**Church of God’s acceptance of the Passover**

In Robert Coulter's book *The Journey* he wrote that from its founding:

"the Church had no uniform practice for holding its communion services. They were held whenever circumstances seemed appropriate to its clerics." (p 182)

Coulter then discusses several examples of the "whenever" practice. Then he writes:

"But in 1872, Samuel Davidson wrote to *The Hope* that he believed the Church should conduct its communion service annually at the time of the Jewish Passover … Davidson's polemic was met with such favor, Editor Jacob Brinkerhoff of the *Advent and Sabbath Advocate*, successor to *The Hope*, began publishing a spring date in the paper for the Church's annual communion service. His arbitrary listings of the date for the Lord's Supper met with the approval of the Church, and it began in unison to hold its annual Lord's Supper on that date." (p 182).

“A member of the Church in Texas was visiting relatives in Washington, D.C., and went to the Congressional Library, where he discovered the perpetual calendar for Hebrew festivals. He identified the future dates for the Passover and shared that information with Editor Brinkerhoff. With that information, Brinkerhoff began to publish the actual date of the Jewish Passover festival as an appropriate date for the Church’s annual Lord’s Supper service.” (pp 182-3)

“Brinkerhoff wrote [in 1884], “The Israelitish passover was instituted upon the 14th day of the first month, and was annually observed at that time [of Jesus’ crucifixion] by the Israelites. It was at that time of the year that Jesus observed the passover, and … at the same time instituting the Lord’s Supper and changing the emblems of the Passover …

The March 10, 1885 issue of the *Advocate* announced the date of the Lord’s Supper service: “The 14th day of the first month (Passover) occurs this year on the night after Sunday, March the 30th, according to Roman time.”

…

“An annual communion service began as an informal practice initiated by a discussion in the open forum of *The Hope* magazine in 1872. In early 1917, A. N. Dugger incorporated it in his revised doctrinal statement. He wrote, “The Lord’s Supper as Christ instituted it, should be observed yearly, that the wine and bread are typical of His spilled blood and broken body.” (p 183).

The doctrines of the Salem church in its 1933 schism with Stanberry included this one first published by Editor A.N. Dugger in 1917:

"Statement 19: The Lord's Supper is to be observed annually, on the beginning of the Passover, the fourteenth day of Nisan according to the Hebrew calendar." (p. 281)