



July-Aug  
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# *The Sabbath Sentinel*

## **The Passagini**

**Italian Sabbath Keepers of the  
Middle Ages**

**BSA—The Bible Sabbath Association**

**Jesus said, "Many will come saying that I am the Christ and will deceive many..."**

# The Sabbath Sentinel July-August, 2022

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# Are YOU a Prophet? Be Careful!

There is—and has been—much said about the prophetic chapters of scripture by many different people. It seems like gurus everywhere spend a great deal of time trying to figure out some “new” understanding—and generally for the purpose of securing a following, or stealing God’s tithe.

That being said, about 1/3 of the bible contains prophetic utterances in some form. It would behoove us to have some understanding of those scriptures without conflating what God says with what men say about what God says! That principle is itself scriptural!

Peter wrote that NO prophecy of scripture is of any private interpretation. We see this in 2Pe 1:19-21: *We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.*

Peter understood that if we are to understand what God is saying in a prophecy, we need to let God’s Word interpret it instead of using our own understanding to interpret it. Men using their own understanding has led to “failed” prophecies. God’s prophecies have never failed. It was only man’s interpretation that failed.

Notice that Peter wrote that we have a *sure* word of prophecy! What is written therein will come to pass, most assuredly! Peter states that those words were written at the command of God through His Holy Spirit. The mistakes come when some envision themselves as “prophets” and presume that God has given them, alone, some special insight. And, what’s worse is that people fail to hold these prophets to the standards of the scriptures because their words sound so right or seem to be unassailable logically—or they fear of being put out of “God’s Church.”

The lack of space in this magazine prohibits listing all of the disappointments that have come to the brethren as a result of men proclaiming an understanding of prophecy

that actually eluded them. Among them, and perhaps the most notable of modern day failed prophecies is “The Great Disappointment,” fostered by William Miller. But, lest we think that men have tired of making private interpretations of prophecy, it should be noted that Ed Dobson and Edgar Cayce both proclaimed that Jesus would return in 2000. Needless to say, that has not happened 22 years later.

The question then becomes, “CAN we know what will happen from prophecy?” The sure answer is “Yes!” but we have to let the bible define its terms. Moreover, we must be honest about what is from the scripture and what is conjecture unless we are willing to be false prophets—or deceived by them—and I doubt any of us want that to happen.

What *can* we know, then? Jesus gave us the Olivet prophecy (Matt 24) not long before His death. When we compare that prophecy to what Jesus revealed to John in Revelation, we can come to some safe conclusions about what is coming in prophecy. For instance, we are told to be watching for many false prophets proclaiming Jesus is Christ and deceiving many. This began happening during the time of the apostles and has continued right up until today. Sadly, Miller, Cayce and Dobson have all proven themselves to be false prophets. This is not to say that they did so deliberately like the False Prophet from Revelation will do. Nevertheless, their prophecies did not come to pass making them false prophets (Deu 18:22). But, let’s not just pick on those three. There have always been those who thought God had singled them out for special insight but whose “insight” did not come from God.

What about Amos 3:7 where this was written? “*Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.*” That scripture does not change how we should deal with false prophets. It DOES tell us that God will reveal His secrets to His servants, the prophets. As with all other scriptures, we need to reach out to other scriptures for clarification. Notice that Jesus quoted the Old Covenant when He set the standard in Matt 18:16, “*But if he will not hear thee, then take with*

*thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.*” The standard for God’s revealing is that He will reveal His secrets to more than one, and possibly three or more people. As the witnesses from scripture were, those prophets will be independent from one another, not subject to influence by one another.

Why is this important to understand? Our Savior when He walked as a man had this warning for us: *“For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect”* (Matt 24:24). There is coming a great deceiver who will be put in place by the Devil himself. One can read about this deceiver in Rev. 13, vs 11 onward. This deceiver is called in other places the False Prophet. He will do powerful signs, even calling fire down from heaven, to make people believe that he is from God. But, he will speak against the words found in our Bibles! The world will be deceived by him but the elect will not because they recognize God’s warning in Deu 13:1-4, *“If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or a wonder, and the sign or the wonder come to pass, whereof he spake unto thee, saying, Let us go after other gods, which thou hast not known, and let us serve them; thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the LORD your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Ye shall walk after the LORD your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him.”*

The False Prophet is an intentional deceiver whose sole purpose is to lead people away from God, in particular those of us who obey God, getting them to disobey by worshipping that which is not God—to get us to sin. Jesus was led to say that IF it were possible the elect would be deceived. It is not possible to deceive the elect. Why is that? Because they are in the Word of God, believing every word which came from the mouth of God, and are practicing those things found therein. They love one another and the Savior who walks with them and in them. They would rather die the physical death than lose eternal life as promised by Christ. And, for some, perhaps many of us, that will be the result. Are we ready to die rather than give up the precious gifts of God? Let’s look in the mirror and be honest!

The next standard for understanding prophecy is to know that everything about a prophecy is not contained in one place. We read in Isa 28:9-13: *Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people.*

*To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear. But the word of the LORD was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little; that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken.*

One can easily notice that the clue to understanding is to take from all of the scripture. In a masterful stroke of the genius of our God, He uses the same tool by which He grants us understanding to confound those who refuse to obey God! We see this problem all of the time, both within and without the congregations of disciples. We see one verse taken out of context to prove a point that other scriptures clearly show is not true. We see this with doctrine and we see this with prophecy as well!

How do we deal with this conundrum? First, we let God talk to us through His Word. Secondly, we let God’s Word speak for itself. Where there are items in prophecy we generally find them defined in other prophecies. Thirdly, we don’t become dogmatic about what prophecy says. We remain ready to give an answer. That admonition carries with it the unspoken urging to wait on a question. Even then, we always speak what we know and if what we say is speculation then we admit as much. It is a fallacy of logic to think that any of God’s people knows all things, whether it is doctrine or prophecy.

In the great scheme of things, prophecy is only important so that when we see those things come to pass we will be encouraged—and we will need encouragement to stay the course. What’s more important is our love for each other, our faith in Jesus’ ability to make to come to pass those things He promised, and our continual hope that God will make those things come to pass soon. As we see these things come to pass, let’s hold fast the profession of our faith in Daddy and Big Brother.





## **The Passagini: Italian Sabbath Keepers of the Middle Ages (Part 2 of 2)**

*Kelly McDonald*

In part one of this series, we reviewed the historical factors that led to non-conformist groups arising in the time period commonly called the Middle Ages (see the May-June edition of *The Sabbath Sentinel Magazine*). By the mid-twelfth century, these groups had defined beliefs. Their impact was so significant that the Roman Catholic supports wrote many works against them. Our main sources of information about these groups come from the polemic writings the Roman Church composed against them.

Among the groups of this time was the Passagini, a Christian group who kept the Sabbath and other commandments of God. There are three key primary sources relating to the Passagini which date to near the same time as pope Lucius III's letter condemning them in 1183/1184 (see part one to read excerpts from that letter). All three authors are from Lombardy, and they provide us with valuable insight into their beliefs.

Among the men labeled as a heretic in Lombardy was a man named Bonacursus (which in Latin means "good journey" or "good course"). He was a teacher of the Cathari in that region. At some point, he turned away from this sect and joined the Roman Church. He then composed a work against his former associates and other groups entitled "Against the Cathari." His writing is generally dated between 1184 and 1210; the Roman Catholic copyist J.P. Migne dated the work 1190 (to read this work in Latin, see *Patrologiae Latina*, 204:779-794).

In the introduction of this work, Bonacursus discussed how he was formerly a public teacher of the Cathari in the city of Milan. He followed this opening segment with a section against the Cathars (*Adversus Haereticos Qui Cathari Vocantur* – "Against the Heretics who are called Cathari"). In it, he explained their beliefs and then tried to refute them using the Roman Church perspective.

After the section against the Cathari, Bonacursus transitioned to a discourse against a group called the Pasaggi (*Adversus Haereticos Qui Pasaggi Nuncupantur*, *ibid*, p 784). This was another name for the Passagini. He wrote an introduction and five chapters against them. Below we have an English translation of the introduction, which is a decent summary of their beliefs:

"Not a few, but many know what are the errors of those who are called Pasagini, and how nefarious their belief and doctrine are. But because there are some who do not know them, it does not annoy me to write what I think of them, partly from precaution and for their salvation, and partly for their shame and confusion, in order that their foolishness might become more widely known, and that they might be the more condemned and despised of all. As we ought to know the good in order to do it, so likewise should we know the evil that we might shun it... Let those who are not yet acquainted with them, please note how perverse their belief and doctrine are. First, they teach that we should obey the law of Moses according to the letter– the Sabbath, and circumcision, and the legal precepts still being in force... Furthermore, to increase their error, they condemn and reject all the church Fathers, and the whole Roman church. But because they seek to base their errors upon the witness of the New Testament and the prophets, let us slay them with their own sword by the aid of the grace of Christ, as David once slew Goliath" (English from Andrews and Conradi, pp 547-548; Latin from Migne, PL 204:784-794).

In the introduction to this section, Bonacursus testified that many people knew about the Passagini. This may be one way for us to establish that the group had exposure to the broader population. From his discourse, we learn that this group literally observed the Sabbath. They rejected all the church fathers and the entire institution of the Roman Church. They used the Law, prophets, and New Testament to affirm their beliefs.

Another primary source on this subject was written in Cremona, Lombardy. *Summa contra haereticos* was written about 1200 and is usually ascribed to Praepositinus of Cremona (original Latin documents compiled by Garvin and Corbett, *The Summa Contra Haereticos* by Praepositinus of Cremona). His writing focused on the teachings and practices of the Cathars and the Passagini. He addressed each group separately.

Praepositinus wrote fourteen chapters about the Passagini. Among them, we learn that they believed that the entire law of God was still applicable, except sacrifices (chapter six). In chapter eight, we learn that they literally practiced the Sabbath.

We also learn that this group observed the Old Testament to the letter, including Sabbath, foods, and circumcision.

Their basis for this belief was Matthew 5:17-20, Romans 3:31, and Romans 7:12-14. They believed that the law and the gospel were supposed to be simultaneously observed; they believed in both the decalogue and the faith of Christ.

In chapter nine of this work, Praepositinus described how they kept Passover literally on the fourteenth of Nissan. In chapter eleven, we learn that the Passagini declared the laws of catholic church null void and labeled them as human institutions not put in place by God based on Isaiah 29:13 (which says that the doctrines and commandments of men were worshiping God in vain). They viewed Catholic rules as null and void on the basis that no one could edit the Law of God or add to it and that no one should preach another gospel (using the verses Matthew 5:17, Gal. 1:4-7, and Rev. 22:18).

There is a third document discussed by Döllinger and Muratori under the name G. Bergamensis (although I have seen G. Pergamensis as the heading) with a date of about 1230. The author's first name was likely Gregory or Giovanni. It was written in Bergamo, which was another city in Lombardy. Garvin and Corbett list this document as belonging to Praepositinus's work rather than being separate, which would make the dating a little earlier. We have an English translation of this document below:

“After what has been said of the Cathari, there still remains the sect of the Pasagini. They teach Christ to be the first and pure creature; that the Old Testament festivals are to be observed—circumcision, distinction of foods, and in nearly all other matters, save the sacrifices, the Old Testament is to be observed as literally as the New—circumcision is to be kept according to the letter. They say that no good person before the advent of Christ descended into the lower regions; and that there is no one in the lower regions and in paradise until now, nor will there be until sentence has been rendered on the day of Judgement” (Andrews and Conradi, pp 548-549).

These three documents – Bonacursus, Praepositinus, and G. Bergamensis – serve as the main sources for our knowledge about the practices and beliefs of the Passagini. This fascinating group was extremely knowledgeable in the Bible and utilized a literal interpretation of it. They took this view to its logical conclusion and practiced accordingly. One might consider them the best example of sola scriptura of the Middle Ages.

Because they practiced circumcision, this group was also called the Circumcisi or Circumcisos. Between 1235 and 1238, Salvo Burci composed a lengthy work against heretics. Among the groups he discussed as a “minor sect” was the Circumcisers, who claimed that both the Old Law and New Law were to be literally observed. This echoes comments about the Passagini from

previous decades and provides more evidence to the idea that the Circumcisers and Passagini were one and the same group (Wakefield and Evans, p 276). Salvo lived in Piacenza, which is near Lombardy. His writing indicates that the influence of the Passagini was likely exerted beyond the regions normally associated with them (Milan and Cremona).

A manuscript commonly dated to between 1225 and 1250 has been found that briefly reviewed the names and beliefs of heretical groups as well as attempts to refute them. Though it is incomplete, its contents are still significant to this study. In chapter 3, sections 20-22, the Passagini and Circumcisi were mentioned together. The work described them as literally observing the Old Testament, the Sabbath, and circumcision (Wakefield and Evans, pp 296-300). If the Passagini and Circumcisi were not one and the same group, they were considered two branches of the same tree, so to speak.

#### What Happened to the Passagini?

In the 1200s, the Roman Church increased their verbal attacks against non-conformist groups. They enlisted secular rulers to commit acts of violence including theft and murder against them. This led to a massacre of one group, called the Albigensians, in a crusade which started in 1209 and lasted nearly twenty years. Tens of thousands of people died in France because they had a different belief system than that of the Roman Church. While this particular event did not affect the Passagini (to our knowledge), it set a precedent that would affect them in later years.

The cooperation between the Roman Church and the temporal rulers of Europe led to the enactment of severe decrees and laws that deprived all people labeled as ‘heretics’ of private property, rendered them intestate (could not receive or pass an inheritance), and removed nearly all their civil rights. Anyone was allowed to take their property without recourse. Those who helped these ‘heretical’ groups in any way was subject to these same penalties. Death was also rendered to those who refused to recant. An example of such draconian laws are the laws of Frederick II against heresy in 1238-1239 (to read these laws, go to the Free Resources page on [www.sabbath.blog](http://www.sabbath.blog). Scroll down and you will see a link to them).

In 1236, Pope Gregory IX issued a chapter against the Patarenos (contra Paraernos) which begins excommunicamus & anathematizamus. The letter excommunicated and anathemized the “Catharos, Patarenos, the Poor of Lyons (Waldenses), Passagani, Josephinos, Arnoldists, Speronistas, and all other names that heretics may go by...” (Latin: Labbe, 11i:334-335). The content of this document is important because it broadened the search for heretics to anyone who differed in their lifestyle from that which was approved by the Roman Church. Thus, the net was widened more to catch non-conformists. An

excerpt from it is found below:

“Likewise if any person knows any heretics, or such who hold private conventicles, or who differ in their Life and Manners from the Conversation of the Faithful, let him endeavour to discover them to his Confessor, or someone else, who he believes may give Notice to the Prelate, otherwise let him be excommunicated” (Limborch (1816), pp 308-309).

During the mid-thirteenth century, the inquisition was more formalized in the Roman Church and then legalized with the backing of civil force. Heretical groups were systematically hunted down in many areas, which over the centuries drove them into a few enclaves of hiding.

Despite these developments, secular rulers in some areas protected these non-conformist groups. This was certainly true of Lombardy, which was the chief seat of the Passagini. The Lombard temporal rulers protected groups deemed heretical up until the early fourteenth century (about 1325 AD).

It is not clear what happened to this group of Sabbath keepers. After the mid-thirteenth century, they seem to disappear from the pages of history. With the increase of papal decrees condemning heretics and the action of temporal rulers against them, it is likely that a combination of factors contributed to their disappearance. Most likely, multiple things happened to believers in this group.

First, some of them may have gone in exile in remote places. Secondly, some of them may have caved into the pressure and surrendered their beliefs. Third, some likely died for their faith. Fourth, some likely joined with larger groups that had more resources and connections to other places in Europe where they could flee and still practice their faith or some resemblance of it.

One interesting possibility is that they may have joined with a sect of the Waldenses in northern Italy. This would afford them connections to other places in Europe where they could escape persecution and continue to practice a form of their belief system. In the seventeenth century, the famous Roman Catholic writer Du Cange viewed the Passagini as a sect of the Waldenses (Glossarium ad Scriptores Mediae Et Infimae Latinitatis, p 231). This conclusion was based upon an examination of primary sources available to him. It is true that sometimes terms like “Waldenses” were used in a generic sense rather than a specific sense. There is not much evidence to support this conclusion. It may not be probable, but it is certainly possible.

Nonetheless, we commend the Passagini for their observance of the commandments of God and faith in God and Christ. They contended for the faith in a time when people such as them could not own private property.

They serve as the closest example in the Middle Ages to the concept of sola scriptura or Scripture alone.

To read more about the Passagini and the possibility that they joined with the Waldenses, be sure to download our free book: *The Passagini: Sabbatarians of the Middle Ages* from [www.biblesabbath.org](http://www.biblesabbath.org) or [www.sabbath.blog](http://www.sabbath.blog). Look under the Free Resources page.

God Bless!

Kelly McDonald, Jr.

BSA President

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# WAR or Peace?

*Tommy Willis*

History shows that man has nearly always had wars. As we study into human behavior we will see that mankind has a track record of chaos and bloodshed. But since the invention of the atom bomb we are now living in different times. President John Kennedy said: “Mankind must put an end to war or war will put an end to mankind.” I was surprised this past year when some military experts said that with current events, they have become deeply concerned about a nuclear war. We have heard it said that with nuclear bombs man can destroy all of life on earth; but we have heard that said so many times that it doesn’t shock us anymore.

War may happen in our lifetime; but as Christians we need to be aware of the danger of our human nature, and the war we have going on inside. The same nature that could wind up destroying billions in nuclear war, we all have inside of us. James 4:1 “*What causes wars, and what causes fightings among you? Is it not your passions that are at war in your members?*” (RSV).

The problems with the conflicts we see in the world, and the problems with the infighting in the Church organizations, are because of the same human nature. But there’s a tendency to skip over that part—we feel that if we will just get all the doctrines right, and get everyone to agree with us, then we think we will have unity and peace. But we often fail to see that if doctrine is all we have, then we can become like the Pharisees preaching the Ten Commandments. They kept the right doctrine, but failed to build up a relationship with God; therefore, they lacked the mercy and compassion of God. We should seek to get the correct doctrine, but also not let the other go undone.

Human nature is at the root of our problems; it’s the reason for wars in the world and conflicts in the Church. In or out of the Church, God plainly tells us what the flesh will produce (Gal 5:19-21).

And the only way we won’t produce these works is if God is there with us. If we are under the discipline of God, then we will see the fruit of the Spirit (v 22-23).

Paul had to warn the Christians in Galatia: “*For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another!*” (Gal 5:14-15) NKJV.

He knew the danger of our nature, and tries to warn them about destroying one another. Once we see the danger, we can then also see the need to pray diligently as we should, because we will see more of our need for God. We have too much confidence in ourselves, and this is dangerous.

There is something in our nature that makes us feel that we are good people; we try to justify our bad behavior. Paul was still learning that there was nothing good in human nature 20 years after his baptism (Rom 7:18-19), and said how he kept doing the evil he didn’t want to do.

We went over James 4:1, above, but let us go on to read verses 2-4. “*You desire and do not have; so you kill. And you covet and cannot obtain; so you fight and wage war. You have not because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. Unfaithful creatures! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.*” We are not to get caught up in the world’s ways and attitudes of doing things. And in verse 6 He says: “*God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.*”

This should give us pause to realize God resists the proud! If we are wise in our own eyes, we are headed for trouble. Instead: “*Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding; think about Him in all your ways, and He will guide you on the right paths. Don’t consider*



*yourself to be wise; fear the Lord and turn away from evil.” (Prov 3:5-7 ) HCSB.*

We will not have the humility necessary if we don't acknowledge our problems. It is God's nature we need. But since He opposes and resists the proud, we will never have His humility in us—if we continue to fail to acknowledge our failures. We need to do as David did, and ask God to examine us: *“Search me, O God, and know my heart; test my thoughts. Point out anything you find in me that makes you sad, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.”* (Ps 139:23-24) TLB.

Wars in the world, and conflicts in the Church, all stem from the pull of our human nature that Paul describes so well in Romans 7.

We must come to acknowledge that we are the great failures; it is only then that we will seek God as we should, because it is only then that we will see our need for God as we should. In the above Scriptures we see how important attitude is; we must let God teach us the childlike humility so that His Spirit can lead us.

As the conflicts of the world increase, fear is not a part of God's plan for us. Jesus tells us, *“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid”* (John 14:27). Jesus is talking about the peace that passes understanding. And it is this kind of peace that we are going to need as all of society comes tumbling down as the wars and conflicts increase.

I remember the big war I had going on inside when I used to have an unforgiving heart towards those in and out the church that I felt did me wrong. Then God brought me to repentance, and I haven't held anything against anyone for decades now, as He showed me how much I needed what he did on the cross for me, otherwise I would be lost. The war I had going on inside left; and I've been at peace.

Jesus came to tell us that the war is over. Even as we see the increase of wars and rumors of wars, and all of society falling apart, if we will learn to take Jesus Christ by the hand and walk with Him, then we can learn to rest in His peace amid the chaos of the world.



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# **Pentecost study**

*D.J. Wellington*

This is going to be study notes on “Pentecost” as opposed to Shavuot or Feast of Weeks. It appears the name “Pentikaust” was introduced in the Aramiac, based on Greek influence (see notes below under “internet sources”). However, it is hard for this writer to believe the apostles used the word “Pentecost” when referencing Shavuot since the word merely means “fiftieth day” as opposed to Yahuweh’s Feast of Sevens, Shavuot, or Feast of Weeks.

One of the things that struck me is, after coming to the knowledge of truth in accord with scripture, that I was encouraged to research such things as christmas (i.e., “saturnalia”), easter (i.e., “Ishtar”), and other worldly days to see WHERE they originated. Although it always struck me as unusual that “Pentecost” a day celebrated by christianity on the same day of the week every year (SUNday, no less), I never really questioned it until about 2010 or so, and no one EVER even suggested it be looked into!

I have come to an understanding that the count to Shavuot starts from the High Day and believe the evidence pointing to that far outweighs the evidence for using the weekly Sabbath. That is another study. This paper will deal just with “Pentecost,” and what I’ve found in reference materials. I would welcome input on this from any who read it.

The New Encyclopaedia Britannica, Micropædia, states under “Pentecost”: ...The transformation of the Jewish feast to a Christian festival was related to the belief that the gift of the Holy Spirit to the followers of Jesus was the firstfruits of a new dispensation that fulfilled and succeeded the old dispensation of the Law. That is totally incorrect in accordance with Scripture so do

we promote it by acknowledging, observing or even using the term “Pentecost” which by its very usage indicates a “Christian” concept, not a scriptural one.

Messiah never did away with our Father’s laws—He “fulfilled” them; just like when one “fulfills” his/her job requirements; performed to the best of His ability.

The World Book Encyclopedia states under “Pentecost”: ...the season of Easter is observed throughout the seven weeks until Pentecost. ... Since Biblical times, the celebration also commemorates the day the Ten Commandments were revealed to Moses.... In Judaism, this event is observed in the holiday of Shavuot, which falls in May or June. The writer of this knew and recognizes there is a difference.

Under “Pentecostal churches, Beliefs and practices,” there is an interesting remark.

Pentecostals take their name from the New Testament reference to the disciples speaking in tongues on the day of Pentecost....

...baptism was administered both at the beginning (Easter) and end (the day of Pentecost)....

...in England the feast was called Whitsunday.

Remembering back, when I researched “christmas,” I learned little until looking up “saturnalia.” Likewise, I found a similarity with “Pentecost” and “Whitsunday”—both representing the same concept but “Whitsunday” shedding much more light on the “celebration” just like “saturnalia” did with relation to “christmas,” elaborated on further down.

The Oxford English Dictionary, at “Pentecost” states:

...A name of Hellenistic [of or relating to Greek

history] origin for the Jewish harvest festival (called in the Old Testament the Feast of Weeks) .... Who had authority to “change” it? Should we be using Greek history for our Israelite heritage?

Under “Pentecostal” of the same book, we read:

...Offering formerly made in the church of England at Whitsuntide by the parishioners to the priest, or by an inferior church to the mother-church. Again, do we want to be a part of this in any fashion? Are we a part if we profess a belief in the appropriateness of “Pentecost”?

The “Dictionary of Lore and Legend,” by J.C.J. Metford, states under “Pentecost”:

...The Feast to commemorate the Descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles, called in England Whitsunday. It originated in the East in the 3rds century and is probably the Christianization of the Jewish Feast of Weeks,..... This feast [Feast of Weeks] took place fifty days after Passover. The Christian festival is therefore fifty days after Easter.

NOTE: Our Father’s Spirit descended on folks prior to the time of the apostles, see Numbers 11:25 for one instance.

...Pentecost (Whitsunday) ranks after Easter as the second festival of the Church. The liturgical colour is red. [Sidenote: Very interesting background of significance of “red”--another topic.]

The “Festivals and Saints Days,” by Victor J. Green, under “Shovuos (Pentecost)”:

...this festival called Whitsun in the Christian calendar became a popular day for baptism and confirmation in the Christian faith.

And under “Whitsunday”:

...to have little reference to the events of the first Whitsun described above and may owe their origins to pagan custom, although the Church has changed the emphasis [sound familiar?]. The pagan cult of well worship and veneration of water spirits was one of the most difficult features to eradicate.

...Whitsun celebrations, however, apart from the

services of the church, justified by Pentecost, have nevertheless been secular in character.

The “Insight on the Scriptures,” under “Pentecost” generally links (like many do) Pentecost with the Festival of Weeks stating:

...A name used in the Christian Greek Scriptures to denote the Festival of Harvest...

Under “Symbolic Significance of the Festival,” we find their “distinction”:

...introduce Israel into the Law covenant, so Jesus Christ as Mediator of spiritual Israel now brought that new nation into the new covenant. There is no such thing as “spiritual” Israel...we know that. You are or are not part of ISRAEL, although there is a spirituality associated WITH being part of the nation of Israel..

The Oxford English Dictionary under “Whitsunday” (as you found from above, that is another name for Pentecost) states:

...a parish festival formerly held at Whitsuntide, marked by feasting, sports, and merrymaking [sound familiar?]

Internet Source(s)—I will provide the links here with just a little info as most are lengthy and better read online than to attach the whole article. Read the articles carefully as, like most things in christianity, there is some truth mixed in.

<http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com/articles/12012-pentecost> - This is a quite lengthy, but good article in general on Feast of Weeks. This link provided much insight into the count as well and was quoted on the study notes on same.

<http://www.spirithome.com/pentecost.html> - “This is the first fruits of a new kind of harvest, and the giving of a new covenant of grace that fulfils the covenant of the Torah.” We know that is incorrect.

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/10-things-you-should-know-about-pentecostsunday-96192> - Out of the ten, how many are scripturally correct? See for yourself.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pentecost> - It is interesting the way this article starts out, "This article is about the Christian holiday. For the Jewish holiday, see Shavuot."

After studying this in more depth than I ever did, it strongly appears to me that "Pentecost" is in (or should be in) the same category of easter and christmas and treated as such. I have personally found it disturbing that so many who are into the

Scriptures, argue and debate about this "one" day without researching it for themselves and continue to say it is okay because the word only means "fifty."

I would be very interested in anyone else's input into this study and pray that Yahuweh will bless all those who seek and incorporate truth into their lives.



## ***SCRIPTURE NEWS 2 USE***

There is a new website out there dedicated to two purposes. First, to have the books of the

Bible in form that even younger people can understand. It is beneficial for home-schoolers as well as useful for Sabbath lessons.

<https://scripturenews2use.org/bible-books>

The other purpose is to encourage all people to read their Bibles to "prove" what is true and what is not, challenging for themselves what is commonly taught.

<https://scripturenews2use.org>

The time is shorter than we may think!  
May our Heavenly Father guide and direct all to draw them closer to Him!

# BIBLE TRUTHS HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

## PART 2

*Darl Arbogast*

*This articles continues from Part 1 in the May 2022 edition of The Sabbath Sentinel.*

—Ed.

### CREMATION

What happens to a body that is cremated? Cremation dehydrates a human body under intense heat, a 200 lb. man's body will only weight 8 to 10 lbs. once the fluids are gone.

When their time comes to be resurrected all the little particles of ash and dust will be reconstituted and come together as they were previously. Those resurrected to a period of judgment will stand upright as physical human beings again. The righteous will stand as spirit beings and join the spiritual family of God.

By reading and understanding Ezekiel 37 a reader will grasp this concept. The people in the vision of the 'Valley of dry bones' represent ancient Israel coming up in a resurrection after the millennium. Also consider the human body is made of atoms. A sheet of notebook paper is 10,000 atoms thick but sub atomic particles are even smaller. The human body also has cells, genes and chromosomes to be considered but rest assured reconstruction of the human body is no challenge to God.

God will resurrect all remaining descendants of Israel wherever they have gone and bring them into their own land as written in Ezekiel 37:21,22,24,25 NKJ - 21

*"Then say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: 'Surely I will take the children of Israel from among the nations, wherever they have gone, and will gather them from every side and bring them into their own land; 22 and I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king over them all; they shall no longer be two nations, nor shall they ever be divided into two kingdoms again. 24 David My servant shall be king over them, and they shall all have one shepherd; they shall also walk in My judgments and observe My statutes, and do them. 25 Then they shall dwell in the land that I have given to Jacob My servant, where your fathers dwelt; and they shall dwell there, they, their children, and their children's children, forever; and My servant David shall be their prince forever.'"*

God's process of resurrecting the dead and bringing them to conversion and ultimately immortality will continue until all have been brought into the spiritual family of God.

Then Revelation 21:2 thru 8 will come to pass NKJ - 2  
*"Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, 'Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. 4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.' 5 Then He who sat on the throne said, 'Behold, I make all things new.' And He said to me, 'Write, for these words are true and*

*faithful.' 6 And He said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. 7 He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.'"*

## **SATAN'S DEMISE**

When the Millennium is over Satan will be released for a little while and he will go right back to deceiving people again north, east, west and south.

This is when Revelation 20:9 tells of the same event as written in Ezekiel 28:18 (I brought fire from your midst it devoured you and I turned you to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all who saw you).

*Revelation 19:14,15NKJ - 10 The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are (were cast). And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. 11 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. 12 And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. 13 The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. 14 Then Death and Hades (the grave) were cast into the lake of fire (this is a metaphor). This is the second death. 15 And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.*

Take note that there will not be any cast into the lake of fire after Satan and his minions go into the abyss. All sin will cease to exist on the earth. God's Holy Spirit lives in our mind influencing our motives and our actions. With Satan gone no contrary thoughts will enter the minds of the people while the only in-

fluence will be God's spirit. The second death is the death of sin, evil and the grave.

The Lake of fire is metaphorical, it went away in 70 AD when sacrifices ceased and the altar and the temple were demolished by the Romans.

Christ died for all and everyone will live until they are judged worthy of immortality then they will be changed to spirit beings with everlasting life beginning with the millennium.

## **CONCLUSION**

The first resurrection is the prize for all of mankind but not all will be in the first resurrection. However this should be our goal, to be righteous in the sight of Jesus Christ, nothing else should matter. It is written in the Bible God's book of instruction, read it for yourself, study it and think about God's plan then figure out what to do to be part of God's first resurrection. Consider the Ten Commandments, God's weekly Sabbath (Saturday), God's Holy Days, the Passover these are a good place to start.

The Apostle Paul wrote in Acts 24:15 NKJ - 15 I have hope in God, which they themselves also accept, that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust.

The Apostle Peter wrote in 1 Peter 3:18 NKJ - 18 *For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit.*



# PSALM 19—

## A TWO-FOLD REVELATION OF GOD

*“The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth His handiwork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night showeth knowledge. There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard. Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them He hath set a tabernacle for the sun... and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.” (Psalm 19:1-6).*

The creation bears witness to the existence of a Creator, as the opening words of Psalm 19 so eloquently state. Therefore those who deny the existence of God are without excuse, as Romans 1:20 also states.

Jews and Christians throughout history have found it inspiring and uplifting to meditate on the things of nature that God has created. St. Francis of Assisi regarded everything in nature as his brother or sister. In “The Canticle of Brother Sun,” he thanks God for Brother Sun, Sister Moon, Brother Wind, etc. Rabbis point out that the Hebrew word for nature, ha-teva, has the same numerical value as Elohim, the word for God, thus affirming the fact that God reveals Himself through nature.

Nature declares God’s glory, it shows His handiwork, and it reveals His power. However, a revelation of God that comes only through nature is an imperfect and incomplete revelation, because such a revelation does not tell us how God wants us to live, or how we can be justified and made clean in His sight.

*“How then can man be justified with God? Or how can he be clean that is born of a woman?”* asked Bildad the

Shuhite. *“Behold even to the moon, and it shineth not; yea the stars are not pure in His sight; how much less man, that is a worm, and the son of man, which is a worm?”* (Job 25:4-6). Thus did Bildad express nature’s inability to tell man what God wants.

Nature can inspire us but it cannot inform us of God’s will. For that information, we must look to another source of revelation, and that source is God’s Torah. This same Psalm that begins by telling us about God’s revelation in nature continues by telling us about God’s revelation in the Torah:

*“The law of Yahweh is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of Yahweh is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of Yahweh are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of Yahweh is pure, enlightening the eyes. The fear of Yahweh is clean, enduring forever: the judgments of Yahweh are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover by them is Thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward”* (Ps. 19:7-11).

Writing by inspiration of the Holy Spirit, David begins this Psalm by proclaiming the revelation of God that exists in nature, and then he suddenly starts writing about the revelation of God in the Torah. Why this sudden switch of topics in mid-psalm from nature to Torah? It teaches us that there are two aspects to God’s revelation of Himself. God reveals His awesome power, glory, splendor, etc. through His creation. We need to see this because it can inspire us, humble us, motivate us, and uplift us. God’s will for His people, however, is not re-

vealed in nature. It is revealed in His Torah. We need to see this so that we will know how to live in harmony with nature and with nature's God.

When Yeshua of Nazareth came to earth, both aspects of God's revelation were manifested. Certainly God's power, glory, and splendor were manifested on earth as never before, in the short life of this humble Rabbi from Galilee. The radiance of that glory still continues to shine today, nearly 2,000 years later, in the hearts of those who love Him. The revelation of God's Torah was likewise manifested in Yeshua. He not only taught His disciples to obey the Torah, He also gave a living demonstration of how to live within the boundaries of God's commandments -- boundaries set for us for our own good by a wise and loving Heavenly Father.

Yeshua was the Word made flesh, the Living Torah. After His Ascension He sent the Holy Spirit to write the Torah on the tablets of our hearts (the same Torah that was written first on tablets of stone), so that we might obey the Torah from an inward desire to obey ("the newness of the spirit"), rather than from fear or peer pressure ("the oldness of the letter"). By looking to the glory of God that was in Yeshua, we can be inspired, humbled, motivated, and uplifted. By looking to Yeshua as our Torah teacher, we can learn how the Father wants us to live a life of blessing within the framework and boundaries of the Torah.

For information about Daniel Botkin, see [gatesofeden.online](http://gatesofeden.online).



**Artwork courtesy of**  
**[danielbotkin.com](http://danielbotkin.com)**





# THE NO-STRESS ZONE

*Lenny Cacchio*

Another harrowing week on the job leaves me drained, and I know that I am not unique. The strain of our on-the-run culture is robbing us of our freedom and the quality in our lives. A recent article in the Kansas City Star poignantly pointed out that our information age has linked us to our offices 24/7 not only from home but from virtually anywhere in the world. Our cell phones and laptops make it next to impossible to escape the yoke of our employment's reach.

The age of just-in-time inventory, text messages, and overnight delivery are symptoms of a culture that demands what it wants and demands it now. The luxury of taking one's time is no longer afforded us, let alone a full escape from the pressures of daily living.

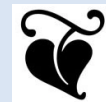
When God cleaned up the void and emptiness of Genesis 1, he could have completed the job in the blink of an eye. But instead we get the picture of a God who savors his creative endeavors and takes seven full days to do what he could have done in a nanosecond, every step of the way punctuated with shouts of joy that "this is good." That lesson is too easily lost on the high-speed, broad-band highways of our lives.

And there is another lesson too often lost in the busyness of our days. After the sixth day, the day on which the man and the woman were made, God looked at them and essentially said, "Let's take a break" (Genesis 2:2-3). This was a day to spend time with God and with each other, and it was a blessing

indeed. Too often we are so busy doing that we forget about taking time just for being. The concept of the Sabbath rest is just that: to be rather than to do. It forces us to slow down and contemplate the important things in life, to spend time with those we love, and to reconnect with the real Power of the universe.

As the children of Israel were poised to enter the Promised Land, Moses reminded them of the Ten Commandments given to their nation forty years before. Much is heard today, some 3,500 years later, about the wisdom of this law, but that fourth one is too often relegated to being the least of the Commandments. But as Moses pointed out in Deuteronomy 5, God gave the Sabbath as a great gift. "You were a slave in Egypt," Moses told them. Slaves don't get days off. With God's law you get a day off, and that's a sign that you are free men and women. "The Lord brought you out from there by a mighty hand and an outstretched arm; therefore the Lord your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day" (Deuteronomy 5:15).

We might not think of ourselves as slaves, but in a very real sense we are. We are burdened with our need to earn a living. We are encumbered with responsibilities. We are laden with worries about tomorrow and beyond. We are stressed with activities and responsibilities that spin beyond our control. But the Fourth Commandment declares a "No Stress Zone". Claiming that zone is a declaration of freedom, a time where we are free to slow down and savor the good things in life and appreciate the things that are truly important: our families, our friends, and our God.





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**Please join us in our efforts to spread the message of God's Sabbath rest and mutual cooperation of the brethren to the rest of the world.**

# Who Is the Father?

*George Gomoll*

Deception is all around us, how do we tell what is truth or what is a deception—is there one Biblical deception or are there many? Is Bible truth labeled as deception? The Bible says that if Satan deceives the entire world. Has he succeeded in deceiving the Church, also? Are there other worldwide deceptions?

Some people say “God gave me this message to share?” But, did God do this? If you disagree, who are you disagreeing with? The speaker or God? This is a simple way to deceive many!

One’s world views make a BIG difference—many who say they have a Biblical world view really don’t. They have adopted a view that the world has perfected over the last 500 years and most people just accept it as fact. If we have learned nothing else over the last two years it is that we should not trust the science—we need to return to a *sola scriptura* mindset—our world view should be strictly from the Bible and the Bible only.

Paul’s mission was to convince people that Yashua is the Messiah. There are not the many other “doctrines” associated with his letters.

Yashua’s mission was to show us the Father. Much has been added to try to convince us that he was here to start a new religion, which was not His mission. He came to show us the Father, and all that comes with understanding the Father.

The Father tells us through Jeremiah 9:24 that “*But let him who glories glory in this, That he understands and knows Me, That I am the LORD, exercising loving kindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight,*” says the LORD. (Jeremiah 9:24).

Do we really understand who our Heavenly Father is, and how He redeems us to Eternal Life?

Our Heavenly Father wants us to understand Him, and to know who He is.

WHO ALONE HAS IMMORTALITY? The Bible explains and describes that very decidedly in 1 Timothy 6:16: 16 (God) ...*Who alone has immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man has seen, nor can see: to whom be honor and power everlasting. Amen.*

This is referring to our Heavenly Father of course. Look at the statement: “*whom no man has seen, nor can see.*” This statement CANNOT be applicable to the Son of God, our Savior, because people have seen Him and have mingled with Him. But one could ask: “What about THE SON OF GOD... ...Doesn't He HAVE LIFE AS WELL? Once again, the Bible provides the answer in a clear and unequivocal way.

*For even as the Father has life in Himself, so HE GAVE also to the Son to have life in Himself (John 5:26) In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.*

Only our Heavenly Father has immortality (deathlessness) . But He has given to His dear Son the same Eternal Life that He has. We must always have in mind that everything we receive from our Heavenly Father comes through His dear Son, our Savior. We do not receive it directly from Him. Jesus said to him, “*I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*” (John 15:6). Christ is the way to the Father. There is no other way or method to get to the Father. *I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.* (John 10:9).

And, WHAT MUST I DO IN ORDER TO RECEIVE THE FATHER’S ETERNAL LIFE? If I do our Heavenly Father's will, then I have His eternal life, because, I am living His life and not mine if I do His will. The moment I start doing my own will, I have stepped out of Eternal Life and I am in a downward slope to destruction. This happens because I am NOT doing the Father's will, which is living His Eternal Life.

## Enjoying the articles...?

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.

What does one DO to live God's Will? Why focus on what you DO? This is a classical way of thinking in religion. Not realizing that there was anything wrong with our position, we are trying to figure out what good thing we must do (of which God will approve) to inherit eternal life. This is what in the scripture is called the works of law (under law) Or, we can ask the question differently: - What does one do to live GOD'S WILL? What does it take to do God's will? The way we think this question, depends on which life we are living; Of which kingdom one is. God's Will? What is that? The closest we ever came to God's will is the LAW. Obviously, in the law, we are told what we are supposed to do, and what we are not supposed to do, to a degree. When we are focused on "DOING," that is where we go. But when we realize that we need to seek God's Will, and not our will, then the realization of the issues changes.

Before I can do the will of God, God needs to become my Father, and I His child. We cannot be the authority in our lives. The authority needs to be of the Father, not of ourselves. If the authority and the doing is of ourselves then the living is of ourselves. And we are not really living, because we are not living by the word of God. We are not living in the will of God. NO ONE can do the will of God while they are THEIR OWN father. One cannot come to living the will of God by Law. We can only discover that we are not of His will. There is a great deception in: "Let not God speak to us" (Exodus 20:19) "Just give us the rules". It is the same as stating: "Leave us alone, so we can do our own will WITHIN THOSE RULES." Before I can do the will of God, God needs to become my Father, and me His child.

Let us read John 1:12-13 *12 But as many as received him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God's will.* "THE WILL" is very involved in what it means to be begotten of God. We cannot be begotten of God while we are doing our own will. To become sons of God, we have to be begotten of "GOD'S WILL".

2 Corinthians 11:4--*For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or [if] ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with [him].*

A key scripture to understand is Galatians 4:4-7: *4 But*

*when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, come out of a woman, come under law, To redeem them that were under law, that we might receive the son-ship. Now that ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father; Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.*

The Son of God came to REDEEM us from the place of doing our own will that we might receive the SONSHIP. And “*now that we are SONS, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father*” Before I can do the will of God, God needs to become my Father, and me His child.

In Galatians 4:4-7, notice what has not changed here: It doesn't say that the law has changed. It says that our position has changed. We are no longer servants. We are now Sons.

There is a great deception in: “*Let not God speak to us*” (Exodus 20:19) “*Just give us the rules*”. The faith of the Son brings us unto the Father, to be begotten of His Spirit. “*For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.*”

Realize the revelation of what it means to be the Son, who does nothing from Himself, Who lives to do the Father's Will. Thus, it is the realization of what it means to be the Son of God, the Son of the Father. WE DEPART FROM OUR OWN WILL so that the will of our Heavenly Father may be done in our life

It is impossible to do God's Will and follow our own judgment. The only way our judgment can be true, is when we are seeking to do our Heavenly Father's will. So we see the two kingdoms! One doing his own will, and the other doing the Father's will. It is for us to be seeking to do God's will in our life. And this is why Christ said in Matthew 7:21: 21 “*Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that does the will of my Father which is in heaven*”. As we have seen, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE to do the will of the Father until He is our Father and we His child. They that do the will of God are his children. Only His children will do the will of the Father.

God's whole purpose from the beginning is that we all should become the sons of God, that Christ would be the firstborn among many brethren. God sent His Son into the world to redeem us from servanthood, from bondage,

from slavery, to SONSHIP

If we are to be the sons and daughters of the Father shouldn't we know what is the Father's name? Some say His name is YHWH, some say it is Yahweh, others have other names that they insist is the proper name of the Father-- This is a subject you can study on your own—there are many interpretations and pronunciations of His name—but it is important that if you want a relationship with Him—you need to know His name—G-o-d just doesn't cut it

1. It is so important that we have a commandment not to take His name in vain—how can we do this if we do not even know His name?
2. We also say in the Lord's prayer—"Hallowed be thy name" How can we hallow His name if we do not know what it is?
3. Rev. 14:1 And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty [and] four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.
4. Trust- the issue of “Do we trust the Father?” (Does God Kill issue—do we trust the Father?) (Trust His Word-the Bible-no need to look for other books that claim to be Biblical)
5. The more closely we approach the closing scenes of this earth's history, the more pronounced will be the work of Satan. Every species of deception will take the lead to divert the mind from God through Satan's devices. (Letter 23c ,1894,pp2,3)

I hope this short article will get you to realize that you definitely need a relationship with the Father and need to know His Name to have that relationship and that you will begin a study on your own to make that relationship with the Father VERY personal.





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# Letters to the Editor

I believe God will provide funding to keep the TSS going as we are doing His work.

I am glad I'm on the TSS team keeping the faith He has given and using it for His good!

D. Arbogast

*Thank you for your kind words and your contributions to the success of the BSA mission to promote Jesus as our Savior and faithful obedience to the commands of God.*

*God is indeed providing for both TSS and the BSA! Since we undertook cost cutting measures, the financing of this Godly ministry has dramatically improved. There was talk of going to a quarterly magazine and perhaps even to restricting color in the magazine to the cover only. Fortunately, thus far, we have not had to do either. Please keep praying for us!*

—Ed.

I agree with your concerns about the deterioration of our rights and the rough road before us. I believe that even if the government should make all of us criminals, we will still worship the one true God. I would suspect that we will find ourselves in home churches, meeting in groups of five and ten and still keeping the Sabbath.

Thanks for your time and effort. God Bless you and all your staff that makes the Sabbath Sentinel possible.

A. Sporleder

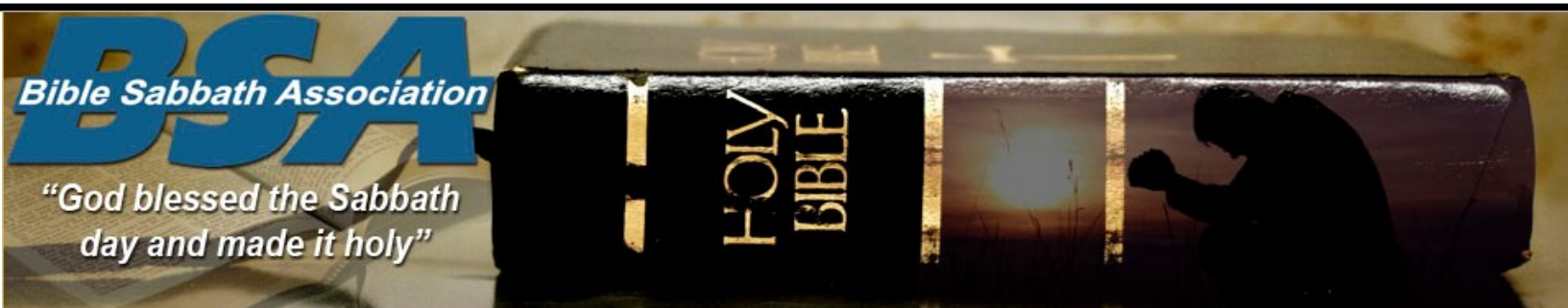
*Thank you for your encouragement! If we believe the Bible, we are most certainly in for some rough times ahead. We are going to need to stay close to each other and to our Father and Elder Brother. Finding ways to overcome the differences Satan tries to use to stir up strife is one of the central missions of the BSA. We appreciate all who have joined us in the effort!*

—Ed.

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