

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

The Prophets are the best of mankind in which Allah gives His favors to carry out this message. They are chosen as the intermediary of the Divine speech to His people, who are given special revelation and knowledge to guide His people on the right path.¹ The privileges that the prophets acquired were not an ordinary matter, they were believed to have the inspiration and revelation passed down directly from God to be communicated to their people.² Therefore, the inspiration and revelation obtained made it easy for the Prophet to convey a message to His people.

In the spread of a sermon, there are events that are often considered impossible to be obtained in this modern era, the example as the gift of prophecy. Prophecy is a prediction or a divination, which means a prediction about future events.³ Whatever is done both words and deeds is a role model for His people. Thus the prophet can continue the teaching and practicum for the life of the people afterward.

However, in the regard of the prophet's teaching was raised concerning the claim about the inspirations and visions that's Prophet received is a falsehood and had come from Satan not from God.⁴ While in the Qur'an the letter of Asy-Syuura explains that Allah conveys revelation through the angel Gabriel by entering the revelation in his heart.⁵ Therefore,

¹ R. Hutabarat M. Div., *Pengantar Roh Nubuat*, (Bandung: Indonesia Publishing House, 1997), 21.

² Moenawar Khalil, *Kelengkapan Tarikh Nabi Muhammad Volume 1*, (Jakarta: Gema Insani Press, 2001), 160

³ Djohan Gunawan, *Roh Inspirasi Anda Agar Hidup & Usaha Lebih Sukses*, (Elex Media Komputindo, 2014), p. 84

⁴ Gilbert Lumoindong, *Nabi Palsu Menghadapi Serigala Buas Berulu Domba*, (Bethlehem: Bethlehem Publisher, 2013), 3

⁵ Q.S. Asy Syuura: 51, "And it is not fitting for a man that God will speak to him

this has created a lot of disagreements between people who believe in it and make them do historical research to get an inspiration.

As a manifestation of the influence of these claims, there arose false prophets who came at the end of time and claimed to have prophecies.⁶ Moreover, the prophecy or the word of a prophet of things to come should not pass the Scriptures he carries. Because the fact shows that the true prophecy of a prophet never contradicts the Word of God.⁷ Therefore the vision of the prophet must be true from God and delivered to his followers.

Begin from the meaning of Prophecy, when it has examined in the concept of Adventist Church teaching by Ellen G. White. There is an issue with the origin of prophecy in Adventist. Due to an important event ever experienced Ellen White in her ninth year. She suffered severe injuries because of the behavior of a girl who did not like her. Eventually, her nose is permanently damaged and possibly a concussion. The impact of the event, causing her to often experience excessive fainting and convulsions.⁸ Her childhood is no longer perfect, unable to go to school and meet her peers.

Responding to the emergence of the phenomenon, as Molleurus Couperus argues, a retired dermatologist accuses Ellen White of the vision of a prophet is caused by some “form of epilepsy”.⁹ So that the prophecy obtained is no longer from God, but a brain error that works beyond reason.

The assumption reinforces a Seventh-day Adventist theologian, Samuele Bacchiocchi, who expressed his opinion by lowering the prophetic

except by an intermediary of revelation or from behind the veil or by sending a messenger (angel) then revealed to him by his permission what He wills, Truly, He is Supreme, Wise

⁶ Ellen G. White, *Kemenangan Akhir*, (Bandung: Indonesia Publishing House, 2011), 9

⁷ Gilbert Lumoindong, *Nabi Palsu Menghadapi Serigala Buas Berulu Domba*, (Bethlehem: Bethlehem Publisher, 2013), 4.

⁸ Jan S. Aritonang, *Berbagai Aliran di dalam dan sekitar Gereja*, (Jakarta: Gunung Mulia, 2008), p. 376

⁹ Molleurus Couperus, “The Significance of Ellen White’s Head Injury”, *Adventist Currents*, vol. 1, no.6 (June 1985), 31.

claim of Ellen White and the clumps of doctrine she taught.¹⁰ Opinion polls are increasingly being spoken by non-Adventist.¹¹ However, there is also a theologian named Hiram Edson,¹² who truly supports the Ellen White's prophetic claim as he admits the second coming of Jesus.¹³ Seeing the phenomenon that occurred, this time the writer wants to discuss the Catholic view of the prophecy of Ellen who claimed to get inspiration from God. As it is known that the prophets are God's special chosen people of His revelation and inspiration.

Set out from different views of some scientists and seen from its history. The author wants to examine the figure of Ellen White as one of the pioneers of the most important things she gets, along with the Catholic view that is considered the most intense condemn it.

B. Problem of Study

The main problem of this research is the prophecy of Ellen White in the Adventist Church with a focus on its controversy over the Catholic Church. To limit the area of this research and focus on it, the writer research problems can be set as follows:

1. What is the prophecy of Ellen White to the Seventh-day Adventist Church?
2. How is the Catholic Church view on the prophecy of Ellen White?

¹⁰ Kerry B. Wynne, William H. Hohmann, Roberts K. Sanders, *Lying for God When Adventist Knew And When They Knew it!*, (England: Amazing Lies Publication, 2011), 5.

¹¹ Non Adventist is the members who come from Adventist cult but they have abandoned the teaching and re-examined it. Especially those are former scholars such as D. M. Canright, Mollerus Couperus, and J.N Loughborough and many others. See on: Kerry B. Wynne, William H. Hohmann, Robert K. Sanders, *Lying For God*, (Amazing Lies Publication, 2011), p. 166

¹² Edson "Hiram Edson", was born on December, 1806. He is the one who have the deep thinking about Adventist movement and was obsessed. (New York, Port Gibson, 1802-1882), 2. See on: *Footprints of the Pioneers*, pp.73-82

¹³ Anthony Hoekma, *Seventh-Day Adventism*, (America: Eerdmans Publishing Co), 12

C. Purpose of Study

The purpose of the discussion is as follows:

1. To know the prophecy of Ellen White for the Adventists.
2. To know the Catholic Church view of the prophecy of Ellen White

D. Significance of Study

This research is asked to make a valuable contribution to the research and the whole student. It is expected that this research can be used to:

1. Theoretical Development:
 - a. To broaden the knowledge of the writer and other readers about the prophecies of Ellen White.
 - b. To improve the critical reasoning of the reader through the Bible.
2. Practical Development:
 - a. In order to reinforce the faith of Moslems about their belief in the Prophet Muhammad, as a role model for his people.
 - b. As one reference that can be used for further research.
 - c. Appropriate requirements to Fulfill Partial Requirements for License Level (S1) of Ushuluddin Faculty of Comparative Study of Religions.

E. Literature Review

a. Previous Research

In order for researchers to understand more about the Prophecy of Ellen G. White in Catholic, therefore needed some explanation, which is related to this discussion to be studied, below:

- 1.a. Name of the discussant: Muhammad Ali¹⁴

¹⁴ Muhammad Ali, *Kontribusi Ellen White ke Gereja Kristen Hari Ketujuh*, Minithesis: Submitted to Fulfill Partial Requirements for License Level (S1) of Ushuluddin Faculty, Comparative Department of Ushuluddin Faculty of Religion, Sunan Kalijaga University, (Yogyakarta , 2008), abstract

- b. Title: Kontribusi Ellen White dalam Gereja Advent Hari Ketujuh
- c. Aim:
 - 1) Used to extend the introduction of the figure Ellen G. White.
 - 2) Used to examine Ellen G. White's contribution to the Adventist Church.
- d. Methodology: descriptive analytics
- e. Problem Statement:
 - 1) To introduce to colleagues how Ellen White's contribution of the Seventh-day Adventist Church
 - 2) As a contribution to notion at Darussalam University
- 2. a. Name of the discussant: Kakule Mithimbo Paul¹⁵
- b. Title: An Evaluation of the Modern Church in Light of the Early Church; The Case of Seventh-day Adventists (Church in the Democratic Republic of Congo).
- c. Aim:
 - 1) To know the fundamental historical development of the Seventh-day Adventist doctrines to the observance of the Sabbath.
 - 2) To analyze various aspects regarding a historical development of representative leadership of the early apostolic church to the modern Seventh-day Adventist church
 - 3) To know the historical comparison of the actual women's ministries, leadership and worship liturgy with those practiced in the early Christian church.
- d. Methodology: Descriptive-analytics-critics
- e. Problem Statement:
 - 1) The modern Seventh-day Adventist church has departed

¹⁵ Kakule Mithimbo Paul, An Evaluation of the Modern Church in Light of the Early Church; The Case of Seventh-day Adventists (Church in the Democratic Republic of Congo). A Thesis: Submit Partial Requirements for Licensing Degree from UNISA Institutional Repository, (Africa, 2010), abstract

from some of the fundamental doctrines and practices of the early church, especially the lack of strict observance of the holy Sabbath.

- 2) The church should reform its leadership organization and roles of office because of its monarchy and authoritarian leadership which also differs from the leadership style of the early churches.
 - 3) The development of actual women's ministries, leadership and worship liturgy in the church are not in harmony with those of the early Christian church.
3. a. Name of the discussant: Furqon Syafrizal¹⁶
 - b. Title: تقديس يوم السبت عند فرقة أدفين
 - c. Aim:
 - 1) Used to understand Sabbath sanctification
 - 2) Used to examine the significance of the Sabbath in Advent
 - d. Methodology: descriptive-analysis-critical
 - e. Problem Statement:
 - 1) Understanding of the purification of the fourth law or the Sabbath.
 - 2) Examine the implementation of Sabbath law in Advent
4. a. Name of the discussant: Ekkehardt Mueller
 - b. Title: Challenges to the Adventist Interpretation of Apocalyptic Literature, Journal of Asia Adventist Seminary 13.1, p. 49-70, 2010
 - c. Aim:

This journal is challenged to established doctrines and Adventist prophetic interpretation to be expected. Probably all Christian denominations and even non-Christian world religions have to live with the phenomenon that their tenets are

¹⁶ Furqon Syafrizal, تقديس يوم السبت عند فرقة أدفين, Minithesis: Submitted to Fulfill Partial Requirements for License Level (S1) of Ushuluddin Faculty, Darussalam University, (Ponorogo, 2013), 63-89.

being questioned by parts of their own communities. Knowing about the interpretation of apocalyptic prophecy in the Adventist church. There is more to be said about the challenges to prophetic interpretation at large, as, for instance, found in classical prophecy. Therefore, the writer ought to use this journal as literature review regarding this aspect of prophecy.

5. a. Name of discussant: Gerhard Pfandl
- b. Title: Ellen G. White and Earth Science, Journal of the Adventist Theological Society 14/1, p. 176-194, 2003
- c. Aim:

This journal will investigate Ellen G. White statements on science, particularly in relation to the issue of origins and the study of earth science. Introduce the material with a brief description of the historical situation in regard to the science of geology in the 19th century, when she wrote the majority of her statements on the topic. This journal would be added as a literature review to know the figure of Ellen G. White.

Departing from all this thesis and journal, the writer only writes about the prophecy of Ellen White or just the Catholic Church view of her prophecy. Then the writer here will explain the prophecy of Ellen White in Catholic Church view, and analyzed it.

b. Conceptual Base

a. Main Sources

- 1) The Book, *Kemenangan Akhir*, Bandung, 2011. This book is a history of hope, though written in the style and context of 19th century history. But this final victory book offers the latest insight for the 21st century. To that end, the writer took this book to review some of Ellen G. Whites prophecies and explain them.

- 2) The Book, *Testimonies for the Church Volume 1*, Ellen G. White, 1998. This book is an entire collection of letters, articles, sermons, vision notes, and introductions about daily affairs, specifically targeted to members of Seventh-day Adventist Church. The writer took this book to describe the life of Ellen G. White.
- 3) The Book, *Selected Messages Book 1*, Ellen G. White, 1958. This book contains the desire and the last hope of Ellen G. White to her beliefs. The writer takes this book to review some of her last hopes.
- 4) The Book, *Life Sketches of James White and Ellen G. White*, Ellen G. White, 1888. This book is about the sanders of Ellen's life in her sermons with James White. The writer took this book to reveal the life history of the journey of Ellen White and James.
- 5) The Book, *A Sketch of the Christian Experience and View of Ellen G. White*, Ellen G. White Estate, 2010. This book has been written to tell others about the visions and instruction given to them by God. The writer would take this book as a foundation to unveil an Ellen White's vision along with her spiritual experience.
- 6) The Book, *Berbagai Amanat Kepada Orang-orang Muda*, Ellen G. White, 2014. This book is about Ellen G. White's credentials to the younger generation is a translated book from the *Message to Young People* by Ellen G. White herself. The writer would take this book to add exposure to the doctrine of its teachings to Adventists.
- 7) The Book, *Spirit of Prophecy Vol. 4*, Ellen G. White, 2010. This book is about the Spirit of Prophecy that is believed to live in the Adventist church. The writer would take this book because to review the Spirit of Prophecy of Ellen G. White for Adventists.

- 8) The Book, *Myth of Adventism*, Jeff Asher, Corozal Town, Belize, C.A. Maret 1998. This book will be filled with question and answers about Adventist teachings. The writer would describe the role discussion of Ellen White in Advent about her work and phenomenal vision.
- 9) The Book, *Pengantar Roh Nubuat*. R. Hutabarat M. Div, Bandung, 1997. This book explains the Spirit of Prophecy and also about the Seventh-day Adventist church on Ellen G. White. The writer would take this book take review a few of the Adventist congregation along with the spirit of prophecy in it.

b. Second Sources

Secondary sources are works written by others who discuss the issue of the life of Ellen White, especially regarding the Catholic Church view of his prophecy. The writer would take a lot from magazines, articles, newspapers, and journals that add to the understanding of this research.

F. Theoretical Framework

A Theoretical Framework is an approach used to look at a problem and conclude a study, made from different fields of knowledge.¹⁷ For the sake of achieving perfection in the discussion of this thesis, the writers need to assemble the theoretical framework to facilitate it in positioning themselves.

In the Divine Religion,¹⁸ the prophet is the one who receives revelation from God through of the angel Gabriel for the good of religion and its mission. All Christians and Spirit of Christ believe in having a soul

¹⁷ Nasrullah ZM, *Pedomen Penulisan Skripsi, first edition*, Biro Penelitian dan kajian Ilmiah Institute Studi Islam Darussalam, (Gontor: Trimurti Press, 2005), p. 20

¹⁸ The Divine Religion or called by the Religion of Revelation is a religion accepted by human from Allah through the angel Gabriel and delivered and propagated by His Apostle to mankind, the example like Islam, Jews, and Christians. By Wahyuddin Ahmad, M. Ilyas, M. Saifulloh, Z. Muhibbin, *Pendidikan Agama Islam*, (Grasindo), p.15

to prophesy to some extent. God's Word in the Bible says that prophecy is not limited by the "Prophet, Priest, and King" office.¹⁹ Everyone can be called a prophet in a certain level. However this title is of course to people who believe in Jesus Christ.²⁰

Some reasons why the Seventh-day Adventists are referred to God as the remnant people, cause they believe in the message given to Ellen G. White as Spirit of Prophecy. While in Christian, the meaning of the Spirit of Prophecy it is the will of God revealed to his church through the prophetic channels or prophets of the Bible,²¹ like the inspired Word of God through His spirit to the prophets. Many Christians reject the Adventist prophetic and perceived as heretical prophets.

This thesis, the entitled "The Prophecy of Ellen G. White According to Catholic Church View" to express the problem between the Catholic Church and Adventists for the straightening of the dispute that occurred. Then how about the prophecy that Ellen White that was contributed to the Adventist congregation which so far is considered to deviate from Christianity. If that's a fact, then how about the opinion of the Adventist congregation and Catholic on this matter. Therefore the writers want to clarify the answer to differences of opinion to unite the intersection of this discussion.

To clarify the result of two different opinions, the writer in this discussion uses two approaches. The first is the Phenomenology Approach,²² in respect of the total raised by the writer to examine the subject matter of the

¹⁹ Revelation 1:6, "And made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen"

²⁰ Llyod C. Phillips, *Bertumbuh dalam Pelayanan Kenabian*, (Salatiga: Tiara Jaya, 2000), 10

²¹ R. Hutabarat M. Div., *Pengantar Roh Nubuat*, (Bandung: Indonesia Publishing House, 1997), 12.

²² Phenomenology Approach can be characterized initially in a broad sense as the unprejudiced, descriptive study of whatever appears to consciousness, precisely in the manner in which it so appears. By Dermot Moran, *The Phenomenology Readers*, (London: Routledge, 2001), p. 1

phenomenon that occurs. The second is the Theological Approach,²³ the use of this approach to help the writer more understanding of Catholic especially. Then, explaining the factor data about how criticism from various opinions of Catholic views.

G. Research Method

a. Research Design

The type of research in writing a thesis is library research (Library Research), is research by collecting data as well as researching references related to the studied research. Because the literature review should be clearly presented and may be summarized as literature relevant to the research problem, however, this literature review should not be too complex and comprehensive.²⁴ The main source of this study is many books written by Ellen G. White.

b. Object of Research

While the discussion used by research to help achieves the explanation used in this study. The writer would use several ways, which include:

1) Data collection technique

Doing a research does not mean only doing observations and interviews, although both ways are the most dominant. Documentation material also needs to be properly addressed. Due to often this material is underutilized.²⁵ Therefore, in a research need to do the method of documentation.

²³ Theological Approach is an approach that views religion in terms of its principal and original teaching of God in which there is no reasoning of human thought. By Muhammad Abed al-Jabiri, *Nalar Filsafat dan Teologi Islam: Upaya Membentengi Pengetahuan dan Mempertahankan Kebebasan Berkehendak*, terj. Aksin Wijaya, (Yogyakarta:IRCiSoD, 2003), p. 22

²⁴ John W. Creswell, *Research Design, Pendekatan Metode Kualitatif Kuantitatif, Kuantitatif, dan Campuran*, h.36-37

²⁵ Ida Farida, "Studi Dokumen Dalam Penelitian Kualitatif", p. 54

Documentation method, which searches for data about things or variables in the form of articles in popular letters or magazines, books, scientific articles and journals, statistics, bulletins, reports, organizational archives, analyzes made by experts, previous survey results, public records of official events and library records.²⁶

2) Technical Data analysis

Therefore, there are also several other methods related to this method which include:

a. Descriptive Method

Descriptive Method is a Mythology that attempts to describe a particular event that occurs.²⁷ The Descriptive Method seeks to get the newest news going. Hence the discussions this method to know the truth associated with Ellen White's Prophecy and the Catholic Views.

b. Critical Analysis Method

The Critical analysis method is the collection of data and writing results.²⁸ Researcher uses critical analysis methods to collect empirical data and then categorize them, and present variable data, formulate the problem for hypnotic mastery that has been proposed.²⁹ It is used to describe, analyze and criticize something related to the prophecy of Ellen White in the Adventist and Catholic Churches making the purpose of the discussion found in the main book or the source of data collection, then to an analysis

²⁶ Masri Singaribun dan Sofyan, *Metodologi Penelitian Survey*, (Jakarta: LP3ES,1978), h. 263.

²⁷ Prof. Dr. Nyoman Dantes, *Metode Penelitian*, p.51

²⁸ John W. Creswel, *Research Design (Pendekatan Metode kualitatif, Kuantitatif, dan Campuran, Edisi 4)*, Pustaka Pelajar 2016, h:260

²⁹ Jujun Surya Sumarti, *Klasifikasi Ilmu dan Paradigma Penelitan Keagamaan*, (Bandung: Pusjarit, 1998), p. 45

H. System of Study

BAB I: INTRODUCTION.

In this chapter will be described in the background of the problem, the formulation of the problem, the purpose of the study, the important discussion, the previous discussion, the framework of discussion, the method of study, and the systematic discussion.

BAB II: ELLEN G. WHITE AND THE MEANING OF PROPHET AND PROPHECY.

Here who will describe about;the first will explain about Ellen G. White biography, including her childhood and her teenager, her marriage and her end of life. So the second prophecy is about the service of the church.

BAB III: CATHOLIC CHURCH VIEW ON ELLEN G. WHITE TEACHING AND ROLES OF HER PROPHECY IN ADVENTIST CHURCH.

This is the essence of this research, from her doctrine and the gift of prophecy throughout the ages, Bible Testing of Ellen White's Experience, and Ellen White's Divine Role and Position in the Church (Advent and Catholic). The writer wants to discuss everything in this chapter.

BAB IV: CLOSING.

In this chapter will summarize some of the issues that have been discussed in the previous chapters. So in the last closing will contain conclusions and suggestions.



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