

"Go, set a watchman,
Let him declare what he seeth."
— Isaiah 21:6 —

JANUARY 1972

The Sabbath
Sentinel

Where wast thou

when I laid the foundations of the earth?

... when the morning stars sang together,

and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

(Job 38:4, 7)

The Sabbath

Sentinel

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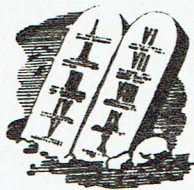
The Ten

Commandments

and the

Handwriting

of Ordinances



BOB ROGERS

Evangelist and

"Echoes from Eden" Speaker

IN Colossians 2:14 Paul said that Christ "blotted out the handwriting of ordinances which was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross."

There are several clear and definite reasons why this cannot refer to the Ten Commandments. In the Spirit of Christ I beseech you to consider these reasons without prejudice.

FIRST:

The word "ordinances" means "ceremonies," and there is not one single ceremony in the Ten Commandments. Yes, there were certain ceremonies later commanded to be observed on the Sabbath day. But the Sabbath day is one thing, and any ordinance that was observed on that day is yet another. The Sabbath is said to be the seventh day, and the seventh day is not a CEREMONY; nor is the mere ceasing from work a ceremony.

SECOND:

These "ordinances" were **HANDWRITTEN**, while the Ten Commandments were written in two tables of stone, not by **HAND**, but by the **FINGER OF GOD**. "And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon Mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God" (Ex. 31:18).

THIRD:

These "ordinances" were "against us"; that is, not for our good. The animal sacrifices, ceremonial washings, etc., had to be repeated year after year; and still couldn't take away a single sin (Heb. 10:1-4). These things serve only to remind man constantly of his sinful condition. It was a witness against him (Deut. 31:26). As types and shadows these things pointed forward to the perfect sacrifice of Christ "once for all" (Heb. 9 and 10:10). They are positively called "not good" in Ezekiel 20:25. God is said to have had "no pleasure" in them in Hebrews 10:6. They were truly "against us." Every time a man sacrificed a lamb, it was he who should have died for his own sins; and the lamb died in his place. Yet the blood of the lamb could not take away his sin (Heb. 10:4). So you see why God called these things "statutes that were not good, and judgments whereby they should not live"?

Now and then someone will advance the idea that the Ten Commandments were "against us" because they demanded complete obedience, and condemned as a sinner the man who broke them. But if this is true, Christ Himself is also against us, for He is the author of eternal salvation only to "all them that obey him" (Heb. 5:8, 9). He will destroy all who do not obey Him (2 Thess. 1:7-9).

No, the Ten Commandments are not against us. They point the way to all that is holy and good. God says that it will be well with those who keep them forever (Deut. 5:29). Now, in order to get that down where we can understand it, let's take a look at what a wonderful world it will

be when everyone obeys them. God will have first place in the life of everyone. There will be no bowing down to sticks, stones, "sacred cows," and statues of Mary. You will never hear a word of profanity. All people will honor and worship on the day of memorial to God's creation. If all men knew and understood the truth of the Sabbath and its full meaning, man would know what he is and where he came from instead of dreaming up foolish and fanciful theories such as evolution. When all children honor their parents and parents become truly honorable, there will be no more juvenile delinquency; it just won't be possible. When men cease to hate and kill one another, there will be no more wars, nor violence of man against man in any form. And how much happier the world will be when husbands and wives are completely true to each other! If no one stole anything, you could throw away your door key. You would never need to lock your home again. What peace it would bring to families, neighborhoods and nations if everyone could always be counted on to tell the truth. And did you know "lust"—covetousness—is the cause of every war that has ever been fought? Somebody has something that somebody else wants (James 4:1-3).

No, my friend! The Ten Commandments are most assuredly not against us. They are the way to everything that is holy and good. Obedience to them is stated by Jesus as a condition of entering into life (Matt. 19:17).

Furthermore, the Ten Commandments and the handwriting of ordinances were given separately, recorded separately, and positively stated to be separate. In Deuteronomy 5 Moses is reading the Commandments

to the children of those people to whom God spoke them at Mount Sinai. In verse 22, after reading all the Commandments, Moses said, "These words the Lord spake unto all your assembly in the mount out of the midst of the fire, of the cloud, and of the thick darkness, with a great voice, AND HE ADDED NO MORE. And he wrote them in two tables of stone and delivered them unto me." Therefore, the Ten Commandments were a COMPLETE LAW within themselves. They were written in stone by the finger of God and nothing was added to them. Anything that was given later was another law, separate and distinct from the Ten Commandments. Yes, another law was given later; but the two were always to be kept separate. The Ten Commandments on stone were called the tables of testimony (Ex. 31:18). These were kept inside the ark of the covenant (Ex. 25:10-16). The only thing else inside the ark was a pot of manna, and Aaron's rod (Heb. 9:4). But where was the "book of the law" kept?

"And it came to pass when Moses had made an end of writing the words of this law in a book until they were finished, that Moses commanded the Levites, which bare the ark of the covenant of the Lord, saying, Take this book of the law, and put it in the side of the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, that it may be there for a witness against thee" (Deut. 31:24-26).

Now, I want you to read that in your Bible, then notice these facts.

1. Every bit of this law was written in a book by the hands of Moses. Not part on the tables of stone and part in a book; but the words of this law were written in a book by Moses

until they were finished. That's ALL OF IT!

2. This book of the law was not put into the ark of the covenant where the tables of testimony were kept; but was placed "in the side" of the ark in a place to itself.

3. It was this book of the law which Moses said was there for a "witness against thee," while God said that if people would have the heart to obey the Ten Commandments, it would be well with them forever (Deut. 5:29).

4. So it was this "book of the law" that was against us, and contrary to us; and this is the "handwriting of ordinances" that Christ "blotted out" and "nailed to the cross." It dealt mainly with such things as animal sacrifices, ceremonial washings, and Levitical priesthood, and certain annual holy days and yearly sabbaths which were "beside [in addition to] the Sabbaths of the Lord" (Lev. 23:37, 38). These yearly ceremonial sabbaths were "shadows of things to come" and ended at the cross. For example, the Day of Atonement was a yearly sabbath upon which the priest made atonement, first for himself, and then for the people (Lev. 16:29-31; Lev. 23:26-32). At this time the high priest of the Levitical order offered the "blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer to the purifying of the flesh" as a type, or shadow of the "blood of Christ who through the eternal spirit offered Himself without spot to God" (Heb. 9:8-14).

It was these yearly sabbaths of the handwriting of ordinances that were nailed to the cross, because that of which they were shadows became a reality at the cross. It was not the

seventh-day Sabbath of the Ten Commandments, which was not a shadow of something to come, but a memorial of that which was past. The Sabbath of the Ten Commandments points backward to creation, not forward to any event in the future. The commandment is to "REMEMBER" something, not look forward to something. Therefore, since the Sabbath of the Ten Commandments is not and never was a shadow, it cannot be included in those sabbaths which Paul says were blotted out because they WERE shadows (Col. 2:14-16). Yes, I know some have supposed that the Sabbath of the Ten Commandments—the seventh-day Sabbath—was a shadow of the rest we have in Christ, or maybe a shadow of the one thousand year reign of Christ on earth. But this is strictly supposition and guess work—the doctrines of men from start to finish. There is no Bible for it. The Sabbath day is a memorial of God's seventh day rest at the close of creation, and as far as the scriptures speak, has no other significance.

Unless we recognize that the Ten Commandments were one law, and the "book of the law" was another law, we can never make the Scriptures harmonize.

Notice: "He (Christ) will magnify the law, and make it honorable" (Isa. 42:21).

"Think not that I am come to destroy the law; I am not come to destroy [the law or the prophets], but to fulfill" (Matt. 5:17). Christ fulfilled the law exactly as we are to fulfill the law of Christ (Gal. 6:2). He kept His Father's Commandments just as we are to keep His Commandments (John 15:10). He fulfilled the law of God just as one would fulfill the terms

of a contract, by performing the same. He said, "I am not come to destroy the law."

But, "Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances" (Eph. 2:15).

You could never make these verses agree if there were only one law. But when you understand that there were TWO LAWS; one a good law which only needed to be magnified to cover man's heart as well as his overt actions, and the other "not good" and "against us," and needed to be abolished, it is easy to understand that Christ abolished one law and magnified another law.

Furthermore, the Ten Commandments were already in force, and were being broken before the "book of the law," or even the tables of stone, for that matter, were ever given. The breaking of the spiritual laws embodied in the Ten Commandments was, in fact, the very reason for the giving of the book of the law. Turn to Galatians 3:19: "Wherefore then serveth the law? [book of the law, verse 10] It was added because of transgression till the seed should come, to whom the promise was made..." But, "Where there is no law, there is no transgression" (Rom. 4:15). Therefore, there was a law in existence, and the people were breaking it, before the book of the law was given; and the breaking of whatever law this was was the very reason for the giving of the book of the law. Now what law was being broken before the book of the law was given at Sinai?

Read Exodus 16:22-30. They refused to keep God's Commandments and laws, by not observing the Sabbath day. And this was at least two

months before the giving of the book of the law. They broke the Fourth Commandment.

Now turn to Exodus 32. Still no book of the law had been given, but the people had heard God speak the Ten Commandments. Moses was up in Mount Sinai to receive the tables of testimony. He had been gone over a month, and the people "wot not what was become of him." They said to Aaron, "Up, make us gods to go before us." Aaron made a golden calf, breaking the First and Second commandments. The people worshiped the image, and "sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play" (Ex. 32: 6). The word "play" there carries with it the idea of a sexual orgy, thus breaking the seventh commandment.

Now back to Exodus 16:3. They lusted after the flesh pots of Egypt—had inordinate desire for that which God did not want them to have; and that's covetousness and a transgression of the Tenth Commandment. Yes, the Ten Commandments were in force before the people ever came to Sinai, and they were breaking them. That's why the book of the law had to be given.

Now, that we may enlarge upon this point somewhat, will you come with me back to the book of Genesis—at least 400 years before Moses—and let us see if the Ten Commandments existed in principle then. We will take them in order. For the sake of brevity we shall not quote every verse cited. Those who are sufficiently interested can check the references in their own Bibles.

The first two commandments are covered in Genesis 35:1, 2. "Put away the strange gods that are among you . . ." These were images Rachel had

stolen from Laban, her father.

The principle of the Third Commandment is illustrated in Genesis 21:23. Abraham and Abimelech, a Gentile king, both knew that a vow taken in the name of God was not to be lightly regarded. Abraham's reverence for the name of God is again shown in Genesis 21:33.

Now comes the commandment which many people hate the most. What about the Sabbath day? Was that inaugurated before Moses? Turn please to Genesis 2:3: "And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it; because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made." This was at the close of creation week—2500 years before Moses. God blessed and sanctified the seventh day. The word "sanctify" means "set apart for holy use." Regardless of anyone's idea, that is the definition of the word.

Therefore, at creation God set the seventh day apart for holy use, and made it a "Sabbath day" by resting from His work on that day. The word "Sabbath" is really a Hebrew word that just means rest. Now, for whose "holy use" did God "set that day apart"? Let Christ answer. "The Sabbath was made for man . . ." (Mark 2:27). There you have it. God made the sabbath for man, and He made it at creation. I have the Bible that says it. No use to quibble that there is no "example" of anyone's keeping the Sabbath before Israel came out of Egypt; for where we have such a direct statement as this, no "example" is needed.

The Fifth Commandment is seen at work in Genesis 45:1-15 in the concern of Joseph for his father. Furthermore, Adam is said to have been the son of God in Luke 3:38. God

was the only Father Adam had. In dishonoring his only Father, Adam brought sin and death into the human family.

The Sixth Commandment is found in Genesis 4:7 where God warned Cain that sin (transgression of the law, 1 John 3:4) was lying at his door when he was on the verge of committing the first murder.

Adultery was sin, (transgression of the law) in the days of Abraham and Joseph (Gen. 20:1-16, 39:9). There is the Seventh Commandment in operation.

The sons of Jacob knew God had forbidden stealing in Genesis 44:7-9. This is the Eighth Commandment.

It was the false witness borne by Potiphar's wife that caused Joseph to be put into prison. She broke the Ninth Commandment. Do you believe she sinned? She didn't, if no law existed against false witness.

And last, but certainly not least, had not Eve first coveted the forbidden fruit, she could not have eaten it. She broke the Tenth Commandment.

What have we shown? That the spiritual laws expressed in the Ten Commandments were living and active from the dawn of creation. To break them always caused suffering. The purpose of the Ten Commandments is to identify sin (Rom. 7:7). The people of Israel were breaking them; and that made them sinners. Therefore, the "book of the law" was given. A law of ordinances, or ceremonies, which pointed forward in type and shadow to the coming of Christ—acted as a schoolmaster to bring us to Christ, who came to save us from our sins, but not in our sins. Christ came to die for sin—to pay the penalty for your transgression of God's

Ten Commandments; and then to fill you with His Spirit, thus enabling you to be subject to God's holy law, which in your carnal state you could never do (Rom. 8:4-9). Now that Christ has accomplished your full atonement, you have no further need of a schoolmaster such as was the book of the law—the "handwriting of ordinances."

Christ kept the Ten Commandments. He said, "If thou wouldst enter into life, keep the commandments." He then quoted enough of the Ten Commandments to show what "commandments" he was talking about. Truly, He did not come to destroy the law!

Now what did the apostles teach and practice regarding the Ten Commandment law? James 2:10-11 says, "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all. For he that said*, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law." Now what law said that? Anybody who knows a Bible when he sees one knows it was the Ten Commandments! James said, If you don't keep them all, you might as well not keep any of them. It is no worse to bow down to a cow's tail than it is to break the Sabbath. You might as well face it. They all ten stand or fall together. And again, I have the Bible that SAYS IT. You have too.

You cannot keep all of the commandments without keeping the Sabbath day. Paul worshiped on the Sabbath day (Acts 16:13). This was not Jewish worship. It was in the city of Philippi which was a Gentile city, and there wasn't a Jewish house of worship in town. Paul would have

*Greek: "That Law Which Said"

gone there, if there had been one, for such was his custom (Acts 17:2). Always, Paul worshiped on the Sabbath day. In Acts 13:14, 15 Paul came to Antioch of Pisida, and on the Sabbath day he went to worship. He was invited to preach. His sermon converted some of his hearers. They were persuaded to continue in the grace of God (verse 43). But the Gentiles wanted to hear the gospel too (verse 42). So the next Sabbath

day almost the whole city came together to hear the Word of God. There was a "first day of the week" between those two Sabbaths. If Paul held a worship service on Sunday after the first Sabbath he was in Antioch, he excluded the Gentiles from it, for he did not preach to them until "the next sabbath day" (Acts 13:44). Can you conceive of the apostle Paul holding a service and

(Continued on page 17)

Distinction Where There Is No Difference

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

1. Given first (Ex. 20). Actually in operation from the beginning.
2. Written with the finger of God on tables of stone (Deut. 10:1-4).
3. God gave them, and "ADDED NO MORE." Therefore, a complete law (Deut. 5:22).
4. Christ kept them, including the Sabbath (Luke 4:16, John 15:10).
5. Magnified, and brought to full spiritual intent by Christ (Matt. 5:17, Isa. 42:20).
6. Appealed to by the apostles for authority (Eph. 6:1-3, James 2:10, 11).
7. Spiritual and good (Rom. 7:14-16).

THE BOOK OF THE LAW

1. Given because the Ten Commandments were being broken (Gal. 3:19, Ex. 16:28-32, Ex. 16:3, Ex. 32).
2. Handwritten by Moses in a book (Deut. 31:24-26).
3. Given later, and since God "ADDED NO MORE" to the Ten Commandments, had to be an entirely separate law.
4. Not one line where Christ ever offered an animal sacrifice! Why? He had never broken the Commandments in the first place; so was never under the book of the law!
5. Abolished, taken out of the way, blotted out, broken down, and nailed to the cross (Eph. 2:14, 15, Col. 2:12-14).
6. Never once quoted for authority!
7. Carnal and not good (Ezek. 20:25, Heb. 7:16).

Explanation of Texts Used Against the Sabbath

A. N. DUGGER

THE Sabbath of the Fourth Commandment is strictly observed in Israel, with the bus lines and trains stopping their services and business closed but synagogues filled.

The Jews have been gathered here from all countries of the world where they have been scattered for nearly 2,000 years. Most of this long period of their dispersion, they had no telephones or other means of communication with one another; yet as they are gathered here from all countries and islands of the sea, there is no confusion among them about which day is the seventh day. They all agree that Saturday is the seventh day of the week, the same day they observed in Palestine when Christ was here with the apostles. This is the same day the Jews observed then, and it is called the Sabbath day 54 times in the New Testament. Surely, inasmuch as the Holy Spirit gave us the New Testament long after the crucifixion and called this day the Sabbath more than 50 times, it must still rightly hold this title.

Sabbathkeeping does not save anyone, for we are not saved by the works of any law, but we are put into a saved condition when we obey the gospel, follow what the apostle Peter said in his wonderful Pentecost sermon, and are baptized with the Holy Spirit. This is what saves people; but when we are in this saved condition, we will by nature bear the fruit of

the Spirit. That fruit is being obedient to the Father's Holy Commandments and the testimonies of Jesus (Rev. 12:17)—not just the portion of this gospel that pleased the flesh to observe, but all of the commandments of God and the rules of life laid down by Christ. There were ten commandments of God, and not just nine as many believe, brought over to the New Testament.

Our fathers and mothers who observed Sunday and thought it was in keeping with the Fourth Commandment, will be saved in the kingdom if otherwise they lived holy lives. Paul knew about the approach of the power of darkness when he said in regard to the return of Christ, that it would not be until the mystery of iniquity arose first (2 Thess. 2:3-11). He says there was a time of ignorance that God winked at, but now he commands all men everywhere to repent (Acts 17:30). Our parents who had no opportunity to learn will not be held accountable, but it is different with us. The closing worldwide message is a warning not to worship the beast (Rev. 14:9). It is just before

the return of Christ (verses 12 to 14).

This beast is introduced in Daniel 7:23, where it says plainly that it refers to the fourth kingdom upon the earth. Everyone who has studied history knows that this was Rome. The ten horns represent the ten kings of Rome. History tells us they reigned from 400 to 500 A.D., and the little horn here was the Papacy, the Roman Catholic power, that was to change times and laws (verse 25). They did change times and laws and brought in many heathen practices such as Christmas, Easter, sprinkling for baptism, Sunday as a day of rest, etc. This Roman church ruled from 538 to 1798, when the pope was taken prisoner through the wars of Napoleon.

In speaking of the time of the end, the angel Gabriel told Daniel that at the time of the end, knowledge would be increased and many would run to and fro. We are in that time now when knowledge of all kinds has been wonderfully increased, and this Roman power unmasked. It behooves each one of us to "walk in the light, as he is in the light" (1 John 1:7). Then it says the blood of Christ will cleanse us from ALL SIN. If we do not walk in the light, however, His blood will not cleanse us from sin, and we are doomed to be eternally lost. If we do not love the truth we will be given strong delusion and will believe a lie and be condemned (2 Thess. 2:10-12).

We are to walk in the light of His steps and be followers of Him (John 8:12 and 1 Peter 2:21). The Saviour made it His custom to keep the Sabbath day, the same day the Jews observed (Luke 4:14-16). This is therefore a subject that merits our

most careful and prayerful study, remembering that we must love the truth, and walk in the light, or we will be given strong delusion to believe something that is not truth.

When all of the New Testament texts bearing on this question are carefully analyzed, we will find that there is no warrant for keeping any other day as a day of rest except the day blessed by the Creator at Creation (Gen. 2:1-2), and later incorporated in the Commandments of God (Ex. 20:8-11). In Exodus 31:15 we learn that during the six days work may be done. Therefore, we are not breaking the commandment if we do not work the six days. To work all six days is not the intent of the precept, but the object is that we may be obedient to the Father in commemorating His great work of creation, and His blessing the seventh day.

A commandment was given to churches in the New Testament to make a certain contribution for the poor saints at Jerusalem (1 Cor. 16:1,2). When we examine this same commandment where it was repeated to the other churches, we find that it was just for one special purpose, and one collection of dried fruit which had to be carried with the help of others to Jerusalem for the poor. It was a collection at each home and not in an assembly. In 2 Corinthians 9:1-5 it is called bounty. In Romans 15:25-28 it says it was just a certain contribution, and it also says it was fruit. In 1 Corinthians 16:3 it says others would need to go along to carry it. As it required work to gather and lay by at each home, it was a command to work on the first day just as God did in the beginning. This fruit consisted of raisins, prunes, dried figs, etc., as that was the kind of fruit

in this district, and the manner they had of preserving it.

Another text is Acts 20:7, where it says they came together on the first day of the week to break bread. They broke bread every day (Acts 2:46). But the purpose of their coming together on this occasion was to take the common meal after the Sabbath on the dark part of the first day of the week just as they do now in Jerusalem. There were many lights in the upper chambers. Therefore, as the days began then at sundown, and still do, this was the beginning of the first day of the week. It says Paul preached all night. Then on the light part of this first day he walked across the cape, 19 miles to Assos (verse 14). The main brethren mentioned in verse 4 had set sail around the cape (verse 13), for Paul chose to remain with these brethren all night, and then walk across to meet them at Assos. These brethren would not set sail on the Sabbath; hence they remained at Troas until the Sabbath was over, then set sail. But Paul remained there, preferring to walk across to Assos. Read this carefully, for it tells the whole story and shows that they were observing the day before the first day of the week here, and on the first day Paul was walking and they were sailing the ship, which required much physical work in those days.

This was not the partaking of the Lord's Supper as some claim, for it says they left Philippi after the days of unleavened bread. The Passover was a yearly ordinance then by the followers of Christ, in commemoration of His shed blood, and it was kept up until changed by Rome, 321 A.D., making it on the Sunday they called Easter.

It was Jesus' custom to worship on the Sabbath day (Luke 4:14-16). Paul also made it his custom to worship on this same day the Jews worshiped (Acts 17:4 and 18:11). Notice in these texts, the Greeks (Gentiles) also met with them on this same day. This book was dictated by the Holy Spirit down in this age long after the crucifixion and the Spirit said these meetings with both Jews and Gentiles were on the Sabbath day. The Holy Spirit did not deceive us, and to say that this day is not the Sabbath is speaking against the Holy Spirit, which sin we are told will not be forgiven man in this world or in the world to come (Matt. 12:32).

The Holy Spirit spoke to Paul and told him to go over into Macedonia (Acts 16:9). He obeyed and went over there and held a meeting by the riverside on the Sabbath (verses 12-14). This was a special call, and we are told he preached on the Sabbath. Then in Acts 16:4 it says that as his manner was, he preached at the synagogue three Sabbath days to the Jews and Greeks. In Acts 13, a whole city of Gentiles asked Paul to preach to them the next Sabbath day. In verse 44 it says the Gentiles came to hear him. Why did these Gentiles not ask Paul to come over and preach to them tomorrow, which would have been the first day of the week if the Sabbath had been changed? This was 12 years after the crucifixion when the Holy Spirit called this day the Jews were worshiping on "the Sabbath"; therefore it is the Sabbath yet, for they are still observing the same day of the week that they were then. This would have been a golden opportunity for Paul to correct the

Gentiles and tell them as Gentiles he would meet with them the first day of the week; but not a word of correction was given.

It is said that the day of Pentecost in this age answers to the event of Sinai in the Old Testament, and that a new law was given. But I never have found such a scripture. Pentecost would have been a wonderful day to give this new law, but not a word is said about it. We are told, however, that the three thousand baptized on that day continued in the apostles' doctrine (Acts 2:42). The heathen surrounded Palestine in those days were sun-worshippers. They worshiped the sun each Sunday morning at its rising. The Jews, therefore, built their places of worship so the people all sat with their backs to the east, in opposition to the worship of the sun. It would have taken a lot of preaching and teaching to change those Jewish apostles to worship on the same day with the sun-worshippers. There would have been very much in the New Testament about it, and Pentecost would have been the crowning event for giving the new law, or telling the people that the first day was to be observed in honor of the resurrection. Jews were in Jerusalem from every nation, but the apostles let that event go by without a word being said about any change, and these 3,000 went forward steadfastly in the Apostles' doctrine.

The apostle Peter, the charming figure at Pentecost, says of Paul's writings, there are things "hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest . . . unto their own destruction" (2 Pet. 3:15, 16). Here we find two classes of men wrongly teaching Paul's writings and interpreting them in a way that

destroys people. As sin is what destroys men and "sin is the transgression of the law" (1 John 3:4), it is Paul's statements concerning this law they are thus twisting, to make people believe that the Ten Commandments are abolished, when it is the Mosaic law concerning animal sacrifices always referred to by Paul in this way. When led by the Spirit, we will by nature keep all of the Commandments of God mentioned so much in the New Testament. In 1 John 2:4 it says, "He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him." John 5:3 says, "This is the love of God, that we keep his commandments, and that they are not grievous (See Rev. 14:12, 12:17, and 22:14).

The Ten Commandment law remains in the New Testament, for James 2:10, 11 says that if we keep the whole law and offend in one point we are guilty of all. Then two of these Ten Commandments are given. These commandments are spoken of repeatedly in the New Testament as the commandments of God, because they are the only part of the Bible written by the finger of God on tables of stone. We are told seven times that they were so written (Ex. 24:12, also 31:18; Deut. 10:1-4, etc). Christ tells us that not one jot or tittle shall pass from this law as long as heaven and earth are here (Matt. 5:17-19). Some say that He fulfilled this law by keeping it, and that when He fulfilled it, that ended it. When He was baptized, He said He had fulfilled all righteousness. Then baptism and all righteousness have also ended, if the word "fulfill" used by Christ meant to finish them. They all stand or fall together.

That there were two definite sets or codes of law is evident from Colossians 2:14, where it says "blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us . . . contrary to us." Note that this law written by the hand of Moses and written in a book which contained the killing of animals in sacrifice for sin was against the apostles and contrary to them, for they had accepted the blood of Christ. Many unthinkingly apply this to the Ten Commandments, but were the Ten Commandments against the apostles and contrary to them? These men were baptized with the Holy Spirit, and therefore in harmony with all of these Ten Commandments. They are not against any good man, but in perfect harmony with any born-again person. This is positive proof that there are two codes of law, for this law against the apostles contained new moons, and eight yearly sabbaths, governed by the moon. Read all of Leviticus 23 and see for yourself. This is the law that was "added because of transgression" (Gal. 3:19). Therefore, there was a law before this that was transgressed, or there could not have been transgression, and the law of pardon was added to it. The Ten Commandments of God are what was transgressed, for sin is the transgression of this law (James 2:10-11 and 1 John 3:4).

Another scripture often misunderstood is found in Romans 14:1-6, in Paul's letter to the Romans concerning judging one another. He says "One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind. He that regardeth the day, regardeth it unto the Lord; and he that regardeth not the day, to the Lord he doth not

regard it." There were many of the Romans who did not observe any day, and others who observed different days, sun-worshippers, and those who followed different gods and had different customs. I could say the same thing today in America, and many places, that some esteem one day above another and some every day alike, and for every person to be persuaded in his own mind. Before Paul was converted, he was binding people, and forcing them to do as he thought and consented to the stoning of Stephen, but after he was converted, he said, "Now I persuade men." This was his attitude, and it was right, that every person was to be persuaded in his own mind.

Paul did not say "He that regardeth any day, or he that regardeth a day regardeth it to the Lord," but he said *the* day, meaning the one and only Sabbath day of that time. He said *the* day, he regardeth IT to the Lord, and the man who does not regard *the* day, a special day to the Lord, to the Lord he doeth not regard it. This is just the same today. Paul observed *the* day, and he called it the Sabbath day, in line with the Holy Spirit, Who called it the Sabbath over 50 times in the New Testament.

In speaking to the Hebrews, Paul says that "God did rest the seventh day from all his works" (Heb. 4:4). In verse 8 Paul says "If Jesus had given them rest, then would he not have spoken of another day." This is positively saying that Jesus did not speak of another day. Then why should we keep another day? In verse 9 Paul says there remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. These are the born again, baptized of the Holy Spirit people. Paul says

(Continued on page 18)

Echoes From Eden News

You will notice in this month's radio log that we have once again expanded our ministry. Thank you, all who have made it possible. But what we are doing is still just a drop in the bucket to what we should do. And your help must increase if we are to continue even at the present level.

Please read Joel 3 and Zechariah 14. We are so near the end. What we are going to do, we must do quickly.

I think I have preached enough about money in recent issues of THE SENTINEL. I feel sure that by now you know your help is needed on a regular monthly basis.

Someone may say, "Why should I support the radio work when it is not broadcast in my area?" Good question. Here is the answer. If everyone who receives this magazine would give just one dollar a week

to the radio fund, we could quadruple our outreach, AND BLANKET THIS NATION. When are we going to start laying up treasure in heaven, as the Master said? If we are going to preserve those treasures where moth and rust cannot corrupt, it had better be soon, because there isn't much time left.

Also, we have a vast library of recorded sermons—some radio sermons, some prepared for home study. Most of these are by Elder Frank Walker, and cover a wide range of Bible subjects. We have decided to offer these for loan to anyone wishing to use them. The only cost to you is the postage, which averages about 12 cents per tape. If you would like teaching on a particular subject, write me, and let me know. I can also supply some of my own tapes, sermons broadcast on "Echoes From

(Continued on page 18)

"Echoes from Eden" Radio Log

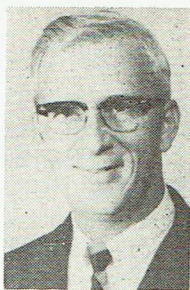
KCAB, Dardanelle, Ark. (980 kc.)—1:30-1:45 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
KXEN, St. Louis, Mo. (1010 kc.)—1:30-1:45 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
WKYX, Paducah, Ky. (730 kc.)—9:50-10:00 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:15-9:45 a.m., Sunday
XEG, Monterrey, Mexico (1050 kc.)—10:15-10:30 p.m. (CST), Tues.
KASA, Phoenix, Ariz. (1540 kc.)—12:15-12:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

Please, brethren, get behind this radio work, and let's go with it. Time is so short. Jesus IS coming. There is yet so much to do—so many to warn. Dare we spend our money on personal luxuries while sinners die lost? God is calling for SACRIFICE. Some of us are sacrificing, but most aren't.

How about YOU?

—Bob Rogers, radio director

A Note
from
the Editor



Prove It!

Are you a Sabbathkeeping Christian?

You are? Then the world around you challenges you to prove it. By proving it, we do not mean to trot out scriptural texts to back up your belief, though this has its proper time and place. We mean this: when we accept the Saviour—when we resolve to follow in His way in all points, including keeping the day He has commanded—we become objects of curiosity (and sometimes of suspicion) to those around us. We are “different,” and every generation has put those who are different beyond the pale of general acceptance.

The Apostle Paul realized this; in his first letter to the church at Corinth (4:9) he mentioned that the apostles were “a spectacle unto the world.”

Through eyes often narrowed with suspicion the world is looking critically at Sabbathkeepers, trying to see if their profession is a real, living thing, or only a sham—a whitewash job—that covers up the rottenness of their lives.

How do we act during the six days of the week in which we are in constant contact with those of the world?

Does their rough speech become ours? Do we adopt their immodest dress rather than to risk “being different”? Have we accepted as ours their shady business practices, which may be “legal” but are certainly not in line with the Golden Rule?

Since you are the only glimpse of Christianity that many will see, any mistake you make will color their idea of the Saviour you claim to represent. This places a great responsibility upon us. Only by trusting in the divine strength which is ours simply by praying for it can we effectively live a life that will prove to those who meet us that there is something to the gospel message.

Are you willing to accept the challenge? Can you translate the words of the Bible from specks of ink on pages of paper into the living language of a godly life?

You are a Bible translator
Commissioned by royal command
To give God’s Word to the people
In a language all understand.

Not by words printed on paper
And bound in a scroll or a book,
But in the life you are living
On which countless others will look.

Your language is universal—
What your life says thousands will
read.

Choose every action with prayer,
And let God’s love shine through each
deed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eugene Lincoln".

HAVE YOU
SEEN THE AD
ON THE BACK COVER?

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

In 1880 there was a "Sabbath Association" with headquarters in Philadelphia, Pa. Four years later Elder W. H. Littlejohn wrote an article appearing in *The Sabbath Sentinel*, opposing Sunday blue laws.

Of course this was not the same Bible Sabbath Association as we know it today, with headquarters at Fairview, Okla., nor was it the same SABBATH SENTINEL that is published monthly as the official magazine of the Bible Sabbath Association. But it is indeed a coincidence that both a "Sabbath Association" and a *Sabbath Sentinel* did exist in the late 1880's and that the prime objective was the same then as it is today.

The Bible Sabbath Association of our time was begun in late 1943, formed largely through the energetic efforts of a group of Seventh Day Baptists, of whom George A. Main of Pomona Park, Fla., was prominent.

Volume 1, Number 1, of THE SABBATH SENTINEL was published in 1950. At that time Elder Albert G. Gearhart served as its first president. Elder Gearhart has had a long experience in the work of the Association. His gift for choosing words appropriate for each situation to best express his thinking can hardly be equaled. It is with humility that I assume the responsibility of this position that he has so worthily filled for so many years.

Under our direction we shall continue the promulgation of the truths concerning the Creator's holy day with a positive and dynamic approach. Your suggestions on how we can better promote the Sabbath truth are always welcome.

I shall try to write a letter to our members through the pages of the SENTINEL each quarter.

My heavenly Father loves you—and I love you too.

—Terril D. Littrell

EVANGELIST RAYMOND CLARK DIES IN NEW YORK

We regret to announce that Raymond Clark, evangelist and author of many publications, fell asleep in Jesus September 27, 1971. His tract ministry, however, is being carried on by others. For a sample of his tracts, send a self addressed, stamped envelope to A. Clark, 119 Essex Street, Brooklyn, N. Y. 11208.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS AND THE HANDWRITING OF ORDINANCES

(Continued from page 9)

excluding people from it who had asked to hear the Word of God preached? If you can, you need to get better acquainted with Brother Paul.

The Sabbath day is mentioned at least seven times from Acts 13 through Acts 18. Every time it is mentioned, the apostles were going to worship on that day. The first day of the week is mentioned only eight times in the whole Bible; and not once did people of God ever assemble for worship on that day. Yes, I know the disciples met to break bread on the first day of the week in the city of Troas (Acts 20:7). But verse 11 of the same chapter shows that this "bread breaking" was simply eating food. Paul had been speaking since they first assembled, and yet they came back up and had the meal ready to eat as soon

as Paul had raised Eutychus from the dead—proving that they had the meal prepared before they assembled, and to eat his farewell meal with the apostle Paul was what they had come together for in the first place. It could not have been a Lord's Supper assembly, because Christians are forbidden to have a meal in the Lord's Supper Service (1 Cor. 11:22 and 34). They had a meal, and Paul participated in it in that meeting recorded in Acts 20.

Friends, I have not given you what I think about this subject; I have told you what the Book says. He that will be righteous, let him be righteous; and he that will be filthy, let him be filthy (Rev. 22:11). I shall be happy to discuss this in public or private at the convenience of the reader.

So be it.
—Bob Rogers, Hocomo, Mo. 65691

ECHOES FROM EDEN NEWS

(Continued from page 15)

Eden." If you have the means to do so, you may feel free to copy any tape you wish to borrow, as long as the original is returned to this office.

Now let me say this in closing. I know there are other works of God. I am not asking anyone to rob other phases of God's work to support this ministry. **THAT IS NOT NECESSARY.** The fact is: God's people are blessed with means we are not using for His glory, but for personal luxuries instead. I feel that this is a **SIN** for which many will have to give account.

I would like to say also that this is not a denominational work. It is not being pursued on a denomination-

al basis. I am not interested in building up any denomination. I **DO** want to reach souls for **CHRIST**, and help people obey **GOD**. Your help is needed.

Bob Rogers, radio director,
Hocomo, Mo. 65691

EXPLANATION OF TEXTS USED AGAINST THE SABBATH

(Continued from page 14)

here there *remaineth* a rest." This word is taken from the word *sabbatismas*, root word sabbiton, referring to the seventh-day Sabbath, as referred to over 50 times in the New Testament using the same word. This does not refer to the future rest in Eden, or the millennium kingdom, for it is taken from the Hebrew, and the Greek words that refer to the seventh-day Sabbath. The word "rest" used in this chapter referring to rest when one is tired or to the rest on the Sabbath is taken from the Greek word *catapsis*. Therefore, both words are used. In making the claim, as some do, that this only refers to the coming kingdom rest, they are wrong and need to be properly enlightend.

—Adapted from
The Mount Zion Reporter

IF YOU HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED YOUR SABBATH CALENDARS...

Please be patient if you have not yet received your Bible Sabbath Association calendars which you ordered. The printer has promised to have them all printed soon, and we are ready to mail them to you as quickly as they are printed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Copy must be brief. No charge will be made, but offerings to defray cost will be appreciated. The right is reserved to reject any proposed copy.

Send all copy to Bible Sabbath Association, Fairview, Okla. 73737. Information as to dates and places of Sabbath services, camp meetings, radio programs, desire for employment by Sabbathkeeping people or vice versa, prayer requests, requests for information leading to Sabbath fellowship for isolated people, etc., will be included.

This feature, offered solely as a service for Sabbathkeepers, is probably not obtainable elsewhere and is for the purpose of fostering increased good will, love, and harmony among ALL Sabbath-observing people (John 13:35).

All Sabbathkeepers in the Cleveland area are invited to fellowship with the Seventh Day Pentecostal Apostolic Church of Christ, 9120 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44108. Bishop Leland L. Frances, phone 561-6972 or 561-6988. Church phone: 451-5036.

I am a widow who lost my husband several months ago. I would like to hear from a Christian man who believes in the seventh-day Sabbath and loves God. I am 58 and middle class. Buna Oliver, P. O. Box 134, Palestine, Ark. 72372.

WANTED TO SELL: I have stacks of old and out-of-print books that MUST GO. Most of them are books dealing with religion or history,

sometimes both. Some of them range from \$5 to \$10 in value. I will sell any of them for \$2.50 each, postage paid. Send me your check, and I will send you a book—my choice. You will be glad you did.

WANTED TO BUY: Old original copies of a History of the True Church by Dugger and Dodd, printed in 1936. Drop me a card and state the condition of the book and your price. Pastor Terril D. Littrell, 1214 N. Tucker St., Nevada, Mo. 64772.

WANTED: Retired men—one gardener, greenhouse; one carpenter, maintenance; two women—one cook, one general sewing. Can be couples or singles. We are a non-profit health foundation. Happy Communal Family, doing God's work by His laws of teaching people how to regain health, through proper diet—herbs, natural therapy, steam baths. Write Philadelphian Institute, Sulphur Springs, Ark, 72768. Call (501) 298-3362.

BIBLE LANDS TOUR

Wholesale Tours International, Inc., has appointed us to be tour hosts for the tour of the Bible Lands and Rome, to depart in August, 1972, for 15 days. This is truly a trip of a lifetime. Financial arrangements can be made for those who do not have all the needed money to make the trip. We have planned this trip to accommodate those keeping the Sabbath. All interested persons should send immediately for the free travel brochure and begin making plans early for your trip to the lands of the Bible. Write to Pastor Terril D. Littrell, 1214 N. Tucker St., Nevada, Mo. 64772.

Please renew your Sentinel
subscription on your birthday
without special notice.

WHAT IS THE BIBLE SABBATH ASSOCIATION?

It is an *undominational* organization, open to all believers in the seventh-day Sabbath. It now has a branch with headquarters in Auckland, New Zealand, and members in several countries.

WHERE ARE THE HEADQUARTERS LOCATED?

They are located at Fairview, Oklahoma 73737. Requests for information, orders for literature, and offerings, should be sent there. Residents of the United States can deduct the offerings from their income for tax purposes.

WHEN WAS IT ORGANIZED?

Its beginnings can be traced to the outcome of correspondence in late 1943 between a few Sabbathkeepers of various beliefs and affiliations who felt the need for a closer cooperation between various Sabbathkeepers.

WHY WAS IT FORMED?

Its main purposes are to promote fellowship and cooperation between Sabbathkeepers of various groups; to promote Sabbath observance on an undenominational basis; to restore respect and honor for the Ten Commandments as a whole, with special emphasis on the Fourth, which has been forgotten by most of the world; to encourage the repeal of laws which enforce the keeping of Sunday (or any day) by any unit of man's government; and to defeat the adoption of any calendar which would disrupt the seven-day weekly cycle.

INTERESTED?

If you are interested or want to become a member write to

THE BIBLE SABBATH ASSOCIATION

Fairview, Oklahoma 73737