

ventists say that those who have believed on Jesus will not have their sins blotted out nor receive eternal life unless "their characters are found to be in harmony with the law of God"⁸⁴ when their records are examined in the investigative judgment. In order for their characters to be found in harmony with the law of God when their records are examined in the investigative judgment, those who have believed on Jesus have to obey the law of God. According to the doctrine of the investigative judgment, therefore, those who have believed on Jesus have to obey the law of God in order to be saved.

Here then is a contradiction. On the one hand, the Seventh-day Adventists say that they believe in the Biblical teaching of salvation by grace alone. On the other hand, the Seventh-day Adventists say that they believe in the doctrine of the investigative judgment which says that those who have believed on Jesus have to obey the law of God in order to be saved. Therefore, while the Seventh-day Adventists state very clearly in their book, Questions On Doctrine, that they believe in the Biblical teaching of salvation by grace alone, they really do not believe in it. What the Seventh-day Adventists really believe in is salvation by grace plus obedience to the law, for they believe that both belief on Jesus and obedience to the law of God are necessary for salvation, and this certainly contradicts the Biblical teaching of salvation by grace alone.

However, the Seventh-day Adventists object to this conclusion, for they say that it is only by grace that those who have believed on Jesus can obey the law of God, and that if those who have believed on Jesus "continually appropriate His grace for victory over their sinful natures,"⁸⁵ their characters

⁸⁴Ibid., p. 443.

⁸⁵Ibid., p. 387.