

## STUDIES FOR ROLE OF WOMEN COMMISSION

Completion Deadline: December 31, 1988

To include, but not limited to, the suggested questions and subtitles.

### ORIGIN AND GROWTH OF CHURCH STRUCTURE AND MINISTRY (Including Ordination Among Seventh-day Adventists)

Carl Anderson

How did the idea of organization develop?

How was ordination introduced among Seventh-day Adventists?

How were the ordinances handled by early Seventh-day Adventists (baptism, marriage, the communion, organization of local churches, etc)?

What seems to have been the early Seventh-day Adventist idea of ministers of the gospel and ministry in general?

Is there any clue as to whether women should be included or not in a pastoral role in the churches and ordained to the gospel ministry?

### THE RELATIONSHIP OF SLAVERY AND ORDINATION

Earl Cleveland

Adventists took a position against slavery when many churches were arguing that the Bible supported slavery. Does this introduce a methodology of understanding the Bible in a way that would give credence to the ordination of women to the gospel ministry? Or, in other words, does Adventists' rejection of arguments for slavery set a pattern of understanding the Bible on the ordination of women?

### PRIESTHOOD OF THE BELIEVER

Rex Edwards

Concept of Laos, the New Testament basis.

A concept of Laos as seen by Luther and the Anabaptists.

Baptism: Is it a kind of ordination?

Priesthood of the believer as related to the concept of family, to the concept of Greek democracy, and to ordination to the Bishopric/Presbytery.

## **ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE CHURCH**

**Karen Flowers**

What ministries are appropriate for non-ordained women in the SDA church to fill on a full-time basis?

Should these ministries be specialized or general?

How do Bible Instructors relate to, and fit in with, the role of women philosophy?

Are there any leadership posts within the church from which women should be excluded?

Are there areas of leadership in the church which require ordination in order to effectively serve?

## **A REVIEW OF PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS OF WOMEN IN FULL-TIME MINISTRY**

**Rolf Kvinge**

How do family obligations relate to full-time ministry for women?

Should husbands of women in ministry plan to move as their wives are transferred, or should women be given more or less permanent assignments?

How should pastors' wives who actively assist their husbands be appointed, and what kind of title should be given to them?

If a woman is in full-time ministry, would they tend to negate the basic role of a wife and/or mother as set forth in Scripture and the Spirit of Prophecy?

Should women in ministry, whether ordained or not, be oriented only to unmarried women or to women whose children are grown?

What expectations should be held regarding women in public pulpit evangelism?

Note: Using the term "women in full-time ministry" does not necessarily mean that women need to be ordained to the gospel ministry.