

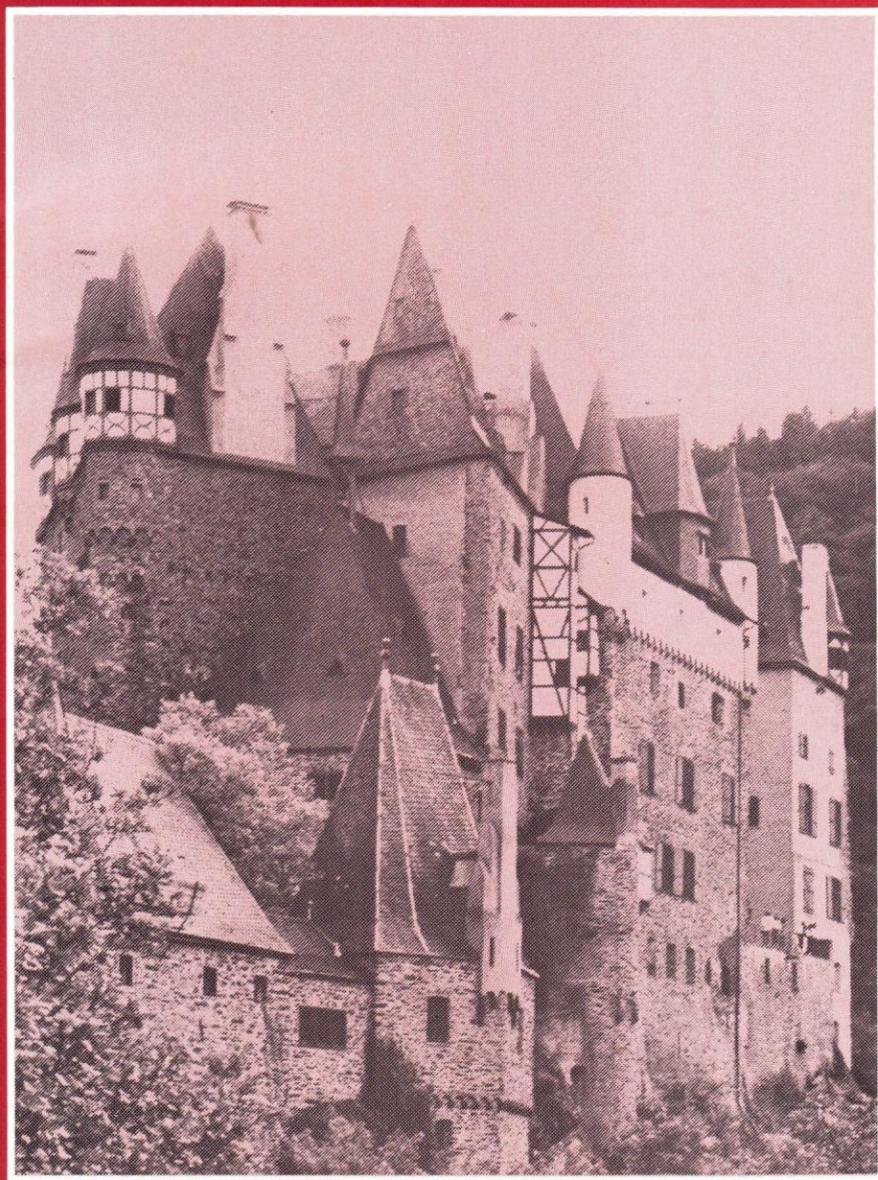
# *The* SABBATH SENTINEL

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Serving the Seventh-day Christian Community

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February, 1990



## Gospel to the World



*In spite of centuries of missionary work, in spite of high speed printing presses and electronic media, the majority of human beings on planet earth have never heard the gospel! In developing a global strategy for evangelism, the SDA church recently identified approximately 5,000 people groups of 1 million each. Of these, 1,800 are completely untouched by Adventism and, in most cases, by any Christian witness. These groups are mostly in China, the Soviet*

*Union, India, and other countries that are primarily Islamic, Buddhist, or Hindu.*

*We who live in the Western world are saturated with religious information (and misinformation); our bookstores, libraries, airwaves, and postal services are full of religious material. Even billboards and homemade signs proclaim "Jesus saves" and "Turn back to the Bible." Virtually anyone with a desire to learn about God can do so.*

*The situation in much of the rest of the world is different. Recent events in Eastern Europe have shown how hungry other people are for information. Indeed, Lech Walesa, in a **Newsweek** interview, said that the reforms in the Eastern Block are the result of computers and satellite TV, which make it impossible for governments to keep their people ignorant of what is going on. For example, last June Chinese students in the U.S. sent articles about what was happening in Beijing to people in many parts of China—via fax machines. The electronic revolution and information glut is coming to the rest of the world! But will the gospel go with it?*

*In 1920 radio station KDKA (Pittsburgh) broadcast U.S. election returns for the first time ever. Just 70 years later, radio and TV sets are found in virtually every household in the Western world. The dials can be turned to dozens of stations—including many that proclaim the gospel. What has happened here during the last 70 years will happen in the next 35 years all over the rest of the world—including areas that have never heard about the Bible. Millions upon millions of households will be acquiring radios and TVs. But will these millions hear the gospel as they turn their dials?*

*Person-to-person contact may be the most effective method of outreach in the West. But in the rest of the world, where political restrictions and religious traditions inhibit evangelism, the most effective means of publishing the gospel is through the airwaves—waves that freely cross national boundaries and are immune to political and religious prejudices.*

*It seems certain that in the next three decades the electronic media will come into their own in the parts of the world that have never heard the Christian message. The question is whether or not we who live in wealthy Western countries will see to it that the airwaves are saturated with the gospel message.*

—Richard A. Wiedenheft

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the liberty of His Sabbath!**

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



# To Drink or Not to Drink

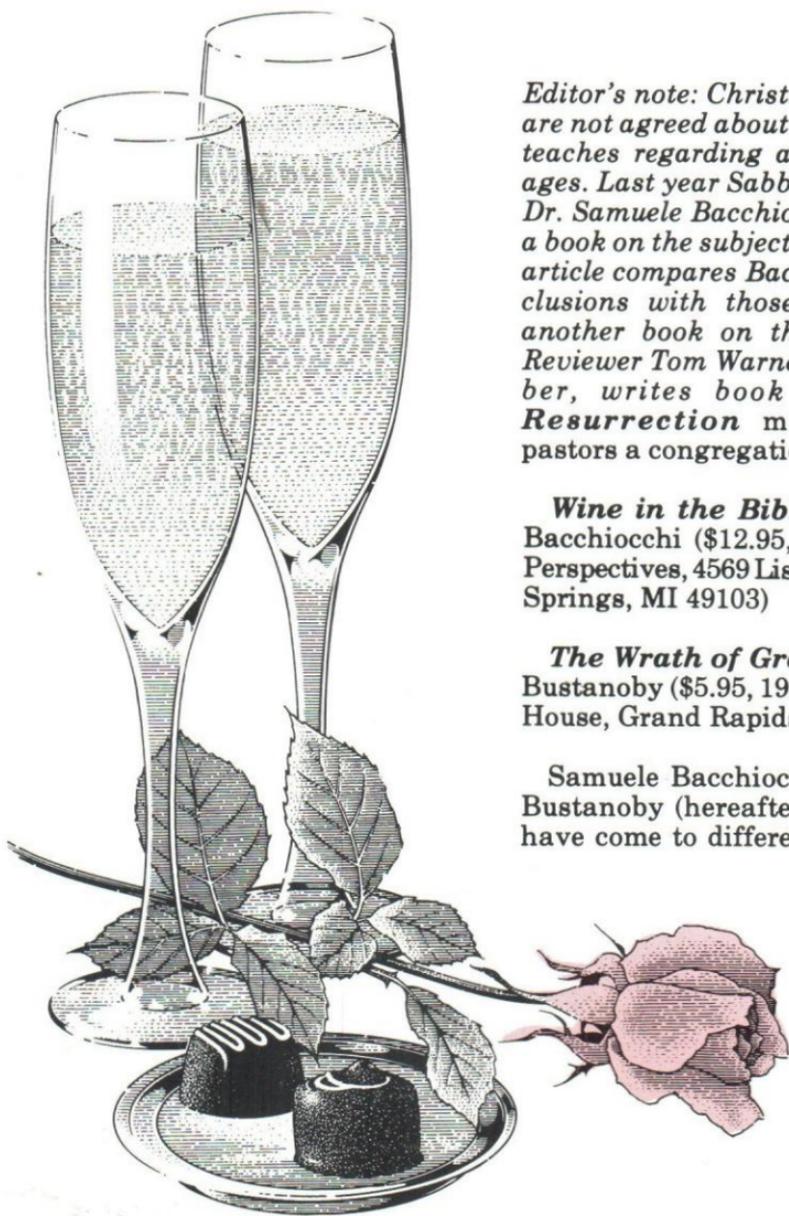
by Tom Warner

*Editor's note: Christians in general are not agreed about what the Bible teaches regarding alcoholic beverages. Last year Sabbatarian author Dr. Samuele Bacchiocchi published a book on the subject. The following article compares Bacchiocchi's conclusions with those presented in another book on the same topic. Reviewer Tom Warner, a BSA member, writes book reviews for **Resurrection** magazine and pastors a congregation in Maine.*

***Wine in the Bible*** by Samuele Bacchiocchi (\$12.95, 1989, Biblical Perspectives, 4569 Lisa Lane, Berrien Springs, MI 49103)

***The Wrath of Grapes*** by Andre Bustanoby (\$5.95, 1987, Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, MI 49516)

Samuele Bacchiocchi and Andre Bustanoby (hereafter: SB and AB) have come to different conclusions



about what Bible says regarding the use of alcoholic beverages. Neither, however, overlooks the potential dangers of drinking.

### Alcohol-related problems

**SB:** “. . .Alcohol has become [America’s] number-one public enemy, costing over \$117 billion a year. . .No one can count the real cost of alcohol. . .in terms of retarded children, violence in the home, child and spouse abuse, divorce, rape, robberies, murders, sickness and death” (p. 18).

**AB:** “25,000 die annually in alcohol-related traffic accidents. 650,000 people are injured annually in alcohol-related traffic accidents. 80% of murders, 70% of assaults, 60% of child-abuse incidents, 50% of rapes, 50% of deaths by fire and drowning, 40% of home accidents, and 33% of suicides are alcohol-related” (p. 66).

### Is abstinence commanded?

**SB:** “. . .Most evangelical churches have contributed to the current alcohol epidemic by gradually abandoning their stand for total abstinence and by adopting instead a moderationist position. . . . Why? . . . A major factor appears to have been a weakening of the conviction that total abstinence is a clear Biblical principle. . . . Even Billy Graham, a teetotaler, said, ‘I do not believe that the Bible teaches teetotalism. . . . Jesus drank wine. . . [and] turned water into wine at a wedding feast. That wasn’t grape juice as some of them try to claim’ (p. 19-20).

James Dobson, another respected evangelical, has suggested that a nervous bride might benefit from a glass of wine before bed on the honeymoon (in his book “Love for a Lifetime”). Could this be the sort of moderate use which the Lord might approve?

**SB** would say no. He believes that fermented beverages are consistently forbidden throughout the entire Bible. He offers, among others, the following passages as evidence: Prov. 20:1; 23:29-35; Hab. 2:5; Eph. 5:18; and verses commanding us to be “sober” or “temperate” [Greek root = *nepho*], which he says actually means “abstinent from fermented drink”—1 Thess. 5:6-8; 1 Tim. 3:2-3; 1 Pet. 1:13; 4:7; 5:8, etc. (pp. 89-101, 202ff.). Whenever the Bible “approves of wine as a divine blessing for people to enjoy (Gen. 27:28; 49:10-12; Ps. 104:14, 15; Isa. 55:1; Amos 9:13; John 2:10-11),” only the unfermented juice of the grape is in view (p. 79). He concludes that “moderationists” have misinterpreted such verses because Bible words, such as *yayin* and *oinos* (Hebrew and Greek for “wine”), can refer to “the juice of the grape, whether fermented or unfermented” (p. 21).

**AB:** “I agree that. . . ‘wine’ in the Bible. . . may sometimes mean grape juice. But the [prohibitionist] then. . . says that since this is true, whenever the Bible speaks favorably of ‘wine,’ it is not referring to the fermented beverage but rather to grape juice. . . . We shall see in the forthcoming chapters that this is nonsense” (p. 23). “Since the first century, sincere Christians have argued over what is proper for a Christian to consume. . . . The apostle Paul, addressing this general problem, maintained that whatever God does not declare sinful is lawful (1 Cor. 10:23)” (p. 10). “Christians are never at liberty to abuse alcohol. To do so is sin. But they are at liberty to use it in moderation. How and where they do use it is governed by the laws of love and responsibility, which are at the heart of Christian liberty” (p. 86).

### Drunkness is sin!

Despite the disagreement over moderate use vs. prohibition of

alcoholic beverages, Bible believers can all agree that drunkenness is clearly sinful.

**AB:** "Drunkenness is not only a sin against a holy God whose character is alien to drunkenness. Drunkenness is not smart! The person who repeatedly and consistently gets drunk finds that he cannot live successfully in a society of fellow humans created in God's image or on this planet created by God. Why is this? Even though the drunkard might turn his back on a holy God and disregard the sin question, he still must live on God's earth and cooperate with the laws by which God runs his world" (p. 65).

AB includes three chapters about how to tell when someone is drinking too much, and how to help them quit. The last of these is "What to do with the adolescent drinker." Even those who disagree with his "moderation" position may find these valuable.

### Difficult verses

SB offers some plausible alternative interpretations of certain verses which many people think must infer that a moderate use of fermented drink is allowable (e.g., Matt. 9:17, Rom. 14:21, Eph. 5:18, etc.). Certain other verses appear more difficult to fit into an "abstinence commanded" interpretation. He suggests such verses have been mistranslated and/or misunderstood. AB insists that these verses do indeed allow for "moderate use." Several examples follow.

#### Deuteronomy 14:26

Here God's people are permitted to have "strong drink" (Hebrew = *shekar*) at festivals.

**SB:** *Shekar* "could be a sweet [unfermented] beverage made from dates or honey" (p. 229).

**AB** disagrees: "*shekar* is 'a brawler'. . . Surrender to *shekar* and you assuredly will be agitated,

noisy, and uninhibited. . . *Yayin* [wine] and *shekar* [strong drink] have the ability to produce unacceptable behavior [Prov. 20:1]. 'Whoever is led astray by them is not wise' " (p. 63). We are to be careful in our use of them, and not be "led astray" by drinking too much.

#### Proverbs 31:6-7

"Give strong drink to him who is perishing and wine to those who are bitter of heart." Doctors sometimes prescribe tranquilizers or sleeping pills for those who are sick, grieving, or under great tension. Would it be proper to use alcohol instead?

**AB:** "Alcohol has a tranquilizing effect on the weary. Unfortunately, many Americans resort to alcohol too frequently and fail to adjust their exhausting way of life" (p. 52).

**SB:** "The immediate context. . . contains a strong admonition to kings and rulers to abstain from wine and strong drink because these would impair. . . their capacity to be just in their judicial duties. . . In the light of this categorical prohibition of the use of wine in verses 4 and 5, the inspired writer could hardly have recommended a moderate use of alcoholic wine to relieve common pain and to release life's stress and tension. . . Verse 6 then must be understood as a satirical and ironical counsel. After warning her royal son against the dangers of inebriating beverages, in a strain of irony Lemuel's mother points to the wretched as the only ones for whom alcohol is fit. Can any stronger condemnation be passed upon alcoholic beverages?" (pp. 234-235).

#### Luke 7:34

Our Lord Jesus was accused, by some Pharisees, of being a "wine-bibber" ("drunkard"? NIV). Certainly our sinless Savior was never drunk. But, doesn't the false accusation infer that He sometimes drank fer-

mented wine in moderation?

**SB:** "John's lifestyle was fundamentally eremitic—away from society... therefore he came 'neither eating bread nor drinking wine' [Luke 7:33]... Christ... came 'eating and drinking' [Luke 7:34]... a lifestyle of free *social association*. The emphasis is not on alcohol but on social lifestyle. . . . Our Lord. . . was slandered, called a glutton, and charged with being *oinopotes*, a *drinker* of (intoxicating) wine. There is no proof that He was either" (pp. 152-153).

### Leviticus 10:9

The drinking of wine (*yayin*) or intoxicating drink (*shekar*) was forbidden for priests while they were on duty in the tabernacle. Does this mean they could drink at other times?

**AB:** "The priests, by not drinking on duty, bore witness to the fact that the duties performed in the tabernacle were out of the ordinary and required extraordinary behavior not required elsewhere" (p. 46).

**SB:** "This assumption is unwarranted because a priest was. . . called to live an exemplary life. . . . The fact that the priests had to avoid alcohol in order to preserve sanctuary sacredness and holiness implies that alcohol is seen in the Scripture as profane and unholy" (p. 97).

**AB:** "One of the ways Jesus won over the Publicans and sinners was to eat and drink with them. . . (Matt. 9:13, Luke 19:1-10). We cannot know conclusively whether or not He drank alcoholic beverages on these occasions, but he must have had what was the customary drink. This would have been *homez*, the drink of the common person—a poor-quality wine made of water and the wine dregs from the last rinsing of the vat. Its alcohol content would have been very low. When entertained by wealthy tax collectors like Matthew

and Zacchaeus, a better wine undoubtedly was on the bill of fare. . . . Though it is quite possible that Jesus drank a non-intoxicating beverage, I find it difficult to believe that the sinners He drank with were teetotalers. . . . One problem legalists always have had, both in Jesus' day and in our own, is that they find it difficult to be friends of sinners" (p. 72).

### 1 Timothy 3:3

Bishops (or elders, Titus 1:5-7) are not to be "given to/addicted to wine." Does this infer they were permitted to drink moderately?

**SB** contends that "not given to wine" (*me paroinos*) should be translated "not near or beside wine." "A church leader must not only abstain from drinking alcoholic wine, but also stay away from places where drinking takes place" (pp. 100-101).

**AB:** "This may be the meaning, but I don't think so. . . . It is difficult to believe that a Christian should stay away from *anyone* who gets drunk. The example of Jesus as the friend of sinners and the rapport He had with them argue against this kind of separatist thinking. . . . Though temperance in all things, including wine, was binding on all Christians, it was especially important to warn the leaders of the New Testament church. . ." (pp. 85-86).

### Preserving "wine"

Could the "ancients" keep grape juice from fermenting? If not, their "wine" would evidently have been fermented except during, or shortly after, the grape harvest. Both authors offer detailed explanations of the processes of wine-preservation and the terms used in extra-Biblical literature. Some kind of "wine" was preserved; AB says fermented, SB says unfermented. It's not easy to determine which author is misinter-

preting the evidence. Readers will have to judge for themselves.

### Alcohol content

The alcohol content in most wines of Bible times was significantly lower than modern wines. In addition, the wines in Bible times were often diluted with water, in order to make them go farther. Many modern wines may be more like that in the Proverbs 23:29-31 warning—"Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has contentions? . . . Who has redness of eyes? Those who linger long at the wine, those who go in search of *mixed* wine. Do not look on the wine *when it is red*. . . At the last it bites like a serpent, and stings like a viper. Your eyes will see strange things, and your heart will utter perverse things. . ."

**AB:** "The color of wine, to the ancients, was a criterion for its strength. . . dark red wine was the strongest, as is the case today" (p. 59). "Fermented red wine whose dregs have been stirred or '*well mixed*' is an appropriate symbol of God's wrath [cf. Psalm 75:8]. It is strong and capable of bringing down the strongest of men" (p. 56).

### Conclusion

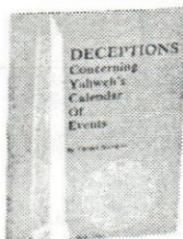
All who are concerned to know what the Bible actually teaches about fermented drink would do well

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to study these books, and to search the Scriptures to see which position is more faithful to the Word. Those who are tempted to turn the moderation argument into a "license to get drunk" ought to think long and hard about the consequences. From the earliest times drunkenness has opened the door to serious sins (e.g., Gen. 9:20-25; 19:30-36; Hab. 2:15-16; Matt. 24:48-51; Eph. 5:18). This consideration, by itself, has convinced many Christians that it's best to stay away from alcohol, even if they believe the Word gives them liberty to drink in moderation.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Editor's note: If you appreciate this type of article—one that presents both sides of a controversial issue without taking sides—and would like to see more of them in TSS, please write to let us know.*

# Biblical Theology Symposium

A unique gathering took place in Pasadena, California the weekend of June 23-25 of last year. Sixteen individuals from several states and as far away as England met for two days of intensive study and discussion as part of what was called a 1989 Biblical Theology Symposium. The list of participants, which reads like a Who's Who roster of former Worldwide Church of God/Ambassador College personnel, included a number who are very active in Sabbathkeeping groups. Planned and sponsored by Drs. James Tabor and Robert Kuhn, the gathering was attended by David Antion, Phillip Arnold, Anthony Buzzard, Al Carrozzo, Wayne Cole, Ronald Dart, Olin Degge, Charles Dorothy, Lester Grabbe, David Jon Hill, Charles Hunting, Brian Knowles, Ernest Martin, and Jack Martin.

The theme of the symposium, which had no connection to any organization, was "Twenty Years After." Organizers Kuhn and Tabor, knowing that all participants would have been in fundamental agreement on all basic Biblical doctrines back in 1969, wondered where they were now - two decades later. The only stipulation in making up their somewhat arbitrary and selective list of individuals to be invited was that the participants have some kind of ongoing interest in Biblical areas. Tabor explains: "We were not interested in current church affiliation, personal matters, nor in trying to hammer out some kind of agreement. We knew that many very different attitudes, approaches, methods, and conclusions would be represented by such a group. That was what we wanted and expected."

The sessions focused on three subject areas: Christology and salvation; prophetic scenarios; and the Biblical covenants. Three to four hours of discussion were allotted to each. Many participants prepared formal papers, most of which had been predistributed.

Tabor reports that the atmosphere was relaxed and enjoyable, with a good mixture of humor and earnest debate. "Many of the participants had not seen one another for a decade or more," he noted. "This personal aspect of renewed friendship turned out to be as valuable as any substantive exchange of views. As it turns out, one could have hardly assembled a more diverse group in terms of the Biblical areas we discussed."

Though the group represented various directions and achievements over the past twenty years, one interesting note was that of the sixteen participants, six had gone on to earn accredited Ph.D. degrees from major universities. Charles Dorothy, who works for the Association for Christian Development in Seattle, recently earned a Ph.D. from Claremont Graduate School in Hebrew Bible. David Antion, with a private practice in marriage and family counseling in Pasadena, earned a Ph.D. in psychology from U.S.C. and serves as a minister with the Church of God, International; James Tabor has a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago and is now Professor of New Testament and Ancient Judaism at the University of North Carolina, Charlotte; while he has no formal church ties, Tabor has a strong orientation toward the churches of God (7th day). Phillip

Arnold is completing his Ph.D. in New Testament Studies at Rice University. Lester Grabbe, with a Ph.D. from Claremont Graduate School, is Chair of the Department of Theology at the University of Hull in England. Robert Kuhn, who has a Ph.D. in Biology and an M.B.A., is in investment banking in NYC and has written over a dozen books on business and management; he continues to have an avid interest in theology. Ronald Dart is a leader of the Church of God, International. Brian Knowles, a businessman in the Los Angeles area, writes articles that have been published in a number of Sabbatarian periodicals.

Tabor and Kuhn report the possi-

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bility that some of the papers presented at the symposium might be edited and published in a small volume and that similar meetings might be planned for the future.

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# Student Missionary in Thailand

*\* Editor's note: Ingrid Eklund is serving as a student missionary in Thailand where she teaches Bible and business English classes. She sends home a steady stream of mail to her parents, Dr. and Mrs. David C. Eklund of the Hagerstown, Maryland, SDA church. The following excerpts from her letters were passed on to TSS by BSA President Eugene Lincoln, who is also a member of the Hagerstown congregation.*

## June 11

I made it to California. I just found out our flight to Korea is 15 hours, and from there to Thailand is another five.

## June 17

I miss home, but I am not homesick! You would love the ocean water. It is warm and very calm. We have rice every meal except American food for supper. Everything is very cheap here. The people are really poor.

## June 24

Today I attended my first church service in Bangkok. The church was really nice. Very plain. All the seats or pews are wooden. The worst thing is they have no air conditioning, only fans. All have to take their shoes off. It's funny seeing the elders up front in their stocking feet. The preacher had a good sermon. We had a potluck afterward. I just found out I am going to Haad Yai for sure. It's at the southern tip of Thailand.

## June 27

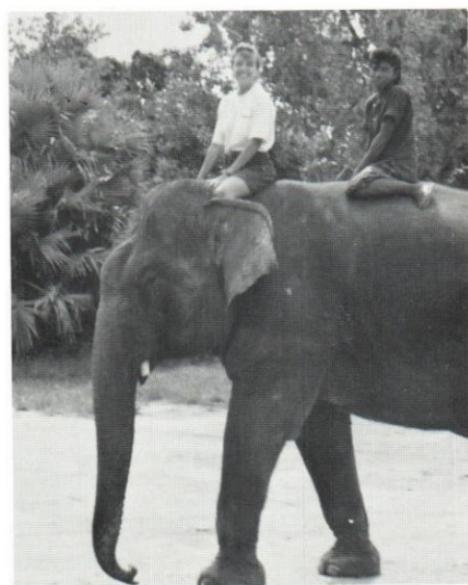
Bangkok has a population of 8 million. Haad Yai is a small town by comparison; it has a population of 200,000 to 300,000. Everyone keeps saying it is a small town. The money system here is 25 baht to one U.S. dollar. Men's shirts cost 100 baht or \$4; a Gucci purse, 250 baht or \$10; a key chain, 40 baht or \$1.60.

## July 4

Haad Yai is much better than Bangkok. It is not as modern, not as



The author (right), a student at Southern College, and Monica Herron, a sophomore at Columbia Union College: student missionaries in Thailand.



Ingrid aboard a Thai elephant.

much traffic, not as much noise. I just like it a lot better. Today is my first day of classes. But I had only one student in each of my morning classes. They will probably get bigger. Some people register weeks late. They have no concept of time. The enrollment is down. Last term only 108 students enrolled, but things will change since we're here. We'll bring it up to 500! It really depends on the student missionaries—we really run the school! Guess where our kitchen is. It's on the roof. A tin roof covers part of the ceiling and the rest of the roof is just completely open. You can sit and eat as you watch the sun set. I love it. It's cooler in the evening.

**July 15**

Every week the church has a potluck. (You know how I love potlucks). These are different; there's always rice and fruit and usually a different topping for the rice. It's not that bad. This week was very hectic. I never have time for lesson plans. The air force invited us to its base and we had a big lunch. The next day the army invited us to its base for lunch. I feel like some kind of celebrity. We're going to start tutoring the air force next week.

**July 20**

The rain has started to come more. And it is even cooler. The worst thing I think is how damp it gets. My bed feels very damp. Yuck! I got a fish bowl and nine fish. They're cute. Got all the fish for less than \$1.

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### August 3

Today we go to the air force and teach. We go together so one girl isn't by herself. I taught Tuesday's class and was scared to death. About 25 pilots were in the room. The class went really well, and they were a lot of fun. I'm sure it is because I'm American. I should give God the credit, since I prayed 5,000 times.

### August 8

Two months have already gone by! It's really hard to believe. One more week of school, then two test days. Then we're off to Singapore August 17.

### September 10

I am finding all kinds of cooking things here—of course, all their brands. Cocoa, vanilla, brown sugar. We just have to go to different stores to find them. I can't believe I said it was going to be an easy term. Things

have turned hectic. I have had two tutoring jobs in the past week, plus teaching three classes. But actually it's not that bad. Since I am teaching a lot of the same classes as last term, it's easier. I have a lesson plan book for almost every class. We get our mail at the post office across town. The mail comes in twice a day.

### September 14

I am on the train headed to Bangkok to get our passports. I love it. There's lots of room. We can walk around. We have large windows that come down. We could jump out if we wanted to. We travel through almost all country, and that is a nice change. I love to see the people working in the fields with the water up to their waists. And I like to see their little shacks. Most of all, I like to see their cows.

Monica and I can't decide where we want to eat when we get there. Bangkok has Pizza Hut, McDonald's.

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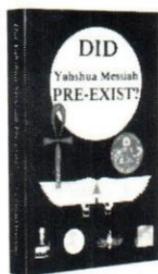
Yes, the True Savior Sent by the Father; the Savior brought forth in the Holy Scriptures, is far **DIFFERENT** from the one preached by many Churches and Assemblies all over this world today. Few people realize this fact, primarily because the inspired Scriptures which were written for our instruction have been **TWISTED**, yes, even **DELIBERATELY mistranslated**, in order to make **THEM** FIT the popular beliefs of the majority of the religious world.

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# Sabbatarian or Sabbathkeeper?

by Richard C. Nickels

In the July, 1989, *The Sabbath Sentinel*, Eugene Lincoln, President of The Bible Sabbath Association, referred to those of us who keep the seventh-day Sabbath as "Sabbatarians." He expressed aversion to the term "Sabbathkeepers" which in his opinion smacks of a "Pharisaical attitude."

Actually, the reverse is true. Here are two good reasons why "Sabbathkeeper" is a better term than "Sabbatarian":

(1) "Sabbatarian" generally means "a strict Sunday keeper." The *Encyclopedia Britannica*, article, "Sabbatarianism," Sabbatarians are those "who regard the first day of the week as the sabbath. . . [and are] concerned mainly with the things that may not be done on that day. Sabbatarianism in this sense of excessive strictness in observance of Sunday, and legislation on the subject, is as old as Constantine, who decreed regulations against Sunday labour in 321, [and reached its height with] the Puritans and Scottish Presbyterians. . . [who enacted] the most rigorous 'blue laws'. . . ." The article concludes by saying that those who observe a Saturday Sabbath "are not those to whom the name Sabbatarian is commonly given."

(2) The term "Sabbatarian," by definition, means an excessive Pharisaical attitude towards observance of a day of rest. "Sabbatarian" rhymes with "sectarian," a narrow-minded bigot who cannot transcend a tightly defined set of ideas. Likewise, a Sabbatarian worships the Sabbath instead of the Creator of the Sabbath. I have *many* important religious beliefs that I would die

for, in addition to the Sabbath!

*Webster's Third International Dictionary, Unabridged*, defines "sabbatarian" as not only one who keeps the seventh (a seventh) day, but also "one who favors strict observance of the sabbath," and "rigidly strict." Sabbatarianism is "the puritanical suppression on Sunday of all avoidable work and enjoyment as an enforcement of pious devotion and sobriety." Here is the "Pharisaical attitude" that we oppose. Devotion must come from the heart, and cannot be enforced through "blue laws." God's Sabbath is a joyous blessing, not a somber burden. The Sabbath was made for man's spiritual and physical enjoyment. We abhor those who make the Sabbath a burden with excessive strictness.

"Sabbath keeper" and "sabbath observer" are not in the unabridged dictionary. Yet no better terms express true seventh-day Sabbath observance. The commandment states, "Remember the Sabbath day, to **keep** it holy." And we who believe and practice this command are "Sabbathkeepers," not "Sabbatarians."

In its masthead the BSA is defined as a "strictly nonsectarian association dedicated to helping **Sabbathkeepers**." Eugene Lincoln has written a helpful booklet "Right Face: A Handbook for **Sabbathkeepers**." A sabbatarian is a sectarian, strictly enforcing Sunday, rather than the Bible Sabbath. Let us be known for what we are, loving keepers of the Bible Sabbath, the seventh day, not the first day, of the week. "Sabbathkeeper" rather than "Sabbatarian" is the proper term.

—The author is a  
BSA life member

# BSA

## NEWS FROM THE BSA

### **BSA Literature for Blind**

Richard Nickels, BSA life member, has suggested that our association put *The Sabbath Sentinel* and other BSA materials on cassette tape for the blind. Many periodicals provide an audio version for sight-impaired subscribers and for others who might prefer to listen rather than read. In considering this possibility we would like to hear from anyone interested in helping with such a service and from anyone interested in receiving materials on cassette.

### **Two New Tracts Now Available**

"The Rest of Your Life" and "Whatever Happened to the Sabbath?" (formerly, "Search the Scriptures") are now available for ordering. Published in the same format as BSA's newer booklets, they are being printed by Church Publishing Company, which also handles the layout, printing, and mailing of *The Sabbath Sentinel*. See back cover for ordering information. As we plan for future booklets and tracts, we would be happy to receive any suggestion our readers would care to offer—regarding topics, format, size, approach, etc.

### **Sabbath at Sommerhase**

This 128-page Sabbath story book for families is ready for printing and the activity packet is virtually completed. Bids from printers have been solicited. Hopefully, price and ordering information will finally be available next month.

### **Your Support Welcomed**

With all the publishing projects currently in progress, BSA can certainly use your contributions. Literature is our primary means of sharing the truth of the Sabbath. As we continually work to provide the best possible materials, we thank all who share in this ministry through prayers, donations, and encouragement. We especially thank those who use BSA literature in reaching out to others. We welcome your support.

### **Do You Read Seventh-day Periodicals?**

If so, perhaps you can help the editors. We're always on the lookout for news items for "News from the Seventh-day Community" and "On the Legal Front," short quotations for "To Repeat," and outstanding articles for excerpting or reprinting. If, in your reading, you come across material that you'd like to see passed on to other Sabbathkeepers, please send it to the editor at RD 1 Box 475, Falls, PA 18615.

### **CHANGE OF ADDRESS???**

By all means notify us in advance when you move. If we send a *SENTINEL* to your old address, the post office charges us 30¢ to return it—and you risk missing that issue.

## ON THE LEGAL FRONT

**Guinn v. Church of Christ of Collinsville**, is a disturbing case. The Oklahoma Supreme court has found a church liable for a large sum of money for marking an adulteress from the pulpit after she had withdrawn from the group. This act of warning, practiced by many churches, is often employed for those who have been separated over matters of morality or doctrine. According to Justice Marian Opala, once a person leaves a congregation and asks to be left alone, the church has no constitutional right to exercise its prerogative (some believe a biblical command) to protect the body from bad influences. This case, and the revocation of another church's income tax exemption for running an allegedly segregated day school, indicates continuing federal disrespect for the First Amendment. The purpose of the Bill of Rights is to protect unpopular individuals and groups, not those in step with the majority.

**In Witters v. Washington**, a long, sorry case has finally ended. Mr. Witters is a blind student who was denied the vocational aid normally given the handicapped by Washington state. Witters wanted to study for the ministry; and Washington claimed that to give him money would violate the state and federal constitutions. Thus Washington singled out religious students as unqualified to receive help. The US Supreme Court declared that the US Constitution did not prohibit such aid and sent the case back to the

Washington Supreme Court. That body ruled Witters ineligible for the tuition subsidy under the state constitution. An appeal on that basis was denied by the US Supreme Court.

**Short Subjects:**

**Women getting abortions** "tend not to be members of the underclass as they are often portrayed," said a *Los Angeles Times* poll. The news contradicts speculation by this scribe last May that the poor tended to have more abortions. The poll also said that half of all blacks want abortion to be illegal in all cases; only 19% of whites do.

**Atheists should be prolife** said liberal columnist Nat Henthoff in *US Catholic* magazine. "... it's a lot easier for ... this atheist ... to be against abortion because all I have is ... this life. . . . And once society cheapens life—most horrendously through abortion on demand—then life all along the line will become cheapened. Including mine."

**This is a pagan nation**, and Christians should face that fact, says Rev. William Willimon, a United Methodist and chaplain of Duke University. He tells parents to concentrate on their children's religious education because society all around is obsessed with sex, possessions, self-fulfillment, and careers. Folks can no longer assume their kids will grow up Christian. Willimon notes that too many of our ancestors accepted lowest-common-denominator cultural Christianity, rather than the apostolic faith.

# NEWS

## FROM THE SEVENTH DAY COMMUNITY

### ABC News Features SDB College

The TV program, *ABC Business Week*, on Sunday, December 10, aired a long segment on Japanese schools which build or purchase American colleges to better instruct their students in English and Western customs. One campus featured in the segment was Salem-Teikyo (pronounced take-ee-o) University, which was called the first true merger of an American and a Japanese college. Salem-Teikyo was formed from Salem College, the former Seventh Day Baptist school in Salem, West Virginia (ABC did not mention the denomination), and a new US branch of Teikyo University of Japan. According to the network, Salem faculty retain control of curriculum; and the school will remain on the old site of Salem College. ABC said Teikyo gains the prestige of having a US college, and acquires a choice location in a quiet, small American town. Salem College, suffering from diminished enrollment and mounting bills, a malady broadly afflicting domestic higher education, now has a debt-free campus. By 1995, 500 American and 500 Japanese will study at Salem-Teikyo.

According to *The Sabbath Recorder*, an SDB magazine, president of the new school will be Dr. Ronald E. Ohl, who was president of Salem College. Studies of Western and Asian civilization will be emphasized. Some intercollegiate athletic teams will be eliminated; men's and women's basketball will

be kept and upgraded.

Neither source clearly indicated the strength of Salem-Teikyo's remaining ties to the Seventh Day Baptist church.

### Bible Advocate Broadcast

As a result of providential circumstances and dedicated church members, *The Bible Advocate* program of the Church of God (Seventh Day) is now broadcast twice each weekday—8:15 A.M. and 8:15 P.M.—on the Caribbean Beacon, a 50,000-watt radio station in Anguilla, West Indies. The program reaches a potential audience of 5,000,000 English speakers in more than 50 countries. Primary coverage of the station, near Puerto Rico, is the Caribbean; but its signal can often be heard in parts of South and Central America, Africa, and in the Eastern and Southern United States. New York City pastor, Whaid Rose, is the primary speaker on the 1/2-hour broadcast; but others have been featured, including General Conference President, Calvin Burrell. In North America, the Caribbean Beacon's signal can most likely be received at 1610 on the AM dial.

### Spring Vale Activities

Spring Vale Academy, the secondary school associated with the Church of God (Seventh Day), has begun its 42nd year by adding an eighth grade class to its high school program. Attendance of between 40 and 50 was expected at the campus in Owosso, Michigan, near Lansing. In September, Spring Vale boys and

girls attended weekend retreats at separate campgrounds and participated in the annual five-mile Labor Day walk across the Mackinac (pronounced mack'e-no) Bridge, once called one of the Seven Wonders of the Modern World for its breathtaking engineering and the length of its suspension span.

### **Mexican Adventists Attacked**

Violence against the growing Protestant minority in Mexico has grown considerably of late, primarily in small villages where the Catholic Church has held a monopoly for centuries, especially in Indian villages which enjoy local autonomy. The Catholic religion in these towns is an idolatrous mixture of Christianity and native paganism. Priests led a mob to destroy four Adventist homes in one village because the SDA families would not attend festivals on the Sabbath. Three men were hung from trees by their feet; and others were tied to trees while a priest shouted out his hatred. None was killed. Local Catholics are demanding that every one donate two days' work to the church each week, one of them being Saturday. They also want Adventist evangelistic meetings stopped. In the Chiapas province in southernmost Mexico, where hundreds have recently been baptized, all Adventists have been run out of some towns.

### **Islamic Study Center Opens**

On July 1st the Seventh-day Adventist Church opened a Center for Islamic Studies on the campus of Newbold College in England. Islam is the second largest religion in the

world, behind nominal Christianity, and Adventists have not done well at converting Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, Sikhs, and Shintoists. The center will, among other things, find ways to interest Muslims in Christianity, train missionary workers, and discover methods of reaching non-Muslims in Muslim societies.

### **Sabbath Church in Moscow**

The Baptist World Alliance Conference was held last July 1st to 6th in Zagreb, the old capital city of Yugoslavia. Western Seventh Day Baptists met a Rev. Bichkov from Moscow, who informed them of an SDB church in his home town. The wife of the pastor of that church sings in the choir of the Moscow Baptist Church.

### **Adventist Jazz/Gospel Group**

The six-man a capella (without instrumental accompaniment) singing group, Take Six, began ten years ago at Oakwood College in Huntsville, Alabama, when black youths formed a sextet then called Alliance. Today the singers, who put religious lyrics to jazz music, have achieved worldwide fame, backing up stars such as Johnny Mathis, Kenny Rogers, and Smokey Robinson. They have been highly praised by Stevie Wonder and Whitney Houston, have sung opening music for the "Murphy Brown" TV program, and have appeared on the top-rated "Cosby" show. The Grammy and Dove Award winners manage to garner critics' plaudits without backing away from their mission of spreading the faith through music. The young men credit their success to staying humble and close to God, and to family and observance of the Sabbath.

# Resources Available From BSA

## Books

<i>History of the Sabbath &amp; Sunday</i> by John Kiesz (64 pp.) .....	\$3
<i>The Sabbath in the New Testament</i> by Samuele Bacchiocchi (275 pp.) .....	\$10
<i>From Sabbath to Sunday</i> by Samuele Bacchiocchi (372 pp.) .....	\$10
<i>Divine Rest for Human Restlessness</i> by Samuele Bacchiocchi (320 pp.) .....	\$10
<i>The Forgotten Day</i> by Desmond Ford (318 pp.) .....	\$10
<i>The Law, the Gospel and the Sabbath</i> by Frank M. Walker (91 pp.) .....	\$3
<i>God's Sabbath for Mankind</i> by Richard A. Wiedenheft (64 pp.) .....	60¢

## Directory of Sabbath-observing Groups

Sixth Edition, 1986, only .....	\$5
Supplement, 1989, only .....	\$2
Sixth Edition and Supplement .....	\$7

**Back Issues of THE SABBATH SENTINEL (when available)** ..... 10 for \$3; 30 for \$5

## Booklets

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

## Tracts

<i>The Rest of Your Life</i> (2 p.) .....	10¢ ea.; \$8/100
<i>Whatever Happened to the Sabbath?</i> (2 p.) .....	10¢ ea.; \$8/100

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

## Promotional Aids

BSA Brochures .....	No Charge
Sabbath Calendars .....	\$1.75 ea.; \$1.50 ea. for 10 or more
Ball point pens with imprint: "The Seventh Day is the Sabbath" .....	\$5/dozen
Bumper stickers with a Sabbath message .....	\$1 ea.; \$7/dozen
Sabbath seals .....	\$1/dozen
Post cards with Sabbath message on one side, space for personal message and address on the other side .....	\$1/dozen

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*Members of BSA may take a 20% discount off the single quantity prices of all items.*

## Whatever Happened to the Sabbath?

**Search the Scriptures! Can you find one passage that says. . .**

1. The Ten Commandments are abolished?

2. The Fourth Commandment is abolished?

3. The Sabbath was changed from the seventh to the first day of the week?

4. That either Jesus or the apostles kept the first day as the Sabbath?

5. That either Jesus or the apostles taught new believers to keep the first day of the week as the Sabbath of God?

6. That it was customary for the early church to observe the first day of the week?

7. That we are to keep the first day in honor of the resurrection of our Savior?

8. That the first day of the week was sanctified and hallowed as a day of rest?

9. That the first day of the week is called a holy day or given any sacred title?

**Can you find one verse. . .**

10. Where the first day of the week is called the Lord's Day?

11. Where we are told not to work on the first day of the week?

12. Where any punishment is threatened for working on the first day?

13. Where any blessings are promised for observing the first day?

14. That says the Father or the Son rested on the first day of the week?

15. That says the seventh day is not now God's Sabbath day?

16. That calls the seventh day the "Jewish Sabbath" or that calls the first day the "Christian Sabbath?"

17. That authorizes anyone to set aside God's Sabbath and observe any other day?

**On the other hand, the Bible clearly proclaims that. . .**

1. The seventh day, made holy by God at Creation, is the Sabbath for all mankind (Gen. 2:2-3; Ex. 20:11; Mark 2:27).

2. Observance of the Sabbath was commanded in the Ten Commandments by the voice of God Himself (Ex. 20:8-10; Deut. 5:12-15).

3. Jesus affirmed that the Sabbath was made for mankind and that He was Lord of it (Mark 2:27-28).

4. The apostles consistently observed the seventh-day Sabbath and upheld the Ten Commandments as expressing the will of God for His children (Acts 13:14-15, 44; 16:13; 17:2; 18:4, 11; Rom. 2:13, 21-22; 7:7-12, 22; James 2:8-12).

5. Throughout the centuries, dedicated followers of Jesus, redeemed by His precious blood, have shown their love for Him by observing the day made holy by God at Creation.

**How about you?**

Do you know Jesus as your Savior and Lord? He said, "If you love me, keep my commandments" (John 14:15). Will you show your love for Him by observing the day He made holy?

*See back cover for information about ordering this article in leaflet format.*

# MAILBOX

## LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

### Annual Holy Days

In a letter printed in the Aug. '89 "Mailbox" the writer is alarmed that so many Sabbatarians have had their eyes opened to see the significance of Yahweh's holy days. If Yahweh is our Father we will want to keep the days He hallowed. If we are baptized into Messiah we become Abraham's seed. We will surely want to keep the days Messiah kept. He kept all His Father's holy days perfectly. That is reason enough for me.

George Estey  
Garfield, New Jersey

### Israel Identity Directory

I have been reading TSS for about three years now and feel it is a very excellent publication given the resources available. In the ads in the August '89 issue was one for "Israel Identity Directory." I sent and received it. Some of those listed I strongly believe to be militant, anti-semitic, racist, hate organizations. The listing of these organizations causes me to wonder how many of the others are of the same orientation. I would hope that BSA would stay well clear of these racist organization.

Max A. Kelley  
Salem, Oregon

*Editor's note:* To be sure there are "Identity" organizations (including some that uphold the Sabbath) that would be considered racist; however, many are not at all racist. TSS will now knowingly publish a classified

ad for racist or hate material; but we think it entirely appropriate to publish an ad for a directory of groups that believe in Anglo-Israelism. As with the *BSA Directory of Sabbath-Observing Groups*, the beliefs of individual groups should not be taken as an indication of the beliefs of other groups or of the directory publisher.

### New Sabbathkeeper

Please send me samples of tracts and booklets. I attended my first Sabbath service last week. It shook my religious foundation; I want to learn all I can about Sabbathkeeping.

Indiana

### Pen Pal Section

In some Sabbathkeeping churches there probably is not any way for a person to meet other singles. I think a pen pal section would be a good idea. It would be an asset and keep many singles from marrying someone who does not understand the Sabbath. I believe most of our doctrines are a lot more harmonious than those of Sunday churches. At least the Sabbath would be a common bond.

Ruby Smith  
Grants Pass, Oregon

*Editor's note:* One of our purposes is to encourage communication among Sabbathkeepers, including singles. The classified ads section is open for pen pal requests. See classified ad page for rates and other details.

# ADS

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

**The Testimony Of Truth** is dedicated to the declaring of truth. For a free monthly subscription, write to Testimony Of Truth, Rt. 2 Box 423, McMinnville, TN 37110. (2)

**Proverbs 30:4.** The writer Agur, the son of Jakeh, identifies the Creator of heaven and earth and then asks: What is His name, and what is His Son's name, if you know it? This very important question was asked nearly 3000 years ago. For a Scriptural investigation of this question, write for a free study paper: What's in a Name? Bet Israel Scriptural Foundation, P.O. Box 33, Parkersburg, WV 26102. (2)

**Free subscription** to The Prophetic Word Magazine! Learn the prophecies now being fulfilled! Learn the prophecies for our future! Write Box 2442, Abilene, TX 79604. (2-1)

**The Curse of Perfectionism.** A free article for Sabbatarians who wonder if they'll make it into the kingdom. Write Focus On Truth, Box 45A, Lake Winola, PA 18625. (12-2)

**Truth for These Last Days.** Send stamped envelope for reply to Remnant of Israel, Box 6774-A, Spirit Lake, IA 51360. (8-2)

**Adventist Church of the Promise (Messianic),** serving northwest central Florida, invites you to weekly Sabbath services. For information call (904) 795-1758 or write P.O. Box 2426, Crystal River, FL 32629. (9-8)

**For Sale:** 32-year-old family business five miles from Spring Vale Academy in Owosso, Michigan. Complete janitor supply store grossing in excess of \$200,000. For more information, write Smith Janitor Supply, Inc. P. O. Box 162, Owosso, MI 48867. (2,3)

**Enjoy a challenge?** Write for free booklet with many challenging questions concerning the Godhead. Write Adam J. Windholz, RD 2 Box 425, Dalton, PA 18414. (2,3)

**Single Christian Man,** age 30, desires to correspond with single, Sabbathkeeping ladies ages 20 to 30. Please write to: Box 850991, Richardson, TX 75085. (12-3)

**Plain-speaking, in-depth** magazine of Bible truth—with insight into current events and prophecy. Free. Write YNCA, P.O. Box 50, Kingdom City, MO 65262. (2-8)

**Good News Unlimited Meetings** featuring Dr. Desmond Ford: Riverside, CA, Feb. 16; local contact: Margaret N. (619) 749-0471. San Diego, CA, Feb. 17; SDB Church, 3441 Clairmont Blvd.; local contact: Margaret N. (619) 749-0471. For full schedule, write GNU, 11710 Education St., Auburn, CA 95603. (2,3)

Classified ads are available at the rate of 30¢ per word (including each word and each group of numbers in the address). Copy for classified ads should be sent, along with payment, to The Bible Sabbath Association, Fairview, OK 73737.

Deadline is the 15th of the month for the issue of the second subsequent month (e.g., April 15 for June issue).

# The Rest of Your Life

by Eugene Lincoln

Should you live to be 70 years old, you will have spent about 280 months of your life asleep, another 30 for vacations, and around 120 months on weekends. Think of it! Thirty-five years of your life will have been spent resting—or at least having the opportunity to rest.

Yet most folks are restless and rest-less. They have allowed themselves to be caught up in the frenzied day-to-day rush that makes up what most of us call life. Sometimes we feel that rest and relaxation are almost akin to sin. Weekends provide for an opportunity to catch up on work in the house and yard; vacations often leave us more worn out than if we had kept working; and night affords an opportunity to dream on how to solve the next day's problems.

But our Creator did not design us to live restless lives. We need to rest at regular intervals to preserve our physical, mental, and spiritual health. He Himself provided an example by resting after completing the most gigantic construction job ever undertaken, the creation of the world (Genesis 2:1,2). He named one day, the seventh day of the week, the Sabbath. He offers this special day to all of us as a reminder of His unmatched creative power in the universe and of His re-creative power in our lives—power that leads us from sinful restlessness to godliness (Ezekiel 20:12).

The seventh day, God's Sabbath (Saturday), has a vital ingredient that no other day contains: God's



blessing (Genesis 2:3). This blessing will overflow into the lives of those who remember that on this day we have a special appointment with our Creator and Redeemer. The experience of communing with Him will give us a calmness and peace of mind that will help us all during the following week.

If you live to be 70 years old, you can spend 10 years of your life enjoying a taste of Eden by drawing closer to God than you ever can during the hustle of workdays. If you have never experienced this tranquility of mind and spirit that comes from the One who has promised to give rest to the weary and heavy laden (Matthew 11:28,29), now is the time to begin. Resolve that, beginning next Sabbath, you will enjoy the divinely given Rest Day for the rest of your life!

*See back cover for information about ordering this article in leaflet format.*

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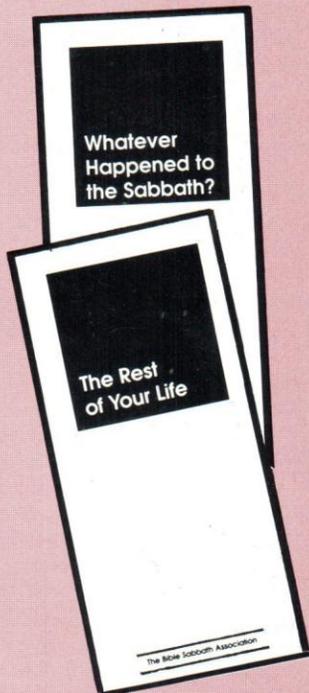
## Two Sabbath Tracts

### Whatever Happened to the Sabbath?

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"Whatever Happened to the Sabbath?" is a thoroughly revised version of the BSA tract "Search the Scriptures." "The Rest of Your Life" is by BSA President Eugene Lincoln. The complete text of each appears in this issue; both are printed in the same format as other new BSA booklets.

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