

The Sabbath Sentinel

Mar.-Apr. 2019



BSA—The Bible Sabbath Association

The LORD said, "Truly, you shall keep My Sabbaths."

The Sabbath Sentinel March-April 2019

Volume 73, No. 2, Issue 595

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The Bible Sabbath Association is dedicated to promoting the seventh day Sabbath. As a nonsectarian association for Sabbath-observing Christians, BSA accepts members who acknowledge Jesus Christ (Yeshua the Messiah) as their Savior, believe the Bible to be the Word of the Eternal God, and uphold the seventh day Sabbath. BSA takes no official position on other theological issues, and publishes *The Sabbath Sentinel* as a forum to promote understanding and to share items of interest with Sabbath observing groups and individuals.

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The Sabbath Sentinel

<u>Editorial</u>



In Exodus, Chapter 31, Verse 13, the LORD, speaking to Moses, makes the following promise: "Speak also to the sons of Israel, saying, Truly you shall keep My sabbaths. For it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, to know that I am Jehovah who sanctifies you."

It was an interesting bit of knowledge that God was giving to them. He seemed to be saying to the sons of Israel that if they would keep His Sabbaths then they would always know who God was, the One who set them apart for a holy purpose.

We can know today that we know the one and only God who has sanctified us, set us apart for His Holy use, in exactly the same way. That way is by keeping His Sabbaths.

Most people don't realize that God has a plan for all of mankind, but His plan is not executed on everyone at the same time. Indeed, most people do not even recognize that God has any plan other than "accept Jesus, spend eternity in heaven." But, as we have discussed many times here, God's plan involves restoring all of His children to Him who have lived throughout the history of man.

The reason that most people don't, indeed can't, recognize God's plan is because they do not know who He is. Yes, people claim to know Him, but the fact is that without keeping His Sabbaths they cannot possibly know Him. God's promise—and He *is* unchanging—is that if Israel kept those Sabbaths then they would know who He is! You will notice that the past tense was not used! That promise God made then to Israel has never been retracted!

People can justify keeping Sunday and all other sort of self-righteousness because, just as Adam and Eve did in the garden, they take to themselves the right to decide what is evil and what is good—what is right and what is wrong. But God has told us from the beginning what was good for us and what would happen if we chose the way that was not good for us. Yet, people have continually chosen the way that is bad for them by ignoring the counsel of God. But, without willing acceptance of the counsel of God by the keeping of His Sabbaths it was all but impossible for them to recognize that it has been God speaking to them to bring them to Him.

Nothing has changed today. All around us people claim to be following Jesus, but they make excuses for not doing what He says to do. Without a willingness to obey, and in particular keeping God's Sabbaths, there is no way that they can be knowing the one, true God who is our salvation!

There are those "apologists" who claim that God's statement that in the keeping of His Sabbaths they would know the God who sanctifies them was meant solely for Israel. That is both accurate and inaccurate at the same time. What do I mean by this?

Consider what Paul had to say in Romans, Chapter 11. In this chapter he is addressing people who were not physically born of the tribes of Israel but with an interesting insight into the issue. In Verse 17 Paul makes this curious statement, "*And if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them, and became a sharer of the root and the fatness of the olive tree with them, …*"

Speaking of Israel, he compares that people to branches broken off of the natural olive tree while showing that non-Israelites compared to the wild olive branches being grafted in their place. Notice that Paul is saying that these "nations" (Verse 13) were grafted onto the natural olive tree to "share the root and fatness" of that original tree.

Verse 20 goes on to state this: "Well, because of unbelief they were broken off, and you stand by faith." If we are reading between the lines we can easily see that Paul is telling us that we must be grafted into that root of the natural olive tree where Israel was previously grafted.

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What does this mean to us? It means that the admonition to keep God's Sabbaths, which applied to Israel, applies likewise to those of us who are grafted onto that Root through faith. We are to become Israel.

Notice the prophetic statement of the Christ usually overlooked as a chiding to those who relied on Abraham as their father: "*Therefore bring forth fruits* worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say within yourselves, We have Abraham for our father. For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones." This is found in Luke 3:8.

In our case, God is raising up Israel from those who were not Israel, even as the Christ foretold that He would.

You'll notice that this doesn't make us any better than natural Israelites. "*And those also, if they do not continue in unbelief, will be grafted in. For God is able to graft them in again.*" (Romans 11:23). The important point to be taken from this is that we who walk in the faith have become children of Abraham and Israelites by adoption. Even those of faithless physical Israel, not merely Judahites, can be grafted back onto Israel if they discontinue walking in a manner that shows disbelief.

Circling back around to the original point, it is clear that anyone who is part of what God is doing is of Israel, either natural born or adopted as sons. In either event, the admonition that to know who God is it is necessary to keep His Sabbaths still stands.

One can easily notice that this admonition is apart from the Commandments found in Exodus 20 or from the defining of what God's Sabbaths consist of found in Leviticus 23. It is a simple statement yet one that is full of insight for anyone who desires to be a part of what God is doing, for anyone desiring salvation. That simple statement is that if we want to know the God who saves us then we must be keeping His Sabbaths.

By extension, that excludes our keeping OUR Sabbaths, the day that we feel we ought to be keeping because "after all, it was good enough for Mom and Dad." "Do not think that I have come to bring peace on earth. I did not come to send peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter-in-law against her motherin-law. And a man's foes shall be those of his own household. He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who does not take up his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me."

Those of us who did not grow up in the Church remember the difficulties we had with family when we first began keeping the Sabbath Days. Some of us were told that we had joined a cult. Some of were told we were just being legalists and that God doesn't care which day we keep. Some of us were even told that by obeying God's commandments we were turning our back on Grace—whatever in the world they think that means.

But, as we can plainly see, God is clear on what He wants. He does not want us to use pagan practices for the worship of Him. That kind of worship is not acceptable to Him. He created His Sabbaths for us for use as a commanded assembly with Him weekly. Many of the brethren understand this to also mean the annual Sabbaths defined in Leviticus 23 and keep those holy as well. In creating the Sabbath days for us God set in place the very tool through which we can know who our Creator and Savior is. By extension, if we are not keeping His Sabbaths then we do not know who our Savior is—no matter how much we might read about Him or hear about Him from others.

Once we come to the point where we really want to do what it is that God wants, to know who He is and to understand Him, we will be like Job who said, in Job 42:5-6, *"I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear; but now my eye has seen You. Therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes."*

We cannot repent of our sin of trampling on His Sabbaths any sooner than this very minute. Let us begin to really know the God who sanctifies us by doing the one thing He said would enlighten us.

Dr. Royce Mitchell, Editor

Notice what the Christ said in Matthew 10:34-38,

The President's Corner



BSA Highlights from 2018

Kelly McDonald

In 2018, the BSA had a very busy year. Barbara Parada continued to provide service from the BSA home office in Bonney Lake, Washington. We also continued the free distribution of The Sabbath Sentinel magazine. Royce Mitchell worked hard editing articles and assembling the magazine – which is the chief aspect of our outreach. In addition to these items, we maintained our online outreach and made new friends in the process. Here are the highlights from this past year:

1. The BSA board continued to have regular teleconferences with each other throughout the year. This consistent communication enabled us to operate efficiently; we had routine progress reports and held each other accountable.

2. Our public outreach Facebook page "The Sabbath Sentinel" has 1,630 followers. We reached an average of 1,500 to 2,000 people a week. This is an increase from the previous year. At the end of 2017, we had 1,230 followers with a weekly outreach of about 1,000. We would have grown our followers at a higher rate, but Facebook has instituted new rules that make social media outreach more difficult. We are going forward despite this setback.

3. Our online blog, www.sabbathsentinel.org, continued to reach Sabbath observers as well as the general public. We posted 117 insightful articles over the course of the year. The articles covered a variety of subjects. This site is the main vehicle used for our social media outreach. In 2018, we had 5,447 visitors with 8,031 views. This is an increase from last year. In 2017, we had 3,330 visitors and a total of 5,434 views. 4. Our private forum on Facebook "The Bible Sabbath Association" reached 1,690 members (up from 1,577 members for 2017). In this forum, believers are free to post upcoming events for their local church, encouraging articles, and even prayer requests. Believers from different Sabbath backgrounds contributed to this forum.

5. Our main website www.biblesabbath.org has continued to grow and exceed expectations! In 2018, we had 75,531 unique visitors. This was an average of 6,294 visitors every month. We also had the highest visits for one month ever on this website (8,787 visitors in August). In 2017, we had 62,910 unique visitors.

6. As of the writing of this article, our financials are not finished for 2018. When they are finished, the numbers will be off some because our end of the year fundraising letters did not go out in time to count for 2018. They will be reflected in our 2019 financials.

7. The BSA finished a small booklet called "A Brief History of the Sabbath in Early Christianity". It will be used as part of our outreach efforts in 2019.

8. The BSA began the enormous task of scanning the older editions of the Sabbath Sentinel Magazine. Before this year, we only had editions from 1999 to the present available for download on our main website. With hard work from board members and Craig White in Australia, we presently have 68 older editions available for download (www.biblesabbath.org under the Sabbath Sentinel menu). 9. 2018 was a year of great connections and friendships for the BSA. We will review these briefly. Special thanks go to the Common Faith Network (especially Jim O'Brien, Guy Swenson, Bill Jacobs, and Carmen Kincade). This group has given the BSA tremendous opportunities to encourage others in our common faith. They allowed me to speak at their Spring Retreat, which was hosted in Gatlinburg, TN. At this meeting, we shared our resources with dozens of church leaders.

I also had the blessed opportunity to speak at the Feast of Tabernacles in Fort Walton Beach, Florida and the Winter Family Weekend in Lexington, KY. At the Feast, we had a table with a display of our resources. We gave out 75 Sabbath Sentinel Magazines and 50 materials order forms. These events allowed the BSA to help other believers continue in the faith once delivered to the saints.

Special thanks to Leaders at the following congregations at which I also spoke: Hungry Hearts Ministries (5 Locations) with Pastor Bill Shults (many times); Seventh Day Christian Assembly in Knoxville, TN with Pastor Ken Swiger (April); Church of God International in Tyler, TX with Pastor Jeff Reed (May); Church of God Big Sandy in Big Sandy, TX with Pastor Dave Havir (August); Celebration Church of God in Ontario, Oregon with Pastor Wes Higgins (August).

I appeared twice on the Friday night online show "Start Our Sabbath", which is hosted by Wes and Nancy White. Bill Lussenheide is also a featured contributor. This show featured BSA content in other episodes - they have been a big help to us.

I also appeared on the Church of God International's Friday Night Show, "Bring on the Sabbath", which is hosted by Jeff Reed and Lisa McComb.

The Sabbath Sentinel reprinted an article from the Seventh Day Baptist Church (SBDC) as a friendly way to show our support for them and maintain that important connection. The following groups also contributed to our outreach efforts: Christian Fellowship Ministries of the Church of God and The Hope of Israel.

Last, but certainly not least, special thanks goes to Bill Lussenheide. He is the founder of the online group "Seventh Day Sabbath Keepers". This group has thousands of followers and Bill promoted our materials and articles this past year. Much of our blog traffic came through his efforts.

Our online outreach yielded strong results this past year. We also had increased personal outreach through various speaking engagements. This past year I taught heavily on Sabbath history. As a result, the BSA is becoming known as a reliable resource and trusted authority for knowledge on early Sabbath history. This is yet another breakthrough for our organization.

Above all, we thank God for giving us wisdom to steward this ministry. We also thank you for your prayers and contributions. We thank those that helped us to run the race of the Christian faith. The future is bright for the BSA. We are so excited to have you as a vital part of our future. Together we will accomplish even more.

BSA President's Speaking Schedule

The Bible Sabbath Association's President, Kelly McDonald, will be appearing at several locations in January and February. For updates: kellymcdonald_lu08@hotmail.com.

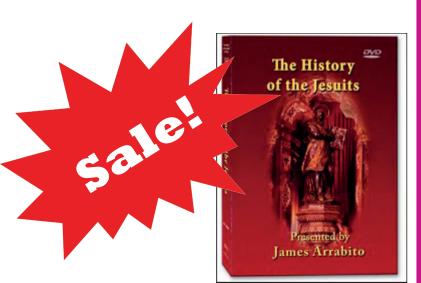
Tentative March Schedule

March 30 - Seventh Day Christian Assembly— Knoxville, Tennessee

Tentative April Schedule

April 6 - Church of God International— Tyler, TX

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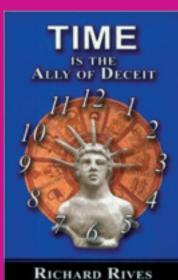
TIME is the Ally of Deceit

Richard Rives

Many aspects of Traditional Christianity cannot be found in the Bible. They can however be traced directly to the worship of pagan gods which predate Christianity by centuries. How is it that precepts that have nothing to do with Christ and everything to do with pagan sun worship have found their way into our churches? History reveals that there is one very good answer.

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DVD Set includes exciting and informative video which is based on and serves to complement the book. Part 1: Flee to the Mountains. Part 2: Baal Comes to Rome. Part 3: The Persian Sun god Mithra. Part 4: Constantine and the Nicaean Council. Part 5: Remember the Sabbath Day. Extremely well done with good reviews.

D205 \$50 plus shipping costs. Great for congregational education! Get yours before they are gone!

Editor's Note: We have these videos in our local congregation and have found them invaluable in our understanding of how paganism crept into the Church. Get a set for your congregation!

Christian Persecution in America

Aubrey Duncan

The Bible has been remarkably accurate in prophesying the ruling powers of the earth. From the time of the Babylonian Empire to our present day, it boasts of 100% accuracy rate in foretelling the nations that would rule supreme over the human family. Beginning with Babylon, some 600 years before the birth of Jesus Christ, those powers are undeniably identified. They are: Babylon, Media/Persia, Greece, Imperial Rome, the Roman Papacy and the United States of America.

But many, clergy, scholars, and laymen are denying America's role in Bible prophecy. Yet, while many are wondering about, yea speculating, even denying America's role in Bible prophecy, the nation is rapidly marching towards its prophetic destiny. Speculation abounds as to who will be the next world Superpower. Will it be China? Will Russia be next? Will Islam hold universal sway? How long will that next Superpower reign and will it be the ultimate and final world kingdom? However, there is no need to be misled. The God of Creation gives the correct answers.

Not too long ago, Greg Laurie, a popular Evangelical pastor of Harvest Christian Fellowship located in Riverside, CA , wrote on his blog: "When I look at Bible prophecy, one thing that is of great interest to me, and of great concern, is the absence of the United States...Where is the United States? Why are we not in the last-days scenario? Why is it that we can read of nations like Iraq and Iran and Libya and that we possibly can find China and Russia mentioned, but we cannot find the United States? I would like to offer three plausible answers". He then went on to offer those three plausible answers based purely on speculation, having no basis in Bible fact. But, the Bible does indeed address Laurie's consternation. Contrary to Laurie's assertion, which is the popular Evangelical belief, we will show from the Bible that the United States of America is not only mentioned in Bible Prophecy; but that it is rapidly marching towards its prophetic destiny right before our very eyes.

The book of Daniel, beginning in chapter two, which is the template for correct end-time prophecy, paints a divinely inspired picture of the nations that would rule the world and have an impact on God's plan of salvation of human souls, from Daniel's time in Babylon up to the second coming of Jesus Christ. Daniel chapter seven repeats that timeline adding more detail to chapter two's template. The nations mentioned were Babylon, Media-Persia, Greece, Pagan Rome, and Papal Rome (The Papacy). Daniel chapter eight continues the narrative; this time mentioning only Media-Persia, Greece, Pagan Rome and Papal Rome. Babylon had by that time passed off the scene of history as a world power. In chapter eight, great emphasis is placed on Papal Rome and the role it would play in salvation history (Daniel 8:10-12, 23-25).

John the Revelator picks up the story in the book of Revelation, chapter thirteen. He gives even more detail and provides undeniable, positive identification of the Roman Papacy. (That was the position of the Protestant Reformers and early American Christians). Then John introduces the United States of America: "And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed" (Revelation 13:11-12).

There is only one nation that was arising out of obscurity just around the time that the Papal power had received its deadly wound (Revelation 13:3)–

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the separation of the ecclesiastical from the temporal. The year was 1798. French Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte sent his general, Berthier, into Rome, who took Pope Pius VI prisoner and held him in Valence France where he eventually died. This marked the demise of the Papacy as a political entity. That deadly wound began to be healed in 1929 when Benito Mussolini, the father of fascism and dedicated son of the church, signed the Lateran Treaty with Pius XI thus restoring the temporal power to the Papacy. The treaty recognized the Vatican as an independent state, agreeing to give the church financial support in return for public support from the pope at the time. The principles of Mussolini's fascist government and the Papacy are the same-denial of individual civil and religious liberties.

But that beast (nation) that arose after the Papal demise in 1798 was built upon a completely different foundation. The first amendment of the United States Constitution reads Thus: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances". The two horned lamb-like beast is a most fitting description of America as it arose out of obscurity with the two pillars of its strength–Religious Liberty and Republicanism. The struggle of the American colonies for independence began in 1775. In 1776 the Declaration of Independence was signed. In 1777 the Articles of Confederation were adopted. In 1787 the U.S. constitution was framed. On July 26, 1798 it was ratified by the original 13 states. On the 1st of March 1789, the constitution went into effect.

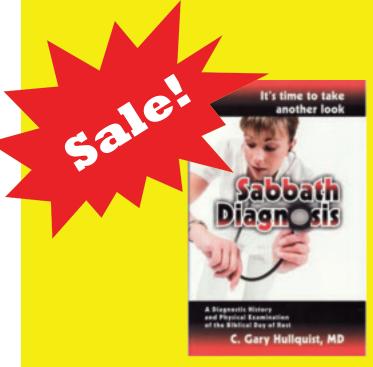
However God's servant predicted the day when America would become, in character and practice, exactly like the papacy. America, the prophet foretells, will eventually move from a position of religious freedom and political openness to one of religious intolerance and ruthless political and civil suppression. We are witnessing that prophecy being fulfilled before our very eyes. In fact, John gives the scenario of the United States joining forces with the papacy, providing the military might and the political strength that would force the entire world to worship as the papacy dictates—in effect completing the healing of the deadly wound that began in 1929.

Central to that worship is Sunday sacredness (in opposition to God's Holy 7th day Sabbath) which the Papacy claims as its mark of authority (Revelation 13:15-17). She boasts: "Sunday is our mark of authority...the church is above the Bible, and the transference of Sabbath is proof of that fact." (Catholic Record, Sept 1, 1923). She elaborates: "Perhaps the boldest thing, the most revolutionary

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change the church ever did happened in the first century. The holy day, the Sabbath, was changed to Sunday...the day of the Lord was chosen, not from any directions noted in Scriptures, but from the church's sense of its own power...People who think that the Scriptures should be the sole authority, should logically become Seventh-day Adventists, and keep Saturday holy" (Saint Catherine Catholic Church Sentinel, May 21, 1995).

Recent developments in US/Vatican relations coupled with former Pope Benedict's blue print for One World Government (In Charity and Truth) and his predecessor's (John Paul) call for universal legislated Sunday sacredness (Dies Domini) prove the Bible's accuracy in pinpointing America's role in end time events. John Paul asserts: "Christians will naturally strive to ensure that "civil legislation" respects their duty to keep Sunday holy" (Section 67, Dies Domini, July 7, 1998). Pope Francis' visit to the United States, speaking to the nation before a joint session of Congress, further confirms the Biblical prophecy of America joining hands with the papacy. His consistent call for coming together on 'common ground' was received with thundering applause.

The book, God's Sabbath Truth, is a simple, systematic study of end-time prophecy which examines the crucial role America is playing in the closing scenes of the Drama of the Ages (Revelation 13:11-17). The volume traces the Sabbath vs Sunday controversy from the perspectives of the Bible, history, and contemporary world affairs. It explores the attempted change of God's law and brings to the forefront the great end-time struggle between God's law and Rome's tradition. More importantly, God's Sabbath Truth provides the information you need to help you make the right decision as we are witnessing the United States of America rapidly advancing toward her prophetic destiny of enabling the Papacy to become the leader of the One World Government ruled by One World Religion-hers (Revelation 17).

This has become more evident in Pope Francis's recently released encyclical, "LAUDATO SI," in which he recommends Sunday sacredness as the panacea for the world's economic, environment, Testimony of the Fathers

By J.N. Andrews

In this book, originally published in 1873, J. N. Andrews presents unanswerable evidence that clearly shows that the change from the seventh day to the first day as Sabbath was not authorized by the Apostles, and much less by God Himself. It was done by men, little little, until the whole world followed after this man-made com-

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mandment.



The Seventh-Day Sabbath Sought Out and Celebrated

By Thomas Tillam

Originally published in 1657, "The Seventh-day Sabbath Sought Out and Celebrated" has been out of print for more than 350 years. Wilderness Publications has reprinted this important historical work for the benefit of all Christians.

Thomas Tillam explains that the final great controversy in these very last days will be between the Saints and the Man of Sin over the Seventh-day Sabbath.

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by

NEW

Testimony of the Fathers

the SABBATH and First Day

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and moral problems. Subsequent to its release he visited the United States where he spoke to a joint session of the U. S. Congress and the general assembly of United Nations urging the implementation of his program for solving humanity's problems. They all agreed to support him, even changing the laws of their countries, to help him achieve his objectives.

What's most remarkable is that America, a nation born out of the great Protestant Reformation with its Founding Fathers establishing it as a bulwark against Papal tyranny, has now, a little more than two hundred years later, willingly gives its support for the resurgence of the Papacy. Such a move would have been unthinkable to those Founding Fathers who gave their all to establish America on the solid foundations of civil and religious liberty as is espoused in the first Amendment of the nation's constitution.

But that ideal is being attacked in the very name of 'Religious Liberty'. In discussing the Trump's administration love affair with the Evangelical/ Catholic Religious Right, here is what one very perceptive political commentator had to say about this issue, "This conservative Christian alliance is challenging a century or more of social advances and many of the premises of the Enlightenment underlying the very definition of religious liberty in the United States. Its long-range goal is to impose a conservative Christian social order inspired by religious law, in part by eroding pillars of undergirding religious pluralism that are integral to our constitutional democracy."

In the end, he explains, "Their goal is to impose a conservative Christian social order inspired by religious law. To achieve this goal, they seek to remove religious freedom as an integral part of religious pluralism and constitutional democracy, and redefine it in Orwellian fashion to justify discrimination by an ever wider array of "religified" institutions and businesses." Without speaking prophetically, the writer, Paul Rosenberg, is most emphatically portraying the closing scenes of earth's history as are revealed in God's inspired word, the Holy Bible. (Revelation 13:1-18).



In the Beginning Creation According to Genesis

The Holy Bible contains a historical record of the

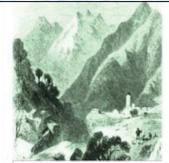
world from the time of creation.

That record begins in the book of Genesis, which in the Greek language means "Origins."

In the original Hebrew it is known as "B'reshit" — Beginning — and in the very first sentence, the foundation of the whole Bible, we learn that "In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth." So let's start at the VERY beginning.

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Israel of the Alps

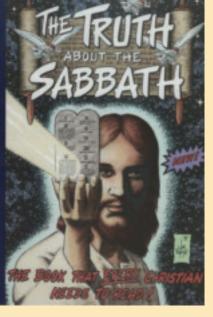


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The Truth About the Sabbath

by Jim Pinkoski

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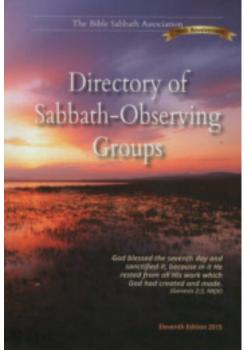
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The Sabbath Sentinel

The Seventh Day Men

Leon J. Lyell (leonjlyell@gmail.com)

Many modern Sabbath-keepers know little of the first formulation of the Sabbath doctrine in the modern era. It has come directly from the seventeenth century where a handful of Englishmen and their congregations "discovered" and observed it.

These Sabbath-keepers did not consider themselves to be forming a new denomination; indeed, they did not form a unified group. Rather, they saw themselves as only one step ahead of their brethren.

This outline aims to give the main features of this time of rediscovery. The story is of real people, from diverse backgrounds, many of whom displayed the same human failings as modern Sabbath-keepers. It is a heritage that all Sabbath-keepers share.

Part one of this series published in The Sabbath Sentinel May-June 2017 described Sabbath keepers under King James I and his son Charles I.

Part 2: The Sabbath under Cromwell

Ockford: A New Phase

By 1643, the English Puritans had won the argument about Sunday, and the law upheld the Christian Sabbath. Politically, two Civil wars preceded the execution of Charles I in 1648. Cromwell now headed a Puritan government that opposed the idea of a State Church and was prepared to allow some freedom of thought. Interestingly, the Government opposed the celebration of Christmas because of its papist/pagan origin.

Up sprang a variety of independent churches.

It is important to remember that these were a long way from modern denominations. Each congregation considered itself to be a part of the one Christian Church; for example, "Baptist" was at this stage a popular name given to those congregations which practiced believer's baptism. It did not become a denominational title until the following century.

In 1650, a pupil of Theophilus Brabourne (described in part one), who had adopted believer's baptism, announced that the Sabbath commandment has been "restored to its primitive purity." James Ockford's 72-page treatise indeed marks the start of a rapid spread of Sabbath keeping amongst some baptist congregations.

Thomas Tillam and Peter Chamberlen M.D.

Thomas Tillam was a prominent preacher at Hexham, in England's far north-east. His vigorous exhortations, usually based on graphic adaptations of the Book of Revelation, brought scores of people to baptism by immersion. Jealous rivals soon complained of his preaching methods to Hansard Knolleys -- whose London congregation provided leadership for many baptists. In 1653 Tillam was called to give an account of himself.

The particular issue of dispute which provoked this was Tillam's adoption of the laying on of hands on all believers at baptism. This newly discovered ordinance was not accepted by Knolley's congregation, which then revoked its support of Tillam's ministry. This meant that Tillam had no money or credentials with which to preach.

Feeling betrayed, Tillam set out to find other congregations which might share his views on baptism, prophecy and laying on of hands. This search led him to Dr. Peter Chamberlen, who guided the only baptist congregation which supported the

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Fifth Monarchy Movement.

The Fifth Monarchy movement was what we might describe today as a semi-political pressure group which drew support from

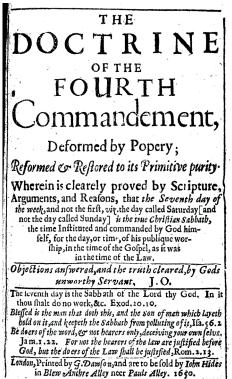
"fundamentalist" congregations. It expected Christ's Kingdom (the Fifth Monarchy to follow the four Kingdoms described in Daniel 2) would soon be literally established on earth. To prepare for this, they advocated that England quickly pattern its government and laws on Biblical prescription.

This link, and the firm friendship which grew from it, would prove important for the Sabbath idea as well as the long-term establishment of Sabbath-keeping congregations in

England and later the United States. In normal times these two men would never have met. Chamberlen was a clean-shaven aristocrat and former Royal Physician who wore his hair long and powdered. He and his father had invented forceps for use in childbirth and had the influence to undertake many good-works for the community. Tillam, who believed that real men had short hair and long beards, came from a very different social position and seems to have had an air of wild eccentricity.

Another baptist and moderate Fifth Monarchist was Henry Jessey. He was a gifted preacher with a sound knowledge of Hebrew. He believed that the King James Version of the Bible lacked an understanding of Israel's calendar and customs. Jessey was also active in the campaign to readmit the Jews to England in the 1650's.

The Jews had been expelled from England in the twelfth century, and this fact created some mystique regarding who the Jews actually were. Some had an irrational fear, and others, such as those who observed the Sabbath, wanted to know much more about "God's chosen people." Jessey observed a number of what opponents described as "Jewish laws," which certainly included the Sabbath. He



knew that the "lost tribes" were to play a part in end time prophecy and made attempts to identify who they were, even postulating that they may be the American Indians.

Their Discovery of the Sabbath

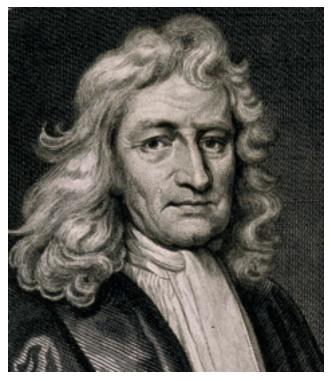
By 1655 Tillam had moved to Colchester. There his gifts as a preacher impressed the local mayor who invited him to use the parish church. Enlivened by this opportunity, Tillam baptized over one hundred people in a few short months. It is also probable that Tillam came to know Brabourne who lived in the area.

Early in 1656, Tillam began holding services in the parish church on Saturday. Exactly how he arrived at the idea of the Saturday Sabbath is not clear. Through this period, he had remained in regular and close contact with Chamberlen, whose London congregation adopted the Sabbath about the same time. Another possible link is that Chamberlen probably knew Ockford. Somewhere in these shared associations and common approach to Bible interpretation, the Sabbath became part of the religious practice of these congregations.

The authorities, however, were displeased with Tillam's innovation and had him imprisoned. Like many seventeenth century religious prisoners, Tillam occupied himself in writing and produced his most memorable work: *The Seventh Day Sabbath Sought Out and Celebrated* published in 1657. It brought a rush of condemning response. In more than two hundred pages, Tillam developed the link between the Sabbath and Biblical prophecy, first suggested by Ockford, into a detailed scenario. The Sabbath, said Tillam, "...is in these very last days become the last great controversy between the Saints and the Man of Sin, The Changer of Times and Laws."

Tillam was the first to call the Sunday Sabbath the "Mark of the Beast," a cry many later Sabbath-

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Dr. Peter Chamberlen

keepers would take up. Tillam had one disagreement with Chamberlen on this subject. While Chamberlen felt that Sabbath observance negated all significance of Sunday, Tillam believed that the resurrection could be celebrated on Sunday, so as not to cause divisions between Christians.

Perhaps the strongest agreement of the pair was that their adoption of the Sabbath would aid the conversion of the Jews. It would be a sure sign that Christ's return was near. As Chamberlen wrote to Tillam, "The Jews of London are very much affected with our keeping the Sabbath.... I perceive it is a great stumbling block to them ... that Christians violate the Sabbath."

Chamberlen's Congregation

Tillam's book was written as an answer to a pamphlet against Sabbath keeping by William Aspinwall, a leading Fifth Monarchist. Aspinwall systematically dissected the arguments of Ockford and another Sabbath-keeper, John Spittlehouse, in an effort to ridicule both the Sabbath and Sabbathkeepers. Spittlehouse, spokesman for Chamberlen's congregation, had published his advocacy of the "unchangeable morality" of the Sabbath in mid-1656. But Aspinwall's abuse did not quell Sabbath enthusiasm. Almost immediately, Spittlehouse and William Sellers presented a (perhaps naive) petition to the Chief Magistrates, asking that the Sabbath be established in law. The task must have seemed easy, as English law now supported all the arguments in favor of Sabbath-keeping. All they had to do was convince the lawmakers that the supposed Sunday texts of the New Testament did not change the Sabbath to Sunday.

Their confident appeal was, to their dismay, unceremoniously rejected.

The Sabbath had now become an issue of controversy between baptists. Jeremiah Ives, a popular baptist controversialist, decided to meet the arguments head on: he challenged Tillam, Chamberlen and one Matthew Coppinger to a public debate on the issue. The three agreed, and for three days in 1658, the Stone Chapel in St. Paul's Cathedral was crowded with eager listeners.

Each side considered itself the winner. Whatever the case, it was soon after that two able preachers added their voices to the defense of the Sabbath: Edward Stennet and John James.

Stennet had been a chaplain for the Parliamentary Army in its fight against the King during the Civil wars. Although not a Fifth Monarchist, he did expect Christ to return in his lifetime. His defense of the Sabbath was published in 1658. In it he argued for the perpetuity of the Ten Commandments, which he dubbed the "Royal Law" (James 2:8). His family would provide some stability for Sabbathkeeping congregations who survived the renewed persecution which occurred when the Monarchy was restored.

Part three of this series will outline the persecution of Sabbath keepers which resumed when Charles II returned to the throne.

GREEN, SEED-BEARING PLANTS --AND MUSHROOMS

DJ (oneman2@comcast.net)

Are/were all "green" plants given to us for food?

Genesis 1:11-12 speak of plants yielding seed and fruit. But Genesis 1:29-30 may clarify it a bit:

(New American Standard w/Strong's):

Gen 1:29 Then Elohim⁴³⁰ said⁵⁵⁹, "Behold²⁰⁰⁹, I have given⁵⁴¹⁴ you every³⁶⁰⁵ plant⁶²¹² yielding²²³² seed²²³³ that is on the surface⁶⁴⁴⁰ of all³⁶⁰⁵ the earth⁷⁷⁶, and every³⁶⁰⁵ tree⁶⁰⁸⁶ which⁸³⁴ has fruit⁶⁵²⁹ yielding²²³² seed²²³³; it shall be food⁴⁰² for you;

Gen 1:30 and to $every^{3605}$ beast²⁴²¹ of the earth⁷⁷⁶ and to $eve-ry^{3605}$ bird⁵⁷⁷⁵ of the sky⁸⁰⁶⁴ and to $every^{3605}$ thing³⁶⁰⁵ that moves⁷⁴³⁰ on the earth⁷⁷⁶ which⁸³⁴ has life⁵³¹⁵, ²⁴²¹ I have given $every^{3605}$ green³⁴¹⁸ plant⁶²¹² for food⁴⁰²"; and it was so³⁶⁵¹.

(The Scriptures):

Gen 1:29 And Elohim said, "See, I have given you every plant that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed, to you it is for food.

Gen 1:30 "And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the heavens, and to every creeping creature on the earth, in which there is life, every green plant is for food." And it came to be so. "

Verse 29 clearly says Yahweh gave every plant that yields seed to us. However, verse 30 says "to every beast of the earth, and to every bird,..," that every green plant was given for food. So, perhaps, all green plants were never intended for human consumption? Lettuce comes from seed, cabbages from seed; but does poison ivy have seeds? I think they have those root-like things (rootlets) as opposed to "seeds"; you grow them by "cuttings" also - that is why it is so hard to destroy, I believe. Having had billy goats, they love poison ivy and wild roses (same growing pattern; not seeds) and have no difficulty eating them. Other things that seem to grow like poison (and other) ivy include grapes and strawberries, but they bear fruit so according to Genesis 1:29 they are clean to eat, right? Mint grows very similar also but, left to its own, turns to seed which the wind blows off and it spreads.

I found one other verse on eating green plants, that is Genesis 9:3: "Every³⁶⁰⁵ moving⁷⁴³¹ thing⁷⁴³¹ that is alive²⁴¹⁶ shall be food⁴⁰² for you; I give⁵⁴¹⁴ all³⁶⁰⁵ to you, as I gave the green³⁴¹⁸ plant⁶²¹²," (NAS) or "Every moving creature that lives is food for you. I have given you all, as I gave the green plants..."

(The Scriptures).: If someone says that means "all" green plants are clean, then by its own wording all moving creatures are also clean, right?

Now MUSHROOMS – Are they clean? Some true believers in the Word say "yes" and some true believers in the Word say "no." Does it matter? I guess if you strive to keep His laws it does. Is it salvational? Probably not—unless you find it is wrong and still do it! Could it become a salvational issue? I'm certainly no expert but let's see if I can determine something a little more concrete than "probably."

Let's start with Scripture:

(New American Standard w/Strong's):

Gen 1:11 Then Elohim⁴³⁰ said⁵⁵⁹, "Let the earth⁷⁷⁶ sprout¹⁸⁷⁶ vegetation¹⁸⁷⁷, plants⁶²¹² yielding²²³² seed²²³³, and fruit⁶⁵²⁹ trees⁶⁰⁸⁶ on the earth⁷⁷⁶ bearing⁶²¹³ fruit⁶⁵²⁹ after their kind⁴³²⁷ with seed²²³³ in them"; and it was so³⁶⁵¹.

Gen 1:12 The earth⁷⁷⁶ brought³³¹⁸ forth³³¹⁸ vegetation¹⁸⁷⁷, plants⁶²¹² yielding²²³² seed²²³³ after their kind⁴³²⁷, and trees⁶⁰⁸⁶ bearing⁶²¹³ fruit⁶⁵²⁹ with seed²²³³ in them, after their kind⁴³²⁷; and Elohim⁴³⁰ saw⁷²⁰⁰ that it was good²⁸⁹⁶.

(The Scriptures):

Gen 1:11 And Elohim said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the plant that yields seed, and the fruit tree that yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed is in itself, on the earth." And it came to be so.

Gen 1:12 And the earth brought forth grass, the plant that yields seed according to its kind, and the tree that yields fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind. And Elohim saw that

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it was good.

Right on the surface, mushrooms are not "seed-bearing," they are "spores"; "fungus." So, I've learned, is yeast. According to the American Heritage Dictionary, yeast is "any of various unicellular fungi of the genus Sacharomyces and related genera, reproducing by budding and capable of fermenting carbohydrates." Now, "mushroom," also according to American Heritage, is "any of various fleshy fungi of the class Basidiomycetes, characteristically having an umbrella-shaped cap borne on a stalk;..."

Definitions (both from MSN Encarta Dictionary):

Sacharomyces: a single-celled yeast fungi that has no mycelium, reproduces asexually and ferments sugar.

Basidiomycetes: a fungus that produces its spores in a characteristic club-shaped cell.

There is definitely a big difference between yeast and mushrooms, albeit they are both "fungi." They are two totally different types with different characteristics and I did not find any evidence that yeast is poisonous (not to say there isn't any, I just did not find any evidence of that fact). Now we already read what scripture says, so what can we find out about mushrooms?

According to the Mushroom Council, they "grow from microscopic spores, not seeds. Plants growing from spores are called fungi. A mature mushroom will drop as many as 16 billion spores. Spores must be collected in the nearly sterile environment of a laboratory and then used to inoculate grains or seeds to produce a product called spawn (the mushroom farmer's equivalent of seed)," (see mushroominfo.com/grow/ grow.html).

According to the California Poison Control System, "every year across the United States, more than 9,000 cases of mushroom ingestions are reported to the American Association of Poison Control Centers. Many hundreds of cases of mushroom ingestions occur each year in California. Children under the age of 6 years account for a majority of these cases. The consequences of mushroom poisoning can be severe." Now, using some common sense, would Yahweh's clean food be subject to this? Other "facts" regarding mushrooms, according to the same source, include, quoting from the California Poison Control System's website:

 Some people can eat mushrooms with no problems, while other people eating the same mushroom will

Did you know...?

that you can aid the BSA effort to promote the Sabbath and a Spirit of brother-hood among all who keep God's Sabbath by becoming a **BRIDGE BUILDER or a PILLAR** with the BSA? Besides the monthly or annual membership dues which you can find inside the front cover, you can also help with various functions designed to help bring a fellowship of brethren across denominational lines. Some of the opportunities are: Advise and/or consult with the BSA Board of Directors: visiting and interacting with other Sabbatarian fellowships; speaking on behalf of the BSA; Promotion and/or distribution of BSA materials and services; and assisting with this magazine, the BSA Facebook page, Twitter and other social media on projects defined by the Board of Directors.

experience severe vomiting and diarrhea. [Granted people have various food 'allergies,' but they are not saying that mushrooms fall into the common food 'allergy' group.]

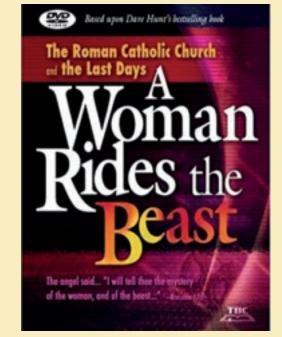
- Some people can have allergic reactions to eating "safe" mushrooms. [Here's where the allergy part comes in, could be said the same with peanuts.]
- Some mushrooms are only poisonous if eaten in large quantities. [Gee, if I eat just a 'little' pork, it may not make me sick?]
- Some mushrooms are poisonous when raw but become harmless when parboiled and thoroughly cooked. [Again, sounds remarkably similar to the things we hear of pork, always cook extra well.]
- Some mushrooms are poisonous regardless of how they are cooked or prepared.
- Some mushrooms are poisonous only if eaten with alcoholic beverages. [So, some are poisonous when consumed with a glass of wine, perhaps?]
- Some mushrooms are classified as poisonous because they are hallucinogenic.

(Their website is: http://calpoisonorg/public/ mushrooms.html).

To continue with facts from the above Poison Center: "Ideally, people and animals should never eat mushrooms that have not been identified by an expert or bought at the store. Unfortunately, many mushrooms are difficult to identify even for a trained mycologist, a biologist trained in the study of mushrooms."

Last, but not least from this source, it is stated: "There is NO antidote for mushroom poisoning? All mushrooms not bought at the grocery store are considered to be potentially dangerous."

The above are just facts that were gleaned from a group bible study with others. I would like to have any input from others pertaining to anything I missed, be it scripturally or otherwise.



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What's Paul's Point in Romans 14?

Lenny Cacchio

"If food makes my brother to stumble, I will never again eat meat." (I Corinthians 8:13).

The favorite indoor sport of Christians is to change each others' minds.

A thought occurred to me recently when I was reading Romans 14. In those days in Rome the brethren were having a disagreement over food, the point of disagreement centering around whether one should eat meat or should eat only vegetables (verse 2). But Paul sees the vegetarian vs. omnivore division as a side issue. The animosity over food was a symptom of a larger problem.

He hints at the problem in verse 1 ("*Receive one* who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes over doubtful things"), and expands on his concerns throughout the chapter (quoting from the New King James Version):

Verse 4: "Who are you to judge another's servant?"

Verse 10: "But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you show contempt for your brother?"

Verses 12-13 : "So then each of us shall give an account of himself before God. Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather resolve this, not to put a stumbling block or a cause to fall in our brother's way."

Verse 15: "Yet if your brother is grieved because of your food, you are no longer working in love. Do not destroy with your food the one for whom Christ died." Verses 20-21 : "Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food. All things indeed are pure, but it is evil for the man who eats with offense. It is good neither to eat meat nor drink wine nor do anything by which your brother stumbles or is offended or is made weak."

Chapter 15:1 : "We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please our-selves."

Paul is seeing beyond the dispute at hand. For Paul the heart of the matter was a concern over spiritual health and maturity. It wasn't about food at all. The food argument is merely a symptom of a spiritual deficiency.

As I thought about this, I wondered about a way to apply the principle in a modern context. If we make a few changes to Romans 14 to reflect a modern subject of dispute, would we understand the principle a little better and maybe prevent disputes over doubtful things? What follows is a modern application of Romans 14 through Romans 15:2, adapted from the New American Standard Bible. Note that it doesn't matter to me which side of the discussion you support. It does matter that we understand and apply the principle.

Romans 14: "Now accept the one who is weak in faith, but not for the purpose of passing judgment on his opinions. 2 One person has faith that he may eat in a restaurant on the Sabbath, but he who is weak eats at home only. 3 The one who eats out is not to regard with contempt the one who does not eat out, and the one who does not

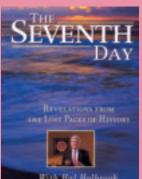
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eat out is not to judge the one who does eat out, for God has accepted him. 4 Who are you to judge the servant of another? To his own master he stands or falls; and he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand."

"5 One person regards one day above another, another regards every day alike in this matter. Each person must be fully convinced in his own mind. 6 He who observes the day, observes it for the Lord, and he who eats, does so for the Lord, for he gives thanks to God; and he who eats not, for the Lord he does not eat, and gives thanks to God. 7 For not one of us lives for himself, and not one dies for himself; 8 for if we live, we live for the Lord, or if we die, we die for the Lord; therefore whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ died and lived again, that He might be Lord both of the dead and of the living."

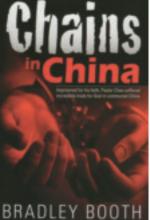
"10 But you, why do you judge your brother? Or you again, why do you regard your brother with contempt? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. 11 For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me, And every tongue shall give praise to God.'" "12 So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God."

"13 Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather determine this—not to put an obstacle or a stumbling block in a brother's way. 14 I know and am convinced in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself; but to him who thinks anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean. 15 For if because of your food your brother is hurt, you are no longer walking according to love. Do not destroy with your food him for whom Christ died. 16 Therefore do not let what is for you a good thing be spoken of as evil; 17 for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. 18 For he who in this way serves Christ is acceptable to God and approved by men. 19 So then we pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another. 20 Do not tear down the work of God for the sake of food. All things indeed are clean, but they are evil for the man who eats and gives offense. 21 It is good not to eat out or to drink wine, or to do anything by which your brother stumbles. 22 The faith which you have, have as your own conviction before God. Happy is he who does not condemn himself in what he approves. 23

But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith; and whatever is not from faith is sin."

Romans 15: "Now we who are strong ought to bear the weaknesses of those without strength and not just please ourselves. 2 Each of us is to please his neighbor for his good, to his edification."

As I mentioned earlier, Paul was more interested in matters of the heart than in matters of dispute. Rather than treating the symptoms, he was treating the underlying disease. More than that, he was encouraging the Romans themselves to treat the underlying disease, which he addressed in a similar way in Galatians 6:2. "*Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.*"



Chains in China

by Bradley Booth

BRADLEY BOOTH In 1960, Chen, a faithful

young Seventh-day Adventist, was imprisoned and thrown into "the cage" for refusing to work on the Sabbath. In spite of living in the worst kind of filth and subsisting on a starvation diet, Chen looked for every opportunity to tell his fellow prisoners and prison officials about the loving God he served.

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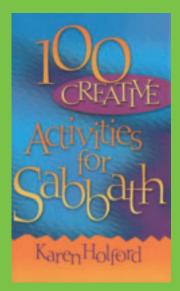
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Letters to the Editor

Concerning the Sabbath Sentinel article by Karen McQuillan (July-August 2018), I have been a professing Christian for several decades. ... I've had many ups and downs in my walk with Jesus, but in the last twelve years I've been dedicated to putting Christ first and knowing Him.

During the 2016 election campaign I heard Donald Trump classify immigrants from Latin America as murderers and rapists, but I had matured in Christ's love and I recognized the rhetoric as hateful and outside of the heart and mind of Christ.

During the 3016 campaign Jesus made it clear to me that he doesn't want his people putting political ideology, whatever side one is on, above Him and his Greatest Commandments.

You published Ms. Quillan's article with no qualifications, so I assume you agree with everything in it. She spoke of Democrats, liberals and leftists in adversarial terms. If those at The Sabbath Sentinel feel the same way then you are excluding virtually one-half of the population from your ministry message.

I ask you to consider this and ponder how people feel about the words you're printing.

M. McGoldrick

Mr. McGoldrick, thank you for your very lengthy handwritten letter from which I have taken excerpts. I hope that I captured the gist of it.

I wonder; have you read the disclaimer in the magazine that the Bible Sabbath Association does not necessarily agree with all of the articles published herein?

That said, I found myself wondering if we were reading the same article. The article nowhere demeaned any political group, your protestations to the contrary notwithstanding. She does associate the desire to open our borders with liberal and leftist philosophy but those did not appear to be attacks on them as much as restating what most people understand to be part and parcel of the liberal, progressive democrat ideology since its takeover by the socialist fringes.

Even so, her point was to show us what life is like in another part of the world—and to agree with President Trump that we do not want that here in the United States.

As an international traveler, I know that the conditions in

much of the world are very bad. We have published recently several articles related to ministries in Africa which depict very desperate conditions. Describing to the people who read this magazine very sad places on this earth which will only be corrected by the return of the Christ is in line with our mission of promoting a kind of fellowship among the Sabbathkeeping brethren.

What I'm saying is that the article does not appear to have intended to insult anyone—not even liberals, leftists and Democrats.

Sometimes love requires us to state the truth plainly and bluntly. Yes, I believe that the truth should always be stated with love. But, I also believe it should be stated.

I sincerely hope that this gives you a better understanding of the reasoning behind the article and our decision to publish it. We want to publish articles of general interest to the Sabbathkeeping community. An article that brings to light the conditions that the Christ will return to end is of general interest to the community. Had the author taken the direction of attacking or blaming those groups for the evil that is being done then those would have been edited out. But, that is not what she did, brother.

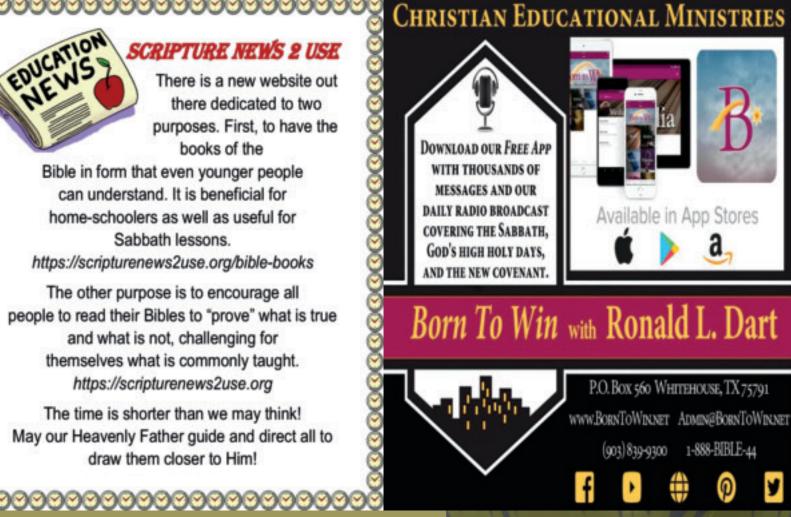
Ed.

In sharing our convictions we are being open and intimate with others. Often there is disagreement. Our Lord did not command us to agree. Our Lord did not command us to convince others to believe what we believe. Our Lord commanded us to love one another even while we disagree. Love is a noun demonstrated as a verb.

Doug Ankney

Thanks for your letter! Your sentiments echo those of the BSA. One of the reasons we publish so many different ideas from Sabbath keeping brethren is for that very purpose—to foster understanding and love for one another. By examining how we differ we can learn about how our brethren think and what they believe. By loving each other, we come to realize that all of us are in our own stage of development—much like unborn children in our mother's womb.

-Ed.



The Bridge to Eden

The Arduous Passage From this Age of Chaos to the Next Age of Perfection

by Paul W. Syltie

We live in an age of great conflict, among nations, races, and families, in a world of violence within cultures and nature itself. The words of the prophets promise that this age will soon pass, ushering in a world of incredible peace, productivity, beauty, and love as we have never imagined. IT WILL BE A RETURN TO EDEN, BUT THIS TIME ON A WORLDWIDE SCALE! Read about the nature of this new age soon to come, and regain the hope that all of mankind so desperately needs in this age of chaos and suffering. Watch the trailer at: youtube.com/watch?v=qmKxvTgGir8.

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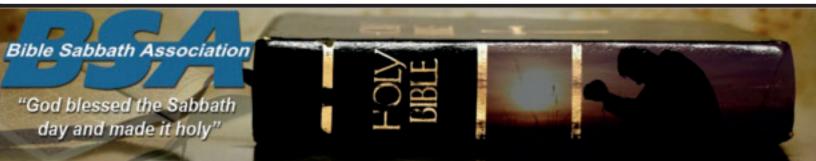
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A Bi-monthly Publication of The Bible Sabbath Association PO Box 7707, Bonney Lake, WA 98391 USA Return Service Requested NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION US POSTAGE PAID SAN DIMAS, CA PERMIT NO. 410



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