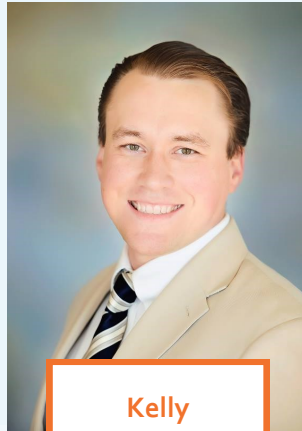


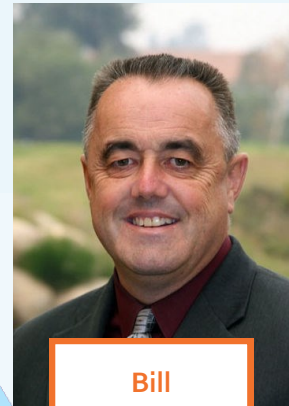


The Sabbath Sentinel

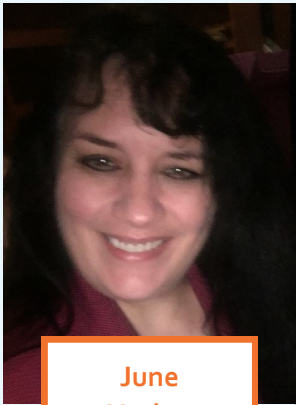
**Mar-Apr
2020**



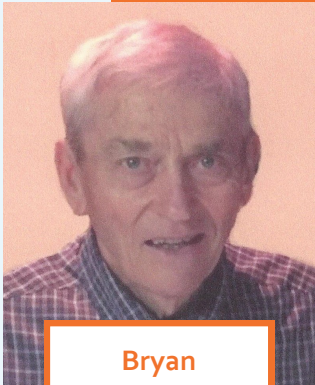
**Kelly
McDonald**



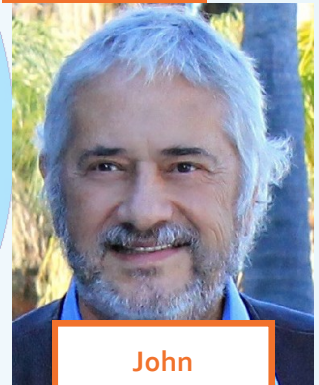
**Bill
Lussenheide**



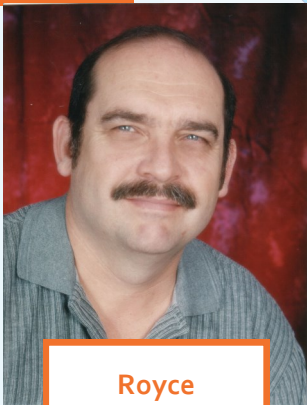
**June
Narber**



**Bryan
Burrell**



**John
Merritt**



**Royce
Mitchell**



**Dusti
Howell**

BSA – The Bible Sabbath Association

Jesus said, "Blessed is that servant whom his Lord shall find him doing so when He comes."

The Sabbath Sentinel March-April, 2020

Volume 74, No. 2, Issue 601

FEATURES

- 3 Editorial "BSA & TSS: Godward Directions!"
by Dr. Royce Mitchell
- 5 The President's Corner—"BSA—Vision for the Future!"
by Kelly McDonald, Jr.
- 7 "The BSA:—Striving for Cooperation"
by June Narber
- 9 "A Vision for the BSA"
by Bill Lussenheide
- 11 "My Visions for the Bible Sabbath Association"
by Bryan Burrell
- 13 "A Vision for the Future of the BSA"
by Dusti Howell
- 15 "Defining a Vision for the BSA!"
by John Merritt
- 16 "The Gift of the Sabbath"
By Greg Olson
- 17 "Revival in America, Part 2"
By Darl Arbogast
- 19 "The Return of Christ—Again?"
By Ray Daly
- 21 "The Kingdom of God: A Reinstitution of Eden on Earth!"
By Paul W. Syltie

DEPARTMENTS

- 23 BSA Literature Store

The Sabbath Sentinel is published bimonthly by The Bible Sabbath Association, PO Box 7707, Bonney Lake, WA 98391. Copyright © 2020 by the Bible Sabbath Association. Printed in the U.S.A. All rights reserved. Reproduction in any form without written permission is prohibited. Nonprofit bulk rate postage paid at San Dimas, California.

Editor: Dr. Royce Mitchell, royce.mitchell@rocketmail.com.

BSA's Board of Directors for 2020-2023:

President: Kelly McDonald, Jr., kellymcdonald_lu08@hotmail.com

Vice President: Bill Lussenheide

Secretary: Dusti Howell

Treasurer: Bryan Burrell

Office Manager—Bonney Lake, WA, Office: Barbara Parada

Directors at Large: Dr. Royce Mitchell, Dr. John Merritt, June Narber

Subscriptions: Call toll-free (888) 687-5191 or write to: The Bible Sabbath Association, PO Box 7707, Bonney Lake, WA 98391. The Sabbath Sentinel is sent free of charge to all who request it in the U.S. If you live outside of the U.S., please send us a donation of \$25 (US) to cover overseas postage. **Voluntary contributions to the Bible Sabbath Association make publication of The Sabbath Sentinel possible.**

Donations are gratefully accepted and are tax deductible in the United States. Those who choose to voluntarily support this international work to promote the Sabbath and proclaim gospel of the kingdom of God are welcomed as contributors.

Annual membership contributions: **General memberships**—individual membership is \$35/year (or \$5/month); Family Membership is \$60/year (or \$7/month); Institutional membership is \$100/year (or \$10/month); International (non-US) membership is \$50; Life Membership is \$700 in any one year. **Participating memberships**—Bridge Builder Membership is \$100/year (or \$10/month); Pillar Membership is \$200/year (or \$20/month). Participating members may also directly assist the BSA in its direct outreach programs related to the BSA mission. All memberships include an annual subscription to *The Sabbath Sentinel*. Make all checks, drafts and money orders payable to **The Bible Sabbath Association**. (Visa and MasterCard accepted).

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.

Opinions expressed in *The Sabbath Sentinel* are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Editorial Staff or of The Bible Sabbath Association.

BSA Worldwide Web Site: www.biblesabbath.org.

Correspondence and manuscript submissions: Address all inquiries to: *The Sabbath Sentinel*, PO Box 7707, Bonney Lake, WA 98391. Phone: (888) 687-5191, E-mail: biblesabbath@comcast.net.

Address Service Requested: If moving, please update your address.

Please come visit us on our Facebook

page which is located at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/biblesabbathassociation>

and www.facebook.com/SabbathSentinel.

Don't forget to LIKE us!

If you'd like more information on the Sabbath Day, please visit

www.biblesabbath.org.

Also, visit our new blog at:

www.sabbathsentinel.org/



BSA & TSS: Godward Directions!

Dr. Royce Mitchell

We have entered a new decade and the Bible Sabbath Association (BSA) has a new board for the next 4 years. There are some new board members, and some who remain from the previous board.

This edition of *The Sabbath Sentinel* (TSS) is primarily for allowing the board members to give to you, the membership, our visions for a path forward for the BSA, and for this magazine.

As a board member, one of the things on my mind is whether or not the BSA should continue to publish TSS. TSS is one of the most expensive forms of outreach that the BSA has. Although our membership is increasing, thanks in no small part to the efforts of our current and past president, Kelly McDonald, the costs to continue this ministry of reconciliation of brethren, and the ministry of promoting God's commandments, especially His Sabbath Days, are more than the income from memberships, donations, and sales of materials.

One of the questions we will have to answer this year is whether or not, and if we do, in what form, TSS will continue. This is one place we would like to have input from you, the membership.

We have discussed taking TSS to a quarterly magazine with four more pages per edition. We have discussed perhaps taking TSS to a purely "on-line" publication, allowing readers to access the magazine via a link from the BSA web page. However, we recognize that we have at our disposal a huge brain-trust in the membership of the BSA. As such, we feel as if it is incumbent upon us to reach out to you for your insights.

Taking the magazine to a quarterly publication would save this ministry about \$5000 per year. As you know, unless you are the Federal government, when outgo exceeds income, one must either curb

the outgo in some way, or increase the income in some way. Therefore, we'd like your input on how we can do either, or both. We want to be frugal stewards of the blessings God has given to us. So, prudence would dictate that we begin now to find out ways where we can do the things needed in order to carry this ministry forward for the foreseeable future. Your prayers are an obvious first need!

One of the things we did in the last board was to convert the committee position of "TSS Editor" to a volunteer position. This saved the BSA a lot of money. But, although BSA is not in imminent danger of running out of funds, what is going out is regularly still more than what is coming in.

We do not feel as if we should convert the magazine to a paid subscription because that could possibly result in our less financially—blessed brethren who agree with the mission of the BSA being unable to receive the magazine. This is one thing that we feel we must avoid if we are going to perform the mission of the BSA.

As mentioned previously, the other option is to increase our income. Those of you who are members know of the things BSA does, both through TSS and through its other outreach efforts.. What things could we do as part of our ministry to improve our service and the income to the BSA?

There are also things that we would like to do as a board that we cannot do right now. We would like to be able to reach out to an international set of brethren who have a like-mind to ours as to preaching the Gospel, and teaching about reconciliation between the Children of God.

I am not talking about all coming together as one Church organization. If there is one thing I've learned about church organizations it is that they too often provide a vehicle for those seeking power over the Children to gather to themselves a follow-

ing. We all know that Christ made it clear that we are to look to Him, not a man, for wisdom and counsel, and to our brethren in fellowship, with only the minimal organizational construction that is required to “feed the flock” and “preach the gospel.” So, I’m not talking about creating yet another organization of which God does not approve.

I’m hoping to see even greater cooperation amongst those who believe in the same basic tenets, that we are to be keeping the Commandments of God, and looking to Jesus for our salvation. That cooperation would come in the form of fellowship. It would come in the form (as it already does with the BSA Board) of you, our members, with different understandings beyond the basic tenets, cooperating and taking the idea of cooperation over conflict, to the Church at large.

We know that this is in line with the things that Christ ordered His Church to do. As we all know, He stated that His Church would be known by its love for each other. A love for one another necessarily incorporates the attitude that we are all at our own levels of understanding and as such we should deal with one another with the attitude that we could be wrong in our understanding. If we could be wrong, we would want others to deal with us in love and patience for our lack of understanding. We ought, therefore, to be kind and loving to others whose understanding is not the same as ours. That is Christ’s way, loving our neighbor as ourselves. When we do this, then there’s no room for beating our brother because of some difference in understanding of non-basic tenets, or dogma if you prefer. Many examples of this exist that I have experienced over the years but it would not be expedient to discuss those at this point.

What, then, is the path forward for this love-centered, Christ-focused, ministry? We would like your insight as to how we can reduce expenses and increase income so that we can not only continue the ministry in its current form, but also expand it to areas where it is needed. You can send your ideas to me at Royce.mitchell@rocketmail.com.

Moving on, as mentioned previously, we have a new Board of Directors for the BSA. They have

many questions on the table. As this magazine is hitting your mailboxes, we will be just finishing a board conference in Florida. At that conference, the issues previously mentioned, and many more, will be discussed. Please remember the board members in your prayers that we would be given wisdom and insight as to this great ministry, and that we will continue to submit ourselves to Christ both in attitude and actions.

Moving along to the direction of TSS I’d like to make a few comments on some feedback I’ve received. Generally, you members seem to appreciate the upgraded designs and articles being published in the magazine. The only real complaint, and it wasn’t so much a complaint as a question as to why we are doing this, is that we don’t have as many articles about the Sabbath Day. It is a fair question which I feel demands an answer.

The BSA’s ministry is two-pronged. The first and most important is to preach obedience to the Commandments of God, one of which is to remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy. With that in mind we will continue to have articles answering the “5 Ws and an H” as to the Sabbath Day.

The second prong of the ministry is to promote cooperation as stated earlier. It is evident to this editor that in order to not see our brothers’ difference in understanding as something to argue about, we ought to first understand why it is that there is such a belief, and the basis for it. As such I have encouraged, and caused to be incorporated, articles with different beliefs. This was *not* done for acceptance of those beliefs but so that we might understand each other better. I may understand why somebody believes something specific—but not related to the basic tenets—but that does not mean that I have to accept those things “on faith.” We are each told to “prove all things and hold onto what is good.” If we are never exposed to the differences in understanding then we may never get the chance to firm up our understanding, or to grow with new understanding. Join with us in this great ministry! We need all the help we can get!



—Ed.



The President's Corner

BSA—VISION FOR THE FUTURE!

Kelly McDonald

"Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he." (Proverbs 29:18, KJV).

For a group of people to have a vibrant future, there must be vision. This is just as true for the BSA as it is for any other organization. This means that we must have a focus of energy and effort towards specific goals that undergird the mission of the BSA. While the mission statement of an organization keeps a group grounded in its purpose, a vision will guide it towards future success.

In this edition of The Sabbath Sentinel, each board member has provided their suggestions for the future of the BSA. From February 21-23, the board will come together to form a unified vision for the organization. Below, I have included the elements that I believe are essential to our future success.

First and foremost, we need to have a balanced budget. The last board took measures to try and correct the financial ship of the BSA, which was going in the wrong direction. While we are headed in the right direction, we still have much more work to do. This board will find ways to make the financial state of the organization much stronger than ever before. This will include making necessary cuts to expenses while still making membership in the organization appealing to the broader Sabbath community.

Secondly, the BSA needs to continue to expand our social media outreach. Among our biggest accomplishments on the last board was that we established a significant social media presence. We have a Facebook group with over 2,000 followers and we reach sometimes as many as 10,000 people a week through it. We are utilizing our blog website www.sabbathsentinel.org as part of this outreach.

Our Facebook and blog posts were consistent and produced results.

However, we have more work to do. One goal of the last board was to put videos on our YouTube channel. We only posted two the last four years, so this is an area that we need to improve. In a few short years, many posts on Facebook and other social media outlets will be videos. This increase can be seen by those of us who are on social media. Some videos receive millions of views. What if a BSA video on the Sabbath reached that many views? It would do a lot to promote the Sabbath and our outreach effort.

This board will find ways to make the financial state of the organization much stronger than ever before. This will include making necessary cuts to expenses ...

Another goal of having insightful videos about Bible truth is that we will be able to promote these as instructional tools for individuals and churches. These videos will allow us to re-establish ourselves in the international sphere. Our current online outreach is reaching the international Sabbath community, but videos will have an even greater effect. Imagine Sabbath churches across America and even the world

playing instructional Bible videos produced by the BSA.

Third, I believe that we must expand our outreach beyond the methods described above. This includes having more BSA conferences, such as the one we had in Big Sandy in May 2019. This meeting was a resounding success and exposed as many as hundreds of people (adding the in-person attendees and online views) to the work of the BSA and its importance.

Another way we look to broaden our outreach is to offer online Bible classes. We are still exploring this possibility, but it would allow us to establish another unique online presence that can be incorporated with our current outreach. These classes would be more formal in their instruction. We would likely offer them for free, and we may be able to convince larger church groups/denominations to promote the classes or use them within their respective groups.

I believe the BSA must focus on the following areas going forward: financial stability, expanding our social media efforts, trying unique outreach opportunities, and modernization.

Furthermore, the BSA board will look to expand our outreach to the broader public. This is especially true in the United States. I cannot disclose the details of this plan yet, as it involves some very well-known individuals and locations. You can know that the BSA board is looking at some big opportunities that, if accepted, will expose many more people to the seventh-day Sabbath.

The fourth aspect of the vision I have for the BSA going forward is that we continue to modernize the organization. This process started during the last board as we added social media outreach and a blog website for The Sabbath Sentinel magazine. A great friend of the BSA, Corbin Rose, also started a modernization of our main website:

www.biblesabbath.org. We hope to see this project finished in the coming months.

The BSA website has been in desperate need of updating for some time. Corbin has a vision for online outreach and his input/work is going to bring us up to speed. Bill Lussenheide with Seventh-Day Sabbath Keepers is also going to play a large role in this modernization effort. His experience in ministry and business will be vital to our success in their area.

Another aspect of modernizing the organization will include updating/upgrading other aspects of our service model. Plans for this are under way, but nothing is concrete yet. We may be changing the way materials are procured through the organization, which includes offering an online version of the Directory of Sabbath-Keeping Groups.

To summarize, I believe the BSA must focus on the following areas going forward: financial stability, expanding our social media efforts, trying unique outreach opportunities, and modernization. If we can capitalize on these areas then we will lay the foundation for the BSA to sustain exponential growth and outreach into the future.



The BSA—

Striving for Cooperation!

June Narber

My name is Eva June Narber. Please call me June. I function as an associate professor in the college environment teaching ESOL, writing, and in the past ESL and Civics. I have a master's degree from North Carolina State University in international development, a master's from the University of Missouri, Kansas City in education and doctoral work done and en route in educational leadership and educational psychology. My undergraduate degree was completed at Ambassador College with core work done at the University of North Texas, NWMSU, and UM-Columbia My private work involves career coaching, job consulting, and a private tutoring company specializing in editing, writing, and all aspects of educational support for K-12 and the adult learner. My business focus has ended up paralleling my spiritual work in three areas: international development, interpersonal communications, and self-development (cognitively, physically, and spiritually).

I have been on the board for around 25 years. We have had many discussions and launched new ideas and have evolved as God has permitted. My current vision of the board is not lofty but practical for this term. First, as the keeper of the private online forum, it is my objective to screen all applicants and to the best of my ability, make sure they are sincere Sabbath keepers and seeking fellowship. After nearly a decade of experience, I have met many people who are not seekers of truth but more like seekers of money or trouble. By screening these, and setting rules in place, I have guaranteed a safe, sincere, and guarded place where Sabbath keepers can share their publications, news, prayer requests, thoughts, prayers, and re-



lated things. This will continue.

The international community is lacking in resources. They are very hungry for the truth of scripture. Many groups just mail Bibles and materials and many end up selling these so they repeat requests for more free things in hopes of turning a buck. The solution to this problem that is sustainable is to have a wealth of free resources available on the forum that can be downloaded or printed on their end. This eliminates the needs for physical copies. Also, the forum, the publications, and the interactions with the international community need to be concentrated to a) determine their real needs, and b) help them find ways of meeting those needs through networking and teaching self reliance. I do not believe money fixes these issues

and results in further dependency and expectancy of financial support. I am looking at ways of helping third world geographical areas to utilize their resources and talents to find ways of becoming economically self sufficient so that they can become empowered to help their own area and to continue preaching the gospel in their region and feeding the flocks spiritually and physically.

As we continue to try to solve the problems that still exist in the Christian community, we must strive to promote cooperation among Sabbath keepers. Cooperation in my definition means that people learn that it is ok to not agree on every single doctrine. We can be respectful, kind, and courteous to everyone and not attack him or her for differences. This can strategically be done through teaching people to talk about issues and not attack people. One of the rules I set on the BSA Facebook private forum is that issues can be addressed but people cannot be attacked. This means no name-calling and no public ridicule or calling out. Many in our midst seem to seek out this conflict because by demeaning someone, they seem to believe that makes anything that person says to be not be worthy of being heard. In private churches and church forums, I often see men fighting for power, a process that I call rooster fights. One of the commandments that we must learn to become what God wants us to be is to love each other. Love does not come with a chain and a whip and a set of human-ordered objectives and that we must follow any given man in order to be accepted. Teaching cordiality and respect is very important in my personal belief system. To summarize this concept of cooperation, there might be moments of awkwardness in the process of teaching or promoting this concept. Some people do not want to learn but they want to control. It is my pleasure to interact with these individuals to help them to cognitively realize there are other ways. BSA fulfills this mission through its connectivity with different Sabbath groups, its publications, its diversity of authors in

its magazine, and through any regional Sabbath conferences we may be involved with. We also strive to visit different groups and stay in contact to understand the needs and situations challenging the different bodies of God's people.

In my private coaching business and ministry work, I advocate the importance of self-development and developing all aspects of talents and mental power. This comes through self-discipline, study, and the opening of the mind to experience new things and to grow in all truth and knowledge. I see BSA advocating this growth through the introduction of new reading materials, interesting and thought provoking articles in the Sabbath Sentinel, and through all the resources at our disposal.



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.

A Vision for the BSA!

Bill Lussenheide

A vision is a picture or idea you have in your mind of yourself, your business, or anything that is going to happen. A clear vision helps to pursue dreams and achieve goals; an idea of the future, a strong wish. A vision that is clear will open your mind to the endless possibilities of the future. But there is one thing that is important, and that is to make sure that a vision is within the will of God!

It is certainly my desire that “God’s will be done,” especially with regards to the Bible Sabbath Association. We can know for sure that God wants to have the Gospel truth preached to the entire world, and that we are to disciple and teach those that God has chosen to respond to this at the current time. These two missions are my vision for the BSA.

I believe that the most revolutionary invention ever created has been the internet. Still relatively new to the world stage, its reach and impact are still yet to go further and reach deeper into all our lives. It will improve and grow, in ways that are incredible. 5 G will be opening up avenues that are almost “sci fi” like. Although the internet is a “Pandora’s box,” with a mix of both “good and evil,” and the power to destroy souls, it also is a vehicle that allows a reach into previously unavailable people, places and things.

When I realize that with an I-Phone, sitting in my hand or pocket, I can access virtually all of the knowledge that mankind has ever gathered, or play almost any song, or watch any production, I marvel at this technology. Imagine what the first century Apostles would think of such a system and devices! Even the King of England or the President of the United



States, a short 100 years ago, would be highly envious of any of us with access to such a device.

That being said, increasing our reach via the internet, is without a doubt, the future for the BSA. Newspapers, printed magazines, and other “hard copy” materials, are increasingly obsolete in the modern era, and costly as well. HOWEVER- we will want to slowly transition away from these older methodologies, or keep them in a downsized format, to be able to serve those that are in prison, or do not have access to computers, etc.

I plan on using my “Seventh Day Sabbath Keepers” Facebook page to cross promote the

Bible Sabbath Association. Currently it has 37,500 followers and growing rapidly. In 2019 it grew by 50%. I advocate cross marketing exchanges with as many symbiotic Sabbath groups as possible, and have already spoken to a couple of other very well followed Sabbath platforms that are interested in mutual cooperation and promotion with us. Perhaps personal social interaction and activities can be a result as well.

I am disappointed in how segmented the Sabbatarian community can be to one another. In many instances, one can hardly "pass a piece of paper" in terms of differences in belief systems, yet, social interaction or any kind of cooperation will often grind to a standstill.

When one considers just how rare a Seventh Day Sabbath Believer is, we should rejoice on this unique calling and discovery. There are fewer than 17 million Sabbatarians in the world. This is less than one person for every 411 in existence on Earth! This ratio also holds true in the United States as well. Our concepts are new to virtually everyone, and there is plenty of room for all workers and harvesters. Rather than focusing on any differences, we should be facilitators and helpers to anyone on this unique journey of repentance,

knowledge of the 10 commandments, (including the Sabbath) and faith in Jesus Christ! I will be offering my hand of friendship to as many as I can in our Sabbath Community around the world.

Lastly, all Sabbatarian organizations are suffering from a lack of youth, and relevance to those under the age of 45. Retention rates and recruitment rates of this demographic are poor. We must make sure that the Bible Sabbath Association stays open-minded to creative and innovative thinking and the needs of younger individuals. I can imagine concepts like featuring videos created by younger men and women in our Sabbatarian community in regards to music productions, or short "TED TALKS" formats, again by both men and women on a wide variety of relevant topics to our community. I plan on keeping a very open ear to the needs and desires of our youth.

Please do pray for all of us board members for Gods inspiration and guidance continually, and certainly, please feel free to contact me at Bill.Lussenheide@verizon.net with any thoughts or suggestions.



You can help support the cause, and help us continue to provide our magazine and services without charge. Simply sign up your Amazon Smile account with the BIBLE SABBATH ASSOCIATION named as your charity of choice.

Prices for products remain exactly the same, but

Amazon will contribute 0.5% of the sale to your named charity: BIBLE SABBATH ASSOCIATION.

Simply go to smile.amazon.com, log into your account and choose us as your charity. Then, whenever you shop at Amazon, enter the site by going to smile.amazon.com, being sure that we are listed as the charity. Again, there is NO ADDITIONAL COST TO YOU! If you are going to purchase products on Amazon.com anyway, why not support this great work!

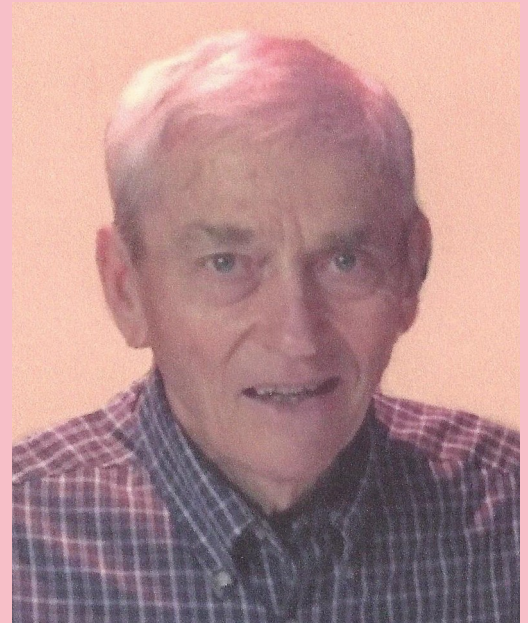
My Visions for the Bible Sabbath Association

Bryan Burrell

Wise planning for the future of The Bible Sabbath Association is my goal and the goal of each of the newly elected Board of Directors. As in the past, the Board will continue to seek God's will as we think of the things we need to accomplish as short term and long term goals. This is a big responsibility as we are instructed to "Go ye into the world and preach /teach the Gospel." We are living in an age when reaching much of the world is a possibility. The digital, electronic, internet of today is a way that reaches beyond our realm of imagination. The possibilities are endless for connecting people and knowledge so that goals can be achieved. We strengthen our Sabbath connections and promotion of the Bible seventh-day Sabbath by structuring and implementing plans to move forward in the electronic digital age.

Technology is growing and advancing for keeping in touch and we must utilize this technology with moderation and wisdom. It can be a blessing and a curse. Everyone we meet has an inner desire to learn and a desire to add to their knowledge. We can keep the message of the Sabbath available to those seeking to learn.

I feel we must actively spread the seed of God's love. The internet is a fantastic tool but face to face contact is also important for meeting our goals. Evangelize in your own community. Each of us individually can leave a mark and witness to those who are observing our lives. We can be teaching the Sabbath as a gift to all Christians. Everyone of us has a calling and purpose in God's plan. I firmly believe in the established purpose of the BSA to promote fellowship and cooperation among all Sabbath keepers on a non-denominational basis. We need to focus on what we have in common--God's love and truth, the Ten Commandments, the Sab-



bath.

I will continue to strengthen our Sabbath connections through my service as treasurer, being aware of the responsibility of managing the funds entrusted to us. From the beginning, the Bible Sabbath Association has had dedicated members who donated of their funds to BSA (a few, very generously) and my goal is to help make good use of these funds. Their generosity, inspired by their love of our awesome God, has allowed BSA to continue and to continue promoting the seventh-day Sabbath.

I am not a speaker or a writer but I am always thankful and inspired by those who have this talent. BSA is blessed to have those among us who have this gift. Being a businessman for many years has taught me the value of maintaining a good relationship with my customers and clients. I personally am more of a one-on-one person; teacher, counselor, mediator, a figure-outer person. I try to keep things in my care, in good working order and running smoothly. If we take good care of today, prepare for rainy days along the way and work our visions with wisdom we can accomplish much for God's kingdom. I want

the BSA to grow but not lose sight of where we came from and how we got to this point—why we are here.

A vision for the future should have a "look-back" to where we have been, where we started and why. The BSA has been in existence for over 70 years and the visions of the early organizers were to bring together in fellowship, seventh-day Christians who wanted to promote the truth of the Sabbath. My goals include working toward greater fellowship and collaboration among the diverse groups of Christians who observe the seventh-day Sabbath and working in harmony with one another to bring the Sabbath truth to those who don't yet know of this weekly gift.

I visualize the BSA being able to advance the purposes we plan for, through the use of the devices and electronic things we have available and to fully utilize more electronic digital things as they are available. No doubt we will also need to solicit help from those better trained in these areas.

Specifically, I visualize the BSA advancing through efficient and well functioning websites, well planned and managed social medias, productive blogs, TSS magazine circulation and digital access, personal appearances, video appearances, fellowship conferences, and personal interaction. Personal interaction is a tool we should always utilize.

One of my goals for BSA is to utilize the talents of the younger generation and inspire them to seek truth. Including them in the work of promoting the truth of the seventh-day Sabbath gets them involved. The youth have a lot of energy and drive, the older workers have wisdom and experience and this combination can keep The Bible Sabbath Association active and growing and sound.

If anyone recognizes some of these ideas for the future of BSA, thank you for reminding me and sharing them with me. Fellowship is sweet. God's love, through the gift of His son and the love of good friends truly keep our goals and visions in tune with our Creator.



Support the BSA effort!

Did you know you can shop on Amazon and Amazon will give money to the BSA?

We have a new feature on the BSA website!

If you go to our homepage

www.biblesabbath.org and then locate and click the Amazon button, you can order items there just as you normally do.

The only difference between that and your normal purchasing is that when you purchase that way a percentage of your purchase price will be donated to the BSA! It doesn't cost you anything extra!

Give it a shot! It's for a great cause!

Do You Want to Learn More About the Sabbath?

Are You or is Someone You Know New To the Sabbath?

The BSA now offers some free resources to help you learn about the Sabbath.

We have short, 1 or 2 minute audio clips on topics such as:

"What is the Sabbath?" and

"When is the Sabbath and How Can We Know?"

Free booklet download "A Beginner's Guide to the Sabbath."

- 1. Go to our website: www.biblesabbath.org**
- 2. Click on the Products Menu**
- 3. Click on the "Free Resources" Link**

A Vision for the Future of the BSA

Prof. Dusti Howell

I have several ideas that I will share with the BSA Board. In a sense these are doors to knock on and see if the LORD opens them. Prayerfully one of more of these ideas can bear much fruit for God and His Sabbath!

1) Promote fiscal responsibility with the BSA. Balancing the budget and getting in the black has been the topic of nearly every board meeting I've been a part of over the past dozen years. Technically we've been in the black over the past decade because of a generous 'Sabbath Promotion' donation. But our month to month statements have continued to eat at that donation. In relation to that, I was on a former BSA board committee that made a number of recommendations for completing a \$25,000 Sabbath promotion. I'd love to follow up on this and find out how what we learned from this can help us in the future.

2) Highly encourage EVERYONE that buys at Amazon to do it through the BSA!!! I buy from Amazon all the time. Do I think of going to the BSA link (<https://biblesabbath.org/>) and clicking on the Amazon Smiles link at the bottom of the page before buying? Not often enough. This is so easy to do. We need to promote this like crazy!!!

3) Host an Annual BSA Super Sabbath Weekend Conference: Identify a topic of great interest that can be hosted by various churches in which we invite expert presenters and hold breakout seminars. On the way to this goal, a first step might be to facilitate 'Super Sabbaths & Seminars' which I've seen done by the COG7. Then, on a related note, I would like to explore hosting "Men's retreats." My wife has three times as many woman's retreats available to her than I do. The men's retreats I've been to have all been hosted by the Seventh Day Adventists. They were for the most part very good. I haven't



seen near as many men's retreats available for those in non-denominational Sabbath keeping groups.

4) Identify and Revisit the Greatest Hits in The Sabbath Sentinel: One of my favorite articles is 'The Amazing 7-Day Cycle' by Kenneth Westby. It was a two article publication, published in The Sabbath Sentinel in July & September 2004 (Volume 56, no.4 & no.5). I have converted this fantastic article into a 63 slide PowerPoint presentation and have given it at a number of churches. Please help us identify the buried gold and hidden gems in our flag ship magazine! Send us an email and share with me the best article you've ever read. With our archives growing with past issues, it would be nice to have a 'Blast from the Past' article in TSS each issue. This might just be a one page overview with highlights of what was written as well as Internet link to the actual article.

5) Facilitate BSA & TSS tracts to be dispersed at all 50 state fairs. A relative of Lenny Cacchio, former board member, dispersed 10,000 Sabbath tracts at the Missouri State Fair in 2019. He is a Sabbath fanatic and likes helping the BSA in any way that he can. Pray for more laborers (Matthew 9:37-8) and put people like this to work!

6) How to Study the Bible' Project: Write a book and/or develop an online class teaching more peo-

ple on how to dig deeper into the meat of the word (Heb. 5:12-14). I have 11,000 hours of research into “how to learn” and the study of metacognition. On a spiritual level, I’m continually amazed at how little so many people study their bibles, and are therefore missing out on a more full and vibrant relationship with God.

7) BSA Online Classes Project: I plan to do a feasibility study on whether online classes hosted by BSA would be prudent. My wife and I have developed and taught online classes for Emporia State University for two decades now. For the past five years I’ve exclusively taught graduate classes on multimedia design and contemporary issues in distance education. The major research and results I’m seeing in both of these focused areas is that online education is an amazing way teach and learn. However, churches are slow to move into the online learning arena. For the past few months, my wife and I have been helping develop Common Faith Academy which will be an online learning portal for Common Faith Networks. It is too early to say how this will turn out, but it is an exciting endeavor. A specific class that might be of interest for the BSA would be a class that takes a deeper look at Bacchiocchi’s dissertation, *From Sabbath to Sunday*. I spent months and months digging into the footnotes of this dissertation. What I found was fascinating. Perhaps the BSA could run online classes that dig deeper into some of the classical Sabbath books.

I’ve been off the board for four years. So things have changed since my first 8 years on the board. There is safety in a multitude of counselors (Proverbs 11:14). I’m looking forward to seeing what the board thinks of these ideas. Which will bear the most fruit? Luke 14:28 talks about counting the cost. A German proverb states that “he who attempts too much accomplishes little.” So I’m not in favor of doing all 7 of these items. Just the most fruitful. So please add your prayers to the prayers of those of us on the board that we will be in harmony and chose the most fruitful path.



Interested in Membership?

BSA membership gives you the privilege of electing BSA Officers. Members are also entitled to free postage on all orders for literature.

Supporting the Bible Sabbath Association through your membership helps promote the Sabbath, and co-operation among Sabbath-keeping groups.

There are now more membership levels:

- (1) **Regular Members** (annual membership fee is \$35 for an individual or \$60 for a family),
- (2) **Institution membership**, (\$100 fee),
- (3) **Lifetime Members** (those who have contributed at least \$700 in one year and request a life membership),
- (4) **Bridge Builder Membership**, (\$100 fee),
- (5) **Pillar Membership**, (\$200 fee).

Bridge Builder and Pillar Membership bring with them the opportunity to participate in other of the Bible Sabbath Association’s goals of promoting God’s Sabbaths and fellowship between Sabbath Keeping Brethren.

Contact BSA at biblesabbath@comcast.net or 888-687-5191 for more information or to pay over the phone using a credit card. You can also pay for membership at our web site www.biblesabbath.org using PayPal or by writing to us at PO Box 7707, Bonney Lake, WA 98391.

Please join us by supporting our efforts to spread the message of God’s Sabbath rest and mutual cooperation of the brethren to the rest of the world.

DEFINING A VISION FOR

THE BSA!

Dr. John Merritt

Our family has been blessed by the work of the Bible Sabbath Association since 1968, which provided us guidance and a list of congregations early in our studies.

But we were fortunate, as most Sabbath observer we encountered over the last 50 years never heard of the Bible Sabbath Association. Despite the long standing and faithful work of the BSA it has been below the radar for most Sabbatarians and of course more so for the general public.

But it is one of the few works that has potential to reach across barriers that separate Sabbatarians as well as spread the knowledge of the Sabbath of the Bible to the general public.

I hope we can bring a greater awareness of the BSA to Sabbatarians as well as to the general public. This can be accomplished by social media, publications, conferences and providing teaching materials, including advocating Sabbath history education, and awareness of the modern relevance of the Sabbath via social media and publication, and presentation opportunities. Our new Board is blessed with members who

are experienced in these things.

I hope we can continue to promote Sabbath Conferences which we initiated just last year.

My vision is a Bible Sabbath Associate that is vibrant, energetic, and visible. And our family's primary vision is the same as that of the BSA: To more fully shine the light of God's wonderful Sabbath, and of Him Who is Lord of the Sabbath.



The Gift of the Sabbath

(Reprinted by permission)

Greg Olson

I finished my undergraduate degree by taking my last class from Jerusalem University College on Mount Zion in Jerusalem, Israel. Being in Israel was my first exposure to Sabbath, but that was long before I had heard about Christians keeping the Sabbath. Back then, I thought Sabbath was weird, "a whole country shutting down for a day?"

Years later, after getting married, I had the chance to bring my wife to Israel for her first time. That was not long after we had both come to the Sabbath. The feeling we shared on our first Sabbath together in Jerusalem is one that neither of us will forget. Instead of feeling weird for keeping the Sabbath, we felt completely at home.

Being in Israel on the Sabbath feels like stepping inside the Bible. The Gospels refer to the day before Sabbath as "the day of preparation" (Mark 15:42, Luke 23:5-1).

Fridays in Israel, you can still experience the day of preparation. Friday is a busy day in the markets. With the abundance of fresh produce produced in Israel many Israelis wait until Friday to buy the food they need for Sabbath. Prolific in their land and diet are cucumbers, tomatoes, figs, mangoes, dates, eggplant, and more.

As Friday afternoon arrives, things really begin to intensify. Businesses and stores all start to close by about 3 pm--even in the summer, when sunset isn't until 9 pm--to make sure their employees can reach home before the Sabbath begins.

As the sun sets on Friday evening and the Sabbath begins (Genesis 1:5b, 1:8b), the Sabbath dinner begins. It is the most special meal of the week. In a traditional Jewish home, before the sun goes down, candles are lit and each family has two loaves of a special bread called challah (pronounced "hallah"). The reason there are two loaves of this bread is in memory of the manna God provided in the wilderness and God's instruction to gather a double por-

tion of it on Friday so they wouldn't need to gather more on the Sabbath (Exodus 16:29).

Once the sun goes down, everything stops. In Jerusalem, the light rail and buses all stop running, traffic becomes non-existent and the busy city becomes nearly silent except at the Western Wall, where the start of the Sabbath is met with exuberant celebration and dancing.

In the morning, families walk together to their local synagogue. Even after their synagogue services come to end, the stillness persists all day. On our last trip there, my wife, Carol, counted cars on the six-lane road that went by the front of our hotel one Sabbath. Instead of cars, she just saw mostly kids riding their bikes down that road, with a single car maybe once in five minutes.

That same Sabbath, I went for a walk to the Mount of Olives and passed by a local park that was filled with families just picnicking and playing together, enjoying each other's company.

The weekly Sabbath is a gift from God to all of mankind (Mark 2:27)—it is the gift of rest (Exodus 16:29, 20:9-10). Besides the immediate value of the gift itself, the Sabbath also serves as a shadow of the rest still to come for those that follow Christ (Hebrews 4:1-11). The Sabbaths I have spent in Jerusalem have made the Sabbath more precious to me and provided me with a vivid picture of the rest to come. In fact, my wife and I have been so inspired by the way our trips to Israel have deepened our faith and understanding of the Bible, that we started "Bible Expeditions" www.bibleexpeditions.com.

Our goal is to help as many people as possible experience the Bible by visiting Israel.

We live in a time where everyone is so busy. On Sabbath, we need to just stop! Stop working, stop being busy, stop doing. Take a break, relax, rest, and listen for the still small voice. Sabbath is God's gift—take time to enjoy it.

REVIVAL IN AMERICA!

Part 1 appeared in the November 2019 edition. ED.

PART 2

Darl Arbogast

WISDOM

Our founding fathers apparently forgot the example of Solomon. Solomon, the son of King David, was given to be the wisest man who ever lived up to his time; he could and did expound great wisdom and wrote it for everyone else but himself. Solomon took 700 wives and 300 concubines in defiance of God's orders for a man to take only one wife. These wives were not from Israel but for the most part from foreign lands. They worshipped foreign gods and persuaded Solomon to let them worship the gods of their choice. 1 Kings 11:6 thru 8 NKJ - *6 Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and did not fully follow the LORD, as did his father David. 7 Then Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, on the hill that is east of Jerusalem, and for Molech the abomination of the people of Ammon. 8 And he did likewise for all his foreign wives, who burned incense and sacrificed to their gods.*

Solomon did not stop them from worshipping their gods. He had idols erected for them to sacrifice their babies at the edge of the Valley of Hinnom, a place known as hell and Gehennah. It is incredible to think that Solomon would allow his babies, the ones he fathered, to be burned in the fire by pagan priests to Molech and Chemosh.

Today in our Country our weak kneed liberal politicians have done as Solomon and allowed these weak and beggarly elements (heathens) into our Country and have ram-rodged Roe-v-Wade into law in 1973 making it legal to kill babies in America.

Since 1973 until now, at this writing, 60,737,563 million babies have been slaughtered legally in America to our Molech and Chemosh. To date this year 785,903 have been sacrificed to abortion. We are topping over a million babies killed per year for our gods: selfishness, convenience, birth control and

money.

At the moment of conception a new human being is created and to kill it is murder.

For those of us who have read the Bible we know what happened to ancient Israel. They were not only killing their babies they were also forsaking the Sabbath and Passover and the Holy Days as well; America is doing the same.

In 722 B.C. the northern ten tribes of Israel were force driven to Assyria never to return. Judah, Benjamin, and part of Levi were left behind in Judah to later be hauled off to Babylon in 586 B.C; they spent 70 years in captivity but were allowed to return to Judah. Ezra saw to it that they repaired the temple, kept the Sabbath and the Holy Days and the Passover; this enabled them to stay in Judah until 70 A.D. Because of their disobedience to God the Romans drove them out and destroyed the temple and the altar; they were driven from the land and never allowed to return until 1948.

U.S.A.

America is being destroyed by spiritual and political decay. A good question at this time would be, "will God do the same or a similar thing to us; move us out of this land?" Our nation is being destroyed from within by low life, chiefly pagan people who are atheist, socialist and communists. They are tearing down our high standard of patriotism and they hate anyone that opposes them.

God gave the pilgrims a new place to start, a place to worship Him, a chance to get it right with a nation of laws. Did they do it right? Did they return to the God of the Bible and have a revival and forsake all the Catholic errors that had been forced upon them for hundreds of years? Sadly the answer is "No they did not!" A new religion emerged called Protestantism instead of sticking with the 4th Commandment they retained the Catholic Sunday and all their pagan traditions.

And in the book of Exodus it reads: Exodus 20:8 thru 10 NKJ - *8 Remember the Sabbath day, to keep*

America cannot have a revival with- out first repenting.

it holy. 9 Six days you shall labor and do all your work, 10 but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. (The Sabbath is not one day of your choosing out of seven).

Another perversion of the word of God is instead of observing the Passover as Jesus had done the Catholic and the Protestants kept the Catholic Ishtar (Easter) and a Eucharist. Also the Protestants followed the Catholic incorporation of worship of the sun god calling it the Son of God, a Christmas celebration.

No thought or credence was given to God's Holy Days either as mentioned in Leviticus 23 as our Constitution was drawn up; God's way of worship was ignored.

THE FACTS

The fact of the matter is America cannot have a revival without first repenting. If we are willing to return to God then we will need to obey Him as a nation. To ignore Him and His laws is not repenting and neither is just attending church. Though attending church is important it is not the principal thing; repenting is important.

God is tolerant and merciful, Not only that but He has given us a lot of time—but we are going further away from Him. God is about justice, mercy and faith, saying "Return to Me and I will return to you." 2 John 1:3 NKJ - *3 Grace, mercy, and peace will be with you from God the Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.*

A true revival is for a very few who have remembered Him and His laws after straying.

There are probably millions of sincere people who call themselves Christians but do not do the things that God commands. Instead, they follow the Christianized pagan holidays of the Catholic Church by not observing the Passover, the Sabbath and the Holy Days.

To be a true Christian one has to follow Jesus the

Christ in the things He said and practiced Himself; that is a Christian in my opinion.

We know Jesus observed the Passover, we know He was baptized by immersion. We know He kept the Feast of Tabernacles and the Last Great Day (John 7). We know His Apostles kept the Feast of Pentecost (Acts 6). There is no doubt Jesus observed all the Holy Days of Leviticus 23 even though they are not all mentioned; it is a forgone conclusion because Jesus established them in the Old Testament.

There is a vast difference between a "believer" and a true follower of Jesus Christ; a believer not following Christ is on dangerous ground when judgment comes.

There are a lot of genuinely good people on this earth that do not acknowledge Jesus Christ and don't want Him in their lives, and there are those who think they have Him in their lives but don't. This is very evident in the way they keep His Word.

CONCLUSION

In the final analysis America does not need revival, our nation needs true repentance before God and to stop taking liberties to worship Him in unorthodox ways He has not authorized—and to stop killing our babies.

God will not accept our blending paganism with our particular brands of Christianity. We have His instruction book. We need to read it and follow it as closely as we can.

Justice, mercy and faith are His standard for us to live by and we are told to observe the Ten Commandments and His Holy Days and, oh yes, sin is the transgressing of the law.

Obedience will make America greater than it has ever been before but that is not a revival!

We are not advocating America being a theocracy, we want freedom to worship the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob eliminating all vestiges of paganism from our worship.

3 John 1:4 NKJ - *4 I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.*

Remembering the words of a hymn, "You go to your church and I will go to mine but let's walk along together".



THE RETURN OF CHRIST—

AGAIN?

Ray Daly

Mark 13:26. *"Then shall they see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and majesty!"*

Almost all Christians seem to believe that the above verse is referring to the coming of the Son of Man at the end of the age of man, sometime just before the last wars to be fought, the time referred to in Mat. 25:31. *"When the Son of Man shall come in his glory, and all the holy Angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory."*

Is that really the case? Is that when "they see"? Or is there a difference in timing? Let's take a look at this by going to Rev. 6:16. *"And [ALL people on earth-V.5] said to the mountains and rocks. Fall on us, and hide us from the FACE of him that sits on the throne. And from the wrath of the LAMB!"*

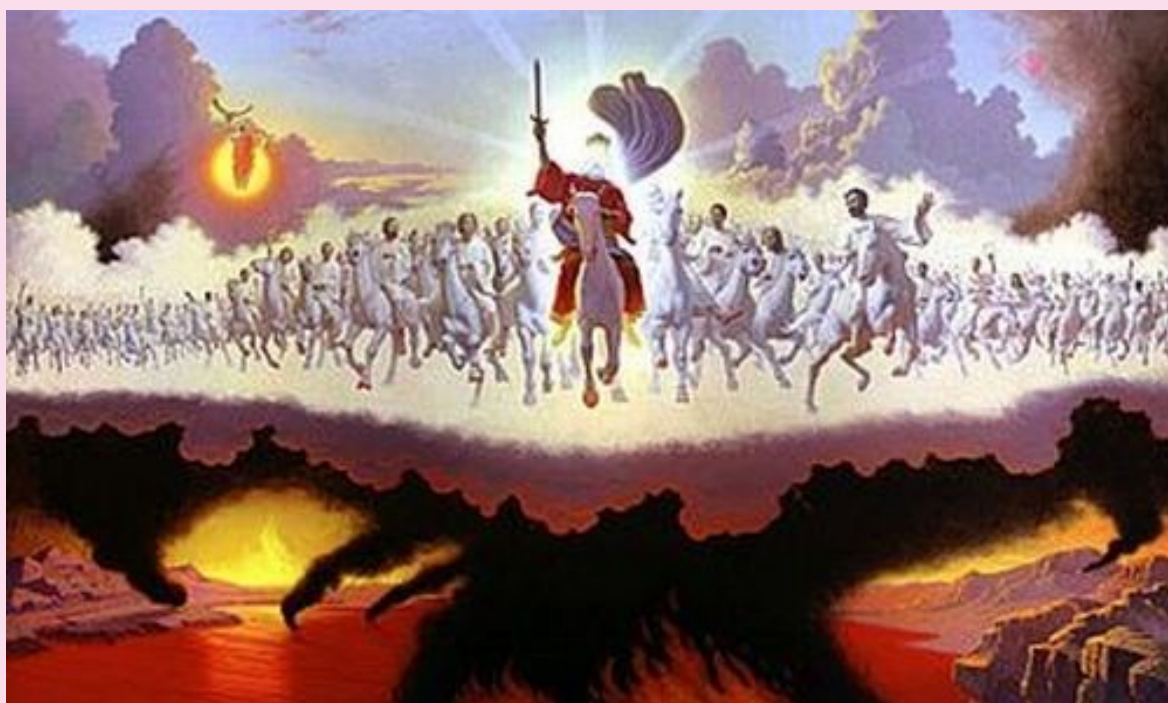
The Lamb obviously is the Son of Man. Do not the words of the opening Scripture "they see" fit well with "all people on earth" in this last verse? Can there be any real relationship between these two, and the words of Mat. 25:31 except they both center on the Son of Man himself? What about the words in Mark 13:26, "With great power"? No such word is used for the Lamb in the Revelation reference. Is it, perhaps, someone else that the word "power" is pointing to?

Consider Mark 14:62. *"Jesus said. I am. And you shall*

see the son of Man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven!" It seems evident that this scripture is also speaking the same as Revelation as well. The meaning of that, the "power" referred to, belongs to the "FACE".

What we have seen to this point is the "first" coming of the Son of Man in the future. And that all peoples living on earth will see the sign in heaven. Add to the "all peoples on earth," the fact that there are some two plus billion peoples on earth that are expecting the coming of a Messiah—Christians and Jews. As well, there are billion or so peoples of the Muslim religion who are waiting. Their Messiah is named Mahdi. And what few may not realize, the Hindu and Buddhist religions are also awaiting a coming Messiah.

How do you think they will react when the Son of Man, the Messiah, first appears? Will they arm themselves to fight against He whom might be their



Messiah? Hardly. So consider what they may do. There could be some seven years or so before the Son of Man actually sets his feet down on the earth. Doesn't it seem that they will "prepare for his coming?" Keep in mind how "fearful" they were. As we will see, they indeed do prepare the earth for his "second" coming.

For example, there must be "peace on earth," and there will be. The land of Judea and the city of Jerusalem must be ready for His arrival which means that the present day dwellers must be removed. They are squatters, whose right to live there is not legal. This includes the present day Israeli Jews. They are not of Israel. The nation of Judea belongs to Judah, Benjamin, and Simeon. When the time comes, the land will be ready for them, and they will return to be there before he comes as Scripture shows to be Truth.

Rev. 14:1. *"I looked, and behold. A Lamb stood on Mount Zion. With him an 144,000."* He is now on earth—His "second" coming. But, it is not the coming that is referred to in Mat. 25:31. Note this: there is not yet war. As mentioned there will be peace at that time. A question is, "Do the peoples on earth know he is here, or did he come to Zion 'secretly?'"

Acts 1:11. *"...Why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, that is in heaven whom was taken up from you into heaven, shall also COME in LIKE MANNER as you have SEEN him go into heaven!"* We are told that when the Son of Man ascended into a cloud, he was standing on the top of the Mount of Olives. If the above verse is True, then it means that when the Son of man puts his feet back down on earth, he will again be standing on the top of Mount of Olives. Just as it was witnessed to in the first century, so it will be witnessed to in the time to come. Consider this; with the communications we have today, said witnessing will be seen or heard throughout the earth.

Lets back up to the first century. Remember the Son of Mans last coming to Jerusalem. They had left Jericho, and came to a spot where the Son of Man told his disciples to go get him an ass and its colt A mule, and likely white. He may even have been by

the Mount of Olives at that time. They brought the animals. The ass he rode on pictured him as a human being, perhaps showing him to be the Lamb. After awhile, as they came closer to Jerusalem, the citizens that had come from Jerusalem, took him off of the ass and put him on the mule. Chanting "this is the KING".

That was then. Will those that prepare for his second coming also provide him with an ass and mule? Yes, they will. Zech. 9:9. *"Rejoice greatly O DAUGHTER of Zion. Shout for joy O DAUGHTER of Jerusalem. Behold your KING comes to you. He is just and having salvation. Lowly, and riding upon an ass and a mule!"* Note: In the OT times, mules were ridden by the sons of the king.

Most seem to believe that the above verse is referencing the first coming. Perhaps because they did not read the words of V.10. *"...He shall speak peace to the heathen. His dominion shall be from sea to sea. And from the river to the ends of the earth!"* Clearly this is confirming the previous verse.

From this time, there will be great, worldwide works done, before the final end time wars begin. Note Rev. 14:6. *"And I saw another Angel flying in heaven. Having the everlasting Gospel to preach to them that DWELL ON THE EARTH. To every nation, kindred, tongue, and peoples!"* How long this will take is yet seen. But we can see that the wars will begin in V.8. *"There followed another Angel saying. Babylon is fallen!"*

In conclusion we read in Mat. 25:31. *"When the Son of Man shall come in his glory, and all the holy Angels with him, then shall he sit upon the Throne of his glory!"* Apparently, the Son of Man will leave Zion, and return to heaven and come the "third" time to the earth.



The Kingdom of God:

A Reinstitution of Eden on Earth!

Paul W. Syltie

Prophecy comprises about a third of the entire Scriptures, so we must conclude that they are extremely important for us to dwell upon. This fact also begs the question, "What is the primary focus of these prophetic statements that apply to us today?" After all, the Bible is as relevant today as it was at the times it was written, so let's examine this most important issue and discover what the overall focus of Scriptures really is.

Eden Lost

We all know so well the story of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. Eve was convinced by the Serpent to partake of the forbidden fruit of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, and finding it was "... good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise" (Genesis 3:6; NKJV), she ate of it, and then offered Adam of its fruit. Choosing for themselves what is right and good, rather than carefully adhering to the directions of the Creator God who knows what is best for us—for if they despised such direction they would surely die (Genesis 2:17) — resulted in their being expelled from the Garden, wherein life was beautiful, secure, loving, and joyous beyond belief.

As a consequence of their error they were thrust into the outer world where they would need to sweat and suffer to procure their food, in a world where the soil was cursed, and thorns and thistles would compete with the food crops that sustained them. Moreover, wars and murder soon erupted as Cain killed his brother Abel (Genesis 4:8) ... and the record of history proves that such killing and mayhem has never ceased since then.

Eden and its life of peace, prosperity, and love has indeed been lost.

The destructiveness of man knew no bounds! We read in Genesis 6:1-7 that "... the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continu-

ally 'I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth ...'" (Genesis 6:5, 7 NKJV).

The sons of Elohim had no small part in this utter depravity of mankind made in the Eternal's image, marrying women and giving rise to the giant Nephalim, who had to be eliminated. Only Noah and his family had preserved their genetic purity ("perfect in his generations"; Genesis 6:9), while the entire civilization of earth was corrupt and filled with violence. The great Flood came and wiped away this wicked civilization along with the giants.

God's Program to Restore Eden

Our Creator and Sustainer is magnificent and loving beyond imagination, not willing to force anyone to obey Him. We and the saints throughout history have chosen to live in His Son's footsteps ... and so the great plan of redemption for mankind unfolded through the obedience of one man out of all the gentile nations after the 70 nations — outlined in Genesis 10 — the patriarch Abram. The plan to restore Eden to the earth had begun, but it was to be a fiery and complicated restoration that would take millennia to complete.

The Book of Jasher (Jasher 11:15) reveals that Abram's father was captain of the host of Nimrod, the brutal leader of the Babylonian kingdom after the Flood. Abram barely escaped being killed by Nimrod, and thereafter we pick up the story of Abram's trek out of Mesopotamia, first to Haran, and then on into the land Canaan, with his wife Sarai, Lot, and those who accompanied them (Genesis 11:31-32; 12:1-6).

Surviving within a world replete with armies and people intent on destroying this small entourage of blessed people, destined to inherit the fairer portion of the earth and become a great nation (Genesis 12:1-3), was not an easy task. Without the Eternal guiding and protecting these people of promise there would have been no hope in negotiating the incredible obstacles that Abram — later renamed Abraham — faced continually.

His barren wife miraculously in her old age bore a son named Isaac, and Isaac, through Rebekah, bore Jacob, whose 12 sons formed the nucleus of the Israelite nation which was prophesied by Jacob to carry out the awesome commission of greatness over all the earth (Genesis 49:1-28). Moreover, from the tribe of Judah was to come the Messiah, Jesus Christ, many generations later. The plan to restore Eden to the earth had begun through one man, Abraham, who was called out from under the very nose of the evil Babylonian empire, just as the spiritual restoration of the entire earth had begun with one Man, Jesus Christ, who was born and lived under the very eyes of the Roman Empire and the corrupt religious system that had developed in His days. Moreover, the saints were being called one-by-one out of this wilderness of sin from all nations, and shown the love of the Creator for them, from a God who willed that none be lost (II Peter 3:9), and who Himself was destined to live on earth as one of us, experience the same temptations we do, be crucified in our stead, and arise from the tomb as the firstborn of many brethren (Romans 8:29). These brethren of His are to be kings and priests and reign on the earth (Revelation 5:10), alongside Jesus Christ, having defeated the Beast and False Prophet at the last battle before the millennial reign of Christ begins (Revelation 19:11-21). The works of Satan to try and stop this magnificent restoration of Eden will finally be utterly thrown down ... for that was the express purpose for which Christ came to earth (I John 3:8).

Let's Make Sense of All This

So ... we have Satan cast into the bottomless pit and bound for a thousand years, shut up "... so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished" (Revelation 20:3; NKJV). This is the same Satan who, in the Garden of Eden, tempted and deceived Adam and Eve into choosing their own way rather than the Eternal's ways of lawful, loving living.

Thence begins a thousand years of restoring Eden upon the earth, without the continual destructive influence of the Devil trying to destroy the plan of God! We have no idea of how great and wonderful a time this will be, when our children and generations thereafter will finally be living within an environment perfectly designed for them — like in Eden — free of war, hurricanes, mosquitoes, thistles, theft, divorce, sunburn, and the 8-to-5 grind. Space limits how much can be said about the nature of this new

age, but I have gone into considerable detail in *The Bridge to Eden* to elucidate the character of this new age.

Let me close this message by quoting two scriptural references to help us begin to understand the incredible future we have to look forward to in this new age, if we will but endure to the end. "*The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw [forage] like the ox. The nursing child shall play by the cobra's hole, and the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper's den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.*" (Isaiah 11:6-9; NKJV).

"*Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing [anapsyxis, 'refreshing, recreation, rest'] may come from the presence of the Lord, and that He may send Jesus Christ who was preached to you before, whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration [apokatastasis, 'a restitution of a thing to its former state'] of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began*" (Acts 3:19-21; NKJV).

What was the former state of things on earth? It was the order, lawfulness, joy, peace, and blissful living within the Garden of Eden, that perfect environment for mankind and all of the creation! Read Genesis 1 and drink in of the nature of this original creation and try to imagine the soon-coming age that will repeat this original state of things, but this time on a worldwide basis, not just in Eden, the mountain of God, replete with tame animals, no wars, no poverty, moderate climate pole to pole, and food for the taking from all sorts of plants, including the Tree of Life whenever one is hungry. Elohim's character will be imprinted upon all things!

Does prophecy teach us plenty about our immediate future, and the nature of the Kingdom [government] of God? You bet! It is worth every ounce of our energy to serve the living God and be there with Him when He returns, to meet Him in the air and be with Him forever!



Literature Order Form, Page 5

To purchase, contact P.O. Box 7707, Bonney Lake, WA 98391. Or, call (888) 687-5191. Non-members of the BSA: **Please add 10% to the suggested donation to cover mailing or shipping costs. Members do not pay shipping costs. Join today!**

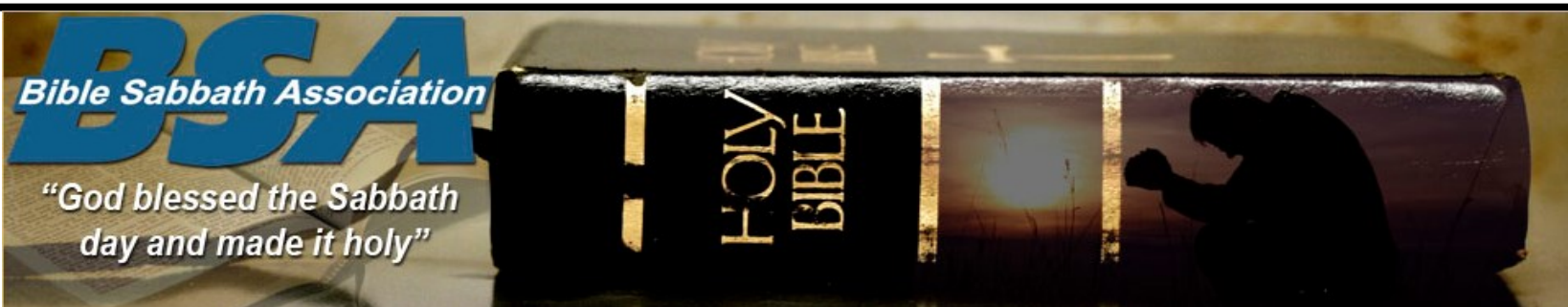
BOOKS, ARTICLES, PAMPHLETS & DVDS

	Item #	Suggested Donation
52 Things to Do on the Sabbath (Robinson). Practical activities to make the Sabbath a delight for all ages.	B220	\$4
A Choosing People: The History of the Seventh Day Baptists—2nd Edition (Sanford). This recently revised and updated second edition documents the history of the oldest Sabbath keeping Christian denomination from its roots in the Reformation to a worldwide movement spanning six continents.	B250	\$30
Conscience Taken Captive (Sanford). A short history of 7th Day Baptists. An introduction to the nearly 350 years of 7th Day Baptists.	B223	\$5
Ten Commandments Twice Removed (Shelton & Quinn). Has the church been guilty of discarding the Decalogue?	B227	\$6
Holy Time With God (Shults). What you need to know about the Christian Sabbath.	B249	\$5
The Lord’s Day, Moral Decay, Evolution and the Threat to Liberty (Standish). Dive deep into Church history and Scripture to discover the truth.	B218	\$17
The Seventh-Day Sabbath Sought Out and Celebrated (Tillam). Tillam explains that the final great controversy in these very last days will be over the Seventh-Day Sabbath.	B260	\$12
The Lost Meaning of the Seventh Day (Tonstad). The sweeping work of biblical theology and historical analysis traces the seventh day as it is woven throughout Scripture and the history of Christianity.	B260	\$12
The Law and the Sabbath (Walker). Law versus grace controversy.	B238	\$10
The Jubilee Principle (White). White examines the economic “long wave” and uncovers the wisdom of the fifty-year Jubilee cycle in the Hebrews’ economy showing God’s plan to spare Israel the tumult of financial crises.	B240	\$14
Discovering the Lost Sabbath Truth (Wohlberg). The murkiness also gives way to the facts of human tradition and the church history of how leaders attempted to change God’s law to fit their own way of thinking	P205	\$1
Truth Triumphant—the Church in the Wilderness (Wilkinson). This book features the triumph of truth in the period from 538 to 1798, a chapter of God’s leadings long hidden by intolerance and falsehood.	B209	\$15
History of the Waldenses (Wylie). The conflict and martyrdom of the “valley dwellers” who maintained their Bible faith for hundreds of years.	B207	\$10
Oh No, It’s Sabbath Again: A Homemaker’s Guide to Making Friday the Easiest Day of the Week (Young). If you’re sick of the Friday “beat-the-sun” housework blues, this can help you take control of your home and schedule so that your family and the Sabbath are once more a delight.	B252	\$8

The Sabbath Sentinel

*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



Advertise in The Sabbath Sentinel

Classified ads (20% discount for second time, 30% thereafter) are available at the rate of \$1.00 per word (including each word and each group of numbers in the address; telephone numbers count as one word) for each issue in which the ad is published.

Display ads are available at \$150 per quarter page, \$250 per half page and \$400 per whole page for each issue the ad is published. Where possible your camera-ready copy will be utilized, or we will design your display ad for you for a one-time charge of \$200. Send copy for all ads and payment to The Bible Sabbath Association, PO Box 7707, Bonney Lake, WA 98391, USA.

Discounts: Advertise in the TSS Classified Ads section for more than one issue and receive discounts: \$1.00 per word 1st issue, 20% off for 2nd issue, and 30% off for subsequent times.

Ad copy without payment will not be accepted for publication. Deadline is two months prior to publication (i.e. if you want your ad to appear in the September/October issue we must receive it before July). BSA reserves the right to reject or edit any ad copy.

Publication does not imply endorsement by the Bible Sabbath Association or The Sabbath Sentinel, its editor or staff.