

The Arian or Anti-Trinitarian Views Presented in Seventhday Adventist Literature and the Ellen G. White Answer

by Erwin Roy Gane

The doctrine of Trinity has been a fundamental belief of the Seventh-day Adventist church since 1931. In the earliest years, however, most early church leaders were antitrinitarian. What caused the change? Erwin Gane examines the various beliefs of prominent leaders in the early years as shown in their writings. He also documents the differences between their thought and that of Ellen White and shows how she led the church, through a gradual process that avoided direct confrontation, to the fully Trinitarian position which is held today.

Erwin R. Gane, M.Div., M. Th., is well known to the members of the SDA church, since his last 9 years of service before retirement were at the General Conference as editor of the Adult Sabbath School Lesson Quarterly. Previous to this he taught religion classes at Avondale College in Australia, Union College, and Pacific Union Colleges in America. He has also pastored churches in Australia and the USA. He and his wife are now retired in Angwin, California.

PREFACE

This research examines the literature of Seventh-day Adventists to discover the prevalence of Arian or anti-Trinitarian views and the Ellen G. White answer to these views.

Since the Yearbooks published from 1931 to 1962 indicate official acceptance of Trinitarianism, special attention was given to the earlier history of the Denomination to determine whether this was from the beginning the accepted understanding of the Deity.

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Bibliography

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