the same thing by calling those who will not "affiliate" themselves with the G.C. of Seventh-day Adventists, not "Seventh-day Adventists" and then suing them??

Yes, I can see that the group of Davidians in Waco - and other groups who use the name Seventh-day Adventist - can cause some confusion. But, in spite of this, I believe we are to trust in God, follow His counsel, and "leave them alone!". We should let God be the judge and take whatever action He sees necessary. "Revenge is mine saith the Lord". God is certainly able and willing to take care of His church, if they are living in obedience to Him! Many stories in the Old Testament point out that when His people did not obey Him but did what they wanted to, trusting in themselves instead of Him, He left them alone to let them see the result of their course of action. I believe that God will do the same with any group of people who are not living in obedience to Him! If the G.C. Seventh-day Adventist Church does not obey God, He will not take up for them against other "Seventh-day Adventists" who are obeying Him! I know some that are!

I sincerely hope that you will prayerfully look at this matter deeper than it appears that you have based upon what you have written in your letter to me.

Yours in Christ,

Barbara Isenburg



SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST
CHURCH

General Conference
World Headquarters

26 November 1997

Office of General Counsel

12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, Maryland
20904-6600 USA
Telephone (301) 680-6320
Fax (301) 680-6329

Barbara Isenburg
P.O. Box 284
Spring City, TN 37381

Re: Image of the Beast Inquiry

Dear Mrs. Isenburg:

Thank you for your recent reminder. I will look into this matter again and request a response from the Biblical Research Institute. I'm not sure why there has been a delay; I appreciate your patience.

Very truly yours,

Walter E. Carson

WEC:hb

BIBLICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
(301) 680-6790



General Conference of

Seventh-day Adventists

CHURCH WORLD HEADQUARTERS • 12501 OLD COLUMBIA PIKE, SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND
20904-1608 USA TEL: (301) 680-6000 TLX: 440186 FAX: (301) 680-6090 CBL: ADVENTIST, WASHINGTON

12/3/97

Walter Carson
Legal Department
OFFICE

Dear Walter:

In response to your inquiry about the letter that Barbara Issenburg has sent along about the identification and activities of the beast, we hold that the prophetic identification of the sea beast in the first half of Rev 13 is made up of a number of identifying characteristics that are found in the text of Rev 13 and in the Parallel passage in Daniel 7. These characteristics include:

1. It arises from the Roman empire, thus it is Roman in character
2. It had three of the barbarian tribes plucked up before it, this occurred in the 6th century A. D.
3. It was a persecuting power, witness the crusades and the inquisition
4. It was a blasphemous power, witness the titles and theology claimed by the pope such as indulgences, confession, excommunication and interdict
5. It was to seek to change times and the law, or, time with respect to the law. This is manifest especially in the change of the Sabbath to Sunday
6. It was to last with its period of dominion for 42 months or 1260 historical years, this took place from 538 to 1798

All of these characteristics combine to identify the beast as the Roman Catholic Church headed by the papacy in the Vatican. It is a discrete historical identity that has functioned in this way through much of the Christian era.

The land beast of the second half of Revelation 13 has been identified as the United States because it is a new power that arises about the time that the deadly wound was administered to the first beast, it arises from an unpopulated area and it starts out lamblike, but will eventually act like the dragon and beast before it when it creates the image to the beast. This we look forward to in a legislative or judicial form when the false Sabbath created by the first beast will be enforced by the second beast. That has not yet taken place to my knowledge.

I do not see what any of this type of prophetic interpretation has to do with local lawsuits either for or against the church.

I hope that this helps.

Best regards,

Yours truly,

Bill Shea

Creation Ministries

Christian Health Educators and Publishing Arm for the Creation 7th Day Adventist Church

Post Office Box 284

Spring City, Tennessee 37381-0284

Telephone: 423.365.7469 * Email: Administrator@7th-day-adventist.org

November 10, 1998

Bill Knott, Associate Editor, *Adventist Review*
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20904-6600

Dear Brother Knott,

My wife and I were in the Silver Spring area in late October, and visited the General Conference Headquarters. We requested to visit with you and also with Walter Carson. We were delighted to have opportunity to speak personally with Attorney Carson, but were disappointed in missing the same with you. Kindly, your then secretary, Beverly Koester, invited us to spend the evening with her and her husband, Carl. We were grateful for the hospitality extended to us there.

Our concerns which we wished to place before you were related to apparent errors published in the September 25 issue of the *Review*, article entitled, *What's in a Name?*, wherein you interview Walter Carson. We had just returned from a stay in the Bronx, New York, where we researched the court records regarding the Greater New York Conference dispute with a deposed Adventist group. Attorney Carson was quick to say that there was "typo" error in the article, but with *three* such errors, we regarded that extent and form of misinformation to be more than a mere "typo." The facts to which I refer are as follows:

	Published in the <i>Review</i> article—	Published in the court files—
Conference congregation	= Immanuel	Emmanuel
unincorporated association	= Emmanuel	Emanuel
location of dispute	= Brooklyn	Bronx

Had I not Providentially made contact with defendant, Pastor Ivan C. Plummer, before traveling to New York, I would have been totally misdirected in seeking the public court records on this case. I *did* experience some difficulty and "confusion" as a result of the misinformation. This is ironic, as the said dispute over the *name* SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST is supposedly pertaining in a large degree to the "confusion" which is caused by employment of similar names. The whole situation is terribly unfortunate.

Actually, our interest in the matter is related to the implications for restriction of religious liberty in the use of a particular religious name, and the civil actions being taken by a church to disfranchise Sabbath-keeping Adventist Christians. It is in our estimation deplorable and unchristian behavior at least. May God have mercy on those in responsible positions who "know not what they do."

At any rate, if you have opportunity to correct the record, we think it fitting. Again, I express our regrets that we were unable to chat with you in person upon our recent visit. Thank you for your time and attention, as I remain

In the Master's Service,

FILE COPY

*Seventh-day
Adventist Church
Of Cohutta*

PO Box 8, Mt. Olivet Rd., Cohutta, GA 30710

March 28, 1998

Creation Ministries
P.O. Box 284
Spring City, Tennessee 37381-0284

Mr. McGill:


Today you violated Christian ethics and the sacredness of the Cohutta Church. Your distributing of literature without the approval of me or the Elders is unforgivable. Neither You, your book or paper on the trademark issue are welcome at the Cohutta Church again.

Your position and reference to wise and foolish virgins is a disgrace to God's work and has no place with the true ministry of God's people. I personally find what you are doing offensive. Would you want someone using your name, claiming to be the real you and claiming to have the real truth? And would you want that person or persons, obtaining money in your name and living a life in your name when their life would not be representative of yours? It is a terrible thing to usurp someone else's identity and bring reproach upon that person. I doubt that you would allow that to happen to you without taking steps to stop it.

You would do better to support God's work than to hinder it. This kind of witness has no support from our Heavenly Father. You would have done better to spend your life's time doing something constructive rather than printing this kind of material. I never cease to be amazed at the number of people who spend their life tearing down the Church rather than promoting the victories that are being gained. There is one good work that comes from this; the faithful can see through the deception in your work and they will remain faithful to the end. You picked the wrong Church in which to seek supporters.

By the way, God defended His name against a usurper. He kicked him and his followers out of Heaven and won't ever let them back in.

Sincerely,


Elder Jim Cox, Pastor

phone (706) 694-8585

Kentucky- Tennessee Conference

of Seventh-day Adventists

POST OFFICE BOX 1088
GOODLETTSVILLE, TN
37070-1088

(615) 859-1391
FAX (615) 859-2120

July 30, 1998

Mr. Walter McGill
PO Box 284
Spring City, TN 37381-0284

Dear Mr. McGill:

I have learned of your (and/or members of your group) visit to the Memphis First Seventh-day Adventist Church and the Somerville Seventh-day Adventist Church on Sabbath, July 25.

First, I want to say that you are always welcome in any church in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference **IF** your purpose is to worship and be enriched in your relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. However, it appears that your motive goes beyond spiritual worship.

I have received copies of the material you distributed to our members. I can only say that you are misguided in your understanding of the trademark issue as it pertains to the church. You are certainly stretching the issue of the Mark of the Beast by attempting to include the Seventh-day Adventist Church's legal right to protect its name. Whether we like it or not, we live in a world in which the laws of the land are a part of our existence. We are bound by Christian conscience to live within those laws so long as they do not infringe upon our loyalty to God. (Romans 13:1-7).

It is obvious that your opposition to the General Conference's trademark policy is motivated by your desire to use the good name of the Seventh-day Adventist Church to give credibility to your own specious brand of Adventism.

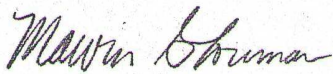
The dissemination of your antagonistic attitudes toward the church is not welcome in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference. If you have disagreements with positions taken by the leadership of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, there are channels through which you can make your concerns known. However, it appears that you have set your own opinion above the combined wisdom and experience of our church leaders and seek to gain sympathy and add to your numbers by working in a similar fashion to Lucifer before his expulsion from the heavenly courts.

I would challenge you, if indeed you no longer feel that the Seventh-day Adventist Church is God's Remnant church, to go out and evangelize the world. There are plenty of people who need to hear the truth for these last days. Time is short. Stop spending your time and energy trying to convince

Letter, McGill
Page 2

loyal Seventh-day Adventists that they have become "foolish virgins" because the leaders of their church seek to protect the good name and reputation of their church and to preserve its distinctive doctrinal platform.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Marvin G. Lowman". The script is cursive and fluid.

Marvin G. Lowman
Executive Secretary

XC: Elder Colin Morris
Elder Richard Hallock, President



"INTO ALL THE WORLD"

Spring City Remnant Church

of

Creation 7th Day Adventists

Post Office Box 284

Spring City, Tennessee 37381-0284

423-365-7469

Email: crmin@ix.netcom.com

"YAH is Our Righteousness"

August 9, 1998

FILE
COPY

Marvin G. Lowman, Executive Secretary
Kentucky-Tennessee Conference of SDAs
Post Office Box 1088
Goodlettsville, TN 37070-1088

Dear Executive Secretary Lowman,

I am in receipt of your detailed letter dated July 30, 1998, expressing to me your disdain regarding my visitation of a couple of your district congregations. My heart is pained from "the sword" of your words and "the darkness" of your perceptions. I would expect a man of your "high estate" to have a fully Christian perspective of "liberty of conscience" and "true worship." It is apparent to me that your lack of understanding in this "great controversy" has predisposed you to invite "judgment without mercy"—not being aware of what you are doing. I intercede for you in the holy name and Spirit of *Yahshua*, that you be forgiven in your ignorance.

I must warn you, however, of the grave danger in trifling with your Maker respecting this General Conference Trademark Policy issue. In researching the history of trademarks thoroughly, I found a distinct thread, tracing back to "the ancient uses of marks" as summarized in the Church periodical (*Review and Herald*, April 24, 1913, page 393; http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/Creation_7th_Day_Adventists/markseal.htm). I spent quality time drafting a letter, including much of my Biblical exposition, to the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Communications Department and received no rebuttal or answer (complete letter at http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/Creation_7th_Day_Adventists/let2gc1.htm). Just as in the days of the Savior, when "the hierarchy" expected a "temporal Messiah", "the church" of our day seeks to erect a "temporal tower of Babel"—making "a name" for herself, lest she be "scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth."

The "Spirit of prophecy" has informed us: "When the early church became corrupted by departing from the simplicity of the gospel and accepting heathen rites and customs, she lost the Spirit and power of God; and in order to control the consciences of the people, she sought the support of the secular power. The result was the papacy, a church that controlled the power of the state and employed it to further her own ends, especially for the punishment of 'heresy.' . . . It was apostasy that led the early church to seek the aid of the civil government, and this prepared the way for the development of the papacy — the beast. . . . So apostasy in the church will prepare the way for the image to the beast." GC 443

"The [SDA] church cannot measure herself by the world nor by the opinion of men nor by what she once was. Her faith and her position in the world as they now are must be compared with what they would have been if her course had been continually onward and upward. The [SDA] church will be weighed in the balances of the sanctuary. If her moral character and spiritual state do not correspond with the benefits and blessings God has conferred upon her, she will be found wanting If her talents are unimproved, if her fruit is not perfect before God, if her light has become darkness, she is indeed found wanting." 5T 83 (1882)

"... Some, when God reproves them for wanting their own way, make the world their confidence, and bring church matters before the world for decision. Then... Christ is crucified afresh and put to open shame. Those church members who appeal to the courts of the world show that they have chosen the world as their judge, and their names are registered in heaven as one with unbelievers." MS 64, 1898

"And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name." Revelation 14:11 This most solemn appeal is not one to be taken lightly. In fact, the third angel's warning is the most crucial of all found in Holy Writ. How could God's people not see "the *mark* of his *name*"? And how could they not perceive that the Son of the Living God was in their midst?

You have published several unsubstantiated assertions such as my doctrine being a "specious brand of Adventism." In all due respect, sir, I allege with proof-positive that the current General Conference Trademark Policy is a "specious *brand* of [Seventh-day] Adventism" which is qualifying your organization to be classified as "the image to the beast." "Note: The beast 'which had the wound by a sword, and did live,' is the Papacy. That was a church dominating the civil power, a union of church and state, enforcing its religious dogmas by the civil power, by confiscation, imprisonment, and death. An image to this beast would be another ecclesiastical organization clothed with civil power— another union of church and state— to enforce religion by law." *Bible Readings for the Home*, page 261

I would respectfully challenge you to educate yourself and your brethren on the evils of spiritualism (use of worldly court systems to settle church grievances), re-evaluate just what "good" the "trademark policy" has done for the Church and the Kingdom so far, and reverse your course before the curtain of human probation is forever closed. I further challenge you to refute my doctrine with a plain "thus saith the LORD." In any wise that I have erred in the application of Holy Scripture or "Spirit of prophecy", I humbly recant.

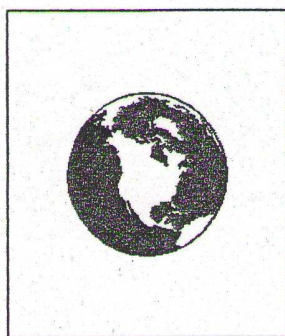
Should you be willing to review my doctrine in its entirety, I am pleased to mail you five booklets and a 5.5 hour video tape at no cost. We are "evangelizing the world" by "free offers" of these and other materials on the Internet at <http://7th-day-adventist.org/>. If I may be of any service to you or your brethren, please contact me by postal mail or Email at the addresses in the head of this letter. I remain

Faithful to His Faith,



Walter "Chick" McGill
Pastor/Evangelist

FILE
COPY



"INTO ALL THE WORLD"

Spring City Remnant Church of Creation 7th Day Adventists

Post Office Box 284
Spring City, Tennessee 37381-0284
423-365-7469

<http://www.7th-day-adventist.org/>

Email: crmin@ix.netcom.com

"YAH is Our Righteousness"

FILE COPY

August 27, 1998

Elder Jim Cox
Seventh-day Adventist Church of Cohutta
PO Box 8
Cohutta, GA 30710

Elder Cox:

Five months ago I received your letter of reproof regarding my distribution at your church of "offensive" literature on the SDA trademark issue. Ample time in prayer has enabled me to respond to your observations and conclusions. Allow me to publish the following comments in relation to some of your specific text:

Elder Cox writes—

1) "Your distributing of literature without the approval of me or the elders is unforgivable."

RESPONSE: If I did, in fact, "sin" against you or the "Elders", my Savior states that "all manner of sin is forgivable" except the sin against the Holy Ghost. I am sorry that you feel required to "filter" and approve what your congregation reads. I regard this protocol to be a form of "mind control" which very nearly approaches "the sin against the Holy Ghost." However, I have intended no personal disregard for either you or "the Elders" of your church.

2) "Would you want someone using your name, claiming to be the real you and claiming to have the real truth? And would you want that person or persons, obtaining money in your name and living a life in your name when their life would not be representative of yours?"

ANSWER: Actually, there are scores of "Walter McGills" in the world, and I have not protested any of them using "my name." I am known more by my character than by my given name. With respect to church names, there are many different Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, etc. churches in various places— all having their own particular associations, according to their varied beliefs. I have never posed as "the Seventh-day Adventist Church", nor have I, since June, 1988, endeavored to convince anyone that I belong to the "Seventh-day Adventist Church." I am a "Creation 7th Day Adventist" in protest against the restriction of religious liberty through trademark laws. The Seventh-day Adventist Church has taken the lead in this abominable activity; and consequently, your constituency must be educated as to her guilt before the judgment bar of God. Her sins have "reached unto Heaven."

No, I am not concerned about others "using [my] name", "claiming to be the real [me]", or "obtaining money in [my] name...". My Father in Heaven takes care of me, and He rewards all "offenders" in His own time and way. "'Vengeance is Mine', saith YAH."

3) "...God defended His name against a usurper. He kicked him and his followers out of Heaven and won't ever let them back in."

RESPONSE: The process of Lucifer's expulsion from Heaven is not as you might think, but I shall not cavil with you on this point. The fact is that, since the time of sin's appearance on this planet, God's name has been "usurped" time and again. He has yet to "terminate" those guilty parties, but in the execution of judgment,

He does a "strange" work at "the end of all things." You will recall that the Roman Catholic Church "usurped" the name of "Christian", and brought untold reproach upon the cause of Christ for more than a millennium. He has not yet issued their punishment, nor has He "kicked" them off the earth. Christ has merely called out those "faithful souls" who would exercise no power but His Spirit, and follow no "creed" but His Word.

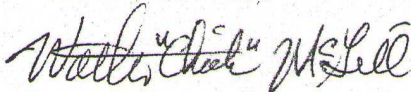
4) "Neither You, your book or paper on the trademark issue are welcome at the Cohutta Church again."

RESPONSE: I do not regard your statement to be representative of the congregation at large.

Therefore, I must consider this prohibition to be the decision of one who fears what may come upon him if the "flock" were to be educated aright. I, as the Savior, would not foolishly cause "a scene" at your worship hour. You have no need to fear. My intention has been, and continues to be, the salvation of God's people, enabling them to "stand in the day of the LORD." As members of your organization, "the brethren" place themselves in spiritual jeopardy and endanger their souls during this most solemn period of investigative judgment. You would do well to view this trademark issue from vantage ground. "Policy" is the "prophet of Baal." And the "General Conference Trademark Policy" represents the epitome of "Baal worship." A thorough understanding of Genesis 11 is of great value here—particularly with respect to those "apostates" who wish to "make for themselves a name." If you are willing to study the history of trademarks, you shall find a thread of development stemming from an era before that of John on Patmos, who authored Revelation 13 (viz., "the mark"). My initial Biblical exposition (in part) may be located on the Internet in the form of a letter to the General Conference Communications Department. The URL is http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/Creation_7th_Day_Adventists/let2gc1.htm. An interesting article pertaining to this study is found in *Review and Herald*, April 24, 1913, page 393. I have published it at http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/Creation_7th_Day_Adventists/markseal.htm.

I appeal to your sense of reason, praying that you shall educate yourself and your brethren on the evils of spiritualism (employment of worldly court systems to settle church grievances), re-evaluate what "good", if any, the "trademark policy" has done for the Church and/or the Kingdom to date, and reverse your course before the curtain of human probation is forever closed. I respectfully challenge you to refute my doctrine with a plain "thus saith the LORD." In the event that I have erred in the application of Holy Writ or Spirit of prophecy principles, I humbly recant. You may discover the complete message of "the fourth angel" by carefully searching the many links beginning with <http://7th-day-adventist.org/>.

Faithful to His Name,



Walter "Chick" McGill
Pastor/Evangelist

FILE COPY

Prior U.S. Cls.: 38, 100, 102 and 107

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Amended

Reg. No. 1,177,185

Registered Nov. 10, 1981

OG Date Aug. 21, 1990

**TRADEMARK
SERVICE MARK
PRINCIPAL REGISTER**

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

GENERAL CONFERENCE CORPORATION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS (D.C. CORPORATION)
12501 OLD COLUMBIA PIKE
SILVER SPRING, MD 20904-6600

NO CLAIM IS MADE TO THE EXCLUSIVE RIGHT TO USE "ADVENTIST", APART FROM THE MARK AS SHOWN, SEC. 2(F).

FOR: RELIGIOUS BOOKS, MAGAZINES, PAMPHLETS, NEWSLETTERS, BROCHURES, ENCYCLOPEDIAS, DICTIONARIES, COMMENTARIES, FLIERS, BULLETINS, YEARBOOKS, BOOKLETS AND BIBLES, IN CLASS 16 (U.S. CL. 38).

FIRST USE 0-0-1861; IN COMMERCE 0-0-1861.

FOR: ESTABLISHMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF EMPLOYEE HEALTH CARE AND BENEFIT PROGRAMS AND MEDICAL INSURANCE PROGRAMS, IN CLASS 36 (U.S. CL. 102).

FIRST USE 0-0-1973; IN COMMERCE 0-0-1973.

FOR: EDUCATIONAL INSTRUCTION SERVICES IN ACADEMICS AT GRADE SCHOOL, HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE LEVEL; FILM PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION SERVICES, IN CLASS 41 (U.S. CL. 107).

FIRST USE 0-0-1894; IN COMMERCE 0-0-1894.

FOR: HEALTH CARE SERVICES—NAMESLY, HOSPITAL DENTAL, PHARMACEUTICAL, NURSING HOME, AND MEDICAL LABORATORY SERVICES; CONDUCTING RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES AND MISSIONARY SERVICES, IN CLASS 42 (U.S. CL. 100).

FIRST USE 0-0-1860; IN COMMERCE 0-0-1860.

SER. NO. 73-261,134, FILED 5-7-1980.

*In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand
and caused the seal of The Patent and Trademark
Office to be affixed on Aug. 21, 1990.*

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

The Creation 7th Day Adventist Church

Post Office Box 284
Spring City, Tennessee 37381-0284

"YAH is Our Righteousness"

Administrator@7th-day-adventist.org

June 28, 1999

FILE
COPY

Jan Paulsen, President
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20904-6600

Dear President Paulsen,

It is with great intensity that I draft this letter to you. I trust that you will have the opportunity to read it personally, and not merely one of your assistants in your behalf.

You are very aware that the General Conference Corporation owns various trademark/service marks, including the religious name "Seventh-day Adventist." I am alarmed at the level of insensitivity to the voice of God demonstrated by your staff in the court action which has recently been initiated by the General Conference Corporation against the Eternal Gospel SDA Church in West Palm Beach, Florida.

Sir, where can you substantiate your action from the Word of God? Ellen White, co-founder of the SDA Church wrote:

But God will have a people upon the earth to maintain the Bible, and the Bible only, as the standard of all doctrines and the basis of all reforms. The opinions of learned men, the deductions of science, the creeds or decisions of ecclesiastical councils, as numerous and discordant as are the churches which they represent, the voice of the majority—not one nor all of these should be regarded as evidence for or against any point of religious faith. Before accepting any doctrine or precept, we should demand a plain "Thus saith the Lord" in its support. *The Great Controversy*, page 595.

Your "trademark policy" is actually a portion of your church's "religious faith" at this time. I can see no more authority for this "policy" in the Bible than you would see authority in the Bible for Sunday sacredness. The Roman Catholic Church does not claim to *need* the Bible in substituting the Sunday for Sabbath, since it is the "mark of her divine authority." Accordingly, you have no apparent *need* for the Bible in formulating your "trademark policy", and in this work, you effectively take the position that you now have "a mark" of your "divine authority." Have you considered the deception in which Satan has trapped you? In principle, your church has embraced the same stance on Scripture as the Roman Catholic Church. Adventists have historically regarded the Papacy as "the beast" of Revelation. Would the General Conference Corporation not now become an "image to the beast"? Does this "confuse" you? What does *Bible Readings for the Home* define "the image of the beast" to be? Allow me to quote it for you here.

Note: The beast 'which had the wound by a sword, and did live.' is the Papacy. That was a church dominating the civil power, a union of church and state, enforcing its religious dogmas by the civil power, by confiscation, imprisonment, and death. An image to this beast would be another ecclesiastical organization clothed with civil power—another union of church and state—to enforce religion by law. pp. 244, 245.

Do you perceive my point? If not, let me "spell it out" for you. Taking one step at a time—

1) The SDA Church is "another ecclesiastical organization." True or False?

- 2) The SDA Church is "clothed with civil power" by trademark law. True or False?
- 3) The General Conference Corporation constitutes "another union of church and state" under trademark law. True or False?
- 4) The General Conference Corporation seeks "to enforce religion by law" in prosecuting those who infringe upon her trademarked church name "Seventh-day Adventist."
- 5) Those who are found guilty of trademark infringement can experience confiscation of property, imprisonment, [and even death— under extreme conditions.] True or False?

Do you now understand the logic of my conclusions? I think that you certainly do. However, are you willing to set in motion a reversal of the existing evil? Will you and your brethren repent before the seven last plagues fall upon you and your hierarchy? Read the words of Ellen G. White:

Here we see that the church--the Lord's sanctuary--was the first to feel the stroke of the wrath of God. The ancient men, those to whom God had given great light and who had stood as guardians of the spiritual interests of the people, had betrayed their trust. They had taken the position that we need not look for miracles and the marked manifestation of God's power as in former days. Times have changed. These words strengthen their unbelief, and they say: The Lord will not do good, neither will He do evil. He is too merciful to visit His people in judgment. Thus "Peace and safety" is the cry from men who will never again lift up their voice like a trumpet to show God's people their transgressions and the house of Jacob their sins. These dumb dogs that would not bark are the ones who feel the just vengeance of an offended God. Men, maidens, and little children all perish together. *Testimonies for the Church Volume Five*, page 211.

Let us go further by quoting another of Ellen's warnings to God's people:

The church cannot measure herself by the world nor by the opinion of men nor by what she once was. Her faith and her position in the world as they now are must be compared with what they would have been if her course had been continually onward and upward. The church will be weighed in the balances of the sanctuary. If her moral character and spiritual state do not correspond with the benefits and blessings God has conferred upon her, she will be found wanting. The light has been shining clear and definite upon her pathway, and the light of 1882 calls her to an account. If her talents are unimproved, if her fruit is not perfect before God, if her light has become darkness, she is indeed found wanting. *Ibid*, pp. 83, 84.

Therefore, I call you and the SDA Church to accountability. Is your "fruit...perfect before God"? You know that it is not. Is your "trademark policy" vindicating the character of the Creator and Father of light? You also know that it is not. "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." James 4:17. "But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, . . ." Luke 13:27, 28a. "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." Heb 10:31.

It is not yet too late for you, my dear friend. "Your only safety is in coming to Christ, and ceasing from sin this very moment. The sweet voice of mercy is sounding in your ears to-day, but who can tell if it will sound to-morrow?" (ST 08-29-92).

Respectfully yours,



Walter "Chick" McGill, Pastor



SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST
CHURCH

North American Division

July 28, 1999

Pastor Walter McGill
P. O. Box 284
Spring City, TN 37381-0284

Office of the President

12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, Maryland
20904-6600, USA
Telephone: (301) 680-6406
Fax: (301) 680-6464
102555.1534@compuserve.com

Dear Pastor McGill:

Thank you for taking the initiative to express your concerns about the Eternal Gospel Church and its inappropriate use of the initials "SDA" in its church name. We appreciate hearing from members about their concerns.

The litigation between the Adventist Church and the Eternal Gospel Church is not aimed at stopping the congregation from declaring truth. The issue is the church's designation that the congregation is an Adventist church. The congregation is not a member of the sisterhood of churches in a local conference, and thus not aligned with the denomination. The use of the Adventist name confuses that fact and suggests that the congregation's statements, whatever they are in public, are statements on behalf of the denomination.

Pastor Perez, the leader of the Eternal Gospel Church, has agreed on several occasions, as result of dialogue and correspondence with church leadership, to cease using the designation "SDA" in the congregation's name. Now he has chosen not to follow through on those written and verbal agreements.

Church leadership is eager for the truth to be proclaimed. We still believe and preach the bedrock truths that the Seventh-day Adventist denomination has proclaimed throughout its history. The Net Evangelistic meetings — in 1995 and 1996 and 1998 — have proclaimed those truths. We will continue to preach the gospel as often as we can find the resources to do so.

Thanks again for your letter. I trust that this information will clarify the concerns you have expressed.

God bless you,

Kermit Netteburg
Assistant to the President for Communication

Enclosures



SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST
CHURCH

General Conference
World Headquarters

August 2, 1999

Office of the President

12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, Maryland
20904-6600 USA
Telephone (301) 680-6602
Fax (301) 680-6624

Walter McGill, Pastor
the Creation 7th Day Adventist Church
P O Box 284
Spring City, TN 37381-0284

Dear Pastor McGill:

Your letter has reached Elder Paulsen, and he wishes to thank you for taking the time to write and express your deep concern about the matter of trademarks. He wishes to inform you that your letter has been referred to the office within the North American Division that is dealing with this matter.

Sincerely,

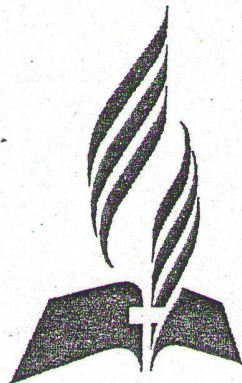
Gerry D Karst
Assistant to the President

/dw

What's in a Name?

Attorney Walter Carson talks about why the name of the Adventist Church must be protected.

BY BILL KNOTT



SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST CHURCH

HIS BROW FURROWS AS HE stares out the conference room window at the clouds piling up in the blue Maryland sky.

"Whenever the church leadership concludes that we have to use the legal system to defend the good name of the church, we get a lot of mail," he says slowly. "Not only is there a cultural distrust of the court system in America, but Adventists have even greater reasons for being wary of litigation."

"Our serious approach to Scripture, particularly Matthew 18 and 1 Corinthians 6, means that we will always have reservations about using the court system under even the most clear-cut circumstances."

For Walter Carson, a lawyer working in the Office of General Counsel at church headquarters, the issues that swirl around the uses and misuses of the name of the Seventh-day Adventist Church are weighty and troubling.

"We receive letters that inform us that by applying for and receiving trademark protection for the name of the church, we have fulfilled prophecies from the book of Revelation," he adds. "In the thinking of these sincere members, we have applied for protection to 'the beast' and have formed an image to it. Trying to protect the good name of the church through the legal system from those who would abuse it is just another evidence to these members of how the church has corrupted itself."

Carson has worked in the General Conference Office of General Counsel for 21 years and is the department's "go-to" person on issues of trademark protection and intellectual property rights. Along with other members of the six-member staff, he has been involved in several pivotal cases that

have affected the opportunity of dissident groups to use the name "Seventh-day Adventist" to describe themselves. A February 1996 decision by the U.S. Trademark Trial and Appeal Board of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office confirmed the church's trademark registration of the name "Seventh-day Adventist" and allows the church exclusive use of the name "Adventist" as well.

"The perspective that my colleagues and I share along with church leadership is that these are really matters of stewardship," says Carson. "When the name 'Seventh-day Adventist' was taken by Sabbathkeeping Adventists as their official name, there were a host of implications for the future, some of which were comprehended by those who voted the action."

"To that point, title to property had only been held by individuals: beginning in 1863, it could be held by a legal corporation functioning as an arm of the church. Without a formal organization or an officially-approved ministerial force, disaffected or self-appointed preachers could represent themselves as being fully Adventist."

"Both of those issues are still with us, as some of the litigation we are involved in will show," he adds. "Can a dissident group or breakaway pastors legitimately use the name 'Seventh-day Adventist' to describe a ministry when they have removed themselves from the worldwide fellowship of the church that bears that name? We think not."

At issue in the U.S. District Court of New York at present is a case involving an unincorporated group that separated itself from the Immanuel Seventh-day Adventist Church in Brooklyn. Taking the name "Emmanuel Seventh-day Adventist Church," the group has also filed a

suit to claim tithes and offerings belonging to the established Adventist congregation organized with the Greater New York Conference. Conference leaders are responding to the civil case in a state court, while the General Conference has filed suit on the trademark infringement issue in Federal court.

"Some Adventists might feel that we would do well to ignore these abuses," Carson says. "They are content to say, 'Let God work out the problems.' But there is a moral—and even monetary—value to the name of the church, as suits like this one show. A name may not be tangible, but it has a distinct value in the marketplace of ideas. The damaging publicity that attended the Waco tragedy some years ago, in which the Koresh group was incorrectly linked with the Seventh-day Adventist Church, created great confusion in the public mind.

"A name, particularly the name of a faith community, identifies it and its value system as distinct from all others. Those who would co-opt that name or trade on its potential for goodwill are acting unethically and illegally. They confuse the public, the media, and, at times, even our own members."

Carson expresses mild amusement at the contradictory attitudes that some Adventists have toward their denomination's involvement in litigation.

"When the church files a lawsuit to protect the rights of an Adventist employee who has been discriminated against or fired for Sabbathkeeping, there is little except applause. Similarly, when this office has filed amicus (friend of the court) briefs in high-profile legal cases that affect the constitutional rights of Adventists and other religious adherents, this is perceived as a legitimate activity by most, if not all, Adventists.

"But protecting the good name of the church through litigation troubles many Adventists," he says, noting that an average of nearly 10 situations arise each year that require some response from his office. "Our first response is to

attempt a brotherly approach to those who are no longer acting brotherly. We ask them to discontinue their use of a name that they no longer bear as a result of their choices. Most of the time, the only response we receive to our request is 'We'll do what we want.'

"Both Matthew 18 and 1 Corinthians 6 address the negative influence of adversarial, brother versus brother lawsuits," Carson notes (see "Courting

*Our goal is to
resolve all
differences at the
lowest level possible.*

Trouble," page 8, for a fuller discussion).

"But both also imply a time when the dissenting brother is no longer acting like a brother who recognizes the authority of the church to resolve issues, and is a candidate for a different kind of response from the church.

"These decisions are made carefully and, I would add, prayerfully, with full

counsel from the General Conference leadership. Our goal is consistent with the biblical counsel to resolve all differences at the lowest level possible and thus preserve the opportunity for improved relationships in the future."

Carson anticipates more cases involving the name of the church to emerge in the months ahead. "The explosion of information and business represented by the growth of the Internet will bring many complex issues to the fore," he says. "We aren't yet clear on how the laws protecting the use of the church's name will apply to electronic media or to the various websites that describe themselves as Adventist. Our goal is to faithfully apply the principles of our work so that the name Seventh-day Adventist continues to have a clear, unambiguous meaning to the public and in the minds of all who hold this church dear." ■

Bill Knott is an associate editor of the Adventist Review.



WARNING: DO NOT READ THIS BOOK IN CHURCH.

• EVEN THE ANGELS MUST LAUGH AGAIN

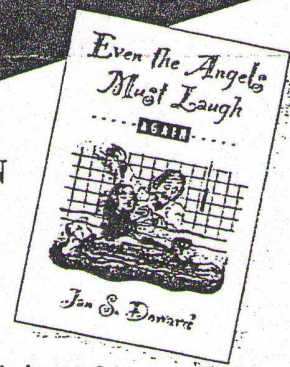
Jan S. Doward. Have you ever been in church and witnessed something so funny you almost suffocated trying to contain yourself? This updated version of an old favorite with new stories added is a priceless collection of actual incidents and accidents that have occurred in church.

Story by story, this collection of humor will remind you of the joy of being a Christian and the wonder of a God who created laughter.

0-8163-1408-X. Paper. US\$5.99, Cdn\$8.49.

AVAILABLE AT YOUR LOCAL
ADVENTIST BOOK CENTER.
CALL 1-800-765-6955.

© 1998 Pacific Press® Publishing Association • Prices subject to change



Pacific Press® Publishing Association
CREATING THE FUTURE OF ADVENTIST PUBLISHING
Visit us at: www.pacificpress.com

ADCOM action 4-6-99:

COMn/NADO/ADCOM/ADCOM to AHT-Corp+PolRev&Dev

TRADEMARK PROTECTION PROCEDURES

A number of churches and entities using the name Seventh-day Adventist are not local Seventh-day Adventist churches or entities of the church. Such usage of the Adventist name violates Section B 80 of the General Conference Working Policy. In order to protect the Church's trademark interests, the Church needs to aggressively pursue the inappropriate and illegal uses of the names Seventh-day Adventist and its derivatives such as Adventist and SDA or their equivalents in other languages. It was

RECOMMENDED, To adopt the following procedures to protect the Church's interests in the names Seventh-day Adventist, Adventist, and SDA, at each step (paragraphs 2.a. through 2.e.) allowing up to 30 days for a response and to refer these procedures to the Policy Review and Development Committee (ADCOM-S) for inclusion in the General Conference Working Policy:

Trademark Protection Procedures

1. When the trademark interests in the name Seventh-day Adventist are threatened in a division, the division officers shall consult with the local conferences, unions, and/or institutions affected. After appropriate consultation, the division administrative committee shall notify the General Conference Administrative Committee and the Office of General Counsel that the division is ready to initiate Trademark Protection Procedures as outlines below. The Administrative Committee shall recommend to the General Conference Corporation that procedures be authorized which may result in legal action.

2. In all cases approved by the General Conference Corporation, the Trademark Protection Procedures shall include the following steps:

a. A division officer will send a letter asking the church or entity to cease and desist from using the Seventh-day Adventist name, and requesting a written response indicating compliance. The letter should indicate that failure to give this response may result in legal proceedings to obtain injunctive relief. A copy of this letter from the division officer and the response (if there is one) from the church or entity will be sent to the local and union conference presidents and to the Office of General Counsel.

b. If a letter of compliance is not received in response to the previous letter (a.), a letter will be sent from the Office of General Counsel asking the church or entity to cease and desist and requesting a response. A copy of this letter and the response (if there is one) from the church or entity will be sent to the local conference and union presidents and to the appropriate division officer.

c. If a letter of compliance is not received in response to the previous letter (b.), a letter will be sent from an attorney who is not a denominational employee stating that the only way to avoid litigation is to send a letter immediately indicating that the church or entity will cease and desist from using the trademarked name. A copy of this letter and the response (if there is one) from the church or entity will be sent to the local conference and union presidents and to the appropriate division officer.

d. If a letter of compliance is not received in response to the previous letter (c.), a final letter will be sent by a division officer, indicating that the division does not want to go to court and that this is the final opportunity to comply with the request to cease and desist before the division is forced to go to litigation. A copy of this letter and the response (if there is one) from the church or entity will be sent to the local conference and union presidents and to the Office of General Counsel.

e. If a letter of compliance is not received in response to the previous letter (d.), the division administrative committee should request the Office of General Counsel through the General Conference Corporation to take the necessary steps to initiate legal proceedings as provided for in section B 80 20 of the General Conference Working Policy.

3. An information packet will be prepared and distributed to concerned members who question why the Church is taking aggressive steps to protect the trademarked name of the Church. The packet should include:

- A letter from an appropriate General Conference officer
- A copy of comments on this subject in the Adventist Review made by Walter E Carson and Calvin B Rock
- A copy of Section B 80 of the General Conference Working Policy
- A copy of these Trademark Protection Procedures
- A copy of the filing, if legal action has been initiated

The Creation 7th Day Adventist Church

Post Office Box 284
Spring City, Tennessee 37381-0284

"YAH is Our Righteousness"

Administrator@7th-day-adventist.org

FILE COPY

August 18, 1999

Office of the President, NAD
Kermit Netteburg
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20904-6600

Assistant Netteburg,

Thank you for your letter dated July 28, 1999 and the enclosures, including the *Adventist Review* article and the *ADCOM action 4-6-99* (two pages). I have read these thoroughly.

I am disappointed that you do not seem to remember me from our past communications. Let me refresh your memory. December 11, 1996 you posted me at <crmin@ix.netcom.com> requesting information about "Pastor McGill" and "the Creation Seventh-day Adventist Church". You posted me again on December 16, 1996 with the following text:

Let me keep my question focused carefully. You have used the term "trademark" from 20th Century law to be interchangeable with the term "mark" from 1st Century biblical application. Can you help me with the exegesis of that? Trademark is a term related strictly to the protection of business interests. I am unfamiliar with the fact that mark is such a term. Please help me with some exegesis of the biblical term mark that relates it to the phrase in 20th Century law. That is my question.

On December 19, 1996, I drafted my biblical exposition, consisting of ten pages, and mailed it to you in care of the General Conference Communications Department. I have heard nothing more from you until now. (If you wish to review the "biblical exposition", my letter to you may be found at the following URL: <http://7th-day-adventist.org/let2gc-1.html>.)

At this point I need to comment on your recent letter to me by paragraph. In the first paragraph you thank me for expressing my "concerns about the Eternal Gospel Church and its inappropriate use of the initials 'SDA' in its church name. We appreciate hearing from members about their concerns." Dear Friend, you have obviously NOT read carefully my letter to President Paulsen. Creation 7th Day Adventists are NOT affiliated with the General Conference in any way, and I did not express "concerns about the . . . inappropriate use of the initials 'SDA' in its church name." You are employing a species of deceit in this paragraph which enters the realm of mind control. "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees which is hypocrisy."

Paragraph two is where you attempt to convince me that there is some reasonable basis for the "litigation between the Adventist Church and the Eternal Gospel Church." Sir, I do NOT "buy your cargo." You offer absolutely NO "thus saith the LORD" for any of your Church's actions.

In paragraph three you misrepresent Pastor Perez in an effort to defame his character. Let me assure you that I have copies of all correspondence in this controversy. I am well able to interpret the meanings of

each sentence drafted. In your letter to Pastor Perez written November 5, 1997, you employed the same "mind control" tactic on him that you used on me in your July 28th letter. Allow me to explain. In Pastor Perez's October 22, 1997 letter to you, he writes, "As I mentioned to you over the phone, I have received your letter dated September 15, 1997, whereby you requested me to stop using the initials 'S.D.A.' in my name. May you please send me your official registered trademarked name for the denomination, so that I may not use it anymore." Your letter reads, "Thank you for your letter dated October 22 in which you have shared with me your willingness to stop using the initials 'SDA' in the name of the Eternal Gospel Church. I would like to point out that the letter which came to me used as a letterhead, 'Eternal Gospel SDA Church.'" Sir, Pastor Perez did NOT say that he would stop using "SDA" in his church's name. He asked you to provide him with "your official registered trademarked name for the denomination," so that he may NOT use "your official registered trademarked name . . .". Further, the "official registration" which was finally provided does NOT designate "SDA" as any portion of the "trademark/service mark". It is interesting to me that in the most recent advertisement which Pastor Perez has published in *US Today*, "**ETERNAL GOSPEL CHURCH OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**" is posted as the responsible party. He has obviously ceased "using the designation 'SDA' in the congregation's name." Which is more objectionable to you: "Eternal Gospel SDA Church" or "Eternal Gospel Church of SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS"? By the way, I searched the trademark database of the USPTO and found that there are only eight trademarks registered with "SDA" as a part of the mark. Yes, the GCC owns two of the registered service marks with "SDA" included, but the International Classes are NOT "016" or "042" which apply to names of religious societies. In the 1996 TTAB decision regarding the trademark/service mark "SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST", the Court noted that the GCC does NOT claim exclusive rights to the word "ADVENTIST" apart from its position in other registered designations. I share with you these facts so that you may be most accurate in your communications on this subject. Of course, you know (or should know) already that we, Creation 7th Day Adventists, reject all trademark/service marks in Classes "016" and "042" which restrict the use of church designations. Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians, and many other denominations have continued conducting business without loss or significant "confusion", even though "off-shoot" after "off-shoot" would employ a name including "Baptist", "Methodist", "Presbyterian", etc. Your Church stands at the front of all "Protestant" churches in her compulsion to "protect [her] good name" through the domination of the "strong arm of civil government."

Paragraph four is your "brag" about the mission of "the Seventh-day Adventist denomination". But let me remind you of what your co-founder, Ellen G. White, wrote to us:

In the balances of the sanctuary the Seventh-day Adventist church is to be weighed. She will be judged by the privileges and advantages that she has had. If her spiritual experience does not correspond to the advantages that Christ, at infinite cost, has bestowed on her, if the blessings conferred have not qualified her to do the work entrusted to her, on her will be pronounced the sentence: "Found wanting." By the light bestowed, the opportunities given, will she be judged. 8T 247.

and,

The church cannot measure herself by the world nor by the opinion of men nor by what she once was. Her faith and her position in the world as they now are must be compared with what they would have been if her course had been continually onward and upward. The church will be weighed in the balances of the sanctuary. If her moral character and spiritual state do not correspond with the benefits and blessings God has conferred upon her, she will be found wanting. The light has been shining clear and definite upon her pathway, and the light of 1882 calls her to an account. If her talents are unimproved, if her fruit is not perfect before God, if her light has become darkness, she is indeed found wanting. The knowledge of our state as God views it, seems to be hidden from us. We see, but perceive not; we hear, but do not understand; and we rest as unconcerned as if the pillar of cloud by day, and the pillar of fire by night, rested upon our sanctuary. We profess to know God, and to believe the truth, but in works deny Him. Our deeds are directly adverse to the principles of truth and righteousness, by which we profess to be governed. 5T 83, 84.

Yes, dear one, you have a "nice" manner about you. You are "polite" and "politically correct." However, we are NOT called to be "men-pleasers", but we are instructed to "keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus."

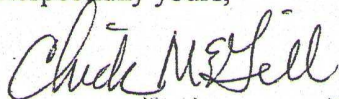
There is manifested on the part of men in responsible positions an unwillingness to confess where they have been in the wrong; and their neglect is working disaster, not only to themselves, but to the churches. Our people everywhere have great need of humbling the heart before God, and confessing their sins. But when it is known that their ministers, elders, or other responsible men, have taken wrong positions, and yet excuse themselves and make no confession, the members of the church too often follow the same course. Thus many souls are endangered, and the presence and power of God are shut away from his people. RH 12-16-90.

This "trademark controversy" has resulted in "the presence and power of God [being] shut away from his people." "Men in responsible positions" have "taken wrong positions, and yet excuse themselves and make no confession." Now, many of the members of the church are inclined to "follow the same course." The sweet voice of mercy has sounded time and again as God's delegated messengers have published warning after warning, appeal after appeal. The Father reasons with you, "Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?" Eze. 18:31.

Assistant Netteburg, I know that you are a busy man. But I challenge you to assess my doctrine by the revealed Word of God. "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good." 1 Thess. 5:21. Examine again the track record of the GC Trademark Policy. Show me one time where this stand taken by the Seventh-day Adventist Church has exalted the God of Heaven. Provide for me a plain "thus saith the LORD" to contradict the sacred position of Creation 7th Day Adventists and our brethren of the Eternal Gospel Church of Seventh-Day Adventists.

Looking forward to your open and honest communications, I remain

Respectfully yours,



Walter "Chick" McGill, Pastor
<http://7th-day-adventist.org/>

FILE COPY

----- Original Message -----

From: Bruce McMillan

To: eternalgospel@att.net

Sent: Thursday, May 11, 2000 4:32 PM

Subject: STATE CHURCH FORMED IN USA

cc sent as of same date shown below.

Further cc may be sent to, as, and when required or requested.

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)

Amnesty International, USA

The President of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

The Freedom Forum Online (State of the First Amendment)

People For the American Way (PFAW)

Separation of Church and State

InfoBeat News

The Federalist Journal

World Net Daily

BBC News: attention Alistair Cooke, Letter From America

Congressman Frank R. Wolf, U.S House of Representatives/FreedomFrom

Religious Persecution Act: International Religious FreedomAct web site

Pastor Raphael Perez, Florida, USA

Bruce W McMillan

bmcmill@es.co.nz

3/443A Main South Road

Hornby

Christchurch 8004

NEW ZEALAND

12 May 2000

The President of the United States of America

president@whitehouse.gov

1600 Pennsylvania Ave.

Washington, D.C. 20500

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Mr. President

I implore you dear sir to take the time to read this email and carefully consider it's implications. It may in fact yet prove to be the most important message that you have ever received, or will receive while as President of the United States of America - the land of the free - a land made great by her pioneer fathers looking for a promised land having neither 'king nor pope' from which tyranny they were

escaping from. This mind set finally producing a truly free country where the dictates of the individual conscience was not proscribed by law. This is enshrined in your Country's Constitution and detailed beyond contention in the U. S. Bill of Rights. I particularly here refer to the First Amendment. viz:-

Passed by Congress September 25, 1789. Ratified December 15, 1791.

AMENDMENT I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Mr. President, I wouldn't belittle your intelligence by passing comment on this 'Glorious Amendment' that your forefathers had the God-given foresight to enshrine in law. Its interpretation and meaning is self-evident. Some would say without argue, the single greatest thing that has made your country so great.

Are you aware Mr. President that just recently your country for the first time in its entire history established a State Church by Court Order? Apparently instigated by the Roman Catholic Church; the Seventh-day Adventist Church [acting as a front for the RC Church?] is now officially the State Church of the United States of America. AND THAT IS OFFICIAL. Already reports are been heard of people from a variety of Church Ministries been threatened by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and/or their representatives with jail etc. if they don't toe the line. And as the Government favored State Church they now have the law on their side to do just that.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church was established as the State Church of your country on the 27th of April 2000, by Judge James Lawrence King of the United States District Court of Southern District of Florida. CASE NO. 98-2940-CIV-KING. A full transcript of the Judge's decision may be found at the URL below:-

[Click Here](#)

Following the end of this email [slightly edited for accomadation] I am enclosing a copy of a statement from the Defendants that very clearly summarizes the situation at hand as it now stands. The URL for same may be found below:-

[Click Here](#)

I notice that their home web page for further cross references may be found at the URL below:-

[Click Here](#)

The Seventh-day Adventist Church is a catholic (i.e.. international) church. That which is presently taking place in your country will for a certainty quickly follow right around the world. Ignorance is not bliss. Hence 'carbon copies' of this email are been sent and will be sent to various international news reporters so that hopefully the facts and consequences are well known before the 'mid-night knock' inevitably occurs.

Even a glancery view will clearly show that the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventist have by Court of Law Trade Marked their religion binding it up so only those who have their permission may use it. The only religion in the world to ever do so? This I personally find quite amazing especially that the Holy Bible which I assume that they firmly believe in, talks in Revelation Chapter 18 [especially note verses 11 to 13] of traders in the last days buying and selling "slaves, and souls [note the religious conation here] of men." Add to that 2 Timothy 2:9 "...but the word of God is not bound." Both references are from the Douay RC Version. This underhand tactic of course takes away from the individual the right to believe [or not to believe] and proselytize if the dictates of conscience be in a Seventh-day Adventism mold that doesn't find approval by a hierarchal system that may claim the same or a similar name. Further, as your country has started down this slippery road, it must in all fairness now only approve and allow but only one hierarchal body of Baptists to use that name. All other groups of the Baptist ilk outlawed with jail threats if they but dare use the name 'Baptist' in any shape or form. Likewise the Methodists, Roman Catholics, Jews, in fact it would be very difficult to think of any religious group of any sort, that such laws would not apply to.

In Conclusion. Mr. President, I am not a prophet nor the son of a prophet. But one thing as certain as day follows night, unless the above Court Decision is overthrown forthwith and the First Amendment is re-installed into its rightful place. Innocent Men, women, and children in your country will be very shortly filling your jails. They will be prosecuted, penalized, property confiscated, and finally in all probability, life itself taken. Nero tried this same devilish idea as have others throughout the annuls of this earth's history only to discover that God-fearing men, women and children would rather be torn apart by wild beasts, entombed in dark and lonely dungeons, flayed, tortured on the rack, burned alive at the stake, beheaded on the block, and endure persecution and deprivation beyond description of whom this world was not worthy (Hebrews 11:35-38), rather than go against their God-given dictates of conscience. So what has been, will be, but let none of us forget that we all have an appointment before a Superior Court with God as the presiding Judge and there will be no appeal of His decision. May America conduct herself so God can continue to bless your great country. GOD BLESS AMERICA.

Yours faithfully,
Bruce W McMillan
(Author and Freelance Researcher)

[RETURN HOME](#)

Admin@7th-day-adventist.org

Creation Ministries
Publishers for the Creation 7th Day Adventist Church
253 CR 400
Rienzi, Mississippi 38865
662.462.7552
crmin@ix.netcom.com

FILE COPY

November 14, 1999

Robert E. Pershes
2801 University Drive, Suite 205
Coral Springs, Florida 33065

Dear Attorney Pershes:

This letter is to acknowledge receipt of your packet containing file copies of legal documents regarding General Conference Corp of Seventh-day Adventists v. Raphael Perez, et al. For this service I thank you sincerely. Also, I wish to thank you for allowing me a little time with you and Pastor Perez for consultation. I trust that this did not raise his bill appreciably.

Enclosed please find the following items which you requested of me during our meeting in your office on October 27th:

- 1) Two (2) video tapes which have been distributed world-wide to SDAs and non-SDAs alike.
- 2) Three (3) booklets and one (1) booklet revision (in 8.5" x 11" format) which have also been widely circulated since their printing.
- 3) The tape and literature availability list which describes our complete offerings as a public service upon request.

Please notice that we are not in the "business" of selling our "products and services." We have advertised our publications and church message on the world-wide web since January 1, 1997. Our "hit meters" have been reset a couple of times, so it is impossible to ascertain just how many persons have become aware of our sites (and of course, there are many "repeat customers").

Thank you for diligence in your efforts to safe-guard religious liberty in this country. It was indeed a blessing to have your acquaintance.

Respectfully yours,

WALTER O. MCGILL III
Pastor "Chick"

Encls.

FILE COPY

Creation Ministries
Publishers for the Creation 7th Day Adventist Church
253 CR 400
Rienzi, Mississippi 38865
662.462.7552
crmin@ix.netcom.com

November 14, 1999

Eternal Gospel Church of Seventh Day Adventists
PO Box 15138
West Palm Beach, FL 33416

Dear Pastor Perez, Daisy, Meguil, Carl, and Church Family,

We wish to thank you very much for your kind considerations and special hospitality extended to us while we were there for two weeks in expectation of the court trial. We were also blessed to have some assistance for our travel expenses which were much needed. Thank you.

The Heavenly Father wishes His children to the "the head" and not "the tail." We must come up to the Standard as manifested by the life and teachings of the Holy One of Israel. Thanks be to God for His unspeakable Gift of "Christ in you, the Hope of glory."

Here is a word of encouragement which I recently remembered:

When the religion of Christ is most held in contempt, when His law is most despised, then should our zeal be the warmest and our courage and firmness the most unflinching. To stand in defense of truth and righteousness when the majority forsake us, to fight the battles of the Lord when champions are few--this will be our test. At this time we must gather warmth from the coldness of others, courage from their cowardice, and loyalty from their treason.--5T 136 (1882).

and,

When the storm of persecution really breaks upon us, the true sheep will hear the true Shepherd's voice. Self-denying efforts will be put forth to save the lost, and many who have strayed from the fold will come back to follow the great Shepherd. The people of God will draw together, and present to the enemy a united front. . . . The love of Christ, the love of our brethren, will testify to the world that we have been with Jesus and learned of Him. Then will the message of the third angel swell to a loud cry, and the whole earth will be lightened with the glory of the Lord.-- 6T 401. (1900).

Dear Brethren, our prayers and intercessions remain in your behalf as you continue to prepare yourselves and your families for the approaching "storm." May we ALL be found faithful stewards in YAH's vineyard when He comes for His own.

Yours in the Third Angels' Messages,

Pastor "Chick" McGill
Creation 7th Day Adventist Church

P.S. Please read before the body of believers. Thank you.

12/13/99

General Conference President
General Conference of SDA
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Springs, MD 20904

I have been keeping informed about the civil case the GC of SDAs has against the Eternal Gospel Church of Seventh-day Adventists. (Case #98-2940 in US Dist. Ct. of S. Dist. of FL)

I am a Seventh-day Adventist, but not part of the General Conference. I believe in the basic SDA beliefs that the SDA Church was founded upon. I understand that Pastor Raphael Perez also holds these beliefs.

I have been for some time appalled at the court actions of the GC against others who are SDA, but separate from the GC. I am enclosing a copy of a letter written when I first learned of these actions, which explains my beliefs about the name "Seventh-day Adventist" being trademarked in the first place. In brief, I strongly believe that the name never should have been trademarked and that that trademark should be surrendered or cancelled! Trademarking a name and using the government's power to "protect" oneself is not the method Christ would use.

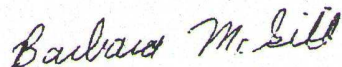
The 1st Ammendment to the US Constitution gives all in America the freedom to express their religion. This includes giving the "Three Angels' Message" warning to the world (which was given to SDAs to give to the world) as well as the freedom for a person to express their faith by calling themselves by the name of their faith!

I fail to see how the Eternal Gospel Church of Seventh-Day Adventists has caused any "damage" or "injury" to the GC of SDAs, or how there is any "competition". Pastor Perez and his church have been giving the same warning that the GC SDA Church started giving in their early years and are not selling a product, so that let's out competition.

Please cease the action being taken against this church, give up, the trademark on the name, Seventh-day Adventist, and sincerely repent of these actions.

CC: Eternal Gospel Church of SDAs

Sincerely,



Barbara McGill
P.O. Box 284
Spring City, TN 37381-0284



SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST
CHURCH

North American Division

Office of the President

12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, Maryland
20904-6600 USA
Telephone (301) 680-6406
Fax (301) 680-6464
E-mail 102555.1534@compuserve.com

February 16, 2000

Barbara McGill
P. O. Box 284
Spring City, TN 37381-0284

Dear Ms McGill:

Thank you for writing to ask about the Eternal Gospel church. I've included a "Frequently Asked Questions" sheet that gives you information about the details of the Eternal Gospel church and its relationship to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. I hope this helps you understand the details of this situation

I hope that these materials will help you gain a more complete understanding of this situation. Please continue to pray that God will guide the leaders of the Church, not only in this matter but also in the great task of bringing the gospel to every man, woman, and child on this earth.

God bless you,

Kermit Netteburg
Assistant to the President for Communication

TO FIND OUT ABOUT CURRENT ADVENTISTS PESECUTIONS

CLIK ON THE FOLLOWING LINKS

www.lanhamact.us

www.thetrueadventistchurch.to

www.pastorwalterchickmcgilllawsuit.net