

The Waldenses and Why They Matter

Till Plains 12/4/2021

Text: Revelation 12:14 But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.

Join us tomorrow on Zoom for Sermon Essentials to dive deeper into today's message. You can use the link <https://zoom.us/j/285038684> or call 312.626.6799 and enter the ID 285 038 684 to be part of the discussion.

Read Ellen White's, *The Great Controversy*, chapters 4 for a deeper understanding of today's message.

Who Was Peter Waldo?

1. Who was Peter Waldo, and why is he important?

2. How many times is Peter Waldo mentioned by Ellen White?

The Vaudois

3. Why is the textual motto of John 1:5 of the Waldenses important to prophecy and Adventists?

4. Who were the Vaudois or Waldenses, and how far back can their origins be traced?

5. Why is it so difficult to trace a full history of the Waldensians?

"Few traces of their existence can be found, except in the accusations of their persecutors. It was the policy of Rome to obliterate every trace of dissent from her doctrines or decrees. Everything heretical, whether persons or writings, she sought to destroy. Expressions of doubt,

or questions as to the authority of papal dogmas, were enough to forfeit the life of rich or poor, high or low. Rome endeavored also to destroy every record of her cruelty toward dissenters. Papal councils decreed that books and writings containing such records should be committed to the flames.” – Ellen White, *The Great Controversy*, 61-62

Our Spiritual Forefathers

6. What are some of the spiritual characteristics that Waldenses and Seventh-day Adventist hold in common? What is the significance of these beliefs?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

Why It Matters

7. What happens when Seventh-day Adventists and the world forget the true history of the Waldenses?

“The continued characterizing of Waldenses as wearing unique shoes has relegated their role in the history of the Christian church to that of an insignificant, late heretical off shoot of the Roman Catholic Church, limited to the Alpine regions of Italy and France.” – P. Gerard Damsteegt, “The ancient Waldenses: Did the Reformation predate Luther?” *Ministry*, October 2017, 24

Visit www.archive.org and search for the titles below for a deeper study of the Waldenses.

Antoine Monastier, *A History of the Vaudois Church from Its Origin*

George Faber, *An Inquiry into the History and Theology of the Ancient Vallenses and Albigenses*

Samuel Morland, *The History of the Evangelical Churches of the Valleys of the Piedmont*

J.A. Wylie, *History of the Waldenses*

William Gilly, *Waldensian Researches*

