

June-July 1999

THE  
**Sabbath**  
**Sentinel**

PROMOTING THE SEVENTH-DAY SABBATH AND COOPERATION AMONG SABBATH KEEPERS

*Except Ye Change...*



*Are We As Acceptable  
As This Child?*

BSA

The Bible Sabbath Association

Review: *Keeping the Sabbath* • *Breaking the Sabbath* • From Where I Stand • *The Road Not Taken* • A Great Memorial Day • *BSA Scholarship essays* • What Are You? • *Unless You Change*

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# The Sabbath Sentinel

June-July 1999 Volume 51, No. 2, Issue No. 477

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# *Children, An Education in Innocence*

The qualities of a child are qualities that Our Lord, Jesus Christ pointed out to us that we needed to adopt. He pointed this out in the context of the disciples seeking who would be the greatest in the kingdom of God. We can read about this in Matthew 18, beginning in verse 1. Here's what Jesus said, "At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, *Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?* And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, And said, *Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me. But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea.*" (KJV).

The warning that the disciples might not enter the kingdom of heaven is one that should startle us into action. We too are disciples of Jesus Christ. We became a disciple when we accepted the calling that came to us from the Father, through the auspices of Christ's sacrifice. Christ gave us a part of that criteria when He told us about the trait we would exhibit that would let others know that we are His disciple. That trait is love. It is the first trait listed as a fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). It is also one trait that is demonstrated by children.

Yet, in this day and time, being like a child is one thing that could cause us great problems. How can we reconcile these words of Christ with our current societal ills, without being run over? What changes can we make in our lives that would allow us to incorporate those attributes of a child? What are the spe-

cific changes that we need to make if we are to become like a little child? When should we expect to see these characteristics manifest themselves in us? Which trait of a child do we already see manifested in the changes God promised to make in us? These are all questions we need to ask ourselves, as we examine ourselves to see if we are in the faith.

This issue of The Sabbath Sentinel has been largely devoted to the insight that can be garnered from children. Sarah Roney, an 18 year old living in Wisconsin, submitted an article that puts into words her feelings after the Littleton Colorado shootings. The love she has for mankind comes shining through in her concern about the path her generation has chosen.

Also in this issue, we have the winners of the Bible Sabbath Association scholarships and the runners-up. These youth discuss plans they have for their future. It is our hope that you will find their optimism encouraging and enlightening, a look into the heart of a child.

Mandie Nickels, who is a 14 year old Sabbath keeping Christian, provides more insight with her articles about the use of words, and about being a light in a dark world. Her love and concern for her friends and acquaintances comes shining through clearly.

Of course, articles about the Sabbath continue in this issue. We never want to lose sight of the wonderful gift our Creator God gave us at the founding of this world. Also, we hope to include articles that will help us use this wonderful day even more effectively, in the future. So, enjoy this month's articles! If you have any comments, positive or negative, or recommendations for articles that you would like to see, please feel free to contact us at the address on the facing page, or by the email address listed as well!

# Keeping the Sabbath; Breaking the Sabbath

BY RICHARD C. NICKELS

How did the Worldwide Church of God get to its present position, that the seventh - day Sabbath is no longer a requirement for Christians? In the Twentieth Century, Herbert W. Armstrong and his Worldwide Church of God promoted the Sabbath in a powerful way, throughout the world. After Armstrong's death in 1986, his successor Joseph Tkach led an assault on all of Armstrong's teachings. This attack resulted in an abandonment of teaching that the Sabbath is a commandment of God, acceptance of the Trinity, Christmas and Easter, and in short, a wholesale departure from nearly every one of Armstrong's distinctive teachings. Some Worldwide Church of God congregations today meet on Sunday, or other days of the week. They believe that no day of the week is holy time.

How did this change come about? It did not start after 1986. It began decades earlier. Paul Royer, one of the leading ministers in Pasadena for many years, left the Worldwide Church of God in 1975 and currently heads The

Church of God, Sonoma in California. In a 1976 sermon tape entitled "Keeping the Sabbath," Royer claims that breaking the Sabbath was the beginning of the downfall of the Worldwide Church of God. Royer maintains that one of the major ways we show our respect for God is how we keep the Sabbath.

even commandeered the Church pilot to fly him in to hunt on the Sabbath. According to Royer, both Garner Ted and Herbert Armstrong broke the Sabbath for years. HWA watched the Lakers play basketball on the Sabbath. According to a man in the Northeast, in the 1960s, Evangelist Raymond Cole asked Church vol-

## **Some Worldwide Church of God congregations today meet on Sunday, or other days of the week. They believe that no day of the week is holy time.**

In the late 1960s, Royer noticed students jogging at Ambassador College just before sundown on Friday evening, and others shopping at El Rancho supermarket on Sabbath afternoon. He remarked to his friend Rod Meredith, "Give us 15-20 years, and this Church will not even know the Sabbath." Meredith thought it would take 40 years.

Garner Ted Armstrong hunted on the Sabbath, and at one time

unteers to work on the Sabbath in order to complete the Mt. Pocono, Pennsylvania, feast site in time for the festival. Workers for the "House for God" auditorium in Pasadena worked on the Sabbath. When the workers were behind schedule, Herbert Armstrong commissioned Sabbath overtime work at overtime pay, in order to have the building finished in time. When I worked in Big Sandy in 1972, construction workers were laboring as we entered the building for Sabbath services. When I questioned the ministers about this practice, they said that the Church had a contract with the construction company, and the Church could not dictate their working hours. Years

**I had no problem enforcing the rule that workers quit at 4:00 PM on Friday. After all, I was paying the bill!**

later, when I personally had some major repair work done on my house, I had no problem enforcing the rule that workers quit at 4:00 PM on Friday. After all, I was paying the bill! The ministers had lied to me.

Paul Royer asks the question: "Can you keep the knowledge and fear of God without keeping the Sabbath?" His answer is "NO!" Israel went into captivity for breaking the Sabbath, **Ezekiel 20**. The first thing God revealed to Israel when they came out of Egypt was the Sabbath, **Exodus 16**. Breaking the Sabbath was the beginning of the downfall of the Worldwide Church of God.

Paul Royer's tape, "Keeping the Sabbath," describes many practical ways to make the Sabbath an enjoyable spiritual experience. It is available from **The Bible Sabbath Association**.

## **"Can you keep the knowledge and fear of God without keeping the Sabbath?"**

Another excellent sermon tape was given by Dean Blackwell in 1978, which I have entitled, "Defense of the Sabbath." Blackwell demonstrates keen logic in showing that the Sabbath is found throughout the Bible. It is no coincidence that many of Jesus' activities were centered around Sabbaths and Holy Days. The Sermon on the Mount was given on a Sabbath. The Gospel of John, the whole book, is about the Sabbaths and Holy Days observed by Christ. There was no

"Palm Sunday," it was really "Palm Sabbath." Dean Blackwell's humor, and practical, down-to-earth east Texas drawl

## **"Give us 15-20 years, and this Church will not even know the Sabbath."**

make this tape one of my all-time favorites.

Paul Royer's audio tape, "Keeping the Sabbath," C205, and Dean Blackwell's tape, "Defense of the Sabbath," C206, are available for \$2.50 each (or \$3.50 for both tapes), from: **The Bible Sabbath Association, 3316 Alberta Drive, Gillette, WY 82718**. Toll-free phone, **888-687-5191**, **E-mail: giveshare@vcn.com**.

More needs to be said about improper Sabbath observance and the downfall of the Worldwide

Church of God. There was certainly Sabbath-breaking extant, from the top leadership down to the membership. But an *opposite problem* was also a significant factor. Some parents in the Church made the Sabbath a burden of restrictive do's and don'ts, thus turning off their children to the joys of true Sabbath-keeping. It is said that Joe Tkach, Jr., resented his childhood experiences of the Sabbath, which he viewed as restrictive. When he got the chance, he threw out the baby with the

bath water. The Sabbath is not a day to watch the Lakers play basketball or hire workers to labor for you, but it is, and can be, a

day of joy for the whole family.

Perhaps the best book Dr. Samuele Bacchiocchi has written is one that has received the least attention. It is entitled, *Divine Rest for Human Restlessness*. This masterpiece shows the beauty of the Sabbath, which truly is "good news," and not "bad news" as Tkach was led to believe. Bacchiocchi's three best books, *Divine Rest for Human Restlessness*, *From Sabbath to Sunday*, and his newest book, *The Sabbath Under Crossfire*, are available from The Bible Sabbath Association for a \$12.50 donation each (or, any two for \$20, and all three for \$30).

What is going to be for you? Are you going to make the Sabbath a harsh, mean, restrictive, burdensome day, that any thinking young person would automatically reject? Are you going to throw out the Sabbath, and "do your own thing" on God's Holy Day? Or, are you going to call, and make, the Sabbath a delight, and honor the Creator, speaking His words and doing His spiritual work on the day of divine rest that pictures the Kingdom of God? You are either going to be keeping the Sabbath, or breaking the Sabbath. Which one will it be for you?

# FROM WHERE I STAND:

## A Teenager's Voice from Inside the Culture of Death

BY SARAH RONEY

*Eighteen-year-old Wisconsin resident Sarah Roney wrote this essay. Inspired by the Columbine High school massacre, she says what all the pundits couldn't seem to say. Here is that essay:*

On April 20, 1999, there was yet another gruesome shooting in Littleton, Colorado. Kids killing kids. And again, the entire nation in its uproar is trying to figure out why. I am eighteen years old. I live in a Small town near Madison, Wisconsin. A small town just like the ones where these horrifying shootings always seem to take place.

Every time those stories come on the television, I can't help but notice how easily it could be my small town next. And I want to know why this is happening just as badly as any parent or police chief or anchorman. The thing is, I am right in the middle of it. I am in the same age group as all of

these high school kids. So I may have some insight for the world that has been otherwise unattainable since these shootings started some years ago.

The night of the Littleton shooting, as I was flipping through the various news channels that were covering the story in Littleton, Colorado, I heard something that struck a chord in me. An anchorman was interviewing the mother of a victim in the Jonesboro shooting. His question was: "If you look at America in the 1950's, you will find that this kind of thing never happened; whereas if you look at America today, this kind of thing is becoming more and more frequent. Why do you think this is happening?" The woman, of course, could not answer the question. In fact, she didn't really even try.

But I did. I thought about it for a long time that night. And

again the next morning, when my favorite morning radio talk show asked its listeners why they thought this has been happening. Many people said it's the parents of the kids. Many people suggested television and video games. Many people even turned to popular musicians, looking to put the blame somewhere. But I will tell you what I think it is. What I, a regular teenager riding on the coattails of Generation X, blame it on. It is not the parents or the movies or the rock stars. It is AMERICA. It is this culture of death, this culture in which liberals and feminists and activists are so anxious to let anything be "OK" that the once tightened, knotted rope of society is unraveling right beneath us.

Don't you see? There can be no order without discipline. All of those things people think are causing children to run into a school and shoot their teachers and peers and even kids they don't know - the movies, the video games, the parents, the rap artists - they are only REFLECTIONS of our society. Society breaks down, from one big metaphorical "family" into 50 metaphorical "families" and so on

**"... the movies, the video games, the parents, the rap artists - they are only REFLECTIONS of our society."**

and so on, until you have the actual FAMILY, the one with the parents and the kids and the dog. It is not one thing or two things; it is the attitude of an entire “familiar” nation being reflected back at us in the kids.

**“... it was just a matter of time before someone got that “killing-as-a-means-to-an-end” idea stuck in their head for the part between birth and death as well.”**

Just as that anchorman suggested, something was different about the 1950's. WE WERE CONSERVATIVE. We had boundaries; we had a definite knowledge of right and wrong throughout the entire nation. We didn't have feminists pushing women so hard to go get a job that a woman who didn't have a job was somehow “bad,” thereby leaving kids at home with inadequate parental guidance and often times with parents who were truly unhappy. We didn't have liberals fighting so avidly to legalize everything that it was at the point of completely blurring the line between good and bad. We didn't have a nationwide media surge dedicated to sex and violence so intense that if you weren't playing killing video games at age 14, then you were trying to choose between contraceptives beforehand or abortion afterwards. We didn't have

disputes over whether or not we should help someone who is dying die sooner - over whether or not we should ASSIST them in committing SUICIDE. And we certainly didn't have a President who was in

favor of NATO bombing and killing children in Serbia come on the television to grieve the loss for the families of children killed in America.

We live in a loosely tied society, a culture dedicated to death. If you don't want the kid, kill it. If you don't want to live out the rest of your God-given days, kill yourself. Or better yet, have someone else come help you do it. I guess, no matter how horrible or gruesome or gut-wrenching it may be, it was just a matter of time before someone got that “killing-as-a-means-to-an-end” idea stuck in their head for the

part between birth and death as well. Everything that happens in families and cities and states and countries is the mirror image of the big picture.

We are falling apart as a society. Am I - some random normal teenager in Farmertown, U.S.A. - the only one who sees that? It's sad and it's hard to believe, but what's worse is that it's scary. I think it's time for our — America's — Mom and Dad to ground us - to say, “If you don't shape up by the time I count to three...” And then really count to three. Because we are running wild and pretty soon we're going to be too far from home to ever get back.

There was once a great saying by a famous man that has rung true throughout the history of mankind - in every family and in every society and in every social group and in every religion - it was a frighteningly true statement that cannot be disputed. I am reminded of it now, in the wake of yet another indescribably tormenting result of a nation gone haywire...

“By their fruits you shall know them.”

**“If you look at America in the 1950's, you will find that this kind of thing never happened... ”**

# The Road Not Taken

A SCRIPTURAL JOURNEY

BY DOBY

“The Road Not Taken”—written in 1915 by Robert Frost (1874—1963), has been one of my favorite noncanonical verses ever since being called to “**the Way**” (Acts 9:2, 19:23, 24:14, 22 — NKJV) that is, our Saviour, who is “the way, the truth, and the life” (John 14:6). It holds a special symbolism for me. It is almost too easy for us to find a special meaning in this particular rhyme: life often finds us at one crossroads or another, faced with having to make a choice. This is especially true of those called to be Christian Sabbatharians. The way to which we have been called and chosen is not easy. You might say it is One Way, with no U-Turns.

Our Creator has given us the freedom to choose. This is our God-given right; but, His council is to “**choose life**” (Deuteronomy 30:19), which means to choose the path and aim of Jesus Christ. Our Saviour is “the Road not taken” by the rest of the world and the true “path of life” (Psalm 16:11) that has made all the difference in each of our lives. He is the Lord of our Sabbath, which was created for us.

In choosing to accept His Way, it is then, by necessity

that we need to put our way aside; that is to make the carnal way our “road not taken.” The Godly choice is so much more than a mere preference. It is a calling from which there should be no turning back. We may have originally left that other road for another day, but God’s Spirit leads us on His Way, and day by day we’re farther along the straight path.

If we follow men and their traditional dogmas, we will stumble and lose our way (Mark 7:6—9) from “the ancient paths” (Jeremiah 18:15): our direction will then be the way of Balaam (read 2Peter 2:1—3, 12—22); and we’ll then have the angel of God standing against us as Balaam did (Numbers 22:31). To [re]turn from that false way we must follow the guide of biblical landmarks and signposts (Jeremiah 31:21) back from our own wrong way. One of the most important signs that we have been given to the true path is God’s Holy (seventh day) Sabbath. We must follow God’s signs, which guide us to the narrow gate.

Mislead someone on the road and we’ll be cursed (Deuteronomy 27:18); or disobey the direction [commandments] of God to find ourselves torn

and slain [by a lion on the road] (1Kings 13:20—28). The crooked path of sin takes us away from God and leads to death. As we see, this can happen even to a “man of God.” Isaiah 59 speaks volumes to those on the crooked path who don’t know the way of peace and salvation. To have fellowship with our Redeemer we must turn from the way of transgression. The Way to true peace and salvation is what the gospel (good news) of the coming Kingdom of God is all about (Isaiah 52:7)! Indeed, we must know that “Zion, your GOD reigns!”

You see, even we who know the right way must never play the fool. The fool, even on that right road, is senseless and lacks wisdom (Ecclesiastes 10:1—3). In this world’s spiritual wilderness, we have our guide map, compass, food, water, light and straight path to follow home: Jesus Christ, the Word of God. He is all of these good things to us— and more. In the walk of our lives, we must follow Him spiritually, just as his disciples followed him physically on the road (Mark. 10:32).

After His resurrection, Jesus was there, on that road, to comfort and guide His dis-



ciples (Luke 24:24—53). He opened their minds to understand the scriptures about Himself and “the Way.” (Read the story of Saul, who met Jesus on the road to Damascus and had the course of his life forever change (Acts, all of chapter 26.) Today, we who are on that spiritually analogous straight road have the promised Comforter, His Holy Spirit, bearing witness through us, and leading us who love and keep His Commandments (John 14:14—26, 16:7—14, Acts 5:32).

The longest of the Ten Commandments happens to be about remembering to keep the Sabbath day holy. Sadly, even some of us who “keep” it forget that it is a full **four** verses long (Exodus 20:8—11). Usually, only the first of the four verses is quoted in the now popular edited version of the 10 Commands. If we are lax on verse 9 or verse 10, then we break all 10 (James 2:10). We must read all four of these and judge ourselves accordingly.

While six days of the week we might spend at our physical work—the seventh day was made specifically for us to remember our spiritual walk with God on His path. We, the called out and redeemed, who keep God’s commandments, are His Spirit defined Church. We must walk in love (Ephesians 5:2) on that straight Way of peace and

holiness, where healing is to be found (Hebrews 12:12—13). Yet, it is not an easy road. “The gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few” (Matthew 7:14). “For many are called, but few are chosen” (Matthew 22:14).

Though it is a straight way, those on it would say that it is mostly an uphill hike. Interestingly, when the Israelites traveled to the Feast of Tabernacles, the road to Jerusalem was [and still is] all uphill. In fact, we should expect our journey to be on a rocky road as well (Acts 14:22). There’s no taking detours or shortcuts around God’s mountain (to get to the other side); our destination is to the city of our God at the very top! (Psalms 48:1—3, 8, 14, 87:1—3, Hebrews 12:22—24, Revelation 3:12, 21:2—3).

Some of us are running a marathon on that road, others are jogging, while many prefer to walk; still, there are those who are doing their best just to crawl. The idea isn’t how fast we run, but that we finish the race (Luke 13:29—30). Unfortunately, some have stopped to gaze, while others have lain down and fallen asleep. Worse yet, many are walking in a backwards direction, and a sad lot have completely left the path and lost the way (Job 24:13).

There are even some that have fallen into one of the two

runoff ditches on either side of the Way. They may be walking beside the true Way—yet, what will happen to them when the rains come? Indeed, many have been lead astray like lost sheep who have forgotten their resting place (Jeremiah 50:6). These will be devoured (verse 7).

Despite all this, we do have a responsibility to go after those who err from the truth (Matthew 18:12). There is a sure blessing in their spiritual edification and loving rescue (Luke 15:4—7, James 5:19—20)! (The scriptures say a great deal contextually on the subject of our spiritual warfare, growth and edification—which we should read, study, and incorporate into the very core of our character. Examine these for a start: Philippians 1:27—2:5, Ephesians 4, 5, & 6, 1Thessalonians 5:14—22, [etc.]).

We can call out to the lost sheep, even go after [to rescue] them, but we need not look back longingly to any of the other path[s] that may have held all manner of earthly treasures for us—Hebrews 11:26). Doing so would make us unworthy (Matthew 22:8—10). Steadfastly, we must endure to seek the greater goal: for our hike is to Zion (Hebrews 12:12-15, 22—24), whose highway is in our hearts (Psalm 84:5, 7)!

**(Continued on page 10)**

So, it's understandable why we can't help but be inspired by the beauty, poetic symbolism, and special meaning that Frost's poem holds for us who are the first fruits. (Jeremiah 6:16) of God's great harvest. We've been gifted: blessed with the understanding of God's purpose—the awesome reality of the meaning of life. All around us, we can see the beautiful analogies of the Creation, which is the very proof of the Word of God (Romans 1:20).

The Eternal continually lights and guides our steps. (Exodus 13:21, Job 22:27—28, Proverbs 6:22—23). Our Creator will make our aim true, our path straight, and heal us if we acknowledge and trust Him in all that we do—remembering to keep His commandments focused and sure (Proverbs 3:1-8). Our Saviour is our one way to life, and our only direction home. He is “The Road of Holiness.” Carefully read Isaiah 35: 8—10, and then chapter 40:3—5.

Like footprints in wet sand, He has left an impression on us that we must not let the tides of this world wash away. His imprint on our character must become permanent. We must follow the Way by His lead: preach the Kingdom of God, and never look back (Luke 9:57—62) so that we neither stumble, nor fall, nor lose our way. Nevertheless, if we ever do, without fear we must just look to Him who has promised to never leave

## “THE ROAD NOT TAKEN”

ROBERT FROST

*Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,  
And sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveler, long I stood  
And looked down one as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth;  
Then took the other, as just as fair,  
And having perhaps the better claim,  
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;  
Though as for that, the passing there  
Had worn them really about the same,  
And both that morning equally lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black.  
Oh, I kept the other for another day!  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,  
I doubted if I should ever come back.  
I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference.*

us or forsake us— and, . . . He will be there to make all the difference (John 14:18, Hebrews 13:5).

We will surely enjoy Frost's poem much more the next time we read it. For us all, we pray: a fruitful and safe journey in God's Holy Spirit of love on the straight road to life everlasting! Amen.

Isaiah 2:3 “And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his

paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.”

**Doby** and his lovely wife Kim consider themselves fellow servants *in* the body of the “Greater Spiritual Church of God”— which is not distinguished by any man-made corporate boundaries, but is indeed defined by the indwelling gift of God's Holy Spirit. They live in the Okanagan Valley of (South Central) British Columbia and can be reached through e-mail @ [DOBYandKIM@home.com](mailto:DOBYandKIM@home.com)

# A Great MEMORIAL Day

## by John Quincy Adams

*Mrs. Mary Adams Tweedy of Pocahontas, Arkansas is a Lifetime Member of the Bible Sabbath Association. The year 1921 was the last year that her father was a Pastor and high-ranking officer for the Southern Baptists. That same year John Quincy Adams came to the Biblical TRUTH of the 7th-Day Sabbath. In the years following he traveled extensively proclaiming the Sabbath TRUTH. His writings spanned the globe on the subject. Following is a portion of an address he gave about the 7th-Day Sabbath that was subsequently published in 1944.*

There are two kinds of Memorials. Physical ones such as postage stamps, coins, the founding of universities and hospitals, or the giving of some simply physical token as a mere rose. Then there are Spiritual ones such as setting apart a day or days as with wedding anniversaries, baby dedications, and the like in memory of some event.

God has called upon men to memorialize holy things in both the physical and Spiritual realms. In the physical, for 4,000 years, there was the offering-up of certain clean animals in sacrifice, to memorialize the truth that “the wages

of sin is death”, and, that “without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin”. Then, when the perfect sacrifice came, that which was imperfect was done away (1st Cor. 13:10).

Other divinely instituted physical memorials are the symbolical partaking of the broken bread and the fruit of the vine, to portray symbolically the broken body of our Lord Jesus Christ and His shed blood which is to be observed “till He come” (1st Cor. 11:26). There is also the watery burial which is to memorialize the death of our Lord Jesus, and His burial and resurrection. Thus this baptism sets forth in symbol-form our own belief as well, in that as surely as Death lay the body one-day in the grave, yet there shall at last be a resurrection for the body.

### MEMORIAL DAYS

But there is another kind of memorial that has nothing of the physical about it. We now refer to the setting apart of special Memorial Days or seasons, in memory of some event or circumstance. These, as we have just stated, abound in the lives of both individuals and in the careers of Nations.

The one sole fact with which I am concerned in this address is the fact that Jehovah God has instituted and designated Day Memorials not simply for one race of men but for mankind. For part of my life on this point I thought these Memorial Days were for Jews only.

There is not a thing about the weekly 7th-day Sabbath that is Jewish or racial, nor yet dispensational. It memorializes Jehovah God as Creator—not of the Jewish earth but of the whole human race, our entire earth, and everything that is upon or within it! Where do we get such? From Jehovah God’s description of the day itself in Exodus. 20:8-11.

“On six days shall work be done: but on the seventh day is a solemn rest and a holy convocation.” ... “Remember the Sabbath Day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor and do all thy work; but the 7th-day is a Sabbath UNTO JEHOVAH ... FOR” (and now comes the Reason Why) “in six days Jehovah made heaven and earth, the sea and all that in them is, and rested the 7th-day; wherefore” (the reason pointed out again) “Jehovah” (not Moses or

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the Jews or any race but “Jehovah”) “blessed the Sabbath Day and hallowed it”!

Thus indisputably the one sole basis for the 7th-day Sabbath is to memorialize Jehovah God as Creator of the whole earth and of all mankind! Oh, how this is needed today! The human race has greatly multiplied and grown wise and extremely skilful,—as God intended. Shamefully, it has forgotten its origin! Today, multitudes teach that we came from the amoeba (a-me-ba) by way of the monkey. They do not know that “In the beginning, God!”

In the closing book of the Holy Classics (Revelation 14:6) we are warned that when “the hour of judgment is come” at the end of the present Church-age, THEN we surely shall need to be found worshipping “Him that made Heaven and Earth, the Sea and Fountain of Waters.” That is, at end of the World or Age the Divine warning is make sure that we are found worshipping That God Who made the Earth and all Mankind, as Creator of all Things! Now faithful observance of the 7th-day Sabbath is badge of just such worship,—according to the Divine statement itself from the Scripture quoted above.

The full passage of Exodus 20:8-11 takes in our “son” and our “daughter”. This

means it is not enough that merely the head of the family comply with the Divine Requirement. If they are living with us, it must extend to sons and daughters.

Following this is “thy manservant, nor thy maidservant” which tells us it is not sufficient if the entire family observes the Sabbath but hire others to work on this day. That is forbidden.

Then follows “nor thy cattle” which means we cannot loan a horse to a neighbor to plow a garden or work for him, though a non-Sabbath-keeper, on this day.

Finally “nor, thy stranger that is within thy gates” means those who are only guests in our home,—must observe the 7th-day Sabbath while in our home!

Oh, how clean-sweeping! We must be known and read of all men that we are not in darkness as to our origin, whence we came, whither we go, and WHO is God,—Jehovah, the Creator, the Giver of the Bible as written in the Book of Genesis!

The phrase “in it, thou shalt not do any work”,—is interpreted by Jesus Christ (the one only God himself come in male human flesh-veil). When people in His day tried to pretend that nothing at all could be done on the Sabbath, on

any Sabbath, He said it is lawful to do work of two types on Sabbath Days: Works of Mercy, and, Works of Necessity. “Necessity” does not mean, “It is necessary for me to make a living—therefore I shall clerk in a store, or plow my garden on the Sabbath”. He illustrated what is meant by necessity.

We read a “Christian” paper’s answer to a woman about keeping the Sabbath and that editor told her if she would keep the Sabbath as the Scriptures required it to be kept, she could not pick up a pin or open a Letter on the Sabbath day! What willful misrepresentation! Picking up a pin, or opening a Letter, is not “work”.

Yes, we may do needful things on this day, tidy our rooms,—but not scour them; eat our meals,—but not cook them; visit and go,—but not make it a day of travel. He who pretends that the observance of this day is “burdensome” or forbids picking up a pin, opening a Letter, visiting, or tidying,—was called “Pharisee” in Jesus’ Day and, oh, how He rebuked them for their interpretation of manner of Sabbath “rest”!

“Turn away thy foot from the Sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on My Holy Day” (Isa. 58:13) does not mean we

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# Kristin Ann Johnston

## BSA Scholarship First Place Winner

After graduation, I plan to attend a University known for educating teachers. There, I will major in Secondary Education while enhancing my leadership qualities. During college, I hope to maintain high standards in academics, leadership, service, and the most importantly I want to maintain my standards in my religion.

Attending college will give me the opportunity to become educated to a higher extent while allowing me to prepare to be an effective adult. It will also train me for my future career. Teaching has always been my desired career choice. Throughout high school, I have shadowed teachers and discovered that the teaching profession is where I want to spend my working years. To me, today's school need more teachers that really love their job and the students which they are working. Being able to work in the classroom will give me the opportunity to touch the lives of youth. There is nothing more rewarding than helping someone else achieve a

goal or dream, and that is why I want to teach. Students need someone to encourage them, someone to listen to them, someone to understand them, and someone to help them reach their highest potential. Fortunately, I have been blessed with many exceptional teachers myself. It is my hope that by becoming a teacher that I can make the word better-one student at a time.

Throughout high school, I have maintained my personal standards in my religion and plan to continue doing so in college. I have never really felt that my faith has caused me to give up a lot. Instead, I found that not participating in some activities provided me with opportunities that proved more beneficial. In high school, football games are the highlight of most teenager's Friday evenings. However, I have spent those evenings having Bible studies with my youth group and spending quality time with my family. The Sabbath gives me a chance to recuperate from the stressful environment that our fast-paced society cre-



In college, I will not change my outlook or standpoint on the Biblical Sabbath; my faith and relationship with God is more important to me than pleasing my peers. Going to college will be a different from anything I have ever experienced, and the only way anyone can maintain their belief and practice of the Sabbath is to stand firm in what they have been taught. My entire life, my parents have raised me to observe the Sabbath and attending college will not change that aspect of my life.

In conclusion, attending college will give me the opportunity to pursue my dream of becoming a teacher while allowing me to grow stronger in my faith as I stand up for what I believe is right and share my faith with others.

# Heather Kemp

## BSA Scholarship Second Place Winner

For years, I've known what I'm going to do with my life. I am going to be a psychologist, a counselor of some sort. How do I know this? Well, during these years I have realized God has given me a gift in that area. People I hardly know talk with me about their problems and they usually leave the conversation feeling much better. In these situations, I believe God really leads me, showing how I can best serve.

To realize the goal of becoming a psychologist, I am now attending Rhodes College in Memphis, TN. The road that got me here is quite convoluted. I come from a three child family, with one older brother and one younger sister. By virtue of my position, I took the role of peacemaker early in life. I breezed through middle school, eventually doing well enough in class and on standardized tests to be able to skip the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. I began attending the Alabama School of Fine Arts, ASFA, in downtown Birmingham. It was a 45 minute drive there and back everyday, twice a day, for four years. I was a math/science major. Those four years of my life were instrumental in my development as a person and a Christian. A wonderfully close group of friends were comfortable enough with me to have religious discussions. I learned about the beliefs of mainstream Protestantism and became convicted of the rightness of our approach to God. During my senior year of high school, I was baptized.

Now that I'm at college, especially a Presbyterian college, I face challenges to my faith daily. Part of the program here calls for mandatory Bible classes. These classes focus more on the Bible as a text than a doctrine, but still manage to challenge people's faith. I've enjoyed the challenge, so much that I'm strongly considering adding a religion minor



to me preexisting double major.

The Sabbath is a truth I firmly believe and understand. People are not likely to ask about the Sabbath, especially if they don't know you don't go to church on Sunday. Then the questions begin. Many

people will tell you Christ changed it, or the apostles changed it. Most don't realize Constantine's role. Others will tell you all of the law was destroyed by Christ's death. These arguments are not that difficult to combat, either. The hard thing about trying to keep the Sabbath in college is the perception that if you take a day off, that day is wasted.

Personally, I feel that keeping the Sabbath has allowed me to stay sane. Man needs a day off to put it all in perspective. Besides, the Sabbath is not a day of doing nothing. Of course, college students will find it the perfect day to catch up on their sleep, but there are many positive Sabbath activities. Bible study is an important activity on this day of praise. Many people enjoy walks on God's creation, marvelling at the power of God, that He created in such glorious diversity. Anything that glorifies God on His day, is a wonderful activity. I have not found it difficult to keep the Sabbath here at college. I hope this is true for everyone.

I plan to keep the Sabbath holy throughout my life, which will hopefully revolve around God's way of life. My goal, to become a servant, will be a benefit for humanity. So many people who go into therapy need God in their lives. I would like to try to help these individuals come to know God and accept the sacrifice He offered. I want to use my gift to glorify the Giver and serve my neighbor. I think I am definitely be a tool for God to use in his work.

# Nicole Marie Ostrom

## Third Place Runner Up

Like the majority of high school seniors on the verge of turning 18, I feel like I've been in school my entire life. This makes sense, considering I can't remember anything that happened before I turned 5, and that was when I started school. Now, I'm finally face to face with the opportunity to be free. I'm graduating and will no longer be bound by the imprisoning ties of our educational system. But, only one step away from freedom, I've decided to step up to a higher level of education and to continue learning. As I near the end of my high school career I realize more and more how important school and my education truly are to me.

My name is Nicole Ostrom. I am the middle child in a family of five. My older sister attends the University of Kansas in Lawrence and my younger sister is a freshman in high school. My father is a carpenter and my mother is a graphic artist. Both attended the University of Minnesota, Duluth.

I am a distance runner

and have been captain of the University Cross Country and Track teams for two years. I am currently ranked in the top 5% of my senior class and will be graduating with 12 hours of college credit earned in high school. I was appointed President of the Leaders of Tomorrow Club for my church youth group last year and am now acting as Senior Advisor. I participate in Youth Friends, am a member of National Honors Society, Spanish National Honors Society, and Spanish Club. I was named Who's Who Among American High School students and All American Scholar.

Participating in Varsity athletics for the past three years has helped to strengthen the foundation of my religious beliefs. I miss more than half the track meets and am only able to run in about three cross country meets a year because of the Sabbath. Because I work at it and train hard, I am able to run Varsity regardless. My coach accepts my religion and respects me for keeping the Sabbath, even

though he doesn't agree with it. Keeping the Sabbath isn't easy, but the challenges I've encountered for doing something different from the rest of the world has given me character and made me stronger. Maintaining my belief and practice of the Sabbath while attending college will definitely be a challenge, but one that I am up to and well prepared for.

I will be attending St. Louis University next year to pursue a degree in Physical Therapy. I hope that my education will benefit all of the patients that I have the opportunity to work with, as well as many of the people I come in contact with, from my immediate family to strangers on the street. I believe a better world can arise with a happier and more positive attitude from the people in our population. Happiness is just as contagious as a bad attitude, but would make our world a much better place to live in.

After I graduate from high school—I'm currently a jun-

# Kevin Blackston

Fourth Place Runner Up

ior—I hope to go on to college, probably at Valdosta State University in Georgia. I want to study radio broadcasting, and I'd like to be one of the best at what I do. In the past, God's Word has been broadcasted to millions of listeners around the world by radio; maybe in the future, I'll have the opportunity to help produce programs that will reach more people. It would be fabulous to be part of helping someone understand the truth.

I think for young adults to build, and maintain, a belief in the Sabbath, they have to make a commitment to themselves to obey the fourth commandment. It takes attending services every week, and regular fellowship with people who share a belief in the Sabbath. There are so many "alternate activities" in the world that can turn a person away from the Sabbath. A college student could think, "I'm too tired to go to church this week. I've had so much work to do, I'll stay here and rest to-

day and go to church next Saturday." The next week it would be easier to "skip" the Sabbath, and the week after that, even easier. Eventually playing sports or working on the Sabbath would not seem like a big deal, because the person would have lost their knowledge of what is and isn't okay to do on the Sabbath. It really takes a firm belief in doing what God commands for someone to keep the Sabbath week after week for their entire life.

Throughout my career, throughout my entire life, I need to live by God's laws, and follow His instructions. If I do what is right — if I stand up for God's way of life — if I stand up for God's way of life, even when made fun of or persecuted—my peers and co-workers will see that there is something to what I believe. Maybe I'll be able to make a difference in someone's life, even if it is just a small one.

## Verbal Dynamite

by Mandie Nickels

"Did you hear about Anna's nose? It's not real. She got it done last summer at a clinic in Barstow."

Have you ever heard someone that sounded like that? Someone who went on, and on, about people's personal lives and secrets?

The Bible has names for these people: Gossips, Destroyers, and Traitors.

What could be so wrong with talking, as long as you don't lie? You could hurt and damage people's lives, break someone's heart, or separate close friends.

Words are like dynamite; they can destroy people. Even when speaking the truth, words can still hurt.

As your parents always told you, "Think before you speak." Though it's almost impossible at times, that saying holds a lot of truth. If you held your tongue before speaking a secret of a friend, you could save your friendship and please God by doing so. Psalm 34:13 says, "Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking lies."

**(Continued on page 17)**



# What Are You?

by Mandie Nickels

"So, what exactly are you?" I glanced up from my plate and looked at my friend, puzzled. "What do you mean?" I asked, confused. "I mean, you don't go to church on Sunday, you don't keep Christmas. What are you?"

What am I? I am an Israelite. A child of God. What else could I have told her? I am the one who knows the real truth. I fear the Lord. Many things spun through my mind at that moment.

"Do you keep the holiday where you spin those little tops for 7 days?" I smiled. "You mean Hanukkah? No."

"So, what are you?" She asked me again. I saw the curiosity in her eyes. I remembered what my mom had told me when I was child. "I am an Independent Sabbath Keeper." I replied.

"A dependant who?" "An Independent Sabbath Keeper."

"Do you believe in God?" She asked me, leaning real close. "Of course. Don't you?" My question startled her.

"Sure." She stood up from the lunch table and gave me a dirty look. "You're weird."

Am I weird? Is it weird to love God with all my heart? Is it weird to not celebrate Pagan

Holidays? My friend that had questioned me never really talked to me after that day. She was a very sincere Catholic and she refused to hang around me because I didn't believe in "Her God."

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path" (Psalms 119:105). His word is a lamp. And while she was blind to his light, she rejected me when she heard the truth for the first time in her life.

But I could understand her curiosity. Being different in today's society is considered to be weird. Especially when everyone's wearing the same kind of shoes because some actress is wearing them. Everyone's hair is the same style because they saw it in a magazine. When someone is different, it screams out from the crowd.

I didn't attend her church. I didn't tell her to have a "Merry Christmas." And she was curious to my reasoning, but ran away from the truth when she was finally told. One day, she'll get her calling. And, maybe this time she won't run away.

What you are is a hard question to answer. You could probably call yourself anything, as long as Jesus is in your heart, and His word is in

your head. Don't be spiritually blind. Nothing in this world is more beautiful than to see God's glorious light, like I am honored enough to see each and every day.

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*("Verbal Dynamite" continued)*

Gossip is a horrible habit to start and a hard one to stop. It's nobody's business what happened to Chris last weekend.

You can do some serious damage when gossiping. Especially when you're unsure of facts and the fiction. Think before you speak.

Yet, words can even save a friend from doing wrong. Proverbs 17:10: A rebuke impresses a man of discernment more than a hundred lashes a fool."

It's simple. Don't be a fool. Don't be a gossip. You can save a relationship with a friend, or more important, your relationship with God.

*Mandie Nickels is a 14 year old Sabbath keeper in Wyoming. You may contact her at:*

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# “UNLESS YOU CHANGE...”

by Royce Mitchell, Jr.

What is the lesson the that Christ was trying to teach us about ourselves when He took up a little child in his arms and proclaimed that the disciples needed to become like the child? *Was* Christ trying to proclaim a message to us? If so, *what* could that message have been? Perhaps a look into the scripture in question would be a good place to discover an answer!

In Matthew 18, the disciples had come to Christ with a question that had bothered them on more than one occasion. It was, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” On more than one occasion,

will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the *greatest* in the kingdom of heaven. And whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name *welcomes me.*” (NIV, emphasis mine throughout).

Christ had placed the importance of becoming like a child in context with the question of greatness! Further, He had made the startling statement that unless one becomes like a child, that they would *never* enter the kingdom! Finally, Christ equated the humility of a child with the answer to the disciples question of

ance to the law of God, and then not being found with the childlike qualities that Christ demanded we exhibit, I wondered how I could ever understand what I needed to do! Then, it happened, I became a grandfather, for the second time! But, this grandbaby I was to see frequently, and was able to observe, and learn from her!

Her name is Felicity, and she has been an education. As I have been privileged to watch her grow up, and now also two younger sisters, Elayne, and Emily, the lessons have been driven home clearly. So, what are the lessons that we can learn from little children? It is my hope that I can clearly illustrate the answers to that question in this article.

Obviously, the first quality was referred to by Christ Himself. That quality is, humility. Some will say that pride is a part of the make up of a child. To that I say, “Yes!” but in what form? When is a little child the proudest? It is when they have humbled themselves to please their parent! They have pride, but in a humble kind of way! It was this dichotomy that Christ was attempting to illustrate to the disciples, and by extension, to us.

**“...unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”**

one or more of the disciples had been concerned about position. But on this occasion, Christ called a “little child” to Him, and used that child to demonstrate an important principle to them. What was that principle?

Matt 18:3-5 states, “And he said: “I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you

who would be greatest! These are eye-opening statements indeed, especially in light of the warnings of being left out of the kingdom.

So, it would behoove us to find out exactly what Christ was trying to teach us with that example. What is it about a child that God finds so endearing? Being concerned about having lived a life in conform-

There are many warnings to avoid pride in scripture, yet here Christ pointed out how being like a child, and the pride that comes from pleasing God was a thing to be sought!

When we stop to consider it, when are we happiest? When we are pleasing God, of course! There is a joy that comes from knowing that we are doing that which is pleasing in the sight of God, our Father. For too many years the Churches of God have focused on the fact that we can not please the Father without the Spirit. There is no argument with that statement on my part. However, that joy that comes when we can go to the Father and say, "Daddy, I did it!" It comes when we actually resist that overpowering sin for the first time and is that pride that is really humility! We did not seek our own, but the desire of "Daddy."

Beyond that, what other qualities can we find exhibited by children that our God finds acceptable in His sight? By observing my grandchildren I have found other traits that God discusses in His Word as being traits that are pleasing to Him. One of them is trust. Anyone who has children or grandchildren knows that they are very trusting, even to the point that we have to warn them to be careful. As a part of trust, children are very willing to forgive a breach of trust.

I remember when Elayne

first started walking, she got in the habit of following me around our house on her visits. On one occasion, she had come up behind me, and when

**“Who is a God like you, who *pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but *delight to show mercy.*”***

I turned to walk, I knocked her down, bumping her head on the floor. Of course, tears flowed freely on her part. Yet, she willingly allowed me, the one who had been so careless as to not look out for her, to soothe her pains, and calm her. After several minutes of hugging and kissing (and the offer of a cookie), she was all smiles, and back to following me around the house. What an attitude!

Does God want us to be as forgiving, and trusting as that? Let's see what He has to say. "Who is a God like you, who *pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy.*" (Micah 7:18 NIV). That willingness to forgive is a quality of God Himself! No wonder God finds children to be worthy of the example that Christ gave!

There are other qualities

that children have that are clearly delineated as profitable for us to adopt. One of them is the attitude of being willing to learn. One of the

things that one notices about children, when they spend much time around them, is that they want to know about everything. How many of us have been worried almost to distraction over the constant question of all children, "Why ...?"

Does God find that questioning, searching, longing for understanding to be a good thing? In preparing for this article, I found that there are at least 35 references to studying or learning in God's word. One obvious one is that we should study to show ourselves approved, rightly dividing the word of truth (2 Tim 2:15). Another is, "*Learn to do good; seek justice, reprove the ruthless; defend the orphan, plead for the widow.*" Isa 1:17 (NAS). Learn to do good! Little children naturally want to do good, to please their parents! They have not yet learned that

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there is another way! Indeed, that constant craving for knowledge that is a part of the makeup of little children is also what God wants to see in us.

Another quality, and one that I have found is of great importance to our God is that little children are in awe of their parents. In the eyes of little children, the parents *are* God! That very attitude is how God desires us to see Him. Notice this verse. Ps 72:18 states, "Praise be to the LORD God, the God of Israel, who alone does marvelous deeds." (NIV). The implication here is that only God does marvelous deeds, and the only thing He does is marvelous deeds! Should we hold the One in awe who created our marvelous bodies from the dust of the ground? King David did. In Ps 139:14, King David stated, "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well." (NIV). King David was said to be a man after God's own heart! Throughout the psalms we see how much in awe he held our Creator God.

Being able to observe my granddaughters has been an education in the principles that God desires to see in us. He wants to see that we are humbled by His presence in our lives, yet proud to have overcome sin, always acknowledging His power in doing so! In Ps 31:23, David wrote, "O love the LORD, all

ye his saints: for the LORD preserveth the faithful, and plentifully rewardeth the proud doer. (KJV). There is a Godly pride, and that is in our going to God in joy at having overcome the world, at least for the moment!

Our God also wants to see that we are trusting. That trust is one that encompasses the virtues of mercy toward others, and repentance, seeking mercy, for ourselves. He wants to see that we are eager to learn more about His Way. This is not to say that we are blown about by every wind of doctrine, but instead that we are willing to diligently seek His will through His word, when confronted by such winds. And not only that, but that we are hungry for more of His truth. And finally, He wants to see that we are in awe of Him, that we recognize that His glory is far beyond our understanding. He wants us to see Him as "Daddy!" He wants us to adopt the same attitude toward Him that Christ did, when He said, "Abba, Father," ... "everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will." Mark 14:36(NIV). That was what Christ was doing when He prayed those words. He was saying, "Daddy, save me from this!" Yet, He was willing to endure whatever it took to move the plan of God to end-game.

These are all attitudes of children which God finds

pleasing. They are hard attitudes to adopt as adults. Yet, it is vital to our salvation to adopt them. Christ warned us, unless we do adopt them we will not enter the kingdom of God! It is a vital concept to learn.

How do we adopt those attitudes which have become so foreign to us as adults? That is the subject for another article. As Sabbath keepers, we should understand that our keeping the Sabbath is equated with understanding the milk of God's Word. True enough, even the Sabbath can not be understood without God's intervention in our lives. But, it is the beginning of the understanding of the mysteries of God. We must move on to those things which will make us profitable servants of the Most High God.

If we have not already begun to adopt the attitudes and attributes of a child that are pleasing to God, let us begin. Today is not too late!

*Royce Mitchell is a member of the United Church of God, aIA, Houston South Congregation. This issue he is functioning as interim editor of The Sabbath Sentinel. He may be reached with comments at "rmitchel@flash.net" or you may send a letter to the editor in care of TSS. Letters to the editor may also be sent to "giveshare@vcn.com." Comments and inquiries are invited!*

letters to the editor...

I do not really disagree with your article [The Christian and Military Service]. [But] I'm sure you realize Our Father was with His people Israel in many wars.

If it hadn't been for the greedy and ungodly men to oppose Adolph Hitler, to stop the killing of Sabbath Observing Jews, and if he had been allowed to continue, how many righteous conversions and children of God would have been produced? How many Sabbath observing people would have survived until now?

George Goltry  
Golden, MO

*Thank you for your response to my article on Military Service. Yes, at times, God was with Israel in war. But they did not need to fight, because He fought for them. At times, they fought contrary to His will. The USA does not have righteous rulers like King David. You can be sure that God did not tell Woodrow Wilson to get us into WW I, nor did He tell Franklin D. Roosevelt to get us into WW II. In fact, the US government knew of the coming sneak attack of the Japanese, and, to counter the popular anti-war sentiment of Lindbergh's peace movement, allowed the Japanese to attack Pearl Harbor to rally the American people to support the war. In order to defeat Hitler, Roosevelt decided to throw American support to another bloody dictator, his friend, Communist Russia's Joseph Stalin. There is nothing righteous in this whole human debacle! God's people should stay clear of such wickedness.*

*You imply that God needed to use "greedy and ungodly men" to stop Hitler. God did perform many miracles to help the Allies defeat the Nazis and the Japanese. But, He is not dependent on using the American army, or any human institution. It is an historical fact that the Roman Catholic Church was instrumental in the rise of Adolph Hitler to power, and Catholics aided the safe escape of many Nazis after the war, through the infamous "ratlines." Evil men caused Hitler to come to power, allowed him to*

*continue through compromise, and now sanitize him in the minds of a younger, naive, generation who murder their school classmates at will. God did not need human armies to defeat Hitler because He could have prevented Hitler from appearing on the scene in the first place. The defeat of Hitler was a major setback for the Catholic program to revive the Holy Roman Empire. It was not according to the Almighty's timetable, so He did not allow it to happen then. There was more gospel work for the Church to do. The Heavenly Host of God is stronger than any human army. Unless we have the faith to stand up to today's Hitlers in spiritual, not carnal, warfare, we might as well toss out our Bibles and become atheists.*

Great issue! I especially enjoyed Bob Sumner's two articles. And thanks for printing mine. Now about Daryl Arbogast's suggestions on increasing circulation; it could be dangerous to arbitrarily send copies to private businesses such as Doctor's, Dentist's, beauty salons, etc. These private operators have their own religion and usually it is their policy not to discuss religion or politics in their businesses as these two subjects are highly controversial and could cause the loss of customers. I personally know of some doctors and garage men who keep a close watch on the magazines that people leave in their waiting rooms and they immediately throw out all religious material - not because they are against religion, but because one church's material may be offensive to customers or patients of other persuasions. May I suggest that you follow the suggestion that I offered a few years ago and that former editors have used. That is to sponsor subscriptions to hospitals, nursing and rest homes, and prisons. These institutions are not private and they all contain patients of all different persuasions - none at all but who need to learn of God. These institutions are always happy to receive and display any churches material; and in sending TSS to them, you fulfill the request of Jesus to visit the sick and in prison.

John Shirn

"I had supported the paper [The Sabbath Sentinel] for a number of years, but dropped it because of the use of the NIV Bible by its editor. The 7th [day] Sabbath is 'the' Sabbath [KJV], and is not just 'a' sabbath [NIV]. Exodus 20:10."

Clark Chamberlain  
Ontario, Canada

*The original Hebrew of Exodus 20:10 says, "And day the seventh, Sabbath." The definite article "the," which is "ha" in Hebrew, is used both in verse 8 and verse 10. This is only one instance of the inferiority of the NIV translation versus the KJV (or NKJV). Roderick C. Meredith, leader of the Living Church of God, appropriately terms the NIV as the "Non-Inspired Version."*

"Thank you very much for faithful sending the Sabbath Sentinel. It arrived during my missionary trip to [an]other area. It is useful for my missionary and to show the Sunday keepers. It [is] spiritual food for me. It will be used for my guide in the work of the Lord and Sabbath Truth for preaching in my area. We are the Mizo [tribe]....The Sabbath keepers are minority in our country [where Christians are only 5.5% of the population]....Sometimes we have found difficulties for the Sabbath Truth. The Sabbath keepers family are poor. The Sunday keepers hated the Sabbath Truth much in my area. Please remember us all your prayers for our ministry in Myanmar."

Pastor Chhunhranga  
Apostolic Church of God 7th Day of Myanmar

*Gifts of tracts and other literature for Myanmar (formerly Burma) may be sent through The Bible Sabbath Association for a donation to cover postage.*

I view the resignation of Lars Harrison as editor of TSS with mixed emotions. I thought he did a fine job in trying to bring many sabbath-keepers into Christianity. The bad news is that voice, and influence, is stilled. The good news is he is free of the authority of such a Pharisaic board of directors.

I feel the last two editions of TSS to be exceptionally disheartening. The March-May 1999 issue, in particular, was limited to two spiritually-oriented articles, one by John Shirn and one by Robert Sumner. The rest could have

been written forty years ago and fit nicely into the Church of God, 7th Day. In those days the New Testament was used accidentally by many who didn't understand the Gospel message, or didn't agree with it.

By my count, which may be off somewhat, and exclusive of the two authors referenced, there were in the order of 138 references to the Sabbath, or sabbath-keeping. There were about 13 references to Jesus or Christ. A ratio of about 11:1, it seems the day created by God is worshipped, while the Lord of the Sabbath is virtually ignored.

I also take issue with your doctrine of salvation by works, despite all the weasel-words to the contrary. Paul has nice words for this preaching in Galatians 5:4. I went through all this detritus doctrinal focus forty years ago. A re-visit is not acceptable. Please remove my name from the distribution list.

Ernest P. Bergmann

*I certainly understand your concern about wanting to see more about the Lord of the Sabbath, or at least not see Him ignored. That has been the concern of others as well. Please understand that TSS has been undergoing a change since the departure of Lars, and it will take a little while to replace one of his calibre (if it can be done at all!), and to get TSS back on an even keel, so to speak! The search for a permanent editor continues this month.*

*In the interim, I hope that you understand that nobody is served by your departing our fellowship here at TSS, and I ask that you reconsider your request for removal. Instead, could you perhaps recommend article topics that would be of interest to you. Obviously, there is much that can be said of many different Sabbath keeping groups which exist, and TSS will continue to do that. Such is not so much the case this month, with our emphasis on children. But, we would very much appreciate your positive input on articles that would be of interest to you. Please feel free to contact me directly at "rmitchel@flash.net"*

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cannot eat our meals on the Sabbaths for to do so is pleasure. Nor does it mean we cannot walk in the park, or the country, or ride in the country on such days,—but these words mean we must not make the Sabbaths merely holidays,—days of vacationing from work merely and leave off the Divine Contact of worship on such Days!

By this sign shall all men (and Jehovah God in Heaven) know that of the gods many,—we worship as God Him Who created all things!

#### THE UNIVERSALITY OF EACH

The 7th-day Sabbath memorializes God's contact with the planet, our universe and all mankind as Creator. Its observance signifies

our knowledge of whence we came, whither we go, that we believe in the Divine origin of the natural creation, and that it is the great Creator that we worship and not some petty man set up as God.

God created more than Jews—so the 7th day Sabbath is more than a Jewish matter. As Jesus said, "It is for man"—note the universality, all mankind.

"The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath." Mark 2:27

*More writings from the first half of this century by John Quincy Adams on Sabbath and other related Biblical subjects are available from the group he began at Little Children of JESUS CHRIST, 89 Homeplace Trail, Pocahontas, AR 72455 - [http:// www.childrenofjesus.org](http://www.childrenofjesus.org)*

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*Do you have an idea for an article that would inspire you, or help you to understand a concept with which you have had trouble? Have you a desire to teach? Is writing among your "gifts" which have been given to you by God? Is there any way we can improve The Sabbath Sentinel? If so, please feel free to drop a line to the editor, or contact TSS at our email address. The addresses can be found on the inside cover. We really want to hear from you! The Sabbath Sentinel has a long history of service to all Sabbatarians. Won't you tell us how we can serve you better?*

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