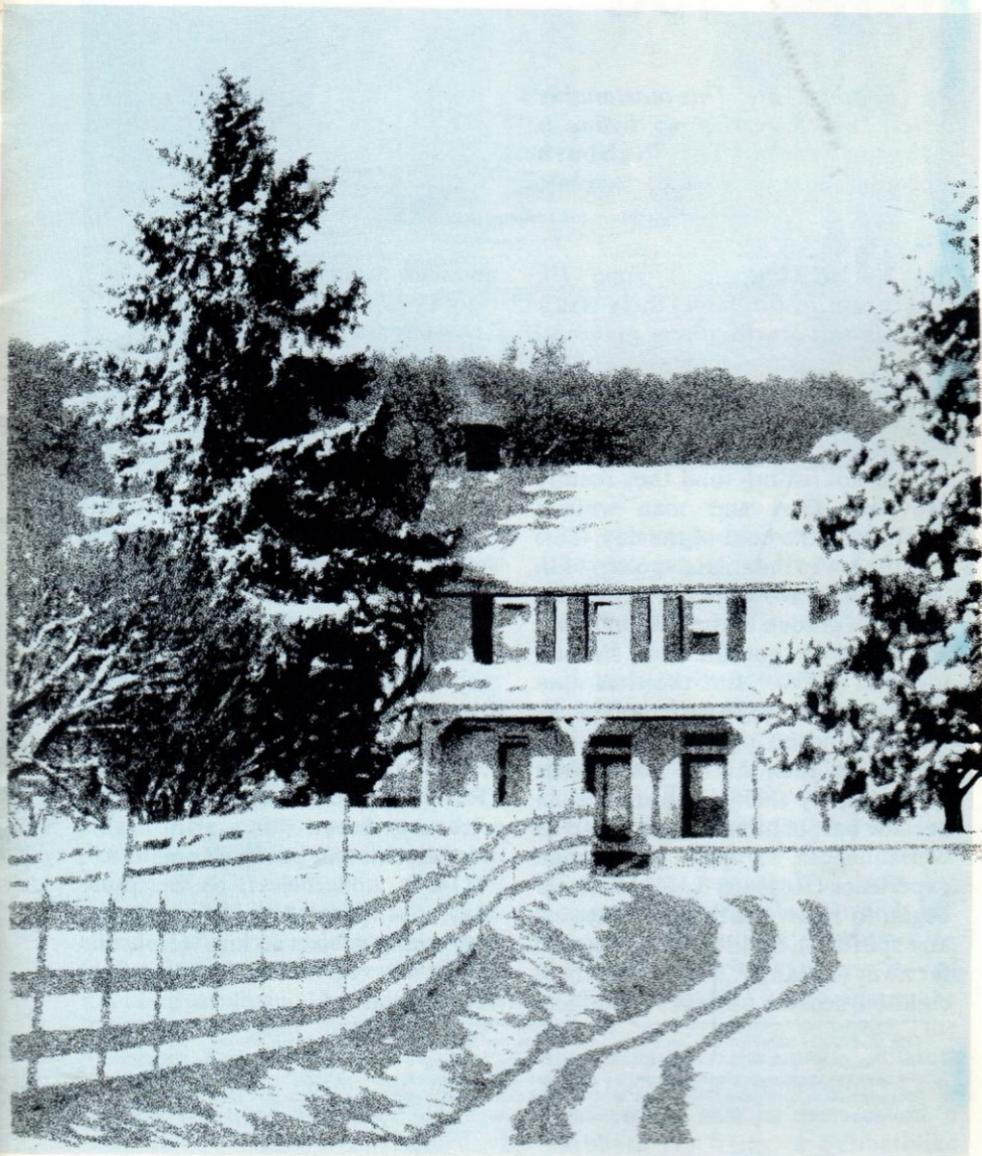


The Sabbath Sentinel

"Go set a watchman,
Let him declare what he seeth."
ISAIAH 21:9

DECEMBER, 1981



Spend a Sabbath With God

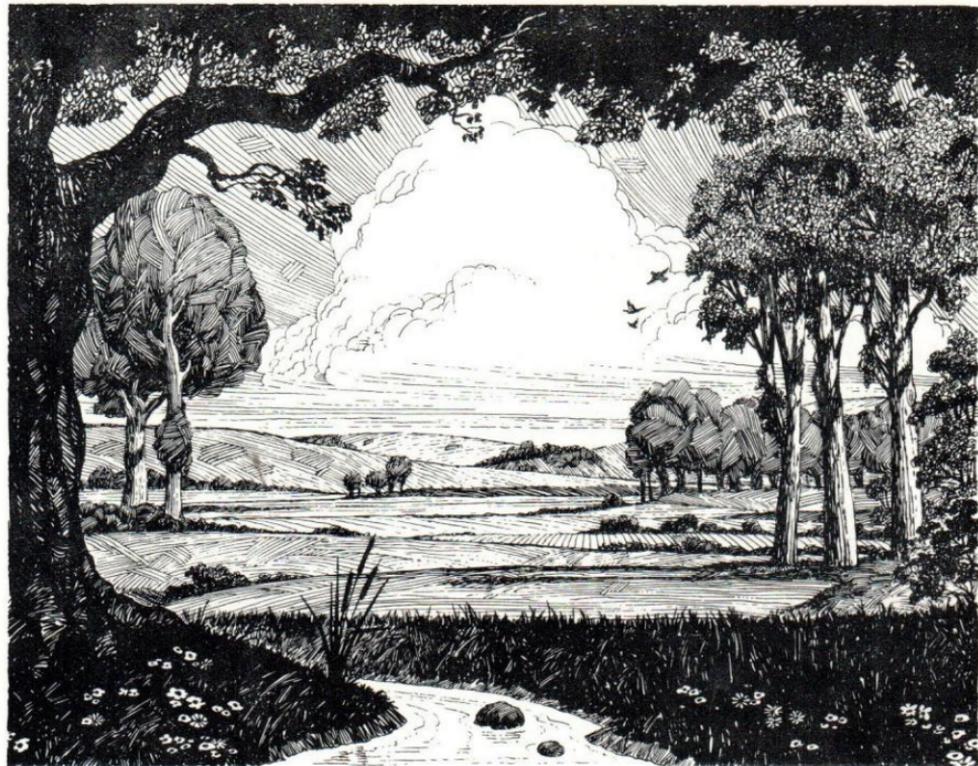
Editor's Note: This outstanding article, which carried no byline is adapted from The Sabbath Recorder, August, 1980.

ONCE upon a time (in reality, not just in fable) there was a spot on this world where man and animal, and where man and woman lived in absolute peace and security. There under the shade of trees, known as much for their beauty as for the nourishing food they readily provided, God and man walked together in the cool of the day. This of course was that place spoken of in Genesis 2:8: "Now the Lord God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed" (NIV).^{*} But the first man and woman chose to turn their backs on God and on the garden He had created as their home, going their own way. By their disobedience sin became part of human nature, and its consequences, a part of human experience (Romans 5:12). Mankind began to know death (both physical and spiritual). Suddenly God seemed far away (Isaiah 59:2). The bearing of children became painful for women,

and men could support their families only by painful toil in the sweat of the brow (Genesis 3:16-19). A new desire to control one another jeopardized the marriage relationship (Genesis 3:16-19). Thus evolved the world we know today—created good, yet lying presently under a curse.

Will that curse ever be removed? Yes, it will, for those of us who have found new life in Christ. When Jesus returns for us, the curse will be completely and permanently removed, as our bodies and the physical universe itself are released from decay and futility (John 14:1-6; Romans 8:18-25). There will be a new heaven and earth under His control (Revelation 21:1-4). Jesus has already freed us from sin's punishment and power (Romans 8:1; 6:11-14); nonetheless, as Scripture says, "at present we do not see *everything* subject to him" (Hebrews 2:8). We must wait for the final redemption of ourselves and our

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world, with the Holy Spirit's presence in our hearts as its guarantee (Ephesians 1:13, 14).

In the meantime can we find no relief from worldly cares, no rest along the way to heaven, no close walk with the God who spoke with our first ancestors in the cool of the day in Eden? In the Book of Genesis we find that where God imposed a curse, He also pronounced a blessing. Mankind would bear the curse of physical pain and toil (Genesis 3:17-19), which would fill their hearts with worldly cares and distract them from fellowship with God. But God also "blessed the seventh day and made it holy" (Genesis 2:3) providing temporary release from the curse and, in that way, a foretaste of heaven. On the seventh day of each week (Saturday)

God invites us to rest temporarily from our labors, as He "rested from all the work of creating that he had done" (Genesis 2:3). Sabbath rest, though it is a physical rest, is not the rest of inactivity or sleep, it is the rest of release (i.e., rest *from* something, as in the disengagement from appointed tasks, the laying aside of burdens). This quality is what makes the Sabbath a picture of heaven. For the essence of heaven is release from all that has separated us from the presence of God, release which has become a permanent condition. In this life only the Sabbath (the "day of rest" Exodus 16:23) anticipates the rest of heaven (when believers, "the dead who die in the Lord . . . will rest from their labor" (Revelation 14:13). That future rest is even called a "Sabbath rest" (i.e., a Sabbathlike

rest) in Hebrews 4:9-11. So the Sabbath is not just a "day off"; it is a partial and temporary release from the curse, so that we may seek the presence of God as mankind did in Eden before they sinned, and as they will throughout eternity when redeemed from sin.

The Sabbath is God's regular appointment with His people. It is not the only time they may have fellowship with Him (Hebrews 4:16 and 10:19-22 promise constant access to God), but it is God's longstanding, regular, and Scriptural appointment with them. He expects us to clear our schedules and keep that appointment even when earthly business seems most pressing ("even during the plowing season and harvest" Exodus 34:21). It is so important that God commands us to remember it: "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy" (Exodus 20:8-11).

Why is the Sabbath so important? Because it is the constant reminder we need so we will not forget who God is and what He has done for us "Keep my Sabbaths holy, that they may be a sign between us. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God" (Ezekiel 20:20). With the Sabbath God has associated His gracious actions toward mankind: the Creation (Exodus 20), the Exodus

(Deuteronomy 5) and the final redemption (Hebrews 4:9-11). Spiritually, as well as physically, mankind needs Sabbath rest, for as Jesus said, "The Sabbath was made for man" (Mark 2:27). That it is commanded calls for our loving obedience, not grudging compliance "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome" (1 John 5:3, RSV). By not working at our jobs on the Sabbath, we do not jeopardize our financial security. The lesson of the manna teaches us that since it is God who has given us the Sabbath, He will provide enough for us on the six other days when our work may be done (Exodus 16:29).

With all the blessings of the Sabbath and the clear Scriptural commands to keep it, why had it dropped out of the lives of most Christians today? The reason is that believers have been following the misguided human traditions of their churches, rather than the Word of God. The Pharisees did the same thing with the Fifth Commandment that churches today have done with the Fourth Commandment (the commandment to remember to keep the Sabbath day holy). Jesus said to them: "Why do you transgress the commandment of God for the sake of your tradition?" "For the sake of your tradition, you have made void the word of God" (Matthew 15:3, 6, RSV). Today by human authority and tradition the Sabbath has been picked apart, so that only a vague principle remains, which has been transferred to the first day of the week (Sunday) and renamed "the Lord's day." This constitutes a spiritualization of the simple and straightforward teaching of Scripture, which, as is usual with

such a method, results in an impoverished shadow of the Biblical concept. Thus the Biblical day of delight in the Lord (Isaiah 58:13) has dwindled into a purely secular day of recreation for much of the church and for all but a few hours of that day, which are those specifically devoted to attending church. In this way many Christians today have unknowingly “made void the word of God.”

The Biblical Sabbath has been spiritualized by those who say that it is really just a “principle” of rest, which is either (say some) carried over into the observance of the first day (i.e. Sunday as the “Christian” Sabbath), or (say others) is fulfilled in the idea of “rest from selfjustifying works” when a person trusts Christ as Savior. Scripture never speaks of a Sabbath “principle” of rest. It always speaks of a Sabbath “day” of rest, and that Sabbath day is not just any day of the week, but is “the seventh day” by virtue of God’s express designation and its inherent symbolism (Exodus 20:10f.). Even the period of the Sabbath is specified as a full sunset-tosunset day (Nehemiah 13:19; Genesis 1:5; Leviticus 23:32), not a few hours of a day, nor a whole lifetime of “rest from self-justifying works” or age of grace. Of course Sabbath rest itself is always described as physical rest from physical labor, not rest in some abstract sense (“you shall not do any work” Exodus 20:10 and examples in Nehemiah 13:15 and Jeremiah 17:21,22). The New Testament does not depart from this understanding (when Hebrews 4 speaks of Sabbath rest as an illustration of heaven, it is again, on the basis of rest from the Genesis 3 curse of physical labor—see Hebrews 4:10).

The idea that Christians should

observe the first day of the week to commemorate Jesus’ resurrection receives as little support from Scripture as the idea that Sabbath rest is an abstract and “transferable” principle. Neither Jesus nor His disciples ever taught such a practice. When we would most expect to hear them speak about it—at times when they are expressly teaching the significance of the resurrection—it is conspicuously absent. What is important to them about the day of the resurrection is the fact that it would come after Jesus had lain in the grave for three days (fulfilling a sign—Matthew 12:39, 40—and proving His physical death), not that it would be any particular day of the week (Matthew 16:21; 17:23; Mark 8:31; Luke 18:33; Acts 10:40, 1 Corinthians 15:4).

There are a few references in the New Testament to meetings of the disciples on the first day of the week, but they are not said to be their regular weekly gatherings for worship, and we might assume they got together on other days of the week as well (in Acts 2:46 we find them meeting “every day,” NIV). The name “Lord’s day,” which human tradition has assigned to Sunday, is never used of the first day of the week in the New Testament. It occurs only once in the New Testament (Revelation 1:10), where it is neither identified as referring to the first day nor described as a day for Christian gatherings (and if it refers to the day when Jesus’ resurrection was celebrated, which again is not stated, it might as easily be an annual celebration day as a weekly one). With such shaky Scriptural support, is it right for us to abandon the only day specifically identified by the Old Testament as “the Lord’s holy day” (Isaiah 58:13), and the only day in the

New Testament of which Jesus claimed to be Lord (Mark 2:27), the seventh day Sabbath?

We have not shared this information about the Sabbath with you in order to vilify the probably well-intentioned (though misguided) motives of other church groups. If Christ is their Savior and Lord, as He is ours, then they are our brethren, regardless. But we do feel that you should have enough Scriptural information to decide for yourself what your practice will be. We hope

M. O. Flanery, B.S.A. Director, Is Honored

M. O. Flanery, of Warsaw, Mo., a charter member and director of the Bible Sabbath Association, was made an honorary elder in his home church September 19, in recognition of his 92nd birthday. After the worship service, during which he was ordained, he and his wife, Arlice, were guests of honor at a fellowship dinner.

Brother Flanery became a Sabbathkeeper in 1945 and joined the Bible Sabbath Association when it was formed. He later became state representative and director.

Report on The Bible Tenth Radio Program

By Gilbert Sanford

On October 9, 1981, I spent a very pleasant weekend with Keith and Lettie Siddens. They live near Kington, Mo. Keith is the speaker for the Bible Truth Program, which was started by Elder Edgar Lipincott in

you will choose the Word of God over the traditions of men and join us in observing the Biblical Sabbath. We believe (from Isaiah 58:13, 14) that, "if you honor it...you will find your joy in the Lord." You can never return to the Garden of Eden, but you can spend a Sabbath with God. May it be the blessing to you which He intended!

*All scriptures not otherwise specified are from The Holy Bible: New International Version. © New York International Bible Society 1978.

1940. He worked faithfully with this program until his death in 1979. Since then Keith, his son-in-law, has carried on this program with the help of some of his relatives and friends. This program has been on about five stations since it was started and is now in KFEQ, St. Joseph, Mo., at 8:00 a.m. Sunday; KGHM, Brookfield, Mo., at 8:00 a.m. Sunday; KXEN, St. Louis, Mo., at 10:00 a.m. Sunday; and WKTY, LaCrosse, Wis., at 10:05 a.m. Sunday.

The Bible Truth Program is not supported by any organization but by the listeners. A monthly magazine, *Good Tidings*, is sent free to those that contribute to the program. Keith Siddens also sends out tracts and other literature and answers all letters of inquiry. He does not teach the doctrines of any certain church but does stress the importance of the Sabbath and keeping the Ten Commandments.

The address is Bible Truth Program, Box F, Stanberry, Missouri 64489.

Wrong Time for the Excitement



THOUGH I'm not as "ancient" as our two younger children think I am, this is the truth: I missed being in the Revolutionary battle of Yorktown by just sixteen days.

Just that long after my wife, Darlene, and I visited the site of the last decisive battle of the American Revolution, thousands of volunteers reenacted the battle and guaranteed U.S. independence. How we would like to have been there then! But it was not possible for us to go at that time.

I had better luck once, though, when I accidentally found myself in a "replay" of the Civil War battle of Murfreesboro. After it was over, I found that I, a Lincoln, was in the Confederate camp!

Could it be that our Sundaykeeping brethren are in the right place, a house of worship, but at the wrong time? It's much more exciting to worship on the day the Lord has selected to meet with us in a special way. That's where (and when) the action is!

Eugene Lincoln



THE SABBATH SENTINEL

(USPS 474-580)

EDITOR Eugene Lincoln
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS Janyce Royalty, Gilbert Sanford

The object of this non-sectarian, nondenominational association is to bring together into one strong organization all believers in the Biblical seventh-day Sabbath (Saturday) regardless of sect, creed, or denomination, for the sole purpose of spreading knowledge of, belief in, and observance of the Creator's Holy Day. The only qualification is belief in the seventh-day Sabbath.

Annual member contribution: Regular or subscribing members, \$10.00; family membership \$10.00 (individual certificates issued but only one set of records maintained and only one copy of the Sentinel and other mailings sent); supporting members \$10.00-\$24.99; sustaining members \$25.00-\$99.00; life members, \$100.00 or more during any one year.

WRITERS: Please type manuscripts double spaced and leave wide margins on all sides. Use only one side of paper. If you wish your manuscripts returned, include stamped, addressed envelope. Address to the editor, 1109 Holton Lane, Takoma Park, Md. 20912. We invite manuscripts on various aspects of the Sabbath, but cannot pay for them.

Opinions in articles are those of the writers and not necessarily endorsed by the Bible Sabbath Association.

Mountaintop Experience



*At the end of a week filled with disappointments
and clouds, the Sabbath returns.*

MOUNTAINS have a strange fascination for me. One of my most thrilling experiences took place on a mountaintop early one morning.

My brother and I had camped on the summit of Taum Sauk Mountain, the highest point in Missouri, and I had risen early and climbed to the top of a fire tower to watch the sun come up. Never before had I realized what the poet Emily Dickinson meant when she said:

"I'll tell you how the sun rose—
A ribbon at a time . . ."

Perhaps it was an optical illusion, but the sun seemed to move above the horizon, not smoothly, but in little jerks—"a ribbon at a time." No one has ever explained this phenomenon to me.

As I watched the tops of the hills, then the valleys, lighted up, I could almost hear the thunderous voice of the Lord proclaiming, "Let there be light!" And—as at Creation—"there was light."

That memorable morning occurred several years ago, but as I engage in the frenetic hustle of busy

life, the longing often comes to relive those moments—to be sitting on top of the world (or at least on the top of Missouri) and to watch the sun come up again, giving me renewed faith in a dark world made light again by the power of God.

In a partial way, though, those moments *can* be relived. At the end of a week often filled with disappointments, frustrations, doubts, and clouds, the Sabbath returns.

On this day it seems I am above the troubles of the week, sitting on a mountaintop and watching the Sun of Righteousness arise in all His glory. The fog of the past week is dispersed, and things viewed dimly before are seen more clearly. I can see beyond those things that are close by and crowd around me on other days—beyond to the world and even beyond the world.

At the end of the Sabbath I come back down again to the weekday world, refreshed and strengthened for another six days. Each Sabbath can be a mountaintop on one's religious life.

Two Soviet Pastors Attend SDA Session

Pastors Michael Kulakov and N.A. Zhukaluk, from the USSR, accompanied by their wives, attended the annual council of the Seventh-day Adventist Church held in Washington, D.C., last October.

During this session church organization in the USSR was reorganized. All Seventh-day

Adventist conferences in the Soviet Union had been dissolved in 1930, and the division organization had been terminated in 1960.

Membership in the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic now stands at 5,993 members in five local districts. The Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, containing 11 districts, now includes 13,251 members

Teaching Sabbath Worship to Our Children

By Rev. Lelane E. Davis

GOD has promised, "Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it."¹ An integral part of that Godgiven training is teaching Sabbath worship to our children.

The Sabbath is as much caught as it is taught! Much depends upon our attitude regarding the Sabbath day. If our children detect that we are having a boring and burdensome experience on God's holy day, then they are apt to reject our teaching concerning its truth. However, if they sense that we are having a delightful and joyful time, then our children will want what we have. Our attitude should be "the same as that of Jesus Christ," who counted it a delight to keep God's law.²

Careful and diligent teaching of the Sabbath to our children must come from our hearts, which are overflowing with love for the Lord. Only as we love Him with all our heart, soul, and might can we be effective in sharing how precious His day is to us. We can talk about the joys of the Sabbath when we are at home or out for a walk; at bedtime and the first thing in the morning.³

Wholehearted love for God is demonstrated by a vital commitment of ourselves to keeping His day holy, and teaching its truth to our children. As we daily offer our lives to Him

and make ourselves available for the ministry of teaching our youth, He can use us as channels of His love and truth.⁴

Our life-style commends the respect or disrespect of our children. As they learn early in life to honor, respect, and obey us, this will help to assure the success of our Sabbath teaching. For this reason, the Fifth Commandment must be taught in close relation to the Fourth Commandment.⁵

In everything we must set them a worthy example, that they can learn to copy. Our Sabbathkeeping should be a model that closely resembles that of the Master. In our teaching we must be sincere and serious. It goes without saying that instruction and example go hand in hand.⁶

The Sabbath is a time for family celebration. Special activities on Sabbath Eve help to reinforce and make real the truth: "From evening until evening you shall keep your Sabbath."⁷

As fathers, we can gather our children around the table to thank God for a week of work and for the time He now gives us to worship Him. We need to stress that the Sabbath is the heavenly Father's gift to us, His children.⁸ We have great cause to rejoice and be happy as a family.

To teach and remind our children that the Sabbath is special, we can welcome the day with a candlelighting service. It is suggested that we use two candles, one to symbolize Christ, who is the Light of the world, and the other to represent ourselves, who are called to be lights in the world. As mother lights the two candles, we can have the children read John 8:12 and Matthew 5:14-16 from the Living Bible.

The Sabbath hours provide us with ample time at home as well as at church to share with our children what God is doing in the world as He reaches out through Sabbathkeepers

Many interesting and exciting things are happening in missions that parents, as well as Sabbath School teachers, can relate to our children. Missions news can easily be adapted for sharing with youth. This calls for disciplined parents who are in control of the household, have courage to turn off the television set and create a Sabbath environment.

What I am urging calls for the wise investment of God-given time and energy to develop a resource center at home, with Bible games, Bible quizzes, Bible story books, missionary stories, and a collection of hymns and songs. Sacrifice a nap on Sabbath afternoon in order to accomplish this project. Enlist the

talents, too! Be creative, imaginative and resourceful!⁹

God charges us to be diligent and faithful in training the children whom He has placed in our care. He holds each of us responsible to give Him our best in teaching them. What shall our response be to His charge to us? Let us live and act in a way worthy of the charge which He gives us.



¹ Proverbs 22:6. NIV

² Philippians 2:5. NIV; Psalm 40:8

³ Deuteronomy 6:4-7

⁴ Romans 12:1-2; John 14:23, 24. NIV

⁵ Exodus 20:8-12

⁶ Titus 2:7, 8

⁷ Leviticus 23:32. NASB

⁸ Exodus 16:29

⁹ I Peter 4:10

Rev. Leland E. Davis is pastor of the Washington, D.C., Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Scripture quotations marked NIV are from The Holy Bible: New International Version. © New York International Bible Society 1978.

Scripture marked NASB is from The New American Standard Bible. © The Lockman Foundation 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972.

An Open Letter To

A Young Man Searching

By Janyce Lynn

Dear Friend,

If you don't recognize my name, I'm the one who asked you where to register for Bible Camp. A little later we sat under a tree and "skipped class" together and talked about God. You explained that you were searching for God and His church, liked what was presented, but felt confused by some contradictions you observed.

I was disappointed to find that you had left so soon after I arrived, because I felt that our conversation was left uncompleted in favor of lunch. I am writing to you because I felt, as I still deeply feel, that in truth, that is to say—in your heart, you are searching and looking for God and His "true church," whatever that means. I say it that way, because I, too, was looking for Him and His "true church," for much longer than I would wish for you to experience.

In fact, one might say that I realized that something was "wrong" with the church in which I was raised, about 25 years ago. It took me ten years to leave that church, and another 16 years of "bumping around" to find my God, the Eternal and my Creator. I hope I can be of some service in helping you find Him, too. My God is your God if you also accept The Bible as His Word, His truth, and His way; with no higher authority. Due to our discussion, I believe that is the case.

To repeat a little of what we discussed that day: You do not *need* a church to find and know God the

Eternal. From Adam to Noah, to Abraham, to Moses, there was no "church." And yet the Scriptures tell us that they all knew God. They talked with Him. They walked with Him. They personally knew Him on an individual and intimate basis. All did it *without* a "church." You can, too.

I am not saying this to discourage you in your search for a church that you can feel comfortable with; I know there are many such churches. However, if you are like I was (and I think you are), then there is too much to learn and understand about both yourself and God to make such an important decision as a





your own freedom, which was given to you and paid for by the death of our Lord Jesus Christ. The same is true for all of God's law.

It's like having a pet dog who comes to greet you, likes to be around you, and does what you say, because he *loves* you; not because you feed him. Love is what it is all about. God is love. God loves you. God wants your love. He wants you to love Him. He wants you to love Him enough to do His will . . . Not for eternal life; not for things of this world; not to be religious or righteous; not for anything other than to show (and thus prove) your love for Him. It's really very simple—God wants your heart, all of your heart, and nothing but your heart.

When you get down on your

church home at this time. If you find such a church sooner, so much the better. But it is not a requirement in finding God.

Recently you discovered the Sabbath, and this is great, but it is not a "Savior," nor is it a doctrine. Neither is it something you must do; something you must observe. It is "only" a very special time, set aside by God, for you to rest your body, study His Word, and worship Him. But it must be something you do voluntarily just because you love Him, and not because someone, or some church doctrine, says you must. If keeping the Sabbath becomes a law to you, then you have voided

knees and give your heart to the Lord God, with the deep and sincere meaning I have described, and from that time on you continue to love God with that depth for every second of your life, then the blood of the Lamb will blot out every sin you commit, and God will not even remember it.

I have simplified it. And as you grow in His truth, you must do other things in following His way. But the one thing more important than anything else is that you sincerely and truly, with all of your heart, love God. And in loving God, you will love your fellowman. When you truly do both of these things, you will

automatically want and try to keep His commandments. Not without occasional error, but as I said, Christ took care of that.

Now, with regard to your concern with the hypocrisy you see in what you think might be "His church":

Remember the little story I told you about the man who looked for years and years for the perfect church and finally found it, but as soon as he joined it, it was no longer perfect? Well, that's true for all of us. We are our own enemy. So my advice is that you first seek to become a member of the body of Christ. That is the only perfection you will find in this life. You need to do (or have done) three things to accomplish this:

1. Give your heart to the Lord as described above.

2. Be baptized by immersion in the name of the Lord Jesus.

3. Be baptized with (receive) the Holy Spirit by "laying on" of hands.

You see, each one can become a perfect member of the body of Christ, because that is a spiritual thing. But because we still have these human bodies, we all fall short with regard to the physical. And to others, that shows up as hypocrisy.

There are many people in the church who simply "play church." It's unfortunate, but it's true. They do the *things*, but they don't love Christ and the Father as I described. Probably half the church-goers will disagree with me, but I'd say 30 to 40 percent of the people in most any church are just "playing church." So you will find some hypocrisy in any church all of the time. Now, I haven't tried to take a survey about this, because I can't read men's hearts. But God can . . . and He does! That's why He tells us to let Him do all the judging. So I don't judge them; I just

observe.

I have said what I've said only to explain why you see hypocrisy. If you were in a position to watch me closely enough, you will find that I, too, am a hypocrite. Likewise, I would see hypocrisy in you. The point is that, in some more than others, we all are hypocrites; we all fall short; and then, some don't try with all of their heart.

It is those who don't try with all of their heart, those who don't love God with all of their heart, whom God calls hypocrites. Some are obvious, and we can spot them quickly. Some are not obvious, and we become disillusioned and disappointed when we find out. Some we will not know until judgment day. But God knows all hearts, in the past, in the present, and in the future.

I encourage you to keep searching. I believe you are on the right path, but that is something only you can know for sure. Someday you will. Establish a personal relationship with God. Ask Him to help you find Him. Give yourself, your heart, and your service to Him, and He will guide you to Himself and to "His church."

You asked about head-coverings for women, and I couldn't answer you at the time. A lot of people believe that the Scriptures can be interpreted to mean that a woman's long hair is the required covering. This seems to be a popular belief, but to me it wouldn't include women with short hair. Then we can dig the hole a little deeper, like the Pharisees, and try to put a measurement on short and long hair; at what point does a short hair become long? This is bad news! Whenever numbers enter into the definition of what is wrong, or what is sin, then we have made a wrong

turn somewhere, and have placed doctrine about love again. That's the very same mistake the Pharisees made.

A better answer I found that I personally find acceptable is this: Since Christ preached that the spiritual relationship is what is necessary to love God properly, rather than a bunch of physical rules to follow, then the required head-covering is a spiritual one. If such be the case, it does agree with Scripture. The New Testament makes it clear that the woman is to be under the man in authority, and the man is under Christ, and Christ is under the Father. It is a government, so to speak, of God's Kingdom.

In a discussion with one of the pastors of the camp, he pointed out to me that I was without a (spiritual) head-covering. I am unmarried, and my father, who lives in another state, is unconverted. Therefore, I must be under the authority of a pastor. Since I was baptized I have considered myself a "religious independent," within certain bounds, because I have no church in my area with which I agree on certain doctrines. (For example: I believe in using fermented wine for the Lord's Supper. Only one of the local Sabbathkeeping churches do, and they have another doctrine I cannot accept under any circumstances.)

It's interesting that you prodded me to seek the answer to the head-covering question, because it has led me to accept the local church as "my church," despite our differences in doctrine. Thus, I now have a head-covering; the pastor of that church.

You see, I have been preaching

(by means of personal witness and articles I've written that have been published) that love transcends or overrides doctrine. All along, I've been saying that the love of God, for God, and for God's people is more important than any church doctrine. I've been saying that this is a big stumbling block in most churches today. They put doctrine above love, and I haven't been a part of the local church because of different doctrine. You see? I've been a hypocrite! I've put our doctrinal differences before the sharing of God's great and beautiful love. I've been doing the very thing I've been writing against!

This doesn't mean that I changed my beliefs just to fit the local church. My beliefs are still the same; I'm just putting love first—and getting a head-covering in return.

I'm telling you this so that you can see how easy it is to be a hypocrite. And also to show you that some of the seemingly small things one does can affect another's life. This is one of the reasons for the church; that we may help each other grow in God's love and understanding. I thank you for helping me see myself more clearly.

I pray that our Eternal God will guide you through His Word to His truth. God says, Seek and you will find. Knock and the door will be opened for you. I believe that your door is just around the corner. May God bless you and quickly bring your search to an end.

Sincerely with Love,
Janyce

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Orchids and Onions

I note a recent letter in which a nurse refuses work on the Sabbath. I believe that leaving essential humanitarian Sabbath employment to "nonbelievers" borders on the arrogance of Pharises. I have worked for hospitals, on maintenance of equipment. By agreement I sometimes came in on Sabbath for a natural emergency, such as storm, flooding, and electrical failure. All money earned on Sabbath went to the Lord, whether to my local fellowship or elsewhere, thus keeping it as a no-profit day.

The Bible approves of leading domestic animals to water on the Sabbath. Milking cows and goats is similar. These are not Sabbath-breaking, for they for they are unchangeable needs, whether done for one's own livestock or for an employer's. Nehemiah employed a during-the-Sabbath gatekeeper. Jesus, our Example, healed on the Sabbath.

If all men and women were God-fearing Sabbatharians, perhaps police protection would cease, but hospital care would be a continuing need, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

—Ira Bond,
Nortonville, Kansas

Greetings from Canada!

My 79th birthday is coming upon December 10, so it's time to pay my dues.

I had a profitable visit

West last winter, arriving back home on June 7 In British Columbia I enjoyed a blessed time of fellowship with the Saunders and their church in White Rock. The meetings on the Sabbath were a special blessing to me, a rare treat.

This fellowship I have by literature with other Sabbath observers helps ease my isolation.

—Eleanor Gamblin,
Perth, Andover, N.B.,
Canada

We have appreciated *The Sabbath Sentinel* in our home, its contents being very inspiring and knowledgeable along the line of Sabbath observance. We wish to support your work in these lines and so are enclosing tithe offering in money order form.

—Wildred and Iris Uppenborn
Keluoma, B.C., Canada

I am enclosing a cheque to help along the good cause of the Bible Sabbath Association. It is a comfort to know that there are other dear Christians who are concerned about keeping God's holy commandments, that is, the whole ten of them. It is encouraging to read the many helpful articles in *The Sabbath Sentinel*. Keep them coming.

—William Pilkington,
Cambridge, Ont., Canada

CLASSIFIED AD COLUMN

Based on a per word rate of 30¢ (including names and addresses) copy for classified type of advertising may be submitted to THE BIBLE SABBATH ASSOCIATION, Route 1, Box 197, FAIRVIEW, OKLA. 73737 for possible placement on this page. Right reserved to reject any or all proposed copy. Ad will appear in paper the second month from date of receipt at this office. None of the material advertised herein is to be assumed to have the unqualified endorsement of the Bible Sabbath Association.

This new feature is offered as a service to Sabbathkeepers which is sometimes difficult to obtain elsewhere. Why not take advantage of this service to increase your knowledge of the Bible and your Creator's will for you? "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge" (Hosea 4:6).

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Suicide and Sabbath Witness

By Kate Queen

AT FIVE P.M., after a day's work at my desk, I was standing at the front counter balancing the cash drawer when a terrific blast went off that seemed to loosen the very foundations of the office building. Momentarily I seemed to be petrified. Then I ran back to the manager's office and saw Mr. H slumped there in his chair, blood streaming from his temple and with his forefinger still around the trigger of a gun. Particles of his brains were peppered here and there over his desk.

I ran down the hall, looking for an office that was still open when I met a secretary locking her door, and she went with me to Mr. H's desk. All presence of mind seemed to leave me as I stood there gazing while she removed the revolver from his hand, made a phone call, and the next thing I heard was the siren of an ambulance on the street below.

Then I called Dr. G, chairman of the board of directors, who came very shortly. I had never seen Dr. G before, but I talked with him the best that I could. Meanwhile, I told him that our CPA had called earlier in the day, stating that one of his auditors would be there the next morning to

begin an audit of the corporation's books. We stood there looking at each other with the same suspicion in our minds, no doubt.

I opened the office the next morning as usual, and in a little while Dr. G came. He told me of calling a meeting of the board of directors the evening before and he said that they had voted to ask me to carry on the work of the corporation until the bond was collected and the money prorated among our clients.

Now the moment had arrived for me to witness for my faith. I explained to him that at the time Mr. H had employed me, we had a definite agreement that I would never be required to come to the office on Saturday—it was a matter of conscience with me due to my religious belief. Had I known that Dr. G was a Catholic, I doubt if I would have spoken so boldly and authoratively. He listened attentively, tapping his fingers on the glass of the desk. I explained that I could not assume the responsibility of manager and leave one of the office girls in charge until noon on Saturdays.

He kept listening, all the while tapping his fingers on the desk. Then



with a sweep of his hand he said, "Mrs. Queen, take it over and work out your own hours on Saturdays.

Again I explained that I would not be willing to leave one of the office girls in charge on Saturday—what should I do?

He replied, "Just close and lock

the door on Friday and declare a half-holiday for all personnel!"

After this experience I remained with the corporation for fifteen years. Through the years Dr. G and I became staunch friends, and from time to time I had opportunity to tell him more of my faith and practice.



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THE BIBLE SABBATH ASSOCIATION
Fairview, Oklahoma 73737

What Is the Bible Sabbath Association?

It is an transdenominational organization, open to all believers in the seventh-day Sabbath. It has a branch in New Zealand and members in several countries.

Where Are the Headquarters Located?

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

When Was It Organized?

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

Who Are Its Officers?

Denominations represented on the board of directors are Seventh Day Baptist, Seventh-day Adventist, Church of God (Seventh Day), Denver, Colo., and Church of God, Jerusalem Acres.

Why Was It Formed?

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

Interested?

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

The Bible Sabbath Association International

Fairview, Oklahoma 73737

Can You Help Us Fulfill a Need?

We need well-written articles on the following topics:

How we observe the Sabbath in our home.

How the Lord helped me to get Sabbaths off work.

A Sabbath I'll never forget.

What the Sabbath can do for

If you write any of these, please send your article to Eugene Lincoln, editor, THE SABBATH SENTINEL, 1109 Holton Lane, Takoma Park, MD 20012.

Lack of time keeps us from acknowledging them. We will return unused ones if they are accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Thanks for your help!

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How We were Able To Keep the Sabbath

A great-uncle gave us a present of the *Bible Advocate*. The first issue received had articles that seemed to us as false doctrines, but many scriptures were given, and on looking them up, we had to agree we were in error. A few years later a dedicated elder, whose tent meetings we had at times driven many miles to attend, persuaded us we should be baptized.

My husband was worried because he was often called to work on Saturdays. Finally he got up

courage enough to tell his boss that he wanted to be baptized and then could not work on Saturday anymore, as we believed it to be the Sabbath Day.

"Oh, that's all right. My wife is Jewish and takes our daughters to the synagogue every Sabbath. I'll ask one of the other men to work if necessary."

So the problem was solved, and we believe the Lord cleared the way.

—Name Withheld

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