

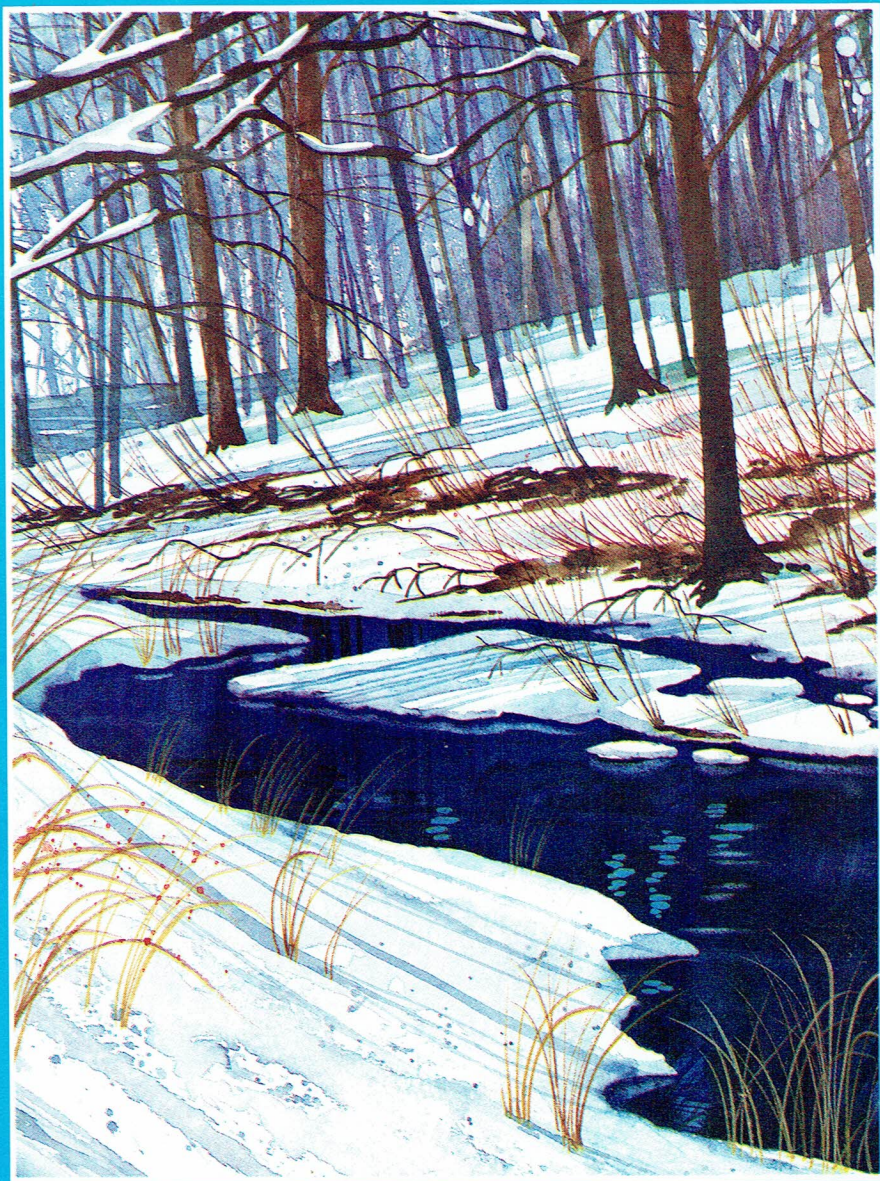
# *The* SABBATH SENTINEL

---

Serving the Seventh-day Christian Community

---

December 1992





## EDITORIAL

# Checking Our Assumptions

*As this is being written the general election is only ten days away. Campaigns all across the U.S. are in high gear, and there is no shortage of comments and complaints to be heard on the street. Many of these complaints are based on assumptions that concern me deeply.*

*Sitting on a plane flying from Flint to Detroit, I was engaged in conversation by my seatmate. He told me how convinced he is that we need a change in government; he complained about how hard he and his children have it: they are all medical professionals, he owns property in Canada, builds homes in Las Vegas, and can afford to fly to his family home in Michigan. But things are really tough, he thinks, and we need a change. His complaint is based on the assumption that it is his and his children's God-given right to have it easy and to be well off--and somehow it is the government's fault if they aren't.*

*I've heard parents complain that their children have spent four years going to college and are having to wait on tables or pump gas because they can't find jobs in their chosen fields. Somehow it's the government's fault that they can't get precisely the job they've been trained for and that they have to work at something else. Never mind that they have food, clothes, warm homes, hot water, and CD players.*

*We are indeed a spoiled generation. No longer is security something to be worked for; no longer is comfort something to be struggled for; no longer is happiness something to be pursued. Rather, these have come to be seen as God-given rights--with the government responsible to give them to us.*

*The Bible condemns a lot of things; but nowhere does it condemn struggling, suffering, or poverty. On the contrary, it promises these and demonstrates over and over again that godly character is developed in the crucible of adversity. Perhaps that's the reason Godly character is in such short supply in our generation. We have come to accept prosperity and comfort as rights, adversity as an outlaw. And we look to the beast of human governments to guarantee our rights and to imprison the outlaw. How sad is our plight!*

*We talk of America as the land of the free. But we are enslaved by our wealth and comforts. The only people who are truly free are those who, while they may be poor in the illusory things of this realm, are rich in the real things of the eternal realm. No human government can provide those kinds of riches, but God can and does for individuals who recognize their poverty and come to Him with the prayer, Lord, I believe, help my unbelief.*

*Regardless of who sits in the Oval Office after Inauguration Day, government will not be able to give us happiness, security, and health and anything else people have come to accept as a God-given, government-provided right. Only God can provide what we really need. To Him we must turn--in prayer, supplication, and obedience.*

—Richard A. Wiedenheft

# The SABBATH SENTINEL

(USPS 474-580)  
**Vol. 44 No. 12      December, 1992**  
**Issue No. 428**

A Monthly Publication of  
**The Bible Sabbath Association**  
Rt 1 Box 222 • Fairview, OK 73737

Editor . . . . . Richard A. Wiedenheft  
Editor Designate . . . . . Sydney Cleveland  
Department Editor . . . . . Howard M. Mesick  
Contributing Editors . . . . . Gilbert Sanford  
George Dellinger  
Typesetting . . . . . Kenneth Tustin  
Proofreader . . . . . Erna Hendershot  
Layout . . . . . Church Publishing Company  
Cleveland, Tennessee

**Writers:** Send manuscripts to Editor Richard A. Wiedenheft, 4150 S. M-52, Owosso, MI 48867, phone (517) 725-2391 (days) or 725-9128 (evenings). We invite articles on various aspects of the Sabbath and on other subjects of general interest to Sabbathkeepers, however, we cannot pay for them. A writer's guide is available upon request.

**Opinions expressed in articles** are those of the writers and not necessarily of The Bible Sabbath Association.

**Second class postage paid at Fairview, OK 73737 and Additional Mailing Offices. Postmaster:** Send change of address to *The Sabbath Sentinel*, Rt 1 Box 222, Fairview, OK 73737.

The Bible Sabbath Association is a strictly nonsectarian association dedicated to helping Sabbathkeepers of all persuasions learn about and from one another and to promoting the one commandment that is repudiated by Christendom in general. BSA accepts as members all who acknowledge Jesus Christ as Savior, who regard the Bible as the Word of God, and who uphold the seventh-day Sabbath; it takes no official position on other theological issues.

**Annual Member Contribution:** Regular Membership, \$20; Family Membership, \$25; Life Membership, \$500 or more contributed during one year. All memberships include an annual subscription to *The Sabbath Sentinel*.

Subscription to *The Sabbath Sentinel* only \$12 per year in US; \$14 outside US.

**Bulk Subscriptions:** Bulk subscriptions are available if 10 or more copies are sent in the same package; \$6 each subscription; \$9 outside US. Address all correspondence to and make all checks, drafts, and money orders payable to *The Bible Sabbath Association*, Rt 1 Box 222, Fairview, OK 73737; phone (405) 227-3200.

**For those who don't know Him—  
Jesus Christ and Him Crucified!  
For those who do know Him—  
the liberty of His Sabbath!**

## Board of Directors 1992-1995

### President

Eugene Lincoln  
1228 Wayne Ave.  
Hagerstown, MD 27142-3048

### Vice President

Dr. Allen Babcock  
905 E. Hospital  
El Dorado Spgs., MO 64744  
(417) 876-3771

John Conrod  
2269 Field Street  
Lakewood, CO 80215

John Kiesz  
820 Woodlawn  
Canon City, CO 81212  
(303) 275-4740

### Secretary-Treasurer

Lawrence Burrell  
Rt. 1 Box 222  
Fairview, OK 73737  
(405) 227-3200

### Recording Secretary

George Estey  
86 Senec Ave.  
Garfield, NJ 07026-3741

### Director-at-Large

Calvin Burrell  
640 East 78th Pl.  
Denver, CO 80229  
(303) 287-6098

Leroy Bass  
Box 136  
Washington Island, WI 54226

Violet Rodgers  
Rt. 1 Box 163A  
Hatfield, AR 71945  
(501) 389-6491

Steven Fauth  
17244 Montgall  
Belton, MO 64012-2846  
(816) 331-6140

Gil Sanford  
St. Rt. Box 200  
Pendleton, OR 97801  
(503) 276-3702

Richard Nickels  
4673 Onondaga Tr.  
St. Charles, MO 63303  
(314) 447-8773



# YOUR SAVIOR IS REAL!

by Dr. Desmond Ford

## The Historical Reality of Jesus

The battle over the historicity of Christ has been fought and won. No historian of note today denies the facticity of Jesus. The evidence from ancient documents has been marshalled by F. F. Bruce in his *Jesus and Christian Origins Outside the New Testament*. Sir J. G. Frazer, no friend of evangelical Christianity, declared, "The doubts which have been cast upon the historical reality of Jesus are, in my judgment, unworthy of serious attention." He cites the hostile evidence of Tacitus (Ann. xv. 44), and the younger Pliny (Epist. x. 96) as confirmatory of the Gospel record. In the fifteenth edition of *Encyclopedia Britannica*, the many independent references to Christ are referred to, and then this conclusion is drawn:

These independent accounts prove that in ancient times even the opponents of Christianity never doubted the historicity of Jesus, which was disputed for the first time and on inadequate grounds by several authors at the end of the 18th, during the 19th, and at the beginning of the 20th centuries.<sup>1</sup>

In addition to the twenty-seven documents of the New Testament, we have comments from Tacitus (Roman historian of the first century), Josephus (Jewish contemporary), Lucian of Samosata (second-century satirist), Suetonius (early second-century Roman historian), Pliny the Younger (governor of Bithynia early in second century) the Jewish Talmud, and the church fathers, Polycarp, Eusebius, Irenaeus, Ignatius, Justin, Origen, Tertullian, and others.

## The Authenticity of the New Testament Documents

The manuscripts evidence for the authenticity of the N.T. far exceeds that which can be marshalled for any other document of antiquity. Over 5,300 Greek manuscripts of the N.T., 10,000 Latin Vulgate and more than 9,300 manuscripts of other early versions are in our hands, in contrast to the much more authenticated work: Homer's *Iliad*, which has but 643 manuscripts surviving. Furthermore, in no other case is the time interval between the original work and the earliest extant manuscripts so brief as in that of the N.T. For example, the famous John Ryland's papyrus con-



taining verses from John's Gospel is dated at approximately 120 A.D. Says Hort, "in the variety and fullness of the evidence on which it rests the text of the N.T. stands absolutely and unapproachably alone among ancient prose writing." As for the original N.T. text, the words of Westcott and Hort sum up that situation:

If comparative trivialities such as change of order, the insertion or omission of the article with proper names, and the like are set aside, the words in our opinion still subject to doubt can hardly amount to more than a thousandth part of the N.T.<sup>2</sup>

### **The Reliability of the Gospel Records**

But what shall we say about the reliability of these ancient records about Christ? How historical are the Gospels? In answer to Bultmann and those sympathetic with him we would mention the dictum of Dodd: genius never comes out of a committee. Those who wish to repudiate Jesus as the author of the words put in his mouth in the Gospels have to settle for a group as unique as the central figure they reject. Not only are we challenged by the Gospels to consider this story a miracle, but there is also the miracle of the story. It would take a Christ to invent a Christ. His words come to the unprejudiced heart today as the genuine expressions of One who was equal with God. And those words match the majesty of the events associated with Christ, and both together harmonize with the Old Testament prophecies and types. To quote the reformers of the sixteenth century, the words of Jesus are self-authenticating. They are attended by the witness of the Spirit to every humble listener.

### **The Honesty of the Gospel Writers**

There are grave psychological problems for those who accuse the Gospel writers of being liars. The evidence is that they ran the risk of martyrdom

for their "lies." While men often lie to get out of trouble, few men lie in order to get into it. Consider the many evidences of the frankness of these men who chronicled the life of Jesus. Paley summarized some of these centuries ago in his *Evidences of Christianity*. He cites, for example, the comments of Lardner, Beattie, and Duchal as follows:

Christians are induced to believe the writers of the Gospel, by observing the evidences of piety and probity that appear in their writings, in which there is no deceit, or artifice, or cunning, or design. "No remarks," as Dr. Beattie hath properly said, "are thrown in, to anticipate objections; nothing of that caution, which never fails to distinguish the testimony of those who are conscious of imposture; no endeavor to reconcile the reader's mind to what may be extraordinary in the narrative."<sup>3</sup> For examples of the candor of the N.T. writers consider the following:

(1) There is no collusion among them for they appear to differ in many details. This applies not only to the ministry, but the death and resurrection of Christ.

(2) The account of the cross is staggeringly unadorned. There is no attempt to underline the cruelty of the death of Christ, or to lay blame on specific contemporaries. There are no exclamations of horror or contempt. We are just given the plain unvarnished facts about the most significant event in all history.

(3) The same is true of the resurrection. Christ is never presented as appearing to any but those who believed in him. What an impressive story it could have made to have had Christ visit Pilate or Caiaphas in the dead of the night. While we are told he spent six weeks on earth after leaving the tomb, we are only given an account of a tiny percentage of his deeds and words in that time.

(4) Again, Christ is always presented as speaking on practical matters



affecting conduct rather than esoteric matters of interest such as the nature of heaven, etc.

(5) Many of the "hard sayings" of Christ almost defy invention. Those anxious about audience reaction would have omitted them. Such sayings as moving mountains by faith, and eating the flesh and drinking the blood of the Son of God abound, and are never fenced about by elaborate explanation.

(6) Again and again we read of failures among this own followers. At his resurrection he is met by unbelief repeatedly, and even the closing verses of Matthew refer to that fact. John the Baptist is said to have had his doubts and sent enquirers to Jesus. Jesus' own relatives thought he was mad (see Mk 3:21).

(7) While John the Baptist is said to be the greatest of the prophets, no miracles are ascribed to him, yet many are credited to Christ.

Will Durant in his *The Story of Civilization* says of the Gospel writers:

They record many incidents that mere inventors would have concealed—the competition of the apostles for high places in the kingdom, their flight after Jesus' arrest, Peter's denial, the failure of Christ to work miracles in Galilee, the references of some auditors to his possible insanity....No one reading these scenes can doubt the reality of the figure behind them.<sup>4</sup>

#### The Gospels Written by Christ's Contemporaries

The scepticism now associated with the name of Bultmann was common last century when many suggested that the N.T. accounts of Christ may have been written at least 100 years after his death, enshrining the imaginary sayings of some dead Messiah. But more recent scholarship discounts all such theories. Observe the words of W.F. Albright: "In my opinion, every book of the N.T. was written...between the forties and

the eighties of the first century A.D.<sup>5</sup>

The late Bishop John A. T. Robinson, author of the controversial *Honest to God*, surprised many with his book *Redating the New Testament*. His dating of the N.T. documents proved even more conservative than Albright's. Such men thus provide us with an answer to a question which has long plagued some scholars: "Why does not book after book of the N.T. refer to the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70?" The answer is, because the books were written *before* A.D. 70! Yes, Jesus Christ lived and the N.T. records are authentic documents. Your Savior is real!

1. *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 3:145.
2. *Westcott and Hort, The New Testament in the Original Greek*, 1:2.
3. *The Words of William Paley*, pp. 378-379.
4. Will Durant, *The Story of Civilization*, 3:357.
5. "Toward's a More Conservative View." *Christianity Today*, 18th January, 1963, p. 3.  
(This article was excerpted from Chapter 6 of Dr. Desmond Ford's book, *A Kaleidoscope of Diamonds: Finding a Pattern of Beauty in Life's Chaos, Pain and Passion*. Volume One.)

## "IN FOR LIFE"

Did you know that you can become a lifetime member of the Bible Sabbath Association for a contribution of \$500 within a one-year period?

Several folks have taken advantage of these lifetime memberships. What about you?

For further information, write to:

The Bible Sabbath  
Association  
Fairview, Oklahoma 73737



# NEWS

## NEWS FROM THE SEVENTH DAY COMMUNITY

### **Sabbathkeepers in Ukraine**

Victor Burford, director of Missions Abroad of the Church of God (Seventh Day), spent two week visiting Sabbathkeeping brethren in the Ukraine. He reported that more than 1000 people crowded into one of the Sabbath services he attended. Another group is building a new church building. While he was unable to learn much about the origin of these groups, he did learn that as of 1905 they had been observing the Sabbath for four generations.

Piotr Kowalik of Wroclaw, Poland, reported the following, "A Sabbatarian conference was recently held in Ushgorod, Ukraine. There came delegates mainly from the old USSR: from Ukraine, Moldavia, and some Asian republics. There were also believers from Poland, Romania, and Germany. Especially, in Southeastern Ukraine, in an area called Zakarpattia, from the beginning of the twentieth century and also in Moldavia, have arisen many village communities of a few hundred people each, who keep Shabbat very strictly until today. Many of them don't use electricity, gas, or fire and eat cold meals on Shabbat. They also use no vehicles, and only travel on foot on the Sabbath. A lot of Ukrainians, and especially Moldavians, keep the annual Feasts and Shabbats.... During the conference discussions and visually it could be seen many with strong Judaic tendencies, men wearing not only beards but also yarmulkes. The bearded gentlemen came to agreement and decided to organize their own conference to take place in Krivoy near the Black Sea. This conference will be especially for in-

dividuals who: 1) Believe in Yeshua as their Mashiach...; 2) Acknowledge the importance of repentance and the mikva (immersion) in the Name of Yeshua HaMashiach; 3) Express their adherence to Torah as God's guideline of life; 4) Desire and experience spiritual gifts according to 1 Cor. 12-14 (*Petah Tikvah*, Oct-Dec '92)

### **Russian Religious Revolution**

At a meeting held in the Russian White House last July, an interfaith religious organization was formed with The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Russia playing a key role. The new organization brings together leaders from Lutheran, Methodist, Baptist, Pentecostal, Orthodox and Muslim churches.

### **Hungary for Freedom**

For 40 years, Adventists could not openly meet in Socialist controlled Hungary. During the last weekend in July, over 2,000 Adventist youths met in Budapest, Hungary to share their new found freedom.

Representatives from 35 countries attended the conference which included workshops on outreach ministries. The SDA Hungarian Conference presently boasts 4,500 members.

### **A New S.D.B. Church in China!**

Seventh Day Baptists can once again focus their attention on the vast country of China and its millions of people, for whom Jesus died to save. It was here that the first SDB missionaries, Bro. and Sr. S. Carpenter and Bro. and Sr. N. Wardner started the Shanghai Mission in 1847.

The Lord prospered the work, and with more staff arriving from the

USA, a new chapel was built in Lieouoo, a girls high school established, a hospital and an industrial mission added. Sadly, all this was eventually lost in Japan's war with China and later by the Communist take-over after World War II. Some missionaries died, some were interned or deported.

The new development, however, is quite unique in its nature: by God's grace we are witnessing a miracle - the formation of a truly Chinese "SDB home church"... located in Heilun, in the farming district of Heilung Kiang Province (Manchuria). The leader of this new church fellowship is a young, well educated woman, 36, by the name of Jin Yau Hua. She was born in China, where she also graduated from high school. She is very proficient in Korean, and it was through this channel that our SDB pastor in Seoul, Sth. Korea, Jin Sung Kim, was able to witness to her of Christ and His teachings.

The new SDB Heilun church, which started in mid '91 with 7-8 members, meets now every Sabbath as a home fellowship.

Although post-Tiananmen Square

China shows some signs of change, let us not be fooled: Christians are still struggling against oppression and persecution. Therefore, please remember these our Chinese brothers and sisters in your prayers!

There may soon be more SDB home churches in China! For God nothing is impossible!

### **John 3:16 Rules**

Edwin Thate, Jr. has been successful in his lawsuit against officials at the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium in Washington, D.C.

Last January, stadium officials ousted Thate for displaying a "John 3:16" banner during half-time at a football game between the Atlanta Falcons and the Washington Redskins. Officials said that they only allow banners to be displayed that are related to the game.

A federal judge has ordered officials of RFK stadium to not only allow Thate to display the banner, but also to pay him \$3,500 in damages. Stadium officials also promised to re-write their regulations so that others will also be allowed to display religious messages.

**NOW AT A DISCOUNT!**

## **Directory of Sabbath-observing Groups**

BSA's directory of seventh-day groups, sixth edition (1986), includes 188 listings; the 1989 supplement includes more than 140 additional listings. Both are now available at a discount.

Supplement only: \$2

Sixth edition only: \$3

Both sixth edition and supplement: \$4

Please add \$1 to your order to cover mailing costs.

**The Bible Sabbath Assn. • Rt. 1 Box 222 • Fairview, OK 73737**



# TO REPEAT

## SIGNIFICANT STATEMENTS BY OR ABOUT SABBATHKEEPERS

Though no incontrovertible proof exists, Christopher Columbus was probably from a line of Marranos, Jews who under duress converted to Catholicism but often secretly practiced Judaism.

“Christopher Columberg?” by Clifford Goldstein,  
*Liberty*, September/October, 1992

If a holiday claims to be Christian and contains clear elements of worship, yet it fails the tests of purity and accuracy, it should be avoided by Christians. Both Christmas and Easter fail on these grounds.

“Should a Christian Observe the Holidays?” by  
Calvin Burrell, *Bible Advocate*, November, 1992

A person should compare his works to Yahweh’s Torah and change and repent if they are not in harmony with Yahweh’s ways, but people do not want to do that, do they?

“The Seven Lamps of Yahweh” by Jacob Meyer,  
*The Sacred Name Broadcaster*, September, 1992

“Ninety-nine percent of the members who leave the church do so because of either emotional or personal conflicts, not because of doctrinal differences...” says one Adventist evangelist.

“Saddle Sores” by Clem Kollette,  
*Adventist Review*, September 24, 1992

I’ve also met many warm-hearted, guileless, giving Christian folk who were clearly off on several doctrinal truths, but seemed to be living the most important ones. Then I’ve met others, more correct doctrinally, but filled with a hard spirit of self-righteousness, arrogance and judgmental criticism of others. All of which leads me to conclude that our search for God’s truth must not just center on doctrines of our choosing, but on the weightier ones – kindness, justice, mercy, righteousness, faithfulness and love.

“Question” by Kenneth Westby, *Association for  
Christian Development Newsletter*, September, 1992

We become preoccupied with activities we know very well are not the focal point of being a disciple of Christ. Some waste time, resources, friendships, even reputations, by engaging in destructive activities, losing sight of the purpose of Christianity... When these preoccupations prevent involvement in the real purposes of Christianity, we need to take charge of our lives, listen more carefully to the leading of the Holy Spirit, and learn to be disciplined, focused and more intent on building rather than destroying.

“Lost Focus” by Roy Marrs,  
*Bible Advocate*, November, 1992



# MAILBOX

## LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

### Counting The Days

I am a bit confused by George Dellinger's letter (July, '92). In his letter he insinuates that our Savior said he would be in the grave three days and three nights. A careful search of both Cruden's and Strong's Concordances failed to reveal such a statement.

Therefore I can only assume that brother Dellinger, like I once did, interprets that words "heart of the earth" in Matt. 12:40, to be the grave.

As long as I held that belief, I always ran into trouble with every interpretation of that scripture. First I was told that in those days, part of a day was counted as a whole day and part was counted as an entire night. I could find no way to find more than part of two days and part of two nights from Friday night to Sunday morning.

Then I heard the Sabbath resurrection theory, which demands a Wednesday crucifixion.

Luke 24 blocked that by saying "Now upon the first day of the week..." in vs. 1, and in vs. 13, "And behold two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus..." It goes on to describe our Savior's conversation with them and their explanation of what had happened to Him in the corrupt courts and on Calvary.

Then they said, "today is the third day since these things were done," in vs. 21. So far I have been unable to find any explanation that Sunday can be the third day from Wednesday. Perhaps someone can show me how.

Doesn't it seem that we should seek

another interpretation of the term "heart of the earth," and try to find one that is trouble free.

W. H. Green  
Odessa, Texas

### Waiting For Sequel

Upon seeing the article about the Worldwide Church of God relaxing it's view of the Godhead (Oct. '91), I immediately became a subscriber. Holding on to the promise of the news department editor to keep us informed of other WCG changes made since Herbert Armstrong's death, I have been quite disappointed. Since that issue there have been no more articles about the drastic watering down of God's doctrines by the new administration in Pasadena.

Then in the July, '92 issue under the Mailbox column appeared a letter from a WCG member in Missouri, thanking you for your directory of Sabbathkeeping groups. I wonder how thankful he would be if you kept us updated on the more than 30 changes that his church has made in less than seven years?

I was disfellowshipped from the WCG along with many other faithful followers of HWA and I am now a member of the Philadelphia Church of God led by Gerald Flurry. Could you please print our address so that other members of the WCG can learn of these changes before it's too late. All requests are kept confidential. Philadelphia Church of God, P. O. Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083, (405) 340-7474.

Wayne Turgeon  
Edmond, OK



### **In Search of the SDB**

I would like to begin regular membership in BSA. I know Jesus Christ as my personal Savior; I believe in the Bible as the living word of God, and I uphold the seventh-day Sabbath.

Also, I am attending a Sabbath keeping Messianic congregation which is interested in BSA. There is another Messianic Sabbath keeping congregation in the area.

There is no Seventh Day Baptist church in the Chesapeake/Virginia Beach area or the state of Virginia for that matter. That is why I am attending Star of David Messianic congregation. I enjoy and receive blessing from Star of David but there is a need for a Seventh Day Baptist church or fellowship in this area. Lord willing I would like to work toward that end. Membership in BSA would definitely help. As soon as I receive your catalogue or listing I will begin ordering books, literature, etc. I have been in contact with the Seventh Day Baptist Center. Your prayers will be appreciated.

Thank you for the work you are

doing in helping to tie together the Sabbath keeping community and providing a much needed network for their interaction.

S. T. Taylor

### **Thanks for the News**

Enclosed find... (an) article about "Peyote" where the Supreme Court ruled against religious freedom and Justice Scalia made his infamous statement - "Religious liberty is a luxury we can ill afford."

Also an ad about the "Little Italy" festival in Clinton, Indiana. Note Italian "Sabato" for Saturday.

God's name used loosely recently in Houston, many contributed the disaster in Florida to this blasphemy.

Is our nation headed for a state religion? Many people think so. Hate is building against the small so-called sects.

A man was bitten by a snake in a religious ceremony not far from here. He is in critical condition.

J.G. Songer  
Alexandria, IN

## ***A Sabbathkeeping High School***

If you have teenage children or grandchildren, perhaps you've wondered if there is an alternative to the school they're now attending. Perhaps you've wished they had more opportunities to meet other young people of like faith. Consider Spring Vale Academy — a coed, boarding high school, located in central Michigan. Spring Vale has been offering a quality education based on Christian values since 1946.

- A Sabbathkeeping environment
- Well-rounded curriculum
- Small classes; individual attention
- Sports & music programs—without Sabbath conflict
- High academic standards
- Comprehensive Bible classes
- Festival observance respected

Your teenager will enjoy the Christian atmosphere at Spring Vale and the opportunity to make lifelong friendships. New students are now being accepted. For more information, write or call:

### **Spring Vale Academy**

4150 South M-52 Dept. TSS • Owosso, MI 48867  
(517) 725-2391



# ADS

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

**Free Second Advent Bible Course.** This Christ-centered Bible course is structured around the Three Angels' messages of Revelation 14:6-14. Write: S.A.B.C., Box 2152, Lewisburg, TN 37091. (12)

**Conquer the Coming Crises:** A vital book. What you must do to survive! \$11 postpaid. Send M.O. to Tresco Publishing, Dept. SS, 900 W. Alabama St., Anadarko, OK 73005. (11-12)

**Light Magazine** brings unique understanding to Bible truth and prophecy. Each issue is packed with fresh insights into the real meat of the Word. No charge. YNCA, POB 50, Kingdom City, MO 65262. (12-12)

**Free Catalog** offering books on Sabbath, subjects of interest to Sabbathkeepers, Bible study aids. Some discounted or special prices. Write Bible Education Services, PO Box 736, Troy, OH 45373. (12-1)

**Christmas Before Christ?** Ask Family of God, 7119 Western Tr., San Antonio, TX 78244 (12)

**Pentecostal lady,** educated and sophisticated but very fundamental-

ist, seeks godly, tongue-speaking, Sabbathkeeping man for friendship, fellowship, many more in time. I'm 47, slender, 5'5"; long brown hair, hazel eyes, head covered, no make-up, no jewelry, no TV, vegetarian. Write Sister Joy, Box 71915, New Orleans, LA 70172. (12)

**The Clayton School** of Natural Healing offers Doctor of Naturopathy (N.D.), Doctor of Holistic Health (H.H.D.), and Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) degree programs by correspondence. Learn how to practice as a holistic health counselor. For catalog call 1-(800) 659-8274. (12)

**The American Holistic College** of Nutrition offers B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. programs in nutrition by correspondence. For catalog call 1-(800) 659-2426. (12)

**We have 50,000 copies** of a "new" foreword (80 pages) explaining the original "1884" *Great Controversy* which depicts the "History of the World" from Adam to after the 1,000 years! From anywhere in the world, send for your free copy. Ann DeMichael, 1926 Hwy 21 North, Malo, WA 99150. (11-4)

**Classified ads** are available at the rate of 30 cents per word (including each word and each group of numbers in the address). Send copy for classified ads and payment to The Bible Sabbath Association, Fairview, OK 73737. Ad copy without payment will be returned. Deadline is the 15th of the month for the issue of the second subsequent month (e.g. August 15 for the October issue). BSA reserves the right to reject or edit any ad copy; publication does not necessarily imply endorsement by The Bible Sabbath Association. Information about display advertising is available on request.



# Faithful In Witness And Evangelism

by Herbert E. Saunders

I was watching the *Today* show the other day. Bryant Gumbel was interviewing Ken Hakuta, otherwise known as "Dr. Fad." He has been responsible for some of the most successful marketing of items most of us could do without. In fact, he said in that interview that he looks "for the most useless thing that will sweep the nation." He has become a multi-millionaire marketing useless junk. Millions of dollars have been spent over the years on "useless things that sweep the nation"—hula hoops, pet rocks, you name it! Hakuta even suggested that "silliness is what people ought to put their money and energy into."

The tragedy is that the most "priceless" thing on the face of the earth never appears to be "sweeping" anything—let alone the nation. We who are believers in the Lord, Jesus Christ, have in our possession the most priceless gift the world could know, yet there just do not seem to be many people knocking down our doors to obtain what we have. It is obvious that we would never get to be millionaires by marketing what we have. The message of God's love shown to us in Jesus Christ through his life, death and resurrection is hardly the stuff of the world's concept of success. But the truth is that this is the most important "thing" we could ever give to the world.

Jesus told his disciples that they were to "go and make disciples of all nations." Make disciples! The commission of Christ is to be witnesses to what has happened in our lives and become evangelists for the message of reconciliation God delivered to his people through Christ.

saw, heard, or experienced. Every one of us is called to be a witness. There is no way that we can escape that responsibility. And there are those eager to hear and believe.

Our message may not have the commercial impact of Dr. Fad's latest invention—a plastic octopus that climbs down walls—but it is a message of hope in the midst of uncertainty that makes such things popular "fads." Silliness has its place. The useless sometimes creates diversion. But the time comes when we need to be serious about what is important and what is not. And a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ is what is important—today and forever.

Paul, in the book of Philippians (1:18) writes: "The important thing is that in every way, ...Christ is preached. And because of this I rejoice. Yes, I will continue to rejoice." Our ministry, Paul writes to Timothy, is to do the work of evangelists—to spread the good news of Christ's love and sacrifice. There is no higher calling for the Christian. We have been given the message of reconciliation through Jesus Christ, and we are made messengers.

The most important responsibility for the Christian church is to "preach the word," "make disciples," "baptize in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit," We are to be witnesses and evangelists. Let us "Enter the Joy" of reaching out for Christ by being faithful to our task. And let us join with the inhabitants of heaven in joy over one sinner who repents.

—Reprinted from *The Sabbath Recorder*,  
March, 1988