

THE SACRED NAME BROADCASTER

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1 Remember the Sabbath Day, and Keep It, Wholly?

An enigma in religion today can be found in the way that religious leaders explain away the fourth commandment. While this commandment clearly exhorts us to remember the seventh-day Sabbath, most religious people today refuse to keep the seventh day of the week holy. It is a sign between our Maker and His people! Are you included in this group of obedient people?

10 Prophetic Trends: A Nation Void of Counsel

Moses, in Deuteronomy 32, addressed the descendents of the children of Israel, upbraiding them for being a "foolish and unwise people," who have forgotten Yahweh—a nation that is void of counsel and without understanding. "Is this how you repay Yahweh?" he asked. The words of Moses burn in our heart, pleading with our generation, that we consider our latter end.

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18 Radio Message: The Worldly Holidays

Few people ever take the time to examine whether observing the world's popular fall and winter holidays are scriptural. Read this broadcast transcript and prove to yourself whether or not they are scriptural.

Our Cover:



The Mediterranean Sea pounds the seashore in northern Israel. The beauty of Yahweh's creation is limitless, and we marvel at what our Maker has created. Take a moment today to examine Yahweh's creation around you. Everything that He has made is very good! "O Yahweh, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all: The earth is full of your riches. Yonder is the sea, great and wide, In which are things creeping innumerable, Both small and great beasts. There go the ships; There is leviathan, whom you have formed to play in it. These wait all for you, That you may give them their food in due season. You give to them, they gather; You open your hand, they are satisfied with good." (Psalm 104:24-28).

Basic Truths of Bible Doctrine

FIRST	SECOND	THIRD	FOURTH	FIFTH	SIXTH	SABBATH	
						1	
						Galatians 4–6	
2	2	Л	5	6	7	0	
2	<i>3</i>	4	5	6		8	
Ephesians 1–3	Ephesians 4–6	Philippians 1–4	Colossians 1–4	1 Thessalonians 1–3	1 Thessalonians 4–5	2 Thessalonians 1–3	
	Epitodiano 4-0	1 mippians 1—4	COICCOICHS 1-4	1 Theodalonians 1–0	1 Theodalofilatio 4–0		
Hanukkah Begins	10	77	12	13	14	New Moon Tebeth	

Remember the

SABBATH DAY,

and Keep It, Wholly

Theologians have ventured many opinions regarding the New Testament Sabbath. Should there be one specific day that is solemnized to serve as a day of rest in this New Covenant age? Many different arguments have been advanced to answer this question. But people still have questions. Perhaps you are bothered by these

Elder Jacob O. Meyer

vexing questions. Let us take a careful look at this subject to determine whether there is indeed a specific day each week that our Heavenly Father instructs us to keep holy during this New Testament age of grace.

The Basic Biblical View

The word **Sabbath**, found in the biblical text, means **to rest**, or to have an **intermission** (**Strong's Concordance**, #7676). The cognate verb from which this noun is derived is *shavath* (#7673 in **Strong's**). The prime root means *to repose*, *to desist*

from exertion, to cease from activity. There can be no question about our Heavenly Father's intention when we consider the definition of these words. The verb means to rest, or to cease from labor, while the noun determines the DAY on which this is done. No other meaning was ever attached to the word **Sabbath**.

The Biblical Commandment

The fourth commandment of the decalogue relates directly to keeping holy one day of each week. Let us read that commandment as found in Exodus 20:8-11:

"Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shall you labor, and do all your work; but the seventh day is a sabbath of Yahweh your Elohim: in it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your manservant, or your maidservant, or your cattle, or the stranger that is within your gates: for in six days Yahweh made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day: Therefore Yahweh blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it."

Restated in the book of Deuteronomy, the commandment is expressed in this way:

"Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy, as Yahweh your Elohim commanded you. Six days shall you labor, and do all your work; but the seventh day is a sabbath to Yahweh your Elohim: in it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your man-servant, or your maid-servant, your ox, or your ass, or any of your cattle, or your stranger that is within your gates; that your manservant and your maidservant may rest as well as you. And you shall remember that you were a servant in the land of Egypt, and Yahweh your Elohim brought you out from there by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm: therefore Yahweh your Elohim commanded you to keep the sabbath day." Deuteronomy 5:12-15.

A comparison of these two passages clearly shows that they are in harmony with each other. The

This one day is specified and designated as the Sabbath day and no other.

commandment is certainly authentic, because it stands in the larger corpus of material comprising the Ten Commandments and Covenant Yahweh made with Israel. It is frequently recited by people who have studied the Bible, so the commandment is widely known.

A Brief Analysis of the Commandment

Now let's carefully examine the fourth commandment so that we can comprehend the crucial messages that lie therein.

First, the **seventh day of the week** is called the **Sabbath** in the commandment. This one day is specified and designated as the Sabbath day and no other.

Frequently, adherents to nominal Chr-stianity declare that they are keeping the scriptural Sabbath when they observe Sunday. However, this is not the case. Chr-stianity has always maintained that **it keeps the first day of the week** holy, because Yahshua the Messiah was

resurrected on that day. Those who wish to be completely forthright in their approach to the Scriptures will freely admit that the scriptural Sabbath is the seventh day of the week, commonly called **Saturday**.

The number seven has been interpreted in biblical numerology to indicate spiritual perfection. We shall see that the selection and designation of the seventh day of the week for the scriptural Sabbath has come down to us from creation by a knowing Creator who formed a perfect creation.

The Sabbath of Yahweh

The second point that emerges with ringing clarity in this commandment is that the Sabbath is not the Sabbath of the **Jew**, or the Sabbath of **man**, but it is the **Sabbath of Yahweh**, our Mighty One. Man has been granted the right to use six days for himself, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of Yahweh. The Sabbath, therefore, establishes a division in the week.

The word **Elohim**, which we usually translate as "Mighty One," is vitally important to understanding the scriptural Sabbath. The word **Elohim** is derived from the Hebrew word **Strength**, or **power**. If Yahweh is the powerful, strong Mighty One in authority over us, then we should humbly submit to His supreme Will. If He commands us to observe a certain day of the week as a Sabbath, then we must follow His directive.

Notice that in the fourth commandment, the seventh day of the week is called **YAHWEH'S** Sabbath. He has specified it as His holy day. **No man** has the power to sanctify, or set apart, any day of the week as holy. The Almighty alone has the power to create a special, sanctified holy day. It is **His Word** that sanctifies. The infinite mind of Yahweh, with His unlimited wisdom and judgment, must make these decisions for man, whose vision is limited by a finite intelligence.

Authoritative evidence proves that the human body operates best under regular weekly cycles of work and rest. Research has shown that the human body needs a day of rest, approximately every seven days, to refresh both mind and body. We can see the supreme wisdom of Almighty Yahweh in specifying one day out of seven to be observed in rest.

Everyone To Observe the Rest Day

Some years ago, the author had a series of communications with a Messianic Jewish radio evangelist. He insisted that I was placing too much emphasis upon the accurate observance of the biblical law code and thought I should be focusing on the shed blood of Yahshua the Messiah to cleanse us from sin.

Such criticism crosses my desk occasionally, but if the reader takes a cross-sectional view of the **Sacred Name Broadcasters** published over a period of years, he will conclude that all subjects of Bible doctrine are taught on a, more or less, regular basis.

The Assemblies of Yahweh teaches the necessity for believing in the shed blood of Yahshua the Messiah to atone for our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. However, we do not emphasize this doctrine above all others. We seek a balance and harmony of Bible understanding.

The radio evangelist sent me a booklet on the Sabbath. A statement in the booklet said that no one but the Jew is obligated to keep the scriptural Sabbath. My response to him was a quotation from the commandment of Exodus 20:10. You read there that everyone is to keep the Sabbath: the Israelite (all Jews are Israelites, but not all Israelites are Jews), both man and woman, son and daughter, man servant and maid servant; and the **stranger** (the non-Israelite) that is within our jurisdiction. The Gentiles are obligated to keep the scriptural Sabbath as well as the Israelites.

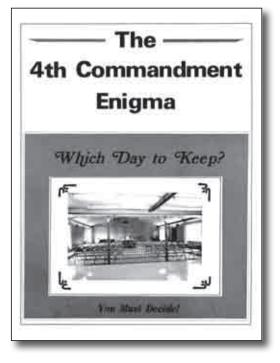
The Sabbath To Be Kept Holy

We are told to keep the scriptural seventh-day Sabbath holy. The word

holy in Hebrew is qadesh. The word qadesh means to be clean ceremonially, or morally, or to be a sacred thing.

Have you considered that the Sabbath is **sacred** time? No human being can make any specific time sacred unless it is so designated by Almighty Yahweh. We must remember that vital point. These delineated 24 hours that are the scriptural seventh day of the week are holy time. Almighty Yahweh has pronounced it to be so. The other six days are not so designated. We must remember to keep the Sabbath clean from any defilement with the common activities of the week. Only the six days allotted to man are the time for labor.

In Exodus 20:11 our Heavenly Father blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it. No other day of the week was ever elevated to this position of supernatural blessing. No other day has been sanctified and set apart from all the others. It is only the scriptural seventh day of the week (which we know as Saturday) that has this distinct blessing.



Which Day to Keep? You Must Decide!

The weekly day of rest and worship is carefully scrutinized in this 14-page in-depth article published by the Assemblies of Yahweh. Request your copy today. It is free of charge! Send your card or letter to:

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Commentators have called the Sabbath the "queen of the week." It is the day that crowns, or climaxes, each week. It is a blessing to lay aside our labors of six days to rest on the Sabbath. Our special blessing is to be released from mundane occupational chores and be called to receive the blessing of communion with the Most High.

The Sabbath from Creation

The first scriptural passage in which the Sabbath is mentioned is in Genesis chapter 2:1-3. "And the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day Elohim finished his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And Elohim blessed the seventh day, and hallowed it: because that in it he rested from all his work which Elohim had created and made."

The Sabbath Rest

Notice, Elohim **ended the work** that He had done on this seventh day of the week—by resting. Almighty Yahweh, by resting, created a special rest day on the seventh day of the week. This was His intention. Our Heavenly Father would undoubtedly never suffer from fatigue, because He is spirit and does not need to contend with such human weaknesses.

Nevertheless, the refreshment of the Sabbath does not merely apply to the physical, but relates also to the mental and spiritual aspects of our lives. The Sabbath is a day of spiritual refreshment and renewal. It gives us time for reflection upon the course of our lives and upon the paths on which we have embarked. It gives us a regular opportunity to concentrate upon the study of the Word. Similarly, Almighty Yahweh rests, and by implementing this special rest day each week, He extends a blessing to His human creation.

In the Sabbath commandment (Exodus 20:11) we see that Almighty Yahweh created the earth and all that is therein in six days and then rested the seventh day. In Exodus 31:17 we read, "It is a SIGN between me and the children of

When people observe any other day than the one commanded by Yahweh, they deny a faith in a Creator and creation.

Israel forever: for in six days Yahweh made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed."

The Sabbath and Evolution

For much of the past century, the teaching of evolution has infiltrated and corrupted modern education. This theory has not spiritually advanced the human race, but, rather, has been at the core of the degenerating morals of our time. It is a teaching that denies creation and, thereby, denies the existence and **authority** of a Creator Being.

Ironically, many people claiming to believe in the inspired Scriptures express their **vehement opposition** to the theory of evolution; they either continue to observe the first day of the week, or they observe no special day of the week, as their day of rest. When people observe any other day than the one commanded by Yahweh, they deny a faith in a Creator and creation. The conduct of their lives

and their declared beliefs offer a significant study in contrasts. Such is the confusion permeating religious Babylon today. Our only choice is whether or not to get into harmony with Yahweh's perfect system.

If all worshipers who declare their faith in the inspired Scriptures—a faith in the creation of this universe in six literal days by a living Mighty One—would keep the seventh-day Sabbath, by their living testimony they would demonstrate rejection of the theory of evolution. All who keep the scriptural seventh-day Sabbath are declaring to the world by a living example that they reject the philosophies, concepts, and traditions of this world in favor of obedience to the commandments of Almighty Yahweh, our Heavenly Father.

First Biblical Mention of the Sabbath

Occasionally, one hears that the word Sabbath is not mentioned until Exodus chapter 16. This is false. The record must now be set straight. As has already been shown in this article, the Hebrew noun **sabbath** is derived from the cognate verb shavath meaning He rested. The verb *shavath* is found twice in Genesis 2:1-3. The seventh day is the only day of the week blessed, hallowed, and sanctified by Yahweh to be a special day of rest during the week. On this day He rested. Those who are His spiritual children, and wish to obey Him by showing their love for His Word, will also rest on this weekly anniversary of creation.

Locating the True Sabbath Day

In Exodus chapter 16 we have an important historical passage. Israel had spent several centuries in Egypt where they had fallen into Egyptian bondage. The servitude that they endured was excruciating. They pleaded with Almighty Yahweh to release them from this enslavement. He answered their prayers by releasing

them in a great exodus at Passover time, described in Exodus 12 to 14. When they entered the wilderness, Israel began to learn the sound doctrines of Almighty Yahweh which comprise a separated way of life.

The Correct Day Supernaturally Designated

While in Egypt, the Israelites had lost the keeping of the Sabbath day. During their servitude, they were forced to labor daily for Pharaoh, but now Almighty Yahweh was about to teach Israel a great Truth. They were to have a day of rest for themselves each week. He revealed His Sabbath to them, and it was to be a test of their faith, "... that I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or not," Exodus 16:4.

In this test Almighty Yahweh specified that a certain day of the week was to be observed as a day of rest. They were told that they would receive from heaven a regular, daily supply of food, manna, for six days each week, but on the seventh day would be the Sabbath when no manna would be provided. In this way, Almighty Yahweh showed quite clearly over a span of 40 years (from that time until Israel entered into the Promised Land and began to reap the harvest of Canaan in Joshua 5:10) which day was the true scriptural Sabbath.

The word *manna* means in Hebrew: *What is it?* In Psalm 78:24-25, *manna* is called "the corn (grain) of heaven" and "angels' food." Psalm 105:40 calls *manna* "the bread of heaven." Each day, Almighty Yahweh supernaturally provided this food for His people Israel, and they went out and gathered it from the desert. It is described as appearing like hoar frost, Exodus 16:14. It looked like large flakes of snow.

We tend to think of *manna* as something that was gathered very easily, but that is not true. The flakes of manna were scattered on

the desert bushes and on the ground. Each person had to gather it early in the morning, because when the sun rose high in the sky it melted and vanished. Each person was to collect a container of *manna* for personal use. He was not to allow any of it to

We may not work on that day to earn our living, but must rest as Almighty Yahweh has directed.

remain in his dwelling, overnight, because it bred worms and spoiled. Almighty Yahweh wanted Israel to learn that each day they would be given their daily bread, just as we are presently taught to pray.

On the sixth day of the week there was an extraordinary supply, double the usual amount, scattered over the desert. Moses instructed the Israelites to gather twice as much as they had gathered the previous days, to cook and bake as they wished, and save it for the following day. Another miracle took place when it did not breed worms, or spoil, on the Sabbath. The disobedient went out on the Sabbath, but to their dismay they discovered that Almighty Yahweh had provided no *manna* on the weekly rest day.

Here we have a visible sign from Almighty Yahweh, given to His people, that He wishes His weekly seventh-day Sabbath to be kept holy. We may not work on that day to earn our living, but must rest as Almighty Yahweh has directed. To those rebellious and stubborn Israelites who went out on the Sabbath to seek *manna*, Yahweh said, "... How long will you refuse to keep my commandments and my laws?" Exodus 16:28.

Release

In Exodus 20:9 we encounter the Hebrew word עבד. This word had been translated in many different ways. This citation finds it translated *labor*. It means *servitude*, with a broad spectrum of meaning: from general, everyday work necessary to earn a livelihood, to slavery. Almighty Yahweh has released us from Egyptian bondage in servitude, Exodus 20:3. He has redeemed His people from that drudgery. As a consequence, He wants us to lay aside the work of our vocation and on the Sabbath day serve (worship) Him exclusively. Remember, Egypt is analogous to sin, Hebrews 11:15.

When we consult Hebrews chapter 4, we learn that the Sabbath is emblematic of the rest of the Millennial reign. The seventh-day weekly Sabbath, therefore, relates to the Millennium that follows the six thousand years of man. At this moment, we are standing almost at the portals of this Kingdom. The seventh thousand-year period will be Yahweh's "day." It is the time when the people of this earth will lay aside their sinful attitudes and serve Almighty Yahweh exclusively. Then they will know the peace and the joy that comes from walking in the ways of Yahweh.

The Signs of the Sabbath

Exodus 31:13 shows quite clearly that the Sabbath is a sign between Yahweh and His people throughout **all** generations. In this passage, the Hebrew word 'owth is used, meaning a sign, a signal, a flag, a beacon, monument, omen, or evidence (**Strong's** #226). The root implies something that two people

Continued on page 7.

A Catholic Confession

HOW THE SABBATH "BECAME" SUNDAY

Father S. Now, let us take up the third commandment: "Remember thou keep holy the Sabbath Day."

Mr. J. You stated once before that if we followed the Bible only, we would keep holy the Saturday. Isn't the "Sabbath" Sunday?

Father S. No, the word "Sabbath" means "rest," the seventh day of the week, or Saturday.

Mr. J. Well, did [Messiah] change the day?

Father S. We have no record that He did, but we have evidence that the Ch-rch did shortly after [Messiah] returned to Heaven. (Acts XX, 7; 1 Corinth. XVI, 1-2).

Mr. J. It isn't plain to me that the Ch-rch is empowered to change a law of [Yahweh].

Father S. The law of [Yahweh] was not changed. The substance of the law remained the same, namely, that man must cease from servile work and give [Yahweh] public worship once a week, every seventh day. The Ch-rch only transferred the obligation from Saturday to Sunday. As far as the law of Yahweh designated a certain day, it was ceremonial; and all the ceremonial laws of the Jews ended with the coming

of [Messiah]; the moral laws, besides being positively given by the Almighty, were also founded on the natural law; these the Ch-rch could not change.

Mr. J. Would you kindly tell me, Father, why the Ch-rch changed the day of worship?

Father S. Certainly. The first reason was, that even after they became converts to the Ch-rch, many Jews thought they had still to keep the ceremonial law of Moses, such as circumcision, abstinence from certain meats, 'the scrupulous observance of Jewish sacrifice on the Sabbath, etc. To remove such impressions was difficult, because their ancestors for 2,000 years had thus acted. Hence the Apostles deemed it advisable to abolish Saturday public service altogether, and have the converted Jews conform to the requirements of the Chr-stian Ch-rch. The day was changed from Saturday to Sunday. It was by far the best method of convincing the Jews that the Old Dispensation was at an end and a new era, a more perfect religion, substituted.

(Lester J. Fallon and John Francis Noll, **Father Smith Instructs Jackson**, (Huntington, IN: Our Sunday Visitor Press, 1956) pp 91-92.1

MAN— THE LAWGIVER

SUNDAY A King's Edict

"On the venerable day of the Sun let the magistrates and people residing in cities rest, and let all workshops be closed. In the country, however, persons engaged in the work of cultivation may freely and lawfully continue their pursuits; because it often happens that another day is not so suitable for grain sowing, or for vine planting; lest by neglecting the proper moment for such operations the bounty of heaven should be lost."

[Trevelyan, W.B., Sunday, Observance, (London, New York, Bombay: Longmans, Green, & Co., 1902) p. 29. (**Edict of Constantine**, 321 C.E.)]

SABBATH A Council's Decision

"Council of Laodicea (C.E. 363) lays down that Chr-stians are not to Judaize, and rest on the Sabbath, but to work on that day; while, because of the peculiar honour due to the L-rd's Day, they are then, if they are able, to rest as Chr-stians."

[Ibid, p. 46, (Canon 29, **Council** of **Laodicea**, Theodoret)]

The Pagan Influence

"In the decision to celebrate the weekly festive day of rest on the L-rd's Day (Sunday), it may even be that pagan Roman usages played as large a part as in the fixing of the Chr-stmas festival. Celebration of the Resurrection itself was not on a Sunday in the more primitive and oriental areas of Chr-stianity but on Passover full moon day itself."

[Article, "Sabbath" **New Catholic Encyclopedia**]

Continued from page 5.

agree to. It is a bond, or some kind of identification, that relates or ties Yahweh with His people.

To All Generations

Notice that this sign is to be observed throughout all generations. It is obvious, then, that unless someone keeps the scriptural seventh-day Sabbath, he cannot absolutely be certain that he is worshiping the True Mighty One. The reason people of the Western world today have lost their identity as the descendants of Israel is that they departed from the worship of Yahweh and began to worship in the names of pagan mighty ones. Besides this, they lost the **sign**, or bond, of the Sabbath that would have tied them securely to the True Mighty One-Yahweh. They began to observe Sunday (the venerable day of the sun), a day never sanctioned, or made holy, as a day of worship—anywhere in the Bible.

Remember, when we keep this seventh-day Sabbath, we may truly know that we are worshipers of the True Mighty One **Yahweh** and that it is He who sanctifies us as His children, just as He has sanctified, or set apart, a specific day.

The Perpetual Sabbath

We should notice also that in verse 16 the people of Yahweh (Israel means "a man who rules with El," or "one who is an overcomer") shall keep the Sabbath and observe the Sabbath throughout their generations for a perpetual Covenant.

The word perpetual means lasting or enduring forever, an indefinitely long time, eternal, permanent. It is a self-renewing agreement from one generation to another. This sign between Yahweh and His people is to stand **forever**. Therefore, the keeping of the scriptural Sabbath can never be annulled without the

specific instructions of our Heavenly Father. He has never given instructions of any kind that would do away with the scriptural Sabbath, so it continues to stand in our time.

No Biblical Evidence for Sabbath Change

There is no statement in the entire Bible that changes the day of wor-

Yahshua
the Messiah
never told His
Assembly to
observe the
day of His
resurrection.

ship from the scriptural Sabbath, the seventh day of the week (or Saturday), to the first day of the week—as has been asserted by Chrstianity. If such a Scripture can be found that straightforwardly declares this change, then it will be carefully considered. We have researched and found no such Scripture exists in the Bible. Rather, we have found many different Scriptures that clearly prove the Sabbath is still to be observed in our time.

The first holy day that the Almighty lists in Leviticus chapter 23 is the weekly Sabbath. Please see verse 3. It is His weekly feast day and is to be observed forever.

Who Changed the Sabbath?

It was in 321 at the Council of Nicaea that Constantine ordered the change of the Sabbath from the scriptural seventh day to the first day of the week. Constantine was a sun worshiper. He was not baptized until he was on his deathbed. He had such a vengeful attitude and corrupt mind that he took the lives of some of his near relatives, including his wife. How was it that a **pagan** moderated a conference of True Worshipers and led the apostolic Assembly into paganism?

Can the decisions of the Council of Nicaea be used to form the basis for **new** religious customs? The Assemblies of Yahweh rely strictly **on the Bible** for our doctrines.

Included here is a quotation from Constantine's *Edict of Nicaea*. You can see for yourself that he recognized the scriptural seventh-day Sabbath, but imposed his will to change it.

The Roman Catholic Ch-rch has also acknowledged that the one sign of their authority is that they **changed** the scriptural Sabbath from the seventh day to the first day of the week. You will notice in the included quotation that they insist upon their authority to do this by showing that all ch-rches have meekly followed this Catholic directive.

Sabbath Commanded in the New Testament

Many people believe that the Sabbath was abolished when the Savior died. Nothing could be further from the truth! First of all, Yahshua the Messiah never told His Assembly to observe the day of His resurrection, and yet it seems that those who profess a faith in the Messiah reject His words. In Matthew 5:17-20, He said that the inspired Scriptures could not be changed in the least point until **all is fulfilled**. Not every prophecy of the Bible has been fulfilled, and Yahshua the Messiah never changed the keeping of the Sabbath. Can you find one Scripture in the Bible that says He did? I can't!

As a matter of fact, there is a commandment in the New Testament that tells us that **the Sabbath must still be observed** in this New Covenant age. Turn to Hebrews 4:9. "There remains therefore a sabbath rest for the people of Yahweh." The Aramaic version reads, "It is therefore the duty of the people of Yahweh to keep the Sabbath."

The crucial word is the Greek word sabbatismos and it means the keeping of the Sabbath, or sabbathizing. Consequently, it should have been translated as Benjamin Wilson renders it in the **Emphatic Diaglott:** "Therefore, a Sabbath rest remains for the people of [Yahweh]."

We have now discovered a tremendous Truth. Here is a commandment to keep the Sabbath recorded in the New Testament. Those who say that there is no commandment in the New Testament to keep the Sabbath are in error.

A Second Witness

Additionally, there is a second New Testament witness to the keeping of the Sabbath for our time, from the Savior's own lips. Turn to Matthew 24:20. "And pray that your flight be not in the winter, neither on a sabbath."

Yahshua the Messiah was speaking to His followers of the apostolic era. This Olivet Prophecy is for our time, as we see traumatic world events leading up to the tribulation beginning to unfold before us. Some of us will need to flee into hiding places just as did the Jerusalem Assembly before the destruction of that city in the year 70. Yahshua the Messiah directs His Assembly, "Pray that your flight be not in winter (a time when great physical hardship would occur), nor on the Sabbath day."

If the Sabbath day were set aside when He died and was resurrected, why would Yahshua tell His people

Popular Arguments Against the Seventh-Day Sabbath

- 1. "That's a Jewish day. That day was for the Jews only."

 Answer: Mark 2:27—'for man,' "And he said to them, The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath." Exodus 20:10 includes the stranger, "But the seventh day is a sabbath of Yahweh your Elohim: in it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your manservant, or your maid-servant, or your cattle, or the stranger that is within your gates."
- 2. "That's a 'law of Moses.' It's not for us."

 Answer: Exodus 31:13—Yahweh's Sabbaths, "Speak also to the children of Israel, saying, You must keep my sabbaths: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that you may know that I am Yahweh who sanctifies you."
- 3. "Every day is a Sabbath day under the New Covenant. There's NOT JUST ONE SPECIFIC DAY that's holy, all days are set apart as holy." Answer: Revelation 14:12—One of the Ten Commandments, "Here is the patience of the saints; They that keep the commandments of Yahweh, and the faith of Yahshua." Only one day of the week was made holy by Yahweh, Exodus 20:10. "Six days shall work be done; but on the seventh day is a sabbath of solemn rest, holy to Yahweh: whoever does any work on the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death." (Exodus 31:15).
- 4. "The Sabbath was changed to (the more popular) Sunday." **Answer:** By whom? No heavenly authority for such a change.
- 5. "Time has been lost—it's not possible for us to know which day is the actual seventh day of the week."

 Answer: It hasn't been—the weekly cycle can be verified as constant throughout history.
- 6. "The Sabbath was not in force until the Almighty gave Moses the Ten Commandments at Mount Sinai."
 - Answer: It was made holy at creation, Genesis 2:2-3, "And on the seventh day Elohim finished his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And Elohim blessed the seventh day, and hallowed it: because that in it he rested from all his work which Elohim had created and made." Exodus 16:23, 28, "And he said unto them, This is what Yahweh has spoken, tomorrow is a solemn rest, a holy Sabbath to Yahweh: bake what you will bake, and boil what you will boil; and all that remains over save it to be kept until the morning. . . . And Yahweh said to Moses, How long will you refuse to keep my commandments and my laws?"; Genesis 26:5, "Because Abraham obeyed my voice, and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws."
- 7. "Why isn't it found in the New Testament?"

 Answer: It is—Hebrews 4:9 (Aramaic text) and in the transliterated Greek, "There remains therefore a sabbath rest for the people of Yahweh."

The Memorial Name Yahweh, p. 44

to pray that they would not need to flee on the Sabbath? Undoubtedly, if one carried his belongings on his back, fleeing to a place of safety, he would be carrying burdens, alluding to the word **serving** ('abad). He wishes His people to rest on the Sabbath.

The Sabbath was never annulled. Yahshua the Messiah declared this Himself. The True Worshipers in the last days are those who keep the commandments of Yahweh and have a faith in Yahshua the Messiah (Revelation 12:17 and 14:12). Are you a member of that body of True Worshipers who bear these characteristics?

For those who read this passage to mean the "Chr-stian sabbath," we remind them that adding something to the Word is forbidden, Revelation 22:18-19. The Sabbath of Messiah is the seventh day of the week, commonly known as Saturday, because this is the day when Yahshua Himself worshiped. It is the day He controls, Mark 2:22.

Interestingly, the Spanish language retains the word **sabbath** for the seventh day of the week, calling that day *sabado*.

The Apostolic Assembly Kept the Sabbath

It was the custom of Yahshua the Messiah to go to the house of worship on the scriptural Sabbath, Luke 4:16. Paul also customarily worshiped on the Sabbath, Acts 17:2. There was no change of the day of worship during biblical times. Let us see how this is proved.

An enlightening passage of Scripture is found in Acts chapter 13. The Apostle Paul and his entourage of itinerant evangelists went into the synagogues in Antioch of Pisidia. There Paul preached a stirring message, proving to the Jewish congregation that their Messiah had come. Without much meditation on the subject, most of them rejected

the message, but the Gentiles, the people of the nations who were proselytes attending that service, cheerfully accepted the message. They wanted Paul to preach the same message to them the following Sabbath.

If the scriptural seventh-day Sabbath is to be observed in the Millennium, we must learn how to keep it now in this life.

If the seventh-day scriptural Sabbath had been annulled when Yahshua the Messiah died, this would have been a perfect time for Paul to advise the Gentiles of the fact. However, he did not do so. We learn that the following Sabbath nearly the whole city came together to hear the Word to Yahweh, Acts 13:44. Evidently, a very great multitude was assembled, because the Jews became jealous of Paul and began contradicting his teaching through blasphemy. The seventh day of the week, commonly observed by the Jews, continued to be observed by the apostolic Assembly.

The Sabbath in the Millennium

The Sabbath will be observed in the Millennium. "And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship be-

fore me, says Yahweh," Isaiah

If the scriptural seventh-day Sabbath is to be observed in the Millennium, we must learn how to keep it now in this life if we are to be included in the family of Yahweh who will be serving Yahshua the Messiah in His Millennial reign. This is the time of preparation for our eternal life. We are taught by the Holy Spirit how to keep the Sabbath holy. It was through Sabbath breaking that Israel and Judah were sent into captivity. Please see Jeremiah 17. We must never be guilty of doing as they did, or we will lose our salvation.

Reasons for Keeping the Sabbath

Here are eight major reasons we must observe the scriptural seventh-day Sabbath:

- 1) Yahweh commanded it.
- 2) Yahshua observed it.
- 3) The apostolic Assembly kept it.
- 4) It is a New Testament commandment.
- 5) The Sabbath is to remain forever.
- 6) It will be observed in the Millennium.
- 7) It is the sign between Yahweh and His people.
- 8) To break it would be transgressing the Law of Yahweh and, therefore, be sin, 1 John 3:4.

The Choice Is Yours

We have examined some of the more important Scriptures that lead us to keep the Sabbath holy. Will you make the decision to **obey** Almighty Yahweh and enjoy the **blessings** of keeping the Sabbath? It is a **sacred** day with many blessings to be received from keeping it. Or will you continue to break the bond of the Sabbath and break Yahweh's Law?

The choice is yours.

 $\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{N}_{\mathbf{B}}}$

PROPHETIC TRENDS



A NATION VOID OF COUNSEL

"And I will set my face against you, and you shall be defeated by your enemies: they that hate you shall rule over you; and you shall flee when none pursues you. . . . And I will break the pride of your power" (Leviticus 26:17, 19a).

"Yahweh will cause you to be defeated before your enemies; you shall go out one way against them, and shall flee seven ways before them: and you shall be tossed to and fro among all the kingdoms of the earth. And your dead body shall be food to all birds of the heavens, and to the beasts of the earth; and there shall be none to frighten them away." (Deuteronomy 28:25-26).

"And among these nations shall you find no ease, and there shall be no rest for the sole of your foot: but Yahweh will give you there a trembling heart, and failing of eyes, and pining of soul; and your life shall hang in doubt before you; and you shall fear night and day, and shall have no assurance of your life." (Deuteronomy 28:65-66).

"For they are a nation void of counsel, And there is no understanding in them. Oh that they were wise, that they understood this, That they would consider their latter end! How should one chase a thousand, And two put ten thousand to flight, Except their Rock had sold them, And Yahweh had delivered them?" (Deuteronomy 32:28-30).

Libyan Debacle

On the infamous date of September 11, 2012, our consulate in Benghazi, Libya, was attacked by

al-Qaeda-linked insurgents. During the attack, the US Ambassador Chris Stevens and three of his staff were killed. The Obama administration claimed initially that the attack was in reaction to a video produced here in the United States by an Egyptian Coptic Chr-stian. Even though President Obama admitted in a 60 Minutes interview, just days after the attack, that the murder of our ambassador in Libya was a terrorist act, the official administration position maintained that the attack was the result of the video which demeaned the Prophet Mohammed. Reports, however, continued to reveal that the attack was coordinated by al-Qaedalinked militants, since they attacked the consulate with mortar rounds and machine guns. As the consulate was in flames, the American security detail evacuated all remaining staff to a safe house nearby; however, the insurgents were informed of the location of this safe house and continued the battle there throughout the rest of the night, resulting in the deaths of two more Americans.

Reports continued to arise, however, that this was a terrorist act—not the result of an unruly mob incited to wrath by an anti-Muslim video. Perhaps the reason for this stance was founded on the premise of a campaign talking point. Throughout recent weeks, President Obama has been touting the fact that Osama bin Laden is dead and that al-Qaeda is weakening. This attack reveals that the contrary is true. Beginning a year and a half ago, a surprising number of Muslim countries, once ruled by dictators, have been overthrown in what is referred to as the "Arab Spring." This "democracy movement" has resulted

in the Muslim Brotherhood, which is sympathetic to radical Islam, taking control of these newly freed nations. Such was the case in Libya.

Certain media outlets, however, have begun to ask the Obama administration the age-old questions, "What did they know, and when did they know it?" They were able to stonewall through the November 6, 2012 election, however. As time progresses, more information is revealed that the administration has sought to downplay the real reasons for this brutal attack against our diplomats, rather than to admit that the war on terror is far from over.

Obama Re-elected

The outcome of the United States presidential election was quite sobering, as we saw the re-election of President Barack Obama to a second term as president. Many have wondered how this left-leaning politician could be re-elected in a center-right nation. Perhaps, however, this nation is not as conservative as it portrays itself to be. Even though President Obama has espoused positions which are contrary to religious-minded people—such as his position on gay marriage, abortion, and, most recently, forcing pro-life religious organizations to provide contraceptives (including those that produce an abortion)—statistics show, however, that a majority of religious-minded voters still gave him their vote. This includes many evangelicals, Catholics, and Jews. One wonders what the future holds for the United States of America. Will President Obama move toward the center. or will he remain left of center, where he has been for the past four years?

Abortion Statistics

Although the Center for Disease Control (CDC) reports in its latest *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* that abortions have fallen slightly, they still report nearly 800,000 abortions per year. Other estimates put the number at more than 1 million each year. At least 18 percent of all pregnancies in the United States end in abortion, while in some regions, such as New York and California, the rates are much higher. In California, which has the highest rate, abortions terminate one-third of all pregnancies.

"For you did form my inward parts: You did cover me in my mother's womb. I will give thanks to you; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: Wonderful are your works; And that my soul knows right well. My frame was not hidden from you, When I was made in secret, And curiously worked in the lowest parts of the earth. Your eyes did see my unformed substance; And in your book they were all written, Even the days that were ordained for me, When as yet there was none of them." (Psalm 139:13-16).

Wonderfully Made

Recent technology has allowed scientists, medical staff, and the curious-minded, to see the inside of the womb. New sonogram technology gives a three-dimensional view of the fetus. These pictures reveal fetus development and its reaction to various stimuli. Pictures have revealed babies sucking their thumbs and other movements, as well. In a recent Reuters news release, "Growing into a fully formed human being is a long process, and scientists have found that unborn babies not only hiccup, swallow, and stretch in the womb, they yawn too. Researchers who study 4D scans of 15

healthy fetuses also said they think yawning is a developmental process which could potentially give doctors a new way to check on the baby's health. While some scientists have previously suggested that fetuses yawn, others disagree and say it is nothing more than a developing baby opening and stretching its mouth."

"As you know not what is the way of the wind, nor how the bones do grow in the womb of her that is with child; even so you know not the work of Elohim who does all." (Ecclesiastes 11:5).

In another report filed by Malcolm Ritter of the **Associated Press**, "Scientists in Oregon have created embryos with genes from one man and two women, using a provocative technique that could someday be used to prevent babies from inheriting certain rare incurable diseases. The researchers at Oregon Health & Sciences University said they are not using the embryos to produce children (sic), and it is not clear when or even if this technique will be put to use. But it already stirred a debate over its risks ethics in Britain, where scientists did similar work a few years ago. The British experiments, reported in 2008, led the headlines that the possibility someday of babies with three parents. . . . Over the past few years, scientists have reported that such experiments produced healthy monkeys and that tests in human eggs showed encouraging results. The Oregon scientists reported . . . that they have produced about a dozen early human embryos and found the technique is highly effective in replacing DNA."

Isn't it paradoxical that we on one hand eliminate nearly a million fetuses each year, calling them "just a mass of cells," while on the other hand we are creating new fetuses by forcing together DNA from various donors? When will this manipulation of Yahweh's creation end—when scientists have created a modern-day Frankenstein monster? Will it end before an incurable disease, or plague, is released into the population? Certainly, our Creator is not pleased with man's tinkering with His creation. Man has been enjoined with the command to

"be fruitful and multiply"; however, this is never what our Maker intended.

Catholics Admit Falsehood

"The entire Chr-stian calendar is based on a miscalculation, the Pope has declared, as he claims in a new book that [Yahshua] was born several years earlier than commonly believed," a news report in the **Telegraph** reported. The book titled, "[Yahshua] of Nazareth: The Infancy Narratives," disclosed a mistake made by a sixth century monk. "The calculation of the beginning of our calendar—based on the birth of [Yahshua]—was made by Dionysius Exiguus, who made a mistake in his calculations by several years." Surprisingly, further admissions were forthcoming, that "[Messiah's] birthdate is not the only controversy raised by the Pope in his new book he also said that contrary to the traditional Nativity scene, there were no oxen, donkeys or other animals at [Yahshua's] birth. He also weighs in on the debate over [Messiah's] birthplace, rejecting arguments by some scholars that he was born in Nazareth rather than Bethlehem. John Barton, Professor of the Interpretation of the Holy Scripture at Oriel College, Oxford University, said most academics agreed with the Pope that the... calendar was wrong and that [Yahshua] was born several years earlier than commonly thought, probably between 6 BC/E] and 4 BC/E]. 'There is no reference to when he was born in the Bible (sic)—all we know is that he was born in the reign of Herod the Great, who died before 1 [CE], he told the Daily Telegraph. It's been surmised for a very long time that [Yahshua] was born before 1[CE]—no one knows for sure.' The idea that [Yahshua] was born on December 25 also has no basis in historical fact. 'We don't even know which season he was born in. The whole idea of celebrating his birth during the darkest part of the year is probably linked to pagan traditions and the winter solstice." (Emphasis ours.) What a ground-shaking admission! Of course, we know when our Savior was born! He was born on the first day of the Feast of Tabernacles and circumcised on the Last Great Day (Matthew 1:21).

"And he said to them, Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honors me with their lips, But their heart is far from me. But in vain do they worship me, Teaching as their doctrines the precepts of men. You leave the commandment of Elohim, and hold fast the tradition of men. And he said to them, Full well do you reject the commandment of Elohim, that you may keep your tradition." (Mark 7:6-9).

Per-Person Debt Skyrockets

"US per person debt now 35 percent higher than that of Greece," heralded the headline in the Weekly Standard. "A chart from the Republican side of the Senate Budget Committee shows that US per person debt is now 35 percent higher than that of *Greece.* According to estimates from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), America's total government debt will be 16.8 trillion by the end of the calendar year, compared to \$441 billion for Greece ... On a per person basis, that means US debt is \$53,400 for every man, woman, and child, compared to \$39,400 for every man, woman, and child in Greece. The disparity between the per capita debt in the US and in Greece has grown 40 percent (roughly \$8400) since 2011. Now, US per person debt is 35 percent higher than that of Greece, and is also higher than the per capita debt in Portugal, Italy, or Spain. . . . "

IMF (International Monetary Fund) calculates these figures based on total government debt, which is federal, state, and local government debt. IMF does not include intragovernmental debt, which is debt issued and owned by the federal government. However, Treasury data

shows US government gross federal debt, including intragovernmental debt, but excluding state and local debt, at 16.2 trillion, meaning the US per-person federal debt exceeds total Greek debt by an even wider margin (as well as that of every other Eurozone nation). Under the President's budget, gross federal debt will rise to \$25.4 trillion by 2022, according to White House projections. Meanwhile, Senate Democrats have refused to present any budget plan for consideration at all, skirting federal law.

Shall we write them a check for the balance due? We would have to use the same rubber check that the government uses!

UN To Criminalize "Homophobia"?

"Homosexual advocates in Brazil have been joined by a coalition of United Nation's groups in an effort to pressure the nation to criminalize "homophobia" under the guise that such "prejudices" are a hindrance to AIDS prevention programs. A recent study tested the Brazilian population for "homophobia" by asking people to comment on such statements as: [Yahweh] made men and women with different sexes so that they could fulfill their role and have children. Brazilians who agreed partially or completely with the statement were labeled "homophobic." Based on the overall results of the study, the Brazilian government determined that 99 percent of its citizens were "homophobic" and therefore should be reeducated," explained Julio Severo. "... The adoption of measures to battle "homophobia," including plans such as a proposed... law to make "homophobic" views "crimes." Critics contend the bill's approval would censor religious leaders and group members who would mention anti-sodomy Bible verses even within [religious] buildings," a World Net Daily (WND) exclusive reported.

Suicide Watch

"Suicide is the cause of more deaths than car crashes, according to an alarming new study. The number of people who commit suicide in the US has drastically increased while deaths from car accidents have dropped, making suicide the leading cause of injury death. Suicides via falls or poisoning have risen significantly, and experts fear that there could be many more unaccounted for, particularly in cases of overdose. Suicides are terribly undercounted,' said Ian Rockett, author of the study published... in the American Journal of Public **Health**. "I think the problem is much worse than official data would lead us to believe. We have a situation that has gotten out of hand." He added that his goal is to see the same attention paid to other injuries as has been paid to reducing the number of deaths in traffic accidents. Researchers noted a 25 percent decrease in fatal car accidents, while deaths from falls rose 71 percent, poisoning are up 128 percent, and [deaths from] suicide increased 15 percent. Suicide is now the most frequent cause of injury deaths, followed by car crashes, poisoning, falls, and murder.

Sweet Water?

Lake Erie has long been the target of pollutant research, but now Mercyhurst University scientists added sucralose to the list. Scientists claim that sucralose, an artificial sweetener, passes through the body with as much as 95 percent being excreted into the water. Although the chemical is not toxic to humans, its effect on the environment is unknown. The Mercyhurst researchers are striving to understand what these impacts could be, including altered water taste and biological health effects. The University's statement also pointed out that sucralose could trick organisms in the environment into thinking that food supply is adequate, leading to decreased foraging.

Years ago, water tests in the Swatara Creek near Hershey, Pennsylvania, found that the water contained high levels of hormones and residual elements from birth control pills; fish abnormalities were noted as well.

Cliffhanger

Much discussion in recent weeks has centered around a possible "fiscal cliff" that looms at the end of December 2012. This "fiscal cliff" is set to occur at the turn of the year, when taxes will increase. Tax rates, which have been in effect since President George Bush was in office, will expire, raising income taxes on all Americans. Social Security payroll taxes will also return to their previous level of 6.2 percent of income, as well. Federal spending will also be cut \$106 billion in 2013, with reductions evenly divided between defense and non-defense spending. Many economists have wondered aloud whether the impact of these tax increases will cause the economy to slip back into recession or depression.

Skip Chr-stmas!

"Despite a whittling away of consumer debt that has been underway since the recession, many Americans are still entering the holiday season unprepared to cope with the expenses that crop up around this time of year," according to a published report by CNBC news editor, Christina Cheddar Berk. "Some 45 percent of those polled said the holiday season brings so much financial pressure, they would prefer to skip it altogether. Almost half said their level of stress related to holiday expenses is high or extremely high. That's probably because nearly the same amount—some 45 percent—say they do not have enough money set aside to cover holiday expenses.

"It's easy to understand why the holidays are a source of worry when you consider how many Americans are living paycheck to paycheck. About 41 percent said they would be able to get by for two weeks without a paycheck, while an additional 25 percent say they can only survive a month. The holidays are expected to only make the situation worse. About 59 percent of those in the survey expected to carry debt with them into the new year, including more than half—some 54 percent—of those who earn more than \$100,000 a year." If only everyone would keep the Law of Yahweh, instead of vain and pagan practices!

"Thus says Yahweh, Learn not the way of the nations, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the nations are dismayed at them. For the customs of the peoples are vanity; for one cuts a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman with the axe." (Jeremiah 10:2-3).

The Kingdom is Coming!

Many of us, since our youth, have recited the Savior's Model Prayer. Following a blessing on the sanctification of Yahweh's Name, we petition Yahweh to send His Kingdom speedily to the earth. This millennial Kingdom will prevail for a thousand years, set up by Yahshua the Messiah at His Second Coming. Righteousness will then be established as the order of the day, and the earth will witness a return to the Edenic paradise that was lost through sin. During His ministry here on earth, our Savior preached the coming Kingdom of Yahweh that would be set up here on this earth. The Kingdom of Yahweh will be an amazing and wonderful era, unimaginable to the human mind. What a wonderful day that will be when the Kingdom is established!

Flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of Yahweh, neither can the unrepentant sinner, but the overcomer, who lives faithfully for Yahweh, shall inherit the Kingdom. Those who overcome will be given the ability to eat of the tree of life in Yahweh's Paradise; they will not be hurt of the second death, but they will live and reign with Yahshua the Messiah for a thousand years, during the Millennium. It is our duty to live an overcoming life, preparing ourselves for the Second Coming of Yahshua the Messiah. By keeping the commandments of Yahweh—by calling upon the Name of Yahweh-then we will have the hope of being accepted into Yahweh's Kingdom. Almighty Yahweh wants to prove each one of us, whether we will heed and live by His Word, or whether we will reject our Maker and the salvation that is offered to us in the Name of His Son. On which side will you be found?

"Take heed, watch and pray: for you know not when the time is. It is as when a man, sojourning in another country, having left his house, and given authority to his servants, to each one his work, commanded also the porter to watch. Watch therefore: for you know not when the master of the house comes, whether at evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrowing, or in the morning; lest coming suddenly he should find you sleeping. And what I say to you I say to all, Watch." (Mark 13:33-37).

"But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts should be overcharged with debauchery, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that day come on you suddenly as a snare: for so shall it come upon all them that dwell on the face of all the earth. But watch you at every season, making supplication, that you may prevail to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man." (Luke 21:34-36).

"... Nevertheless, when the Son of man comes, shall he find faith on the earth?" (Luke 18:8b).

Basic Truths of Bible Doctrine

FIRST	SECOND	THIRD	FOUR ⁻	ТН	FIFT	Н	SIX	тн	SABE	BATH
			1	Day 32	2	Day 33	3	Day 34	4	Day 35
			_		_				_	
			2 Chronicles 29-3	32	2 Chronicles 33-	36	Ezra 1-3		Ezra 4-6	
Day 36	Day	Day 38	Q	Day 39	0	Day 40	10	Day 41	11	Day 42
5	0	_ / _	0		9		10			
Ezra 7-10	Nehemiah 1-3	Nehemiah 4-6	Nehemiah 7-9		Nehemiah 10-13	3	Esther 1-3		Esther 4-6	
19 Day 43	13 Day	44	15	Day 46	16	Day 47	17	Day 48	18	Day 49
*New Moon	13	14	15		10		1 /		10	
Sivan										
Esther 7-10	Job 1-3	Job 4-6	Job 7-9		Job 10-12		Job 13-15		Job 16-18	
19 DAY 50	20	21	22		23		24		25	

PINPOINTING THE SABBATH

HAS THE SEVENTH DAY BEEN LOST?

As the Bible student begins his study of the inspired Scriptures and proves the necessity for keeping one day of each week holy, he is confronted with deciding which day to observe. Your Bible clearly shows that the seventh day of the week is the Sabbath of Yahweh (Exodus 20:10 and 31:15). We must, therefore, keep holy the seventh day of the week. How can we accurately identify this specific day? Has it been lost over the many centuries since the commandment was given? Can we be confident that the seventh day on our current calendar is the true, scriptural Sabbath?

Yahshua Kept the True Sabbath

From Luke 4:16 we learn that Yahshua the Messiah kept the

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

true Sabbath. "And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and he entered, as his custom was, into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up to read." Since He was the creator of the Sabbath, He knew which day to keep. Mark 2:28 states: "So that the Son of man is Master even of the sabbath." Yahshua, as our example, kept the correct day.

In New Testament times there was no question about which was the true, seventh-day, scriptural Sabbath. Yahshua and the apostolic Assembly worshiped on the day we commonly call "Saturday." To this day, the Jews have never lost

track of that day, but they continue to acknowledge and worship on it. Additionally, there have always been Messianic believers who have kept the weekly seventh-day Sabbath from the earliest New Testament age.

Nominal Chr-stians Keep the First Day

The members of the original apostolic Assembly were frequently called **Nazarenes**, Acts 24:5. Historically, these people who constituted the remnant of the apostolic Assembly were reported to be keeping the Sabbath as late as 375 C.E. You may verify this in the **Encyclopaedia Britannica** article, "Nazarenes." They were expelled from Jerusalem for their belief in the Messiah.

Edward Gibbon explains an interesting occurrence in his book, **The History of Chr-stianity** (New York, Peter Eckler, 1891) pp. 114-120. The apostolic Assembly departed from Jerusalem in 69 C.E., just before the destruction of the Temple. Some Nazarenes eventually were allowed to return by changing their day of worship to the first day of the week.

Here is a crucial point that gives us tangible reference information. To this day, Chr-stians keep the first day of the week holy, which is described in the **Edict of Constantine** as "the venerable day of the sun": the Chr-stian Sunday.

Canon 29 of the Laodicean Council renders the decision that Chr-stians should keep the first day of the week. This first day of the week always followed the seventh day, which is the scriptural Sabbath to which the Bible refers. Therefore, Chr-stians freely acknowledge that they observe the first day of the week in honor of the Savior's resurrection; whereas, the Jews are still keeping the seventh day—the day immediately preceding. Yahshua was not resurrected on the first day of the week, but at the end of the Sabbath, Matthew 28:1.

Weekly Cycle Never Disturbed

Some people conclude that the sequence of days in the weekly cycle was distorted in ancient Rome by the introduction of an 8-day, or a 10-day week. However, remember that the Jews were not influenced in any way by this Roman week. Yahshua the Messiah kept the weekly seventh day of worship with the Jews in the synagogue (Luke 4:16), supporting its veracity through His worship on that day. Since Yahshua's time, the Jews have continued keeping the seventh day of the week through persecution and adversity. Consequently, we are assured that the weekly cycle remained identical with that of Yahshua's time.

In order to disprove the current weekly cycle, one would have to find a distortion occurring after the year 321, and this cannot be proved. To our day, the Chr-stian Sunday remains the first day of the the seventh day of the week by its correct name—**Sabbath** (Spanish-sabado).

Calendar Change Preserved Weekly Cycle

Some who do not wish to acknowledge that the seventh day of

Pinpointing a False Doctrine

Throughout the years, various false doctrines have been promulgated by those who resist the keeping of the seventh-day Sabbath. Moving away from sound doctrine, they accept a false doctrine that is proof-texted from Scripture. One of the false doctrines that has reemerged recently is that the Sabbath day is to be counted from the new moon.

When the Gregorian calendar was adopted in 1582 (and thereafter), the date changed, but the day did not. The last day of the Julian calendar was Thursday, October 4, 1582. This was followed by the first day of the Gregorian calendar, which was Friday, October 15, 1582. We must remember, however, that the date changed, but the day did not. This date change comprised the deletion of 10 days; the cycle of weekdays was not affected at all. This can be proven easily by looking it up in an encyclopedia.

Most importantly, the moon (and, consequently, the new moon) was not created until the fourth day of the creation week! How then could the Sabbath be counted from day four, when the moon was created, Genesis 1:14-19? The lesser light, the moon, was created to rule the night. It's intended use was for "signs, and for seasons, and for days and years." After Yahweh completed His labor for this day, He saw that it was good, yet nowhere in the Scripture does it indicate that the Sabbath is to be counted from this point. Counting the Sabbath from the new moon will result in transgressing the only day that Yahweh has sanctified, blessed, and set apart for rest. Why should someone add to the Law of Yahweh regarding this weekly feast day, which is to be a sign (mark) between Yahweh and His people?

Finally, if one is to count the Sabbath day from the new moon, then our Savior, who was impaled on the 14th (Passover day), could not have been raised at the end of the Sabbath day, three days and three nights later! This false doctrine denies the only sign that our Savior gave of His Messiahship! Yahshua the Messiah rested in the tomb for three full days and three full nights (72 hours), and any teaching that deviates from this interpretation denies the only sign that our Savior gave that He was the Messiah (Matthew 12:39-40, 16:4 and Luke 11:29-30). See also Matthew 26:61, 27:40, 27:63; Mark 8:31, 14:58, 15:29; and John 2:19-20.

Are those who question the veracity of the seventh-day Sabbath (commonly called Saturday) anti-Semitic?

week. The so-called Jewish Sabbath continues as the seventh day of the week. Various languages, such as Spanish, continue to designate

the week is the Sabbath of Yahweh support their position by pointing to the calendar change that was made in 1582. Many areas of the medieval world retained the Julian calendar. Pope Gregory of Rome discovered that a discrepancy had been incorporated into the Julian chronology, and, therefore, he devised what is known as the Gregorian calendar to correct this error. Up to our time, the Greek Orthodox religion retains the Julian calendar and this is why their holidays differ from Western Chr-stianity, which has followed the Gregorian calendar.

By 1582, an 11-day discrepancy had accumulated, and, therefore, the Western nations decided that a calendar change was imperative. The governing authorities determined that Thursday, October 4, 1582, would be the last day the Julian calendar would be their chronological standard. The following day would become Friday, October 15, 1582, and from thenceforth the Gregorian calendar would be the universal chronological record.

Do you comprehend what took place? Although the **dates** on the, calendar changed, **the sequence of the days of the week was never disturbed**. They remained the same as they were in Yahshua the Messiah's time and previously. Down to our time, no government regulation has influenced the weekly cycle of days.

Exodus 16 Disproves Friday Sabbath Keeping

Astonishing as this may seem to some, there are people who believe that Friday is the scriptural Sabbath. In this they are following the guidance of the Moslem religion, because Islam observes Friday—which Moslems claim is holy, because Adam (man) was created on that day. However, the inspired Scriptures will not support such doctrines.

They go to Exodus 16 in an effort to prove Friday to be the Sabbath. Let us study the chapter carefully to determine for ourselves which day is the correct scriptural seventh-day Sabbath.

When Israel reached the wilderness of Sin, between Elim and Sinai, it was the 15th day of the second month after their departure from the land of Egypt. Lusting for the good times they had enjoyed in Egypt, Israel began to complain to Moses and Aaron. Almighty Yahweh then demonstrated which day was the scriptural Sabbath by providing *manna* from heaven to nourish His hungry people for six days, but supplying none on the Sabbath.

Notice that Israel took their journey from Elim and came into the wilderness on the 15th day of the second month, after their departing out of Egypt. This is very accurate dating. Notice on the accompanying calendar chart that this was a scriptural Sabbath day. Undoubtedly, when Israel arrived it was at evening, the beginning of the Sabbath. On that Sabbath day, the congregation complained to Moses. Almighty Yahweh promised to supply meat in the evening and manna the following morning.

It is of vital importance in understanding these datings to remember that **the biblical day begins in the evening, at sundown**. Confirm this for yourself by reading Genesis 1, Leviticus 23:32, and Mark 1:32.

The evening of the 15th of Ziv was the beginning of the Sabbath. The following day was the first day of the week. In the evening after the Sabbath ended, quails came into the camp. Between sunset and dark, Israel captured an abundance of these fowl. The following morning, the dew lay about the camp, and Israel collected manna, which the Bible says was like hoarfrost. For six days they gathered manna, but none was given on the seventh. This was the biblical Sabbath, which you can accurately confirm by reading the chapter.

During the succeeding weeks, Israel journeyed to Rephidim and won an amazing military victory against the Amalekites. They continued their journey and came within sight of the Mount of Elohim. It was there that Moses received a visit from Jethro, his father-in-law, the priest of Midian.

The next dating we find is in Exodus 19:1. This was in the third Hebrew month, Sivan, The same day of the week on which they had departed from Egypt they came into the wilderness of Sinai and encamped before the Mount of Elohim. The accompanying chart proves this, just as the Bible declares. By following through on the days as they are explained, we discover we are right on target. Here we have proved the seventh day of the week (Sabbath) that is observed today to be the same day of the week that it was in ancient times. The Friday Sabbath is fallacious. Rather, our seventh day of the week is the Sabbath of Yahweh.

Conclusion

Almighty Yahweh has never left Himself without witnesses. All that He has done has been exposed for those who are diligently researching and seeking to serve Him and obey without reservation. We have seen that proof of the scriptural seventhday Sabbath may be obtained by careful research and reasoning from the Word of Yahweh.

It is proved beyond a shadow of a doubt which day is the scriptural seventh-day Sabbath. After you have proved the veracity of this day and pinpointed the specific day of the week on which it occurs, you are obligated to keep it. May we be of further assistance to you? Write today for your free copy of our article: The Fourth Commandment Enigma. Whenever possible, plan to attend services with the Assemblies of Yahweh congregation. People of good will are always welcome. S_{N_R}

PROVING THE SEVENTH-DAY SABBATH HARMONIZING BIBLICAL DATES

FIRST	SECOND	THIRD	FOURTH	FIFTH	SIXTH	SABBATH
ABIB 4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Ex. 12:3
11	12	13	Ex. 12:6-39 14 Passover	Unleavened Bread Holy 15 Day Ex. 13; Num. 33:3	16	17
18	19	20	Unleavened Bread Holy 21 Day Ex. 14-15	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1 ZIV
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Ex. 16:1
Ex. 16:11-13 [eve.] 16 Ex. 16:14 [morn.]	17	18	19	20	21 Ex. 16:22-23	22 Ex. 16:24-30
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	SIVAN 1	2	3	4 Ex. 19:1, 10, 11	5	6 Ex. 19:16-24:3
Ex. 24:4-11, 12-15 Pentecost 7 Shavuoth	8	9	10	11	12	13 Ex. 24:13-16

Abib 10—(Exodus 12:3): Israel selected their Passover lamb.

Abib 14—(Exodus 12:6-39): Israel observed the Passover at evening in their homes in Goshen. The firstborn of Egypt were slain at midnight. Israel journeyed toward their place of appointed assembly after spoiling the Egyptians.

Abib 15—(Exodus 13, Numbers 33:3): Israel gathers at the city of Rameses at evening for their departure from Egypt on the day following the Passover, all in one assembled convocation.

Abib 21—(Exodus 14-15): Israel enters the cul de sac beside the Red Sea and is miraculously saved when the sea opens, allowing them to cross. Moses and Miriam sing their song of triumph as the maidens dance in rejoicing.

Ziv 15—(Exodus 16:1): Israel journeyed from Elim and encamped in

the Wilderness of Sin, between Elim and Sinai. The whole congregation complained about the lack of food. **Ziv 16**—(Exodus 16:11-13): Quails are provided for meat in the evening. **Ziv 16**—(Exodus 16:14): *Manna* is provided in the morning, and for the next five days of the week.

Ziv 21—(Exodus 16:22-23): Moses directs that the sixth day of the week be the preparation for the Sabbath. On preparation day, twice as much *manna* was to be gathered as on a regular day with sufficient preserved for the Sabbath.

Ziv 22—(Exodus 16:24-30): Israel rested on the Sabbath, and no *manna* was provided, revealing the weekly holy day of Yahweh. Some of the disobedient went into the field to seek *manna*, but found none. Miraculously, the *manna* kept overnight did not spoil.

Sivan 4—(Exodus 19:1, 10-11): Israel entered the wilderness of Sinai. They are told to prepare themselves to meet with Yahweh on the third day by sanctifying themselves.

Sivan 6—(Exodus 19:16 - 24:3): Yahweh appeared on Mount Sinai the third day and spoke His Covenant to Israel. They ran away from this awesome sight. Moses served as the intermediary, receiving the remainder of the Covenant document.

Sivan 7—(Exodus 24:4-11, 12-15): Israel ratified the Covenant with Yahweh. The priests and seventy elders sealed it by having lunch with Elohim. Moses remained on the mount with Elohim for six days. **Sivan 13**—(Exodus 24:13-16): Elohim spoke to Moses on the seventh day, giving him the pattern of the tabernacle.

Elder Jacob O. Meyer



THE SACRED NAME BROADCAST



RADIO MESSAGE

THE WORLDLY HOLIDAYS

Some years ago, this minister of the Assemblies of Yahweh, with a radio broadcast on a small station here in the East, prepared a tape-recorded message to be used during the week just prior to Xmas in which he explained the origin of the customs associated with the celebration. As was his custom, he monitored the station to hear the broadcast and to see how it was presented. Instead of his sermon, a program of recorded music was presented without any explanation made over the air. He immediately drove to the station offices to inquire about the reason for the obvious oversight. Upon making his inquiry with the station manager concerning the reason why his sermon was deleted, the reply was, "We can't play a tape like that during the

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

Chr-stmas season. We have a great many merchants advertising, and we might lose some of them if they heard that message." With this opinionated decision, this prejudiced station manager censored Bible Truth and refused to allow it to reach the public, which needed to learn the origins of the customs that they observe so avidly at the Chr-stmas season.

Such a situation could hardly develop today, since the F.C.C. currently has rather strict rules in force relative to freedom of speech. This incident is true; it actually happened in a small town near my home.

If you are a steady listener to The Sacred Name Broadcast, you will remember that I read over the air the passage from Jeremiah chapter 10, wherein Almighty Yahweh, our Heavenly Father, in no uncertain terms condemns the use of an ornamented tree which has been cut out of the forest and fastened down in, or near, our homes. You should examine these customs carefully for yourself and learn where they originated. Usually, at every major holiday season you will notice an article, perhaps published in the Sunday paper, explaining just where the seasonal customs of the various holidays originated and what they represent. However, this is about all the good it does, as the readers of the articles fulfill the prophecy of Isaiah 29:10 and Romans 11:8.

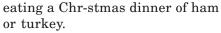
which reads, "Yahweh gave them spirit of stupor, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear, to this very day."

Perhaps you are just as guilty as I was of reading some of these explanatory articles and then going right ahead and doing them anyway. Even after knowing that they are repulsive to our Heavenly Father and unacceptable in His pure worship, we simply followed the crowd! Today I wonder how I could have been so blind and ignorant.

Everything that I am about to show here is not of my own invention. If you care to come to my home, or visit the Assemblies of Yahweh Headquarters Offices, I can produce documentation to substantiate my statements. I think that it is about time for the world to come out of the darkness of superstition and ignorance and learn just where the customs that they follow have originated. Then it is up to us to eradicate these pagan customs from our lives, so that our worship of our Father in heaven may be pure and acceptable to Him, according to His Word.

Did you know that the ancient pagans also had yule logs, Chr-

stmas cookies, Chr-stmas trees, boar's head festivals, geese for Chr-stmas dinner, the wassailing bowl, Chr stmas candles, and mistletoe, etc., and that they were observing these customs many hundreds (even thousands) of years before our Savior and Messiah was born? If I asked you to produce the commandments from the Bible to substantiate your own observance of these customs, could you do it? I could not, because in all the New Testament accounts of the Savior's birth there is not one recorded instance of a Chr-stmas tree, of Santa Claus giving gifts, of holding office parties, or even



When we look at recorded history and learn that these customs were all, without exception, derived from pagan worship associated with ancient Nimrod, it should become our endeavor to stop doing these things which are repulsive to our Heavenly Father, or we just could be denied eternal salvation.

This ancient Babylonian character, Nimrod, became the false Messiah which the world is worshipping today. We find in Genesis 10:8-11 the one recorded biblical reference to him. He was a rebel, who was a mighty hunter of men, before

> (in opposition to) Yahweh. He founded the empires of Babylonia and Assyria. This then is the reason that the religious worship of these two great world-ruling empires was so closely identified



with each other. Legend tells us that this man was so wicked that he married his own mother and that his wife bore a reincarnation of him after his death, giving birth to the new SON on December 25. He was reputed to have been so wicked that his great uncle Shem had to execute him.

From this rebellious individual originated many of the customs with which Chr-stianity today worships the Messiah. It is a documented fact that Chr-stmas, Easter, and the other holidays which are commonly observed by Chr-stendom today were never celebrated until 300 to 400 years after Yahshua the Messiah, the True Savior, died. Even such dedicated seekers who endeavored to restore pure religion, the early Pilgrims and





cut down, and a serpent entwined itself around the dead stump. The dead trunk of the tree b e came t h e yule log. Upon giving birth to a son, Nimrod's wife-moth-Purier Semiramis tans invented the who setlegend that a new tled New tree

larger and more fashionable chrches of that city. The article went on to describe how in England the bringing into a ch-rch of the boar's head on a large platter on Chr-stmas eve had been a common practice for hundreds of years. Now, the article continued, it had been renewed, although it had not been conducted previously in that particular ch-rch. If only these people had bothered to do a little research on the subject, they would have learned that mythology states that Adonis or Thammuz (who were sun deities) were supposed to have been killed by a boar's tusk; consequently, a boar is sacrificed to them at their birthday (at the winter solstice). In a similar custom, the eating of a goose at the Chr-istmas day feast is a perpetuation of the ancient pagan worship. In Egyptian hieroglyphics,

England, along with my own ancestors who settled in Pennsylvania in the early 1700s, never celebrated Chr-stmas at all. In actuality, my own family only began to make a Chr-stmas celebration during my own lifetime. It was only after I was about six or seven years old that we had a Chr-stmas tree in our home.

If you have grandparents living today who live in a rural area and are concerned about observing pure worship, you might ask them how long it is that people have been engaging in such an avid observance of Chr-stmas. I am certain that upon thinking it over they would inform you that it has only been since the time when the mass advertising media emerged, which exploits the ignorance of the people, making it appear that if you do not include yourself in the Xmas celebration, you will appear as one who is uninformed, someone who is a bit strange, or eccentric.

The Chr-stmas tree is derived from the ancient tradition that after Nimrod was killed, a tree near his home died. This tree was

of a different species sprang from it's stump. In Egypt this was the palm tree, while in ancient Rome the people used the fir tree much as they do in our time. The serpent refers to the worship of Aesculapius (the physician), or the original demon worship, hence the term tannenbaum. The Hebrew word tannen means dragon; therefore, tannenbaum actually means dragon (or Satan) tree.

A few years ago when I was traveling through a Midwestern city of considerable size, I was shocked to find a newspaper account of the revival of the boar's head festival held in one of the



the goose meant child or son, while in ancient Babylon it was a symbol of mysticism.

Would you believe that our own national thanksgiving celebration has it's roots in false doctrine? This is a fact, and you may prove it out of your own Bible. As I stated previously when teaching about the feasts of Yahweh, the thanksgiving observance which is acceptable to Almighty Yahweh is the Feast of Tabernacles.

However, after the 10 northern Israelite tribes had rebelled against the rule of the dynasty established by King David, during the coronation of Rehoboam, Solomon's son, Jeroboam, a court official, had come to Rehoboam and asked for tax relief for his nation. Jeroboam soon assumed the rulership of Israel. He became fearful that when the people of Israel would journey to Jerusalem to observe the scripturally commanded holy days, the priests would sway the conviction of the people so that they would revert to the rule of the Davidic dynasty and would restore the throne in Jerusalem. In order to block this anticipated subversion by the priests to his own rule, Jeroboam placed two calves in Bethel and in Dan. He then decreed that the feasts be observed in northern Israel. This appeared to be the origin of the concept that everyone could worship the Almighty according to the dictates of their own conscience and wherever they pleased.

Let us read this account from 1 Kings 12:32-33. "And Jeroboam ordained a feast in the eighth

Today, the average person in our land is complacent and unconcerned, choosing rather to go along with the crowd than to stand alone for Truth.

month, on the fifteenth day of the month, like the feast that is in Judah, and he went up to the altar; so he did in Beth-el, sacrificing to the calves that he had made: and he placed in Beth-el the priests of the high places that he had made. And he went up to the altar which he had made in Beth-el on the fifteenth day in the eighth month, even in the month which he had devised of his own heart: and he ordained a feast for the children of Israel, and went up

to the altar, to burn incense."

Did you know that when the people of the United States began to observe the third Thursday of the month of November as Thanksgiving Day, they have often observed Jeroboam's thanksgiving, since it usually

fell during the time from the fifteenth to the twenty-first day of the eighth month. Almighty Yahweh has set aside His time for thanksgiving, the Feast of Tabernacles! This is holy time! Men cannot change it! Even though they might ordain a set time themselves, it is unacceptable to Yahweh, the Heavenly Father. In our time, our president and the ministers of the ch-rches with regularity exhort the people to give thanks to the Heavenly Father at the national Thanksgiving Day, but most of the people rarely do! Perhaps we should return to the thanksgiving of the Pilgrims Fathers who observed it in early October, which would approximate the time of the scripturally appointed Feast of Tabernacles.

I might continue on and point out the pagan influence which has today become so prevalent throughout Chr-stianity, because the people have turned aside from the pure worship of Almighty Yahweh, as laid down for us in the inspired Scriptures. It appears that too often the spirit of compromise prevails, and the missionary zeal of the people attempts to meet paganism halfway. Even such early ch-rch fathers as Chrysostom and Tertulion cried out against these pagan practices which were creeping into the early apostolic Assembly of their time.

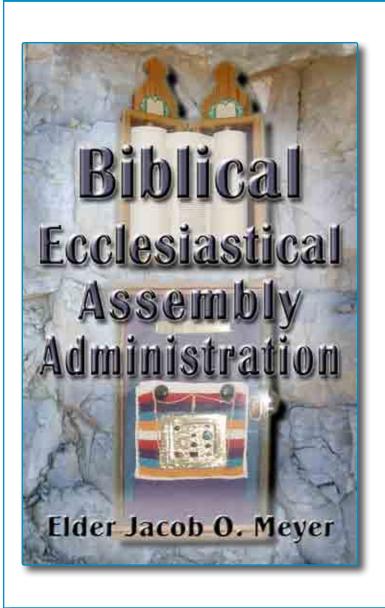
Today, the average person in our land is complacent and unconcerned, choosing rather to go along with the crowd than to stand alone for Truth as, for instance, Daniel did. Most people even become indignant when these truths are presented to them. They demand to know, "Who are you, that you can impeach our integrity in our worship?" Yet, these are the unvarnished facts, and you can prove them to yourself, if you are interested in serving the Heavenly Father out of a pure heart and conscience. Why not begin your search for this Truth today? May we help you to find the Narrow Pathway to life eternal?



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Biblical Ecclesiastical Assembly Administration

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