

Implications regarding usage of the "Trinity" word for 7th Day Adventists

To think that there are two versions of the "Trinity", the Adventist one and one worshipped by Sunday keeping churches, that does not make any sense, because the "Trinity" concept is like a trademark, and it belongs to the organization which developed the doctrine more than 1600 years ago - 325 AD.

We should differentiate in Christianity between **"the Trinity"** and **"a Trinity"**, because, when we use the definite article with the word "Trinity" we are referring to the Roman Catholic Trinity. If we absolutely want to use the word "Trinity" in Adventism, it would have to be "a Trinity". It always would have to be used with the indefinite article since even the word by itself (like a one-word headline) would refer to the Catholic Trinity, at least that's the way it would be perceived by those outside the Adventist community. Did you know that many Catholics believe that we are in full agreement with their Trinity?

We were doing very well as a denomination even without the Trinity word for many years after sister White had passed away, then what was the reason later on for adding the Trinity to our belief system? Was it necessary for Adventists to better understand what the Godhead is about? Was it added to our doctrine to sustain unity among brethren? Does the Lord want us to use that concept for Him to be glorified? Was there any convincing good reason to officially introduce the Trinity to the 7th Day Adventist Church? Are we now closer to the Lord that the Trinity is firmly anchored among our 28 Fundamental Beliefs? Do we have a higher standard of holiness now that even the baptismal certificate gives prominence to the Trinity?

Is it true that Ellen White accepted the Trinity doctrine late in her life? Does that make any sense? Such change of mind on her part would have destroyed the entire Adventist doctrine. Nevertheless, some influential men of higher learning have been quite successful to impress the Adventist laity that Ellen White was referring to the "Trinity" whenever she mentioned the "Heavenly Trio", "Three Dignitaries of Heaven", "Three Holiest Beings in Heaven", "Three Great Powers of Heaven", "Three great Worthies of Heaven". Providentially it cannot be proven conclusively that Ellen White ever made a statement, not even late in her life, that she gave her consent to use the "Trinity" word in place of any of the above expressions with reference to the Godhead. It is more reasonable to think that her motive in using all these different expressions when speaking about the Godhead, was to stay clear of giving homage to the "Trinity". It looks like a determined effort on her part to never ever mention that word neither in speech nor in writing.

More information available at this link:
http://www.benabraham.com/html/the_other_godhead.html