



WWJMRD 2017; 3(9): 127-131  
www.wwjmr.com  
International Journal  
Peer Reviewed Journal  
Refereed Journal  
Indexed Journal  
UGC Approved Journal  
Impact Factor MJIF: 4.25  
e-ISSN: 2454-6615

**Osei-Acheampong Desmond Tutu**  
Theological Seminary,  
Adventist University of Africa,  
Kenya

## Marriage in the Writings of Ellen G. White: A Historical Study

**Osei-Acheampong Desmond Tutu**

### Abstract

Marriage in the writings of Ellen G. White is one of the interesting topics. Some scholars Ellen G. White's use of writing marriage indicates that marriage is an ordained institution given to human beings by God. The question is, can the same sex marry? Thus, the paper tries to answer this question. The paper will assist readers like Adventist Christians and all Christians as a whole to understand that the writings of Ellen G. White on marriage had greatly contributed to the satisfaction of the marriage of Christian believers and entire humanity.

**Keywords:** Marriage, Writings, Ellen G. White, History

### Introduction

Ellen G. White was born on 26<sup>th</sup> November, 1827 to Robert and Eunice Harmon. She was the youngest of the eight children. She lived in a small town in Gorham, Maine in the eastern part of the United States of America.<sup>1</sup>

Ellen G. White assisted her father in hat making during childhood. She was severely injured in the face by a stone thrown by a classmate. As a result of this, she ended her formal education at the age nine in class three.<sup>2</sup> In 1840, Ellen and other family members attended Adventist meeting in Portland. They accepted the view of Millerite Movement and confidently looked for second coming of Christ. Ellen was an earnest missionary worker seeking to win her youthful friends and doing her part in heralding the Advent message.<sup>3</sup> In later part of 1845, she met a young Adventist preacher called James White on her trip to Orrington, Maine. James and Ellen developed love for each other where they married on 30<sup>th</sup> August, 1846.

After their successful married, they had four children in which two survived.<sup>4</sup>

In 1874, Ellen White helped in the establishment of Bible institute which led to Sabbath service and consequently the dedication of Battle Creek. She had "vision which empowered" her to do God's work.<sup>5</sup> In 1870, she addressed many believers of the faith on health, education, Second Coming of Christ and heavenly sanctuary. In Massachusetts, Ellen White a prolific writer, prophet and evangelist sold fifty thousand of Great Controversy book in 1884.<sup>6</sup>

In 1874, Ellen White helped in the establishment of Bible institute which led to Sabbath service and consequently the dedication of Battle Creek. She had "vision which empowered" her to do God's work.<sup>7</sup> In 1870, she addressed many believers of the faith on health,

---

<sup>1</sup>E. G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets* (Nampa: Pacific Press, 1958), 6.

<sup>2</sup>R. O. Bonsu, *Lecture Notes*, 1.

<sup>3</sup>Ibid., 8.

<sup>4</sup>E. G. White, *Early Writings* (Michigan: Review and Herald, 1956), 13.

<sup>5</sup>Ibid, 9.

<sup>6</sup>P. O. Gyamerah, *A Parody of Early Adventist* (Kumasi: Emerag Press, 2011), 5.

<sup>7</sup>Ibid, 9.

**Correspondence:**  
**Osei-Acheampong Desmond Tutu**  
Theological Seminary,  
Adventist University of Africa,  
Kenya

her to do God's work.<sup>8</sup> In 1870, she addressed many believers of the faith on health, education, Second Millerite of Christ heavenly sanctuary. In Massachusetts, Ellen White a prolife writer, prophet and evangelist sold fifty thousand of Great Controversy book in 1884

### The General View of Marriage

Marriage is a contract between a woman and man with a specific age who joined together as wife and husband with a common goal and ideology. Marriage can also be seen as a union between two people who are related sexually socially, economically over a certain period of time on agreed rights and responsibilities.<sup>9</sup> Marriage can be explained as a stable heterosexual relation that provides children and the formation of families, the basic social unit which is well organized and structured.<sup>10</sup> Marriage is the emotional and legal commitment of two people who share feelings and physical intimacy in various tasks and economic resources. Marriage is "a demographic event" which provides opportunity of human sexual activity to produce children.<sup>11</sup> The secret of happy marriage is simple like just keep on being as polite to each other as best friends.

Therefore, a good husband should be deaf and a good wife should be blind.<sup>12</sup> Marriage is a subjective experience which can only be described and evaluated by individual married spouse. It is an extent to which both partners in relationship are satisfied that the marriage is durable, ideal and fulfilled reasonable expectations and mutual needs.<sup>13</sup> Marriage depends on the individual married couples. Thus, the individual should be matured and not be pressure to marry early, not to be interfered by any family members and friends when it comes to marriage. They should be encouraged to relate openly to each other to have pre-marital counseling before marriage, ability to take jointly decision as parent, and to be creative and flexible in performing marriage roles and "mutual responsibilities."<sup>14</sup> It is well noted that for a marriage to be successful couples must share common spiritual activities which include religious orientation, a strong belief and value system, and similar goals and philosophy in life. Religious couples with strong faith derive social, emotional and spiritual support, ability to develop a sense of right and wrong, the desire to help other people, marital commitment and eligibility to overcome marital problems consequently bring about marital satisfaction.<sup>15</sup>

### Ellen G. White's Concept of Marriage

According to Ellen G. White, God ordained marriage for a male and a female on the basis of companionship, love,

unity and procreation.<sup>16</sup> God created and placed humankind in the world to eat, drink, trade, marry and be given in marriage. Humankind should live this universe to give reverence to God and live pious life to eternal Kingdom even when married.

Marriage should devoid of corrupt heart and mind. Thus, the couples should acknowledge themselves and respect each other. Partners must enter marriage with carefulness and prayerful attitude. If men and women are in the habit of praying twice a day before they contemplate marriage, they should pray four times a day when such a step is anticipated.

In marriage, if you draw close to Jesus and seek to adorn your profession by a well-ordered life and godly conversation, your feet will be kept from straying into forbidden paths. If you will only watch, continually watch unto prayer, if you will do everything as if you were in the immediate presence of God, you will be saved from yielding to temptation and may hope to be kept pure, spotless, and undefiled till the last days. If you hold the beginning of your confidence firm unto the end, your ways will be established in God; by His grace, glory will crown you in the kingdom of our God.<sup>17</sup> After marriage, they should continuously praying seeking God's guidance and protection in their marriage.<sup>18</sup> Marriage should build a home of unity and peace. Thus, there should be mutual understand between the husband and the wife.<sup>19</sup>

In marriage the couples should be one in all their endeavors and see themselves as helpmate.<sup>20</sup> Marriage is the relationship between "a man and a woman" with the aim of companionship and the fulfillment of the sexual desires.<sup>21</sup> Marriage is ordinance of creation which is God's "gift to all humankind."<sup>22</sup> It is the total, exclusive and "lifelong commitment "of the married partners to each other.<sup>23</sup> Whenever a married spouse breaches one of the above requirements, person breaks God's commandment and intention for the institution of marriage. Marriage should be matrimony where the couples keep it holy and pious for the glorification of God.<sup>24</sup>

Marriage is the formal and dual sexual union of a man and a woman which is conducted within a set of designated rights and duties. It is the rite of passage from puberty, birth and to death.<sup>25</sup> It marks for the individual marrying for the first time, a transition from childhood or adolescence to responsible citizenship. Marriage is a bond between between a male and female who are ready to live together oneness in physically, socially, psychologically, normally and spiritually and to serve the maker.<sup>26</sup>

Essentially enough, in marriage, the married partners can adopt either traditional marriage or Church wedding.<sup>27</sup>

<sup>8</sup>Ibid, 9.

<sup>9</sup>M. A. Schwartz, *Marriages and Families Diversity*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (New Jersey: Wadsworth Publishing, 1997), 10.

<sup>10</sup>F. P. Rice, *Intimate Relationships* (London: Mayfield Publishing, 1999), 25.

<sup>11</sup>Defrain H. Olson, *Marriage and Family Diversity* (U.S.A: Mayfield Publishing, 2000 ), 5.

<sup>12</sup>N. V. Pelt, *The Complete Marriage* (Accra: Advent Press, 2000), 11.

<sup>13</sup>Ibid., 26.

<sup>14</sup>Ibid., 6.

<sup>15</sup>Ibid., 12.

<sup>16</sup>E. G. White, *Messages to Young People* (Michigan: Review and Herald, 1956), 456.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid.,457

<sup>18</sup>Ibid.

<sup>19</sup>Ibid., 458.

<sup>20</sup>Earl A. Achtemeier, *The Committed Marriage* (Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1976), 8.

<sup>21</sup>Ibid., 9.

<sup>22</sup>Dept. of SDA Family Ministries Published 1983.

<sup>23</sup>Ibid., 10.

<sup>24</sup>Ibid., 459.

<sup>25</sup>Ibid., 14.

<sup>26</sup>Ibid., 461.

<sup>27</sup>Ibid., 463.

Thus, the couples should treat each other equally so as to respect their rights and responsibilities.<sup>28</sup> Marriage is the complementary and harmonious part of humanity. More importantly, marriage gives sense of direction and stability in the couple's life.<sup>29</sup> In marriage, the married partners are refreshed and encouraged to share ideas and experiences. Thus, caring husband and wife will be seen as the demonstration of God's love, assurance for identity, comfort in the midst of difficulty, hope to carry them forward as an inspiration to work together for God.<sup>30</sup> This helps to live together as people with common goal. Thus, marriage gives a direction of knowing each other and making good plans of their lives.<sup>31</sup>

Marriage is something which influences and affects both in this world and in the world to come. In marriage, humankind should allow God to choose for them. God requires our whole heart, the supreme affections and admirations in our marriage. This implies that marriage must be considered with a genuine reason, sound judgment and before joining together as one.<sup>32</sup>

According to Ellen G. White, Christian married couples should be simple, modest, decent, sincere, moral and religious in all their endeavors. Christians must have a sanctified tenderness and love in which there is no impatience of fretfulness, rude, pride, arrogance and disobedience.<sup>33</sup> In marriage, love is a precious gift, which is received from Jesus Christ. Hence, pure and holy affection is not a feeling, but a principle. Married partners who are actuated by true love are neither unreasonable nor blind.<sup>34</sup> It is obvious therefore that, mildness, gentleness, forbearance, long-suffering are not easily provoked, bearing all things, hoping all things, and enduring all things. These tenants are the fruit growing upon the precious tree of love, which is of heavenly growth. Therefore, the tree of marriage, if nourished, will prove to be an evergreen. Hence, the branches of marriage will not decay, its leaves will also not wither and it will become immortal, eternal, watered continually by the dews of heaven.<sup>35</sup> Essentially enough, such marriages will receive divine love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faithfulness, meekness, temperance and stability.<sup>36</sup>

Marriage is a sacred ordinance and that one cannot be entered and engaged in a spirit of selfishness. Here, the married people must accept and obey God and His principles. These principles of marriages include loving each other, establishing your own private home, guarding your thoughts, avoiding divorce, be temperate, modest, decent, making Christ the centre of your home and praying together.<sup>37</sup> Frankly speaking, the instruction given by God's word should be carefully considered. Thus, heaven

looks for pleasure in marriage formed with an earnest desire to conform to the directions in the Scripture.<sup>38</sup>

Marriage should be well in alliance, religious faith, place above everything on earth and allow God to be centered.<sup>39</sup> The majority of Christians' marriages of this present time, and the way in which they are conducted make them one of the signs of the last days. Married men and women are persistent and anxious to be in tune with God and attain His Heavenly Kingdom.<sup>40</sup> Thus, God expects married spouses to make their marriage "a light and a salt" to this world. Christian marriage must be sanctified and characterized by faith, truth, wisdom and understanding.<sup>41</sup> By so doing, the people who are not in the Christian faith will learn and come to Christ Jesus. Ellen G. White also endorsed Paul's point of view in marriage written to the people of Ephesus as "wives submit to their husbands, as to the Lord. Christ is the head of the Church and He is the Savior of the body. Hence, the Church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. Husband, love your wives, as Christ also loved the church, and He gave Himself for humanity that He might be sanctified and cleansed."<sup>42</sup> With this, married men have to love while women have to humble themselves to their husbands to ensure successful marriages.

In marriage, husband and wife must respect each other in their doings. In so doing they can succeed in making each other happy. Again, in every marriage sex is a relationship that individual married couples feel connected and get satisfied. Each of the married spouses expresses his or her love to each other with verbal appreciation and compliments.<sup>43</sup> This indicates that the married partners can strengthen and maintain their love when there is a mutual sexual intercourse in their marriage.

Thus, the married spouses should play and make fun together in their marital life and sexual relationship. In marriage the married people should exercise temperance in their sexual relationship.<sup>44</sup> By so doing, it will help the couples to become fit and live long to accomplish God's work.

According to Ellen G. White, Jesus Christ did not enforce celibacy upon any class of human beings. He came not to destroy the sacred relationship in marriage, but to exalt it and restore it to its original sanctity. Jesus considered "marriage as a pleasure upon the family relationship where sacred and unselfish love is attained."<sup>45</sup> The implication here is that God created humankind to marry. Thus, the marriage is based on Biblical point of view.

As indicated in Genesis 2:24 "therefore, a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife and they shall become one flesh."<sup>46</sup> God ordained marriage for men and women to be united in holy wedlock, to rear families whose members are crowned with honor, should be

<sup>28</sup>F. Karen, *Love Aflame* (Hagerstown: Review Herald Publishing, 1992), 8.

<sup>29</sup>*Ibid.*, 10.

<sup>30</sup>D. V. Mace, *In the Presence of God* (Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1985), 14.

<sup>31</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>32</sup>E. G. White, *The Adventist Home* (Michigan: Review and Herald Publishing, 1962), 85.

<sup>33</sup>*Ibid.*, 62.

<sup>34</sup>*Ibid.*, 63.

<sup>35</sup>*Ibid.*, 64.

<sup>36</sup>*Ibid.*, 65.

<sup>37</sup>*Ibid.*, 89.

<sup>38</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>39</sup>*Ibid.*, 91.

<sup>40</sup>Joseph Bates, *Adventist Review and Sabbath Herald* (Michigan: Review and Herald Publications, 1886), 45.

<sup>41</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>42</sup>*Ibid.*, 92.

<sup>43</sup>*Ibid.*, 93.

<sup>44</sup>E. G. White, *Ministry of Healing* (Michigan: Review and Herald Publishing, 1964), 356.

<sup>45</sup>*Ibid.*, 94.

<sup>46</sup>Roland B. Allen, *King James Version Study Bible* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson Inc., 2007), 8.

recognized as members of the heavenly family.<sup>47</sup>The Spirit of prophecy teaches that sex is sound evidence that employed the terms “marriage relation and family relation” which currently called “sexual intercourse” between husband and wife.<sup>48</sup> In short, marriage should be a holy matrimony between the male and the female as instituted by God in the Garden of Eden (Gen 2:20-24, NKJV).

### Problems in Marriage

Every marriage in the world is bound to encounter problems, but the problems are more frequent among married couples who refused to attend pre-marital counseling.<sup>49</sup>The reason is that the married couples had not received the needed training and techniques in marriage.

According to Ellen G. White, Satan can hurriedly influence a man and a woman into marriage and frustrate them.<sup>50</sup>On the strength of this, there has been always confusion in the marriage thereby making such marriage unpleasant and un-enjoyable.

Poor communication system has been a problem in many marriages.<sup>51</sup>Thus, the married partners converse to each other anyhow. This normally creates unnecessary tension in the marriage. When this problem continues it can lead to divorce.

Another problem in marriage is failure of any of the spouse to perform his or her duties.<sup>52</sup>In marriage, the husband is responsible for financial upkeep of the family while the wife is responsible for cooking, washing and other preparation in the home. So, if one of the couple refuses to honor his or her responsibility, it usually brings misunderstanding thereby creating problem in the marriage. Inability of married spouses to satisfy themselves sexually in marriage is another problem in marriage.<sup>53</sup>This normally brings about marital dissatisfaction which finally leads to misunderstanding and even divorce.

Another problem is the inability to deliver children. When the married partners marry for a long time and they are not able to deliver a child, it usually brings dissatisfaction in the marriage.<sup>54</sup>When this continues, the marriage can lead to divorce.

The problem of authority is also one of the outstanding issues which have been with the couple for quite a long time. In many marriages, who is to exercise control on certain issues and duties has become difficult to define.<sup>55</sup>If this problem persists, it can finally result in marital unrest and hence divorce. Spiritually speaking, Satan can attack the marriage of some couples.<sup>56</sup>When this occurs, Satan normally makes such marriages unattractive and unhappy.

### Usefulness of Marriage

<sup>47</sup>Ibid., 357.

<sup>48</sup>Ibid., 359.

<sup>49</sup>A.D. Melgosa, *New Lifestyle to Couples* (Madrid: Editorial Safiliz, 2007), 20.

<sup>50</sup>Manuscript Releases Volume 10, 202.

<sup>51</sup>Ibid., 121.

<sup>52</sup>Ibid., 24..

<sup>53</sup>James Agoka, *Thoughts on Marriage, Family and Singleness* (Accra: Advent Press, 1984), 27.

<sup>54</sup>Ibid., 96.

<sup>55</sup>G. L. Flick, *Power Parenting for Children* (New York: Burr Ridge Publication, 2001), 10.

<sup>56</sup>Ibid., 98.

Boldly speaking, marriage brings about companionship. In marriage, there should be a friendship between the husband and the wife. They should love each other as God ordained the marriage. Without companionship, the beautiful scenes and delightful employment of Eden would have failed to yield perfect happiness. In this wise, marriage helps to satisfy the desire for sympathy and companionship.<sup>57</sup>This indicates that friendship in marriage assists married couple to enjoy themselves.

Marriage results in helpmate. Thus, God created a woman to be a helpmate to her husband. Hence, the woman is attached to the husband affectionately and she is sympathized when there is a trouble.<sup>58</sup> This shows that woman was created to support man in all his activities.

This assertion has been confirmed in Genesis 2:18 which disclose that the Lord God said, “it is not good that man should be alone; I will make a helper comparable to him.”<sup>59</sup>

It also leads to unity, oneness, peace and harmony.<sup>60</sup>Whenever, there is a mutual understanding between the husband and the wife, they see themselves as one thereby enjoying peace and harmony. Therefore, man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. Hence, the oneness, unity and peace foster the married partners’ relationship.

Through marriage, the couples can enjoy sexual intercourse. The sexual intercourse is a creative act which is capable of stimulating energies of a very positive and fulfilling nature.<sup>61</sup>When this happens, the married spouse can live healthy and strong life.

Again, the sexual act in marriage also brings about marital satisfaction. Thus, the sexual intercourse<sup>62</sup>of the married couple leads to marital satisfaction. In marriage, sex is important to married partners for procreation.<sup>63</sup>It develops and evolves towards a greater sense of fulfillment gaining a greater sense of unity and oneness with the universe.

Sex in marriage serves a bond between the husband and the wife to generate family. Hence, the establishment of the family through marriage represents a beautiful symbol of the family in heaven.<sup>64</sup>This brings about an increase in people on this earth.

In marriage, when the married people trust and respect each other, they normally guard against suspicion and misunderstanding.<sup>65</sup>As a result of mutual understanding, they decide problems affecting the family and employ each other’s views to resolve such problems amicably. When this happens there is always peace and tranquility in the marriage as well as the family.

One significant feature to a successful marriage is effective communication. According to Omeonu (2004), effective communication in marriage determines one’s level of marital satisfaction.<sup>66</sup>In marriage, effective communication

<sup>57</sup>Ibid., 99.

<sup>58</sup> Ibid., 463.

<sup>59</sup>The Maxwell Leadership Bible (U.S.A: Maxwell Motivation Inc., 2007), 6.

<sup>60</sup>Ibid., 206.

<sup>61</sup>Brown.W. Powers, *Marriage and Divorce* (Australia: Southwood Press, 1978), 26.

<sup>62</sup>Ibid., 29.

<sup>63</sup>M.L. Adams, *Family Life Education* (Accra: Yamens, 2000), 14.

<sup>64</sup>Ibid., 27.

<sup>65</sup>A. C. Omeonu, *Marrying for a True Marriage* (Accra: Advent Press, 2004), 18.

<sup>66</sup>Ibid., 31.

promotes happier and intimate relationship among couples. Essentially enough, married partners with financial stability enjoy marital satisfaction. Here, the couple can provide basic family needs like food, shelter, clothing and healthcare.<sup>67</sup>These necessities in life help to build a peaceful and conducive marriage.

In marriage, where the married people demand realistic expectation, there is always happiness in the marriage.

Happiness in marriage is not a state, but rather, it is something which is planned, sought out and maintained through endeavor by the married couples.<sup>68</sup>Here, both parties must devote time and dedication to cultivate love for each other so as to expect the best things in their marriage.

Most importantly, a well established marriage with mutual understanding helps to resolve conflicts that arise in the marriage.<sup>69</sup>With this, the married spouse can manage conflict by themselves and this will renew their relationship thereby promoting marital happiness.

In marriage, where the couples admire each other, they usually enjoy marital satisfaction.<sup>70</sup>Here, this admiration can be expressed in words of praise toward a spouse while others will be done in action. Again, common ethical values and religion are essential elements in marriage. Religion and ethics are highly important values in securing the couples' marriage stability and happiness.<sup>71</sup>When there is consensus in religion and ethics, the bond between two married people is deeply strengthened.<sup>72</sup>Thus, the beliefs and convictions of these married people are not only in their minds but reach out to practically every aspect of human existence including how they use their money in their daily activities.

### Summary and Conclusion

In short, marriage should be an institution between a man and a woman with mutual understanding. In marriage, the married couple can adopt either traditional marriage or church wedding. Thus, each spouse must treat the other with love, respect and humility. From the writings of Ellen G White, for a married couple to be successful, God should be the centre of that marriage to guard and protect their activities. More importantly, marriage is meant for friendship, helpmate, love, unity and procreation. Marriage encourages sexual intercourse between a male and a female. Essentially enough, marriage generates and expands family on this earth and heavenly one.

Marriage should not be undermined by any humanly planned activities like homosexuality and lesbianism. This is because God ordained marriage for humankind. Thus, it is a union between a man and a woman to love and be in healthy relationship. Therefore, God's plan for marriage is to bring its purity and beauty back as initiated in the Garden of Eden.

<sup>67</sup>ibid., 32.

<sup>68</sup>ibid., 28.

<sup>69</sup>ibid., 33.

<sup>70</sup>L. Saxton, *The Individual, Marriage and Family* (New Jersey: Wadsworth Publishing, 1980), 44.

<sup>71</sup>ibid., 101.

<sup>72</sup>M. A. Lammana, *Marriages and Families* (New Jersey: Wadsworth Publishing, 1980), 44. s

### Bibliography

1. Achtemeier, Earl A. *The Committed Marriage*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1976.
2. Adams. M. L. *Family Life Education*. Accra: Yamens, 2000.
3. *Adventist Review and Sabbath Herald*, 1886.
4. Agoka. James. *Thoughts on Marriage, Family and Singleness*. Accra: Advent Press, 1984.
5. Allen, Roland. B. *New King James Version Study Bible*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Inc., 2007.
6. Badu, A.. *Life and Work*. Personal Interview for CHIS 575. Adventist University of Africa, 2016.
7. Bates, Joseph. *Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*. Michigan: Review and Herald, 1886.
8. Biant, P. S. *Department of S.D.A Family Ministries*. U.S.A: Advent Truth, 1983.
9. Bonsu, Robert. *Life, Work and Writings Class Notes for CHIS 575*. Accra: Adventist University of Africa, 2016.
10. Department of Seventh-day Adventist Family Ministries Published, 1983.
11. Flick, G. L. *Power Parenting for Children*. New York: Burr Ridge Publication, 2001.
12. Gyamerah, Patrick O. *A Parody of Early Adventist*. Kumasi: Emerag Press, 2011.
13. Karen, F. *Love Aflame*. Hagerstown: Review Herald Publishing, 1992.
14. Lammana, M. A. *Marriages and Families*. New Jersey: Wadsworth Publishing, 1980.
15. Mace, D. V. *In the Presence of God*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1985.
16. Maxwell, J. C. *The Maxwell Leadership Bible*. U.S.A: Maxwell Motivation Inc., 2007.
17. Melgosa, A. D. *New Lifestyle to Couples*. Madrid: Editorial Safiliz, 2007.
18. Olson, Defrain H. *Marriage and Family Diversity*. U.S.A: Mayfield Publishing, 2000.
19. Omeonu, A. C. *Marrying for a True Marriage*. Accra: Advent Press, 2004.
20. Pelt, N.V. *The Complete Marriage*. Accra: Advent Press, 2000.
21. Powers, Brown W. *Marriage and Divorce*. Australia: Southwood Press, 1978.
22. Rice, F. P. *Intimate Relationships*. London: Mayfield Publishing, 1999.
23. Saxton, Lawrence. *The Individual, Marriage and Family*. New Jersey: Wadsworth Publishing, 1980.
24. Schwartz, M. A. *Marriages and Families Diversity*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. New Jersey: Wadsworth Publishing, 1997.
25. White, E. G. *Early Writings*. Michigan: Review and Herald, 1956.
26. White, E.G. *Manuscript Release Volume 10*. Michigan: Review and Herald, 1886.
27. White, E. G. *Messages to Young People*. Michigan: Review and Herald, 1956.
28. White, E. G. *Ministry of Healing*. Michigan: Review and Herald Publishing, 1964.
29. White, E. G. *Patriarchs and Prophets*. Nampa: Pacific Press, 1958.
30. White, E. G. *The Adventist Home*. Michigan: Review and Herald Publishing, 1962.