

WHAT ABOUT THE FACT THAT IN 1872, THE #9 FUNDAMENTAL BELIEF OF THE SDA CHURCH WAS THAT THE 2300 DAYS WAS THE LONGEST PROPHETIC PERIOD?

I completely overlooked the fact that point #9 says the 2300 days is the longest prophetic, so in response, I am sending the following to you to explain that even though that position was held by the leadership, it was not the position of Sister White.

We have to remember that at this time (1872), the majority of the SDA church, including James White, were in the belief that the 2520 was wrong. Therefore, to them, the 2300 days would be the longest prophetic period.

At this time(1872), James White just finished being the GC President, being replaced by George Butler. James then became the President again in 1874. He very much had an influence at the top in 1872, even though he wasn't the GC President for that short time.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_presidents_of_the_General_Conference_of_Seventh-day_Adventists

Also, we recently found out that 3 years later, in 1875, James wrote a book on Miller and said he was correct on the "prophetic periods"

Here is the quote: " Mr. Miller was correct in his application of the prophetic symbols of Daniel and John. In this he is sustained by Protestant expositors generally. {1875 JW, SLWM 7.2}

3. He was also correct in his exposition and application of the prophetic periods.

We know, according to Memoirs of William Miller pages 75-76, that this included the 2520. James also includes this in his book on page 55-56 of the book, (pp 40-41 on the following link)

<http://centrowhite.org.br/files/ebooks/apl/all/JamesWhite/Sketches%20of%20the%20Christian%20Life%20and%20Public%20Labors%20of%20William%20Miller.pdf>

As a matter of fact, according to the prophet, Miller was correct in his reckoning of the prophetic periods

"...I saw that they were correct in their reckoning of the prophetic periods; prophetic time closed in 1844..."(EW 243.2)

And according to her, "...The longest reckoning reaches to the autumn of 1844."{19MR 320.4}

What reaches or extends to 1844 according to her? The prophetic periods found on the 1843 chart. (see EW 74 and 236. I will be quoting from page 236)

"...The hand of the Lord was removed from the figures, and the mistake was explained. **They saw that the prophetic periods reached to 1844...**"(EW 236.1)

We know she acknowledges the prophetic periods Miller taught because she mentions them in GC 324.1-.2(1911) and then quotes from Bliss pages 75-76. On these pages, Miller tells us what those prophetic periods are.

So then, the question to be asked is: If Ellen White believed in Miller and what his associates taught about the prophetic periods, believed they extended to 1844, why didn't she say anything when the church declared the longest prophetic period was the 2300 days? Why didn't she speak up?

There are 3 reasons: and I will give quotes for the last 2 of 3 reasons:

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Reason #1:

She was a woman and women were not highly respected in those days. Men like Uriah Smith and others didn't believe in her to be a prophet. James White was very respected as to the fact he had been the President of the GC several times. She was following a very wise saying she advocated: "SILENCE IS GOLDEN:

Reason #2:

She says God didn't always have her rebuke people in the testimonies.

"..."As many as I love I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent" (Revelation 3:19). **The Lord reproves wrongs in His people, but is this an evidence that He has rejected them?--No. "There are errors in the church, and the Lord points them out by His own ordained agencies, not always through the testimonies..."**(2SM 81.4)

Reason #3: (this is the main answer to the question posed here)

She and James White were both founders of the SDA church. If she would have spoken against him and made it known in the presence of all that she did not see things as he did, it would have caused such confusion and many would have been lost because of it.(see also 6MR 304 to see they did not see eye-to-eye for years, which included the year 1872)

"After this he saw in the Review the article of Brother A. T. Jones in regard to the image of the beast, and then the one from Elder Smith presenting the opposite view. He was perplexed and troubled. He had received much light and comfort in reading articles from Brethren Jones and Waggoner; but here was one of the old laborers, one who had written many of our standard books, and whom we had believed to be taught of God, who seemed to be in conflict with Brother Jones. What could all this mean? Was Brother Jones in the wrong? Was Brother Smith in error? Which was right? He became confused. **When the important laborers in the cause of God take opposite positions in the same paper, whom can we depend upon? Who can we believe has the true position?** {PC 150.1}

Brother Foster was in such perplexity, that he sent word by letter that he could not lead in the meetings. Since the beginning of the week of prayer, temptations have pressed so strongly upon him that he has received no benefit. **These differences among our leading men have absorbed all his thoughts and he is much distressed over the matter. I told him I expected that others who should read these articles would have the same experience. These differences should not have been made public, for some who are weak in the faith would be caused to stumble, and as the result might lose their souls.** I felt keen regret and deep sorrow of heart, for I knew that the Lord was displeased. {PC 150.2}

But I said, "Brother Foster, you have the Bible. Search its pages with a prayerful heart; your Redeemer has promised that the Holy Spirit shall lead you into all truth. You have an Instructor that is full of wisdom, one who never errs. I charge you before God to cease worrying, receive the precious rays of light that come to you, feast upon the truth as it in Jesus, walk in the light while you have the light, and more light will shine upon you from the Source of all light. Do not suffer your mind to dwell upon the differences you think you discern. **If our leading Brethren are so unwise as to allow their conflicting views to appear in the paper published to go to the world; if they present these differences before the large gatherings that assemble to worship God in the tabernacle or else where, they are doing the very things the Lord Jesus told them not to do, and going directly contrary to the light given them through the testimonies.**"

ANOTHER THING:

In 1903, 31 years after that statement in our Fundamental Beliefs, just 12 years before she died, Sister White said we are to read about the Experiences of William Miller and his associates and to read the book of Loughborough(see CW 145.2). According to Loughborough, JV Himes was Miller's "right hand man"(Great Second Advent Movement, page 124.1).

According to JV Himes, the "seven times" is the longest prophetic period. He says the 2300 days period constitutes/composes(makes a part of)the 2520, but the 2520 is the longest. This goes along with what Sister White says in Great Controversy 351 where she says the 70 weeks and 2300 days are a portion of the Longest prophetic period. How can the 2300 days be the longest prophetic period and yet be a portion of itself. *****continue on next page*****

" The record of the experience through which the people of God passed in the early history of our work must be republished. Many of those who have since come into the truth are ignorant of the way in which the Lord wrought. The experience of William Miller and his associates, of Captain Joseph Bates, and of other pioneers in the advent message, should be kept before our people. **Elder Loughborough's book should receive attention. Our leading men should see what can be done for the circulation of this book.**"{CW 145.2}

"Elders Miller and Himes, stood, as it were, in the "fore front of the battle" in the second advent movement in America, and were only two among scores who labored with them in proclaiming the doctrine of the advent of Christ..."(GSAM 124.1)

JV HIMES:

"That, as the 2300 years constitute the longest prophetic period, it must be regarded as the paramount one(constitute = to make a part of)(the 2300 days is the central pillar of our faith, but not the only one..see GC 409.1)..."{January 10, 1844 JVHe, HST 169.9}

HERE'S THE DEFINITIONS FOR BOTH WORDS:

(constitute = to compose; to compose = see definitions)

<http://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/constitute>

<http://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/compose>)

"That we have entered upon a most deeply affecting season, **all must admit. That the longest prophetic period which brings the end to view, the seven times**, with which we may suppose all the others would be squared, in their termination, ends with this autumn, **appears very evident; that we are in the last of the last year of the 2300, is still more evident...**"{September 25, 1844 JVHe, HST 62.7}{according to this quote, JV Himes is showing the 2520 and 2300 days are separate. The 2520 is the longest, and the 2300 days making the end still more evident...this is why Sister White says the 2300 days was the Central Pillar and clearest, because it did indeed make this message most evident, BUT, it was not the only prophetic period Miller taught and it was not the longest. It was 220 years shorter. 2520-2300 = 220. This is because the 2520 started in 677. If you subtract 220 years from 677 BC, it takes you to 457BC. Both end at in the same year, October 22, 1844)

In Closing, remember the following words of the Prophet:

"...**We cannot hold that a position once taken, an idea once advocated, is not, under any circumstances, to be relinquished.** There is but One who is infallible--He who is the way, the truth, and the life.{TM 105.2}

Sister White, in 1906, still held to the belief of what Miller taught regarding the prophetic periods and said that ALL THE MESSAGES GIVEN FROM 1840-1844 ARE TO BE REPEATED BECAUSE EVERY CHURCH HAD LOST IT'S BEARINGS. MILLER DWELT UPON THE PROPHETIC PERIODS, AND WE AS GOD'S PEOPLE ARE TO DO THE SAME AS WE REPEAT THESE VERY MESSAGES.

I hope this is helpful to you and clarifies this matter. I didn't even see that in #9 of the Fundamental Beliefs. If I had, I would not have sent that to everyone. I feel so sad over this.

Christine G.

"**All the messages given from 1840-1844 are to be made forcible now**, for there are many people who have lost their bearings. The messages are to go to all the churches.{21MR 437.1}

"**In March, 1840, William Miller** visited Portland, Maine, and gave his first course of lectures on the second coming of Christ. These lectures produced a great sensation...

...**Mr. Miller traced down the prophecies with an exactness that struck conviction to the hearts of his hearers. He dwelt upon the prophetic periods, and brought many proofs to strengthen his position.** Then his solemn and powerful appeals and admonitions to those who were unprepared, held the crowds as if spellbound."{1T 14.1-.2}