

THE *Sabbath Sentinel*

JULY 1994



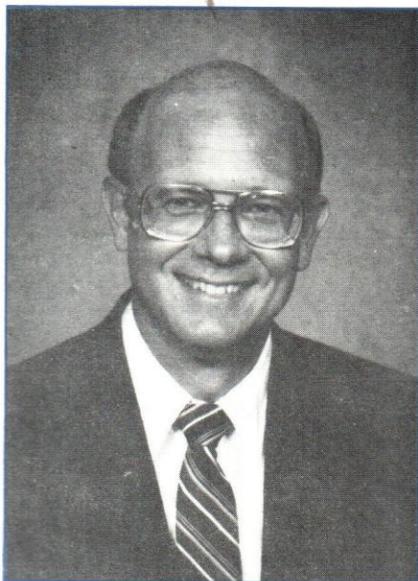
*For those who do know Him,
the liberty of His Sabbath!*

BSA

THE BIBLE SABBATH ASSOCIATION

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

EDITORIAL



Sydney Cleveland

THE GOOD NEWS!

"In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade — kept in heaven for you."
— 1 Peter 1:3, 4 NIV

"FIT FOR HEAVEN"

Like Johnny Cash, he was always dressed in black: black cowboy hat, black shirt, black pants, black socks, black cowboy boots. He was a fairly large man, and I'd guess he was in his forties the first time I met him. He came to our church's evangelistic meetings and I soon discovered he was a quiet, almost shy man. He was faithful, though, in his attendance at the series — always brought his Bible and study materials. I know he'd been baptized, but I was disappointed at the end of the meetings when the appeal was made for new converts and he didn't come forward.

Over the past five years I've encountered the man in black numerous times. I've seen him at the grocery store, at the local mall, and at the gas station, but I've never seen him at church. And every time I meet him the situation is the same — I nod, smile, and say "Hello! How are you?" And he always nods, smiles, and replies, "Fit for heaven!"

"Fit for heaven?" The first time he said it, I thought I had misunderstood him! I was expecting: "Fine, isn't this a nice day?" I was expecting, "Oh, not so good, but then we all have our troubles." Or maybe I was expecting, "Great, how are you?" But "Fit for heaven?" That certainly took some getting used to! Always made me wonder: Is he *really* "fit for heaven?"

And what about *us* — are *we* really "fit for heaven?" Has God's sanctifying grace so changed our lives that it's safe for Him to move us into an apartment in the earth made new next door to brother Smith? Or next door to sister Jones? Or does God have to worry a bit about where He'll place us — just in case we're not *quite* "fit for heaven?" And if we're *not* quite "fit" *today*, then *just when* are we going to be "fit?"

You remember the Apostle Paul wrestled with this question, too: "I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For *I have the desire* to do what is good, but *I cannot carry it out*. For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do—this *I keep on doing*. ... So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. For in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. *What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?* Thanks be to God—*through Jesus Christ our Lord!* So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin. Therefore, there is *now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death*" — Romans 7:18-8:2.

"God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them" — 2 Corinthians 5:19.

"Thanks be to God! *He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!*" — 1 Corinthians 15:57.

"Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!" — 2 Corinthians 9:15.

Thanks be to God for *making us, "fit for heaven!"*

— SC

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**BIBLE
SABBATH**

"Seal of God" Is God's Name

I am a relatively new subscriber to TSS and have enjoyed reading it so far. However the most important and most scriptural view was not presented in your cover story of two divergent views of "The Seal of God" (TSS, May, 1994).

Many people have understood the seal of Yahweh to be the Sabbath or the Holy Spirit. There is no doubt that both of these are integral parts of the seal. A person cannot be a true servant of Yahweh if he does not have Yahweh's Holy Spirit indwelling (Romans 8:9). Nor can a person be a true servant of Yahweh and yet continually pollute the Sabbath (1 John 2:4). When a person truly repents of sin and is baptized he will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38). That gift is a *seal* of Yahweh's ownership of that person (2 Corinthians 1:21, 22). It is that same Spirit that lead a true servant to obey Yahweh's commandments, statutes, and judgments (Ezekiel 36:26, 27). The Holy Spirit leads a person to sanctify the Sabbath and keep it holy. So there is no doubt that *the Holy Spirit is a seal of Yahweh*. There is also no doubt that a fruit of that sealing of the Holy Spirit is obedience to Yahweh's laws, including the Sabbath. It is the Sabbath law, given as a perpetual covenant and sign, that lets true servants know that it is "Yahweh" that sanctifies them (Exodus 31:13-18).

The two articles in question both quote Revelation 7:2-4 concerning the "seal of the living God." That seal, however, is a different seal than that of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is not put on the foreheads of people. It is placed *within* a person. It is indwelling. The seal of Revelation 7 is a seal that is put upon 144,000 people who are *already* servants of Yahweh (verse 3). It is because *they have already been sealed with the Holy Spirit*, and because they have kept Yahweh's commandments and the testimony of Yahshua (Revelation 12:17), that *they now receive this special sealing* as protection from Yahweh's end-time judgment (Revelation 7:1, 2; 9:4-6).

Scripture emphatically tells us exactly what this end-time seal is. Revelation

14:1, properly translated from the Greek, says, "And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having *his name and his Father's name* written in their foreheads." In Revelation 7:3, 4 we saw 144,000 servants being sealed in their foreheads. Revelation 14:1 *then reveals what that seal is: the name of the Father and the Son, "Yahweh" and "Yahshua."*

Notice what the mark of the beast is and where it is placed in Revelation 13:16-18. The mark of the beast is the *name* of the beast and it is placed on the *forehead* or hand of those who are not Yahweh's true servants. The exact opposite of the mark of the beast is the mark (or seal) of Yahweh (*His name and His Son's name*) in the *foreheads* of His true servants. The true names are not literally written on their foreheads. It figuratively means that those 144,000 servants will know and use the true names in their worship of the Almighty and the Lamb.

The Sacred Name doctrine is the most crucial doctrine restored in these final days. Yahweh is sealing His people in preparation for the destruction to come. Refusal to accept that seal will place a person in grave jeopardy. True worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth. They will not accept substitutes in place of truth. "Lord," "God," "Jehovah," and "Jesus" are all man-made substitutes for truth. I pray that you will consider this view very carefully and prayerfully before deciding which view of the seal you will choose.

John V. Cordaro
Angier, NC

We agree that the 144,000 have God's name in their foreheads, and that the "lost" have the name or number of the beast in their right hand or forehead. We also agree that those statements are probably more symbolic than literal and are an indication that God (or the beast) owns the individual(s). But which is the real issue, the "Name" or the Person who "owns" us?

For the benefit of our readers, a future issue of TSS will feature articles on the use of the Sacred Name(s). If you would like to submit your views, articles should be less than 1,000 words in length and postmarked no later than August 15, 1994. Send

submissions to: Sydney Cleveland, Editor, 172 Suncrest Drive, Greenwood, IN 46143.

"Seal of God" Is the Holy Spirit

I usually read TSS through as soon as I get it. About "The Seal of God," the Word says it is the Holy Spirit. There are no scriptures to substantiate the Sabbath as the seal though it is a sign between God and His people. Although we are saved by the blood of Christ and we don't see the truth of the Sabbath right away when we're not brought up that way. Gordon Fawcett says that to transgress the Sabbath requires the death of the transgressor. First Corinthians 3:13-15 says the Christian loses his rewards.

Also the 144,000 are the firstfruits of salvation not the first in the resurrection. James wrote to the 12 scattered tribes (James 1:18) that they were a part of the firstfruits. It (Revelation) tells what tribes they were from. John says "He came unto His own and His own received Him not," and Paul says "to the Jew first and then to the Greek (Gentile). In Acts 13:46 Paul said that since the Jews judged themselves unworthy they turned to the Gentiles. Another scripture, Romans 11:11-24 speaks about the wild and tame olive trees. (None of these say that the 144,000 were sealed with the Sabbath, though I'm sure they all kept the Sabbath). Jesus was the Firstfruit of the resurrection, the first to rise.

The wonderful part is that after the 144,000 there was a great multitude from all nations that received the seal. So we want to start each day with Christ, witness as often as we can, study His Word and be ready when He comes.

Jeanette Harrington
Decatur, MI

"Seal of God" Is the Sabbath, the Holy Spirit, and God's Name

I greatly appreciate the two divergent views in the May issue of TSS. It would seem that both of the writers think the other one is wrong. It seems to me that as far as the main theme is concerned, both of them are right.

In Brother Galimore's article he says, "The Sabbath is a sign but *not* the seal" However, Romans 4:11 tells me that the words "sign" and "seal" are synonymous.

To me, the Father's seal has more than one part. Surely the Sabbath is part of it, and the Holy Spirit is another part. The book of Revelation tells me that there is still another part that I failed to see for many years. Revelation 7:3 tells us that His servants are sealed on their foreheads. Then in Revelation 14:1, I read, "And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his father's name written in their foreheads." Now since they are sealed in their foreheads, and have His name in their foreheads, I can only conclude that not only are the Sabbath, and the Holy Spirit parts of the seal, but the Father's name is also a part.

Exodus 9:16 makes plain the fact that our Father wants everyone to know His name. Since He wants all of us to know His name, guess who doesn't want any of us to know it. Jeremiah 23:26, 27 tells me that the prophets have caused His people to forget His name and have slipped in a substitute, which according to Revelation 22:18, 19 is not acceptable. Then when our Savior came, the Father's name had been so completely forgotten that He had to inform His disciples of that name.

How do we know? In His high priestly prayer in John 17, we read, "I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me ..." (verse 6). This is so important that He said it again in these words: "and I have declared unto thy name, and will declare it ..." (verse 26). Now notice the reason He gave for declaring His Father's name: "that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them."

How important is it that we truly know His name? How important is it that we have His love? How important is it that we have our Savior abiding in us, and not some substitute? Is it important enough to cause us to dig in and find out for ourselves that the scribes have given us a counterfeit for His mighty name, Yahweh? Please do not take my word for it, or anyone else's, but dig it out for yourself, so you will know the truth for yourself.

W. H. Green
Odessa, TX

The above three letters indicate there are a variety of views concerning the "seal" of God. As we endeavor to discover Bible truth for ourselves we

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might want to ask "What does the Bible specifically state is the 'seal' of God?" To our knowledge the only Bible text which comes close, regardless of the translation we use, is Ephesians 1:13, "Having believed,

you were marked in him with a seal: the promised Holy Spirit" (NIV). In the NKJV the text reads: "In whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise."

Any Day Will Do

PASTOR JOHN BEVIS

One of the arguments we often hear when we present the Sabbath to someone is "Well, any day will do." I have also met those who informed me that they kept every day as a Sabbath or that simply one day in seven is sufficient. We know that such reasoning completely ignores the plain letter of the Fourth Commandment. God does not ask us to make a day holy. He already has done so. He does ask that, out of love to Him, we "remember" to keep the day He has chosen as holy time.

In fact, all days are alike. Resting on a day will not make it holy or make it the Sabbath. If that were so, then when we retire for the night we would be making this period of time holy by our resting. Going to church, singing, or praying does not make a day holy.

Holiness belongs to God. He alone is holy, and He alone can sanctify and make a period of time holy. "Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy and just and good" (Romans 7:12). God, our Creator, in his wisdom ordained that man was to work six days and rest the seventh. He gave us this special day as a time of rest, a time to acknowledge and worship our Father, God, and a time of celebration as we fellowship with those of like faith. What joys we experience as we follow God's plan and will for our lives!

For many years Elmer E. Franke was pastor of the People's Christian Church (Sabbathkeepers in New York City). For about two years I pastored this church in the midst of our nation's largest city and grew to appreciate the people in that church and their dedication to the Sabbath and to Jesus Christ. Pastor Franke, who died in the 1940's, was an ardent defender of the Sabbath and a prolific writer. He wrote in rebuttal to those who were advancing the "seventh part of time" theory, and I believe we will appreciate his words today. He writes:

"Sunday is not the Sabbath. It is the

first day of the week, the day upon which God began His work in creation. Sunday was first called the Sabbath by the Third Council of Orleans (a Roman Catholic Council in the year 538 A.D.).

"No Christian ever tried to make Sunday fit into the Ten Commandments until over one thousand years after the Council, or until the year 1595 when Rev. Nicholas Bound invented the 'seventh part of time' theory. His argument was that all days are alike, and any day is the Sabbath if we keep one seventh part of our time. Thus he wrestled the seventh-day Sabbath from the commandment and based Sunday-keeping on the law of God which says 'the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God.'

"Since then, many theologians have found their safest argument in this invention and have hidden the Sunday institution under the sacred folds of the fourth commandment.

"Sunday-keepers who are fond of stigmatizing God's Sabbath as 'the Jewish Sabbath' owe it at least to this man that they have one argument left for Sunday-keeping and should erect a monument to his memory; and if perchance they cannot accurately locate his grave, they need not be discouraged, for perhaps they can guess any one in seven, which will be near enough.

"Select the seventh or any one of seven, place the monument there; any grave will do, so long as it is one in seven. Over that grave can be placed the inscription 'Here, or in one of these seven graves, lies the body of Nicholas Bound, who discovered the definite article "the" can be changed to the indefinite article "a" without doing violence to God's eternal law.'"

Quite an argument Pastor Franke used, wasn't it? No doubt this will provide additional food for thought as we seek ways of sharing the Sabbath with others.

"For those who do not know Him, Jesus Christ and Him Crucified; for those who do know Him, the liberty of His Sabbath!"

-- Richard A. Wiedenheft
The Bible Sabbath Association

"In this cosmic age, the Good News of the Sabbath provides for the basis for a cosmic faith, a faith which embraces and unites creation, redemption and final restoration; the past, the present and the future; man, nature and God; this world and the world to come; a faith that recognizes God's dominion over the whole creation and human life by consecrating to Him the seventh day; a faith that fulfills the believer's true destiny in time and eternity; a faith that offers Divine Rest for Human Restlessness."

-- Samuele Bacchiocchi
Divine Rest for Human Restlessness

"Too often, the form of Sabbath observance has been made to eclipse the substance of rest in Christ. This is tragic, but unnecessary. The reality to which the fourth commandment points no more dispenses with that commandment than the reality of feeding on Christ's merits dispenses with the Lord's Supper."

"It is impossible to forget the Sabbath without gradually swinging toward either the pride of Lucifer or the grossness of the beast. This fact explains the bestiality of our modern world. Men and women behave as those who have forgotten their divine origin. They act indeed as the descendants of mollusks and anthropoids. To forget the Sabbath is to make God hazy -- a sort of oblong blur instead of a towering reality, giving perspective to all else and marking out the abyss between right and wrong in daily behavior. Men and women are trying to fill the God-shaped blank in their hearts by all sorts of substitutes -- the very experience the Sabbath was ordained

to prevent. Our sad, chaotic era is the result of forgetting God, a tragedy that observance of the fourth commandment could have averted."

"Do we now hallow that sacred day which our Creator and Redeemer sanctified for all men for all time? Do we daily experience the blessing of the Sabbath, the rest of spirit through faith in Christ that the physical Sabbath rest symbolizes? Are all our decisions motivated by the knowledge of God's goodness and holiness and our own creaturely dependence upon Him? Can we be numbered among His disciples who 'remember' Him and His law of love and His holy memorial, or do we, like the Egyptian butler, forget the One who has saved us from death?"

-- Desmond Ford
The Forgotten Day



I Love the Liberty of

"We were once in bondage to this life's physical limitations. Now we enjoy some liberation, which we picture by setting aside our physical concerns one day each week. Eventually, we can set aside those concerns entirely, and our Sabbath celebrations look forward to that. Then, every day will be a Sabbath, fully devoted to eternal fellowship with God."

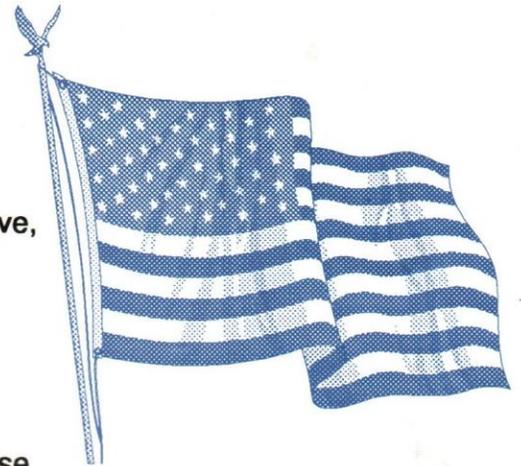
-- Joseph W. Tkach Jr.
The Plain Truth (August 1994)

"While the Sabbath was a sign or seal for Israel, the Christian's identity

God Bless Our Native Land!

Siegfried Mahlmann and William Hickson

God bless our native land;
Firm may she ever stand
Through storm and night;
When the wild tempests rave,
Ruler of wind and wave,
Do Thou our country save
By Thy great might.
For her our prayers shall rise
To God above the skies; on Him we wait.
Thou who art ever nigh, guarding with watchful eye,
To Thee aloud we cry, God save the State!
Not for this land alone, but be God's mercies shown
From shore to shore;
And may the nations see that men should brothers be,
And form one family the wide world o'er.





the Christian Sabbath!

involves faith and belief in Jesus Christ as Lord. The focus of the gospel is Jesus. Christian observances point to Jesus, symbolizing participation in the salvation that comes only through faith in him. Our Lord and Savior is the common denominator for the people of God. Through the Holy Spirit, we are united and set apart by faith in Jesus Christ. We exalt him in all our worship, especially Sabbath observance. We rejoice in and celebrate Jesus Christ as Lord of the Sabbath!"

-- Norman L. Shoaf
The Plain Truth (August 1994)

"The Sabbath is a day to cease striving. We no longer have to scramble after security by trying to be strong, to have all the answers or quick

solutions, to be in charge of our time and schedules, to possess controlling authority, or to find easy gratification. What a relief it is not to have to try to be God, nor to create our future, nor to establish our security!"

-- Marva J. Dawn
Keeping the Sabbath Wholly --
Ceasing, Resting, Embracing, Feasting

"The Sabbath continues to have the power to draw human beings out of their alienation and despair into a community created by the mighty acts of God. The Sabbath is an exodus from chaos and slavery and death, a sacred meal shared with the victor who conquers through the gift of His body. It is a weekly marriage supper with the Lamb, a baptism into the resurrection of the world. On this day, time past and time future enter into time present. The Sabbath is a prism, a multifaceted jewel, refracting throughout our lives the fullness of God's glory."

-- Roy Branson
Festival of the Sabbath



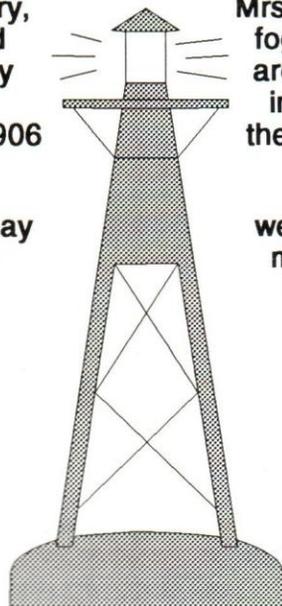
Ring the Bell!

Harold and Donna Kupp

At the turn of the century, tended the Angel Island Francisco Bay. The bay blanket of fog that rolls Ocean but on July 2, 1906 foreboding shroud.

Ships heading for the bay the mechanical striking bell had broken down station's lantern was

Faithful Juliet grabbed household hammer pounded the giant bell Two days later, the broke down again, stiff arm, she pounded night!



Mrs. Juliet E. Nichols fog signal on San area often has a in from the Pacific the dank mist became a

were in danger because mechanism for the fog and the light from the obscured by the fog.

a common and repeatedly for over 20 hours. bell mechanism and in spite of a the bell another

Warning signals have saved many seamen from perishing in a watery grave and a timely warning about sin has been the means of saving many a soul from eternal destruction.

When we see a believer disobeying God's Commandments, his faith is in danger of shipwreck. Ring the Bell! Ring the Bell!

Youth Focus

JEREMY A. WRIGHT

He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed regularly. (Acts 10:2)

As I read this verse in Acts I realized what a powerful witness the family can be when each member commits to following the Lord. The qualities mentioned in the above verse are keys to understanding each family member's spiritual responsibility. Notice that it is not only the father's responsibility but also the mother's and the children's, to be devoted to the Lord and to pray regularly. It makes sense that family members who put these words into practice will contribute to the happiness of their family.

We see that it is also very important that each member be generous and unselfish with their time and love, giving generously to those in need. And isn't that need first found in the family? A family member who does not spend time with his family or desire to show his love brings heartache to everyone around him.

He must manage his own family well and his children must obey him with proper respect, (for if anyone does not manage his own family, how can he take care of God's Church). (1 Timothy 3:4-5)

It is the father's privilege to manage the family and household. This responsibility has been man's from the beginning. Yet today we see so many households without a Dad or with a Dad who is not successful at managing his own family. Our homes need to have *both* parents involved with their children. Parents need to show they really care for their families.

Fathers do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged. (Colossians 3:21)

Not only does the father have the responsibility of managing the household but he needs to manage in love, without negative criticism or he will lose his child's respect in the fight.

As a mother comforts her child so I will comfort you. (Isaiah 66:13)

A mother's responsibilities are numerous but among the most important is the job of comforting a child. It's a

job that has to be done in good times and bad, without fail. Comforting assures children and youth that they are loved by their parents and by their Lord and Savior even when they are unlovely, when their behavior has been unloving and when they have disappointed those around them.

Children, obey your parents in the Lord for this is right. "Honor your father and mother"—which is the first commandment with a promise—"that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." Fathers do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord. (Ephesians 3:20-21)

Each of you must respect his mother and father, and you must observe my Sabbaths. I am the Lord your God. (Leviticus 19:3)

Yes, youth, these verses are for us. Our Moms and Dads have big jobs to do and it is our job to help them out by treating them with respect in conversation, disagreements and even in punishment. If we treat them fairly and honestly, most likely they will treat us the same way.

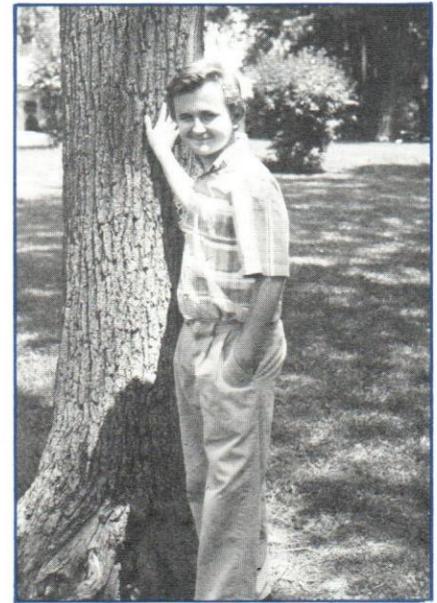
A wise son brings joy to his father but a foolish son grief to his mother. (Proverbs 10:1)

Have you ever heard the saying that we reap what we sow? If we really do great things (i.e. clean our room, take out the trash, cook dinner, do our homework etc.), our parents will be encouraged with us and will probably be more apt to work with us on things that are important to us. However, if we do frustrating things that we know are going to make them unhappy, then guess what, they *are* going to be unhappy.

See I will send you the prophet Elijah before the great and dreadful day of the Lord comes. He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse. (Malachi 4:5-6)

The Bible says that each of us has a responsibility to turn his heart toward, not away from, other family members. If we follow His leading, our families will be blessed; if we fail, God promises to get our attention!

'Jesus said to them, I tell you the



truth, at the renewal of all things when the Son of Man sits on the his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on the twelve thrones and judge the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last and many who are last will be first. (Matthew 19:28-29)

Of all groups, the family unit has the greatest opportunity to demonstrate Christ's love to each other in our church, neighborhood, or work place. The well-run Christian family shows what it is like to be part of God's family.

It is important to remember that we are all human and we all make mistakes. It is also important that we understand that Christ forgives our sins if we admit them, repent (turn from) and ask for His forgiveness. It is our duty as Christians to forgive others and not hold grudges just as Christ forgives and forgets our sins. God bless in our families as we continue to follow Him. It is my prayer that all our families *will* inherit eternal life!

Youth - if you have questions or comments, or if you have a problem and need to talk, please call or write to: Youth Focus, c/o Jeremy Wright, PO Box 17682, Indianapolis, IN 46217. I don't have all the answers but I would be happy to help.

When It's Time to Pray

JOHN SHIRN



John and Carolyn Shirn

When I pray "Our Father," I know that I am His child and that we are a Family: "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure" — 1 John 3:1-3.

"Which art in heaven," puts our relationship into perspective. He is in a superior place and position, and I am a speck of dust on His footstool: "In that hour Jesus rejoiced in spirit, and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes: even so, Father; for so it seemed good in thy sight" — Luke 10:21.

"Hallowed be Thy name," is how He wants me to worship Him — by singing praises to His holy name: "And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory" — Isaiah 6:3. "Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men" — Psalms 107:8.

"Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven," reassures me that all will be well on earth and that men will live here in peace and love under Him: "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his peo-

ple, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful" — Revelation 21:1-5.

"Give us this day our daily bread," is a sufficient request to cover all my needs for the day no matter what they may be. It is not necessary to weary His ears with endless requests for numerous material things: "And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking" — Matthew 6:5-7.

"Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors," tells me that I had better forgive all things by all people if I want His forgiveness for my sins: "For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses" — Matthew 6:14, 15.

"Lead us not into temptation," keeps me alert to the worldly pulls constantly around me. While God tempts no man (James 1:13), He will allow us to be tempted by Satan if we are not alert: "And said unto them, 'Why sleep ye? rise and pray, lest ye enter into temptation'" Luke 22:46.

"But deliver us from evil," gives me the reassurance that if I should slip into temptation He can and will deliver me out of it. He will not let me be tempted beyond that which I can bear: "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it" — 1 Corinthians 10:13.

"For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever, amen," reminds me that He made it all from nothing, He owns it all, He will do with it what He wills, and if I want to be a part of it and enjoy the amenities of it, I had better do His will and I, too, will be His and enjoy the protection of that Great Power and Glory: "And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men" — Luke 2:13-14. "And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God" — Revelation 19:1).

Then, when it is time to pray, let us follow the example of Jesus and pray:

"Our Father which art in heaven,

Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen."

— Matthew 6:9-13

What They Say About the Sabbath

JOHN C. McCOLLISTER

In this monthly column selected statements about the Sabbath are reprinted from various authors, commentaries and dictionaries. The purpose of this column is to provide readers with positive study resources gleaned from non-Sabbath-observing authors. The following quotation is from The Christian Book of Why, by John C. McCollister (published by Jonathan David Publishers, Inc., Middle Village, New York).

Why is Sunday the generally accepted day of worship for Christians?

"Isn't it strange that Christians who believe in the Ten Commandments seem openly to violate one of them? After all, God said: 'Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy' (Exodus 20:8). The Sabbath was the seventh day of creation and the seventh day of the week, yet most Christians worship on Sunday, the first day of the week. Why the change?

"Obviously, there was no intent on the part of the Church to contradict the commandment of God. But the Early Church recognized Sunday as the day of worship because it was on a Sunday that Jesus rose from the dead. Since the resurrection of Jesus is the focal point of the Christian faith and the confirmation of all that Jesus taught, the first Christians gathered to celebrate this event on the first day of the week (Acts 20:7 and 1 Corinthians 16:2).

"Undoubtedly, another important reason why early Christians worshipped on Sunday was to distinguish themselves from the Jewish community to which many of them belonged before their conversions.

"Today, with the exception of the Seventh-Day Adventists, Christians hold Sunday as their day for public worship.

Why do Seventh-Day Adventists insist on worshipping on Saturday instead of Sunday?

"Although most Christians worship on

Sunday, the Seventh-Day Adventists (who trace their beginning to the early 1840s and number about 400,000 today) choose to worship on Saturday instead of Sunday, as is the habit of most Christians.

"The Adventists believe that God's command: 'Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy' referred to the seventh day of the week, since it was on the seventh day that God rested at the conclusion of his creation of the

Not Too Fast on the Draw!

GILBERT SANFORD

A Sabbath-keeping student was selling books to earn a scholarship one summer some years ago in Argentina. He was carrying a considerable amount of money in his pockets since there were no banks nearby.

As he was walking along the road leading to the town where he would take a train back to school, a man driving a wagon offered him a ride. The student refused, for he recognized the man as one who carried a hand gun and who had killed several other men while claiming self-defense. The man was not to be put off and commanded the student to get in and ride with him.

They drove along in silence for some time. The boy expected the man to rob him at any moment, and prayed for Divine protection. Soon they descended into a deep ravine, with the small town on the other side.

The man went for his gun — but when they came up out of the ravine and the town was in sight, the man was still pulling and tugging at the gun trying to get it out of the holster. It was too late now to rob the student, so the man let him off near the train station.

Some hours would pass before the train left and the man had time to think. The more he thought the more he wanted to know why he could not

universe. They believe, too, that the Early Church was in error when it started a tradition of conducting worship on a day other than that set aside by God." — pages 122-123.

Apparently the author is unaware that there are nearly 300 Sabbath-observing groups and denominations, and that Seventh-day Adventists currently number approximately eight million, not 400,000. Most interesting is the implied recognition that worshipping on Sunday, instead of Saturday, is a violation of the fourth Commandment. The statement "Obviously there was no intent on the part of the Church to contradict the commandment of God," is probably correct when applied to the Apostolic Church.

get his gun out of the holster. He returned to the station to find the boy and asked, "Will you please tell me something? Why couldn't I pull my gun out of the holster when I tried to rob you? What kind of power do you have?"

The student shared his belief in God with the man and told him about his prayer for Divine protection. Not long after the student left on the train and never saw the man again. There is no way to know what impression was made on the would-be robber that day — perhaps someday we will hear the rest of the story!

ATTENTION SABBATH-OBSERVING GROUPS!

We are working on a new edition of the *Directory of Sabbath-Observing Groups*, and want to include your group. Please send your group's correct name and address to us at:

The Bible Sabbath Association

Route 1, Box 222

Fairview, OK 73737

News

The Lord Provides

The week-end of March 19 we rebaptized a brother who was a member of the church of God in Jamaica, W.I. After studying the Word of God and conversing with us, he asked to be rebaptized. With only a week before the Lord's Supper, we were concerned with finding a place to perform the baptism. Thanks to God and diligent brethren, in the Toronto church, they found a pool for baptizing and donated the pool free of charge, because we wanted it for a needed ordinance. I believe this shows to us how the Holy Spirit is working in the hearts and minds of God's People to make things right in our relationship to the Body of Christ.

— *The Sabbath Bulletin*

New Zealand Pastor Honored

On December 18, 1993, a special event took place at the small church on Livingstone Street in Christchurch, New Zealand. As Conference President, I had been asked to present Pastor Edward Barrar with a letter of thanks from the Australasian Conference. Pastor Edward is now 91 years old and still preaches. He is also

studying the book of Isaiah from a Dead Sea Scroll microfilm he has on loan. He started keeping the Sabbath even before there was a Seventh-day Adventist church in Christchurch, and has been preaching in that city since 1942. During that time, he has also edited and printed the *Gospel Messenger*. — *Sabbath Recorder*

Resources Available From BSA

Sabbath at Sommerhase with Activity Packet. This 113-page book and packet for teaching children about the Sabbath is only \$7.00.

1986 Directory of Sabbath Observing Groups. We are offering these at our close-out price of \$3 each and including the 1989 Supplement (plus postage).

God's Sabbath for Mankind. We have received a fresh supply of these excellent 40-page booklets written by Richard A. Wiedenheft. We consider them to be an excellent study booklet at \$1 each.

Ball-point Pens with "The Seventh Day is the Sabbath of the Lord" imprint. These fine rubber grip pens are \$1.50 each. Offer good only as long as current supplies last.

BOOKS

The Sabbath in the New Testament by Samuele Bacchiocchi (275 pages) \$10.

From Sabbath to Sunday by Samuele Bacchiocchi (372 pages) \$10.

Divine Rest for Human Restlessness by Samuele Bacchiocchi (320 pp) \$10.

History of Sabbath and Sunday by John Kiesz (64 pages) \$3.

BOOKLETS

Why the Seventh-day Sabbath? (12 pages) only 20¢ each or \$17 per 100.

Roman Catholic and Protestant Confessions About Sunday (12 pages) only 20¢ each or \$17 per 100.

The Bible Sabbath: Seventh Day or First Day? (6 pages) 14¢ each or \$12 per 100.

Bible Truth About Salvation by Grace Through Faith (32 pages) 34¢ each.

TRACTS

The Rest of Your Life (2 pages), 10¢ each or \$8 per 100.

Whatever Happened to the Sabbath? (2 pages) 10¢ each or \$8 per 100.

Bumper sticker: "I Break for the Sabbath" \$1 each.

Sample copies of tracts are available free if you enclose a self-addressed #10 envelope and 52¢ postage with your request.

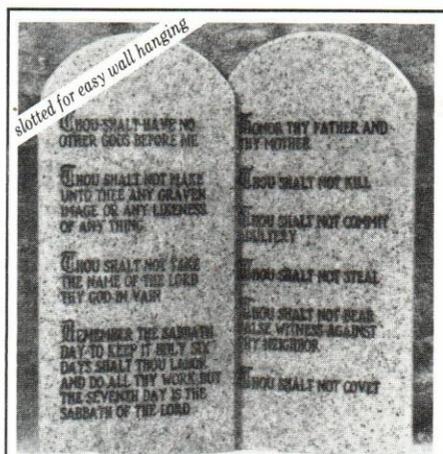
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