

## Drama Discussions

Hi \_\_ just would like to know if you have the PDF file for that book Drama and the SDA Church. I would love to have a copy of that. If you don't have the PDF file, then I will just copy and paste into MsWORD. Also, how may I purchase a hardcopy of that book? Thanks for your time. I will wait for your email..

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That book was never printed into a book- the author gave it to me to publish online.

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Hi \_\_,

Thanks, I got the pdf file. I am going to share this to my friends.

Thanks so much for your help. Actually I was joining a forum with some adventist friends and they were discussing regarding becoming an actor/actress then it came to the point that they said it is ok for us to be an actor/actress besides, we are also having the drama in the church. I was so shocked with regards to their standing about it and I shared several quotations regarding Christ's methods of sharing the gospel and drama is not one of them.

It is really undeniable that the enemy is working so much in the minds of God's professed people. Instead of consulting the 'It is written', they instead base most things from their own point of view.

I hope to receive more resources from you. I got some also from your site. They are really helpful.

Stay Blessed.

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To comment on the 'actor-actress' thing-- Do they not realize that all actors and actresses are liars and deceivers? They are lying as they 'act' -- pretend to be what they are not! The Greek word for actor is where we get our word 'Hypocrite'.

It is all a terrible deception!

See what God says:

Re 22:15 For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and **whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.**

Years ago it was this verse that got me to stop writing fiction!

Also we are told that the remnant will have no 'guile' in their mouth. Guile is deception; that which is untrue, misleading, not real. It also includes joking and jesting.

Re 14:5 And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.

God bless!

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That is right. Thanks for the verses. Before, I did not know that drama is hypocrisy. But when I had visited your site, I saw that Drama and the SDA church, I was so astonished to read it. But I set aside my preconceived ideas and let the Holy Spirit move me and that I will accept the truth heartedly. Since then, I began sharing it to other friends.

I had pointed out in the discussion where I joined that drama is not God's method in sharing the gospel. The one who started the forum then posted his reply with all questions for me to answer. Please see his

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questions below. I have understood that they are ok with drama as long as it is glorifying God like portraying some biblical scenes. I really wonder how they were able to come up with this principle. But I do not wonder who is the author of this deception.

### QUESTION:

(1) Let's make this simple. If theatrical shows are to be stopped then why are we SDAs still have these dramas during AY and Sabbath schools? Are we contradicting then our own doctrine? Please answer.

A: YES!!!

(2) What's wrong with being in a theatrical group if your group is specializing in dramatizing the lives of those in the Bible?

A: Acting is a form of LYING

(3) What if you became an actor in a religious movie portraying the life of Moses, Jonah, John the Baptist, or any life of a Christian who once was lost but now is saved through Jesus? Would that still be sin?

A: YES-- because you are not that person; you are acting a LIE!!

(4) Would you condemn what Mel Gibson did when he made the movie "The Passion of Christ"? Please answer. You only have YES or NO here.

A: YES!!! It was Blasphemy for him to do this!!

**---this one i found one study from the website [www.remnantofgod.org](http://www.remnantofgod.org) on 'the passion of anti-christ' surely I will share it to the person who posted this reply. It will also help them open their eyes, only if they are teachable enough.**

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OH SISTER- Adventism is SO DECEIVED!!!

God Bless you!

GOD HELP ADVENTISM!!

Revelation 21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, **and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.**

Notice this quote about a young lady that sold her salvation to become an actress- this stuff is addicting!! It lures you on and on. She started with charades- and went on from there.

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**"Various entertainments are introduced to make the meetings interesting and attractive for worldlings,** and thus the exercises of the so-called literary society too often degenerate into **demoralizing theatrical performances, and cheap non-sense.** All these gratify the carnal mind, that is at enmity with God; but they do not strengthen the intellect nor confirm the morals. Little by little, the spiritual element is ruled out by the irreligious, and the effort to harmonize principles which are antagonistic in their nature proves a decided failure. When God's people voluntarily unite with the worldly and unconsecrated, and give them the pre-eminence, they will be led away from him by the unsanctified influence under which they have placed themselves.

Many literary societies are in reality young theaters on a cheap scale, and they create in the youth a taste for the stage. While writing upon this point, my eye falls upon the following striking incident from real life:-

"It is of no use, Mrs. W., I have tried again and again, and I cannot become a Christian.' ""So you said a year ago, yet you thought there was nothing in the way.'

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"I don't think there is now, but I don't feel any different from what I did then, and I don't believe I ever shall be a Christian.'

"The first speaker was a bright girl somewhat over twenty, who, on a previous visit nearly a year before, had confided to her elder friend her earnest desire to become a Christian. Of her evident sincerity there could be no doubt, and the visitor was sorely puzzled to understand why her young friend had not yet found peace. The two were standing by the half-opened door of the Sunday-school room, where a rehearsal for an 'entertainment' was in progress; and the girl, looking in, seemed suddenly to find there a suggestion for further thought.

"I believe,' she said hesitatingly, 'there is one thing I cannot give up.'

"Give it up at once, dear.'

"But I can't.'

"Come to Jesus first then, and he will give you the power."

"I don't want him to. I believe if I knew I should die and be lost in three weeks from tonight, I would rather be lost than give up my passion.'

"And what is this dearly loved thing, worth so much more than your salvation?'

"Oh, it isn't worth more, only I love it more, and I can't and won't give it up. It's that I--I want to be an actress; I know I have the talent; I've always hoped the way would open for me to go upon the stage, and I can't help hoping so still.'

"Do you think it would be wrong for you to do so, provided the way did open?'

"I don't know that it would be a sin; but I couldn't do it and be a Christian; the two things don't go together.'

"How did you come by such a taste? I am sure you do not belong to a theater-going family?'

"Oh no! my father and mother are Methodists; they always disapproved of the theater. I've been in Sunday-school all my life. **They used to make me sing and recite at the entertainments when I was four years old, and I acted the angel and fairy parts in the dialogues; and when I grew older, I always arranged the tableaux, charades, etc. Then I joined a set of sociables got up by our church young people.** At first we did "Mrs. Jarley's Wax-works," and sung "Pinafore" for the benefit of the church; and then we got more ambitious, studied, and had private theatricals, and last winter we hired Mason's Hall and gave a series of Shakespearean performances, which cleared off a large part of the church debt. But that's only second-class work, after all. I want to do the real thing, to go upon the stage as a profession. My father won't hear of it; but I hope some time the way will be opened that I may realize my heart's desire.'

"And meantime, will you not come to Jesus and be saved?" {

"No, I cannot do it and keep to this hope, and **I will not give this up.**'

"And so the visitor turned sadly away, thinking for what miserable messes of pottage men and women are willing to sell their glorious birthright as children of God; thinking also of the seeds which are being sowed in our Sunday-schools, the tares among the wheat, and the terrible harvest that may yet spring up from this well-meant but injudicious seed-sowing." {RH, January 4, 1881 }

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Yes I also have read this quote in the drama in the SDA church.

But their point now is that we can do acting as long as we praise God or glorify Him through the role we play.. like dramatizing the life of Jesus, etc. such perverted views really... :( may God open their eyes

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God is never praised by our breaking His commandments; all falsehood is a sin. NOWHERE do we see Jesus and the apostles 'acting' or using skits or drama, AND in the Greek culture of their time it was COMMON!

1Co 1:21 For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God **by the foolishness of preaching** to save them that believe.

Ne 8:8 So they **read in the book** in the law of God **distinctly, and gave the sense**, and caused them to understand the reading.

This is actually the only two God approved methods of presenting the truth to people; Preaching or reading inspired material and expounding on what is read.

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Hi \_\_

I just come across the passages regarding that EGW's grand daughter who was part of the play. On just below the chapter title, this paragraph below is written. How do we understand this?

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[Material desired by A. L. White for use in correspondence relative to dramatized programs in SDA churches and schools. Its significance lies in the fact that Mrs. White did not condemn a program in which there was dramatization, but she commented on how it could have been more effective and at the same time sounded certain cautions.--A. L. White.]

They use this chapter to justify that EGW did not condemn drama.

One of the guys who was so arrogant on the forum he challenged me for a debate. His theme was 'to be part of an acting/play'. I quoted him several quotations as to the spirit of debate. That is not coming from God. Then he told me, if I can read you one instance where Ellen White's daughter was part of a play, would you change your FANATICAL view regarding acting/drama? Will you come to your defeat?

I was really astonished of this spirit this man is revealing. He was telling many things I believe this because GC has set this and that but he wasn't even able to give one quotation in support to his claims. :(

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The thing about the play in which her granddaughter was in, is fully discussed in the material online, any honest person can see that although she was being gracious--**she did not in any way condone it!!** The comment by Arthur White says she did not condemn it--but when you read what she said, **I don't think he is correct!** I'll attach it for you in its entirety. **I'd hate to base my eternal destiny on this being a recommendation for drama!! Mighty shaky ground! To me it is an out and out condemnation--**she says she wishes she had not been there!! Read it for yourself and see!

## Enacted Scenes {2MR 235.1}

I have risen at three o'clock this morning to write [THIS COMMUNICATION WAS WRITTEN EARLY WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 26, 1888, AND RELATED TO A DRAMATIZED CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PUT ON BY THE BATTLE CREEK SABBATH SCHOOL. THE CHILDREN WORE COSTUMES. ELLA M. WHITE, MRS. WHITE'S SIX-YEAR-OLD GRANDDAUGHTER, WAS IN THE PROGRAM, DRESSED TO TYPIFY AN ANGEL.] you a few lines. I was pleased with the lighthouse, and the scene which had required so much painstaking effort was one which could have been made most impressive, but failed to be made as forcible and striking as it might have been when it cost so much time and labor in preparing it. The part acted by the children was good. The reading was appropriate. Then if there had been good, solid talk on that occasion in regard to children and teachers in the Sabbath schools laboring earnestly for the salvation of the souls of the children under your charge, presenting the most acceptable offering

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to Jesus, the gift of their own hearts, and impressive remarks, short and right to the point, [on] how they could do this, would it not have been in keeping with the work we have been trying to do in the church? {2MR 235.2}

Every stroke now should be in harmony for the one great purpose, preparing of the hearts, that individually pupils and teachers should be as a light set on a candlestick that it may give light to all that are in the house, which would be carrying out the idea strikingly of a lighthouse guiding souls that they may not make shipwreck of faith. Can you tell me what marked impression the two poems rehearsed by the two ladies on the stand would have to do with this work? {2MR 235.3}

The singing was after the order we would expect it to be in any theatrical performance, but not one word to be distinguished. Certainly the tempest-tossed ship would be wrecked upon the rocks if there were no more light coming from the lighthouse than was seen in the exercises. I must say I was pained at these things, so out of order with the very work of reformation we were trying to carry forward in the church and with our institutions, that I should have felt better if I had not been present. This was an occasion that should have been gotten up not only for the Sabbath school children, but words should have been spoken that would have deepened the impression of a necessity of seeking for the favor of that Saviour who loved them and gave Himself for them. If [only] the precious hymns had been sung, "Rock of ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee," and "Jesus lover of my soul, let me to Thy bosom fly, while the billows near me roll, while the tempest still is high." Whose souls were inspired with new and fresh zeal for the Master in those songs sung whose virtue was in the different performances of the singer? {2MR 236.1}

While these painstaking efforts were being made to get up the performances, meetings were being held of the deepest interest which should have engaged the attention, and which called for the presence of every soul lest they should lose something of the message the Master had sent to them. Now this Christmas has passed into eternity with its burden of record, and we are anxious to see the result of it. Will it make those who acted their part in it more spiritual-minded? Will it increase their sense of obligation to our heavenly Father who sent His Son into the world at such an infinite sacrifice to save fallen man from utter ruin? Was the mind awakened to grasp God because of His great love wherewith He has loved us?

We hope, now that Christmas is in the past, that those who have put forth so much painstaking effort will now manifest a decided zeal, and earnest, disinterested effort for the salvation of the souls of the teachers in the Sabbath school, that in their turn they may each labor for the salvation of the souls in their classes, to give them personal instruction as to what they must do to be saved. We hope that they will find time to labor in simplicity and in sincerity for the souls of those under their care, and that they will pray with them, and for them, that they may give to Jesus the precious offering of their own souls, that they make literally true the symbol of the lighthouse in the beams of light shining forth from their own strong efforts in the name of Jesus, which should be put forth in love, they themselves grasping the rays of light to diffuse this light to others, and that there shall be no settling down to a surface work. Show just as great skill and aptitude in winning souls to Jesus as you have shown in painstaking effort for this occasion just past. Point them in your efforts, with heart and soul enlisted, to the Star that shines out to the morally-darkened heaven at this time, even the Light of the world. Let your light shine that the tempest-tossed souls may set their eyes upon it and escape the rocks that are concealed beneath the surface of the water. Temptations are lying in wait to deceive them; souls are oppressed with guilt, ready to sink into despair. Labor to save them; point them to Jesus who so loved them that He gave His life for them. . . . {2MR 237.1}

The Light of the world is shining upon us that we might absorb the divine rays and let this light shine upon others in good works that many souls shall be led to glorify our Father which is in heaven. He is

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longsuffering, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance, and it grieves the heart of Jesus that so many refuse the offers of His mercy and matchless love. {2MR 237.2}

Will all who acted an interested part in the program of last evening work as zealously and interestedly to show themselves approved unto God in doing their work for the Master, that they may show themselves intelligent workmen that need not to be ashamed? Oh, let the teachers in the Sabbath school be thoroughly imbued with the spirit of the message for this time, carrying that message into all their labor. There are souls to be saved, and while in the Sabbath school work there has been much form and a great amount of precious time occupied in reading of reports and records, there has been but little time to really let light shine forth in clear, steady rays in the very instruction needed to save the souls of the children and youth. Less elaborate speeches, less lengthy remarks, and plain, pointed truth presented, not one word uttered to exhibit profound knowledge, not one word in any speech, but the greatest evidence of real knowledge is the great simplicity. All who have taken knowledge of Jesus Christ will imitate Him in their manner of instruction.--Letter 5, 1888, pp. 1-4. (To Brother Morse, Dec. 26, 1888.) Released November, 1962. {2MR 238.1}

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As far as those who wish to 'debate' with you--These people are not honest as they **would build a castle on a pin head as they are determined to have their own way**--it is the same on many things in the church- ordaining women as pastors and elders for example.

You should actually go by the statement in Titus:

Tit 3:9 But avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and vain. 10 A man that is an heretick after the first and second admonition reject; 11 Knowing that he that is such is subverted, and sinneth, being condemned of himself.

I always follow this guidance; I answer once or twice and if they keep on, I discontinue replying to them. The judgment is coming fast; you need your time yourself to study and prepare a character to stand true to God's word—**you need not waste your time on people who have drunk deep at Satan's winecellar and love what the world loves.**

TC