

The Repository of Sacred, Saving Truth

God's Repository of Sacred Truth in the Old Testament

1. The Lord made Israel of old a repository of sacred saving truths (**Rom 9:4**)
2. So, if a Gentile were inquiring about the way to salvation where did he needed to go?
 1. He had to go to the Jews and be taught of them (**John 4:22; Zech 8:20-23**)
3. God made Israel a repository of sacred truths so that they can be a light and a blessing to the Gentiles who were groping in great spiritual and moral darkness
4. Because of this favored status, you would think that Israel's long history would be replete with glorious events highlighting great success in their spiritual endeavors—like a bed of roses from beginning to end
5. In fact, Israel's history was littered with a long list of apostasies, then brief revivals followed by deeper apostasies
6. These apostasies oftentimes led to captivity and national ruin
7. In the end, Israel rejected Jesus as their Messiah and was, in turn, rejected by God
8. So what happened to the sacred truths entrusted to Israel?
9. They were transferred to the early Christian church (**Acts 13:46: 1 Tim 3:15**)
10. Now, we all know what happened to the Christian church after it went through that 1,260 long years of persecution
11. That long period of time is called the Dark Ages for a reason.
12. What happened to the truths committed to the church? (**Dan 8:11-12**)

God's Repository of Sacred Truth for the Time of the End

13. So, does God still have a repository of sacred truths in the time of the end?
14. Who might be God's repository of sacred truths today, post 1798?

The Lord has made his people the repository of sacred truth. Upon every individual who has had the light of present truth devolves the duty of **developing that truth on a higher scale** than it has hitherto been done. But should we be in trust of sacred, advanced truth, and yet be satisfied to work in narrow, selfish lines? The Lord will hold us accountable for the **influence** we might have exerted but did not, because we have not earnestly tried to understand our accountability in this world. We shall either glorify or dishonor God. HM July 1, 1897.

15. The same truths committed to national Israel have all been restored to the Seventh-day Adventist Church!!
 1. The oracles of God (The truths for this time, specially)
 2. the Law, specially the sabbath
 3. the covenants
 4. the Sanctuary

5. the spirit of prophecy
16. God has also bestowed upon the church the unsealed prophecies of Daniel which pertain to the time of the end and which those Jews in the time of Christ had no knowledge of (**Dan 8:26; Dan 12:4**)
17. The SDA church is in so much more favored status today than Old Israel
18. If anyone wishes to be saved today, he needs to be taught by Seventh-day Adventists! Not because they're better, but because they have the truth for this time
19. In other words, we have **the full light of the gospel !!**
20. We have light on the closing work of Jesus in the heavenly sanctuary
21. Former generations never possessed this light!

As we have followed down the chain of prophecy, revealed truth for our time has been clearly seen and explained. We are accountable for the privileges that we enjoy and for the light that shines upon our pathway. Those who lived in past generations were accountable for the light which was permitted to shine upon them. Their minds were exercised in regard to different points of Scripture which tested them. **But they did not understand the truths which we do. They were not responsible for the light which they did not have. They had the Bible, as we have; but the time for the unfolding of special truth in relation to the closing scenes of this earth's history is during the last generations that shall live upon the earth. 2T 692**

22. Why did God restore the light that was given to Israel to us? Why did He make us the repository of sacred truths for the time of the end?
23. **Dan 9:24**—so we can receive the same experience they failed to receive as a result of rejecting their place in God's redemptive plan—
 1. “make reconciliation for iniquity”—pardon and justification
 2. “make an end of sin”—sanctification
 3. “bring in everlasting righteousness”—total Christlikeness; sinlessness of character
24. After all, it is the presence of light that produces the Christian experience (**John 17:17**); the more light absorbed in the soul, the greater the potential for character development
25. Do you realize that we have all the light we need to have the experience that can qualify us to belong to the 144,000?
26. Our level of spiritual maturity therefore, must correspond to the amount of light we have received

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**

Possession of Sacred Naturally Brings Responsibility

27. The more truth bestowed, the more is required (**Luke 12:48**)
28. We need to remember, with the reception of truth , comes responsibility
29. What is our responsibility?
 1. First, Develop the truth into higher . . .
 2. Second, apply the truths in our lives (be ye doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving ourselves (Jas 1:22)
 3. Third, to a share it with others

God had made us the repository of His law, not that we should keep this light hidden under a bushel or under a bed, but set it in a candlestick, that it may give light to the world. The enemy is rejoiced to have those who profess present truth to be indifferent, neglectful of the souls of others. 2LtMs, Lt 19b, 1874, par. 5

Possession of Sacred Truths Make Us Strong as a People

1. It is these truths that make us strong as a people

In reviewing our past history, having traveled over every step of advance to our present standing, I can say, Praise God! As I see what God has wrought, I am filled with astonishment and with confidence in Christ as Leader. We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history. We are now a strong people, if we will put our trust in the Lord; for we are handling the mighty truths of the word of God. We have everything to be thankful for." **3SM 162**

2. When everything is said and done, at the end of the day, are we going to succeed where the Jews failed, or are we going to fail as they did?

An Appeal to Cherish Entrusted Light

3. Let us then fear lest we take for granted the precious truths God entrusted to us
4. Let us fear lest our spiritual experience is found to be less than the light and privileges we have received
5. If God did not spare the natural branches of the olive tree for rejecting truth, how much easier would it be for Him to cut off those branches that were grafter in?
(**Rom 11:17-21**)