

A recent Pew survey has created a lot of buzz in the media lately as for the first time since the research group has existed, Protestants no longer represent the majority in the United States. Slipping from 53% to 48% may be partly attributable to the fact that many consider themselves spiritual but not religious. In fact, 1 in 5 Americans say they have no religion. Yet 68% of those who stated they had left organized religion say they believe in God, and 37% say they are spiritual but not religious.

In my weekly Grapevine, I provided a link to a very interesting blog about this very issue of spiritual but not religious. The post was placed on CNN's Belief blog and caused such an enormous response that the author of the post, Alan Miller, was given the chance to respond. His post was entitled, "My Take: 'I'm spiritual but not religious' is a cop-out." In the article Miller essentially calls the spiritual, a self-professed and supposedly independent thinker, as being selfish and lacking a better solution. Miller suggests that the spiritual seem to focus on feelings and what faith can do for me personally. It's a selfish alternative. He writes, "It is within the context of today's anti-big, anti-discipline, anti-challenging climate – in combination with a therapeutic turn in which everything can be resolved through addressing my inner existential being – that the spiritual but not religious outlook has flourished. The boom in mega churches merely reflect this sidelining of serious religious study for networking, drop-in centers and positive feelings." He sums his post up with these words, "Theirs (*the spiritual but not religious people*) is a world of fence-sitting, not-knowingness, but not-trying-ness either. Take a stand, I say. Which one is it? A belief in God and Scripture or a commitment to the Enlightenment ideal of human-based knowledge, reason and action? Being spiritual but not religious avoids having to think too hard about having to decide."

Elder Richard O'Fill points out in his book, "Lord, Save My Church," that "He who asks the questions controls the agenda." It's sad but true. Not only that, but people today are robbing our language so that gay doesn't mean happy, spiritual means new age, and marriage may one day mean a union of two people instead of a man and a woman. So the Bible says that if possible Satan would deceive even the very elect.

Satan told Eve in the garden that she could be like God knowing both good and evil. This was just one of the lies he told her at the tree for we do not possess within ourselves the ability to discern what is good and evil without God's law, His Holy Bible directing us. Indeed, this subtle lie seems to permeate the mentality of this postmodern era, of what many profess is spiritual but not religious. The idea running rampant in the Christian world today is to cling to Jesus and you will discover truth. But in reality, our only safeguard is to cling to God's Word, for by clinging to His Word which is the truth, we will discover Jesus, the Word become flesh. Satan will one day impersonate God (see Rev. 13) and many will mistakenly worship him because the God they know is the god/image they have created rather than the God that Scripture (a Book sorely neglected) portrays.

Pastor Jeremy Arnall



GREENEVILLE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

Our Vision

Knowing and experiencing God through active, Spirit-led relationships, anticipating Jesus' soon return

Our Mission

Building relationships with Christ, church, and community through loving, learning, living, and leading

Vespers/AYA 6:00 p.m

Great American Bible Challenge
Adventist Style

Hosted by Ed Horton

Offering: NAD/WB/Voice of Prophecy
Next Week: Our Church Budget

Presiding Elder: Fred Myers
Next Week: Harry Nelson

Charge Deacon: David Ondrejka
Next Week: Larry Haney

A/V: David & Marva Wente
Next Week: Jay Grose & Bryan Benedict

Tape Ministries: Allen Conner
Next Week: Art Roth

Receptionists: Michael & Jeanne Odell ~
Ken & Shirley Fillers

Next Week: Jan Martin & Teresa Laurance ~
Dina Hess

Usher James & Rosemary Forney
Next Week: Willie Barrett

Music Coordinator Cherub Choir/Kathy Seeley
Next Week: Amanda Robinson

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

TODAY, Oct, 13

9:15 a.m. Sabbath School
10:45 a.m. Church/ Pastor Jeremy Arnall
6:30 p.m. Vespers/Ed Horton

TUESDAY, Oct, 16

6:30 p.m. Sanctuary Series/Crescent School

WEDNESDAY, Oct, 17

10:15 a.m. Great Controversy Class/Fellowship Hall

THURSDAY, Oct 18

6:30 P.M. Sanctuary Series/Crescent School

SABBATH, Oct, 20

9:15 a.m. Sabbath School
11:00 a.m. Church/ Pastor Jeremy Arnall
6:30 p.m. Vespers/Robert Thomas

The celebration of Sabbath ends today at 6:59 p.m.
Sabbath begins next Friday at 6:51 p.m.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

WELCOME; we are glad you have joined us as we celebrate the beauty of our risen Lord through worship and praise on this, the Sabbath day. As a church family we value our relationship with God, church, and community and thus would like to invite you to join us as we share in a fellowship dinner following today's service.

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON host for this week will be Jan & Joy Leffers' group.

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON host for next week will be Walt & Mary Lou Cross's group.

THE SANCTUARY SERIES will take place on Tuesday's and Thursday's at 6:30 beginning Oct 16th. All are welcome.

PATHFINDERS will have containers in the front and the rear of the church during the month of October for their annual food drive. They will be accepting can goods and any non-perishable foods.

PARENTS NIGHT OUT: The AAA students at GAA are offering babysitting so parents can have a date night tonight, Saturday, Oct 13th from sundown to 10 p.m. For details and reservations call Maelyn McMillian 502-5040.

GAA FRUIT ORDER will begin Nov 5th. Watch for more information and order forms.

YARD SALE INVITATION: Our Community Service Center has a yard sale room that is open on Monday and Tuesday 9-12. All the proceeds are used for the center. Come and check us out! In addition to the usual yard sale "stuff" we sometimes have special items of interest. Monday is the better day for shopping. If you have items you would like to donate please bring them to the center. If no one is there please leave item in the designated deposit box.

MEN'S RETREAT will be Oct 19 & 20. PLEASE register by Monday, Oct 8 for this great weekend!! Dr. Philip Samaan, theology professor at SAU, will be our guest speaker. Check in is Fri afternoon with supper beginning at 6:30. To register go to www.registration.gccsda.com If you have questions, please call Caryn at the conference office at [800-567-1844](tel:800-567-1844), ext 340.

PATHFINDER FUND RAISER: Sunday, November 4th, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. there will be a Holiday Craft Show at the GAA gym. For more information contact Trish Boyce at 525-4560.

Oct 13, 2012

9:15 a.m.

Fellowship; 10:45 a.m.

Prelude	J.R. McKinney, Organist
Welcome	Pastor Nate
Ministry Focus	GAA/Randy Nomura
Hymns of Praise	GAA Faculty
	“Seeking the Lost” 373
	“Redeemed” 338

Hymns of Praise	Chuck Reese
Opening Song	
Welcome/Prayer	Tom Iuliano
Scripture	
Mission Story	Larry Servoss
Special Music	Laura Webb & Ken Horton

Praise; 11:00 a.m.

Introit * “Kneel” (<i>see below</i>)	Sanctuary
Call to Worship	Pastor Nate
Opening Song	246
	“Worthy, Worthy Is the Lamb”
Offering	NAD/WB/Voice of Prophecy Barbara Myers
Offertory	Kathy Nomura
Children’s Story	Pastor Jeremy
Scripture	Acts 4:31-36 Amanda Robinson
Prayer	Curtis Robinson
Special Music	Cherub Choir
	Arr. Cynthia L. McClurg
	“Little by Little”
	“Our Family Will Serve the Lord”

Proclamation

Sermon	Pastor Jeremy
	Lift Up the Trumpet
Closing Hymn	213
	“Jesus Is Coming Again”
Benediction	Pastor Jeremy
Postlude	J.R. McKinney, organist

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*Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary
Pure and holy, tried and true;
With thanks-giving I’ll be a
Living sanctuary for you.*

Pianist Bennie King

Today’s Lesson Study

In God’s Word:

**Revelation, and the God Revealed
in It**

~ ~ ~

Prayer Focus

The Sanctuary Series and all those
leading out as well as those that will be
attending.