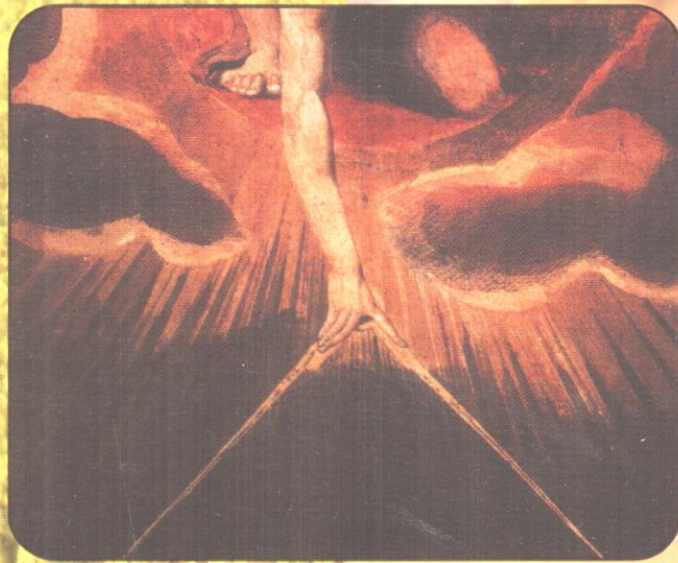


THE
Sabbath
SENTINEL

September / October 1998



A Millennial Rest



*There remains a rest
for the people of God.*

-- Hebrews 4:9

FEATURES

- 4 The Dead Will Live Again**
The Last Great Day pictures the time we will once again see our loved ones and have a chance to teach them God's wonderful way of life.
- 6 The Time of Reconciliation**
Humanity and the entire creation will once again be reconciled to God through His plan of redemption.
- 10 What Will We Do in God's Kingdom?**
Myths exist that postulate what eternity will be like. This study explains what the saints role will be in God's Kingdom.
- 12 Attitudes That May Cripple Our Spiritual Sabbath**
Unscriptural and carnal attitudes may cripple us. In order to receive healing, we must jump into the living waters of Jesus Christ.
- 18 The Sabbath Sentinel Marches Into the 21st Century**
We need active participation and support to help sustain TSS and for it to become a strong presence in the new millennium.

DEPARTMENTS

- 3 Editorial**
- 15 Sabbath Organization Profile - Yahweh's New Covenant**
- 14 Calendar of Events**
- 20 News**
- 21 Letters to the Editor**
- 22 BSA President's Letter: Of One Blood**
- 23 Classified Ads**

The Sabbath Sentinel is published bi-monthly by The Bible Sabbath Association, 3316 Alberta Drive, Gillette, WY 82718. Copyright © 1998 The Bible Sabbath Association. Printed in the U.S.A. All rights reserved. Reproduction in any form without written permission is prohibited. Periodicals postage paid at Fairview, OK 73737 and at additional mailing offices.

Editor: Lars G. Harrison
insearch@mindspring.com or lharrison@altika.com
Art director: Mike Galimore wylfdyfe@bluemarble.net

BSA's Board of Directors for 1996-1999
President: Richard Nickels giveshare@vcn.com
Vice Presidents: Richard Wiedenheft, John Conrod, Norman Edwards
Secretary & Treasurer: Bryan Burrell burrell@fairview-ok.net
Recording Secretary: Archie Craig
Directors At Large: Dr. Allen Babcock, Calvin Burrell, June Narber Harrison, Eugene Lincoln, Brad Pate, Lee Roy Stucker

Subscriptions: Call (888) 687-5191 (alternate number (307) 686-5191) or write to: **The Bible Sabbath Association, 3316 Alberta Drive, Gillette, WY 82718**, or contact us at the office nearest you (see international addresses below). *The Sabbath Sentinel* is \$15 per year in the U.S., \$20 in Canada and \$25 foreign (please remit in U.S. funds).

Annual Membership Contributions: Regular Membership \$25; Family Membership \$30. All memberships include an annual subscription to *The Sabbath Sentinel*. Make all checks, drafts and money orders payable to The Bible Sabbath Association (VISA and Mastercard accepted).

The Bible Sabbath Association is dedicated to promote the seventh-day Sabbath. As a non-sectarian association for Sabbath observing Christians. BSA accepts members who acknowledge Jesus Christ as their Savior, believe the Bible to be the Word of God, and uphold the seventh-day Sabbath. BSA takes no official position on other theological issues, and publishes *The Sabbath Sentinel* as a forum to promote understanding and share items of interest to Sabbath observing groups and individuals.

Donations are gratefully accepted and are tax-deductible in the United States. Those who choose to voluntarily support this international work are welcomed as contributors.

Opinions expressed in *The Sabbath Sentinel* are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Editorial Staff or of The Bible Sabbath Association.

BSA Worldwide Web Site: <http://www.biblestudy.org>

Correspondence and Manuscript submissions: Address all inquires to: Lars G. Harrison, *The Sabbath Sentinel*, 6325-9 Falls of Neuse Road, Suite 193, Raleigh, NC 27615 USA; Phone: (919) 839-6930 E-mail: insearch@mindspring.com

International addresses:

Australia: Bible Sabbath Associates, 23 Linden Street, Sutherland, NSW 2232 Phone: (02) 9521-6742
Web site address: <http://users.netinfo.com.au/~quokka/fos/>

Address changes: POSTMASTER—send change of address to *The Sabbath Sentinel*, 3316 Alberta Drive, Gillette, WY 82718 USA.

A Millennial Sabbath Rest

Every day media reports that humans have been murdered. Anyone can be a prophet in stating that today someone will be murdered. The commandment "Thou shalt not kill" has not been followed by humanity. This world is not lived according to the laws of God. Instead, Satan is the god and ruler of this world (2 Corinthians 4:4). Satan deceived humanity into following a way of life that promises riches and peace, but instead it yields poverty, death and war. Had humanity followed God, they would have lived in a paradise, that they only now dream of.

When the tribes of Israel had a chance to elect God as their national king, they demanded a human king instead (1 Samuel 8:4-20). The Western Civilization has suffered the consequences of being slaves to a human system of government. Take the example of land tax laws. The title owner of a piece of land must pay property taxes (and other taxes) on the property to the government. If he doesn't pay, he'll promptly lose the land. The government owns all the land. Without a social security number a resident of the United States cannot work, which in itself, is a mark of captivity.

Even with daily conflagrations flaring up in the Middle East, there are talks of peace. As soon as another peace accord is signed, a new skirmish occurs. God spoke through His prophet Ezekiel regarding this. "Because, even because they have seduced my people, saying, Peace; and there was no peace; and one built up a wall, and, lo, others daubed it with untempered mortar: To wit, the prophets of Israel which prophesy concerning Jerusalem, and which see visions of peace for her, and there is no peace, saith the Lord GOD" (Ezekiel 13:10, 16). God will not allow peace to be established by man, since He is the only author of peace. The only way nations can have peace is by following His commandments and making a covenant relationship with Him. This rest from wars will finally occur in the thousand-year reign of the Messiah and His saints.

In this issue the theme is "A Millennial Sabbath Rest." The Sabbath pictures the peace and rest that is possible through a dedicated relationship with God. We will feature topics regarding what it will be like in the Millennium, the plan of salvation for humanity and how mankind will finally be united with God.

A Christian life is not always easy. But the assurance of the resurrection to immortality and living an eternal life in the Kingdom of God motivates many to continue to fight against the enemies of Christian life. Paul said, "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive" (1 Corinthians 15:19, 22). Are people who are already dead and never heard of the good news of the Kingdom of God, and never were given the chance to accept Christ as their personal Savior lost forever? God allows everyone a chance to be part of His family (2 Peter 2:9).

What a relief and joy it will be to once again see my grandfather! June Narber Harrison writes in "The Dead Will Live Again" about this great event when we will have a chance not only to see, but to live forever with our deceased loved ones in God's Kingdom.

Humanity has broken the contract of obedience, outlined by the Ten Commandments. However, humanity can again be reconciled to God because of the death and resurrection of their Creator, who died once for all mankind as a propitiation for sin. As covered in the article "The Time of Reconciliation," there will be a time when the entire earth will be reconciled to God in the Millennium.

In this issue, John Shirm, a contributing writer, provides us insight into what our roles, as spirit beings, will be in the Kingdom of God in his article "What Will We Do in God's Kingdom?"

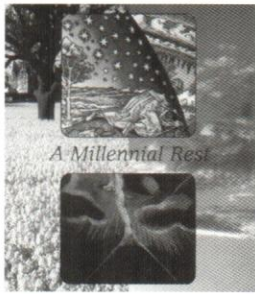
Ernest Bergmann writes about Christ's teachings of John 5, in a study called "Attitudes That May Cripple Our Spiritual Sabbath." The Messiah told an impotent man to "Rise, take your bed and walk." This man was instructed not to sin, and was healed when he accepted and believed the physical and spiritual healing the Messiah offered him. All Christians must accept Christ's teachings in order to be healed.

The new millennium is only two years away. Gloom and doom preachers are predicting that great calamity will precede the dawn of this new age. The beast of Revelation will come on the scene. What ever happens, we must rest assured that in God there is safety (Psalm 4:8). And "Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets" (Amos 3:7). In order for *The Bible Sabbath Association* to continue to produce this magazine, they need active participation and more support. We discuss our current situation and our goals for the magazine in "The Sabbath Sentinel Marches into the 21st Century."

There is a large segment of the Sabbath-keeping community advocating using only sacred names for the Father, the Son and the godhead. These groups do not use the words: God, Jesus Christ and Lord, but rather use the words: Eternal, Almighty, Yahweh, Elohim, Eloah, Yahshua, and others to denote these spirit beings. All Sabbath-keepers must learn to cooperate regardless of what a believer calls the Savior and the Father. In this issue we feature a Sacred Name organization called *Yahweh's New Covenant Assembly*.

May God's eternal peace rest with you during this Fall's Sabbaths. We appreciate your contribution and patronage in assisting us in creating a global network of Sabbath keepers.

Lars G. Harrison
 Editor, *The Sabbath Sentinel*
 insearch@mindspring.com



The Dead Will Live Again

The Last Great Day pictures the time we will once again see our loved ones and have a chance to teach them God's wonderful way of life.

BY JUNE NARBER HARRISON

Nothing sobers us more quickly than the thought of death. When someone close to you dies, it is a heart breaking experience. My own father, Vernon Narber, died when I was sixteen years old. I saw him for the last time in a hospital where he was dying of colon cancer. On that morning in October 1982, he uttered his last words to me, "Goodbye sweetheart." He died two days later.

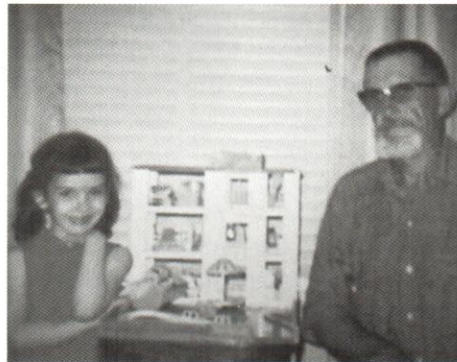
A Motivating Factor in Our Christian Life

Believing that we will see our loved ones again, is one of the strongest articles of our faith—our belief in what God has promised us. It is the motivating factor that keeps me focused on faithfully walking God's way of life to receive the gift of eternal life in His kingdom. The idea of living forever excites me, but moreover it is the prospect of seeing my father again that inspires me. What is eternity for, if it cannot be shared with our loved ones who died before us? Of course, my dad will have to first be brought to mortal life and learn to live God's way of life, repent and be baptized (Acts 2:36-40; John 5:25; Romans 8:11).

Is Man an Immortal Soul?

When God created Adam from the dust of the ground, He breathed life into him and the first human became a living soul (Heb. *nephesh* - a living breathing being) (Genesis 2:7). However, a human being does not possess an immortal soul. When a human dies, it can be compared to permanent sleep, until the Father brings the person back to life in a future resurrection.

"For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not any thing, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten" (Ecclesiastes 9:5). The Catholic immortal soul doctrine teaches that the physical body dies, but the soul lives on immediately after death, and goes directly to heaven or hell, depending



At age 10, my dad, Vernon, helped me set-up my first doll house.

on whether the person had accepted Christ during his earthly life. Contrary to this belief, John 3:12-13 teaches us that no man has ever gone to heaven, except Jesus Christ after He was resurrected, "And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven."

Heaven and Hell?

The view of heaven and hell, taught as truth in the majority of Sunday-keeping churches, came from the Roman Catholic inscribed beliefs that originated from Dante's view of Heaven and Hell. Even non-religious people believe that the immortal soul lives on. Eastern religions

teach the endless cycle of reincarnation, through which a human soul can return to life as an animal, insect or a human, depending on how good they were their former life. The Bible makes it plain that we have one earthly life and one human identity. It also comforts us with the truth that every human being will be offered the gift of eternal life (I Thessalonians 4:15-18). My father will not come back in a new unknown lifeform, but when he is resurrected, he will still look like he did and still be known as Vernon (Ezekiel 37). I am so thankful that I do not have to worry about him being in hell fire, because he did not know the truth of God. I am even more relieved knowing he will not be reincarnated into a chicken or a cow! Our God and His ways are so far above human instituted fables (Isaiah 55:9).

The Last Great Day

During the fall Holy Day season, called the Feast of Tabernacles, we celebrate the future event when the Kingdom of God will be established on the earth and Christ will rule from Jerusalem. It is also a celebration of our resurrection into the Family of God or as some would prefer to call it, into "immortality" as God's children. A very special day falls at the end of this seven-day feast. It is called the Last Great Day. A few of the churches of God celebrate these days listed in Leviticus 23; however, all Holy Day observers do not understand or observe this day. Why? Perhaps they do not understand the symbolism of it. Personally, this day symbolizes the day I will see my father again.

All Humans Are Resurrected Again

Every man will be judged at the great white throne according to his works. This judgment day occurs immediately proceeding the 1,000-year millennial rule of Christ and the Saints. Billions of dead will be resurrected to physical life to learn the truth of God for the first time (Revelation 20:11-13). It is believed that the physically resurrected humans will be allowed about 100 years to live and learn God's truth. During this time, they must repent of their sins and be converted. After all, a person can only be "judged" if convicted of the laws of God. The person who sins ignorantly is not guilty as one who sins willfully, knowing that he is sinning by breaking the law of God. Those who are not converted and baptized, are not under the new covenant. All humans must be granted repentance from their sins (Romans 2:4) and learn to worship Christ (Philippians 2:10). Only then, can they be granted eternal life. Certain churches teach that Revelation 20:11-15 is a single event, which happens in one day. If this were true, how could humans be resurrected to a physical existence with adequate time to learn and live God's truth? It would be unfair, since many Christians have had a whole lifetime to learn.

People resurrected on this day will include infants who died at birth, and they need time to grow up. In this resurrection there will be: other young children; tribal people from the remote parts of the undeveloped world; believers who were not called and chosen or who didn't really know the truth of God, but were deceived

Take comfort in the truth that the dead will live again at a future resurrection, be given a fair chance to learn the truth of God, to repent and be baptized, and finally be change into spirit composition and live for all eternity. No human will suffer eternal punishment in a satanically inspired hell or an endless cycle of reincarnations.

by the world's version of "Christianity;" famous people; known criminals and killers; international political leaders; and the multitudes of humans who lived and died without any knowledge of Christ. A person must have the indwelling of God's Holy Spirit to be part of the first resurrection that occurs on the day when Christ

returns to rule all nations.

The Holy Days Picture Victory Over Flesh

The firstfruit harvest is the smallest physical harvest (which is symbolized by the Feast of Pentecost). This is symbolic of the first resurrection of God's chosen peo-

When we understand what the Holy Days picture in God's salvation plan for humanity, they become a joy to keep because they picture our future victory over the flesh and the peaceful unity of all humanity in the Kingdom of God.

ple. The fall harvest in contrast is the largest harvest of crops, (which is symbolized by the Feast of Tabernacles and the Last Great Day). Certain people are hostile against the observance of scriptural Holy Days, and see them as burdens, which they believe were nailed to the tree when the Messiah died. When we understand what the Holy Days picture in God's salvation plan for humanity, they become a joy to keep because they picture our future victory over the flesh and the peaceful unity of all humanity in the Kingdom of God. Merely accepting Christ as the Savior is not the summation, we must obey God's laws and live a righteous life through Christ living in us (Galatians 2:20).

Everyone Must Choose God's Way of Life

I am confident that when my father awakens from his "sleep," he will see me

in my resurrected body and realize that God's ways are wonderful to live. I pray that he is quickly converted to God's way of life and granted eternal life, and thereafter resurrected to immortality. These physically resurrected people must be taught about God's way of life in order to understand what sin is and what is required

to live a righteous life. Those who do not accept the offer of the "tree of life," will be destroyed in the "Lake of Fire" at the end of this "Great White Throne" judgment (Revelation 20: 13-15). When people see the resurrected saints and experience Earth as a paradise in the millennial rest and Satan's deception is no more, how can they

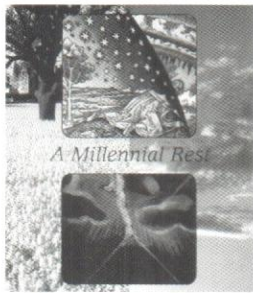
hesitate in accepting God's way?

This Great Day, the last annual Holy Day, pictures a time when all loved ones will be reunited. It pictures the joyous (but also sober) conclusion of God's plan of salvation for humanity. Revelation 21:4 tells us that God will wipe away all tears and there will be no more death, sorrow, crying or pain. These former things (caused by sin) will be gone, as a new age will have dawned.

Take Comfort That the Dead Will Live Again

Take comfort in the truth that the dead will live again at a future resurrection, be given a fair chance to learn the truth of God, repent and be baptized, and finally be changed into spirit composition and live for all eternity. No human will suffer eternal punishment in a satanically inspired hell or in an endless cycle of reincarnations. These fables, crafted by demons and evil godless individuals, will soon be crushed under the feet of the resurrected saints. However, everyone must make a choice whether to follow and obey God or Satan. The dead will live again. I can hear my loving father brought back to life saying with his soothing voice, "Hi sweetheart, you sure look different! Could you fill me in on what is going on here?" I will answer him, "Sure dad, I can't wait to tell you what is going on. How would you like to live forever?" **TSS**

June Narber Harrison, a Director of BSA, can be reached at 6325-9 Falls of Neuse Road., Suite 193, Raleigh, NC 27615 or at ejnarber@mindspring.com.



The Time of Reconciliation

Humanity and the creation will once again be reconciled to God through His plan of redemption.

BY LARS G. HARRISON

It seems far-fetched to believe that mankind will again live in a Garden of Eden. The story of how the first humans sinned and were evicted from their home in a physical paradise by their Creator has been told to each passing generation (Genesis chapters 1-3). The curses that followed this breach of relationship have grieved mankind ever since. Everyday in the media we hear of wars, famines, pestilence, human and natural disasters, crime, familial abuse and neglect and any other imaginable sin, which was prophesized by the Messiah to occur before His return (Matthew 24). Sadly, humans are beginning to accept the conditions they live in and are becoming insensitive toward sin. No longer are people outraged at hearing only bad news, but rather calamities are becoming part of people's daily lives.

Humanity's Dream For Paradise

Humans have tried every imaginable way in search of finding a way back to living in their former paradise and having the peaceful state of mind that transcends understanding (Philippians 4:7). Religious leaders have captured this human hope of one day being able to return to the Garden of Eden, with a promise of a blissful "Heaven." With this impossible and false vision, many religious leaders gain influence and monetary gain, while their supporting laity is deceived into living a life of sin, devoid of a pure personal relationship with their Creator. To ensure that mankind will always be reminded of what they could have if they choose to again live God's way of life, the Eternal placed with-

in each human's heart the burning desire for eternity (Ecclesiastes 3:11 NKJ). Still, mankind continues to seek a place of rest.

Sin Separates Mankind From God

Humans were created with the purpose of becoming like God (Genesis 1:26-17). When mankind sinned and chose Satan's way of life, the relationship with God was broken. God never separated Himself from humanity, but humanity separated itself from the Almighty through sin. "But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear" (Isaiah 59:2). "Your iniquities have turned away these things, and your sins have withholden good things from you" (Jeremiah 5:25). Sin is defined as transgression of the law (breaking the commandments) (1 John 3:4); not loving God and your neighbor as yourself (1 John 5:3; Matthew 22:36-40), and doing acts which are not of faith (Romans 14:23).

The Curses of Sin

As a punishment for rebellion against God, curses have followed each generation. Adam and Eve received mankind's first curses for their refusal to live according to God's law (Genesis 3:15-19). When God again made a covenant with mankind, He promised blessings and curses to the Israelites wandering in the wilderness (Leviticus 26, Deuteronomy 28).

The promise for keeping His law and curses for covenant and commandment breaking were taught by His prophets, and later through the apostles of the Messiah. But mankind has not heeded God's word. By reading the news or watching televi-

sion, we can easily determine for ourselves whether mankind is sinning or not. The disasters we find in the world are telltale signs of mankind breaking God's law. Few ministers are speaking out against sin. Even if they did, would people really listen to them?

Children of Satan Converted to God

Humans decide what is right and wrong through the scientific method (rejecting revelation, using observation, experimentation and human reason) rather than believing what God reveals. When Adam accepted Satan's way of life and chose a self-acquired (albeit influenced by Satan) way of knowledge, he became a child of Satan. He was now subject to Satan's laws and standards, which blinded him from knowing God's truth (2 Corinthians 4:4). The heart and spirit of man is hostile against God (impossible to be subject to God's laws) by living a life in sin and learning from the Devil (Romans 8:5). It is only through conversion and a change of heart and spirit that humanity may follow God (Ezekiel 36:26).

Mankind must learn to trust God and refuse to listen to Satan, its real enemy (James 4:7-8). For as Paul stated about the war of deception "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places (Ephesians 6:11-12). By being faithful to God, saints can become victorious over

Satan. "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death" (Revelation 12:11). Satan will be defeated and cast into a bottomless pit (Revelation 19:20, 20:1-3).

The Plan to Redeem Humanity

In order to redeem humanity from sin, God instigated a plan of salvation. This required the sacrifice of the Messiah, as atonement for human sins. Once a year the

As a merciful and faithful High Priest of God, the Messiah made reconciliation for the sins of all people. Through His death on the symbolic tree of knowledge of good and evil and by His own shed blood, He obtained eternal redemption for humanity.

high priest of Israel had to make atonement for the nation (Leviticus 16:34; 17:11). The Messiah, who became the High Priest of God, had to make a sacrificial atonement for mankind (Hebrews 9:7-28).

Mankind's Creator had to live a sinless life as a human, defeat Satan by following God the Father faithfully, and ultimately die for the sins of mankind, and then receive the resurrection to immortal life as a reward for His faith and obedience (Ephesians 2:8). This was central to His message of hope to a world held captive by Satan's deception (Zephaniah 3:20). The redemption plan for mankind is revealed in the annual Sabbaths.

The Need to Be Reconciled

Both the major and minor prophets have a central message of God's desire for mankind to reconcile with God; and develop a strong relationship with the Messiah and God the Father. "yet you have not returned unto me...prepare to meet thy God, O Israel...seek ye me, and ye shall live" (Amos 4:11-12, 5:4).

The theme of the book of Hosea is "God will be Israel's salvation." The book describes the unrepentant attitude and the sinful state of Israel. Other prophetic books describe the same sinful state of all the children of Adam. The prophet Hosea describes in chapter 11-14, the promise of God's mercy, plan of redemption for the national and spiritual restoration of Israel. It shows God's paternal love for His peo-

ple, despite Israel's ingratitude and rebelliousness. Israel is a vanishing nation due to her lack of moral fiber, yet God pleads with her to seek Him because there is no other savior (Hosea 13:4). The Jews historically have read chapter 14 of Hosea on the *Shabbat-Shuva* (the Sabbath between Trumpets and Atonement). It shows God's desire for Israel to return to Him and be restored. "O Israel, return unto the Lord thy God; for thou hast fallen by thine iniquity" (Hosea 14:1).

The book of Joel follows the concept that if man is not wise to heed this warning the day of the Lord will ensue with judgment for man's evil and the promise of the kingdom of God. A study of the minor prophet reveals how the Eternal will orchestrate the end time events according to His plan.

Reconciled by Blood of the Messiah

In Old Testament reconciliation (for the transgression of any sin) was only possible by killing animals and blotting blood on the altar of the God (Leviticus 8:5). As a

Both the major and minor prophets have a central message of God's desire for mankind to reconcile with God; and develop a strong relationship with the Messiah and God the Father. "yet you have not returned unto me...prepare to meet thy God, O Israel...seek ye me, and ye shall live" (Amos 4:11-12, 5:4).

merciful and faithful High Priest of God, the Messiah made reconciliation for the sins of all people. Through His death on the symbolic tree of knowledge of good and evil and by His own shed blood, He obtained eternal redemption for humanity. Hebrews chapter 9 and the entire book

describes in detail the Messiah's sacrifice and its meaning for humanity.

The Gospel

Gospel comes from the Anglo-Saxon words (*god* and *spell*), which translates to *good message* or *news*. It is mostly associated with the life and acts of Jesus of Nazareth and the message about the Kingdom of God. The work of preaching the Gospel began when Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit and set apart for this commission by God the Father, and through his defeat of Satan after a forty day fast (Matthew 3:13-17, 4:1-11). "From that time Jesus began to preach, and say Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matthew 4:17). Christ commissioned his disciples to preach the same message of repentance to all nations (Matthew 28:19-20). The power and authority to accomplish this work was transferred to the disciples at Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit was sent to them.

Gospel prophesized by the Old Covenant Prophets

A Savior was prophesized to ancient Israel and Judah (Exodus 18:15; Micah 5:2) who would free a world held captive by sin. The Messiah would restore all things and bring Paradise and the Land of Promise to the children of Israel, and establish the Kingdom of God. When the Jews depart from spending Succoth (the Feast of Tabernacles) to make a wish to one another with the saying "Next year: The Feast in Jerusalem," it is always with the forethought of the Millennium.

A beautiful account of the prophesied gospel brought by our Messiah and the year of Jubilee that will be ushered in at His return is found in Isaiah 61. This is the message of salvation and the commission that the Messiah taught the disciples. The disciples were anointed by the Messiah to "preach good tidings unto the meek...sent

to bind the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty [from sin and its curses] to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound" (Isaiah 61:1). "To proclaim the acceptable year of the Eternal, and the day of vengeance or our God" (v. 2) was the message they would carry to the world about the Kingdom and the day of the Lord. The saints were to comfort all that mourn in Zion (the church of God); to give beauty (God's truth and promises) for ashes (repentance from sin), the oil of joy for mourning (the essence of the Holy Spirit); the garment of praise (gift of eternal life) for the spirit of heaviness (for the persecution of the world and struggle with overcoming self, Satan and society).

The blessings of being faithful would result in being called "the trees of righteousness" to be planted as glorified spirit children in God's Kingdom. After the return of Christ and the removal of Satan, the saints will revive the earth and build the place of rest for the inhabitants of the earth. Verse 6 relates to Revelation 5:10 of the role of saints as kings and priests under Christ. Humanity will then begin to live according to the laws of God and prosper in Paradise. They will listen to the resurrected saints guiding them to a righteous pursuit of life.

The Saints Are Commissioned to Preach the Gospel

This account compares to the accounts in Acts 2:36-40 and Hebrews 6:1-2 about the process of salvation and eternal judgment. The Messiah admonished His disciples in Matthew 25 about the type of services and spiritual leadership He expected them to do for the world. The saints of God were commissioned to preach about God's Kingdom to whomever they came in contact with. Are we still as excited, as the early disciples were to share the gospel to humanity?

Will Mankind Be At Peace?

War exists because mankind breaks the Ten Commandments. It is because of hatred toward God, self and neighbor. "From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss,

A View Into the Millennium

Can you describe *Utopia*? When you think of a condition, place or perfect social and geo-political situations what comes to your mind? When you think of the Millennium what images do you paint on the canvas of your mind? In our world, utopia is merely an impractical goal or scheme that will never be achieved by man. The word *Utopia* comes from two Greek words: *ou* that means *no* and *topos* that means *place*. Thus, in a human meaning we have "no place" or impossibility. Millennium will only be possible through God's intervention in human affairs.

The Bible provides few details of the Millennium. But even with an acute imagination, it is impossible to accurately paint the picture. "For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known" (1 Corinthians 13:12). We encourage you to study the scriptures in your Bible and picture your view of the Kingdom of God. Think about how you would change humanity's institutions and ways, as well as, recreating the earth into a paradise of God.

Government of God

The government of God, established at the return of the Messiah, will rest upon the shoulders of the Messiah and will never cease to exist (Isaiah 9:6-7, 11:1-5). The Messiah will be king and religious leader for all humanity (Zechariah 14:9). Proper moral, righteous and judicious leadership will be vested in the Messiah and His kings and priests (Revelation 5:10). Nations will come to Jerusalem, to the temple of God, to learn about how to live a prosperous and peaceful life (Micah 4:1-2).

No More Wars and National Cooperation

There will be no more wars and the development of war machinery and weapons production will cease. Nations will begin cooperate to build a better planet. Humanity will use one pure language in their communications (Zephaniah 3:9).

"But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the LORD of hosts hath spoken it. For all people will walk every one in the name of his god, and we will walk in the name of the LORD our God for ever and ever" (Micah 4:1-5).

Peaceful and Beautiful Creation

As the universal peace is extended to all nations, nature will again receive its harmony and peace it had when it was created (Romans

that ye may consume it upon your lusts" (James 4:1-3). In our war-torn world, peace accords are signed but peace doesn't ensue. Can mankind achieve peace? No! Peace cannot exist until all mankind is at one with God. Humans guided by carnality are natural enemies of God and hostile to any godly thought (Romans 8:5). God will bring in peace for mankind, through the Messiah, the King of peace. Even though a final worldwide battle is prophesized, Earth will not be completely obliterated by this war (Psalms 104:5).

Millennium Rest

In order for a Millennial rest to occur the Messiah must return and remove Satan (and all evil opposition) from the position of governing this earth. Only then can the millennial rest humanity has waited for since their eviction from the Garden of Eden be ushered in. The Messiah will then be in control of world affairs and all human affairs (Revelation 11:15), and assisted by resurrected saints, He will institute peace and prosperity for humanity. Humanity will then have the opportunity to be reconciled to God. With the assistance of the saints, the Messiah will again build a paradise for humanity.

This millennial paradise will be absent of Satan and his demons. The saints will lead humanity to become reconciled to God, showing their own examples of faith (and how God has shown His love to them) and overcoming as lessons in humanity's conversion.

Paradise Regained

A paradise will quickly grow from the ashes of the last world war, as humanity shed their appetite for sin and share the love of God to their neighbor, self and to nature. God's entire creation waits for this time of reconciliation (Romans 8:18-23). The glorious new earth and new heaven will descend from the Father, and He shall say: "He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son (Revelation 21:1, 7). **TSS**

Lars G. Harrison, the editor of The Sabbath Sentinel, can be reached at insearch@mindspring.com or at 6325-9 Falls of Neuse Rd., Suite 193, Raleigh, NC 27615 USA.

8:19-23; Job 38:4-7). Because no one will be able to hurt or destroy man, woman, child or animal. Although animals will be occasionally sacrificed, animals will not be carnivorous (Isaiah 11:6-9; Ezekiel 34:25).

Reforestation of Deserts

Due to greed and ancient land tax laws huge forests of immense beauty were hewed down. The Sahara desert used to be a wonderful rich forest of greater properties than the Redwood forest in California. In the Millennium reforestation of the deserts and other place will make the Earth a paradise it was intended to be (Isaiah 20:17). Rivers will run through were deserts used to be and paradise will bloom to mankind's amazement (Isaiah 35:1-10, 41:18-19). Billions of acres of unbelievable fertile farmland will become available. Equitable rights to land will be given to any person (Isaiah 41:15; Micah 4:4). There will no longer be weeds growing as tares among the wheat (Genesis 3:18). Instead farmlands will be fertile and produce bountiful crops.

Idolatry Removed

Idolatry will be removed and proper worship of God will be established (Isaiah 17:7-8, 30:22; Ezekiel 11:19-20). All nations will keep the Sabbath days (Zechariah 14:16-17; Isaiah 66:23-24). They will be taught by the saints and righteous religious servants (Jeremiah 3:15).

No More Crime

Since mankind will begin to keep the Ten Commandments and with the absence of Satan, the murderer (John 8:44), there will be few criminal activities. In the Millennium, the sentence against an evil work (crime) will be executed speedily (Ecclesiastes 8:11). Because of theft, the prices of merchandise are raised. When crime and theft are reduced, the prices will be reduced, and the economy will flourish.

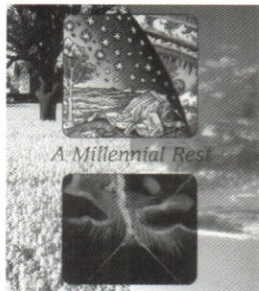
Mankind Lead by the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit will flow from Jerusalem and be made available to anyone (Isaiah 6:9-10, Matthew 13:10-17). Children will learn to live God's way of life from their infancy and not depart from it (Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Proverbs 22:6). People will not make excuses for sinning, but learn to keep the commandments (Isaiah 29:15-16, 24).

Physical Healing of People

The deaf will hear, the blind will see and mankind's other diseases will end. Pain and sorrow will be lifted (Revelation 21:4). Mankind will learn to eat right, take proper nutrition and herbs, exercise to keep healthy. The emotional and mental state of man will improve (Isaiah 25:8). It is said that mankind only use 10% of the available brain capacity. Can you imagine if we were to use 50% of our mental ability in a righteous way, and if all nations cooperated in development of technology and products and services? When all nations will keep God's commandments, and national or world wars are ended, imagine the progress mankind can make.

—Lars G. Harrison



What Will We Do In God's Kingdom?

BY JOHN SHIRN

"He that believes on me, the works that I do shall he do also" (John 14:12)

A common thought in modern Christianity is that when we die we will go to heaven. If we have been good, we will float around on a cloud and play harps—or do whatever we feel like. Is this what you have been led to believe? If you do, I have news for you—the news of the coming Kingdom of God and what those who are chosen will be doing in it. The above description is not it.

No One Goes to Heaven

We do not go to heaven when we die. Jesus told us in John 3:13 that: "...no man hath ascended into the heavens but He who came from heaven." If anyone in biblical history deserves to be in heaven, it certainly would be King David, since he was promised a throne and rulership forever (2 Samuel 7:16). In Acts 2:29-30, we learn that David is dead and remains in his grave today. None of the Patriarches or great Bible personages of the Old Testament are in heaven either. We read in Hebrews 11 of a long list of famous people and what they did in faith, expecting to receive such the reward of eternal life. Their story of faith ends with verses 39-40, stating: "And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect."

They must all wait until the return of Christ and the resurrection of the dead. They remain in their graves and must wait on the first resurrection, at which time all humans who were chosen and remained faithful, will arise as resurrected spirit beings (1 John 3:2; Philippians 3:21; Matthew 22:30).

OK, then, I'll wait for the resurrection, because as long as I'm dead, I'll know nothing and it will be as if no time has passed from my death to my resurrection (Ecclesiastes 9:10). When the resurrection comes and I'm revived, what will I be like and what will I be doing?

Humans cannot see those who are resurrected as spirit beings, because they will have the form and shape of God. We are told that God cannot be seen by humans—God said, "Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live" (Exodus 33:20). It was God's mission for humans to become like Him (Genesis 1:26-17). Thus we will be like God and do what He does.

Our Jobs As Spirit Beings

We will be reigning over people here on earth. Yes, ruling over them as Jesus told us we would in Revelation 20:6. He says: "Blessed and Holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years." We shall be like Him and shall reign with Him for a thousand years. Where? In Heaven? No friends, here on this very earth. Christ's next job will be to rebuild this earth after a great destruction, resulting from the final battle of Armageddon. The saints will be there to help Christ with this enormous rebuilding effort.

Isaiah tells of the coming destruction of the earth, which no man will escape, except God provides a place of protection.

"Behold, the Lord maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof. The land shall be utterly emptied, and utterly spoiled: for the Lord hath spoken this word. The earth also

is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinances, broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate: therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left" (Isaiah 24:1-6).

The phrase, "of the earth are burned," could give the reader the misconception that there would be absolutely no people left on earth. The last four words of verse 6 says: "and few men left." In spite of the mass destruction, described by Isaiah throughout Chapter 24, there will be a few men (a remnant of mankind) alive. A few writers have ignored these last four words of this verse in translation in order to support their claim that Satan is bound because there are no humans left on earth to tempt. But this concept is contrary to what the Bible states. To correctly understand Bible prophecy we must include every word and every concept in context and not change God's words to suit our personal ideas (2 Peter 1:19-21).

Verse 23 says: "...when the Lord of Hosts shall reign in Mount Zion, and in Jerusalem, and before his ancients gloriously." It is unmistakably that Zion and Jerusalem are here on this earth and not in Heaven. Christ is going to rule on earth, and those raised up in the first resurrection will rule with Him. Paul explained this concept to the brethren in Corinth: "Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? and if the world shall be judged by you, are you worthy to judge the smallest matters? Know ye not that we shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life?" (1 Corinthians 6:2-3).

God will use us to do His work of regeneration. Notice in verses 14-15: "And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will

also raise us up by His own power. Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid." We will become Christ's; be married to Him, and will work for Him on Earth, where He will be regenerating or recreating the earth into a paradise.

God's Government on Earth

Isaiah tells us in Chapter 2:2-3, that:

"And many people shall go and say Come ye and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem" (Isaiah 2:3).

"...in the last days, that the mountain (government) of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains (world's governments) and shall be exalted above the hills; (smaller local governments) and all nations shall flow unto it." There will be nations in the regenerated earth. Nations that will be made up of people who have their own governments just as now.

The great prophet Isaiah reveals more about the kingdom of God. "And many people shall go and say Come ye and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem" (Isaiah 2:3). The word *mountain* here means government. God is going to have His government established on Earth, with a headquarters in Jerusalem.

The Structure of God's Government on Earth

National governments are large, having authority and domain over an entire nation such as the Federal Government composed of a President, Congress (Senators and Representatives) and the Supreme Court, and other regulating government bodies and agencies. In addition, we have state governments with jurisdiction over each state. These have a Governor, State Senators and Representatives. There are smaller governments with jurisdiction over small communities, such as counties,

cities, boroughs, and so on. The composition and structure of these may change in the Kingdom, but some form of governments to direct God's Law will be needed to exist in the new Earth. Of course, they will be subject to an even higher authority—the Almighty God. God's Kingdom on Earth will be over them, and its ruling body will be made up of spirit beings. His government will be made up of those Christ will call and choose, and raise up in the first resurrection. These human beings

born again as spirit beings, like Christ, will assist Him in different capacities. There will be flesh-and-blood people who will learn to live according to the government of God.

"And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshare" (Isaiah 2:4). This is the beginning of peace on Earth. Mankind has never been able to achieve peace in spite of human wisdom and technology. Instead, under the direction of Jesus and those He calls to help judge and rule, peace will be achieved.

Earth to be Inhabited With Flesh and Blood People

Christ's chosen disciples who are resurrected to immortality will assist Christ as kings and priests throughout the millennium, and for all eternity (John 14:12).

Isaiah continues to describe what we shall be doing for Christ in chapter 65 verse 17: "For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind." Some people presume that Earth itself will be disintegrated and replaced by a new Earth. A new Earth will not be created until after the all mankind has had a chance to become spirit beings and Satan has been banished (see Revelations chapters 21-22).

There will be a new way of life here on Earth. Isaiah presents us with a beautiful description of what it will be like in this new creation with Christ ruling from Jerusalem with the assistance of His Wife, the Church of God, or Family of God. "I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy." "...the voice of weeping no more heard..." "And they shall build houses and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build and another inhabit, they shall not plant and another eat...mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands." "for they are the seed of the blessed of the Lord, and their offspring with them" (Isaiah 65:18-23).

The people, who are tasked to rebuild the Earth, described in Isaiah 26:17-25, are real living flesh and blood people. We shouldn't be misconceived to believe that this only refers to resurrected spirit beings, rather it refers to human beings and their offspring (children). In Matthew 22:23-30, Christ explained that spirit beings cannot marry nor do they have children. They are the generations from the "few men left" mentioned in Isaiah 24:6.

Verses 22 and 23 of Chapter 65 are of special significance for my father and mother, and all Armenians. Almost all Armenians were ransacked from their homes, removed from their land and their country, or killed by the thousands by the Turkish Army just prior to World War I, that began in 1914. They and their offspring, who are in the first resurrection, will really appreciate this new world and its government. Throughout history, many

nationalities and peoples were for various reasons, unjustly treated and not offered a peaceful human existence.

During the great depression of the 1930's in the United States of America, people were going bankrupt by the hundreds and losing their farms and homes to the person holding the unpaid mortgage. My father suffered the loss of his home here in America, as well as in Armenia.

Continued on page 19

Attitudes That May Cripple Our Spiritual Sabbath

*Unscriptural and carnal attitudes may cripple us.
In order to receive healing, we must jump into the living waters of Jesus Christ.*

BY ERNEST P. BERGMANN

The book of John is filled with studies about developing a spiritual relationship with God. Many Gospel stories of Christ take place on the Sabbath. Is this a coincidence? Hardly! It is easy to get caught up in the mechanics of Sabbath-keeping. A spiritual Sabbath is harder to establish and keep, whether a person lived at the time Christ, or in today's world. God tries to shake us out of our carnal mindsets to give us the freedom to enjoy the Sabbath as it should be enjoyed.

Actions of the Spiritually Crippled

John 5 provides us an excellent example of actions of the spiritually crippled.

"In these lay a great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, halt, withered, waiting for the moving of the water." "For an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water: whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had" (John 5:3-4).

The pool of Siloam, which was located where King Solomon's royal gardens stood, plays a significant part in both the Old and New Covenants. The "Kings pool" (Nehemiah 2:14), as it was called, was sacred both to the Jew and the Moslem. It was from this pool the priest was sent with the golden pitcher on the "last great day of the feast" of Tabernacles; and it was this Siloam that our Lord referred to when He cried, "If any man thirst, let him come unto me and drink" (John 7:37).

At this pool in Jerusalem, the crippled congregated to wait for God to do something in their lives. How these crippled waited for a miracle of God may be analogous to religious individuals of our time. Spiritually crippled, as described in verse

3, are the spiritually impotent, the spiritually blind, the spiritually halted and the spiritually withered. The impotent will not exert themselves to discover what God is. The blind have heard of God, but cannot see Him in their lives. The halted are hemmed in by the barriers of their imaginations of what God is. The withered have become too biased against God by their self-taught doctrines to be able to hear the message of salvation and respond.

We Must React to God's Call

The spiritually crippled lie around the pool of living water. Although everyone

***God must be approached
from a spiritual viewpoint,
not from the view of the
world's philosophy or organized religion.***

senses the presence of God in his life, the cripple fails to react to God's call. Instead, the cripple waits for God to do something profound and loud. But God doesn't shout. He quietly gives everyone the chance to seek and reach Him.

"And a certain man had an infirmity thirty and eight years." "When Jesus saith unto him, Wilt thou be made whole?" "The impotent man answered him, Sir, I have no man, to put me into the pool" "Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk." "And immediately the man was made whole and walked" (John 5:5-9).

This is God's solution to the dilemma. Perhaps we should ask, "How long does God wait to touch us?" There are people who keep God waiting by resisting Him all of their lives. Others like this man, wait

most of their lives. To the spiritual cripple, God asks a very special question: "Wilt thou be made whole?" God could have asked if he wanted to be healed. But God was looking into his heart to inquire: "Do you want to be made whole?" Do you want to be complete in your relationship with God? If so, you need to make a decision. God must be approached from a spiritual viewpoint, not from the view of the world's philosophy or organized religion. God seeks to create a new heart in each believer (Ezekiel 36:26).

A question was asked of the spiritual cripple. Instead of an answer, he gave an excuse that he couldn't reach God. His answer came from a lack of faith and belief in God's ability to heal. We can all reach God, if we reach out to Him on His terms. Over the years I have heard many excuses for not reaching out to God. Excuses are endless, and more than often, are meaningless. There is no excuse for not seeking God. We cannot go where God is not. We cannot speak where God does not hear.

Jesus must become our personal Savior, just as He was the personal healer of the cripple. We must each make the private decision to leave the beliefs of this world and walk with God in faith. We cannot sit by the side of the water of life and expect God to toss us in. He requires us to walk into the living water and drink to be nourished spiritually.

The Spiritually Impotent

The analogy of the spiritually impotent is seen in verses 10-16.

"The Jews therefore said unto him that was cured, It is the Sabbath day: it is not lawful for thee to carry thy bed." "He answered them, He that made me whole, the same said unto me, Take up thy bed, and walk." "Then asked they him, What

man is that which said unto thee, Take up thy bed, and walk?" "And he that was healed wist not who it was." "Afterward Jesus findeth him in the temple, and said unto him, Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee." "The man told the Jews that Jesus had made him whole." "And the Jews sought to slay him, because he had done these things on the Sabbath day."

There are many who are spiritually impotent—too weak to move toward God. They use the Scriptures for their own purposes, and to justify their actions, being content in their present base of human knowledge and understanding. Many will resist God's calling with all their might. The religious leaders of the Judah saw the healed cripple only as a breaker of their law. They showed no interest in the healing; and gave no praise to God for His mercy and grace.

The man was healed, but admonished to sin no more. Paul admonished the

by God to be able to see.

"By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear" (Matthew 13:14-16).

The Jews were too blind to see the Son. They didn't understand that the Scriptures spoke of Christ, and that He came to reveal the good news of the kingdom of His Father. They failed to honor God.

Religious Correctness

Religious correctness is identified in verses 24 and 25.

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that

faith that goes beyond the physical senses and finally see God as He truly is. It is then that the Sabbath, and every day, takes on a whole new meaning and delight with God.

In this relationship we can understand David when he states, "his delight is in the law of the Lord and in His law doeth he meditate day and night" (Psalm 1:2).

The teachings of Jesus were not religiously correct when He walked the earth, and they still aren't religiously correct. Throughout history, men and women, have read Jesus' words and made private interpretations. However, God's Word interprets itself (Isaiah 28:13), or as we are open to and led by His Holy Spirit, the prophecy and teachings of the Bible are known (2 Peter 1:19-21).

Crippled Insight

Those with crippled insight are seen in verses 36-39.

"But I have greater witness than .. John: for the works which the Father hath

Knowing God takes a spirit-to-spirit relationship, which is established when we accept Jesus as our Savior and receive the Holy Spirit. At that time, our senses are unblocked, and we can hear His words, see His miracles, and begin to develop the faith that goes beyond the physical senses and finally see God as He truly is. It is then that the Sabbath, and every day, takes on a whole new meaning and delight with God.

Colossians to "put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him" (Colossians 3:10). Sin must be rejected and never accepted again as a way of life (1 John 3:9). If we praise God and glorify Him for all of the things He does in our lives, we begin to see a working, living God, who is turning us away from an impotent life by lifting us into a spirit-filled one.

The Spiritually Blind

The analogy of the spiritually blind is seen in verses 17 and 18.

"But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work." "Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the Sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God."

Spiritual blindness is common to mankind. Humans, even the religious experts like these Pharisees, cannot see Jesus as God. All humans must be healed

sent me, hath everlasting life ..." "Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live."

The spiritually halted cannot stand on their own before God, but must seek the support of those who are "correct" in their religious beliefs. However, God doesn't speak to us in terms of religious dogma, instead He speaks in terms of attitudes, principles and relationships.

If we seek to be religiously correct, we cannot *hem ourselves in with barriers* that belittle the glory and power of God. God is bigger than any human can imagine. Human words can't describe Him. The human mind can't comprehend Him. Knowing God takes a spirit-to-spirit relationship, which is established when we accept Jesus as our Savior and receive the Holy Spirit. At that time, our senses are unblocked, and we can hear His words, see His miracles, and begin to develop the

given me to finish, I do." "And the Father himself.. hath borne witness of me. Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape." "And ye have not his word abiding in you: "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me."

A person with crippled insight hears the words but he doesn't relate to them. This is because the individual is too biased to change his attitude and put them into his life. Jesus revealed and explained the words of His Father to us. These words will one day be the standard from which we are judged (1 Peter 4:17; 2 Corinthians 5:10).

As required by the Old Testament law, God sent individuals to witness the miracles and teachings of His Son (Deuteronomy 17:6). They included the prophets of the Old Testament, John the Baptist and the disciples.

Mankind caught up in today's fast paced world may ignore the miracles of

Jesus as tricks; see the Scriptures as not being true; prophetically fulfilled; mistranslated or irrelevant; and therefore ignore the very words of Jesus Christ. However, one day mankind will not be able to ignore Christ's teachings (Philippians 2:10-11).

The Spiritually Crippled

Those who are spiritually crippled are shown in verses 44-47.

"How can ye believe, which...seek not the honour that cometh from God only?" "...there is one that accuseth you, even Moses, in whom ye trust." "For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me." "But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?"

Rather than believing the Creator, these spiritually crippled believe men. Many humans worship the things God created (read Romans 1:16-32). God cannot be seen with human eyes, however, He is just as real as His creation, and He existed before matter was created (John 1:1-5; Hebrews 7:3).

The Pharisees didn't worship Jesus, because God must be worshiped in spirit and in truth (John 4:24). They didn't believe Jesus, nor did they honor and acknowledge Him as the Son of God. They memorized words of the Scriptures, but failed to understand their meaning.

Applying These Lessons to Our Lives

The lessons in this chapter can be applied to our lives. We must break our isolation from self and seek God. We are told to seek the LORD while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near (Isaiah 55:6). God is all around us, but we cannot contact Him unless we seek Him with a spirit-to-spirit contact. Jesus was among the Pharisees and the rulers of Judaism, yet He was not sought by the religious, because they were more comfortable living and abiding in their own ways (Proverbs 14:26).

We need to see God in His fullness. What does the Bible tell us about the fullness of God? God tells us many things about Himself, if we are willing to leave behind our pre-conceived notions and see Him as He is. We must allow the Holy Spirit teach and guide us, and ask God to pull down any physical, emotional or spiritual barriers we have erected between Him and us.

We need to be willing to change our way of life and take up God's ways. The Pharisees were secure in their false ways, although many of them didn't fully understand that their ways were false. A false sense of security blocked the Holy Spirit from affecting a permanent change. Only when we are willing to change our ways and attitudes can God begin to work in us. This change is the regeneration that must take place through the work of the Holy Spirit. If we work against changing our life according to God's will, our life in Christ is limited.

React to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Heed that inner voice that speaks of God will for your life. Sometimes the purpose is to be made whole. The cripple was told to sin no more. He was to replace the rubbish in his life with treasures God was giving him. All excuses against following God's commands must be put aside. Since God knows our hearts, we should surrender our will and love to do everything according to His will.

Finally, we need to be willing to be led by God. We should daily search the Scriptures for spiritual guidance. God's Spirit will explain them to us. God gives us His wisdom, in His way, at the right time when we need to apply wisdom in our life. The

Calendar of Events

December 24-27

In the Footsteps of the Messiah: Bible Study Seminar

Wagoner, OK — Featured speakers include Norman Edwards, Joseph Good, John Merritt, Jim Rector, Dean Wheelock and others. For more information, call or write Mitchell Smith at: (903) 882-7446.

LAST SABBATH OF EACH MONTH

Dallas UCG Singles Activity Open to Singles of All Denominations

UCG Dallas, TX, has monthly singles activity open to all denominations, on the last Sabbath of each month featuring a meal and round table discussion, games, cards, music, dance and other activities. Contact David Sullins at (972) 484-5865 or dsdittohd@hotmail.com for more information, visit the Sabbatarian Singles Bulletin Board at <http://www.InsideTheWeb.com/message-board/mbs/cgi/mb101438>

If you have calendar of events of conferences, meetings, speaking engagements, and other related events of benefit to Sabbath keepers around the world, please send the information to: Lars G. Harrison, The Sabbath Sentinel, 6325-9 Falls of Neuse Road, Suite 193, Raleigh, NC 27615 USA, (919) 839-6930, or e-mail at insearch@mindspring.com

Bible has instructions for smart daily living. When we are attuned to the Holy Spirit and search the Scriptures for answers, it will be easier to live our lives.

Living a Spirit-Led Life is Most Rewarding

It is not easy to establish a spirit-led life in Christ, but, once established, it is the most rewarding life a human can lead. We can sit by the pool of living waters and wait until the waters are stirred, with the hope that at that time someone will come by and throw us in so we can receive healing; or we can get up out of our comfortable pre-conceived notions and jump into the living waters of Christ's word. It is there we will get our thirst quenched. By drinking of that spiritual well, the Sabbath becomes the joy that it is meant to be. The choice is ours and it requires action. **TSS**

Ernest P. Bergmann is a member of the Church Of God in San Antonio, Texas, and can be reached at 7103 Andtree Blvd., San Antonio, TX 78250 or e-mail at ernrom@juno.com.

Yahweh's New Covenant Assembly

BY JUNE NARBER HARRISON

Yahweh's New Covenant Assembly (YNCA) is a unique Sabbath-keeping group, which was founded at the Feast of Tabernacles, September 29, 1988 (exactly 10 years ago). There were several who signed the charter roles. The group located in Missouri is among the most prolific among the Sacred Name assemblies with a television ministry, literature, membership newsletter, study groups, and a public magazine.

YNCA produce a bimonthly magazine, which is free of charge to the public. The magazine claims to restore the true names of the Heavenly Father and His Son, Yahshua the Messiah. It is believed that these names were hidden by misdirected Bible copyists and translators, which readers can prove from any modern encyclopedia or dictionary (under "God," "Jehovah," "Lord," "Jesus" or "Yahweh").

The Sabbath Sentinel: How many members does your assembly have?

Alan Mansager: We do not keep membership roles, but it is estimated there are 1,000 supporters in the U.S. and another 1,000 who claim an association with us in the Philippines, the Caribbean, and elsewhere around the world. The press run of our magazine, *YNCA Light*, is 5,500.

TSS: Obviously, you are Sabbath observers who are also sacred name keepers. Which English version of the sacred name YHWH do you use?

AM: We believe in the Father Yahweh and His Son, Yahshua. We believe that the Holy Spirit is the *Ruach* or life force or power that Yahweh and Yahshua employ to accomplish their goals (John 20:22).

TSS: Is it true that you believe Yahshua (Christ) is a created being?

AM: Yes, Yahshua was the first of creation (John 5:26, Revelation 3:14).

TSS: Another unique doctrine you observe is using grape juice for the Passover service?

AM: We observe Passover at

evening on the beginning of the 14th of Abib. Grape juice is used because it represents the pure blood of the grape (Deuteronomy 32:14).

TSS: What government structure do you use?

AM: We have a board of Elders who administer the Assembly. Our procedures are governed through bylaws of the organization. Unresolved issues are taken to the Assembly at large.

TSS: How many assemblies do you have? If just one, how do others fellowship with other believers around the country?

AM: Presently there are four assemblies that meet on a regular basis in the U.S.: Kingdom City, Missouri., Phoenix, Arizona.; Rogers, Arkansas., and Salinas, California.. A number of assemblies meet in the Philippines on a regular basis, as well as in the Caribbean Islands. Other small fellowships scattered throughout the U.S. and Canada meet frequently on the Sabbath. Many of those who have no access to a local Assembly service receive audio and video cassette tapes of sermons given at Kingdom City. So far this year we have distributed more than 12,000 of these tapes.

TSS: Can you comment on the role of women in the assembly? Can they hold any offices or perform any functions?

AM: Women have a purpose in Yahweh's New Covenant Assembly. Although we have no female ministers, they have their own newsletter and are included in Bible studies with men, as well as participate in general business meetings at the Feast of Tabernacles.

TSS: Do women have to wear a head covering?

AM: We teach 1Corinthians 11, which includes the wearing of head coverings during formal worship. We do not force a woman



*A Sabbath Sentinel
Interview with*

**Alan
Mansager**
Yahweh's New
Covenant Assembly

Alan Mansager is the Public Relations Manager and Television presenter (together with his father Donald Mansager) on the *Back to the Truth* bible telecast program. This program is featured on free public access cable vision.

coming to services for the first time to wear a head covering until she understands the importance of this article in the overall "headship" teachings of Paul.

TSS: Do you teach a resurrection from the dead?

AM: When Yahshua returns to the earth, the dead saints will be raised incorruptible into spirit essence and those alive will change to spirit and join Him in the air.

TSS: So you do not believe in an immortal soul?

AM: Ecclesiastes 3:19-20 tells us that man dies just like the beasts. Our Savior died, did He not? If He went straight to heaven (or to hell to preach to lost sinners) then we have no sacrifice for our sins. Atonement of sin requires a death, as Israel very well knew through their constant sacrificing of animals. We are saved by Yahshua's resurrection to life, however, which came three days after His death (Romans 5:10). The Bible says the soul that sins shall die, not live forever in heaven or hell, Ezekiel 18:4.

TSS: When Yahshua returns to earth, will the Kingdom be on the earth?

AM: Yes, His feet shall stand in that day on the Mount of Olives and He will rule from Jerusalem (Micah 4:1-2).

TSS: When will the rest of the dead live again?

AM: Revelation 20:5 says that the rest of the dead does not live until the Millennium is over. They are resurrected to physical life. We teach that these are those who either were ignorant of the truth in their lifetimes or are those wicked who were not raised in the first resurrection. Their judgment follows.

TSS: Do you have any special behavior legislation for members; such as not performing jury duty, serving in civil office, or joining the armed forces?

AM: We do not strictly dictate what a member can or cannot do in regard to secular obligations. We discourage serving in the military and voting in national elections. Yahweh says that He Himself sets up kings and rulers (Romans 13:1-7). We believe all should pay their tax obligations, as Yahshua said. As to working in public service, we find examples in such notables as Daniel, Moses, Joseph, Esther, Ezra, and Nehemiah, who served kings or other rulers in secular government. Jury duty is a personal decision, remembering that Lot

was also a judge at the gates of Sodom (Gen. 19:1).

TSS: What is the order of events for your weekly Sabbath service?

AM: Our worship services include songs, Psalm reading, a sermonette, special musical offerings, a sermon, more singing and a reading of Scripture. We do not take up a collection during regular Sabbath services. A fellowship meal usually follows.

TSS: How long are your worship services?

AM: Services last about two hours. Brethren gather at other times to discuss the Bible, but we have no regular schedule other than the Sabbath and Feasts. New moons are another time when brethren gather.

TSS: How do you determine when it is the new moon?

AM: We look for the visual crescent new moon as did ancient Israel, and by the sighting determine the beginning of the Scriptural month (our English word month relates to "moon," incidentally). But in today's Roman-Gregorian calendar the new moon can be on any day of the month. Our culture has completely lost sight of the heavenly calendar that Yahweh established for His people.

TSS: Do you welcome peaceful visitors to your assembly or do they have to be sacred name observers first?

AM: We welcome anyone to worship who has a desire for truth.

TSS: What kind of special music do you play during worship services? Do you sing from a sacred name hymnal that I've heard about? Do you have any restrictions on the kind of music permitted to be sung or played?

AM: Any music that honors Yahweh reverently is acceptable. We do not consider rock to fit that classification, however (as in some forms of "Christian rock"). Our services are devout and respectful of the One we worship. We sing songs familiar to most churchgoers, but with corrections in the Names and sometimes in the lyrics.

TSS: What media do you use for evangelizing outreach?

AM: Our outreach includes our various publications, web page, audio and videotapes, and our television program, YNCA's *Back to the Truth*. We have continuously advertised in *Biblical Archaeology Review* and *Bible Review* magazines for the last

several years. Many brethren run advertisements for us in their local newspapers. *Back to the Truth* program presently airs on 31 television stations across the country in both large and small communities. We have no estimates on the number of viewers who see the program each week, but the potential is millions. We were one of the first Sacred Name assemblies to go online, having a presence on the World Wide Web since December of 1995.

TSS: What medium do you incorporate to reach international areas?

AM: The Internet is our main foreign outreach medium. In those countries where we have organized groups, our elders are doing a wonderful job at reaching out in their areas through personal visits, organizing meetings, and distributing literature.

TSS: What have you found to be the most effective media form for evangelizing: television, literature, or radio?

AM: That depends on how you classify "effective." The mass media is very effective in generating interest. Yet, even more important is the one-on-one sharing with family and friends. People are more likely to be open to the truth if they personally know someone who believes and practices that truth. The key is living your faith, not just talking about it. In that context, personal example and interaction are by far the most effective. Our literature is the backbone of our evangelistic outreach. To date, we have 67 titles available in a variety of formats: booklets, eight-page mini-studies, tracts, and pocket cards, as well as Spanish translations of some studies. We also have several of our mini-studies narrated on audio tape for those who prefer listening rather than reading. A Bible correspondence course is in the works. *Yahweh's New Covenant Assembly* publishes a bi-monthly magazine, a monthly newsletter, a monthly woman's newsletter, and bimonthly newsletter for children. We operate our own two-color, offset printing press at the office complex in Kingdom City, Missouri.

TSS: Do your lay members have any active role in preaching or teaching, or is their main role to pray and financially support the work?

AM: We encourage all the brethren to become involved in the Great Commission. Not only does that fulfill the command of Yahshua the Messiah, but doing so also helps sharpen spiritual

swords. Nothing forces someone to learn the Bible more than teaching it to someone else. I believe that on the average, Sacred Name believers have a far better understanding of Scripture than most churchgoers. The brethren and co-laborers with us are generous supporters of this ministry in prayers, tithes and offerings, and evangelism.

TSS: How do you work with other sacred name groups?

AM: We cooperate in reporting new moon sightings with a few other groups and lend our assistance in other ways when needed. We also have annual conferences together to discuss doctrine.

TSS: Is there much doctrinal differences between the different sacred name assemblies?

AM: There is as much diversity of doctrine among Sacred Name assemblies as found within any denomination. Most agree on the basics, however, like the Sabbath, feasts, and the Name (with some variations in spelling).

TSS: What makes your assembly different from other sacred name groups?

AM: Our desire is to do all we can by whatever means we can to bring the truth to the world. Often there is a "rocking chair" syndrome with many groups who are content to just sit on the truth they were given. We believe that time is of the essence and the truth needs to be taken to the world (Matthew 24:14).

TSS: Please tell me about your ministry: how many ministers do you have, and how do you select them?

AM: Counting all assemblies, we have about 20. A man must display proven knowledge, ability, humility, and desire to serve. A minister is foremost a servant. Then he is nominated by the laity, then he is approved and ordained by the elders.

TSS: What are your goals for your ministry in the upcoming months and years?

AM: One goal is to establish Assemblies across the nation and around the world. One of the most popular questions we are asked is, do you have a place to worship in my area? We also are planning to publish a Sacred Name Bible, containing the Names Yahweh and Yahshua, which is the second most popular request. A continuing desire is for more outlets for our television program, and we are looking for local sponsors to help us get on local

YAHWEH'S NEW COVENANT ASSEMBLY AT-A-GLANCE

Address: P.O. Box 50, Kingdom City, Missouri 65262, USA

Telephone: (573) 642-6566

Fax: (573) 642-6360 (24 Hour Fax)

E-mail: mail@ynca.com

World Wide Web: <http://www.ynca.com>

Statement of Beliefs of *Yahweh's New Covenant Assembly*:

- 1) Observance of the correct name of the Creator, YHWH, rendered Yahweh (Psalm 68:4; Isaiah 42:8; Jeremiah 16:21; Exodus 3:14-15; Isaiah 63:12; 66:5).
- 2) Yahshua is the correct name of the Savior, a contraction of the combination of "YAHweh" and "HoSHUA," the same as given to Joshua the son of Nun by Moses, Numbers 13:16. Yahshua means "Yahweh is Salvation," for He is the salvation that Yahweh has provided for mankind (Acts 4:12).
- 3) Belief in one God, Yahweh. His son was a created being, the firstborn of creation.
- 4) The Holy Spirit is the power of God, it is not a member of the Godhead (Luke 24:49; John 3:8; 14:17; 15:26; 1 Corinthians 2:10-16).
- 5) Observance of the Seventh-day Sabbath, from Friday sunset to Saturday Sunset.
- 6) After true repentance, baptism by immersion in water and into the saving Name of Yahshua is a necessary act of consecration (Matthew 3:13-17; Acts 2:38; 4:12; 8:16; 10:43; 19:5; Romans 6:3).
- 7) Do not eat unclean meats.
- 8) Believe in tithing.
- 9) Observance of the annual Holy Days.
- 10) At Passover, grape juice is taken instead of wine.
- 11) Observance of the New Moons (2 Kings 4:23; Nehemiah 10:33; Psalm 81:3).
- 12) Ministry are all men; women wear head coverings to formal worship service to respect the "headship". (Husbands are the head of the wives).
- 13) Kingdom of Yahweh will be established on the Earth at the return of Yahshua.
- 14) Belief in sin, need of repentance for conversion into the spiritual body of Yahweh. We are to live by every word in the Bible; and should not add or delete any words from it (Matthew 4:4; 2 Timothy 3:14-16; Deuteronomy 4:2; 12:32; Revelation 22:18).
- 15) Satan is a spirit being, our adversary, and is trying to stop the work of Yahweh on earth; He will eventually be destroyed (Isaiah 14:18-19; Ezekiel 28:16; Romans 16:20; Hebrews 2:14).
- 16) Wearing a beard is not mandatory, but an individual preference. The Savior wore a beard (Isaiah 50:6) and the Israelites were expected to have a beard, (Leviticus 14:9; 13:29-30) however not a pointed one (Leviticus 19:27; 21:5).
- 17) Emphasis on women and their roles in the family: mother, faithful wife and helpmeet to her husband; Career women are welcome; but the role of women is taught and strongly adhered to by members.

public access cable stations. It costs the sponsor nothing.

TSS: Do you have anything you would like to say to the readers of The Sabbath Sentinel?

AM: We appreciate the opportunity you have given us to introduce YNCA to Sentinel readers. We welcome all to our Sabbath services and Feasts. Our regular

Sabbath meetings are 1:30 p.m. at Kingdom City, Mo., located 3 miles west of the U.S. 54 and I-70 intersection. This year we are keeping the Feast of Tabernacles on October 6-13. We invite readers to request our free, bi-monthly magazine, *YNCA Light*. A list of free literature is also available, covering major doctrines of interest to the truth-seeker. **TSS**

The Sabbath Sentinel Marches Into the 21st Century!

Since 1945, *The Sabbath Sentinel* has been a magazine dedicated to promoting the Sabbath. What is its future and where will it be headed in the new century? This article provides insight into our direction and service to Sabbath-keepers and what we need from the Sabbath community to accomplish our goals.

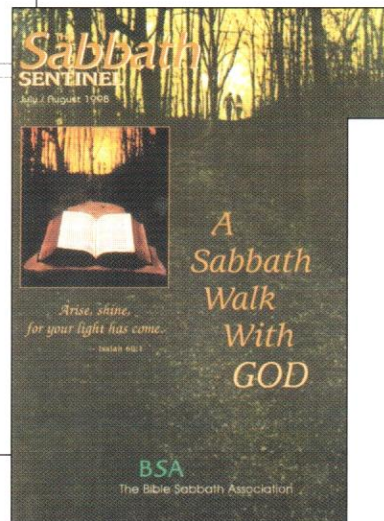
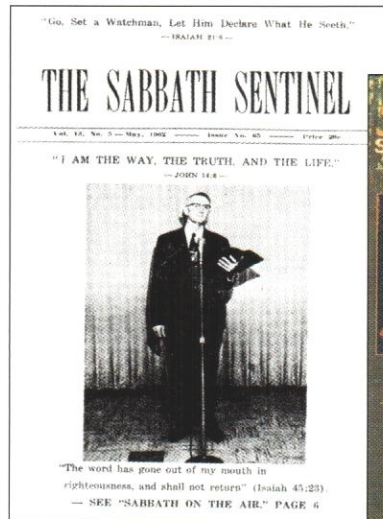
Our Background

The Bible Sabbath Association (BSA) was established in 1945, as a nonsectarian association of Sabbath-keepers. Since its inception, BSA has been a forum, a network, a users group, for Sabbath-keepers, dedicated to promoting and preserving the seventh-day Sabbath. The BSA's officers and members include *Seventh-day Adventists*, *Seventh Day Baptists*, *Church of God (7th Day)*, former *Worldwide Church of God* members, *United Church of God*, *Global Church of God*, *Church of God International*, *Assembly of Yahweh*, other groups and independents. BSA is not a church, therefore does not seek to join all Sabbath-keepers into one group. Instead, The BSA's purpose is to promote the Sabbath understanding and dialogue between all Sabbath-keepers.

BSA is a network of Sabbath-keepers promoting the Sabbath in a positive way. It is our mission to seek to encourage understanding, communication, and mutual respect among Sabbath-keepers; to promote the knowledge, acceptance, and observance of the seventh-day Sabbath among all Bible believers; and to defend the freedom of believers in all nations to rest and worship on the seventh day of the week, and to seek to repeal all legislation that hinders Sabbath observance.

What BSA Produces

BSA publishes a variety of literature



database of Sabbath-keeping organizations, of which a listing will be provided. For indi-



advocating the Sabbath: the Directory of Sabbath-Observing Groups, and *The Sabbath Sentinel*, a full color bi-monthly magazine, which features news and articles by and for Sabbath-keepers of all persuasions.

What Will It Take for TSS to Continue in the 21st Century?

The Need for an Active Board and Membership

For TSS to survive and prosper into the 21st Century, we need an active board of leaders in BSA to assist with our mission and objectives. The general election is coming up in 1999 and we are looking for dynamic individuals who can devote their time to make BSA into a great global network of Sabbath-keepers. We also need active members. As Paul stated "But now are they many members, yet but one body" (1 Corinthians 12:20). Since BSA is non-denominational and not a church, it is an organism where all Sabbath-keepers can participate.

The Need For Volunteers and Ideas to Improve BSA as a Network

TSS needs contributing writers and reporters. We are looking for volunteers to assist us in putting together an exhaustive

directory of individuals who are travelling around the world, it would be great to be able to locate a Sabbath-keeping fellowship through a directory on paper or on our web site. We need your ideas on how we can reach more Sabbath-keepers. We are considering putting together a more comprehensive library of books and other material, and a resource center that all Sabbath-keepers can use. Our web site will soon be updated.

Advertisement

The Sabbath Sentinel is a forum for advertising new books, resource materials, events and other information to assist all Sabbath-keepers. We should tell Sabbath-keepers around the world about BSA.

In cooperation with many different assemblies and congregations, TSS can become a forum to better assist these groups. Let us know if you would like to advertise in *The Sabbath Sentinel* about your organization and its activities.

It takes money for TSS to become the foremost global network for Sabbath-keepers!

All work performed by the President of The Bible Sabbath Association and the

board of directors, the Editor of *The Sabbath Sentinel* and its editorial staff, and other contributors are completely a volunteer effort. We have no paid ministers or TSS office workers. However, to provide the magazine, booklets, tapes, videotapes, and other services it costs money.

BSA is a non-profit organization [IRS code 501(c) (3)] and is not in business to make money from preaching the gospel and promotion of the seventh-day Sabbath. Preaching the Gospel was intended to be free to those individuals who received it (Proverbs 23:23; Matthew 10:8; 1 Timothy 6:5; Luke 8:3, 10:7-8; 2 Corinthians 2:17).

If it were financially possible to provide all our material, including *TSS* gratis to anyone who asked, we would certainly do it. We do believe that the Eternal will provide a way for us to continue our work through the offerings of co-workers and members.

Your Assistance Can Change Our Present Financial Slump

BSA is currently at its lowest funding point. There are talks among board members of making *TSS* exist only as a quarterly magazine or move to a newsletter format to reduce costs for 1999; as well as, reducing the quality of the paper in the magazine. In order for us to survive, we need active participation and financial contribution.

We need more subscriptions to *TSS* and donations in order to get BSA out of its present financial slump. In mentioning our present financial needs, have you considered giving part of your tithe to BSA?

For those individuals who believe in tithing and offerings as a means to provide financial contribution on a regular basis to support the preaching of the gospel, money can be taken out of tithes for subscriptions to *TSS* and to purchase BSA's many books, audio and video tapes and other Sabbath-promoting literature.

The Sabbath is the sign between the Almighty and the children of Israel forever (Exodus 31:16-18). This perpetual covenant of love remains the test commandment in keeping a relationship with Him. Ancient and modern Israel is from the same cloth of disobedience; it was idolatry and sabbath breaking that drove them into physical and spiritual captivity.

What a shame if this institution which upholds the sign of obedience does not

last into the new millennium. You can prevent this from happening.

Our Goals for 1999 and beyond

Here are some of the goals that we have for 1999 and beyond:

- Increase circulation of *The Sabbath Sentinel*.
- Increase content of *The Sabbath Sentinel* to 32 pages.
- Make the magazine self-supporting through fund-raising and other financial support mechanisms.
- Increase the advertisement base of the magazine.
- Advertise *TSS* in well-known national religious publications.
- Strive to make the magazine a monthly magazine with richer content and a wider reach among the Sabbath-keeping community.
- Provide more interest articles and news about Sabbath-keepers and groups and issues regarding the Sabbath. Naturally this requires individuals who can make the work of *TSS* a priority in their life.
- Produce the 1999 updated Directory of Sabbath-Observing Groups in March and create a listing of Sabbath groups with their worship services and activities on the web site.
- Provide the best global source for books, booklets, tapes, videotapes and information on the Sabbath.
- Make BSA and *TSS* a globally known resource for Sabbath-keepers.
- Reach out the best authors and writers in the Sabbath community to solicit written contributions.
- Provide courses and other information to assist Sabbath-keeping groups in their fellowships.
- Make the web site a portal and resource point for all Sabbath-keepers worldwide.

We appreciate your contributions and assistance in helping us make The BSA a global network for all Sabbath-keepers. If you have any ideas, please let us know. Thank you for your patronage and your prayers in this crucial time for us. **TSS**

What Will We

Continued from page 11

Finally, families will be able to keep and build up their inherited land for generations. "They shall not build and another inhabit!" How beautiful and comforting! Hopefully, I will assist Christ in seeing that this promise is carried out.

New Testament Affirms The Old Testament

Jesus Christ confirms in the New Testament the prophecies given in the Old Testament. "When the Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory: And before Him shall be gathered all nations: and He shall separate them one from another" (Matthew 25:31-32).

When Peter curiously asked Jesus what his role in the kingdom would be, Jesus said: "ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel" (Matthew 19:27-28). He was telling Peter that the twelve original apostles will be ruling with Him on the regenerated Earth.

Assisting Christ in God's Government

But many more individuals will be needed to assist in the various roles and responsibilities in the government of God. "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection...they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years" (Revelation 20:6). Christ's chosen disciples who are resurrected to immortality will assist Christ as kings and priests throughout the millennium, and for all eternity (John 14:12). **TSS**

John & Carolyn Shirm, can be contacted at "Bible-Studies-By-Mail," (formerly Family of God), 7119 Western Trail, San Antonio, TX 78244, or at j&cshirm@stic.net. Bible studies are offered free and may be copied, however they request that you do not send them any money. Their Web Site is located at: <http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Aegean/2579>

New Ministry Directed at College Age Young People

Israel Steinmetz, a student at Spring Vale Academy (COG7 high school boarding school in Owosso, Michigan), wrote this letter to Editor of *The Sabbath Sentinel*

Stanberry, Missouri is a small town located about 50 miles north of Kansas City. Lord willing, a small boarding house in Stanberry will be a home to a brand new ministry. God has placed it on a few of our hearts that we ought to provide a place for fresh high school graduates and college age young people, who feel a calling to minister, but are not sure of which direction to go.

We feel this is a neglected group of people who need better direction to be effective members of the body of Christ. This ministry would provide a place for them to grow up spiritually and contribute to the community and church work. At this point, nothing is definite, we are seeking the Lord's direction in this ministry. If you have comments, suggestions, or questions, please contact me via Richard Nickels and *The Sabbath Sentinel*.

submitted by Israel Steinmetz

Scattered Brethren in Thailand

Sabbath keeping brethren in Thailand, of the Karen nationality, are illegal residents in Thailand. They cannot hold jobs and must rely upon handouts from government and non-profit organizations for survival. Leon Sexton, a consultant to companies doing business in Asia, worked for Worldwide Church of God founder Herbert W. Armstrong and the Ambassador Foundation for seven years, is involved in trying to raise money to help these Thai brethren buy food and provide basic education for their children.

A full report of their plight has been written and will appear in the upcoming September 1998 issue of *The Journal*, (a publication dedicated to news of the Sabbath keeping community) which is available by writing to P.O Box 1020, Big Sandy, Texas 75755, U.S.A. or from their web site at <http://www.thejournal.org>.

An excerpt from this article reads, "As Christians, they are targets of kidnapping, extortion and even execution. The small farm purchased by the Ambassador Foundation for them to live on is no longer safe from raiding soldiers. Our brethren and their families had to pack up and leave their homes behind and move into refugee camps or to the safety of Thai villages. What little income they made from farming or weaving traditional Karen clothing is gone".

Please remember them in your prayers. If you want to make a donation for food and for their children's education, please send a check made out to "Karen Fund, c/o Leon Sexton" and mail to 6402 Azalea Dr., Rowlett, Texas 75088, U.S.A., or call Leon's wife, Gloria, at (972) 412-4909.

Attention Pacific Northwest COGs and IFs

All are invited October 30-November 1st to a weekend of encouragement and spiritual edification with guest speaker Jim Rector. A Friday night Bible study and Saturday worship/praise service and interactive Bible study to be held at the Community

Presbyterian Church in Post Falls, ID.

A Sunday picnic/potluck and fellowship time will be held in neighboring Spokane, WA. Due to Jim's uncertain health, we advise you to confirm after October 20th by calling Bob Gentry at (509) 624-8378 or Steve Wineinger at (509)924-5327 .

A Look at the Pope's Pastoral Letter Dies Domini

Samuele Bacchiocchi, Ph. D., Prof. of Theology and Church History, *Andrews University*

On May 31, 1998, Pope John Paul II issued a lengthy (almost 40 pages) Pastoral Letter "Dies Domini" where he makes a passionate plea for a revival of Sunday observance, especially attendance to Sunday Mass. This document has enormous historical significance since it addresses the critical problem of the prevailing Sunday profanation at "the threshold of the Great Jubilee of the Year 2000" (#3). The Pope is keenly aware that the crisis of Sunday observance reflects the crisis of the Catholic Church and of Christianity in general. The "strikingly low" attendance to the Sunday liturgy reflects in the Pope's view the fact that "faith is weak" and "diminishing" (# 5). If this trend is not reversed it can threaten the future of the Catholic Church as it stand at the threshold of the third millennium. The Pope states:

"The Lord's Day has structured the history of the Church through two thousand years: how could we think that it will not continue to shape the future?" (#30).

You can receive an in-depth analysis of this important Pastoral Letter by contacting Dr. Bacchiocchi.

Not a Number Anymore!

Eighty people were baptized at the culmination of a five-week prophecy seminar crusade held at a new private prison in Adelanto, California. For 550 men housed at the *Maranatha Private Corrections* (MPC) facility, owned by a Sabbath-keeper, this was a new day. Back in prison as result of parole violations, these inmates have all done hard time. Some have spent more years behind bars than on the streets. Many know each other from years frequenting California's numerous state prisons. All are too familiar with the *California Department of Corrections* (CDC) incarceration program. The new prison is divided into two sides. "On the *Newstart* side we deal with physical, mental, spiritual and social aspect of changing their lives." The program offer classes in nutrition, health, fitness, counseling, and bible courses.

Write to *Amazing Facts* for the article "Not a Number Anymore" by Caron Oswald (*Amazing Facts*, September 1998, page 12-13).

The Sabbath Sentinel is in search of ongoing submissions from the Seventh Day Adventist Community: upcoming seminars, socials, international outreaches and other items of news. Please submit them in writing to our address inside the front cover or e-mail them to insearch@mindspring.com. Thank you.

Walking on the Road Toward Eternity

Here is a big thank you for your article on "Walking on the Road Toward Eternity." What you went through at A. C. [Ambassador College] must have been real "gut wrenching!" It would have been for me. I really believe for many in God's church today that walk is really difficult-if for no other reason than for being alone and also seeing families split etc. Keep up the great work with *The Sabbath Sentinel*! Oh, yes! I almost forget I wanted to get your permission to run some copies for our group next Sabbath (of your article). I think my wife & I are the only ones that get the *Sentinel*. We have from 30 - 50 attending our CBCoG services every other Sabbath just north of Goshen. I would really like to hear from you.

Duane Sholly
Goshen, IN

What an inspiration I found in the July - August issue of *The Sabbath Sentinel*. The article "Walking on the Road Toward Eternity" was a breath of fresh air, except for the following statement: "Whosoever doesn't keep the this day [Sabbath] holy is not a child of God." In John 9 the Pharisees were angry with Jesus for healing a blind man on the Sabbath. In verse 40 they asked Jesus, "Are we blind also?" Jesus reply was not speaking of physical blindness, but spiritual blindness. His reply was: "If ye were blind, ye should have no sin; but now ye say, We see; therefore you sin remaineth." There are many Christians who have not been enlightened to the truth of the Sabbath. I once was blind, but now I see thanks to God and Sabbath keepers who opened my spiritual eyes about the Sabbath. Keep the good articles coming.

Mytle Foor
Vestaburg, MI

(The experiences (good or bad) that the Eternal has blessed me with, have molded me into a better servant. The more encouraging and empowering support we receive from fellow travelers during our personal walk, the easier our spiritual walk becomes. We appreciate letting us know how we can assist all Sabbath-keepers in their spiritual walk. -ED)

Renewals

I am renewing my membership to The Bible Sabbath Association and for my subscription to *The Sabbath Sentinel*. Please keep on sending *The Sabbath Sentinel*. I appreciate the new format and the articles. Thanks also for your services.

Enrique M. Gabuyo
Phillippines.

Please renew my membership in the BSA for the next year. Thanks for the improvements made in the magazine.

Lawrence Evans, Illinois

Please renew my subscription. I enjoy your magazine very much. I am a Sabbath keeper who enjoys keeping the Sabbath, and I know that I receive great blessings from doing so. I understood that the Sabbath was to be kept since my twenties: I am now

87 years of age. For this I am daily blessing Yahweh for it. I am sending you \$50 for your work and to renew my magazine. May Yahweh bless you in your wonderful work you are doing. Sincere love to you and those who work and keep Yahweh's laws.

Marie Y. Boyer

The content of *The Sabbath Sentinel* has improved over the last few months. I enjoy it more with the arrival of each issue. My compliments to the staff that compile *The Sabbath Sentinel* and to the Board of Directors for procuring this fine staff.

Anonymous

I want to do my part to add to the subscription list. Enclosed is my check for \$15.00 to pay for a gift subscription to my local library. I also want to thank whoever sent me material about The Bible Sabbath Association. I recommend membership in the BSA to all fellow Seventh-day Adventists and to all Sabbath Keeping Christians. Working together to promote God's Sabbath makes a lot of sense.

Thomas P. Moen, Jr.

(Thank you all for renewing your subscriptions, and assisting us with financial support and contributions to create this global network of Sabbath-keeping organizations and individuals. We will continue to improve the content and coverage of the Sentinel. We also appreciate your prayers to the Eternal and His desire to assist us in publishing this magazine. -ED)

Israel of the Alps Video Tape

Dear Sir, I thank you for sending your video on Israel of the Alps. I really enjoyed it, so I decided to keep it and put in the Church library.

Dorothy Stevenson

Person needing a Sabbath fellowship or church to attend

I need a church badly. I keep the Sabbath at home. But for Spiritual-and "fellowship" I attend a 1st Day Church. But I now am working. I am desperate for a Sabbath-keeping Jesus Name Pentecostal Church. Janice Hicks, PO Box 571302, Tulsa, OK 74157.

(We would appreciate if anyone can assist Ms. Hicks in finding a church. We are working on putting together the 1999 Directory of Sabbath-keeping organizations and possibly a web listing of Sabbath churches & fellowships. Let us know if you can assist us in this effort. -ED)



The Sabbath Sentinel values our readers' views. Address correspondence to Lars G. Harrison, *The Sabbath Sentinel*, 6325-9 Falls of Neuse Rd., Suite 193, Raleigh, NC 27615 USA; fax to (919) 878-3803; or e-mail to insearch@mindspring.com or lharrison@altika.com. Letters should include the author's name, title, company or affiliation, address, and optional e-mail address. *The Sabbath Sentinel* reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and space.

Of One Blood

AMERICANS are often too insular. They do not know much about other cultures and societies, and they do not seem to care about learning about other nations and races. Although open immigration policies are bringing an influx of different cultures making America their home, the (temporary) majority WASP (White Anglo-Saxon Protestant) remains largely ignorant of how other peoples think and believe. They seem to believe that the whole world will ultimately absorb American cultural and mores.

Sabbath-keeping Messianic believers have a commission from the Master to learn, appreciate, and penetrate all the world's races and cultures with the Good News of the Kingdom (Mark 16:15). Paul understood this quite well when he said that he needed to meet people at their own level, so that by all means he might save some (I Corinthians 9:19-22).

It would benefit American Sabbatarians to periodically travel to foreign countries to fellowship with brethren of other races and cultures. The trips our family took to Acapulco, Mexico, and Sydney, Australia were real eye-openers. Visits to our home by Nigerians helped us appreciate the trials and struggles brethren of other nations face. Although some of the international brethren we have met are not as financially well off as we are, we have been impressed with their dedication and zeal for the Almighty. It is inspiring to witness believers of other skin color and nationalities who worship the same God in the same manner we do. Truly, we are all one blood spiritually in Christ, bonded together by the Savior's shed blood (Acts 17:26-27). We believe that the Creator of mankind enjoys variety, and we cannot see that it is His will for every person on this earth to look and act the same, as long as they are operating within the Law of God.

I have recently been disturbed by several comments by Sabbatarians who seem to cut and divide God's people. One man from Louisiana recently told me that he felt that any statement discouraging the unmitigated, free and open mixing of races and cultures is "racist." I hold the opposite view, because such a mass practice would lead to the destruction of the many lovely races and cultures

on this earth.

Gerald Flurry of the Philadelphia Church of God, in an editorial in the July, 1998, issue of the Philadelphia Trumpet magazine, lambasted German Finance Minister Waigel, who said that "Germany and Bavaria are not for immigrants, and that Germany should not become a multi-cultural nation." Flurry compared the Finance Minister's talk with Nazi rhetoric, and said it was "a bold racist statement." If it comes to the point when you cannot find Germans in Germany, Nigerians in Nigeria, Filipinos in the Philippines, etc., we will have become a much-depreciated world. Indeed, variety is the spice of life!

On the other side of the spectrum, there have been statements by Sabbath-keepers stating that non-white races "cannot be saved." This idea is so repugnant to me that I do not care to discuss it any further.

I believe that in the millennial kingdom, God will return peoples to their own homelands, and preserve the various cultures and races of mankind. In the meantime, we have work to do, to spread the Good News to all nations and peoples. Do you care enough to share the greatest news (gospel) of the greatest gift (eternal life) to others of different races and cultures? Are you zealously performing your part in this great work? Truly, when I meet the smiling faces of Sabbath keepers in other parts of the world, I realize that we are indeed of the same spiritual blood.

Idaho Camp-meeting

I was thrilled to participate in the 1998 annual Church of God Camp-meeting in Meridian, Idaho. I met a number of fellow Sabbath-keepers for the first time and enjoyed the fellowship. On July 3, I gave a workshop explaining the work and materials offered by The Bible Sabbath Association and Giving & Sharing. On the Sabbath, July 4, I spoke on "Claiming the Promises of God." An audio tape (\$2) or video (\$5 loan) is available from the BSA.

—Richard Nickels, BSA President

BSA WEB SITE — Contact Alan Ruth at <http://www.biblestudy.org>

FRIENDS OF THE SABBATH SEMINAR tapes available through the *BSA*, Write to 3316 Alberta Drive, Gillette, WY 82718 or phone toll free 1-888-687-5191 for a complete list. Available for \$3.00 each with a minimum order of 6 tapes.

CUAL ES EL DIA DE REPOSO DEL NUEVO TESTAMENTO? Sabe usted cual es el dia de reposo del Nuevo Testamento? Aprenda lo que declara su propia Biblia sobre este tema de vital importancia. Escribanos y pida el folleto gratuito titulado, "Cual es el Dia de reposo del Nuevo Testamento?" Dirijase a *The Bible Sabbath Association*, 3316 Alberta Drive, Gillette, WY 82718.

Why not purchase a Gift-Subscription to TSS for Libraries, Prisons, Veterans, Nursing Homes and Friends & Relatives, who may otherwise not afford to subscribe?

Discounts

Advertise in the *TSS Classified Ads* section for more than one issue and receive discounts: \$1.00 per word 1st issue, 20% off for 2nd issue and 30% off subsequent times.

Writers Needed for TSS—Get a Free Yearly Subscription to TSS for Contributing

The Sabbath Sentinel is looking for great writers who can contribute original articles for the upcoming issues in 1999. Contributors to TSS are on a vol-

unteer basis, and the only way we can provide any compensation is to offer one free yearly subscription to the TSS to anyone who submits an article, which gets published. If you already are a subscriber to the TSS, we will provide you with a gift-subscription to a Sabbath keeper, library, church or other institution of your choice. This only applies once per calendar year, even if you contribute more than one article.

Types of Articles We Are Interested in:

Articles on the Sabbath, Articles on themes per editorial calendar, Biblical characters, Book reviews, Bible History and/or Archeology, Summary of Bible topics, chapters or books, Bible Studies, Profiles on Sabbath keepers and/or organizations, Sabbath keepers in the News, Christian living principles.

Ask for our writer's guidelines. If you have an idea of the type of article you like to write, please send the article idea or article to the Editor (see page 2 for address). We will respond to your inquiry.

Bible Sabbath Resources

Available from
The Bible Sabbath Association
3316 Alberta Drive
Gillette, WY 82718

Information phone
307-687-0484

Toll-free order phone
888-687-5191

Please send 10% for postage & handling

ORDER CODE		SUGGESTED DONATION
P208	Has Time Been Lost 18pp	Free
B204	A History of the Sabbath & Sunday J. Kiesz 63pp	\$5
B207	History of the Waldenses J. A. Wylie	\$7.50
B214A	Woman Rides the Beast Dave Hunt 552pp	\$10.00
V201	The Israel of the Alps 85 min video - Waldenses	\$30
V202A	14-day video loan	\$5
BSAM	Membership in BSA annual dues include Sentinel subscription	\$25
TSS	1-yr subscription to The Sabbath Sentinel	\$15
TSSF	Subscription outside USA	\$20

Subscribe Today!

The Sabbath Sentinel magazine

for only \$15 per year.

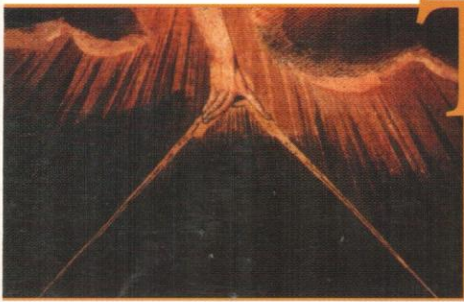
(\$15, US; \$20, Canada; \$25 foreign - US funds)

Send to: **BSA, 3316 Alberta Drive, Gillette, WY 82718**

Toll Free: 1-888-687-5191

Classified ads are available at the rate of \$1.00 per word (including each word and each group of numbers in the address—telephone numbers count as one word) for each issue in which the ad is published. **Display ads** are available at \$150 per quarter page for each issue the ad is published. Where possible your camera-ready copy will be utilized, or we will design your display ad for you. Send copy for all ads and payment to *The Bible Sabbath Association*, 3316 Alberta Drive, Gillette, WY 82718. Ad copy without payment will not be accepted for publication. Deadline is four months prior to publication (if you want your ad to appear in the November/December issue we must receive it before June). BSA reserves the right to reject or edit any ad copy. Publication does not necessarily imply endorsement by *The Bible Sabbath Association* or *The Sabbath Sentinel*.

A Rest for the people of God



The concept of rest in Hebrews, chapter 4, transcends time and geographical dimension. The context of the entire letter to the Hebrew people is that of the revealing of their Christian

identity -- their relationship to the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus is the express fulfilling reality of the prophetic promises, "In the past God spoke to our forefathers at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe." (Hebrews 1:1, 2).

Of Jesus Christ, God "his Father" (verse 5), says, "In the beginning, O Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. You will roll them up like a robe; like a garment they will be changed." (verses 10, 12). The writer (whether Paul or Apollos or otherwise, he makes a point of remaining anonymous) of the letter to the Hebrew people is speaking of "the world to come." (chapter 2, verse 5). Jesus is revealed to be Creator, Lawgiver, Redeemer, and Glorifier -- very God, "the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being." (chapter 1, verse 3).

"Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. For the Lord is the great God, the great King above all gods. In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land. Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker; for he is our God and we are the

people of his pasture, the flock under his care. Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as you did at Meribah ... I declared an oath in my anger, 'They shall never enter my rest.'" Psalm 95 warns the people of God of the consequences of nonbelief.

Hebrews 4 renews the promise and warning of Psalm 95. The Lord Jesus Christ's "work has been finished since the creation of the world. For somewhere he has spoken about the seventh day in these words: 'And on the seventh day God rested from all his work.' And again in the passage above, he says, 'They shall never enter my rest.' It still remains that some will enter that rest, and those who formerly had the gospel preached to them did not go in, because of their disobedience. Therefore God again set a certain day, calling it 'Today,' when a long time later he spoke through David, as was said before: 'Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.'" (verses 3-7).

"There remains a rest to the people of God. Let us be diligent to enter into that rest." (verses 9,11 -- Exegeses Bible).

"They will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations. You will be called priests of the Lord, you will be named ministers of our God. They will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years."

(Isa. 61:4,6; Rev. 20:6)

– Mike Galimore
wyldfyre@bluemarble.net



The Sabbath Sentinel

(USPS 474-580) (ISSN 1082-0833)

A Bi-monthly Publication of
The Bible Sabbath Association
HC 60 Box 8, Fairview, OK 73737

Periodicals Postage

**IS YOUR
NUMBER
UP?**

Your renewal notice comes with every issue!