



The Sabbath Sentinel

Sep-Oct 2026

Is Trump Reviving America's

"Manifest Destiny?"

BSA—The Bible Sabbath Association

"And the LORD shall make thee the head, and not the tail..."

The Sabbath Sentinel September-October, 2026

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Pray even for those who differ from us!

In this edition, we have incorporated an article related to preaching the gospel that has been forced off the air. While we do not endorse the teachings or actions of the Church Organization at the center of the controversy, it is important that all of us understand that an attack on one Sabbath-keeping organization is an attack on us all.

Why is this so? At one time or another, those of us who are larger and doing a public work of proclaiming Christ and His Commandments are going to run into the same kind of interference with that work. I won't restate the actual problem; you can read about it yourself on page 4.

At some point in the future, teachings related to keeping God's Commandments will be held by many to be "hate speech." Why? It is a quirk of human nature among many that when a belief different from theirs arises, it is considered an attack. We are already aware of "hate speech" legislation that has been enacted in what are allegedly free states of the United States.

Originally, the Constitution for the united States of America, Bill of Rights, Article 1, which stated that Congress could make no law restraining free speech or an establishment of religion, protected our speech, and particularly our political speech. What is political speech? Political speech is any speech where disagreement can arise. It should come as no shock to Sabbath keepers that the keeping of the Sabbath is highly controversial and, moreso, promoting keeping the Sabbath as a command from God. At what point will some enterprising progressive politician make the "discovery" that some of his constituents are offended by the "hate speech" in our magazines, radio programs and television productions?

We can't say this won't be attempted but we can take notice of the fact that during the Covid shut-downs many Churches were forced to close their doors rather than allow congregants to come together for worship. If it can be said for one instance of national "emergency" the federal and state Bills of Rights protecting our worshipping liberties can be set aside for however long an "emergency" is declared, then politicians who don't understand the oath they took will again find

reasons for interfering with the worship we enjoy today. If they can find a way to interfere with worship, how much easier would it for them to stifle our attempts to promote Jesus Christ and God's Commandments? The article about the Philadelphia Church of God being removed from the ability to broadcast shows us such is not a distant possibility but is already a fact.

We know that the use of the public airwaves is federally controlled. As such, no station is allowed to discriminate against individual programs based upon religious content. Will the censoring be allowed to continue on that network? Who knows? We invite you to follow along with that story to see the outcome.

Our point in bringing forward this discussion is to awaken us from our sleep, to keep us in prayer for protection for one another, and to prepare us for that time when we all are going to need one another against the onslaught on our liberties by the evil one and those who are his tools.

We read in John 16:2 *"They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service."* Jesus made this statement. He understood human nature. Men who hate what you believe will rationalize any action to silence you. The history of man is replete with instances where one kills another over something that was not liked.

Satan hates what we Sabbath Keepers love—God's Way of life. It should come as no shock that those who are satan's will hate such also, as well as the promotion of that Way. We have a little power and that power is to appear before the throne of God and let our requests be known there. When we do, God hears, and acts for us.

Will God cause that television broadcast to be reinstated? Only He knows at this point. As is cited in Luke 9:49-50, *"And John answered and said, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name; and we forbid him, because he followeth not with us. And Jesus said unto him, Forbid him not: for he that is not against us is for us."* No matter how we feel about a different organization, if they are preaching Christ and God's Commandments, then we need to pray for them.

Church of God Group Claims It Was Taken Off the Air Because of HWA

The following is excerpted from the Philadelphia Church of God website, www.thetrumpet.com.

"A tv station manager called our office last week. He didn't want to debate theology. He wanted us gone. When our rep asked why, here is exactly what he said: 'Primarily, the concerns were over the clear association with Herbert Armstrong, which was mentioned in every broadcast.' Certain viewers had voiced serious concern about a program with such close ties to Mr. Armstrong.

"That's the complaint. Not that we lied. Not that we deceived anyone. We are not allowed to broadcast on that station anymore because we kept saying the name of Herbert W. Armstrong.

"This station manager singled out two doctrines. He said the concern was that Mr. Armstrong 'promoted non-Trinitarian theology and also the belief that the Anglo-Saxons descended from the lost tribes of Israel.'" *End of quotation.*

From that point the article launches into explanations of the teachings of Herbert Armstrong and the prophecies tied to the House of Israel being applied to the United States and others.

Whether or not we agree with the Philadelphia Church of God teachings, or of the teachings of Herbert Armstrong, we find that the Trumpet writer has missed a much bigger and looming problem—religious censorship.

It should come as no surprise to the Sabbath Keeping community that God's Way of life and our promotion of it will some day come under attack. We were warned of these days in Amos 8:11 *"Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD..."*

There will come a day when the preaching of the

truth of God's Way of life will be stifled. It will be as rare as water during a drought. Not only will we be unable to preach or promote publicly, most will not even want to hear about that Way.

The Trumpet's article did not disclose call letters of the station which removed them from the air. Neither could those call letters be discerned during the research time spent looking for it them.

However, your author did find that the Philadelphia Church of God has also come under attack via a report published in the local newspaper, the Edmund (Oklahoma) Sun.

In that report, several teachings of Philadelphia were sensationalized to generate distrust or fear of that group of Sabbath keepers. That article and background can be read online at: www.normantranscript.com.

While we were unable to independently verify which television station removed Philadelphia from the air, it is clear from the article in the Edmund Sun that there exists a chasm between Philadelphia and its local neighbors large enough to generate animus between the church and people of the area.

We need to pray for all of God's Churches involved in spreading the Gospel message of Jesus. One day the attack could be on others of us. There is coming a day when we will need to band together.



Thousands of Christians Killed in Nigeria

Following is a report from Barnabasaid.org on the recent persecution of Christians in Nigeria.

Tens of thousands of Christians in Nigeria are being killed by Islamist terrorists, according to a new report published in June 2026.

Figures from the Observatory for Religious Freedom in Africa (ORFA) indicate that 18,915 Christians were killed by Islamists between October 2019 and September 2025. The worst-affected areas were the Middle Belt states of Benue, Plateau and Kaduna.

The report gives credence to the claim advanced by church and community leaders of a “Christian genocide” in northern and Middle Belt Nigeria.

Who is Killing Christians in Nigeria?

The biggest perpetrators of anti-Christian violence in Nigeria are the Fulani militia.



Members of the Kawel community in Kaduna State prepare graves for the victims of an attack by Fulani extremists. [Image credit: Premium Times]

The report demonstrates that at least 10,965 Christians have died at the hands of Fulani Islamists in the six-year reporting period. This figure is likely to be higher, as ORFA assesses (based on previous research) that attacks carried out by unidentified terrorists are also likely to be the result of Fulani extremism.

Boko Haram and Islamic State West Africa Province are also engaged in violent persecution, claiming the lives of 1,632 Christians in the North-East region alone.

Christians Four Times as Likely to be Killed

The report shows that terrorists have killed more than double the number of Christians as they have Muslims.

Adjusting for religious demography in the individual states affected by this violence, ORFA concludes that Christians are more than four times as likely to be the victims of terrorist violence.

Among ORFA's figures are 6,111 people killed by Islamists whose religious identity could not be ascertained. Based on the proportion for those victims whose religious identity is known, the number of Christians killed by Islamists could be more than 23,000.

Abducted Christians Face Severe Mistreatment

The report records nearly 35,000 abductions that took place in the six-year period.

Christians and Muslims are equally likely to suffer abduction; however, Christian

hostages are far more likely to experience “systematic physical and sexual violence, higher ransoms, prolonged captivity, and significantly greater risk of execution.”

On July 1 it was reported that a lay preacher and five others abducted from Kagarko Local Government Area, Kaduna State, were killed by their captives. The preacher had been tortured before his death.

The ORFA report comes just two weeks after a separate report, published by human rights experts, which concludes that Christian women and girls in northern and Middle Belt Nigeria are among those at particular risk of severe abuses, including abduction, sexual violence, forced marriage, and forced conversion to Islam.



Six Christians out of the 27 abducted by Fulani militants from a church and village in Kogi State in December 2025 are welcomed home after being released. [Image credit: Ayietoro-Kiri Bunu Development Association / Truth Nigeria]



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 Member of the BSA!

Besides the monthly or annual membership dues which you can find inside the front cover, you can also help with donations designed to help bring the message of fellowship of brethren across denominational lines.

ATONEMENT

Darl Arbogast

Atonement separated reads At-One-Ment! This implies a person achieving a level of righteousness whereby their every motive, desire and deed is meant to be in tune with and obedient to the commands of God our Creator. Atonement also means the forgiveness, mercy and reconciliation between God and the repentant sinner which is made possible by the sacrifice of our Saviour, Jesus the Christ.

Jesus the Christ, who made us became one of us and set the example for us on how to live a righteous life, then suffered at the hands of evil men and was killed; spilling His blood as a sacrifice for mankind. Hebrews 10:10 NKJ - *By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.*

Suggested reading: Hebrews 2:17 NKJ - *Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.*

Romans 3:25,26 NKJ - *whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.*

1 John 2:2 and 4:10 NKJ - *And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world. ... In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*

Propitious means to be merciful. Pointing to these things in the Old Testament, God had instituted an annual Holy Day of fasting on the 10th day of the 7th month of the Hebrew Calendar.

There was a lot of symbolism in ancient Israel pointing to this event we call the Day of

Atonement, Hebrews 9:13 thru 15 NKJ - *gives a confirmation of these facts - For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.*

Other scriptures show this as necessary for salvation: Luke 24:40 thru 47 NKJ - *When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. But while they still did not believe for joy, and marveled, He said to them, "Have you any food here?" So they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish and some honeycomb. And He took it and ate in their presence. Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me." And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.*

Acts 4:12 NKJ - *Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.*

The death of Christ exhibited the love of God toward sinful men. It was and is about redemption in the plan of our Creator; Revelation 13:8 NKJ - *All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.*

And 1 Peter 1:19,20 NKJ - *but with the pre-*

cious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you.

Atonement is not limited but is universal, worldwide to all people who are called when they repent.

In the Old Testament we find the instructions on how Atonement was to be observed as it pointed to events to occur in the future, which are now in our past and observed by some in the present as an annual memorial day of worship by prayer and fasting. In Acts 27:9, the day of Atonement had already past so the water was rough and was dangerous for sailing; autumn was fast approaching.

In Leviticus 23:26,27 on the 10th day of the seventh month God set aside a day to be Holy. There was no eating and no drinking. However there is a command to assemble and take up an offering on this day this being a worship service.

God gave Moses the instructions and they were to be given to Aaron and the people: no eating, no drinking; to do so meant banishment from the Israelite people. This statute still holds true today, Leviticus 23:31 NKJ - *It shall be to you a sabbath of solemn rest, and you shall afflict your souls; on the ninth day of the month at evening, from evening to evening, you shall celebrate your sabbath.*" To work or eat or drink on this Holy Day today could possibly cause one to lose the gift of God's Holy Spirit which would spiritually separate such a one from fellowship with God's church.

In Leviticus 16 after the death of Aaron's two sons God spoke to Moses and gave him the particulars of how to administer the Day of Atonement and Moses gave them to Aaron.

Taking a closer look at Leviticus 16 inside the Tabernacle was a veil, or curtain hanging that separated the people from what was behind the veil.

What was behind the veil? The Ark of the Covenant, the lid or cover on the ark was called the 'mercy seat'; only Aaron the High Priest was allowed there and only once a year on the Day of Atonement.

Aaron had to take offerings in there for himself and his household. Aaron took two

identical goats and cast lots for them, one lot for the Lord and the other lot for the scape-goat (Azazel). Azazel implies a complete removal, in this case it applies to Satan. Revelation 20:1 thru 3,7,10 NKJ - *Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while. ... Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison. ... The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet were cast. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.*

The goat Aaron sacrificed pointed to Christ, the Azazel goat pointed to Satan going into the Abyss, a place of permanent separation.

Revelation 20:15 Aaron killed the goat which is for the people pointing to the sacrifice of Christ then he took the blood inside the veil and sprinkled it on the Mercy Seat.

The goat representing Satan was led away to the wilderness by a fit man and banished from Israel. The goat representing Christ was killed and its blood sprinkled on the Mercy Seat signifying God's mercy on us.

Atonement, a Holy Day was given as a foreshadow of the time in the future when all mankind will be at one with the Father and the Son as spirit-born children in the family of God. This will be after the marriage supper of the lamb written in Revelation 19:7 thru 10 and after the 'Great White Throne Judgement' written in Revelation 20; when the Holy city New Jerusalem comes down to earth and all things have been made new as written in Revelation 21:1,5.

Atonement symbolism is very important for understanding in the life of a Christian.



Exaggeration & Embellishment

Daniel Botkin

Many years ago I knew a brother, now deceased, who was doing outreach work similar to the work I was doing at the time. One day this brother played music and preached at an outdoor meeting he had organized in a small town about an hour away from where we lived. Afterwards at one of our local meetings, he excitedly shared a testimony about his meeting in that small town.

Afterwards a few people approached me privately and told me they had been at that meeting. They did not want to gossip, but they were concerned, because the brother's testimony was greatly exaggerated and embellished. The number of people actually at the meeting was nowhere near what the brother claimed, they said, and the meeting was not nearly as dramatic and exciting as the brother described it. These eye witnesses told me that they had noticed this brother exaggerating and embellishing his testimonies on other occasions. It seemed to be a habit, and they were concerned.

I was concerned, too, but I told myself that it was none of my business. I was not his pastor and I was not obligated to talk to him about it.

I wanted to ignore it, but the Holy Spirit would not let me do that. This brother was losing respect and credibility in the eyes of people because of his habit of exaggerating and embellishing. If I really cared about him, I should lovingly let him know. So I asked him to meet with me privately.

At our private meeting, I started out by telling the brother about something I had once heard Moishe Rosen say on a radio program. Moishe said that whenever he was invited to speak at a church, he always wanted to take enough literature to pass out to everyone, so he would ask the pastor how many people typically attended.

"If the pastor says 300, I know that I can expect

around 200," Moishe said. "I know that '300' really means 200. Because we lie. We exaggerate numbers. But we understand each other."

Moishe went on to say that we need to be careful about exaggerating numbers, especially if we are speaking to non-believers, because it discredits our testimony. Why should unbelievers believe our message is true if we tend to lie?

After telling the brother this story, I then told him that a few people had expressed their concern about him doing this very thing. I let the brother know that I was not telling him this to scold him or rebuke him, but to advise him as a friend to try to not exaggerate and embellish, because it was hurting his reputation, and I cared about him and his ministry.

The brother actually thanked me for talking to him. He said he would try to be more careful in the future.

Some people who exaggerate and embellish may have good intentions. "The bigger the crowds and the greater the excitement and drama, the more glory for God, right? So let's help God out by exaggerating and embellishing our testimonies!"

God does not need our help in the form of exaggeration and embellishment. At some point, a testimony tainted by exaggeration and embellishment becomes a false report, and we become false witnesses. So let's be honest and accurate when we report the things that we have witnessed. A truthful testimony will bring more glory to God than a tainted testimony.

See Daniel Botkin's website at gatesofeden.online.

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"Manifest Destiny?"

Craig White

We are entering a time of change in a world where populists such as Donald Trump are on the rise. Many cannot fathom what is happening in our world today.

Yet this has been a simmering condition for decades as the general populace take umbrage at the direction their countries are going under the leadership of their elites.

There were populist advances around 15 years ago when old style conservatives and nationalists linked with workers, forging an alliance known as populism.

Their progress has been hindered by tactics of the elites and although there have been some breakthroughs, this was rather limited.

But ever since the European elections and the French elections in mid-2024, the people of Europe have begun to ignore the oppressive elites and their media arm. Instead, they are seeing that they are being both deceived and misled down the path of globalisation and wokeism. If followed to its logical conclusion, the West will be completely gone and together with it the distinct European nations and the family unit too. That is what is in store for them and more and more are becoming aware of this danger.

Thus, the rise of populists.

Push-back Against the Far Left In recent times, populists broke through and won in Italy, but are hamstrung at the moment by their own liberal court system and by the huge debts owed to the euro banks.

In Hungary and the Czech Republic, the populists are in government, however they lost power in Poland. In France and Germany, they are huge, but the constant lawfare and media juggernaut attacks upon them can be labelled as unfair and filled with misinformation. Le Pen's National Rally

in France, the Alternative for Deutschland (AfD) in Germany, the Freedom Party in Austria, Brothers of Italy and Farage's Reform Party in the United Kingdom have all been labelled as "far right." Nothing could be further from the truth.

The policies and views of these groups and their parties are very centrist and, in some cases, even center-left. They differ little from the stances of leaders such as Churchill, Adenauer, de Gaulle, Menzies, Eisenhower, Reagan, Thatcher and such like.

This informs us that the far left has gained the ascendancy since the 1990s and have made the erroneous claim that they occupy the center of the political spectrum. However, their policies are identical to what the radical neo-Marxists have been promoting for decades. The true political spectrum is for these elites to be labelled "far left," the populists as centrists and center-right while the true "far right" should be reserved for fascists and Nazis.

It is in this historical and political context that we have witnessed the rise of Trump and Vance — American populists and nationalists. Their views are very similar to Presidents Theodore Roosevelt (in particular), Calvin Coolidge and even Ronald Reagan. Whatever differences there might be between them are minor in comparison to their views on patriotism, American exceptionalism and conservative family values.

Of course, Trump has to come down harder than President Reagan had to on various issues affecting the American way of life and foreign policy.

"Why?" you might ask. It is because America's decline is much worse and more serious today than in Reagan's day. In those days, the Atlantic Alliance was still strong because they were closer ideologically and both sides of the Atlantic were buffeted by a common enemy — the Soviet Union.

Both sides were relatively socially conservative and their demographic changes were steady but minimal

by the 1980s and into the 1990s.

However, in the three decades since then, the Left have consolidated their gains and gradually been oppressing their opponents in not so subtle ways known as “cancel culture” and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion policies.

President Trump has begun to roll back DEI programs at the federal level. These social engineering programs have been going on under different headings since the 1970s but have grown more and more toxic and disgusting.

It remains to be seen as to what can or will be done about restoring public prayers in schools, gay marriage, pornography, legalised prostitution, abortion, euthanasia and so on. There is much to be done to clean up America at both federal and state levels.

In addition to these social evils, it is becoming increasingly clear that the Trump administration wants to take back America’s place as world leader, rather than sinking into the “one among many” strategy of the globalists. They want a powerful America which is respected on the world stage. Not just respected, but followed in some basic doctrines to restore freedoms, family values and nationhood—in other words, Western civilisation. Manifest Destiny long eschewed and undermined by the likes of Presidents Carter, Clinton, Obama and Biden, many Americans do see America as possessing a God-given mission for world order.

In his book Chosen People: The Big Idea That Shapes England and America, Clifford Longley poses answers to the query, “What accounts for the frequent solidarity between the British and Americans?” Furthermore, he ponders on what lies ahead for these twin powers. He proposes that both nations possess a divinely ordained sense of distinct purpose. The early settlers in America viewed themselves as akin to the Israelites of the Old Testament, believing themselves to be a chosen people of God.

This notion of election has significantly influenced and fortified their national identities, albeit at a price, a paradox that Longley’s book seeks to examine.

Both Donald Trump and James Vance are descendants of the basic, core ethnic stock that considers

itself as “chosen” with a special destiny — that America obviously occupies a place among the nations that is special. A term akin to “manifest destiny” is “American and British exceptionalism,” which translates to these nations occupying a unique place on the world stage.

Trump’s father’s lineage is from the far west of Germany near France and, as with millions of Germans who migrated to America in the nineteenth century, many or most were of that stock.

This means that many or most were descendants of Joseph — Israelites — people who preferred the freedoms of America to the rigidity of the other Germans and especially Bismarck.

Trump’s mother is of Scottish heritage and it is due to her influence that Trump respects the British Royals so much. Vance is of Scots-Irish descent. Longley notes: “The first settlers to go to America from England were Protestants. They took with them the conviction that God had a unique role for England in world history. England was to be the site of the New Jerusalem, and the English stood in the steps of the ancient Israelites as God’s instrument, his Chosen People. The Old Testament was not just their guide to morality. It was God’s side of the bargain...”

Why is this so? Could it be that the Anglo-Keltic peoples are direct, genetic descendants of ancient Israel and are fulfilling (albeit clumsily) their prophesied and promised roles? We can find this prophesied in Genesis 49, Deuteronomy 33 and Judges 5. Notice a prophecy about the descendants of Joseph (Ephraim and Manasseh) now dwelling in North America, the United Kingdom, Australasia and many more scattered around the globe: “*A firstborn bull — he has majesty, and his horns are the horns of a wild ox; with them he shall gore the peoples, all of them, to the ends of the earth; they are the ten thousands of Ephraim, and they are the thousands of Manasseh.*” (Deuteronomy 33:17, ESV).

The prophet Micah adds to our knowledge of this end-time prophesied military might: “*And the remnant of Jacob shall be among the nations, in the midst of many peoples, like a lion among the beasts of the forest, like a young lion among the flocks of sheep, which, when it goes through, treads down*

and tears in pieces, and there is none to deliver.

“Your hand shall be lifted up over your adversaries, and all your enemies shall be cut off.” (Micah 5:8-9, ESV. Compare 4:13; Gen. 49:9; Deuteronomy 32:9; Isaiah 14:1; 41:15-16).

The rest of the chapter discusses Israel’s decline sometime after this pinnacle military pre-eminence. The prophet Zechariah prophesies similarly: *“They shall be like mighty men in battle, trampling the foe in the mud of the streets; they shall fight because the LORD is with them, and they shall put to shame the riders on horses.”* (10:5, ESV).

The decline of the House of Israel seems to be like something that follows a leading stock market share in decline, slowly but gradually, inevitably heading toward collapse and wipe-out. During the decline there are times of revival and we have seen that under Presidents Nixon and Reagan. Are we witnessing that again under President Trump? How long will this military and economic upturn last? Will a successor after Trump continue the revival for a further four or eight years after the end of his Presidency?

As world leader again, adherents to the view that America possesses “Manifest Destiny” believe that America has the Divine right and duty to be world leader and nothing must stand in their way.

Instead of overtly relying on alliances with “lovers,” their plan is to be world leader, with the other nations following.

They may not know it, but this is the House of Israel fulfilling its duty. This side of the Millennium Israel is clumsy and makes mistakes, yet it seems to be acting out its role that will be completed in a much better way during the Millennium under Christ, the Messiah.

Nudging Europe

One of the most articulate yet corrective speeches made in recent times was by James D. Vance, American Vice President, to the Munich Security Conference on 14 February, 2025.

He made no qualms that Europe is slipping further and further to the authoritarian left and to be considered “West” it must change course. From this au-

thor’s observation, he is urging them to return to the hey-days of the 1980s.

Writing in *The Australian*, Nick Cater wrote that, “Vance’s speech would have been uncontroversial had it been printed as an article in the *National Review*. Yet Europe’s oligarchs are ill-prepared for such insubordination. They attend conferences such as this one to have their egos stroked, not to listen to home truths from a self-confessed hillbilly.” (“JD Vance’s home truths too hot to handle for Euro elite,” *The Australian*, 17 February, 2025).

Unless Germany, France, Spain and others heed his admonition, Europe will be subsumed into a globalist mess. Trump and Vance are merely undertaking their Israelitish duties by admonishing them.

But will Europe listen? They may learn from American leadership and change course, but this will probably only be done if the current ruling parties are reformed, or form a coalition with populist parties, or the populists gain power and aggressively take the proverbial “bull by the horns.” This will be a positive and beneficial moment for Europe.

However, and this is something to note, there may be events such as an economic collapse or other world-shaking events which may include a clash between America and China that may force Europe to turn to the true “far right.” But today’s populist parties are anything but “far right.”

Europe’s Eventual Turn to the “Far Right”

Strangely, many Christians and even a church leader here and there have expressed the view that the media is correct and parties such as the AfD and others named above are “far right” or fascist. The same Christians are disgusted by the media’s fake news and disinformation campaigns.

So why do they believe the media on the perspective of labelling centrist parties and their leaders as “far right?”

It must be human nature. It seems that every time there is a major drought, terrible events in the Middle East, a new Pope and such like, they believe that “the end is nigh.”

We are indeed in the end times, but that does not mean that the Great Tribulation is upon us just

yet! As I keep on saying to people, “We cannot fast forward prophecy. It will happen when it happens.”

Of course, let us watch world events in the light of Bible prophecy, but we must not get ahead of ourselves.

And so it is with the rise of “populists” in Europe. In the first instance, they are nowhere fascist or Nazi and they either want out of the European Union or wish to transform it. Labelling them as “far right,” fascist or Nazi is libellous and not true.

In fact, when the real “far right” gain ascendancy in Europe and other places they won’t be Nazi, which is too offensive to European nations; it will be a Europe of the nations, confederated together under a single leader and military. Today’s European populists are nowhere near this future reality.

In the meantime, the peoples of Israel are rising again, at least for a time. Perhaps they have further work to accomplish while they still have time prior to

another severe political and moral downturn. To quote Longley again:

“Without this conviction of being a nation with a unique calling from God, would America have made the enormous sacrifices [in WW2]? I doubt it. Without it, would America be bothering with Iraq? I doubt that too.

“Whether you like what America is doing or not, it helps to know where they are coming from. America believes it has a divine mandate to lead the world.”

One does not need to agree with everything President Trump and his administration are doing, but much of it can be associated with their view of America’s “Manifest Destiny” and desire to lead the world once more.

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6,000 Years of Merchandising — Satan's First Sin

His First Sin Forces Us to Buy and Sell to Survive!

Paul W. Syltie

We know we have a powerful Adversary in the world — Satan the Devil — who has tainted God's perfection throughout civilization. That includes every aspect of this world of ours, so it is highly important to seek out the first cause of our corrupted world in order to combat this insidious enemy who deceives the whole world. We must understand his strategy so we can counter with a strong defense, and moreover take the offense in this battle we face every day in resisting Satan's wiles (James 4:7-8).

Our Economy As It Should Be — Eden

We must first start in our search for answers in the garden of Eden, that perfect environment our heavenly Father created for the utmost enjoyment and health of those beings made in His image. What was that environment like?

"So God created man in his own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, 'be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.' And God said, 'See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food'" (Genesis 1:27-29).

In that garden Yahweh Elohim "... made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food" (Genesis 2:8-9). Here is described the beautiful garden environment that God created for His own images. It was replete with everything a person needed to live, free of charge: herbs, fruit, pure water and air, a perfect temperature, and responsibilities to tend and keep this incredibly lovely place (Genesis 2:15). There was perfect peace and beauty wherever Adam and Eve looked,

and no theft, coveting, lying, or deceit, only selfless service between the two of them as the spirit of God within them bore its loving fruit.

Our Economy As It Will Be — the Kingdom

Let us now take a brief look at the way the world will be in the coming age. In short, the prophecies about the coming age show it is to be a virtual Eden once again, not just in one area of the world but throughout all nations worldwide. We see snatches of the character of the coming age in many places in Scripture, as in Isaiah:

"The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb. The leopard shall lie down with the young goat. The calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play by the cobra's hole, and the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper's den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain. For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea" (Isaiah 11:6-9).

"The wilderness and the wasteland shall be glad for them, and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose; it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice, even with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the excellence of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the excellency of our God The parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water; in the habitation of jackals, where each lay, there shall be grass with reeds and rushes" (Isaiah 35:1-2, 7).

Micah 4:1-4 makes clear that this new age will entail an agrarian lifestyle free of weaponry and war, with peace and security of families living "... under his vine and under his fig tree, and no one shall make them afraid" (Micah 4:1-4). During this time

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the saints will be raised to reign with Jesus Christ on this earth to make it an Eden so wonderful we can only begin to imagine its beauty and productivity! So, Eden first made — then Eden restored! It is the restoration promised by the prophets for millennia, as Peter stated in his speech on Pentecost, a time of refreshing [anapsuxis, ‘recovery of breath, revival’] and of restoration [apokatastasis, ‘reconstitution’] of all things (Acts 3:19-21).

Between the Edens — a World Ruled By Merchandising!

What then do we have in this world between the Eden of Adam and the coming millennial Eden? We have a world organized and orchestrated by Satan the Devil, of course! He is the architect of this civilization, who even offered Jesus the rulership of the nations of the world at the temptation in the wilderness (Matthew 4:8-10), a temptation that Jesus refused, of course, for His time for rulership had not yet arrived.

What methods did Satan use to destroy the perfection of the garden of Eden? We know that sin in any form brings destruction and misery to a society: pride, hatred, jealousy, anger, adultery, drunkenness, theft, sorcery, and the list goes on and on (Galatians 5:19-21, II Timothy 3:1-5, etc.). These modes of behavior lead individuals, communities, and nations into great distress and foment war and conflicts without end, even as we have seen throughout the world’s history.

But perhaps we have overlooked the major means by which Satan has deceived and upset the world’s order of things. We have no other place to look then at Satan’s first sin. This sin is revealed in Ezekiel 28:15-16, 18:

“You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created [selected], till iniquity was found in you. By the abundance of your trading you became filled with violence within, and you sinned; therefore I cast you as a profane thing out of the mountain of God; and I destroyed you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the fiery stones You defiled your sanctuaries by the multitude of your iniquities, by the iniquity of your trading.”

Lucifer, the light bringer, decided for some reason to leave his state of perfection and embark upon a

life of merchandising! The Hebrew word for merchandising is rekullah, meaning "trade (as peddled)," that comes from the Hebrew root word ra-kal, or "to travel for trading." Interestingly, the Hebrew word for Canaanite is kenaaniy, meaning "merchant!" The Canaanites were known for their merchandising, another reason why the Eternal scorned them besides their other major shortcomings involving eating unclean foods, sexual sins, sacrificing children to Baal, and other idolatrous and unlawful acts.

Here we come to understand that Satan injected a system that has afflicted mankind ever since Adam and Eve sinned and were thrust out of the garden of Eden. This evil merchandising system has been in place ever since — for 6,000 years, before the Flood and after the Flood — where instead of free provision of the needs for living, people now were forced to earn tokens, gold, silver, paper bills, or some form of exchange to acquire what was needed to live. To obtain food, clothing, shelter and utilities, heat and air conditioning, transportation, taxes to fund government, health care, education, entertainment, and every other need, unless one grew his own garden, raised his own livestock, or in some way was provided some good or service through his own efforts or the benevolence of family or neighbors, a person was required to acquire money through the process of merchandising — buying and selling. That process involves producing some sort of goods — such as reaping a farmer's field or mining for coal, or exchanging time for money — in order to gain a return of the accepted form of currency. In times past it was sea shells, wampum sticks, gold, silver, or metal coins. Today it is almost always worthless paper bills, of value only in terms of the willingness of others to accept them in exchange for a good or service. Nowadays societies have graduated even to non-material money such as credit cards, debit cards, digital exchanges, and cryptocurrencies that require nothing of intrinsic value to buy or sell. Your life is supported by digits in a computer!

Nearly everything in our modern society operates through the exchange of money in some form. In fact, as the Babylonian Beast system continues to progress, the exchange system is moving towards a digital system likely akin to the CBDC (Central

Bank Digital Currency), where your earnings and purchases will be tracked by sophisticated computers through a control system which will judge your obedience to the Beast power's dictates: disobey the system and refuse to go along, and your access to essentials as food, clothing, or anything to be bought or sold will be limited or cut off. You will be coerced to obey or perish, or perhaps be sent to a re-education camp. This is none other than the Beast system as outlined in Revelation 13:15-18.

It is clear here that some form of financial system will be in place at the end of the age which will require people to bow down to the Beast system or risk death. Either fit in with this Satanic system or lose your head! Buying and selling will reach its climactic end through total control of buying and selling such that you either go along with Satan's merchandising system or you will die.

This end-time Babylonian system is described in detail in Revelation 18, where the buyers and sellers of virtually every form of goods, from precious metals to clothing to livestock to grain to slaves (verse 12-13), are called "the great men of the earth," (verse 23), who, by their sorcery [pharmakeia, "medication, drug, spell-giving potion, druggist, poisoner, or magician"] they deceived the nations [planao, "cause to roam from safety, truth, and virtue"]. These "great men" of the earth earned their massive billions of dollars by trading merchandise using container, tanker, and cargo ships (verse 17). The nations were held captive in large part through the deception of drug usage — both legal and illegal — that perverted their judgment and drew them away from sound, Godly thoughts. Drugs (pharmakeia) do that, and the Beast uses that means to draw the many to his side.

God's System

The contrast between Satan's economic system and God's system cannot be more stark. Instead of getting the most possible for the self, God's economic pattern is one of selfless service to one's fellow man, as Jesus said in Matthew 7:9-12 and 22:36-40. There is no merchandising with the operation of this system, only selfless giving of



what a person possesses to share with the needy, without cost — without monetary exchange. You give according to a person's need, especially to them that have no means like the fatherless and widows. Note Luke 6:34-35:

"And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back. But love your enemies, do good and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil."

The words of Isaiah 55:1-2 give further evidence of God's proper system of living, as in Eden: *"Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat. Yes, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price."* The needs of food and drink ought to

be supplied without cost; that was the system of Eden. It is the economic reality of the coming age. People will give to those that have need without requiring anything in return, although I presume that most everyone will have every need provided in the next age, as in the garden of Eden.

The Good News!

We can be certain that this merchandising society will not continue much longer. The signs all around us of wars, the collapse of moral values, family breakups, the murder of unborn children, military weaponry that can kill millions in minutes, and other trends show that Jesus Christ will be returning soon. We read Christ's words that predict great tribulation, *"... such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved ..."* (Matthew 24:21-22). For the elect's sake those days will be shortened.

This return of Jesus Christ to rule the earth along with the saints for 1,000 years is the climax of history that will finally remove the trappings of merchandising from all nations. Satan and the demons will be bound in the bottomless pit, to influence the nations for the entire 1,000 years. The renewed Eden that will be established will not be ruined by this sinister Adversary. An earth beyond our imagination will be instituted, a restitution of all things (Acts 3:19-21. What incredible hope to help us face a sin-filled earth every day! As we read in I Corinthians 2:9:

"Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him" (see also Isaiah 64:4; 65:17).

The full message of Satan's merchandising has only been touched upon here. Mr. Syltie has a new book that will be available soon, entitled Satan's First Sin, which will give much more detail on this extremely important subject for all of the elect.

Four Types of People at the Cross

Mark Carter

I remember a statement that a preacher once said in a sermon when I was a young man. He said “what if you had a representative at the cross” For some reason that had stuck with me for all these years. I just love how some things God lets you ponder on, and then how he shows you the truth of that very thing. For me, it was how we did have a representative at the cross, how I believe each type of person was there.

As I was pondering in the wee hours of the morning, The Holy Spirit was pressing upon me how the number four was in so many parts of the Passover Seder. I begin to think about four or the fourth in so many parts of scripture. The four rivers, at the garden of Eden, The four creatures of Ezekiel, (four faces, four wings, four wheels) A little homework, the number four in the building of the tabernacle. The best one to me is in Daniel 3:25 *“He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.”* And there are four gospels.

I just had to get up and see what the fourth letter in the Hebrew alphabet was, and it was the Dalet. As I look at the fourth letter, the Dalet, the picture is the Door.

John 10:9 Jesus says: *“I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.”*

Also the meaning is creation:

Colossians 1:16 *For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by*

him,

and for him:” and Pathway as we see in John 14:6. *“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”*

Let’s continue to look at the Dalet: The messiah was to come from the seed of Jacob, the tribe of Judah, as we see in the following scriptures. Genesis 49:10 *The sceptre shall not depart from Judah.*

Numbers 24:17 *I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel,*

Isaiah 65:9 *And I will bring forth a seed out of Jacob, and out of Judah an inheritor of my mountains: and mine elect shall inherit it, and my servants shall dwell there.*

So, I just had to spell Judah (Yod, Hey, Vav, Dalet) ... notice how the Dalet holds it’s place as the fourth letter.

Then another piece of scripture came to my remembrance. John 16:28 *“I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father.”*

So what did I do? I removed the dalet from Judah, As I sat there in astonishment, seeing what I saw. With out moving any letters, it left the Tetragrammaton (the four-letter name of God) (Yod, Hey, Vav, Hey).

All of this is not a coincidence, in the Hebrew language there is not word for coincidence.

Now that we have set the stage for the four types of people at the cross. But there is one more step we have to look at. It is in a parable Yeshua spoke in Mark chapter four, starting in verse 13-20 *“And he said unto them, Know ye not this parable? and how then*

will ye know all parables? The sower soweth the word. And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts. And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness; And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended. And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the word, And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful. And these are they which are sown on good ground; such as hear the word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred."

Here we talking about the four types of people. When we look at todays corporations, when they have a sales consultant to come in, the first thing they teach is, that there are four types of people to sell to. We also see in the Passover the four sons, the wise son, the wicked son, the simple son, and the son who knows not how to ask.

You can find the scripture for each one of these sons in Deuteronomy and Exodus. And how to witness to each of these four types of people. 2Timothy 3:16 *All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:*

Why would God not give us the instruction to reach the lost?

The wise son is found in Deuteronomy 6:20-23 Note the lengthy and detailed question and answer: *And when thy son asketh thee in time to come, saying, What mean the testimonies, and the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD our God hath commanded you? Then thou shalt say unto thy son, We were Pharaoh's bondmen in Egypt; and the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand: And the LORD*

shewed signs and wonders, great and sore, upon Egypt, upon Pharaoh, and upon all his household, before our eyes: And he brought us out from thence, that he might bring us in, to give us the land which he sware unto our fathers.

The wicked son is addressed in the Exodus 12:26-27. Note the aloof terseness of his question and his sarcastic tone: *And it shall come to pass, when your children shall say unto you, What mean ye by this service? That ye shall say, It is the sacrifice of the LORD'S passover, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when he smote the Egyptians, and delivered our houses. And the people bowed the head and worshipped.*

The simple son's question, and the appropriate simplistic response, is found in Exodus 13:14. Note the simple exchange: *And it shall be when thy son asketh thee in time to come, saying, What is this? that thou shalt say unto him, By strength of hand the LORD brought us out from Egypt, from the house of bondage:* The son with whom the parent must initiate the discussion is addressed in Exodus 13:8: *And thou shalt shew thy son in that day, saying, This is done because of that which the LORD did unto me when I came forth out of Egypt.*

It's all about telling people what God has done for you.

Now that we see the plan has been laid out from the beginning, let's take a look at the scene of the crucifixion. John who was the disciple to witness the crucifixion, to be the witness to the truth.

John 19:23 *Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took his garments, and made four parts, to every soldier a part; and also his coat: now the coat was without seam, woven from the top throughout. They said therefore among themselves, Let us not rend it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be: that the scripture might be fulfilled, which saith, They parted my raiment among them, and for my vesture they did cast lots. These things*

therefore the soldiers did.

They took his garments, and made four parts, to every soldier a part, just as in the parable of the sower we read in Mark chapter four. Here we see that each person received the word, But one receives the whole word. They cast lots upon his coat.

Mat 27:54 *Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God.* Let's look at all the types of people that were there that day.

Now that we have seen the pattern laid out—from the parable of the sower to the four sons of Passover—let us come to the scene of the crucifixion. At the cross of Yeshua, Jesus Christ, humanity was not hidden—it was revealed.

There, in one place, we see four types of people. Not just then... but still today.

1. The Hardened – The Wayside Heart (The Rejecters)

These were the mockers.

They passed by, wagging their heads. The religious leaders scoffed. The soldiers joined in. Even one of the thieves railed against Him.

- They heard His words.
- They saw His works.
- But their hearts were hardened.

Just like the seed by the wayside in Mark 4, the Word never took root. Truth was spoken... but quickly stolen.

They represent those today who:

- Hear the gospel
- Dismiss it
- And walk away unchanged

They were at the cross... but untouched by it.

2. The Shallow – The Stony Ground (The Moved

but Not Changed)

Not everyone there was mocking. Some were watching. Some were stirred. Some may have even felt sorrow or conviction in the moment. But there was no root. Like the stony ground, they received something emotionally—but it did not last. When the moment passed... so did the impact.

They represent those who:

- Feel something in the moment
- Respond temporarily
- But fall away when it costs something

They were moved by the cross... but not transformed by it.

3. The Distracted – The Thorny Ground (The Indifferent)

This is where the garment comes into full view. The soldiers sat at the foot of the cross—not mocking, not weeping... just occupied. They took His garments and divided them into four parts.

But when they came to the coat—seamless, woven from top to bottom—they said:

“Let us not rend it... but cast lots for it.”

While salvation was being accomplished above them... they were gambling below. They recognized the value of the garment— but not the value of the One wearing it.

- Like the thorny ground:
- The cares of life
- The pursuit of gain

The distractions of the moment choked out what they could have seen.

They were near the cross... but focused on everything else.

4. The Receptive – The Good Ground (The Redeemed)

But not everyone left empty. There was a thief who

turned. In his final moments, he saw what others could not.

Not a defeated man—but a King. “*Lord, remember me...*” And grace answered.

There were also those who remained—Mary, John, and a few others. They stayed when others left. They stood when others mocked.

This is the good ground:

- They receive the Word
- They believe
- And something changes

They were not just near the cross— they were changed by it.

The Conclusion: The Cross wasn't just a tragic execution; it was the opening of the Door that had been "hidden in plain sight" within the genealogy of Israel for centuries. It is a powerful reminder that while the world often focuses on the "Three" (the three crosses), the "Fourth" (the nature of the heart that receives the work) is what determines our eternity. So if we weave the word of God into our lives, we become like that beautiful garment, without seam, that the world can't tear us apart.

Let us ask our self, Which type of person are we?



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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK—1981

John D. Bevis

Regardless of where we live, what type of education we may have, the amount of property we own, or our position in the community, we all have an equal portion of one thing—time. Someone has written that time is so valuable that God gives only a moment of it at once, and He gives that moment but once in all eternity.

It seems there isn't "time enough" to accomplish all we hope to achieve. We get so busy with the cares of life that we often don't have time to spend on the things that are really important. We say, "Where has the day gone?" and when another birthday rolls around, we are surprised that it has come so soon.

In a year we are told there are 525,600 minutes, and we know that God is interested in what we will be doing in each of those minutes. The Psalmist has written: "My times are in Your hand" (Psalm 31:15). We serve a God who is concerned with us as individuals, who is aware of our joys and sorrows, who knows how we are spending even the minutes of our days.

Wasted years never begin as wasted years. Wasted years begin with wasted minutes and hours. As Christians we are to be good stewards of all we possess and that includes our time. Once time is past, it can never be recalled. If we spend most of the time dreaming of tomorrow and regretting yesterday, we won't find a great deal of time left for doing anything today.

We know that God wants us to share some of our time with Him. We can do this by spending a certain amount of time each day in prayer and Bible study. We also share our time with God when we meet together for worship and study of His Word as congrega-

tions. When we reach out to help those in need, those in distress and trouble, we are sharing our time with the Lord.

We believe that the Sabbath hours are a very special time for communion with our Creator and Redeemer. The hours of the Sabbath are dedicated in a special way as we share in fellowship with God and with each other.

How often we have remarked on a Friday evening that we are thankful for the coming of the Sabbath. One of the real purposes of the Sabbath is to restore us each week to that spiritual fellowship with God.

And so the Sabbath comes—a time for recreation and renewal. A time of refreshing of body, mind, and spirit. Abraham J. Herschel has written: "Every seventh day a miracle comes to pass, the resurrection of the soul, of the soul of man and of the soul of all things."

We thank God for life, for Christ, for time to do those things that are important and meaningful to us. We thank Him for that very special day—that sacred time—that was established at the very foundation of the world as our special time with God. May the Sabbath be more meaningful and special to you each week is my prayer.



Excerpts from a Feb. 1981 article from the Sabbath Sentinel magazine archive on the Bible Sabbath Association website. This article from past President Bevis was good reading in 1981 and is good reading for us today. Read along and enjoy this message from the BSA archives.

Bryan Burrell

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