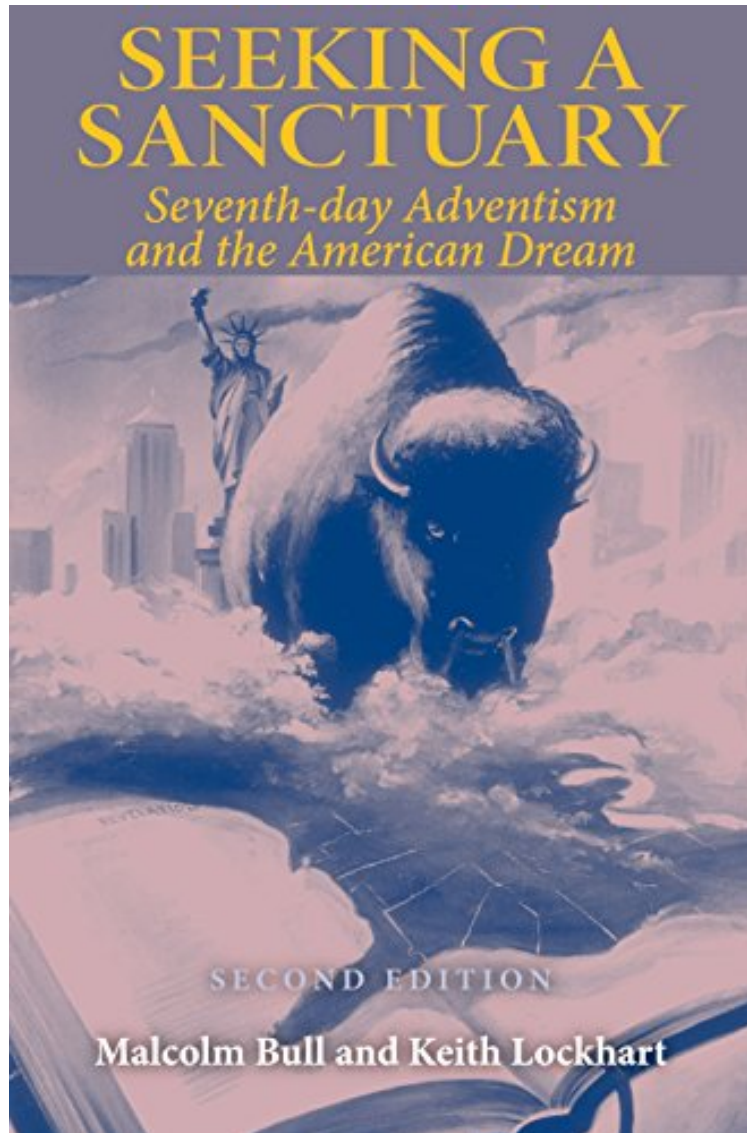


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Seeking a Sanctuary: Seventh-day Adventism and the American Dream

Malcolm Bull and Keith Lockhart
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#1572758 in Books Malco Bull 2006-12-01 2006-12-20Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.25 x 1.30 x 6.12l, 1.60 #File Name: 0253218683520 pagesSeeking a Sanctuary Seventh day Adventism and the American Dream | File size: 39.Mb

Malcolm Bull and Keith Lockhart : Seeking a Sanctuary: Seventh-day Adventism and the American Dream before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Seeking a Sanctuary: Seventh-day Adventism and the American Dream:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Boss ManMust have book if you want to understand

the evolution of Adventism. 7 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Magisterial By John in Orlando This magisterial work is generally regarded as the most important academic study of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Bull and Lockhart create a compelling picture of the SDAs as one of America's least-understood, but most-successful, indigenous religious movements. This study brings together a history of the SDA Church and a study of its subcultures with an analysis of the Church's ambivalent relationship with the United States. This ambivalence is characterized by the authors as a function of the Adventist preoccupation with time: The Church's peculiar understanding of temporality (its emphasis on the seventh-day Sabbath and its focus on eschatology) is, according to Bull and Lockhart, the primary source of its identity. Sometimes they push this understanding too far. For example, at one point they interpret the disapproval of novels on the part of Ellen White and the early Adventist leadership as a rejection of the secular understanding of time that would be encouraged by the novel as a literary form. A couple of pages later, though, the authors discuss the encouragement of specifically SDA novels by the same early leadership. If it had been the novel as a form per se that was problematic due to Adventist concerns about marking out sacred time, then the subject matter would have been irrelevant. If this approach is occasionally stretched to (or beyond) its breaking point, it nonetheless provides a fascinating interpretive lens through which to view Adventism in America. The final third of *Seeking a Sanctuary* is devoted to a consideration of "Adventist Subculture," analyzing the interplay between race, gender, socio-economics, and professional life in the inner dynamics of Adventism. These chapters are uneven. The most fascinating is a discussion of the influence of health reform and Adventist medicine on the overall direction of Adventist culture, polity, and theology. Bull and Lockhart argue that the classic denominationalization thesis is not really applicable to the SDA church; this body, they say, has been not so much denominationalized as medicalized. The tensions between the ordained ministry and administration of the church, on the one hand, and its medical practitioners and institutions on the other, emerges with compelling vividness in this discussion. This book is absolutely essential reading for anyone interested in Adventism or sectarian movements in America. 4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Sensitive reviewed By Vivian Hill Scholarly treatise - very well researched from a variety of perspectives. Highly recommended reading for those interested in Seventh-day Adventism.

The completely revised second edition further explores one of the most successful of America's indigenous religious groups. Despite this, the Adventist church has remained largely invisible. *Seeking a Sanctuary* casts light on this marginal religion through its socio-historical context and discusses several Adventist figures that shaped the perception of this Christian sect.

The most comprehensive review and insightful analysis in print of the sociology, history, and culture of the Seventh-Day Adventist church. (Church History) I recommend to clergy that they read *Seeking a Sanctuary*. . . . you will be more attuned to the sociological trends that drive Seventh-day Adventism. The first edition of this book was one of the few must reads for academics interested in the Seventh-day Adventists. . . . The new edition expands several features of the first: it places more emphasis on regional variations, offshoot groups, and ethnic diversity. Bull (Oxford) and Lockhart (London-based journalist) situate Adventist history in the larger context of American history and, just as importantly, trace the evolution of Adventist doctrine. Recognizing that Adventists form their own subculture, they also provide sociological analysis. This book gives full attention to internal theological conflicts of recent decades. Finally, *Seeking a Sanctuary* is well written and comprehensive. Any library collecting material on American history or religion should have it. . . . Essential. (Choice) A provocative and penetrating account of a complicated and remarkably little-known movement. (Eileen Barker *Sociological Analysis*) We do not often pause to point to a denominational history, but when one of these good ones comes along, we pause. (Martin E. Marty) The most informed study of Adventism. (Harold Bloom) A masterpiece. It is by far the best book on Adventism that has ever appeared. (Ronald L. Numbers) Make no mistake. For both its breadth and depth, this is the best study of Seventh-Day Adventism that has ever been written. (Jonathan M. Butler) From the Publisher The story of a large yet little-known Protestant denomination.