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## Sda church beliefs

1. The Holy Scriptures The Holy Scriptures are the written Word of God, given by divine inspiration through holy men who spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. In this Word, God has committed to man the knowledge necessary for salvation. The Holy Scriptures are the infallible revelation of His will and the standard of character. 2. The Trinity There is one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, a unity of three co-eternal Persons. God is immortal, all-powerful, all-knowing, and forever worthy of worship. 3. The Father God the eternal Father is the Creator, Source, Sustainer, and Sovereign of all creation. He is just and holy, merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. 4. The Son God the eternal Son became incarnate in Jesus Christ. Through Him all things were created and the character of God is revealed. 5. The Holy Spirit The Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Trinity, revealing the Father's character and empowering believers for spiritual growth. 6. Creation Creation was made by God's wisdom, grace, and infinite love to restore a relationship with humanity that will last for eternity. 7. The Nature of Humanity Humanity was created in the image of God, but due to sin, has become separated from God's nature and requires salvation through Jesus Christ. 8. The Great Controversy The struggle between good and evil began in heaven and continues on earth, with believers standing firm against spiritual forces that seek to undermine their faith. 9. The Life, Death, and Resurrection of Christ Jesus Christ is the Son of God, who came to save humanity from sin and its consequences, dying for our sins and rising again to conquer death. 10. The Experience of Salvation Salvation comes through faith in Jesus Christ, who offers forgiveness, healing, and eternal life to all who put their trust in Him. 11. Growing in Christ Believers are called to grow in their relationship with God, through obedience, prayer, and the study of His Word. 12. The Church The church is the community of believers who, united in their faith, serve as witnesses for Jesus Christ and advance the kingdom of God on earth. 13. The Remnant and Its Mission God has a special people, the remnant, who are called to fulfill specific missions and ministries in the world. 14. Unity in the Body of Christ Believers must strive for unity and harmony within the church, as we all belong to one body and are united in our love for Jesus Christ. 15. Baptism Baptism is a symbol of the believer's commitment to follow Jesus Christ and obey His commandments. 16. The Lord's Supper The Lord's Supper is a reminder of Jesus Christ's sacrifice on our behalf and a call to participate in His life-giving work. 17. Spiritual Gifts and Ministries Believers have been given spiritual gifts to build up the church and serve others, according to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. 18. The Gift of Prophecy The gift of prophecy is a special ministry of the Holy Spirit, empowering believers to speak God's truth and edify the body of Christ. 19. The Law of God The law of God is not just about rules and regulations but about living a life that honors God and brings glory to Jesus Christ. 20. The Sabbath The Sabbath day is a sacred time for rest, worship, and communion with God, as outlined in the Ten Commandments. 21. Stewardship Believers are called to use their resources wisely and steward them according to God's plan, as we are co-creators with Him. 22. Christian Behavior Believers must demonstrate a lifestyle of obedience to Jesus Christ, reflecting His love, forgiveness, and mercy in all our interactions. 23. Marriage and the Family The family is a vital institution, designed by God to provide a safe haven for children and model a loving relationship between husbands, wives, and parents. 24. Christ's Ministry in the Heavenly Sanctuary Jesus Christ, our High Priest, intercedes on our behalf before the Father in heaven and serves as our advocate. 25. The Second Coming of Christ Jesus Christ will return to earth, bringing judgment and final salvation for all believers who have trusted in Him. 26. Death and Resurrection Death is not the end but a transition to eternal life with God, and Jesus Christ's resurrection offers hope and victory over death. 27. The Millennium and the End of Sin The millennial reign of Jesus Christ will bring an era of peace and righteousness on earth, as sin is finally eradicated from the world. 28. The New Earth God will create a new heaven and a new earth, where believers will live in harmony with Him, free from sin and its consequences. God the Son became truly man, Jesus Christ, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of Mary. He lived as a human being, yet perfectly showed God's righteousness and love. Through miracles, He demonstrated God's power, attesting Himself as the promised Messiah. He voluntarily suffered and died on the cross for humanity's sins, was raised from the dead, and ascended to minister in heaven on our behalf. He will return in glory for the final deliverance of His people and restoration of all things. The Holy Spirit is the eternal Spirit active with God and Jesus in creation, incarnation, and redemption. It inspires Scripture writers, fills Christ's life with power, convicts humans, and renews those who respond into God's image. Sent by Father and Son to be with His children, it equips the church to witness to Christ and leads it into truth. God is the Creator of all things, revealing His creative activity in Scripture. In six days, He made heaven and earth, and rested on the seventh day, establishing the Sabbath as a memorial of His work. Humans were created in God's image, given dominion over the world, but fell from their high position due to disobedience. Man consists of body, mind, and spirit, dependent on God for life and breath. However, through sin, humans lost their dependence on God and fell into death. Their descendants share this fallen nature, born with weaknesses and tendencies to evil. But God in Christ reconciled the world to Himself, restoring humanity's image through penitent mortals. A great controversy exists between Christ and Satan over the character of God, His law, and sovereignty over the universe. \*\*The Origin of Conflict\*\* Conflict began in heaven when a powerful being, given freedom to choose, rebelled against God and became Satan, leading some angels into sin. This rebellion was introduced to earth through Adam and Eve's disobedience, which resulted in humanity's corruption and the disordering of creation. The world has since become the arena for this universal conflict, where God will ultimately be vindicated. To help His people navigate this struggle, God sends the Holy Spirit and loyal angels to guide, protect, and sustain them on their journey to salvation (Rev 12:4-9; Isa 14:12-14). \*\*The Life, Death, and Resurrection of Christ\*\* Jesus' life of perfect obedience, suffering, death, and resurrection provided the only means for humanity's forgiveness. Through His atonement, God demonstrates His love and righteousness, condemning sin while offering forgiveness to those who accept it through faith (John 3:16; Isa 53). The cross was a substitutionary sacrifice that reconciled and transformed humanity, proclaiming God's triumph over evil. For those who accept the atonement, Jesus' resurrection guarantees their final victory over sin and death, declaring His Lordship over all (1 Cor 15:3-4; Col 2:15). \*\*The Experience of Salvation\*\* In infinite love and mercy, God made Christ to be our sin so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. Led by the Holy Spirit, we acknowledge our need for salvation, repent of our sins, and exercise faith in Jesus as Lord and Substitute. Through Christ's death, we are justified and adopted as God's children. Through the Spirit, we are born again and sanctified, given the power to live a holy life (2 Cor 5:17-21). Abiding in Him, we become partakers of His divine nature, experiencing salvation now and in eternity. \*\*Growing in Christ\*\* By His death on the cross, Jesus triumphed over evil forces. Through faith, believers are freed from sin's power and become new creations in Christ (Eph 2:5-10). As they grow in Him, their minds are renewed, and God's law of love is written on their hearts, ministry has broken their power and made certain their ultimate doom. Jesus' victory gives us victory over the evil forces that still seek to control us, as we walk with Him in peace, joy, and assurance of His love. Now the Holy Spirit dwells within us and empowers us. Continually committed to Jesus as our Saviour and Lord, we are set free from the burden of our past deeds. No longer do we live in the darkness, fear of evil powers, ignorance, and meaninglessness of our former way of life. In this new freedom in Jesus, we are called to grow into the likeness of His character, communing with Him daily in prayer, feeding on His Word, meditating on it and on His providence, singing His praises, gathering together for worship, and participating in the mission of the Church. As we give ourselves in loving service to those around us and in witnessing to His salvation, His constant presence with us through the Spirit transforms every moment and every task into a spiritual experience. As followers of Christ, we are called to be a new creation; distinctions such as race, culture, learning, and nationality must not divide us. We are all equal in Christ, who bonds us into one fellowship with Him and with each other, serving and being served without partiality or reservation. Through Jesus Christ in the Scriptures, we share the same faith and hope, reaching out as one witness to all. Our unity has its source in the oneness of the triune God, who adopts us as His children. Baptism is a symbol of our union with Christ, acknowledging Him as Lord and Saviour, becoming His people, and receiving the Holy Spirit through immersion and faith affirmation. The Lord's Supper is an expression of faith in Jesus, where Christ is present to meet and strengthen His people. We are called to employ spiritual gifts and ministries for the common good of the church and humanity. Given by the Holy Spirit, these gifts provide all abilities and ministries needed by the church. Some members are called and endowed with specific functions, such as pastoral, evangelistic, apostolic, and teaching ministries, which equip us for service, build up the church to spiritual maturity, and foster unity of the faith. Through our employment of spiritual gifts, we become faithful stewards of God's varied grace, employing them for the joy and encouragement of people. The Church and Its Growth Churches are protected from false doctrine and grow with spiritual maturity, guided by faith and love. This concept is supported by various biblical passages, including Romans 12:4-8, 1 Corinthians 12:9-11, 27, 28, Ephesians 4:8, 11-16, Acts 6:1-7, 1 Timothy 3:1-13, and 1 Peter 4:10, 11. The Gift of Prophecy Prophecy is one of the Holy Spirit's gifts, identifying believers as part of the remnant church. Ellen G. White's writings serve as a continuing source of truth for the church, providing comfort, guidance, instruction, and correction. Her writings also emphasize the importance of testing all teaching and experience against the Bible. Law of God The Ten Commandments express God's love, will, and purposes concerning human conduct and relationships. They are binding on everyone in every age and serve as the basis for God's covenant with His people. The Holy Spirit uses these precepts to reveal sin and awaken a sense of need for salvation. Obedience to the Commandments develops Christian character and results in well-being, demonstrating love for the Lord and concern for fellow men. Sabbath God rested on the seventh day after creating the world and instituted the Sabbath as a memorial of Creation. The fourth commandment requires observing this seventh-day Sabbath as a day of rest, worship, and ministry. It is a symbol of redemption in Christ, sanctification, allegiance, and foretaste of eternal life. Stewardship We are God's stewards, entrusted with time, opportunities, abilities, possessions, and blessings. We are responsible for their proper use and acknowledge God's ownership through faithful service to Him and our fellow men. Stewardship is a privilege given by God, allowing us to return tithes and offerings for the proclamation of His gospel and support of His church. Christian living is rooted in love and the pursuit of victory over selfishness and covetousness. The steward of one's faith finds joy in the blessings that come to others as a result of their devotion. The ministry of Christ, established by God's design rather than human hands, brings to believers the benefits of His sacrificial death on the cross. As our High Priest, He began His intercessory work at His ascension and in 1844, started the final phase of His atoning ministry, an investigative judgment that determines who among the dead and living are worthy of eternal life. This judgment not only reveals those abiding in Christ but also vindicates God's justice in saving believers and declaring those loyal to Him shall inherit the kingdom. The Lord's second coming is anticipated as the church's blessed hope and the culmination of the gospel. His return will be literal, personal, visible, and universal, resulting in the resurrection of the righteous dead, the glorification of both the living and deceased righteous ones, and their translation into heaven. Conversely, the wicked will face death. The near fulfillment of most prophecies and the world's current state indicate that Christ's return is imminent. Although the exact time remains unknown, we are urged to be prepared at all times. Death is an unconscious state for humanity until Christ's appearance, at which point the resurrected righteous and living righteous will be glorified and taken up to meet their Lord. A thousand years later, the wicked dead will be raised, marking the second resurrection. The millennium is a period of one thousand years where Christ reigns with His saints in heaven between the first and second resurrections. During this time, the wicked dead are judged, and God's justice is fulfilled. The earth will be devoid of human life, but inhabited by Satan and his angels, before Christ's return and final judgment. At this point, Jesus along with His saints and the Holy City will descend upon the earth, followed by the resurrection of the unrighteous dead, who will then face destruction at the hands of God's fire. This event marks the end of sin and those who practice it forever.