

The SABBATH SENTINEL

Serving the Seventh-day Christian Community

September, 1988



EDITORIAL

Thought Leaders for Tomorrow



Very frequently Christians point out the fact that in our modern society so many media people and thought leaders have liberal views. One recent survey revealed that high percentages of them see nothing wrong with abortion on demand, the homosexual "lifestyle," sex outside of marriage, or even adultery in marriage. These are the people who make movies and TV programs, who write books and articles, who report the news; obviously, their

values affect what they write—and in turn what the public thinks.

Many Christians find a similar situation in public schools. They find their children confronted with secular humanist values promoted by some teachers and immoral attitudes and behavior on the part of other students (unchallenged by teachers). Where are the Christian teachers and administrators? Where are the Christian writers and thought leaders? Why aren't they dominant in the media?

One reason, in my opinion, is that many Christians view the world as a hopeless cause and see no need to influence it in any way. They believe that because the Bible prophesies that evil would increase in the end times the primary responsibility of a Christian is to keep himself unspotted from the world and uninvolved with Babylon. While I appreciate this perspective (having held it once myself), I submit that it becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy. The more Christians retreat from being the salt of the earth and lights to the world, the worse the world will become. But it doesn't need to be this way. Whatever retreat is necessary can become a staging ground for future victories. Whether taught at home, in Christian schools, or in public schools, our children can become the thought leaders, media people, and teachers of tomorrow. From earliest childhood, we can instill in them a sense of duty to their fellow men, a sense that the whole world is their congregation to be ministered to. We can encourage them to be teachers, preachers, writers, thinkers—people who will use all forms of media for good. We can hold these professions in the highest esteem—encouraging our children, who are so led of God, to pursue them and become the influencers of tomorrow. While I have no illusions that we'll turn around the basic flow of human nature toward evil, if we can make a difference in one school room or on one television program, if we can make one newspaper or radio station a beacon for godliness, it will have been worthwhile.

And what if the end comes very soon? Well, "Blessed is that servant, whom his lord, when he cometh shall find so doing" (Luke 12:43, KJV).

That's my opinion. What's yours?

—Richard A. Wiedenheft

The SABBATH SENTINEL

(USPS 474-580)

Vol. 40, No. 9
Issue No. 377

September 1988

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

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PA 18615; phone (717) 378-2056. We invite articles
on various aspects of the Sabbath and on other
subjects of general interest to Sabbathkeepers,
however, we cannot pay for them. A writer's guide
is available upon request.

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

Second class postage paid in Cleveland,
Tennessee 37311. Postmaster: Send change of
address to THE SABBATH SENTINEL, RD 1 Box 222,
Fairview, OK 73737.

The Bible Sabbath Association is a strictly
nonsectarian association dedicated to helping
Sabbathkeepers of all persuasions learn about
and from one another and to promoting the one
commandment that is repudiated by Christendom
in general. BSA accepts as members all who
acknowledge Jesus Christ as Savior, who regard
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only:** \$10 per year in US; \$12 outside US.

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available if 10 or more copies are sent in the same
package: \$5 each subscription; \$8 outside US.

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222, Fairview, OK 73737; phone (405) 227-3200.

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

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And now abide
FAITH,
HOPE, LOVE,
these three, but the
greatest of these is
LOVE.

The Bible Advocate Celebrates 125th Year

The Bible Advocate, published by the General Conference of the Church of God (Seventh Day) celebrated the end of its 125th year of publication last month.

The first issue, under the name *The Hope of Israel*, was published on Monday, August 10, 1963, in Hartford, VanBuren County, Michigan; the annual subscription was 75¢. Enos Easton was listed as the resident editor, Gilbert Cranmer and John Reed as corresponding editors. Published twice monthly, the four-page publication went to about 40 readers in Michigan, Iowa, and Wisconsin. With the second issue Easton

and H. S. Dille were listed as editors. Although the Michigan conference of the Church of God voted to publish the paper, they had trouble paying for it; so it was largely through his own personal sacrifice that Dille kept the paper going for two years and saw circulation increase to 336 in 18 states and Canada. However, times were very hard at the end of the Civil War, and the October 18, 1865 issue, number 13 of volume 2, was the last to be printed in Michigan. In May of 1865, the paper was revived in Marion, Iowa, published by the Christian Publishing Association under the editorship of W. H.



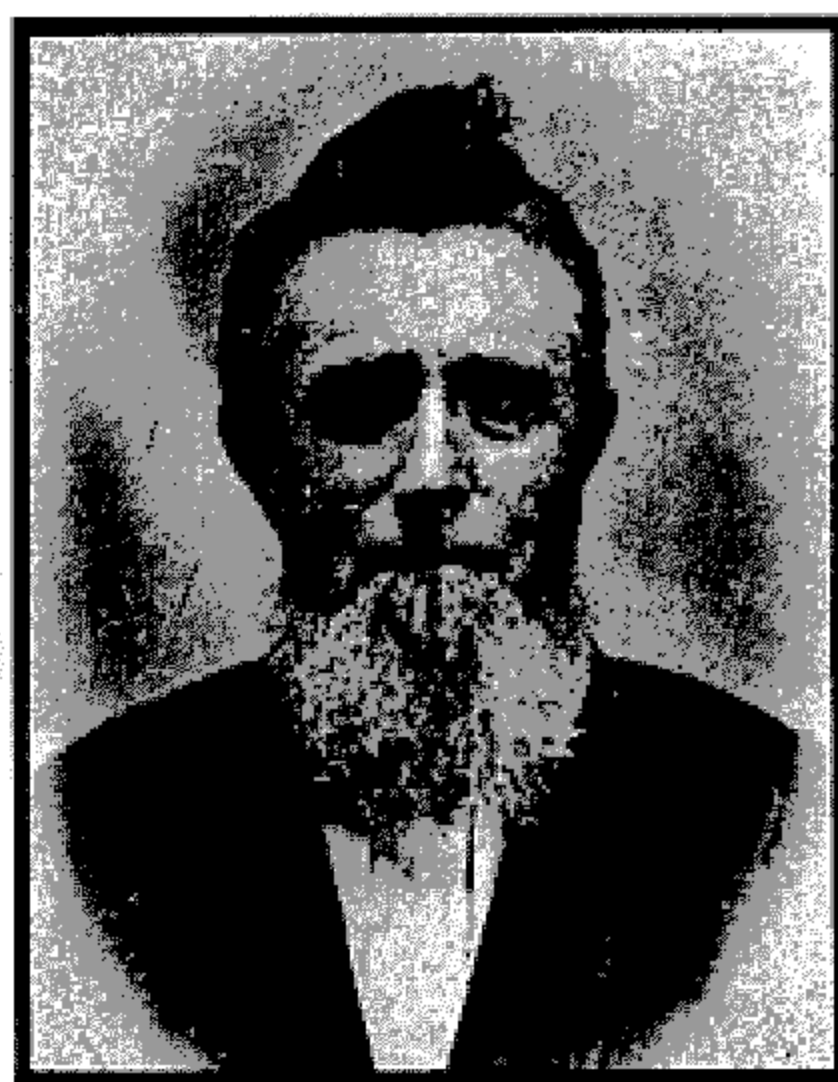
Seven editors of *The Bible Advocate* assembled at the General Conference meeting of the Church of God (Seventh Day) in 1987: Jerry Griffin, 1981-present; Archie B. Craig, 1942-44;

Ray E. Benight, 1950-53; Stanley J. Kauer, 1935-42; Floyd A. Turner, 1970-81; John Kiesz, 1931-33; Max Morrow, 1959-64. Photo by All Walls.

Brinkerhoff. It was 8 pages and was published semi-monthly. That the subscription price of \$1.50 was a major obstacle for some readers is indicated by the following letter sent along with \$1. "Tis with trembling hand. . .that I attempt to write because I have not sent the [\$1] sooner. I have had it three months, hoping to get an opportunity to get the other 50 cents and go to the post office myself with the letter. My health is poor—we have no team and live four miles from Middleville [Michigan] on a new timbered land farm, and our circumstances are quite limited, therefore I shall have to be under the painful necessity of giving up taking the "Hope" or rely much on the mercy of others—It does seem as though I could not live without it. I do receive so much good instruction by reading it. . .Nancy R. Moore."

The editor responded that the magazine would continue to go to the Moores and with an appeal to someone ". . .who would esteem it a pleasure to send us \$1.50 for the paper in behalf of this sister" and with an assurance that "none shall do without the paper who appreciate it, if we can help it."

In 1871, Edler Jacob Brinkerhoff, brother of W. H., became editor. The next year the name was changed to *The Advent and Sabbath Advocate, and Hope of Israel*; however, soon thereafter *The Hope of Israel* was dropped. In 1874, Christian Publishing Assn. was forced to sell the printing equipment at public auction to satisfy the mortgage. The editor stepped forward to purchase it, using money he and his wife had saved for a home. Fully aware of the risks of his actions, he wrote in the March editorial: "Our undertaking will require much sacrifice and rigid economy. . .But we trust in Him who has said, 'My grace shall be sufficient for thee,' and we pray for grace



Gilbert Cranmer, an early pioneer of the Church of God who raised up churches in southwestern Michigan during the 1850s 60s. He was instrumental in the birth of *The Hope of Israel* and served as editor for a short time in 1964 and '65. Early issues were printed in a room in his house.

to sustain us in our labor, and for wisdom to enable us to fill our station." Brinkerhoff was supported by his wife, who wrote many articles and did the typesetting; she was instrumental in starting a Sabbath school paper for children in 1885. In 1881 *The Advent and Sabbath Advocate* became a weekly; and in 1885 it was announced that the paper would be published by The General Conference of the Church of God, with printing continuing in Marion, Iowa, under Brinkerhoff's direction. Three years later, Elder W. C. Long became editor, purchased the printing equipment and moved it to his hometown of Stanberry, Missouri. The name was changed slightly to *Sabbath Advocate and Herald of the Advent*.

In 1892 the paper was printed using steam power for the first time. In December 1900, the General Conference change the name to *The Bible Advocate and Herald of the Coming Kingdom* and appointed Elder N. A. Wells as editor. During the early decades of the 20th century, the editors were A. F. Dugger and, for a second time, Elder Jacob Brinkerhoff, from 1907 to 1914. Altogether he served for 23 years, the longest of any editor. During this period, December 20, 1907, the building housing the presses were severely damaged by fire. Most of the printing type and cases were carried to the street and escaped the fire. Though it was quite a blow, the dedication of the publishers was such that only one issue was missed. In 1914, when Elder Jacob Brinkerhoff had to retire because of ill health, A. N. Dugger took over the editorial responsibilities and continued until 1932, when his ministry took him to Palestine.

Subsequent editors will include

names recognized by readers: Elder John Kiesz, currently a director of The Bible Sabbath Association, served as office editor from 1931 to 1933; Editors during mid century included Roy Dailey, W. C. Rodgers, Stanley J. Kauer, Roy Davison, Elder Archie B. Craig, office editor during WW II. A. S. Christenson, Ray E. Benight, Burt F. Marrs, Edler Max Morrow, Noah H. Camero, Floyd A. Turner, 1970-81, and, finally, Jerry Griffin, 1981 to present. In 1972 the publishing operation was moved from Missouri to the offices of the General Conference in Denver, Colorado, and the name was shortened to *The Bible Advocate*.

In 1970, the subscription price was dropped, making it a free publication supported by the General Conference of the Church of God (Seventh Day) and by the donations of readers. An increasing circulation currently stands at more than 12,000.



The old publishing house in Stanberry, Missouri, as it appeared in the 1890s. Among the individuals identified by numbers

are 2) W. C. Long (editor 1888 to 1905); and 3) A. F. Dugger, Sr. (editor 1903-1909). Photos courtesy Bible Advocate Press.

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The Sacred Name Movement

by Ruth Fink

The Sacred Name Movement began in the late 1930s when members of the Church of God, 7th Day, began to think on the question proposed by the wise man in Proverbs 30:4: "What is his name and what is his son's name, if thou canst tell?" But the groundwork was being laid almost a century earlier when, in 1857, Alexander MacWhortan of Yale University wrote a book called *The Memorial Name*, which he believed was Yahveh. Around the turn of the century, the Hebrew scholar F. L. Chapell delivered 6 lectures on the names of deity; these were published in 1911. Dr. Chapell referred to the stir caused by the publication of MacWhortan's book and said, ". . .but there has been, especially during the last fifty years, a great interest among the scholars in this name" (*The Standard Bearer*, Dayton, Ohio, 1911).

Research revealed that the Hebrew form of the name of the Most High was four Hebrew letters (tetragrammaton) transliterated variously as YHWH, YHVH, JHWH, JHVH and pronounced variously as Yahweh, Yahveh, Yahve, Yahvah, Jahoveh, Jahaveh, as well as the commonly used Jehovah. Elder A. B. Traina of New Jersey did much research on this topic, and eventually the general conclusion reached by the early pioneers in the movement was that

the proper transliteration of the Hebrew name was YHWH pronounced Yahweh. However, Elder L. D. Snow from Arkansas was persuaded that Yahvah is the correct pronunciation. The Savior's name in Hebrew is Yahshua (no "j" sound in the Hebrew language), which means Yahweh's Salvation (Luke 1:31; 2:30). The English language did not exist in those days; and the Greek "Jesus" (from whence comes the English "Jesus") would not be given to a Judean child whose language was Hebrew.

In addition to Elders Traina (now deceased) and Snow, other early pioneers of the Sacred Name Movement were John Briggs, William Bishop, Joseph Owsen, Ralph Kinney (all from Michigan and now deceased), LaRue Cessna (Detroit), Paul Penn, Elder Clarence O. Dodd (West Virginia, now deceased); Elder William Bodine (Ark.); and Bro. Marvin Gay (Indiana) and Elder James Roley (Cincinnati).

Elder L. D. Snow traces the roots of the movement to a Church of God (7th Day) campmeeting held at Galena, Kansas, in 1936; the topic for a minister's meeting was "the exact words to be used in the ceremony of water baptism according to Acts 2:38." The name Jehovah figured in the discussion and may have led to the later development of the sacred

name truth.

In the Spring of 1937, Elder C. O. Dodd of Salem, West Virginia, began publishing a paper called *The Faith*, advocating the feasts of Leviticus 23. Beginning with a small filler paragraph in one of the early issues, articles concerning the sacred name of the Almighty appeared in his paper from time to time. The October 1938 issue contained an article by A. B. Traina entitled "What Is His Son's Name?" and another on the subject by William Bishop and John Briggs. During the Churches of God (7th Day) Feast of Tabernacles that fall in Warrior, Alabama, lectures by Elder Traina about the sacred name figured prominently. Elder Snow, who was there along with C. O. Dodd, considers that campmeeting the real beginning of the name movement.

In the November 1941 issue of *The Faith*, Bro. Dodd inserted the names Yahweh and Yahshua in the masthead of his magazine, stating that the titles Lord, God, and the name Jesus Christ would no longer be used for referring to the Father and His Son. Many Sabbathkeeping believers supported his magazine and through it, many people around the world was introduced to the sacred names. After his death in December 1955, his wife and subsequently his daughter, continued to print his tracts and the Halleluyah Hymnal, which many groups here and abroad use in their services. They are available from Faith Bible and Tract Society of Amerst, Ohio.

In 1940, Elder Traina published a pamphlet called "The Deed" in which he used the name, Yahweh. In 1950, he published *The Sacred Name New Testament* and organized Scripture Research Assn. at Irvington, N.J. His plan was to form autonomous groups in various areas which would be called Assemblies of Yahweh for their localities and

which would be branches of the Scripture Research Association. In 1963, he edited *The Holy Name Bible*, retaining the text of the King James Version. In 1964, the major part of Scripture Research Association work was carried on by the then newly incorporated Universal Assembly of Yahweh, Washington, D.C., located at Brandywine, Md. Pastor Traina died in 1971, almost 82 years old. The association continues to distribute Bibles and sacred name literature from College Park, Maryland. Sabbath services and the feasts are still held in Brandywine under the leadership of Ben Simon and Philip Wisman.

Beginning in about 1945 Elder L. D. Snow and his co-workers published *The Eliyah Messenger and Field Reporter*, now continued as the official organ of The Assembly of Yahvah of Winfield, Alabama. Elder Snow was instrumental in beginning The Assembly of Yahvah in Ft. Smith, Ark. and at Emory, Texas, in 1949. Today he publishes *World Today Analyzed* from his home in St. Smith.

After the death of C. O. Dodd in 1955, *The Faith* magazine was continued by Beecher Wright in Missouri (1956-1961). Then Bro. Werner of Washington D.C. became the editor. It was my joy and privilege to visit him, along with my brother, Alfred Francis, and his wife Doris, in August 1961. We helped to proof-read the articles and arrange them for the Sept. 1961 issue. From then on members of the Morton, Penna., Assembly of Yahweh did the mailing and later edited the magazine until December, 1968, when the brethren at Eaton Rapids, Michigan, undertook this endeavor.

The Eaton Rapids Assembly had its origin in the late 1920s in a home Bible study class where the commandments were taught and Sabbath day observed. Later one of the

class members, Mrs. Pearl T. Smith, established Camp of Yah, where, beginning in the early 1940s, the feasts of Yahweh were held for many years. The group incorporated in 1939 as "Assembly of YHVH (Transliterations Yahovah, Yahveh, Yahweh, Yah, Yahavah)." Among the original signers were Joseph Owsinski, John Briggs, LaRue Cessna, William L. Bodine, and Marvin Gay; and, according to Elder L. D. Snow, this is the oldest chartered general sacred name organization. Eventually the property at Columbia and Gunnell Roads in Eaton Rapids was acquired, and in 1957 the name was changed to Assembly of YaH WeH. The members there cooperate in the continued publication of *The Faith*, printing 4400 copies each issue, and mailing this message of the sacred name to many parts of the world. George Kinney (son of pioneer Ralph) serves as editor along with Samuel Graham. In spite of an all-volunteer staff, the present cost of printing and mailing more than \$1900 for each issue.

In Jacksons Gap, AL there is an assembly under the direction of Elder and Mrs. Bob McBride. They have been active in the sacred name message for a number of years and publish a paper called "The Restorer."

The Assemblies of Yahweh of Bethel, Penna., is an outgrowth of The Sacred Name radio broadcast begun by Elder Jacob O. Meyer in 1966. Currently the program is aired on 20 radio stations as well as on a 50,000-watt short wave station operated at Bethel. This group publishes *The Sacred Scriptures, Bethel Edition*, numerous books, booklets and articles, and a monthly magazine. *The Sacred Name Broadcaster*, which goes to around 12,000 subscribers in many countries, making it the largest circulation sacred name periodical.

Another group, Yahweh's Assembly in Messiah of Rocheport, Missouri, publishes the *Master Key*, a bi-monthly periodical, a correspondence course, and tracts carrying the sacred name message.

With roots in Israel, The House of Yahweh was organized in the United States by two brothers, Jacob and Yisrayl Hawkins. Jacob oversees The House of Yahweh in Odessa, Texas, where it was established in 1973. A separate organization, The House of Yahweh, Abilene, Texas, was established by Yisrayl in 1983. It published a sacred name version of the Holy Scriptures, other books and booklets, and *The Prophetic Word* magazine.

There are sacred name believers in Jamaica, in the West Indies, in India, Africa, the Philippines, England, Norway and many other places. Over forty sacred name groups, including those mentioned in this article, are listed in the Directory of Sabbath-observing Groups published by The Bible Sabbath Association.

Since the early beginnings in the 1930s, the Sacred Name Movement has spread. More and more we find scholars using the name Yahweh and ministers referring to Yahweh rather than Jehovah. "I am Yahweh: that is my name" (*The Emphasized Bible*, Joseph Bryant Rotherham); "My Name is YAHWEH" (*The Jerusalem Bible*), "I am Yahweh: that is My Name" (*The Holy Name Bible*, Exodus 3:15. Isaiah 42:8).

The author is secretary/treasurer of The Assembly of Yahweh (Morton, Penna.); her aunt was married to Elder A. B. Traina in 1919.

Unless we have something worth dying for, we have nothing that is ultimately worth living for.

—William G. Johnsson,
Adventist Review, June 2, 1988

The Bible Sabbath: Seventh Day or First Day?

Editor's note: The following article is the text of a newly published BSA booklet by the same title; it is a thoroughly revised version of the now discontinued tract "Facts on the Sabbath Question." For ordering details, see back cover.

Nearly all Christians observe one day of the week as some sort of sabbath. The vast majority worship on Sunday, the first day of the week, but some keep the seventh day (Saturday). Which day is correct? Does it really

matter?

As you read the paragraphs which follow, we invite you to study the Bible references—to see for yourself what the Word of God says on this important subject.

What the Bible Says about the Seventh Day

The seventh day of the week was ordained as the Sabbath at Creation—by God's very own example (Genesis 2:2,3; Exodus 20:11). The nation of Israel was instructed to keep it and chided for not doing so—even before the Law was given on Mount Sinai (Exodus 16:23-30). The Fourth Commandment, which specifies the seventh day as the Sabbath, was so important that God chose to place it at the very heart of the Ten Commandments; it is intimately associated with nine other moral precepts—which were given by the voice and finger of Yahweh Himself and which are appropriate for all humans throughout all generations (Ex. 20:8-11).

Jesus reinforced the Fourth Commandment when he said, "The Sabbath was made for man" (Mark 2:27). His point was that the Sabbath was made as a blessing for the benefit of mankind—not as an oppressive legal yoke. It was made for *man*—not just the Jews. Jesus also proclaimed Himself Lord of the Sabbath (Mark 2:28) and observed it regularly (Mark 1:21; Luke 4:16-22). Though He frequently denounced the Pharisees for their manmade rules, Jesus always upheld the Sabbath and showed by His positive example how it should be observed as a day of rest, worship, freedom, and joy (Mark 3:4; Luke 13:15-16; Matthew 12:10-12). During His Olivet Prophecy,

Jesus urged His disciples to pray that their flight (years in the future) would not be on the Sabbath (Matt. 24:20).

The disciples rested on the Sabbath while Christ lay in the grave: according to Luke, who recorded the fact many years later, they did so "...according to the commandment" (Luke 23:56). Matthew and Mark, who also wrote long after the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ, spoke familiarly of the Sabbath as an existing institution (Matthew 24:20; 28:1; Mark 16:1).

It was Paul's custom to use the Sabbath for preaching (Acts 17:2). He did so in synagogues and elsewhere (Acts 13:14-15; 16:13). Gentile believers observed the Sabbath (Acts 13:42,44). For a year and a half in Corinth, Paul worked during the week and reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, teaching the Word of God (Acts 18:4,11). James and Paul, along with Jesus, spoke very positively about the importance of the Ten Commandments, of which the Sabbath is an integral part (Romans 2:13, 21:22; 7:7-12, 22; James 2:8-12; Mark 10:17-19).

Finally, history reveals that early Christians, both Jews and Gentiles, continued to faithfully observe the seventh-day Sabbath for many decades after the Messiah's resurrection and ascension. And down through the centuries to our day, there have always been faithful Christians who have accepted Jesus as their Savior and have walked in the joy of the liberty of God's seventh-day Sabbath.

What the Bible Says about the First Day of the Week

The term "first day of the week" is used only eight times in the New Testament (the word "Sunday" is never used). Four of these occurrences (Matthew 28:1; Mark 16:2; Luke 24:1; John 20:1) are simple time references to the day following Jesus' resurrection, to the disciples' early morning discovery of the empty tomb. Note that the women brought spices to the grave of the Savior on the first day, something they would not do on the Sabbath (Luke 23:56). Two other first-day references relate to Jesus' later appearances on that same day (Mark 16:9; John 20:19). The second of these describes how the disciples were assembled behind locked doors for fear of the Jews. Certainly this cannot be construed as some sort of Sunday "sabbath" celebration. Jesus gave not so much as a hint that the first day was to be kept holy.

Paul once preached on the first day of the week (Acts 20:7); this is generally understood to be a Saturday night since, according to Biblical reckoning, days began with the evening. The next morning, he continued his journey toward Jerusalem. No hint of Sunday observance here.

The Corinthians were commanded to take up a collection for the poor saints of Judea on the first day (1 Corinthians 16:2); but the phrase "lay by him in store" indicates this was a *private inventory* activity, not a *public religious* activity.

The above eight texts are the only ones which speak of the first day of the week. Carefully examined, they prove nothing at all in favor of Sunday as a day of worship or rest. In fact, they indicate the opposite.

History reveals that it was at least a century or more after the death of the Savior that the first day of the

week gradually came to replace the Sabbath. This change was in response to anti-Jewish bias in the Roman Empire. In order to curry favor of Roman political leaders, the Roman church moved away from the pure religion of Jesus and the apostles; it moved to accommodate the pagan, Roman world, of which Sunday observance was a part. Many Catholic and some Protestant writers cheerfully admit that it was church tradition, not Biblical authority, which brought about the popular acceptance of the first day of the week for worship.

Summary of the Facts

1. The seventh day was set aside for all mankind at Creation.
2. The Fourth Commandment, embedded at the heart of the Decalog, specifies the seventh day.
3. Christ observed the seventh-day Sabbath; He did not so much as hint that it would ever be replaced by Sunday.
4. The apostles faithfully observed the Sabbath on the seventh day—never on Sunday.
5. There is not one word in the Bible in favor of Sunday as a holy day; rather it was given to man as the first of six days for labor.

The only thing that can be said in favor of Sunday is *postapostolic church tradition!* But one who truly loves God, who has accepted Jesus Christ as His Savior and Lord, will push aside tradition in order to seek his heavenly Father's will in all things. The Scriptures—Old and New Testaments alike—clearly reveal that God's will for all His children includes the liberty and refreshment of the seventh-day Sabbath.

If you find life empty, try putting something into it.

TO REPEAT

SIGNIFICANT STATEMENTS BY OR ABOUT SABBATHKEEPERS

When we were baptized, did we accept a set of doctrines—or a Savior? We have stated time and again that the Church of God “does not have a closed creed.” We have no human founder whose honor must be defended, no “latter-day prophet” whose pronouncements must be upheld at all costs. Let us, therefore, grow in the wise use of the hermeneutical tools we have been given, and continue to delve deeper and deeper into the treasure we call the Holy Bible.

Letter from W.V. of Iowa urging reexamination of some of some doctrinal positions, *The Harvest Field Messenger*, Mar/Apr '87 Church of God (Seventh Day)

The greatest tragedy that could befall the Adventist church today is for pastors to accommodate their preaching to . . .the itching ears of some in their congregations. . .When a pastor chooses to ease the troubled consciences of members by relaxing doctrinal and moral standards. . .he will only encourage the trend toward compromise in adventist beliefs and piety. We see it in an increasing secularizing of the Sabbath, in sexual permissiveness, participation in worldly entertainments, chemical dependency, wearing of jewelry, blurring of role distinctions in the home and church, and decreasing dependence on the plain meaning of Scripture for defining Adventist beliefs and practices.

“Under No Illusion”, C. Raymond Holmes, *Adventists Affirm*, Fall '87, independent publication at Andrews Univ.

We get so out of perspective. God says “Do my work,” but we are so concerned with budget and programs that we have lost perspective of what God is calling us to do as a people.

“Eagles or Prairie Chickens?”, George Calhoun, *The Sabbath Recorder*, Oct. '87, Seventh Day Baptists

One of history's most ironic aberrations is the fact that Christianity, the child, has for the most part risen up in antipathy for Judaism, the parent, for anti-Semitism has long characterized too much of Christianity.

“Roots—Judaism, The Parent of Christianity”, *The Vision Speaks* Jan/Feb '87, The Church of God, Jerusalem Acres

Anyone should be able to see plainly that all spiritual “diseases” do not respond equally to the same “medication”—that disfellowshipment is not the ultimate solution to the problem of sin in the church!

“Excommunication”, Vance A. Stinson, *Twentieth Century Watch*, Summer '87, Church of God, International

BSA

NEWS FROM THE BSA

Update on Meeting at AAR/SBL

We have been contacting various Sabbathkeeping scholars, teachers, and pastors to let them know of our tentative plans for an informal meeting during the annual convention of the American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature this November 19-22 in Chicago. The time is tentatively set at 9 p.m., Sunday Nov. 23. Location to be announced. The purpose of the informal gathering is to discuss ways in which Sabbatarian scholars might communicate and cooperate, perhaps in the context of AAR/SBL, to benefit the entire Sabbathkeeping community. Anyone interested in more information should contact the editor at RD1 Box 475, Falls, PA 18615.

Price to Go Up January 1

At the end of 1987, the subscription price of *The Sabbath Sentinel* goes to \$12 per year (\$14 outside U.S.). You can still extend your subscription at the current price: \$10 for one year; \$18 for two years (\$12 and \$22, respectively, outside U.S.). BSA membership dues will remain \$20 per year.

New BSA Booklet

Printed during July is a 5-page booklet entitled *The Bible Sabbath: Seventh Day or First Day?* a thoroughly revised version of the old BSA tract "Facts on the Sabbath Questions," the new booklet is done in the same format as other BSA booklets (3 and 1/2 by 8 and 1/2 with a glossy cover). The cost is 14¢ each

\$12 per hundred (plus \$1 for shipping); see back cover for details.

Thank You for Names

Over the past several years, we have been building a computer file of known Sabbathkeepers. Thanks to many of you who have sent us names and addresses of Sabbathkeeping friends and relatives, our list has grown to more than 3000—not including BSA members and subscribers. To these people we send notices about new BSA publications and services, and, from time to time, a sample copy of *The Sabbath Sentinel*. We intend to keep adding names so we can share the ministry of BSA with even more people. So if you know of Sabbathkeepers who don't know about BSA, please feel free to send us their names.

1989 Sabbath Calendar

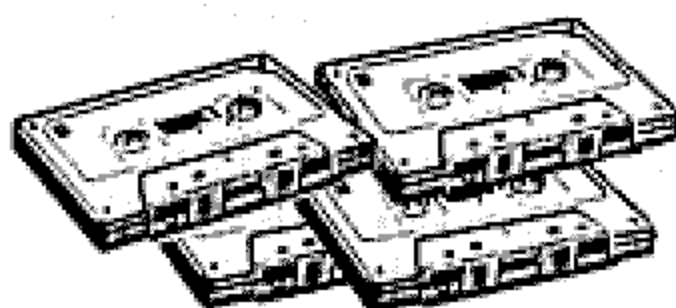
Plans are in the works for a major promotion of the 1989 Sabbath calendar, which will, as usual, be printed as the December 1988 issue of *The Sabbath Sentinel*.

This year, in addition to advertising the calendars in TSS, we hope to mail our (during October and November) a special announcement to all 3000+ people on our mailing list, inviting them to order calendars. Hopefully, many Sabbathkeepers who are not regular subscribers, will order calendars.

A man is never a failure until he blames someone else.

Now available from BSA!

Sabbath Truths on Tape



Dr. Samuele Bacchiocchi, Prof. of Theology, Andrews Univ.
My Search for the Lord's Day at Vatican University ('84)
Divine Rest for Human Restlessness ('84)
The Sabbath as a Day of Service ('84)
Sabbath, Holyday or Holiday? ('84)
Good News of the Sabbath ('84)

Dr. Desmond Ford, Founder, Good News Unlimited
The Sabbath ('86)

Richard A. Wiedenheft, BSA Executive Director
How the Sabbath Was Changed to Sunday, Part 1 ('80)
How the Sabbath Was Changed to Sunday, Part 2 ('81)
My Sabbath Shall Be . . .
The Sabbath Was Made For Man ('75)
Putting the Sabbath in Perspective
Sabbath, Day of Freedom ('83)
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Why the Sabbath is Vital For Christians ('83)
The Sabbath & Col. 2:16 ('84)

Media Outreach, Church of God (Seventh Day)
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How Jesus Changed the Law

Daniel Porter, Pastor, Baltimore Church of God
How the Sabbath Was Changed

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The views expressed on these cassettes are those of the speakers, not necessarily of The Bible Sabbath Association. We are interested in adding to our library Sabbath-related messages by other speakers—to provide greater variety and balance. If you know of such, please send us copies for consideration. Thank you.

NEWS

FROM THE SEVENTH DAY COMMUNITY

SDB Churches Gain Sisters Around the World

The Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society has embarked on a program of linking up churches around the world as sister congregations. For example, two Philippine churches, Cebu City and Surralah S., are linked with Bradenton, Fla. and Toronto, Canada, respectively; and two Polish churches, Bydgoszcz and Lodz, are linked with Miami, Fla. and Milton, Wisc., respectively. A number of overseas churches have not yet found sisters. Correspondence between sisters can include a wide range of information and materials designed to promote better understanding and mutual encouragement, exchange of church news, publications, pictures, prayer concerns, and testimonies.

SDB Africa Missionaries Return

Mr. and Mrs. David Pierson are presently on furlough following their sixth tour as missionaries to Malawi, Africa. They first went to Africa in 1954, five years after the mission there had been reopened by SDBs. At that time there were approximately 1,000 African SDBs, now the Central African Conference has close to 5,000 members in 29 church and 62 branches; it operates three primary schools and four hospitals or dispensaries.

Tulsa Churches on Phones

Twelve Adventist congregations in the Tulsa area have accepted the challenge of contacting every home in their territory by phone—offering

to enroll people in the Voice of Prophecy Bible course. Part of a 12-month evangelistic thrust, the telephone outreach has involved hundreds of people and sparked in them a love for souls. Those who agree to take the correspondence course receive a follow-up call two weeks later. The climax of the program will come on harvest weekend, November 5, when a Voice of Prophecy team, including H.M.S. Richards, Jr. will focus on securing decisions during meetings at a local auditorium. A two-week evangelistic crusade will follow.

It Is Written Viewers

According to November 1987 figures from A.C. Nielsen, nearly half a million households are tuned to *It Is Written* each weekend, placing the Adventist program among the top 10 religious telecasts. In many markets the program is viewed by more people than Jimmy Swaggart, Oral Roberts, or Kenneth Copeland. During January, one program generated more than 2,300 phone calls, about half of them from men.

Adventist Actor Receives Bible

Actor Clifton Davis, preacher on NBC's television program "Amen," was recently recognized by the American Bible Society. Davis received the symbolic 5 billionth copy of Scripture produced by the society since it was founded in 1816.

Hungarians Help Romanians

Due to repressive measures by the government of Romania, many Hun-

garian-speaking people have fled that country. The Hungarian SDA church has helped over 50 such people, donating the equivalent of \$35,700 to refugees in the Budapest area. In May the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) in Switzerland donated seven tons of clothing to be distributed throughout Hungary.

Bulgarian SDA Church Recognized

According to a report by Keston News Service, E. Ludescher, president of the Euro-Africa Division of the Adventist Church, accompanied by Dr. Rossi and Pastor N. Tanev, president of the Adventist church in Bulgaria, was received by Lyubomir Popov, Deputy Foreign Minister and chairman of the government committee which deals with religious affairs. Apparently for the first time a member of the Bulgarian government has declared that the church is now officially recognized by the authorities.

Children's Day

Last April 24 was a special day for 40 children of the San Jose Church of God (7th Day)—it was the second annual "Children's Day." A special message was presented by 12-year-old Juan Manso, Jr.; there were quizzes, games, clowns, balloons, prizes, and good food for everyone who attended. The highlight of the day was a visit from "Zaccheus," who, as in the old times, sat on a tree and told Jesus (who also happened to be present) why he was sitting up in the tree. This annual event especially for the children is sponsored by the San Jose congregation's Ladies Association.

Adventist Health System

Even as the Adventist Health System (AHS) evaluates its mission and methods and streamlines operations, it continues to be the fifth-largest hospital system in the U.S. AHS ranks around 150th among the nation's Fortune 500 companies, only a little below Apple Computers. Unique opportunities for witness develop as the system treats more than a million people each year. At the same time, the health market pushes hospitals toward providing all services seven days a week. This creates concern about Sabbath observance in the hospitals. Patient preference has resulted in less emphasis on the vegetarian diet and in permission for patients to smoke in their rooms. According to Elvin F. Adams, M.D., in an article in *Adventist Review*, some Adventists see this as a trend toward secularization in Adventist health care.

Sabbathkeeping Witness in Monaco

A beginning teacher continues the second year of her service as a private tutor to the three children of Monaco's Princess Caroline. Named one of Lausanne University's outstanding students, the Adventist teacher is guaranteed her Sabbaths free and uses Sabbath school materials to teach Bible stories to her three charges.

The Quiet Hour in Korea

As a result cottage meetings and an evangelistic crusade in the Dipolog City Civic Auditorium in Korea, 208 persons were baptized at the beach near the city airport October 31, 1987. Another 85 were ready to be baptized. Of these new

Christians, 90% had never owned a Bible in their entire lifetime—until they were provided one by the Quiet Hour.

New Evangelism Ministry

Located 12 miles south of Jefferson City, Missouri, Pass It On Ministries, is a nonprofit nondenominational Christian outreach ministry. Founded by Gary Amick, who serves as its president, the ministry sponsored a weekend of meetings in Springfield, Missouri, during May that featured Dr. Desmond Ford. Pass It On also publishes *Lifeline*, a magazine designed to spread the Gospel. The Spring 1988 issue featured articles on the resurrection of Jesus, good health, Christian news, and Christian growth. Amick received a degree from Union College in 1977 and did graduate work at Andrews University. He has pastored several churches and worked in public evangelism. Wes McWilliams, ministerial secretary of the organization, received a degree in education from Walla Walla College in 1970 and has had considerable experience in teaching, educational supervision, and church work.

Just a Subscriber?

Being a subscriber to THE SABBATH SENTINEL is a blessing, but there's more. You can also be a full voting member of THE BIBLE SABBATH ASSOCIATION and have an active part in this important ministry. Annual membership: \$20. For more information write to us.

First Graduation at African University

Fifty-seven students recently graduated from the Adventist University of Central Africa located in Rwanda. Founded in 1979 to meet the needs of French-speaking Africa, the institution opened its doors to the first 63 students in 1984. Enrollment now stands at 180.

Adventist/USSR Publishing Effort

A new law scheduled to take effect on July 1 could hasten the Adventist publishing venture in the Soviet Union. The new regulations allow a coop of Russian citizens to sign a joint venture with companies outside the USSR for doing business in that country.

How to Promote the Sabbath in Your Area

If you are interested in sponsoring ads in your local newspaper that will promote the Sabbath and the aims of The Bible Sabbath Association, we can help you. Write for our information sheet entitled "Reaching Out Through Local Advertising."

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Fairview, Oklahoma 73737

If our work is not done, nothing can touch us, we're safe wherever we travel; and even if God allows disaster, we are still safe. Alive or resting in the grave, we are as close to God as our Representative, Jesus.

—Dr. Desmond Ford, GNU Network,
January 1988

Resources Available From BSA

Books

<i>History of the Sabbath & Sunday</i> by John Kiesz (64 pp.)	\$3
<i>The Sabbath in the New Testament</i> by Samuele Bacchiocchi (275 pp.)	\$8
<i>From Sabbath to Sunday</i> by Samuele Bacchiocchi (372 pp.)	\$9
<i>Divine Rest for Human Restlessness</i> by Samuele Bacchiocchi (320 pp.)	\$9
<i>The Law, the Gospel and the Sabbath</i> by Frank M. Walker (91 pp.)	\$3
<i>Right Face: A Handbook for Sabbathkeepers</i> by Eugene Lincoln (30 pp.)	2 for \$1
<i>Directory of Sabbath-observing Groups (1986 Edition)</i>	\$6
<i>Back issues of THE SABBATH SENTINEL</i>	10 for \$3; 30 for \$5

Booklets

<i>Why the Seventh-day Sabbath</i> (12 pp.)	20¢ each; \$17/100
<i>Roman Catholic and Protestant Confessions About Sunday</i> (12 pp.)	20¢ ea.; \$17/100
<i>The Bible Sabbath: Seventh Day or First Day?</i> (6 pp.)	14¢ each; \$12/100
<i>Bible Truth About "Salvation by Grace Through Faith"</i> by F. Walker (32 pp.)	50¢ ea.; \$8/20
<i>Questions for Seventh Dayists Answered</i> by T. Littrell (18 pp.)	20¢ ea.; \$5/30
<i>Has Sabbath Time Been Lost?</i> by Joseph M. McGuire (10 pp.)	15¢ ea.; \$9/60

Tracts

<i>The Weekly Rest Day</i> by George A. Main (4 pp.)	3¢ ea.; \$5/200
<i>Sunday—The Lord's Day?</i> (4 pp.)	3¢ ea.; \$5/200
<i>The Rest of Your Life</i> (1 p.)	2¢ ea.; \$5/400
<i>Search the Scriptures</i> (1 p.)	2¢ ea.; \$5/400

Sample copies of tracts are available free if you enclose with your request a self-addressed #10 envelope with 45¢ postage.

Promotional Aids

<i>Sabbath Calendars for 1988</i>	\$1.75 ea.; \$1.50 ea. for 10 or more
Ball point pens with imprint: "The Seventh Day is the Sabbath"	\$5/6
Bumper stickers with a Sabbath message	\$1 ea.; \$7/dozen
Sabbath seals	\$1/dozen
Post cards with Sabbath message on one side, space for personal message and address on the other side	\$1/dozen

Cassette Tapes look for announcements in upcoming issues about cassettes with Sabbath-related messages—to be made available at low cost

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LAW

ON THE LEGAL FRONT

The following are condensed from the Winter & Spring '88 issues of *Court Report*, published by the Seventh-day Adventists.

Sherr v. Northpoint Union Free School Dist. involved a law which exempted children from immunization shots if their parents were "bona fide members of a recognized religious organization whose teachings are contrary to the practices" required by the law. The school district refused to exempt the Sherrs because they belonged to no formal group. The Sherrs sued, saying the law was biased against those who had religious objections but belonged to no "recognized" church. In Oct. 1987 Judge Wexler of The US District Court for Eastern New York agreed, saying the law violated both the Establishment and Free Exercise Clauses of the First Amendment.

Universal Life Church v. United States took away the tax exemption from an organization that was run exclusively to provide religious tax breaks for its members. The US Claims Court upheld a decision that *judges may restrict, a church's activities, but not its doctrines. Also a church's central office must ensure that its local congregations operate in a tax-exempt manner.*

Update: The Supreme Court denied review in *International Assoc. of Machinists v. Boeing*. Thus it upheld

a lower decision that someone may refuse union membership on religious grounds, even if his church does not object to unions (TSS Aug. '88). The high court also refused to review *Pyro Mining Co. v. Smith*, strengthening the principle that a religiously neutral scheduling system which allows occasional shift swaps does not go far enough to accommodate the rights of Sabbath keepers).

Mathewson v. Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, decided March 1988 by the US District Court for Middle Florida, indicates once again that Sabbath keepers must be willing to make some compromises to keep their jobs. Dave Mathewson, a Wildlife Lieutenant working in the field, was offered a demotion to a desk job as First Sergeant, at the same pay, to accommodate his new belief that he should not work on the Sabbath. The Adventist turned the demotion down; and after a year of contention was fired. In dismissing Mathewson's action against the Game Commission, the court ruled that the demotion offer had satisfied the minimal of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act. The court said Mathewson should have taken the offer, even though he did not realize that failure to do so would result in his eventual dismissal.

Please send clippings, with name and date of publication included, to Howard M. Mesick, RDI Box 299-1, Hartly, DE 19953.

MAILBOX

LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

Directory for Wagon Train

My family and I are taking a wagon train trip through the Midwest and southwestern states, up to the Canadian border, then back to our starting point in Wisconsin. Please send the directory. We started our trip on April 13 and have found some Sabbathkeepers at some stops but would like to know where more are to be found.

Ben Dinwiddie
Herbster, Wisconsin

New Subscribers

My husband and I just recently began to receive your small publication. What a pleasure! What a delight to find there are those who do not feel their particular group of Sabbathkeepers are the only ones God is working with and through. Having been involved in a corporation church which holds this view, I know how limited the growth potential of the individual becomes and also how alone and frightened one can feel if he is removed, for whatever reason, from this type of environment.

Name Withheld
East Palatka, Florida

Wants Confessions Booklet

Please find enclosed a check for a supply of *Roman Catholic and Protestant Confessions about Sunday*. Keep the publishing work going because we are in a real war and men want to destroy our religious rights and freedoms; one way they do this is to attack the seventh day.

Chuck Thomas
Exeter, California

Comment on Unity

Unity can only come from going to the basics. This must be at the Ten Commandments. And why I suggested (in a previous letter) you focus on these for variety and unification. For unity you must start where people agree and if they can't do so with the basic Ten, then they won't agree. You have to walk side by side on the same road together heading in the same direction.

Homer Taggart, III
Great Bend, Kansas

New Christian

I am a new Christian and am very interested in the seventh-day Sabbath. I receive many arguments on the subject. My thanks to you for the work that is done for Christ.

Odessa, Texas

Advocate All Truth

Your organization sounds like it could be an excellent arm for the Lord; however, to create a following, a stand for truth must be taken on all matters—no exceptions. Those could be the Sabbath, the 144,000, the state of the dead, baptism, condition of the earth at the end time, time of resurrection of Christ, the millennium, etc.

Grover Wilson
Twin Falls, Idaho

We welcome your letters, preferably short and concise. We reserve the right to condense and excerpt. Names can be withheld if requested. Address to The Sabbath Sentinel, RD 1 Box 222, Fairview, OK 73737.

ADS

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Love Feast on Ephrata Cloister. The Snow Hill Society of German Seventh Day Baptists will hold a fall love feast at the Ephrata Cloister, Ephrata, Penna., on Sabbath, October 15. For information write Crist King, RD 1, New Enterprise, PA 16664 or call (814) 766-3583. (9)

Good News Unlimited Meetings featuring Dr. Desmond Ford: Toppenish, WA, Church of God (7th Day), Sept. 24, local contact: Henry Schelert, (509) 697-6234; Grand Junction, CO, Sept. 30-Oct. 1, local contact: Eileene J. (303) 464-7240; Carolinas, Oct. 14-15, local contact: Alvin R. (803) 578-0650; Washington, DC, Oct. 21-22, local contact: Sallie R. (202) 362-0972. For full schedule, write GNU, 11710 Education St., Auburn, CA 95603.

Feast of Tabernacles in Indianapolis, Indiana. Public is welcome. Afternoon meetings on holy days and Sabbath. Night meetings during feast. Much to do, much to see in Indianapolis. The Evangelistic Church of Jesus Christ invites all Christians to join us in the feast of 1988. Contact C. A. Poland, 223 N. Lynn St., Indianapolis, IN 46222. Phone (317) 633-5254 or 896-2032. (7,8,9)

Feast of Tabernacles, Sept. 26 to Oct. 3, Salmon Falls Bible Camp near Vancouver, WA. Lodging and meals provided. Freewill offering. For details write The Church of God, Box 804, Caldwell, ID 83606 or call (208) 459-9755 or (509) 763-3187. (9)

1988 Feast of Tabernacles—Rejoice at Yahweh's feast in scenic western Kentucky. Excellent family-oriented feast site on beautiful Kentucky Lake. Write or phone for more detailed information. Voice of Truth, P. O. Box 2103, Herrin, IL 62948; phone (618) 942-2753. (8,9)

Voice of Truth Magazine—dedicated to revealing the complete truth of Yahweh. Write for your free subscription, P. O. Box 2103, Herrin, IL 62948. (8,9,10)

Are you interested in the Sabbath? Do you enjoy reading articles from Sabbatharians around the world? If so, then send for a sample copy of the *Hour of Preparation Magazine*, 4796 Lincoln Rd., Blaine, WA 98230. (9,10)

The Big Picture—a lengthy, very plainly presented study of the prophecies of Daniel and Revelation. Shows the love of the hand of God in human affairs. \$5 per copy; \$20 for 5 copies. Order from the author, Elder K. C. Walker, Rt. 1 Box 179B, Mentone, AL 35984. (9,10,11)

Jesus turned the religious world of His day on its head; if He came today would He do the same? For free article write Focus On Truth, Box 45A, Lake Winola, PA 18625. (8,9,10)

Free subscription to The Prop-hetic Word Magazine! Learn the prophecies now being fulfilled! Learn the prophecies for our future! Write

Box 2442, Abilene, TX 79604. (1-12)

Feast of Tabernacles 1988. Attend the feast this year at a neutral site in the beautiful foothills of the Rocky Mountains in Denver, Colorado! Special guest speakers from around the country in a perfect setting proves to be a glorious but economical feast. Send for free brochure and details to: Festival '88, c/o Reach Ministries, P. O. Box 21736, Denver, CO 80221. (1-9)

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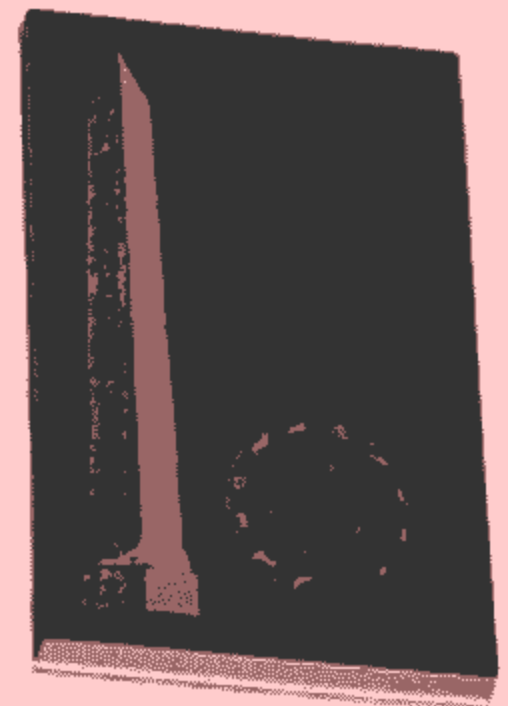
Deceptions Concerning Yahweh's Calendar of Events

When they study Yahweh's Holy Scriptures, many individuals come to recognize the multitude of *pagan* doctrines that have crept into the teachings of churches and assemblies. However, it seems that *few* ever come to realize the *full* extent to which *pagan* religious ideas control all governing entities—whether religious or political.

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New BSA Sabbath Booklet Just Published!

In clear, direct language, this new booklet outlines the basic Bible teaching about the seventh-day Sabbath and the first day of the week. The complete text, revised from the old BSA tract "Facts on the Sabbath Question," appears as an article in this issue of *The Sabbath Sentinel*. This booklet is specifically designed for sharing the Sabbath truth with others.

- Five pages
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The image shows the cover of a small booklet. The cover is black with white text. The text reads: "The Bible Sabbath: Seventh Day or First Day?".

**The Bible
Sabbath:
Seventh Day
or First Day?**

The Bible Sabbath Association