

# THE Sabbath Sentinel

July–August  
2001

—“Even the wind obeys Him!”

**BSA — The Bible Sabbath Association**  
***“The Sabbath was made for man...” - Jesus, the Christ***

**The Sabbath Sentinel**  
**July–August 2001 Volume 53, No. 4 Issue 490**

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**Cover Photo:** The first known photograph of a tornado, Howard, South Dakota, August 1884. Historic National Weather Service Collection.

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**The Bible Sabbath Association** is dedicated to promote the seventh day Sabbath. As a nonsectarian association for Sabbath-observing Christians, BSA accepts members who acknowledge Jesus Christ (Yahshua the Messiah) as their Savior, believe the Bible to be the Word of the Eternal, 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 to 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*.

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# The Prayer of Jabez



## The Order Form

On pages 19 and 20 (back to back) we have printed an order form which includes much of the printed material and tapes available through the Bible Sabbath Association. It occurred to us that some of our subscribers may not have taken a recent look at a listing of the material we have available. Just cut out the form along the inside edge of the page, indicate on the form the material that you would like to order, enclose the completed form in an envelope along with your check, and send it to the address indicated on the order form.

If you are one of those (like me) who does not like to mutilate your magazines, just make a photocopy of both sides of the form, and complete your order on the copy.

Either way, we are certain you will find something of interest to you, especially since we continually add new material to our stock.

## The Prayer of Jabez

I recently ran across an editorial in the "Religion" section of our local newspaper that took churchgoers to task over their avid interest in a small book titled, *The Prayer of Jabez*. The Religion section editor concluded the piece by stating that we should pay much more attention to "thy will be done" and less to "Oh that you would bless me indeed."

Likely many readers of *The Sabbath Sentinel* have either heard of or read *The Prayer of Jabez* written by Dr. Bruce Wilkinson. The book has sold out of every printing since its release last year. There are many reasons for the book's success – some good, some not so good.

The "Religion" editor of our newspaper was trying to make the point that the prayer is being used like a talisman or magic charm similar to the way name-it-and-claim-it preachers hawk their prosperity gospel, but to assume selfish motives on the part of the book's author and its readers is to miss the point of the book entirely (and to miss the point of Jabez's prayer). Yes, there are those who will corrupt anything good to gain personal advantage. That's a given in our world where the sin of self-indulgence is king. People will try to use God to their own advantage. However, let's look at the prayer of Jabez in 1 Chronicles 4:9-10 to see what we can glean from it.

"Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, Oh that you would bless me indeed and enlarge my territory. Let your hand be with me to keep me from evil and from doing harm."

Was Jabez's prayer pleasing to God? Absolutely! How do we know that? Verse 9 starts: "Jabez was more honorable than his brothers," and verse 10 ends with, "And God granted his request."

Jabez's prayer is not a magic charm or talisman. It is the prayer of a very righteous man who pleased God. Because he was righteous before God, the Lord heard him when he prayed and was pleased to bless him for it. There is no magic in that. The prerequisite is righteousness, that is, being "more honorable" (which includes humility, by the way) than those around us. Such a thing is very pleasing to God.

But there is one point that must not be missed in this two-verse biography of Jabez, and this point is the key to understanding the entire episode. When God expands the territory of a righteous man, He expands the territory of godly righteousness. When a righteous man is willing to take on additional responsibilities (territory), he takes the righteousness of God into new arenas of life. Those who were previously untouched by godliness are suddenly face-to-face with the righteousness of God in the man or woman whose expanded territory has now touched their lives and circumstances.

Critical to understanding the gospel is to understand that we are here to advance the kingdom of God. Our Heavenly Father leaves us in this world after our conversion not just for our own personal growth, but to bring to others the knowledge of His kingdom. It is by watching us that those around us begin to sample a foretaste of the kingdom of God because we are its ambassadors in this world. The gates of hell can never prevail against the church of God because God's people are snatching away those given over to sin from the jaws of eternal death by advancing the good news of God's eternal kingdom. That is our calling.

The prayer of Jabez leaves each of us with one challenging question: Am I willing to ask God to bless me with new responsibilities and circumstances – new territory – so that the power of His truth and His righteousness can reach those who have never been touched by it? Such willingness will, indeed, be blessed.





# By This Shall all Men Know That You Are my Disciples

by Tom Justus

I have been a Sabbath keeper for forty seven years and a minister for forty years. I am saddened by all the division that is apparent within Sabbath-keeping organizations. How can we be a witness to the Sunday keeping world, about God's Holy Sabbath Day, when we act as we do?

What has happened to our love for God and for our fellow man? Christ said in John 13:35, "By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love one to another." Many Sabbath-keeping groups have many different names, setting themselves apart from other churches. I can't help recalling what Paul said to the Corinthian Church in 1 Corinthians 3:3-7 "For you are yet carnal; for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are you not carnal and walk as men? For while one says, I am of Paul; and another I am of Apollos; are you not carnal? Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom you believed, even as the Lord gave every man. I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase."

We should all understand this: IT IS GOD WHO GIVES THE INCREASE, not our organization, not by the name we go by, not by some great act that we perform. Paul, earlier in his first letter to the Corinthians (2:2) said, "For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified." We know by his actions that Paul observed God's Holy Sabbaths, but he did teach against calling ourselves by names of men or organizations which cause division.

The division that exists in the churches today is not over the SIMPLE teachings of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, but over laws, moons, names, etc., of which Paul warned Titus, "But avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, AND STRIVINGS ABOUT THE LAW; for they are unprofitable and vain." (Titus 2:9)

When the lawyer, tempting Jesus, asked him what is the greatest commandment, Jesus answered him, "You shall love the Lord your God, with all your heart, and with all your mind, This is the first and great com-

mandment. And the second is like unto this, You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Mat. 22:37) His answer was not, "keep the Sabbath or other laws;" it was "LOVE GOD AND NEIGHBORS." When we reach the point in our lives where we have enough of God's Holy Spirit to really love God and neighbor, we will be more understanding and tolerant of people who might not agree with us on some of the things we believe.

As I get older (73 in August) and having been in the ministry for over forty years I have, as Paul, decided not to know anything but Christ and Him crucified — to teach people to walk in the footsteps and Way of Life of our Savior, using the Spirit of God in our daily walk.

There is a scripture that I had misunderstood for years in Revelation 3:20. In my early years as a minister in a Sunday-keeping church I used this as an altar call. In reality, it was written to a Sabbath-keeping Church of God that had put Christ outside the church. After talking to the Laodicean church, Christ makes this statement in Rev. 3:20, "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock; if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him and will sup with him, and he with me." Do you get the point? This church had left Christ out! He was pleading to them to ask Him back in. What had they replaced His teachings with? Could it have been their disputing about the law, about names? I do not know, but let us be careful that we as a church do not become guilty of this.

Fellow Sabbath-keepers, let us show to the world, as we come together on the Sabbath to worship our Great God and to follow Jesus, the love that we have for each other, even with our differences.

Paul says in Galatians 5:13-15, "For Brethren, you have been called unto liberty, only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but BY LOVE SERVE ONE ANOTHER. FOR ALL THE LAW IS FULFILLED IN ONE WORD, EVEN THIS; YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." □

—Tom Justus is a vice president of the  
*Bible Sabbath Association*

# The Coalition for Religious Freedom in the Workplace

by John Paul Howell



The First Amendment to the United States Constitution guarantees both the freedom of the individual to practice his or her religion without interference from the state, and the separation of church and state. Both are crucial to the freedom and security of all Americans regardless of religious belief. Unfortunately, all three branches of the Federal Government have acted in several ways to infringe upon these constitutional guarantees of religious freedom. For many Sabbath-keepers, this is most evident in the constant struggle to avoid having to work on the Sabbath, and the reluctance of the employer to substitute Sunday work for Sabbath work.

Prior to 1977, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 required employers to reasonably accommodate the religious observances of their employees unless doing so would impose an “undue hardship” upon the employer. But the Supreme Court removed this protection for religious workers by ruling in *TWA v. Hardison* that if an accommodation imposed even a minimal expense upon the employer, an accommodation was not required under the law. Since Federal law states that, in several cases, work performed on Sunday requires “premium pay” — that is, pay in excess of that which is mandated by law to be paid for Saturday work — accommodating a Sabbath-keeping employee by shifting his work hours to Sunday is no longer legally necessary.

In an effort to rectify this situation, several members of Congress have introduced in the last session of Congress (106th), a bill entitled “The Workplace Religious Freedom Act” (WRFA). The purpose of this bill is to amend Title VII of the Civil Rights Act to reinstate the protection religious workers require so that they may be faithful to their religion and also able to support their families. The WRFA would strengthen existing federal laws against discrimination in the workplace on the basis of religion in light of court rulings that have interpreted those laws in a fashion that affords little protection against losing jobs or being passed over for promotion to employees who require reasonable accommodation of religious practice, such as Sabbath observance or the obligation to wear certain types of clothing.

The Workplace Religious Freedom Act will achieve these goals by modifying the definition of “religion” to

include all aspects of religious observance, practice, and belief. The employer will be required to make accommodations unless, after initiating and engaging in an affirmative and bona fide effort, the employer demonstrates that it is unable to reasonably accommodate a religious observance or practice without undue hardship (i.e., an action requiring significant difficulty or expense) on the conduct of the employer’s business. The proposed act will prohibit deeming an accommodation by the employer reasonable if the accommodation does not remove the conflict between employment requirements and the religious observance or practice. The proposed act will exclude, in certain circumstances, the defense that the accommodation would be in violation of a seniority system. Furthermore, the proposed act will prohibit the requirement of paying “premium wages” for work performed during hours in which “premium wage” would ordinarily be applicable if such work is performed during those hours only to accommodate the religious requirements of an employee.

The bill was first introduced by Sen. John Kerry on Sept. 29, 1999, as S.1668. The following senators were listed as co-sponsors of this bill:

Sam Brownback  
Daniel Inouye  
Barbara Mikulski  
Patty Murry  
Tim Hutchinson  
Joseph Lieberman  
Daniel Patrick Moynihan  
Gordon Smith

The Senate version was read twice before being referred on Sept 29, 1999, to the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee. Since it never came out of committee, the bill died when the 106th Congress completed its business.

The text of the Senate version of the bill can be found at the following URL:

[http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c106:S.1668:](http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c106:S.1668)  
\* (Note: the above URL was copied directly from my browser — the trailing colon is significant!)

Continued on page 9

# Obeying the Law

by  
Monte Judah

Do you stop at a traffic stop sign every time? If you see no crossing traffic, do you still stop for the sign? Even though you know the sign is made of metal shaped into an octagon, painted red and white with the word "STOP", and mounted on a pole stuck in the ground, do you still stop? Do you stop for this sign because you understand its intent is to protect you from crossing traffic or do you stop just out of habit?

Law abiding citizens do stop for stop signs, even though there is no approaching traffic, even though they know the sign is nothing more than a man-made piece of metal attached to a post. Why? Maybe it is just a habit or maybe they have learned that it is safer to always obey traffic signs, to not get into the habit of offending traffic laws. Maybe they fear that a policeman is watching with the authority to give them a ticket. We call these people lawful citizens. No one would suggest that they are doing it to be more righteous than anyone else. No one would suggest that they are causing harm to others by keeping the law. No one would think that they are keeping the law to condemn law-breakers.

I posed this discussion recently to some folks that were arguing whether we should obey God's commandments. I asked them, "If you can see the wisdom of keeping man's commandments for traffic, why can't you see the wisdom of keeping God's commandments for life?"

Keeping the commandments of God does not make one more righteous than another. It does not cause harm to new believers. It is not the behavior of heretics. It is the behavior of people who call Him Lord and do what He says. The Bible calls these people lawful and upright before the Lord. The unlawful person resents such behavior simply because it highlights to himself his disobedience before the Lord. However, being lawful is not for the condemnation of anyone.

Whether it is foods or sabbath, the commandments of the Lord are right and correct. So why don't people simply obey the commandments of God?

There are probably a number of reasons. Ignorance of God's commandments is probably the dominant reason. They just don't know about the "stop" sign God set up for those items. Maybe they know the sign is

there but have decided to "run" it since it looked safe to them. I have heard some argue that if you stop for one "stop" sign you have to stop for them all. (Makes sense to me, but they use that as an excuse to not obey.) Whatever the reason for disobedience, the wisdom of God's commandment is still clear.

Recently, I heard of a court case where some teenage kids stole a stop sign as a prank. Apparently, they had been doing it for sometime. Finally, someone drove into one of those intersections with no sign and was killed along with an entire family. Not only was there that tragedy of an accident but the families of the teenagers were devastated when they were given prison sentences. Obviously, the stop sign by itself does not mean that much, but its absence from the intersection has dire consequences.

The same can be said for God's commandments. Some people flaunt the grace of God and take the stop signs down. Some just "run" the stop sign and transgress the commandments willfully. I can understand the behavior of some brethren who have never been taught the commandments and are blocked from learning them by their teachers. But I do not understand that how grace can be an alternative system of guidelines or replacement for spiritual laws.

Let me illustrate. Some people's teaching of grace as applied to traffic signs goes something like this.

"Now those stop signs were put there a long time ago when the automobile first was very slow. Now with much faster cars, we can get across the intersection faster, and no longer need the stop sign."

"I drive by faith and am led by the spirit of God and, therefore, we are protected by God and no longer need those traffic laws. We should, in fact, not obey any of those laws because it indicates that we are not trusting the Lord nor driving by faith."

"Those laws are no longer applicable to us. We only drive on the interstate church system and hardly see those sign any ways. In fact, I frequently fly nowadays and everyone knows there are no stop signs in the sky. Those laws are of no value to me."

Each of you can see the absurdity of these arguments against a traffic stop sign. This is the same ab-

surdity I hear from religious teachers who take the commandments of God and dismiss them for reasons of grace.

The next time you get stopped for a traffic violation, tell the police officer that the grace of God permits you to ignore the Law. See how far that gets you.

Running stop signs is not an example of grace. Grace is getting a warning ticket instead of paying the fine. Transgressing God commandments does not make grace bigger nor does faith replace the law.

Do we then nullify the Law through faith? May it never be! On the contrary, we establish the Law. (Rom. 3:31)

What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? May it never be! (Rom. 6:15)

So then, the Law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good. (Rom. 7:12)

Stopping for a stop sign is an example of your faith in the traffic law system which was established for your good. It does not prevent you from getting somewhere; it ensures that you get there alive.

God's Law does the same. □

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*The above article is taken from the January 1998 edition of the monthly Internet newsletter from Lion and Lamb Ministries, **Yavoh, He Is Coming** (<http://www.lionlamb.net/>).*

*In 1995 Monte Judah was called to leave his full time secular position and enter full-time ministry service. Monte is the founder and director of Lion and Lamb Ministries, a Messianic prophetic ministry, as well as teaching elder of B'nai Shalom Messianic Fellowship that he helped form in 1997 in the Oklahoma City area. As director of Lion and Lamb Ministries, Monte writes and publishes a free international monthly news-*

letter called **Yavoh, He is Coming**, Monte also creates numerous audio and video presentations on end-time prophecies, Torah, and the biblical holidays. Monte has been a Torah teacher for about 15 years. **Yavoh, He is Coming** is a monthly newsletter published as an outreach ministry of Lion and Lamb Ministries Inc. The ministry is a non-profit organization with an end time prophetic message in a Messianic Jewish context. Subscription to **Yavoh, He is Coming** is without cost and supported only by donation.

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## Correction

Last issue (May-June 2001) we published an article titled "Evangelists in Nigeria Associate with BSA." Regretably, the pictures of the two Nigerian evangelists were switched. The first picture captioned "Michael Onyewuchi Iheme" should have the name Asuquo Umene Akpan under it. The second picture, in the lower right of page 19, should be that of Michael Onyewuchi Iheme.

Sorry for the mixup.



"The Prophet Side" is a regular feature of **Yavoh, He is Coming**.



# Standing Firm

## A Personal Odyssey

by  
E. June Narber



As Sabbath observers, we sometimes encounter unpleasant situations in which our very commitment to the Sabbath is continually being challenged. After seventeen years of being a committed Sabbath observer, the last three years have been increasingly challenging for me.

Having completed my master's degree during the summer of 1998, my life finally had seemed to reach a plateau. For some time I had worked to reach this goal, and it was finally accomplished. Observing the Sabbath was difficult during this period: There were many school deadlines to meet. Living in Thailand for three months alone and apart from the fellowship of people of like faith, as well as the fact that I had separated myself from a large corporate Sabbath-keeping church, I felt a growing sense of isolation.

My separation from the church I had attended came when I became dissatisfied with the idea of continuing to be the typical church "robot." As a result, I suddenly found myself shunned by many friends that I thought would be my life-long companions from our days together at Bible college. Forced to explore new ways of socializing, I spent time on Internet church forums. While this was both a positive and negative experience, I found more negativity in the fact a few individuals seemed to take pleasure in spreading gossip, ill will, and even personal attacks through the increasingly popular email system. I had to ask myself, is being part of the Sabbath really worth continually getting my feelings hurt and my person attacked when I disagreed with the latest wild speculation on prophecy or even challenged some of the long-held views about my right as a human being or a woman to develop my mind and talents as I saw fit, and as God opened up the doors of opportunity?

The Sabbath is both a public and personal experience. It is public in the sense that we share "community" with other like-minded and open-minded individuals who have been given this understanding of God's law. The Sabbath is also a private experience as it is observed internally as well as externally. Our minds are set apart for 24 hours both to reflect on and to study God's way of life, His Word, and even to think "out of the box" as the Holy Spirit guides us to deeper understanding of God's truths.

Personal trials and situations (irritating or unpleasant enough to make daily life challenging) eat away at our fleshly mental outlook. But through this process, a deeper spiritual person emerges. It cannot be explained scientifically, but it can be felt and experienced individually. The Holy Spirit's influence is literally a recreation of self from the inside out. Maybe that is why some trials feel like they are turning our insides out. Spiritually, this is exactly what is happening.

In my personal journey I came to know people who could talk for hours about the meaning of every Hebrew and Greek word, but seemed to lack any form of compassion for the people they were dealing with. They possessed knowledge without wisdom. Their heads were full of words, but the meaning never entered their hearts. Such knowledge is utterly useless.

Standing firm in our personal commitments, including the Sabbath, comes not only through personal dedication, but through something much deeper. If doing something is making your life more physically unpleasant, why keep doing it? If observing Sabbath has increased personal pain through broken relationships, trials, lost opportunities, personal attacks, shunning by others who are supposed to be Sabbath keepers; gossip; name calling; and so on, *why keep doing it?* That is the simplest thing to answer: because God commands it, and if we want to be part of Him, the Sabbath is the path to fellowship with Him. He blessed and hallowed **NO OTHER DAY** of the week.

I'm taking God at His word. He has promised not only immortality to those who follow Him and obey His laws, but also rulership with Jesus Christ in His Kingdom. No matter what trials or problems haunt my doorstep at this moment, **NOTHING** can be compared to the coming power, glory, and fellowship we will experience with God and His people for all eternity. Standing firm is worth whatever the sacrifice. And, that means we must not cave in to whatever mishap overtakes us. It means relying on HIM to give us the personal strength, knowledge, and power to get through the situation (and that includes going under, over, or around any obstacle, maybe even plowing right through it) to hold our course steady toward eternity. Some would have us adopt a doormat mentality, where Christians are supposed to

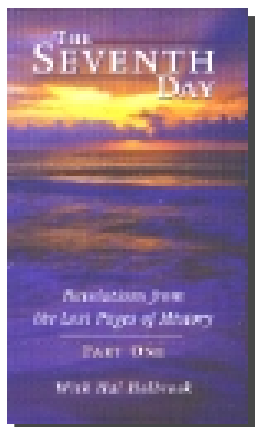


lie down and let everyone and everything walk all over us. Why would we then be told to put on the full armor of Jesus Christ? That sounds like preparing to wage battle instead of lying down in defeat.

Stand firm in your own spiritual race. Don't let any human take your crown of life. That crown is just sitting there with Christ waiting for you. Who cares what fellow humans think of the path you walk to be with Jesus Christ and the Father? **STAND FIRM!**

Part of the calling we have is that each of us is unique and an individual creation by the hand of God. We each have our quirks and our own thoughts and feelings. I encourage all to develop their talents and pursue their personal goals regardless of what other people say. If some had their way, we would be crammed into a small box the size of a cigar box labeled, "obedient, thought-controlled, and good financial supporters" — a box full of individuals who pay, pray, stay, and obey. In fact, in a group of people so controlled by their belief structure and church government, and by their social expectations, it is a rarity to find one ounce of original creative thought in the whole lot! God does not like this. He works in and around our personal strengths and weaknesses, loving us in spite of and sometimes maybe because of our oddities.

—June Narber is a member of the Board of Directors of BSA.



### ***The Seventh Day***

Revelations from the Lost Pages of History - Part One, with Hal Holbrook, 52 min. VHS NTSC video, \$25.00, or \$5.00 for 14-day LOAN. Also available in PAL format for \$30.00. First in a five-part series of the history of the Sabbath. (V215)

Continued from page 5

The House version of this bill was introduced by Representative Jerrold Nadler on April 11, 2000, as H.R.4237. The following Representatives were listed as co-sponsors of the bill:

- |                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Charles Canady    | Bob Clement      |
| Joseph Crowley    | Eliot Engel      |
| Martin Frost      | William Goodling |
| Bart Gordon       | Asa Hutchinson   |
| Nita Lowey        | Carolyn McCarthy |
| Constance Morella | Major Owens      |
| Janice Schakowsky | Mark Souder      |
| Edolphus Towns    | Anthony Weiner   |
| Robert Wexler     |                  |

The House version was referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce, and that committee's Subcommittee on Employer-Employee Relations. Since it never came out of committee, the bill died when the 106th Congress completed its business.

The text of the House version of the bill can be found at the following URL:

[http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c106:H.R.4237:](http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c106:H.R.4237)

*\* (Note: the above URL was copied directly from my browser — the trailing colon is significant!)*

A broad coalition of various religious organizations, known as the Coalition for Religious Freedom in the Workplace, have come together to work for introduction and the passage of the Workplace Religious Freedom Act in this current session (107th) of Congress. These groups include, but are not limited to: American Jewish Committee, Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, Christian Legal Society, Family Research Council, General Conference of Seventh Day Adventists, National Association of Evangelicals, National Council of Churches, Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America.

At the June BSA Board of Directors meeting, the directors voted to join this coalition.

—John Paul Howell, a BSA director, lives near Washington, D.C., and will act as liaison between the BSA and the coalition.

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### **Gift Subscriptions to TSS**

Share the joy of the Sabbath with a friend! Send us names of others who would like to receive our magazine. A donation of \$10 per gift subscription is appreciated.

# Is the Name “Jesus” Pagan?

by John K. McKee

As more and more of Ephraim come out of the church system, Messianic Israel is having to answer some serious questions, the foremost being: “How much Christian theology do we reject?”

Obviously, some valid teachings to reject would be dispensationalism (depicts our God as One Who is doing first one thing and then another), antinomianism (lawlessness), and the pre-tribulation rapture (leads non-Jewish Believers to feel they have nothing to do but to wait for the “Rapture Bus”). But what of issues such as, what name of the Messiah do we use?

Some claim to be offended if one even speaks the name “Jesus.” Others use the names “Jesus” and “Yeshua” interchangeably. So, we ask: Is the name “Jesus” pagan?

Some say Jesus is pagan because of its Greek linguistic origins. Some have even called our Messiah “Gee-Zeus,” implying that those who call on Him are actually calling on the Greek god, Zeus.

However, a study of Greek grammar, or more specifically, Hebrew to Greek transliteration, shows there is no basis for this conclusion.

Almost 300 years before Messiah’s birth, the Jewish translators of the Septuagint had a similar problem. They were commissioned to translate the Hebrew Bible into Greek for Ptolemy’s library at Alexandria and had extreme difficulty transliterating Hebrew proper names into Greek. Unlike Hebrew to English transliteration, which is easier because English offers most of the same sounds of Hebrew; Hebrew to Greek transliteration is not as easy. And many of our proper Biblical names in English come from Greek transliterations of Hebrew words (i.e. Moses, Phineas, Caiphas).

For example, Young’s Analytical Concordance confirms for us that the original name of the Messiah is indeed “Yeshua” (יֵשׁוּעַ), and this Hebrew name, when translated into Greek, is “Iesous” (Ἰησοῦς).

How we get from Yeshua to Iesous (pronounced Ee-ay-sooce) is a challenge to understand if one is armed with nothing more than a concordance and does not understand the difficulty of transliteration.

When transliterating the Hebrew יֵשׁוּעַ to Greek:

- י (yod – “ye”) becomes ἰ (iota-eta – “ye” or “ee-ay,” Koine or Attic dialect)
- שׁ (shin – “sh”) becomes σ (sigma – “s” [there is no “sh” sound in Greek])
- ו (vav – “u”) becomes ο (omicron-epsilon – “oo”)
- It is necessary for a final sigma (ς) to be placed at the end of the word to distinguish that the name is masculine.
- Greek grammar rules require that the א (ayin – “ah”) sound be dropped

Hence, we get the name “Iesous” (Ἰησοῦς), pronounced either Ye-sooce or Ee-ay-sooce. It is important to note that this same name is used for the title of the Book of Joshua in the Septuagint, which serves as definitive proof that Iesous is not of pagan origin, but rather is indeed a Greek transliteration of Yeshua developed by the Jewish translators! For, Iesous is also the Greek transliteration of Yehoshua (יְהוֹשֻׁעַ) as demonstrated by the Septuagint.

In Old English, “Iesous” was rendered “Iesus” (pronounced Yesus), which is remarkably close to Yeshua. However, it was spelled with a beginning letter “J,” which at the time had a “Y” sound. Later, when the “J” began to have a harder sound, the name became “Jesus.” Transliteration is not an exact science. However, it does prove that the Greek name Iesous from whence we derive the name “Jesus” is not pagan. Ἰησοῦς is the Greek transliteration of יֵשׁוּעַ, and the English transliteration of Ἰησοῦς is Iesus, which became Jesus.

Those who believe that “Jesus” is another deity and declare that they “reject Jesus” need to examine the facts of Hebrew to Greek transliteration. They need to realize just Who they are rejecting.

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# Two Treasures of our Spiritual Heritage

by Calvin Burrell



For Christians, Jesus is the Pearl of Great Price! Because He has given Himself for our everlasting benefit, we willingly give our all to know Him and to find the Supreme Value that He is.

Coming to know Christ, we discover that He brings with Himself other jewels less precious than Himself, but still highly valuable. Consider two of the Lord's treasures—different in some respects, and yet having much in common. The first is the Sabbath.

## The Sabbath Rests

This gem of our heritage in Christ rests firmly on three pillars of biblical bedrock. First, the account of a completed creation in Genesis 2:1-3 takes Sabbath all the way back to the beginning. Second, the speaking of the ten commandments by God's voice and the writing of them with His finger at Mt. Sinai places Sabbath at the heart of moral law (Exodus 20:8-11).

The third pillar on which the Sabbath rests is the teaching and example of Jesus and His apostles in the New Testament. Jesus' own custom was to attend public worship every Sabbath day (Luke 4:16), and His teaching includes the explicit saying that "The Sabbath was made for man" (Mark 2:27).

It is this third point with which many believers take issue. They have decided not to "remember the Sabbath to keep it holy," because, say they, this command is not found in the New Testament. Instead, they find a few other texts that can be pressed against the Sabbath (Romans 12:5; Colossians 2:16), or that suggest church meetings on Sunday (Acts 20:7; I Corinthians 16:2).

A closer look, however, provides compelling evidence that Jesus came not to destroy the Sabbath, but to fill it full of meaning by reforming it (see Matthew 12:1-13; Luke 6:1-11). One does not reform something he intends to soon destroy. Although it was said of Jesus that He broke the Sabbath (John 5:18), He denies the charge: "I have kept my Father's commandments" (John 15:10).

The creation account, the moral law, the teaching and example of Christ make three strong witnesses: There remains therefore a Sabbath rest for the people of God (Hebrews 4:9).

## Likewise, the Family

A second gem in our spiritual heritage is the home and family. It, too, finds endorsement in the same three sections of Scripture.

The second chapter of Genesis, which gave us the mold for creation's Sabbath, also provides it for the origi-

nal family: one man and one woman joined in marriage, having and holding each other for life, unclothed and unashamed as husband and wife, being fruitful and raising children unto the Lord (Genesis 2:18-25). Like Sabbath, home is anchored in God's primary plan, one which has never been improved.

And like Sabbath, home is centered in the decalogue, God's moral law for Israel. As the Sabbath hinges the first table of the law, so the family hinges the second. Just as those who remember Sabbath are more likely to put God first, to reject idols, and to reverence His name (commandments 1, 2 and 3), so those who "honor father and mother" have a head start in respecting the life, the purity, the property and the reputation of others (commandments 6 through 10).

The fourth and fifth commandments are the only two of the ten that begin with words other than "Thou shalt" or "Thou shalt not:" "Remember... Honor..." They are the centerpieces of the decalogue, designed to protect and preserve society's two best institutions: the church and the home. The only two uses of the word "honorable" in the King James Bible apply to the Sabbath (Isaiah 58:13) and to marriage (Hebrews 13:4).

Third, marriage and the family are endorsed by Jesus and the apostles, but not without a few difficulties. Remember how Sabbath skeptics point to problem texts in the New Testament? We can find them regarding the family as well.

## Jesus, Enemy of the Home?

When Christ was told in one place that his mother and brothers had come to see him, he replied that those who heard the word of God and did it were his true family (Luke 8:19-21). This answer, taken alone, could be seen as uncaring toward Jesus' earthly family.

Later, a man told Jesus he would follow Him after caring for his dying father. Jesus' answer in that incident appears to show small regard for earthly family ties: "Let the dead bury their dead..." (Luke 9:59-60). Again, Jesus announces that he has come not to bring peace on earth, but division: divided households, fathers against sons, daughter-in-laws against mothers-in-law, etc. (Luke 12:51-53).

In the strongest words of all, Jesus says "If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters..., he cannot be

*Continued on page 18*



# The Bible Sabbath Association Honors Mrs. Lottie Burrell on her 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Lottie Burrell is 90!

Lottie Edna Davison Burrell, the widow of long-time B.S.A. Secretary-Treasurer Lawrence Burrell, celebrated her 90th birthday on May 23. Four generations of Lottie's family hosted a celebration at the Fairview, Oklahoma, Fellowship Home, where she is a resident.

Lottie Edna Davison Burrell was the 13<sup>th</sup> child (and only daughter) of Eber Davison. The Davison's were firmly committed to their Christian faith, including the Sabbath. Lottie taught school for several years in northwest Oklahoma and near Ouray, Colorado. In 1935 she married.

Lawrence Burrell, and the couple settled together for a lifetime on a farm near Fairview, OK. They raised three sons and one daughter, and welcomed ten grandchildren. Lottie has lived to see five great-grandchildren that Lawrence never saw.

About 1955 Lottie and Lawrence took over the office work of the Bible Sabbath Association from the founders of the organization, Mr. and Mrs. George Main. For 40 years they worked together in the BSA office that occupied more than one full room of their Fairview farmhome. They received and answered mail, stored and sent BSA literature, receipted funds, paid bills, kept books, issued statements, and kept other vital records, etc.

During this time Lottie became known by name and by letter, if not by face, to hundreds or thousands of Sabbath-keepers across this continent.

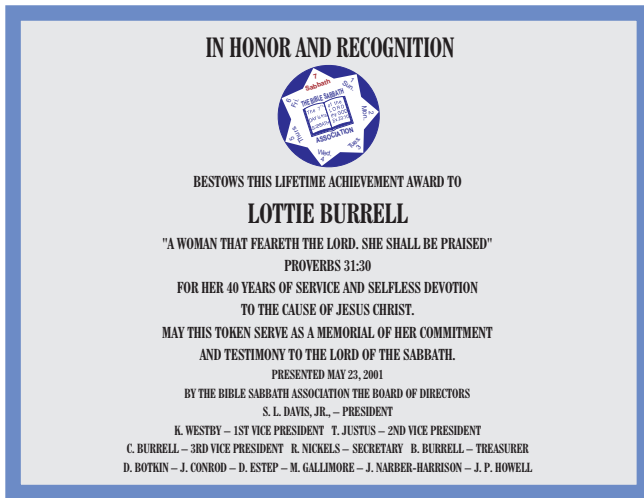
She and Lawrence always welcomed into their home any BSA members or friends who happened to travel through their corner of Oklahoma. She retired from the office work before Lawrence died in early 1995.

The B.S.A. Board of Directors prepared a plaque in Lottie's honor, and it was presented to her on the occasion of her 90th birthday.

Happy birthday, Lottie!



*Lottie Burrell honored for her faithful service.*



*The plaque's wording*



*Lottie receives the award from her son, Calvin, and is flanked by son, Bryan, and two great-grandchildren, Matthew Minica, son of Nelson and Brenda Minica and Faith Mills, daughter of Shaun and Darla Mills.*

*Four generations of the Burrell family*



# BSA 2001 Scholarship Essay Contest Winner



*We are very pleased to announce that this year's winner is Kimberly Springer. Kimberly is 17 and will be a high school senior this fall. She loves playing the flute and is principal chair in her high school band. She also enjoys playing tennis, running, backpacking, and creating memory books. Kimberly is actively involved in several community service clubs, and one of her goals is to be able to give children free music lessons. Her favorite subjects are math and science, and she plans to major in engineering in college. Kimberly lives with her parents in Rescue, California.*

*In the May-June 2000 edition of **The Sabbath Sentinel** the Bible Sabbath Association announced its second Essay Scholarship Contest. The contest was open to all students in their Junior year in high school (or home schooled students that were one year away from being college-bound, approximately age 16-17) and to all college-age students up to the age of 25.*

*The theme of the essay was, "The Sabbath Community: Observance and Growth Issues." Applicants were asked to answer two questions within an essay body format. Potential questions included: 1) Why is the Sabbath important to you and how do you keep it holy? 2) What do you believe is the best way of promoting the truth of the seventh-day Sabbath to local communities or the world at large? and 3) How do you think cooperation can be promoted among Sabbath-keepers of different denominations or doctrinal positions?*

*These questions were aligned with the mission and purpose of BSA. In the process of this contest, we were hoping to generate ideas from our youth of importance to the Sabbath community at-large.*

*Following is Kimberly's response to the three essay questions. We know you will enjoy reading them.*

## **Essays by Kimberly Springer** **Importance of the Sabbath**

In November, 1999, *Reader's Digest* published an article by Wayne Muller entitled "Stop the Week" emphasizing that in our modern lives "We have lost the rhythm between action and rest" (71). Muller declares, "We have forgotten the Sabbath" (72). As Seventh Day Sabbath keepers today, we are set apart from the rest of the world. Most of the world does not recognize, or wish to recognize this blessing as their lives fly by in a hectic flurry. The Sabbath is extremely important to me not only because of the rest it gives me, but also because of the time with my family and the special church services I am able to enjoy.

Like many people in our world, my life is very busy. Hardly a day passes that I am not exhausted by the various activities I participate in. But by the beginning of the week I am always refreshed because of the enormous blessing of the Sabbath. For an entire day I am

able to forget about the pressures of school. I am able to relax and forget about my homework. It lies dormant while I am rejuvenated. I enjoy relaxing activities such as playing classical music on my flute or taking a walk down our country road while trees bud and flowers bloom. The Sabbath is exactly what it was intended to be — a day of rest.

The Sabbath also provides me with special family time, unprecedented during the week. Every Friday evening at sunset, my mom lays out a lovely Sabbath dinner complete with candlelight. We enjoy our favorite foods and a special dessert along with relaxing conversation. No one has to run off to some activity or go finish a project. Afterwards we lounge in the living room and read Bible stories or our church's magazines. After a long restful night, my mom prepares a delicious brunch, and then my parents give my brother and me



special Bible studies on topics pertinent to us. The Sabbath allows me to enjoy my family in ways many people do not know.

Church services are the highlight of my Sabbath. Prior to their commencement, we have time to fellowship and I am able to enjoy time with my best friends. The services begin with hymns and I greatly enjoy accompanying these on my flute or on the piano with my best friend and other teens. A short message followed by a long one gives us important lessons that last throughout the week. Once a month after church services we have Christian Living classes for all of the teens. We are given a unique study that relates to our age group in particular and often enjoy a special activity with all of our friends after the sun sets.

I would not survive without the Sabbath day. I find it to be an enormous blessing and I thank God for it. It allows me to find calm in my life and to be rid of the weekday tensions. It also allows me to spend time with family and friends and to learn lessons from God's word. I can hardly wait until the entire world will be able to know what a blessing the Sabbath truly is.

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### ***Promoting the Sabbath***

The world in which we live today is a world devoid of peace and contentment and most of all, it is a world devoid of hope. As Seventh Day Sabbath keepers, we have a truth that many do not have, as well as a truth filled with the hope of coming peace, and of seeing dead loved ones again. So many people in our society could use this valuable assurance and it is essential that we strive to share the gospel with the world. It is a difficult task because religion has become somewhat distant from the reality of mankind. Many people despise any media associated with religion because they feel it is being pushed upon them. We must allow society to find that there are truths that apply today and hopes for the future that all can share. The best way to spread the gospel is through printed media, such as magazines.

Magazines are the most versatile means of reaching the world with the truths we can share. They are a tangible source of material that can cover a wide range of topics. Magazines can be translated easily into many different languages (even Braille or audio format for the blind) to reach hundreds of countries without as much hassle and expense as television. They can also be more widely accessed than television or the Internet. More people around the world can read than have television or especially a computer. Magazines can be distributed around the world at a cost cheaper than providing many under privileged countries with television or computers. Special trips could even be made to places such as Africa or Latin America to distribute the

magazines; a special project such as house building could be accomplished simultaneously to help the needy. In this way, many people will have access to the gospel.

Magazines are also able to provide down-to-earth articles that relate spiritual hopes and principles to life today. So many magazines are filled with trash and useless sensationalistic journalism but a magazine such as this would provide a fresh breath of reality and substance. Specific articles could be written for various age groups—from teenagers to senior citizens—but most would apply to all age groups. Articles could consist of topics from how to deal with the loss of a loved one to why we don't celebrate certain holidays. Magazines are excellent for applying the gospel to issues people presently deal with.

Throughout the years, I have watched my church's magazines grow and succeed. I am convinced that this is a most rewarding form of spreading the gospel that many people so desperately need. Magazines are a versatile form of media that can be distributed relatively inexpensively and widely both locally and abroad. They appeal to a wide variety of audiences and are readily available. Most importantly to me is that magazines do not intrude upon one's privacy. An individual can pick up the magazine by his or her own free will and not feel as if the knowledge within it is being pressed down his throat. He can choose whether or not to read it, but it will always be available. Magazines are the ideal way for the 21st century Church of God to promote the truth of the Seventh day Sabbath to the world.

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### ***How to Promote Cooperation***

Growing up as a child in a Sabbath keeping church I have seen my share of divisions and trials between Sabbath keepers. I have seen rifts of many degrees, from whole churches splitting, to small groups of dissenters leaving in anger. I have witnessed the pain and scars which these splits leave on members of the church, as families and friends lose the glue that bound them so tightly in that seemingly inseparable tie. It is so essential that we strive to promote cooperation between different groups in order to prevent further pain and tension, and to strengthen God's church for the future. As a future leader in the Sabbath keeping community, I believe to promote understanding between Sabbath keepers we must extend invitations between churches and discuss differences in doctrine.

So often there is a feeling of resentment toward members in other denominations than our own, and an effective way to break down this resentment is through inviting other congregations to enjoy activities with us. A couple of years ago an association closely related to

ours invited us to share a “pizza night” with them. Although not a great number of members were able to accept the invitation it was pleasing to see some members resolving differences by sharing food and fellowship with another denomination. A month ago our church held a silly Olympic game night and a couple from another church shared in the activity with us. They thanked our church for the invitation afterwards and it made me realize how helpful it would be if we could extend invitations more often. They reveal an absence of hard feeling and break down an icy wall between congregations. By inviting other churches to enjoy activities with us new friendships can be built and old ones restored.

Discussing differences in doctrine through meetings provides an understanding of our differences and provides a starting point to understand how to resolve them. A few months ago our church began meeting with another church with very similar beliefs. A committee from our church was designated to meet with a committee from their church to begin to look at our differences. In the future we hope to resolve some of these differences and see in what ways we can perhaps be united. Small councils such as these are very effective for promoting cooperation amongst Sabbath keepers. They aid in dissolving rumors about other churches that prevent cooperation and are a basis for understanding doctrine of these churches. Many feelings of bitterness towards other churches stem from a lack of understanding and an acceptance of erroneous rumors. Sitting down to discuss these rumors and misunderstandings could build both internally and externally a stronger future for God’s church.

As minorities in the world of religion, Seventh Day Sabbath keepers must stick together. Times are hard and we need to lean on each other. Strong churches need strong glue to hold them together, resolve differences, and promote cooperation. The future of many Sabbath keeping churches is dependent on cooperation. □

## The Church in the World

### Seventh-day Adventist Student Missionaries Build Evangelism Center in Costa Rica

I have been told that, “All men die but only some truly live.” And, it is my personal belief that you have only truly lived if you have lived to serve the Lord. Although we are given the opportunity daily to serve Him I was truly blessed on my last spring break to go on a mission trip and serve Him in Costa Rica.

The morning we left to get on the plane. It was 3:00 a.m. when we awakened. Sleep was a concern of no one due to the excitement that stirred in each of us knowing that in less than 12 hours we would be in Costa Rica.

When we arrived in San Jose, Costa Rica, we were hit by the warm climate and beautiful scenery that surrounded us.

From there we rode a bus to Guapeles, the small town in which we would be building the evangelistic building. We slept on the floors of the small school they had for the children there.

The next morning after we arrived, we took cold showers, had worship, and ate breakfast. Unfortunately, it was raining that morning, but with much faith we bowed our heads before our Almighty God and left it in His hands, and as soon as we stepped onto the work site, the rains stopped. Later when we left the work site, the rains came down again. It was truly amazing to see God’s very own mighty hand working right with us the whole time. But it was not even Costa Rica’s rainy season, so satan must have been a bit upset that we were coming to do God’s work. With great teamwork and much strength from the Lord, the walls went up swiftly. As the walls went up, materials such as beams weighing tons tried to come down on us, but the Lord protected us and kept us safe from all harm.



*Adventist student missionaries near completion on the Costa Rican evangelism center building.*

We all worked together and worked so hard that before we knew it, we were done, a whole day earlier than planned. We were able to go to town on that day and have a good time out among the people while spending time with our new friends. For the next two days we were given the great privilege of going to a town called Limon and swimming in the ocean and even snorkeling.

The Ocean's beauty and strength spoke of God's undying love for us. While we were there, we had our own communion. It was a blessing and brought each of us closer to our Savior. That Sabbath we had church on the beach, thanks to the Lord who miraculously provided a place for us to be able to do that. We were able to give our testimonies and learn from each other's experiences and see God's love working in each of our hearts.

It's amazing to see God at work as he changes lives.

—Holly DaCosta 5/21/2001

*(Holly is a high school student from Wichita, Kansas, and regularly attends church at the Wichita Seventh-day Adventist Church South.)*

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### **India Under Pressure to Review Restrictive 'Foreigners' Order** (Open Doors, 6/13/2001)

The Indian government plans to review its revival of a controversial 1971 law requiring all Indians hosting foreigners for more than 24 hours to report their presence to the nearest police station.

Christian leaders have complained of visits by intelligence agencies each time a foreigner visited their offices.

Critics of the revived order say the government wants to make India a police state by introducing tighter controls over foreign visitors.

"Foreigners who come on visas cannot be monitored by the imposition of an obligation upon their

hosts," said Indian Supreme Court lawyer A.M. Singhvi. "The potential for subjective harassment is immense."

Officials admitted that they had received a "secret circular" in March from the Home Ministry instructing them not to renew the stay of missionaries who had entered India after 1984. The same month, a Jesuit of Belgian origin was ordered to leave on the grounds of entering the country without a "missionary visa." Recently, a 75-year-old French priest in Bangalore was refused extension of his visa.

Under the revived order, if an Indian hosts a foreign national—even if it is for one night—but fails to report the matter to the local police station, he will be liable to imprisonment up to five years, or a fine, or both.

Ashok Arora, secretary of the Supreme Court Bar Association, described the law as an infringement of fundamental rights. "It transgresses a citizen's right to privacy."

If the controversial law is implemented, all organizers of seminars, conferences and some diplomatic events in India will have to seek the Home Ministry's (Internal Affairs) approval. In addition, India's intelligence agencies are likely to be involved as they review visa applications.

Home Ministry advertisements on May 17 "reiterating" the Foreigners (Report to Police) Order of 1971 came as a surprise to most Indians. But a Home Ministry official justified the action saying the advertisement was placed out of "national interest."

"There is nothing unusual about the newspaper ads," the official said. "We issue them from time to time. There is no policy shift on the government's part. This is an old order but we are taking a look at it to avoid inconvenience."

The official added that the intention of the order was to check and keep track of illegal migration from across the border, particularly from "East Pakistan." The spokesman said

that the Home Ministry wished to clarify that it does not want to harass or inconvenience any foreigner who is in India on valid documents and who stays with or visits his or her friends or relations.

The order, if implemented strictly, would impact almost every Indian. It could also severely hinder the activities of churches and Christians with contacts abroad, especially in India's current climate of increasing Hindu militancy.

*Open Doors with Brother Andrew has been smuggling Bibles into restricted countries for nearly 50 years. For more information on the persecuted Church, check the Open Doors Web site at <http://www.opendoorsusa.org/>.*

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### **Open Doors calls for an international day of prayer and fasting for Colombia on Saturday, July 28.**

Colombia has been engulfed in a civil war for almost fifty years. Guerilla forces, the Colombian military and paramilitary groups are all battling for territorial control. The majority — up to 90 percent — of the casualties in this conflict are civilians, who are subjected to forced recruitment, kidnappings, torture, and murder. On average, ten Colombians a day are killed in politically related violence. More than 35,000 Colombians have lost their lives in this conflict over the past ten years.

Local Christian workers and foreign missionaries in many cases have been singled out as targets of opposing factions. Because Christian workers are willing to help all sides for the advancement of the gospel of Christ, they have been suspected by all sides of collaborating with the enemy, when in actuality they are ministering to the lost.

Having spent some time in Colombia in years past, I have seen that many are hungry for the peace of Christ and are interested in obeying God's eternal law.

—Kenneth Ryland, editor



# Red, the Color of Oil

In southern Sudan the Muslim government has stepped up its war against its Christian citizens. Buoyed by a fresh infusion of money from Western oil companies and from the Chinese, the regime in Khartoum is determined to enslave or wipe out entirely its southern, Christian population. And fighting has become so intense that it could easily spill over into neighboring countries such as Kenya, Ethiopia, and Uganda.

Apart from the fierce animosity of the ruling Muslim elite toward their Christian subjects, there is oil — billions of barrels of it, and it lies mainly in the southern part of the country. That automatically makes any non-Muslim a target for slavery, mutilation, or death.

For many years the governments of the United States and other Western nations turned a blind eye to the plight of Christians in southern Sudan while thousands were either slaughtered or pressed into slavery by their Muslim captors. Even now little attention is given to this horrific situation except by religious and secular human rights groups. The only official attention paid to these besieged Sudanese came recently from American Secretary of State Colin Powell, who proposed giving \$3 million to Sudanese resisters for the purpose of setting up offices with faxes and telephones.

However, if Western nations refuse to take stiff action against Khartoum, the slaughter and slavery will continue. Faxes and telephones offer little resistance against assault helicopters, machine guns, and air-to-ground missiles.

—Kenneth Ryland, editor

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## Do It Correctly!

by Eugene Lincoln

When talking of the Sabbath and Sunday, don't accuse the Catholics or Constantine — or anyone else, for that matter — of changing the Sabbath. The fact remains that no one has changed it. People in past times have tried to change it, however. The Lord would not, and humans could not, change this weekly holy memorial. So the seventh day, commonly called Saturday, remains as the Sabbath.

When presenting the Sabbath, do not use a human-made seal to illustrate what a seal must contain: the person's name, his or her office, and the territory over which he or she exerts authority. The U.S. President's seal does not contain the name of the current president. The only wording on it is "SEAL OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES." Few seals contain all three elements. If you regard the Sabbath as God's seal, you can find more illustrations to prove your point.

Do not enter the discussion with an "I'm right, you're wrong" attitude. Pray for the right words to say. And remember that presenting the Sabbath, apart from the Messiah of the Sabbath, has no saving power.

*Continued from page 11*

My disciple" (Luke 14:33). If we are looking for reasons not to honor our parents or to keep our homes intact (according to the fifth commandment), we surely have them in these texts.

The point? It is no more difficult to harmonize Acts 20:7, Romans 14:5 and Colossians 2:16 with the Sabbath command than it is to reconcile the words of Jesus in Luke with the family command. If a few scattered texts in the New Testament can be misused to erase the Sabbath, then Luke's four sayings of Christ are surely sufficient to delete home and family. If Jesus abolished the Sabbath of creation and of moral law, then He also destroyed the family of all humanity and morality!

The truth is that Christ came to delete neither the fourth nor the fifth commandments, but to reform and magnify them both. Matthew 15:1-9 is the record of His reforming the fifth commandment. Encountering religious leaders who had found a way to sidestep duty to aged parents, Jesus denounced them as hypocrites for putting other spiritual work ahead of honoring their parents.

Christ summarizes His words on "family reform" by saying that those who teach the commandments of men are worshipping God in vain. The implication is clear: Christ's disciples, on the other hand, will teach for doctrines the commandments of God!

In reforming both the Sabbath and the home, Jesus exercised His role as The Word—God's final and greatest spokesman. In Him the ancient written code comes to life in the person of the Writer, Who came to give Himself for the sins of those who believe. In Christ, the truth of God's holiness is perfectly joined with the grace of His love!

The Sabbath and our families: two of God's commandments that have their roots in creation, and two jewels of our spiritual heritage in Christ. □ □

# Order Form

April, 2001

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Dear Editor,

This is a belated expression of appreciation for the article entitled, "Preserving the Sabbath for the next 100 Years" by Eva June Narber. This is a great strategy and should be adopted as the framework for development by the Bible Sabbath Association. I'm going to suggest it for our local Sabbath keeping churches in the St. Louis, Mo. area.

Thank Sister Narber for this gift to us.

Bro. Arthur Lee

Gentlemen,

The latest issue of "The Sabbath Sentinel" came yesterday and there was a notice on the back that I needed to tell you that I would like to remain on your mailing list. YES WE WOULD. Thank you very much.

I would also like to tell you that Mr. Ryland's article "Who Is My Enemy?" came at the perfect time. We were in a pretty heavy discussion with some friends after Sabbath services yesterday on this very topic. We were in agreement with Mr. Ryland and trying to get that point across to one person. We had some success, but not enough and this article might help him to understand what we were trying to say. When I brought the mail in upon arriving home and sat down to look through the magazine, I just stopped at that article for some reason and read it first. Was I surprised!

I am sending a reprint order through the mail but I wanted to get this renewal in to you as quickly as possible.

Please keep up the good work.

Thank you for sharing without pressuring to join another Sabbath-

keeping group other than our current Church.

Patsy Annis

Dear Editor,

As a Catholic, I cannot agree with your views or your teachings. Perhaps it is because I consider the Church to have authority, and because you do not. The name "Bible Sabbath" sounds like the Bible established the Sabbath, just as some Christians think the Bible founded the Church. God founded the Sabbath. He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, who founded the Church. Remember that the Christian faith was not founded by a book, but by a Person, Our Lord Jesus Christ. Please take my name off your mailing list.

Larry Anderson  
Minneapolis, MN.

Dear Mr. Anderson,

*Thanks for notifying us of your desire to be removed from the BSA mailing list.*

*We certainly agree with you that God has founded the Sabbath, and Jesus Christ founded the Church. We agree that the Church has authority. However, that authority cannot go against the written words of God in His Bible. God does not contradict Himself. Jesus Christ kept the Seventh Day Sabbath, and He is the same yesterday, today, and forever, Hebrews 13:8.*

*Would you please explain why you believe that your Church, the Catholic Church, has the authority to supersede the teachings of the Bible?*

*It is true, as you said, "God founded the Sabbath." Catholic leaders agree with us that the Bible is*

*clear that the seventh day is the Sabbath. The problem is that Catholics do not follow God's Word, the Bible. They reject God's Holy Sabbath. That is a problem with the highest authority of all — God Himself!*

— Richard Nickels,  
BSA Secretary

Dear Brother Ryland,

I very much enjoyed the recent edition of The Sabbath Sentinel. Welcome!

Your article "Who Is My Enemy?" is an exact clone of my feelings and subject of many sermons.

I find the following always awesome: when God wants to communicate His feelings to His people, it will pop up all over the place. I see this happening with the subject matter of your article.

You are in my prayers. May we all wear the "sign" of our Master - that we love one another.

Keep looking up.

Jeff Henderson, Pastor  
Believers in Christ Church of God  
<http://www.biccog.org>

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Peace to you and greetings in the name of our Messiah. May this letter find you in the best of health and blessed in the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

My name is Jeff Haufler and I am a Sabbath keeping Christian. I am also in prison. I come to you in the name of the Son of God with a request.

There are many men, both good and bad, in this place. One thing we all have in common is loneliness. One

thing we all lack is love. Even Christian love — for you see, most people ignore and forget about us, and churches disregard us as unworthy or say, “Let someone else take care of them, not me.” As it turns out, no one does. I ask that you be one who doesn’t turn his back on us. Please!

Listen, as Christians we are commanded to go out and witness Christ to the world. Millions of dollars are spent in order to save just a few souls here and abroad, but what are you doing? I tell you that there are men and women right here in your prisons that are crying out and begging for love, Christ, and salvation, and their cries are ignored. I tell you that, with a tiny effort, you can help. You can witness for Christ and help save a soul without leaving the comfort of your home. It will not cost you anything but a few minutes of your time, a couple of times a month and a stamp.

In coordination with Sabbath Keepers Fellowship Prison Ministry, a freeworld organization, I am trying to find pen-pals for Christian prisoners and those who desire to learn of Christ and the truth. We have presently hundreds of prisoners who are interested, but as yet, only five Christians have stepped forward in love to write them. Each of the five have found they receive blessings untold from their efforts, but they cannot do it all. They need your help. Please do not say, “No”!

All that is required is for you to contact Sabbath Keepers Fellowship, and you will be given the name and number of a man who is sitting and waiting to hear from someone-anyone. All that is expected is for you to write this person a one or two page letter of friendship and Christian witness at least once a month. Can you give this much of yourself?

This is the Savior’s work, my friend, and I tell you He calls you. By the charge set forth in Ezekiel 33, I adjure you to answer. In the spirit of Matthew 25:31-46, I beg you to help these broken hearted men. They

seek Christ, and you have Him. I beg you to give.

Share this letter with your friends and family. Post it in your church bulletin or read it to the congregation. Don’t be one of the many who let this call go unanswered. Thank you so much for taking the time to read this letter and share it with others. May our Father in heaven bless you with the desires of your heart.

By His Grace,  
Jeff Haufler

Write to  
Lisa Henderson, director  
4950 Shadyhill Drive  
Chandler, TX 75758  
(903) 849-1955  
e-mail: lhender3631@prodigy.net

or  
Jeffrey S. Haufler #794577  
2400 Wallace Pack Rd.  
Navasota, TX 77869

Dear Sir:

I wish to belatedly thank The Sabbath Sentinel for a subscription and to furthermore express my appreciation. It has furnished enjoyable reading, especially during recent lonely months when i was bedfast recuperating from painful knee injuries.

Although I am a believer in the Seventh-Day Sabbath, I am not affiliated with, nor do I attend a Church, the church I formerly attended was unhappily supportive, for the most part, of Willie Clinton. I can not conceive it is God's will that one vote for one such immoral, evil character.

It's unfortunate that it's unlawful for political matters to be discussed or advocated in church, although the Democrats freely disregarded this injunction. If it had been lawful, perhaps sufficient people could have been persuaded otherwise, and this country could have been spared the trauma it has since undergone. More-over hundreds of thousands of innocent babies would not have suffered an excruciating death because of presidential vetoes.

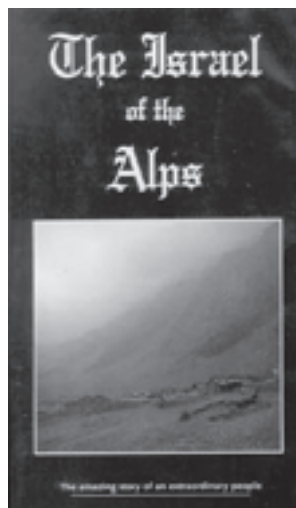
I am enclosing a small donation to help in the dissemination of Bible truths.

May god bless the Sentinel and also Mr. Mitchell in his new endeavors.

Sincerely,  
(Mrs.) Eudenia McNeill Neifert

*Thank you for your generosity. We are glad we could be of some help to you during your convalescence.*

—editor



### ***The Israel of the Alps***

The story of the Waldenses, “The People of the Valleys,” VHS NTSC video, LLT Productions, 85 min., \$30.00, or \$5.00 for 14-day rental. Among these faithful witnesses were Sabbath Keepers. Beautiful film of Alpine Waldensians.  
(V201)

## Classified Ads . . .

**Wanted: a partner or investor.** I'm starting a package delivery business in Washington/Oregon beginning in November. For information or interest:

email: [jkb@jrypto.net](mailto:jkb@jrypto.net) or call John (413)-736-7472  
(Aug 01)

### Mid-South Sabbatarians

News, Events, and Directory. On the Web at <http://www.sabbatarians.net>.

(Dec 01)

### Olive Branches

Study resources, articles, Feast information, lots of links. On the Web at <http://www.olivebranches.net>.

Olive Branches  
P. O. Box 1293  
Fairview, TN 37062

(Aug 01)

## Weekly Sabbath Services ...

### *by Phone!*

Dial 918-222-7158

11 a.m. Pacific, 12 p.m. Mountain, 1 p.m. Central, 2 p.m. Eastern. After the welcome message enter the code: 0566# which will bring you into the audience. The service is free; you pay only for your own phone call — many discounters offer 5-cents-a-minute rates (10-10-636 or 10-10-811). A speaker phone is recommended for comfort, but not necessary.

This live one-hour service is a special ministry for the elderly, shut-ins, and scattered or traveling Sabbatarians. Featuring a variety of speakers in addition to weekly host, Kenneth Westby (BSA's first vice-president).

Tune in weekly to ...

## ***A Virtual Church***

## Scholarship Contest, 2001-2002

Comments and suggestions would be greatly appreciated regarding ideas for questions for the 2001-2002 BSA Essay Scholarship contest. The questions must be focused around, about, or related to Sabbath observance at large.

Suggestions for Sabbath keeping judges of the contest would also be appreciated. Judges should have had prior teaching experience and/or the appropriate academic credentials to be qualified judges of such a scholastic contest.

Please send your suggestions and comments to June Narber (Harrison) at [jnarber@hercurian.com](mailto:jnarber@hercurian.com) or write her at 6325-9 Falls of Neuse #193, Raleigh, NC 27615.

Continued donations toward the scholarship fund help to guarantee that we can sponsor the contest each subsequent year. Donations are tax deductible and can be sent anytime to the The Bible Sabbath Association, 3316 Alberta Drive, Gillette, WY 82718

We wish to thank all the entries received for the 2000-2001 BSA Essay Contest. The competition was close, and the work was difficult for our four judges. A special thanks to the four individuals who served as this year's judges: Dr. Sidney Davis, Mrs. Jeanne Yurke, Mr. Ron Grubis, and Mr. Roy Marrs.

**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.

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**Discounts-** Advertise in the TSS Classified Ads section for more than one issue and receive discounts: \$1.00 per word 1st issue, then 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 necessarily imply endorsement by *The Bible Sabbath Association* or *The Sabbath Sentinel*.



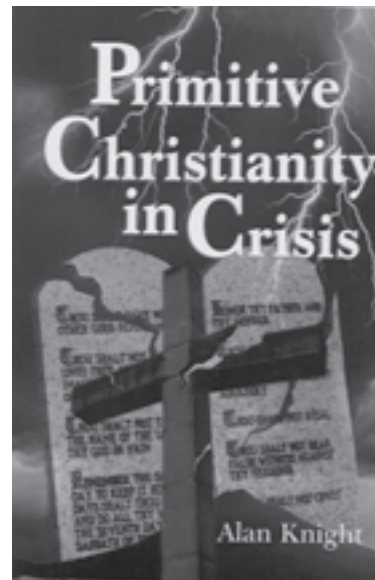


### **Sabbath at Sommerhase**

This 128 page book contains a variety of down-to-earth real-life experiences and lessons surrounding the weekly Sabbath rest. Designed to benefit your family's special time of sharing the Sabbath together, the stories and lessons will help you give your children a positive direction for the future. This book is only \$7 from the Bible Sabbath Association. Check the inside cover for mailing information.

### **Primitive Christianity in Crisis**

Now available from the Bible Sabbath Association for only \$15! Alan Knight's 273 page insight into the roots of today's religious practices is a must read for those seek to know the how and why of those practices. Check the address on the inside cover for mailing information. Or, go to [www.biblesabbath.org](http://www.biblesabbath.org) to find the current order form.



## **The Sabbath Sentinel**

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