

Did the 2300 days actually started in 457BC? Did they actually ended in 1844? Did Christ really entered the holy of holies in 1844 in regard to this prophecy? Did investigative judgement begin in 1844 and is it scriptural?

This article cites History of true religion, by A,N Dugger & C.O Dodd, The Great Controversy by Ellen G. White And the Encyclopedia Britanica, 2003 edition in revealing the greatest falsehood of all ages in justifying a failed calculation of the 2300 days in Daniel 8:13-14

By,

Pastor Wesly Kipkoech Langat

Mt. Zion Seventh Day church of God,

Kericho-Kenya

The Greatest Falsehood of all Ages, in Justifying a Failed Prophetic Calculation

The 2300 days

THE GREATEST FALSEHOOD OF ALL AGES, IN JUSTIFYING FAILED PROPHETIC CALCULATIONS

“...Then I heard one saint speaking and another saint said unto that certain saint which spoke, ‘How long shall be the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot?’ And he said unto me, unto two thousand and three hundred days, then shall the sanctuary be cleansed again...” Daniel 8:13-14

The calculation and interpretation of these days mentioned by a holy one in Daniel 8:13-14 have been a great challenge and confusing to many Christians today. The confusion, however, started in the early 1820s with one preacher named William Miller who was a resident of the USA. The failure of his prophetic calculation which had placed the coming of the Lord Jesus in the spring of October 1844-despite the scriptural knowledge and fact that no one can know this date-, brought great disappointment to the believers in America where it had greatly gained popularity! (The Great Controversy Pages 317, 324, 409 & 432)

The subsequent re-interpretation of this failed prophetic calculation by Ellen G. White introduced the greatest falsehood ever heard by the true church of God in which they were all members and brought a division in the church leading to the birth of Seventh Day Adventist church in the USA (History of the true church by A.N Dugger and C.O Dodd page 95-98). The seventh day Adventist church still holds this secondary interpretation of the mistaken calculation of the 2300 days prophecy to date! it has not appreciated the error made by William Millar and additionally, it has not realised the falsehood introduced by Ellen G. White in justification of the mistakes of William Millar! Sad indeed! Individually save yourself from this error brother! This article reveals this falsehood through the book, “The great controversy” by Ellen G white herself and “The History of True Religion” by A.N Dugger and C.O. Dodd. It will also reveal the truth on this matter citing various historians like Josephus, ‘The Antiquities of the Jews book 2, and ‘Encyclopedia Britannica’. 2003 edition.

According to ‘The great controversy’, William Millar himself was not very certain about the starting point of this prophecy but later settled on 457BC (Pages 324-326, 329). He however ignored the fact that 457BC was the year in which the decree was given to build and restore Jerusalem, not to defile the temple or the Sanctuary as seen in Ezra 1:1- and 6:12-14. This year-457BC- is rightly and truthfully the starting point of the 70 weeks of Daniel 9:24-27 since the Angel said the 70 weeks would begin “from the time the decree is given to build and restore Jerusalem ” (Daniel 9:25). This period would come to its end in 33 AD, marked by the death of Stephen in 34 AD Hence moving the gospel from Jerusalem to the gentile world. Therefore, this underscores the first mistake and Falsehood by both Miller and Ellen G. White! Note that the

prophecy of Daniel 9 is not the prophecy of Daniel 8! The two have no relationship at all!

Another falsehood related to this is how the prophecy of Daniel 8 is mistakenly connected to the prophecy of Daniel 9 which is not related! In desperate search of the starting point of the 2300 days, William Millar and Ellen G. White falsely accused the Angel of failing the command that he was given to make Daniel understand this vision after he sought the meaning. Note what the Angel was commanded to do: "Gabriel, make this man understand the vision." (Daniel 8:15-16). Indeed, the Angel obeyed and gave Daniel a full understanding of this matter without leaving anything uninterpreted! verse 16 to verse 26 is a full interpretation of this matter. He assured Daniel in verse 26 that the Vision of Evenings and mornings that was said is true. Note that the issue of 2300 days was properly dealt with by the two saints conversing together in verses 13 & 14! it needed no further interpretation but an assurance from the angel that it is going to be exactly that way! hence the words, "And the vision of the evening and the morning which was told is true...." (Daniel 8:26a). Daniel fainted after this which was the last part of the interpretation for he had already told Daniel, "Shut thou up this vision for it shall be for many days" (Daniel 8:26b). Therefore, it is a great falsehood-which it, unfortunately, formed the basis of SDA's doctrine-for William Miller and Ellen G. White, to claim that Daniel Had not understood this part of the vision regarding 2300 days hence further explanation in Daniel 9! As seen in The Great Controversy page 325, they both claim that the statement in Daniel 9:22 by the Angel that "I 'am now come to give thee skill and understanding", is a continuation of Daniel 8 interpretation! Unfortunately, it is false! it was to give Daniel an understanding of a matter he could not understand regarding the 70 years of captivity as prophesied by Jeremiah. Note the context as from Daniel 9:2-3 thus, "In the first year of his reign, Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish 70 years in the desolation of Jerusalem. And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications with fasting, and sackcloth and ashes: and I prayed unto the lord my God.....". This prayer continued up to verse 19. verse 21 says, "And while I was speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the beginning... touched me about the time of the evening ablation and he informed me and talked with me and said, 'Ooh Daniel, I 'am now coming forth to give thee skill and understanding. at the beginning of your supplications, the commandment came forth and I 'am now come to show thee.... 70 weeks are determined upon thy people....." so, it's clear that Daniel was praying to understand the idea of the 70 years said by the lord to Jeremiah. the Angel came to make him understand this aspect and he gave him a vision of 70 weeks! it had nothing to do with Daniel 8! the falsehood is hereby basted again!

'The great controversy' on Page 324, reports that William Millar interpreted the sanctuary that was to be defiled to be the Earth which was to be cleansed by Christ upon his return. He however ignored the fact that the Earth was not only defiled from 457 BC but just after creation in the garden of Eden during the fall of man! Note what God told Adam, "The Earth is Cursed because of you..." (Genesis 3:17-). Again, the Earth has not been cleansed yet! it is going to be cleansed by fire at the appointed time which is a secret to all, including even the son of God himself! (1Peter 3:11-). Thus, the second mistake is hereby underscored!

Miller's interpretation, through his calculation, that Jesus Christ would come in October 1844, greatly contradicted Christ himself directly! Jesus Christ said that none will ever

know the day of his coming, not even he but only His father (Mathew 24:36). No wonder it didn't happen, (Page 409)! Ignoring this crystal-clear indication of the wrong interpretation of this prophecy by William Miller, Ellen G. White, in trying to justify it, just maintained the mistaken interpretation, only changing the sanctuary that was to be cleansed in 1844, from the Earthly sanctuary to the sanctuary in heaven, with no evidence or scripture, to show that indeed the heavenly sanctuary began being cleansed by Christ in 1844 or even that it was defiled by armies as seen in Daniel 8:13-14 (The great controversy page 423,424)!

As seen in a great controversy, she went ahead to point out that Christ entered the holiest place of the sanctuary-holy of holies- in 1844 to perform an investigative judgement, with no evidence or scriptural authority at all! (The G.G Page 424). That indeed he came not to the Earth but to 'The ancient of days as in Daniel 7:9-', Ignoring the fact and truth that, this refers to the coming kingdom of Christ after the four worldly kingdoms as seen in verse 11 and as the angel gave an interpretation in verse 26-27. Every sober-minded, honest and sincere student of prophecy, doubts this second interpretation by Ellen G. White, for it was also based on the first one by Miller which we all admit was wrong, mistaken and miserably failed! Since the first interpretation by William Miller based on 457 BC as the starting point was wrong, the subsequent interpretation by Ellen G white based on the same year as the starting point is equally wrong and miserably fails the test of truthful interpretation of this prophecy!

This introduction of the new awareness of the sanctuary in heaven and the investigative judgement in the holy of holies, by Ellen G white, is the greatest falsehood that has ever been adopted as the truth and it formed the main basis and foundation of the Seventh-day Adventist church to date! It was an afterthought introduced to cover up the mistakes of William Millar in the interpretation of the 2300 days' Prophecy in Daniel 8:13-14. This led to a separation of those who adopted this falsehood from the true church, forming a Millerite movement which was later registered in 1860 as 'Seventh Day Adventist-SDA church' ('History of the True church.' A.N Dugger & C.O Dodd. page 97). Ellen G white in her writings acknowledged that before 1844 they were all united in truth (The daily', by O.A Johnson -history of the true church page 97). Hence, after 1844, a lot of falsehood came in and sad enough, some people embraced it and departed from the true church of God which was in existence and strong, long before 1844 and even before William Miller himself for he was a member of this church which was given many names by the non-believing locals then, in line with their teachings and leaders. Some of the names were Baptists, Sabbatarians, Waldenses, Puritans, Valley dwellers, Vaudois, Paulicians... ('History of the True church.' A.N Dugger & C.O Dodd. Page 30-35; 'The Great Controversy. Ellen G. White. Page 330, 332 & 336).

Ellen G. White, in her book, 'The Great Controversy' recorded a protest letter written by William Millar over his denunciation and exclusion from the church in around 1843 ('The Great Controversy'. Ellen G. White. Page 337). This shows that The church of God existed then and he was a member! Ellen G. White as well acknowledged the existence of an organised church of God, which was referred to as Vaudois or Waldenses by the locals/historians around that time, long before 1844 or 1860 ('The Great Controversy'. Ellen G. White. Page 60-78). in Page 68 of this book, she reported that the Vaudois had great organisation, with pastors being in charge of their congregations and they were trained in evangelism. Also, they had original truth and doctrines from the ancient apostolic church. It is therefore logical to conclude that it's

a great falsehood to claim the true church was organised between 1844 and 1860 yet historical evidence and religious writings from trusted sources prove the contrary!

As William Miller ignored the truth that the day of the Lord's Coming can't be known by anybody (Mathew 24:39--), Ellen G. White in her mistaken interpretation, ignored the truthful fact that Christ entered into the presence of God-Jehovah/Yahweh- which is the holiest place ever, immediately after his ascension to heaven long before 1844! Yes! He is there to date! He also did not wait from then, until 1844 to start interceding for us as our chief priest! he started immediately, evidenced by the following crystal-clear scriptures:

- Mark 16:19; Luke 22:69
- Acts 7:55-60
- 1 Peter.....
- Hebrews 9:24-28,12
- Hebrews 10:11-14

Simon Peter in his book written long before 1844 noted that "it's time to begin the judgement from the house of God" (1Peter 4:17). If this can be taken to mean the investigative judgement-though this term is not mentioned anywhere in the bible-then it began at the times of the apostles around 34 AD, not 1844 as said by Ellen G. White and in extension, the SDA church! The day for the final judgement has already been set and appointed! No such judgement is going on now for it would be greatly unjust for God to judge people for the second time when he comes at the end of the world (Acts 17:30; Revelation 20:12-15). Note that, the book is opened in Revelation 20:12-15 to judge everybody according to his/her work and it is done just after the 1000 years of Christ's reign! Note what verse 7-11 says in part, "And after the one thousand years....", meaning that the events following are those done after the one thousand years! It is therefore another falsehood to teach and believe that it is the opening of books that started in 1844 by Jesus and the ancient days as proposed by Mrs White! Note that the resurrection of both the wicked will have been done by the time of opening these books! this did not happen in 1844!

As opposed to the prophecy of 70 weeks in Daniel 9:24-27, whose end is marked by the killing of Stephen in 34 AD confirming its accuracy, the interpretation of the 2300 days by Miller and Ellen G. White, to terminate in 1844, fails this test! Historically, nothing happened in 1844 to mark the end of this period of prophecy and the commencement of the cleansing and investigative judgement! A good bible study student notes that every end of any bible prophecy is marked by historic events confirming its interpretation. Of mention is the 1260 days/year- prophecy recorded in Daniel 7:25, Revelation 13:5 and Revelation 12:6-7, 17. The termination of this in 1798, was marked by the imprisonment of the then Pope by General Berthier under the order of Napoleon. Check all the fulfilled prophecies and you'll spectacularly see the marked end-point! Hence, believing that the end of 2300 days in Daniel 8:13-14 is fixed at 1844 without any historic event marking its end is believing a lie and a great falsehood! how can he surely know that Christ started cleansing the sanctuary in heaven in the year 1844? What happened in 1844 to show this? Again, how was the sanctuary just in the presence of God defiled for 2300 years?? Which army did step on this holy sanctuary in heaven from 457BC to 1844AD, to warrant cleansing? Note what the holy one said, "How long shall be the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be

trodden underfoot?" The holy one was asking to know how long shall the daily sacrifices that used to be given in the sanctuary always daily be taken away. Also how long shall the army of the little horn step on the sanctuary and Jerusalem the host of the sanctuary? This is evident in verse 12 which shows that the temple was trodden underfoot by the army of the little horn. It is not difficult here now to point out that, there had been no army or soldiers that stepped on the heavenly sanctuary and defiled it for 2300 years from 457BC to 1844! This gives a death blow to the entire doctrine of Investigative judgement which is the main basis of the foundation for the Seventh-day Adventists (SDA) church. It was this doctrine that led to its formation between 1844 to 1860. It is worth investigating the truth behind this prophecy

Knowing the truth about the interpretation of the 2300 days of Daniel 8:13-14 is an important aspect in distinguishing Seventh-day Adventists from the seventh-day church of God for it was the point of contention that led to the separation between 1844 and 1860. In Bible study, it is very important to read and understand the context of any scripture being discussed. The context of this issue is just gotten if we read from verse 1 of Daniel 8. The whole context of Daniel 8 talks about two kingdoms, represented by two beasts namely: A Ram and A He-Goat. The angel in verses 20-22, interpreted that These are two kingdoms with the Ram representing the Medo-Persian kingdom and the He-goat being the Grecian Kingdom. The two Horns of the Ram, represent two kings of Media and Persia-Darius and Cyrus- while the First horn of the He-goat is the First King-Alexander the great. The four horns after the first one represent the four generals who divided the Grecian kingdom after Alexander's death. From here, Daniel saw a little horn coming from one of these four horns and grew exceedingly great. note what the scripture says: ".....and out of one of them....." (Daniel 8:10-). This signified out of one of the horns! It's another great falsehood to claim that this horn came from out of the winds for the subject here was the Horns and not the winds which were just used to show the directions! a horn can't stand alone and sprout from nowhere (the winds)! It has to come from an animal-a Beast! it indeed came out of a beast here, which is the He-goat-The Grecian Kingdom!

The little horn, as history confirms, came from one of the four divisions (dynasties) of the Grecian kingdom namely: Seleucus Nicator, Ptolemy, Lysimachus and Cassander. Note what the Angel had said in interpreting this prophecy: "And in the later times of their kingdom when the transgressors have come to the full, a king of fierce countenance and understanding of dark sentences shall stand up...." By the Angel using the word, 'times of THEIR kingdom', he meant the kingdom of these four generals. It was very clear in the mind of the Angel and Daniel too, that this king of fierce countenance would come from among these generals' territories! This was the horn (king) who would send his army/soldiers to Jerusalem, to the temple and defile the sanctuary for 2300 days. This event indeed happened during the times of ANTIOCHUS (IV) EPIPHANES. This king, Antiochus iv Epiphanes, as the word of God, had surely predicted through this vision, came from Seleucus Nicator -one of the four horns of the He-Goat's- territory, as confirmed by all histories and encyclopaedias- Muhamed as well, came from this particular kingdom of Seleucus through this same family of Antiochus but the fulfilment of 2300 days was done by Antiochus as detailed below.

As the Angel surely interpreted in verses 24-26, Antiochus IV Epiphanes greatly destroyed the holy people of God in Jerusalem and caused grafts to thrive by abolishing Jewish customs like circumcision and sabbaths (The Antiquities of the

Jews; Book 2. Josephus). Antiochus defeated Ptolemy in Judea and ruled over Israel- the host of the temple of God from 170BC. hence the starting of the 2300 days spoken of as the host of God being trodden underfoot.

It is worth noting at this juncture that the 2300 days mentioned are actual literal days of Evenings and mornings not prophetic days of one day/one year rule. This is evident by the interpretation of the angel in verse 26 saying, "And the vision of the Evenings and mornings which was told is true." Whenever the term, 'Evening and morning' is mentioned, the context is always about the literal days like in the creation week where God said, "And it was evening and it was morning the first day" (Genesis 1:5). Other bible versions report in verse 14 that it is 2300 evenings and mornings! Ooh Yes, it is the truth! It is literal days being spoken of here for the saint was asking duration regarding the daily sacrifice which this king would take away (Daniel 8:11-14). He said, "How long shall the vision concerning the daily sacrifice be?" For sure, this was about the Sacrifices that used to be offered daily in the temple's sanctuary every evening and morning, that was stopped by this king-Antiochus iv Epiphane. This saint was greatly disturbed by what this little horn-Antiochus- would do in the temple as seen in verse 11 which says, "...And by him, the daily sacrifice was taken away and the place of his sanctuary was cast down." The daily sacrifice being spoken of here is the one being spoken of in Numbers 28:3-4. it is the sacrifice that used to be given in the sanctuary everyday evening and morning, no wonder the terms evenings and mornings are used by the Angel! it referred to literal days and sacrifices!

With amazing accuracy, Antiochus iv Epiphanes fulfilled this prophecy of 2300 days in two-folds. First, he fulfilled the full 2300 days since the time he stepped in Israel- the host of God- in the 5th day, 7th month, 171BC, to the time he was defeated by Jewish revolt led by Judas Maccabees in the 25th day, 11th Month, 165BC (1Maccabees 1:10,16; 2Maccabees 10:1-). Secondly, as the true word of God had predicted through this vision, Antiochus stopped 2300 daily sacrifices that used to be given every evening and morning! Being a gentile, he managed to place gentile soldiers in the holy temple of God in Jerusalem! This was a great abomination and defilement as far as the Jewish customs were concerned! According to Historian Josephus' book, 'The Antiquities of the Jews, book 2, Antiochus' soldiers went ahead and sacrificed pigs to Zeus, their Greek god in the holy sanctuary of God, The Almighty! This is what could have made Daniel, being a Jew, faint and fall sick for some days! This greatly defiled the sanctuary and prompted the saint to ask another saint, "How Long?" of which the answer was, "Unto 2300 days (evenings and mornings) shall the sanctuary be cleansed again." Antiochus did this, from the 15th day, in the 9th Month, 168BC to the 25th day, in the 11th Month, 165 BC (1Maccabees 1:41-47; 2Maccabees 6:6-). This was exactly 1150 actual days which is equivalent to 2300 evenings and mornings or 2300 sacrifices! Two sacrifices were given each day, for God said, "One Lamb shalt thou offer in the morning and one lamb shalt thou offer in the evening;" It was this way even during the times of the vision and that's why it was too emotional for Daniel to bear! Antiochus stopped this trend in the temple for 3 years, 2 months and 10 days (1150 days) after which they were defeated by Judas Maccabees and the temple was cleansed again as the Angel had promised, and they launched the feast of Hanukkah from then onwards (1 Maccabees 4:36, 56,59). Please note that Yahshua (Jesus) once attended this Feast when he was on Earth, meaning the defilement and the cleansing of the sanctuary had already been done and completed in the time past before Christ, the Messiah!

Dear reader, this truth as far as the 2300 days prophecy is concerned is so strong and convincing that the greatest falsehood ever propagated is that this period started in 457 BC and ended in 1844, has no more place to stand in the bible! It is dismissed! The secondary explanation by Ellen G. White is that it refers to cleansing the sanctuary in heaven and the investigative judgement theory is dismissed too! it is the greatest falsehood ever heard by the people of God! It was founded on desperate principles to look for alternative explanations to cover up the evidence of wrong and mistaken interpretation of this prophecy! it too has been dismantled and has no basis in the true word of God and the spirit of this Vision as given by the Angel!