



The Voice

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The Churches, Philadelphia and Laodicea

The identification of these churches has already been gone over in books such as Thoughts on Daniel and Revelation by Uriah Smith, so we will instead today be focusing in this article on their character as churches, specifically with their relationship to each other and their connection to the second coming of Christ and God’s remnant people. The Philadelphian church began at the start of the Advent movement, it is a characteristic of these churches that they do not refer so much to the fallen churches as to God’s professed people themselves, the warning is to God’s people, they are the church of each of these prophecies, and they must not take part in the sentiments and attitude of the already fallen churches on every hand. This church covered the eventful period of the great Advent awaking, that would lay the foundation for the later Seventh-day Adventist church.

Each one of these churches covers a major change in the church of God, sometimes a change will take hundreds of years, but sometimes only decades as with this church. The previous Sardis church continued only three decades until the Philadelphian church began and it lasted only a little over a decade until 1844. Now this is where some controversy arises, the Laodicean church, which describes the change after the 1844 movement to the time of Christ’s return, begins just after the Great Disappointment. Now it is commonly argued that from this point the Laodicean church describes the fallen churches and the Philadelphian church continues and describes the people of God until Christ’s return.

But let’s look at this. This does not seem to fit the precedent already set by the prophecy, we see one church whether good or bad following another, not existing contemporaneously. As we can see with the Philadelphian and previous churches, the church they were assigned to was referring to true people of God, whether that church had sins among it or not. Those that had rejected the truth were never one of the churches, they had already given that designation up by the rejection of truth. Instead, what we see is the Philadelphian church ending in 1844 and being replaced by the Laodicean church as the church of God. Each one of these churches represents

the general mood, whether good or bad, of that church during the time of its existence. We notice that the Laodicean church is not condemned for false doctrine, they have a knowledge of the truth, but with this they are content, they do not have what all that truth they have should have given them, the Spirit of God, and Christ’s character and righteousness. The problem is not being a part of the Laodicean church, but committing the great sin of that church, we are all Laodicean, but are we asleep Laodiceans? And have we not seen this sleep of death throughout God’s professed people from 1844 to the present? Look around on every side, though many profess Christ and the truth, how many are truly following Him? How many take His character as their own? Who are those that are actually moving forward in the power of God’s Spirit?

The worst part is, that those who are in this life-threatening state, do not even realize where they are. We must be always on guard against this sleep, it is our natural tendency, and unless we watch, we will be caught unprepared. We are the Laodicean church and will we heed its great warning?

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Now the question may arise here, if the Philadelphian church ended so long ago how could it be said that they could see Christ’s return? This is a good question; and one we need to answer, for it is not just the Philadelphian church where this question arises. The question also arises with the previous two churches. At the time the book “Thoughts on Daniel and Revelation” was written some of those who lived under those churches were still alive and it was believed that Christ would come before those who lived under them were all passed away. This, though, proved not to be the case. There is also a third place where this question arises, while talking about the signs in the sun, moon, and stars, Christ says this

generation shall not pass until all these things be fulfilled, which was thought to mean when this book was written that Christ would come before the people who lived under these signs would pass from the earth. But it has now been almost 200 years since these signs were seen.

On the topic of Christ's words: "This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled." We give this quote from Charles Fitch: "But, it will be asked, did not Christ say, 'This generation shall not pass till all these things be fulfilled?' Certainly—and the generation of which Christ spake, has not passed, and will not pass, till He comes in the clouds of heaven, and every eye sees Him.

"The only question is, what did Christ mean by generation? Plainly, not the men then living, for it cannot be shown that an individual of that, or any other generation of that sort, to this day, has seen Christ in the clouds of heaven. It is said of Christ in Psalm xxii. 30, 'a seed shall serve him, it shall be accounted to the Lord for a generation.'

"This, then, is the meaning of the text: 'The generation of my spiritual seed shall not pass away from the earth, till all these things be fulfilled.' Generation is used with like import in Psalm xxiv. 7, Psalm cxii. 2, I. Peter ii. 9." Charles Fitch, Letter to Rev. J. Litch, on the Seconding Coming of Christ, page 70.

The movement begun with the signs in the sun, moon, and stars, or the great Advent awaking, would not be stopped or ended, it would not return to the previous darkness of Popery, before Christ's return. The truth brought forward in this final message is the final movement of reform and will not end until Christ is seen coming in the clouds of Heaven. The ship of truth started by this movement is going through.

Now what about those who lived under the churches of Thyatira, Sardis, and Philadelphia? Here is what the prophecy says respecting these churches.

Of Thyatira. "But that which ye have already hold fast *till I come*." [Emphasis Supplied] Revelation 2:25.

Of Sardis. "Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. *If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.*" [Emphasis Supplied] Revelation 3:3.

Of Philadelphia. "*Behold, I come quickly*: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown." [Emphasis Supplied] Revelation 3:11.

These are the three texts respecting each church distinctly, all these texts indicate that Christ's second coming was going to be soon for these churches, they could reasonably expect Christ's return as very soon. But none of these texts say that Christ will return during their churches or during their lifetimes, they are just to be ready for Him to come. You are now living in the time of His coming and you must watch for

an hour when you think not, He will come, ye know not the hour of His return. Christ said to His disciples: "There be some standing here that shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in His kingdom." By this, He was referring to scenes of the mount of transfiguration, not His second coming. They were to also see Him coming in His glory at the second coming, but that would not be for another 2000 years. Even so, those living under these churches could expect Him to come anytime, they were living during the time of the end, and they were to see His coming preached, but it was not a guarantee that He would come during their time.

Paul does something similar in 1 Cor. 15:51, 52. "We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump." These obviously did not happen in his day; they have not yet occurred. But he speaks of them as though they were, that they were to be involved in them, and in a sense they were. Paul in his second letter to the Corinthians, even references this misinterpretation of his words, that some had thought by them that Christ was coming soon.

But there is one more point we could add here as to why these words were given to expect Christ to return to these churches soon, besides the fact that He was coming soon. Some of those who lived under the Thyatira and Sardis churches would survive into the Philadelphian and Laodicean churches. As we learn from Daniel there is to be a special resurrection just before Christ's return, at this resurrection many of those men who persecuted Christ the most severely will be resurrected to see His coming, but with them is also mentioned some of the righteous, these will be those who died in the faith of the third angel's message before Christ came. Now the third angel's message began about the time of the beginning of the Laodicean church. So, in this sense those who made it from these churches to the time of the Laodicean church, will see Christ's return with their own eyes.

Thus ends the first prophecy of Revelation, with the last church of Laodicea, ending with a deplorable state in the church. Yet despite the many difficulties that are to be and are in the church at this time, this church is the most honored of them all, for this church is to witness the final scenes of this earth's history and see the Son of man coming in the clouds of Heaven. It is a remarkable fact that the church that is so honored, the very last church of the world, the one to witness Christ's great return, is the very one the most asleep and uncaring regarding those momentous events. Let us heed the warning and not be found among those who are asleep to these events, that we may not be caught unprepared at His appearing.

Editor

Not Applicable

For many years the common argument against the keeping of the Sabbath commandment was not that it should not be kept, but that it had been changed from the seventh day of the week to the first at Christ's crucifixion. But, in more modern times, the argument, is not applicable to Christians or is no longer in existence, has now become the more preferred argument among Evangelical scholars. The argument, instead of suggesting that the day has been changed, advocates that Christians are under no obligation to hold any day sacred. That Sunday is not sacred either, that there is no need to rest on it, and that we only use this day for church, because of tradition, but that it really does not matter what day of the week we meet together.

In this article, we will be going over one of the proofs that is used in support of this claim. The argument goes like this: "The ceremonial law and ten commandments are not applicable to Christians, only if a rule is mentioned in the New Testament again, can it be binding on Christians, which nine of the commandments are mentioned except the fourth one, the Sabbath, this is because Christ is now our rest, the Sabbath commandment is fulfilled by rest in Christ." To support this argument some of the following texts are brought forward:

"Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant. *It is a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever:* for in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day He rested, and was refreshed." Exodus 31:16–17

"Moreover also I *gave* them my Sabbaths, to *be a sign* between me and them, that they might know that I am the LORD that sanctify them." Ezekiel 20:12

"Thou camest down also upon mount Sinai, and spakest with them from heaven, and gavest them right judgments, and true laws, good statutes and commandments: And *madest known unto them thy holy Sabbath*, and commandedst them precepts, statutes, and laws, by the hand of Moses thy servant." Nehemiah 9:13–14

"Come unto me, all [ye] that labour and are heavy laden, *and I will give you rest.* Take my yoke upon you,

and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: *and ye shall find rest unto your souls.* For my yoke [is] easy, and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28–30.

"Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left [us] of entering into His rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard [it]. For we which have believed do enter into rest, as He said, As I have sworn in My wrath, if they shall enter into My rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world. For He spake in a certain place of the seventh [day] on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all His works. And in this [place] again, If they shall enter into My rest. Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein, and they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief: Again, He limiteth a certain day, saying in David, To day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts. For if Jesus (Joshua, Jesus being the Greek form of that name) had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day. There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. For he that is entered into His rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God [did] from His. Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief." Hebrews 4:1–11.

By far the most common argument put against the Sabbath is that it is only a Jewish institution. And as the first three texts we quoted suggest, these are the verses most commonly raised in support of this objection. So, in order to show the issues with this argument of non-applicability, we need to start by showing the difficulties with this most common argument.

The first issue we discover with the first two of these texts is that they are only inference arguments. The inference that is drawn in this argument from these texts is that the Sabbath was *only* a sign between God and the children of Israel so this commandment is not applicable to Christians. However, the fact that the text says the Sabbath is a sign between Me and the children of Israel in no way means that everyone else in the world was excluded. Just because God said He was the God of the Hebrews, did not mean He was only limited to them. When God spoke these words, He was then speaking to the children of Israel, they were the subject of His command, so they being the only ones mentioned in His list is not surprising.

Despite the fact that the use of these texts would only be inferences, there are also many other issues with using them. If we consider the Ten Commandments, the Sabbath being the fourth one of these, we discover some very interesting things relating to them. The Ten Commandments after being the rules God gave with His own voice to the people of Israel, were written down on stone by God's own finger and given to Moses who put them in the ark. In all these things we immediately recognize significance.

First, by their being the only commands spoken by God's own voice to the children of Israel and the only ones written by His own finger, we realize that these commands were clearly God's most important, the ones He wanted most to impress upon those of that and future generations of His people. These commands He specifically set apart from all the others He gave and has given since then.

Second, we have the writing of these ten set-apart commands written upon stone, whereas all the other laws were written on parchment. Stone has two specific characteristics that set it apart from other materials; hardness, in that it is indestructible, and long lastingness, in fact, it will last forever if not eroded away. From these facts, the two things they symbolize becomes obvious, these commands were to be unbreakable, and no one had the right to disobey them, they were also indestructible in the sense that they were never to be abolished, in which we see the same thing brought in by the long life of stone, again a clear symbol of something that was to last forever. These words written upon these stones were unending in their lives, the laws of God's people forever.

Third, after these Ten Commands were given to Moses they were placed in the ark, this is very interesting because it is a big statement on the importance of these laws, because this ark was a symbol of God's throne. The rest of the Hebrew laws, or the ceremonial law, as we quite often call them, were placed on the outside of the ark, whereas the Ten Commandments were placed inside of it. Again, as with everything else given to the Hebrews, this was a symbol of the relationship of these laws to God and His people. The ceremonial laws were merely attached to His throne temporally, while they were there they were just as important as any of His other commands, but they were not permanent. But the ten commandments, which were placed inside the ark, were not attachments, they had been there from the beginning and were to remain there forever. By the

placement of them in the ark, it represented them as the laws and the foundation of God's government upon which rules His rulership was built. But there is one more importance to this placement of these ten commands, by their placement in the ark it showed these specific ten commands to be as high as God's throne, all under the government of God are subject to them, they were not just applicable to the Hebrews, not just the human family, but all of God's created beings including the angels.

The problem is that to argue that the Sabbath was only for the Jews to be consistent we have to say all the Ten Commandments were only for the Jews. All of these ten commands were set apart from the other Hebrew laws, there is a clear line of distinction drawn between them, not just in importance, but also in purpose. First, the ceremonial laws, were mostly symbols of future events built upon faith in a Saviour to come, whereas the latter, the Ten Commandments, were the moral code that was and is the foundation of God's people through both dispensations. The difficulty is that the Sabbath was not included with the ceremonial rules but was set apart as the fourth of these ten moral rules, so to destroy one, to be consistent, one must destroy them all.

In the third text, the argument is made that the Sabbath was not given to the world until Mount Sinai. But this cannot be the meaning, for previously in Exodus 16, before the reaching of the great mountain, the Sabbath is mentioned with reference to the children of Israel and the manna. The children of Israel here are commanded not to gather it on the Sabbath and to stay in their places upon that day. So just because Nehemiah says, "made known unto them," it does not mean that this was the first time anyone had heard of it, the Sabbath commandment was largely forgotten by the Hebrews in Egypt, though not entirely, as is indicated by multiple things the Hebrews knew.

Now before we leave this third verse, I would like to say a little more respecting Exodus 16. "Then said the LORD unto Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in My law, or no." Exodus 16:4. "And the LORD said unto Moses, How long refuse ye to keep My commandments and My laws?" Exodus 16:28. The 16th chapter of Exodus is a very interesting chapter with relation to the Sabbath question. First it is the first direct mention of the Sabbath since Creation, but it is also before Mount Sinai, which is quite often argued as

being the place where the Sabbath was first given to the Hebrews. The second thing interesting about this chapter is how the law of God is referenced, God says, “whether they will walk in My law or no,” He is saying that I have a law and I want them to walk in it and I am going to test them to see whether or not they wish to follow Me. He is testing them with the Sabbath as His test for whether they will keep the rest of His law and follow Him. Later in the chapter, He says, “how long refuse ye to keep My commandments and My laws,” here God identifies, as He did before, these laws as His, not the Jew’s, and He wants the Hebrews to keep them not because this law is just for them, but because they are His people and as such must be subject to His law in order for them to be rendered as such. The final interesting thing that arises from this passage is how the gathering of the manna command is given to the Hebrews. They are not told to gather twice as much Manna on Friday, (though God did tell Moses this, Moses when he told what God had said to the children of Israel, did not mention this specification), yet they do, this indicates a preconceived knowledge of the Sabbath amongst the Hebrews, what is also interesting in relation to this is how God says this manna is to test them, whether they will walk in His commandments or no, they are not told to gather more manna on Friday or not to gather on the Sabbath, rather God tests them to see whether they remember the command from creation and whether they will adhere to it.

There are also more arguments that can be put forward on this point about the Hebrews and the Sabbath, but we will only cover one more here due to lack of space and because we have covered more of these elsewhere.

This final point is also a bit of a large one, but the basis of it can be said in just a few words, the ceremonial law was not just Jewish either. When this argument that the Sabbath was only for the Jews is given, we immediately assume that the ceremonial law was only for Jews, we assume that there were even laws solely applicable to the Hebrews. Although the Jewish ceremonial law is not applicable to Christians, this is not because it was Jewish, but because it was fulfilled at the cross. The general thought process has permeated society that the reason Christians are not bound under the old Jewish system is that it was just for the Jews. The issue is that the Bible never references this concept, the reason always given is because it was fulfilled, not that it was not applicable to others.

In reality the ceremonial law as it is usually called can be divided into three categories, first the ceremonial part of the law, these were the symbols of future events that were fulfilled at the cross, such as the feast days like the Passover, or the earthly sanctuary and its rites. This first set of rules prefigured Christ, and was therefore applicable to everyone, for Christ came not just to save the Hebrews but all the earth that would serve Him. “And if a stranger shall sojourn among you, and will keep the passover unto the LORD; according to the ordinance of the passover, and according to the manner thereof, so shall he do: ye shall have one ordinance, both for the stranger, and for him that was born in the land.” Numbers 9:14. The second part of the ceremonial law was the rules of conduct, how the people of Israel were to behave themselves around others, such as if they were accidentally to kill their neighbor’s animal, they were to pay for it, or if they were accidentally to hurt their neighbor they were to pay for the loss of his time. This second division of rules, as can be clearly understood, if read, are still applicable to Christians, and were obviously not just meant for the Jews either when they were given, any Christian who follows Christ’s many admonitions of love to our fellowman will be already following these rules. The third set of rules given to the Hebrews could be classified as national rules, these are the only rules that could be said to be Jewish, and only applied to the Jews themselves when they had political power which during long periods of their history, they did not possess. These rules included things such as the punishments for offenses and the cities of refuge, etc. These rules were not symbols of the future, but are still not applicable to Christians since God’s people are no longer in control of a nation, under this dispensation God has commanded His people to submit themselves to the higher powers and not to attempt to use political power.

As we can observe from this, we cannot say the Sabbath was only for the Jews, if there were not any rules that were directly just for the Jews. The Scripture says these rules were to be the glory of the Hebrews among the heathen of the world, not because they were a set of exclusive rules, but because when these rules were looked upon and compared relative to the many heathen systems around, the improvement and righteousness of their rules and rites, was in stark contrast to the kindreds of the earth that were around them. Which in turn would set them and more specifically the God they served on a higher level of

respect in the world in the hope that the many tribes of the earth would come to God and join His people Israel as they saw what His government was like in comparison with the dead and desolate systems they lived under.

But there is also more to this, all people who profess God are counted as part of the children of Israel. “And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had yet being uncircumcised: *that he might be the father of all them that believe, though they be not circumcised*; [emphasis added] that righteousness might be imputed unto them also: And the father of circumcision to them who are not of the circumcision only, but who also walk in the steps of that faith of our father Abraham, which he had being yet uncircumcised.” Romans 4:11–12. Later on, in Romans, Paul says: “Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel: Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called. That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed.” Romans 9:6–8. Paul says in Galatians: “Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham.” Galatians 3:7. “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ’s, then are ye Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.” Galatians 3:28–29.

The name of Israel, was not about the physical people of Israel, but the true followers of God, Israel in the wilderness and Israel now has never been the title of a family, but the title of a people, a people not tied together under family lines, but united under one God and His truth. Though we may designate those who have descended in a literal sense from Abraham as Israel, under God’s eyes, only those who are following Him have this title. We, as is said by Paul, as followers of Christ, have been grafted into Israel and those who rejected God and His Son have been cut off from Israel. When the name Israel was given to Jacob, Christ said for thou hast prevailed with God and man. So, all that are to bear this name must also prevail with God.

The non-applicability of the Hebrews’ rites upon us now, has nothing to do with the idea that they were only originally for the Hebrews, they were not, and even if they were, any people who profess the religion of God

are counted as part of them and under the same rules, but what has done away with them was that what they pointed to was fulfilled. All rules that were not fulfilled, or that were not signs and symbols of the future are still applicable to us. So, the question then is, was the Sabbath a symbol of the future? This, of course, does not appear to be the case, because then it should not have been included in the Ten Commandments. But putting that aside, the topic of could the Sabbath be a symbol of the future, or more specifically fulfilled by Christ’s rest in our hearts which would come after Christ’s death, is the purpose of the rest of this article.

The argument put forward here is that Christ has fulfilled the rest of the Sabbath and is now become our rest, there are two texts, as we have previously given, put forward in support of this objection. These being, Matthew 11:28–30 and Hebrews 4:1–11. Let us go over these verses carefully. First, in Matthew, we have Christ stating the fact that He is rest for all those that follow Him, this in itself, would not be enough to prove that the Sabbath was a sign of this. But the text is added to this, Hebrews 4, which is considered to support this position and therefore shows that the Sabbath was a sign of Christ’s rest. Yet, I find several issues with this concept of the Sabbath as a sign of this.

First, the Sabbath was not a sign of rest to come, but rest already done. It was a memorial, not a symbol—a sign of a past event, not a future one. A reminder of the creation of the world, not its redemption. Something cannot be fulfilled if it was not a representation of something.

Second, Hebrews 4 itself. This is a very interesting chapter, it’s topic of conversation is really started back in chapter 3 and finished at the end of the fourth chapter. And if we go over all of what Paul here says, we can clearly see the pattern of what he is saying. He begins in chapter three by relating the Hebrews’ rejection of the truth and persistence in breaking the law of God through, as he says here in chapter 4, unbelief, or a lack of faith. He says that through this lack on their part, they failed to enter into the rest of God, which he then precedes to explain what that rest is, he says that it was founded from the beginning of the world and that it is the seventh day of creation. From this it is clear that he is here speaking of the Sabbath, he calls the rest the Hebrews failed to enter the Sabbath and says they failed to enter it because of a lack of faith in Christ, their future Saviour. He then says that their faith had not come, had not been finished with the

capture of Canaan under Joshua, but that more was yet to come and that when it did there would again be another chance to truly enter into the rest of God, which they had failed to because of their unbelief before. Therefore, as he says, the rest of God still remains to God's people, and it is now their duty to enter it under the faith of Jesus, learning from the failure of the Hebrews before them, which failed in this respect but now had another chance.

Now of course the objection that is put forward from this chapter is that Paul here says that Christ is now our rest that remains to us and therefore the Sabbath has been fulfilled. But consider this, if we look at what Paul here says, it seems he never separates this rest into two, Sabbath and Christ, he treats them as one throughout the passage. He says the Hebrews failed to enter that rest of the Sabbath, not because they did not replace it with Christ, but because they did not have that faith in Christ that would allow them to truly enter the rest of the Sabbath. Which same concept he builds off of when he reaches the time of Christ's first advent which was to bring that second chance. Following this logic, we see that he is not here saying that Christ replaced the Sabbath, but that now all may truly enter its rest, which was only possible through the faith that was, sadly, not exercised by the Hebrews in the wilderness. Paul never here separates the rest of God, but puts both Jesus and the Sabbath together as making up the rest of the Father. "If ye love Me, keep My commandments." John 14:15. "And hereby we do know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments." 2 John 2:3. Only those that are keeping the commandments of Christ and His Father, can have a connection with God, and enter into His rest.

Continuing further through this passage we find several interesting references to sin through chapters three and four. "But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be *hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end;* [emphasis supplied] While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation." Hebrews 3:13-14. God, "Is a *discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.* [emphasis supplied] Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in His sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do." Hebrews 4:12-13. "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points *tempted like as we are,*

yet without sin. [emphasis supplied] Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, *and find grace to help in time of need.*" [emphasis supplied] Hebrews 4:15-16. All of these texts reference sin or more specifically secret sin, a life not fully renewed by Christ. John says: "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law." 1 John 3:4. Now all of these references that Paul here gives are in this same passage discussing the rest of Christ and the Sabbath. Now what this would indicate is a law that was connected to this rest, that he was here speaking of, a rest that could not be entered without Christ renewing and enabling all that come to Him to live in perfect obedience to that law. So, this reference to sin and Christ's help with it, gives us a clearer insight into what was incorporated in the words rest. Paul is here saying that only through Christ can we enter the rest of the Sabbath, or keep any of God's commands for that matter. For Christ must reign in the heart, the hope of glory, then and only then, can God's people enter His rest and be fully fitted to enter His kingdom. By applying all of these references to disobedience in the passage, it is clear that Paul is not advocating the disobedience of a command, such as the Sabbath, but obedience to it, to enter this rest, that through faith in Christ, this rest may be entered by ability through Him to obey the commands of God, specifically is rest, the Sabbath.

The Sabbath could not be fulfilled, it was not a sign of a future event. The only event that it could for any reason, be logically applied to it would be rest in Christ as our Saviour, and yet, as we can see from these words of Paul, that is not the case. Another verse that shows that the Sabbath has not and cannot be fulfilled is in Isaiah: "For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before Me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain. 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 before me, saith the LORD." Isaiah 66:22-23. This passage mentions the Sabbath being kept during the 1000 years, if the Sabbath was a sign of a future event, then why is it kept during the 1000 years after it has been fulfilled? None of the other ceremonies are, for they were fulfilled and have no purpose once their anti-type has been met.

If the Sabbath cannot be shown to be fulfilled, to be a shadow of a future event, then we are left with the obvious conclusion of its perpetual obligation. The Sabbath stands as the unfulfillable memorial of God's

creative power to all mankind and beyond. A memorial that if fulfilled or done away would defeat the very purpose of its existence, to keep the knowledge of God alive in the world. A flame that can never go out, a light that ever shines a testament that this world is not here by chance, that there is a purpose to life, and that there is a higher being to whom this world owes its allegiance.

Editor

Organization

We watch or read great stories of people who went through lives of action, adventure, and success and we wish that we could imitate their actions and experiences in our own lives. But it is not a matter of imitating their lives or their actions, if we do that, we will never reach the enjoyment or fulfillment out of our lives we wish, no, instead we should imitate their reasons for what they did, the reason for existence that they built their lives upon, not their actions that result from that reason. Standing for what is right, doing the right thing, the courage and boldness to push forward no matter what, taking our lives in hand and making something of them, and helping those around us, this is how we live a life truly as adventuresome as those we look to. Always remember, it is not the action that is to be imitated, but the reason for that action.

But this concept of reason, and not an individual action also applies to organizations.

Every organization, whether country or church, has always fallen, if not conquered by its companions, to itself, its own internal sins. And yet, the strange thing is, is that it was the focus on those internal sins or other side issues, that brought that power down to those sins, the attempted destruction of those evils that over flooded that organization with evil. The world suffered from constant danger of hunger, until someone decided instead of building another plow he was going to build a steam engine. We do not fix our internal problems, by focusing on them, we fix them by looking to the bigger picture, by focusing on something bigger and more overarching, the reason for the existence of our organization, not the individual problems and intricacies inside that organization. By building creeds, or passing laws, to attempt to fix these issues, we instead tie ourselves down, and further distract and pull away from the very reason those things were an issue in the first place, the very reason for the organization those problems are threatening. We need to instead look to and expand the reason this organization was built and all other issues will find solutions. Do not build creeds, or laws, that will instead hinder the advancement necessary to solve those issues in the first place, as we instead focus on our reason, those issues that threaten that

reason will not be able to stand. Why climb the highest mountain? Because the effort to climb that mountain, the looking to the big goal, the overarching purpose, will serve to organize and utilize the best of energies and skills, even if we do not reach the summit, we will most certainly reach a ledge higher than we were. It is not a mountain of truth, it is a level of truth, each level unlocking a new range of possibilities, but if we tie ourselves down by creed or law, we will be unable to fully reach another level. Every organization needs an ideology and a higher reason for its existence, only then, and by the continued focus on those, will that group continue. The reason for the rise and fall of so many great empires and great churches, has been, they have lost their focus on their reason, and have instead focused on their problems. We cannot look to ourselves, we must look to something or someone higher.

The sad part is, that every organization in this sinful world will fall, some future generation will always forget the reason for its group's purpose. But our duty, is to make sure, during our generation, that the reason for our group is not lost, and to educate the same into the next generation. But we must also keep the reason alive in the memory of the future, the ideology that our group is built upon, so that, when that organization that we are currently a part of inevitably falls, its reason for existence and the ideology that created it, may be picked up by some future generation, and built upon again. It has not been the many different churches that have been God's true church for their time, that have lasted, they all fell, but the principles that those churches built themselves upon, their reason and ideology, the truth and Christ, that have lasted these 2000 years.

The use of creeds or statements of belief, which are just unenforced creeds, are to focus on our internal problems, they tie us to the platform we are on, and in the end, these creeds do the opposite of what they are designed, they bring disunity and confusion, as people lose sight of why we exist and instead focus on the beliefs of the creed, we end up with nominal Christians, independent thought is squashed, submit to the creed or leave. By this course of action, in the establishment of creeds, we destroy that organization. The establishment of a creed is the first sign that a group has lost its reason for existence. Not that that reason does not exist, but that that group's individual members are losing sight of it.

Any organization that is to succeed must have a reason to succeed, an ideology it is built upon. And for a church, that reason is the truth, the Bible, if we must have a creed, then we already have one, the Holy Scriptures. The creed of science is physics itself, this creed is not built by those who work with it, it is discovered in the very laws of nature that those scientists are working with. The creed of science is science, the truth of how the universe is built, which is what every scientist is trying to discover, not create. As humans we do not have the right to dictate what is true and what is

not, we can discover a creed, but never make our own. God has given us a creed in the Scriptures, its true interpretation, that is our purpose as an organization, that is our creed. In science we have the saying there are no absolutes, not that there is no absolute truth to how the universe works, but that our interpretation of how it works is not absolute, it can be wrong. We do not have the right to dictate to others that this or that interpretation is the right one and you must follow, no, every individual must make up his or her mind based on the weight of evidence for that interpretation. We need not have a creed to show whether or not someone should be a part of our organization, as we follow the truth, focusing on it and building upon it, all those who disagree with us will fall away. Satan's goal is to get us away from this state, to separate us from our purpose, the creation of a creed is his first step in destroying an organization.

Scientists have no creed, and yet their work is built around the truth of nature. Mathematicians have no creed and yet they are built around absolute truth. So why should we who are built around the truth of Heaven have a creed? The creed of science is science itself, the creed of truth is the truth itself, there are not 2, 10, or 30 different versions of a particular truth, but one. What sets us apart is that, instead of following someone's interpretation of truth, we follow the truth, without loyalty above the truth to the interpretations of men.

A creed is to make its members instead of focusing on the truth, focus on the organization that that creed is created for. A creed passes the idea along, that it is the organization that is important, that is the truth, and not the truth itself independent of any organization. People instead look to their church and not the truth of the Bible. Even a statement of beliefs results in this. The ultimate truth is God, if we use the truth without God, we become Laodicean. The truth is built around God, just as with the organization built around the truth, the truth is built around God. Ultimately God must be what we are looking for, our reason, the most important thing in our lives.

We spend way too much time trying to solve the problem, we need to define the problem, before we solve it. Why does this problem exist, where does it come from? How does it relate to the rest of the truth or science? Einstein said that if he had an hour to save the world and there was one problem that he had to solve to do it, he would spend 55 minutes defining the problem, and only 5 solving it. We spend way too much time solving problems, supposedly, and not enough time defining their very existence! This is the principle that any problem should be solved with, whether biblical, or scientific, define your problem and its relation to the rest of the field or even further, and then solve it with the information you have gleaned from defining it. Is it even a problem?

We have been, in a way, preaching the Babylon message in the wrong way, we focus too much on leaving Babylon, and not enough on why. If we present the truth, those who accept it will see and will on their own leave these corrupt organizations. It's the truth that will separate them. Not that we are not to warn people to leave, but that the method we use should first be the beliefs and concepts that have led to this or that organization becoming Babylon. One must separate physically and *mentally* from all traces of Babylonian concepts. Instead of this, many have merely physically left Babylon, but Babylon is not built around the physical but a mental state. First separate mentally from Babylon, because in doing that and focusing on that, you will automatically leave that group of Babylonians. Present the reason this group is Babylon, its false beliefs, and then they will come, not because you told them to, although you did, but because they saw the weight of evidence, and not only separated in a physical sense but in mind as well, for that is the true reason to leave Babylon. A person can be on their own, and part of no organization, and of course under this they are not responsible for the sins of that group, but yet they can still be Babylonian on an individual level. We must escape the concepts of Babylon, not just its groups.

Israel, even in the days of Christ had no creed, and yet we see this same attitude of Babylon manifested by them, this is because they treated their beliefs like a creed on an individual level. The Hebrews had no creed and still do not to this day, and interestingly enough we see a great advancement in secular knowledge amongst the Jews, because they do not box themselves in in this regard. But, there is one area, in which this same tendency of Babylon for absolute control is still manifested, religion. Without creed, without real organization in many areas, yet still a Babylonian group. For Babylon is made up of individuals, here and there people who take what they believe to be true, over all other evidence to the contrary, those that build their identity or group, upon their own ideas, right or wrong, and not around only the truth. This is the attitude of Babylon, a group or individual whose faith and identity rest not upon the truth, but upon someone's interpretation of truth, whether that be someone else's or their own. Where an individual puts their faith in men, or themselves, and their interpretations of truth and not on the truth itself and its source. This is why the message sent under Revelation 18 for the redemption of any Babylonian who will hear, is righteousness by faith in Christ. For only by looking to something higher, someone higher than yourself can you escape the trap that besets not only those of religion, but anyone in anything, secular or spiritual. The message to the Laodicean church is to open the door to your heart and let Christ come in, make Christ and His truth your most important thing, what you build your life around and then and only then, can you escape Babylon, not only physically but spiritually. Hold on to Him, no matter what, and you will see it through.

Ask yourself now, what is more important to me personally, what do I put my trust in? God? Me? My creed? My group? What about the group you are a part of, what is more important to them? What have they built themselves around? A creed? Or just a general control of, this is what you must believe, among its leaders or even its general citizens? Because Babylon is not a construct of many minds working together, but is a state of individual minds in a group, which in turn all add together to form one vast construct of a Babylonian organization. If the answer to these questions is not God, then the spirit of and even Babylon itself have entered and must be expelled through the message of truth found in Christ, faith in Him and obedience to His truth, not someone else's.

We are a group that moves on the weight of evidence, not on a set dictated interpretation, if a belief that has been long held, is proved through our creed, the Bible, to be wrong, then we must move with the weight of evidence in favor of that new interpretation that proved wrong our previous interpretation.

The definition of a Babylonian church is a creed-locked church, a church who's reason for its existence is a man-made creed. Look around at the nominal Christians of today, what are they faithful to? Their church, or the Bible? Their church, or more specifically the creed of that church. The cages of Babylon are their creeds, which contain their foul spirits, their false beliefs, and in a literal sense this has imprisoned the minds of its citizens.

Is our considered truth built on our organization or is our organization built upon the truth? We cannot make the truth conform to our conception of it, no, we are to conform our conceptions to the truth. But by how few is this done today, it is the group, the organization that is important to people, they do not realize why they would even be a part of a group on this subject. They know the group, but they don't know what that group was made for. We do not realize why we exist. When all is said and done, all that really matters, is the truth lived in our lives, not whether we were part of this or that organization. At the end of the day, the truth is what is important, not the organization built around it. We need to cease this unquestioning loyalty to our organization, and instead have that determined and undaunted loyalty to the truth, no matter what or what circumstances we may find ourselves in in this life. The truth is not dictated by what our circumstances may be, the truth is the truth for now and for eternity, ever standing, never falling to the floodgates of man's opinions.

An organization of any kind is to be built around its reason for existence, the question should not be how we should organize this or that group, but why we are organizing. The organization is built for the reason, not the reason built for the organization. The reason for the existence of a group is to assist in the spread and building of the reason that that group

was founded upon. An organization is the natural result, and built upon, the advancing of the purpose for our group. When an issue's head lifts itself up in our organization, we should instead of asking how can we protect the group from this problem, ask, how does this issue relate to the truth? How might it help or hinder the spreading of the truth? When difficulties such as these are created we should follow the principles of the Bible, let us all come together and find a solution to the issue, not arguing over who is right, but in the manner of here is a problem, now how can we fix this, or run with this, so that the spreading of the truth is advanced and not hindered?

We need to build our organization around the truth, not someone's dictation of what that truth is. The truth is our goal, the truth our reason, and in it, we find our purpose in existing, around this, and this alone, we, and all that have come before, stand.

Editor

Mission Reports

This issue we have six Mission reports from Brother J. N. and Brother J. M. two of our workers in Uganda.

Mission Report 1

Uganda, J. N.

Late April

Dear ones,

Heb. 6:10-11.

'The word of God is our standard.' 5T 133. In times past there has been great liberality on the part of our people to respond to calls for help in the various branches of the work in the vineyard, but calls do come with worldliness and love of possessions that are on increase and the danger of God's people for the years past has been the love of the world. 1T 132.2. It is our privilege to be among those having the faith of Jesus and keeping the law to attain salvation, though some are withering spiritually.

I have been drawing plans for new fields of labor, entirely new that must be visited with a fresh approach and so I wish stewards of the Lord's heritage to act their part and support those who are carrying out the message of present truth in these areas. I did lay out plans through AWOST for special efforts to be made when entering a certain identified location, to try teaching life skills in home economy, accompanied with the message of Present Truth taking a few

weeks preparing minds to receive the truth, coupled with their aroused talents among themselves. These are in tailoring, hair dress, homiletic, and saving.

I am preparing an Arabic booklet for some Arab speaking people in South Sudan and North Africa in General. It is a special new approach inspired by bro. M. M. who has sacrificed time with the internet to translate a booklet *Caught Unprepared* by sis. G. M.

I have been doing the formatting to fit our A4 papers so that I can do printing. I have been contacting some of my social media friends to reach out to others who can read Arabic. In doing so I established a number of them in S.Sudan willing to help in giving out our booklet.

I Pray that as I print out the Arabic booklet, I may also print out some tracts and booklets in English to cover this new area which has been a war zone in world history, with barbaric tribes even in this 21st century.

God bless you.

J. N.

Mission Report 2

Uganda, J. N.

Beginning of June

Dear elder J. S.

Heb 6:10 – 11

God would have us learn the solemn lesson that we are working out our own destiny by keep our religion pure and untainted in these last days. 2 Tim 2:1. Our faith is to be centered in Him who is the source of power and Christ's name is to be our watchword '*here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.*' Rev. 14:12. I have been deeply engaged in printing out some messages of 'present truth' purposely targeting the war torn region north of my country – Sudan where I have high hopes of coming into contact with Arabic speaking souls through a brother in S Sudan. I have so far printed out 350 booklets of a translation done by bro. M. M. in Arabic. I was impressed by his efforts and I started contacting some of my social media contact members to link me to friends who can read and understand Arabic. M. M. had translated the booklet *Caught Unprepared* into Arabic, which is a special warning and call for this time. I was thinking of any possible openings that could enable us reach areas, with strict conditions, with the gospel, to present Christ to the perishing souls, and here I felt the Lord has opened for me through my young brother M. M. He sent me a soft copy of his translation and worked on it to fit our A4 paper format. I am praying that let His will be done through these efforts as I will be dispatching these booklets in a simple method of

house to house means of relationship. I have also printed out a few tracts which can easily open a talk to anyone I come across since we just hold them by hand. I am trying to observe the situation as we have agreed with bro. W. K. to meet in J___ and see how best we can give out these Arabic print outs of the booklet *Caught Unprepared*. I will also have to meet some SDA church members in M___ SDA found in J___ by the end of this month as we have fixed. I request that we pray and support this project.

God bids us teach, lead, and guide His people, that they may teach, lead and guide others in impoverished state of spiritual want. Mat 5:3. We have a smaller printing office which I manage in a way that will help the work of God be in circulation if sufficient attention is given to enable a stand in the midst of darkness engrossing Christendom. Those things of God which are now dark and obscure is hereafter to be made clear, and easy to be understood. But here are the events coming to pass, as we believe following the order of prophecy. We have also kept a prophecy seminar running on a weekly schedule that has not left us the same but enlightened us in many areas that may not be clearly understood. We pray for continued support when things are hard worldwide that we can open the real word in this real time of need. My outreach ministry is expanding to different destinations making our efforts known.

I extend my sincere thanks to elder J. S. for the financial support to get these efforts come true and I pray for continued extra support to the African cause so that many be reached and Christ will come to take us home. Maranatha.

God bless,

J. N.

Mission Report 3

Uganda, J. N.

Mid July

Dear ones,

Heb. 6:10–11.

Christian greetings from Joel and the Remnant fraternity within our region. I have been exercised in the various fields of the gospel dispensation with an aim of establishing the Adventist doctrine of our pioneers as it is found in the Bible and SOP. I have also taken a keen interest in the Prophecy Seminar by Jim Snipes and conducted by sister G. M. on *gymfeather*: [rumble.com/user/gymfeather](https://www.rumble.com/user/gymfeather) every evening after Sabbath hours educating us by the leading of His Holy Spirit into instrumentalities that must accomplish the work of the Lord in His vineyard John 15:5.

We have taken a deep study into the Advent "*message that will arouse the churches*" which "*is to be proclaimed. Every*

effort is to be made to give the light, not only to our people, but to the world. I have been instructed that the prophecies of Daniel and the Revelation should be printed in small books, with the necessary explanations, and should be sent all over the world. Our own people need to have the light placed before them in clearer lines.” TM 117.3

We did engage ourselves in printing out a booklet in Arabic language containing the prophecies of Daniel and Revelation with the title “*Caught Unprepared*” to be distributed in new areas (S Sudan) where W___ K___ is going to distribute to those who know and can read Arabic. M. M. put in efforts to translate the booklet and I did the print out of the first batch of 350 booklets. I have submitted paper work for the renewal of my passport and once it will be issued, I will travel there to meet with our brother W___ K___ in J___ city to establish new contacts in this semi Arab location where some people can speak Arabic.

My outreach efforts have brought me into a cross section of varied concerns of the people I meet. In these last days of this earth’s historical theater where war, pestilence, plague, famine..... is raging, a real threat to life is causing the attention of human race to be aroused to find remedy and refuge in our only promise of hope, which is in the word of God.

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Jesus is coming; and will He find a people conformed to the world? and will He acknowledge these as His people that He has purified unto Himself? Oh, no. None but the pure and holy will He acknowledge as His. Those who have been purified and made white through suffering, and have kept themselves separate, unspotted from the world, He will own as His. 1T 133.1

As many events roll over the world to openly arouse humanity of the impending crisis, we have devised means to adhere and reach out to individual hearts by a grassroots approach in sharing the dangers of life ahead thus opening the hearts of many to be taught and learn from our master the skills of simple life economy in Christ. 2 Pet 1:8.

There needs to be continual support to elevate and uplift our constant growth in the knowledge of God and the truth in the efforts of the Remnant Movement in these last days, working tirelessly to counter the efforts of the arch deceiver the

Beast, Great Red Dragon, Satan. How little can we do in the work of saving souls even with the means....., and yet how much through Christ if we are imbued with His spirit to reach out to many. The Lord is working on human hearts through ministerial instrumentalities to accomplish His purpose. Thanks to elder J. S. for all his efforts and sacrifices to enable some of us to hold outreaches. I pray for wide openings towards this goal as we do our part to accomplish what would be hard for us to finish in the Lord’s vineyard without it.

Psalms 24

God bless you,

J. N.

Mission Report 4

Uganda J. M.

Late August

Dear Brother J. S.

Thanks for the support. Due to issues beyond my control am only able to reply today. I was in south western Uganda doing my Lord’s work where I caught malaria & cough, flu plus inflammation of chest, rendering me unable to do anything, I was down and out. Thank God am now on my recovery road though still bedridden. I cannot share my plight any more cause I feel it will disturb another’s peace. I at times think I am left all alone. Oh, how much I long for brotherly affection and to receive a warm word from a brother. I am undergoing a moment of distress & burnout. Your care is much appreciated dear brother. On the issue of Sudan I will get back to it after my recovery & will let you know. As I pen off I send my heart felt regards to your wife, family and church.

God bless & keep you.

J. M.

Mission Report 5

Uganda, J. M.

Mid September

Dear Brother J. S.

I received a bank report yesterday evening. Am so thankful to God for using you to come to my rescue at such a time as this. It will go a long way in offsetting my medical bills...

On another note I’ve been accepted at long last in my ‘dear wife’s family’ way back in early June, upon invitation I went to their home & there the Father, brothers following our Ugandan/African culture required of me to pay a bride price of 4 Friesian cows or it’s equivalent of 12 zebu or a long horned African breed. On this I requested to say what I could possibly manage, then finally after much pleading they agreed that I take for bride price either 2 Friesian or 5 African breed. Price of each African breed that is presentable is at least 2 million UgShillings. I don’t know the price of a Friesian cow, though many farms & well to do homes have them. As I stand today I haven’t gotten even 1 cow yet, the clock is tickling to the D–Day which dawns on October 9,

2023, Uganda's Independence day. They had wanted that official Introduction & wedding to take place either in July or August, but we requested for more time to meet these demands. As per now we have secured the little items like 6 goats from my herd of 9. We have also secured other items, but the big one is not yet available. All in all our God is more than able to meet all these. You never know help from the Lord may so come from those ends as the Spirit touches brethren –sisters there.

Why does this take place now? Because given our Catholic background & most especially my wife who's Father is the lay head & teacher in a Cathedral, a brother is a Father & so is the Uncle. When she accepted the Sabbath and acknowledged that the Pope is the anti-Christ she was not only beaten & chased from home, but also disowned by the parents, telling her to find Family elsewhere since she had left the religion of her great grandparents. When we got engaged we went there and we were chased. For many years we prayed for our acceptance & it looked like it would never come to pass, but thanks be to God that in March my Father in law gave us a surprise by so visiting us. And since then all has changed for the better, and all that feeling of denial is now history. Truly our God hears and answers prayer. This is God's good time! May we stand shoulder to shoulder to make God's good time our good time. May the good Lord and our Saviour bless & keep you all.

With Christian Love,

J. M.

Mission Report 6

Uganda J. N.

Mid September

Dear ones,

Heb 6:10-11

Christian greetings from J. N. and the brethren in the region. August 2023 has been a busy month on my side and my burden grew heavier as I was induced to take on to my case a special subject by concentrating to print out some of the booklet '*Caught Unprepared*' which sister G. M. had taken one full month of August 2023 laboring to explain from the prophecies of Daniel 11 & 12. At the same time I was preparing to attend a camp meeting where bro. I. O. and O. N. were invited as the main speakers of the week at the U___ Church – N___ camp meeting that started on 2nd of Sept. 2023 where I had expected to be one of the speakers lessening their workload, yet God bestows talents to

different persons by His grace to be employed in the vineyard. Eph. 4:11

I believed that it was the Lord's leading which He prepared for us as sister G. M. took over the stage on zoom a vesper fellowship from M. M. as His providence to counter the well planned organization of the General Conference of the SDA church, which is sending Pastor Mark Finley to Kenya with big hopes of calling upon our dear brethren who had separated from the main SDA Church. NCC churches had separated and now is operating as an independent church organization and using many of the Remnant church ministers to guide them according to *gospel order* and had taken on another conference in K___ region and is steadily agreeing with the *Present Truth* message. This shook the General Conference in US headquarters. So they funded Ps Mark Finley to come to Kenya – Nairobi conference taking more days in Kenya at the same time as our Camp meeting was taking place and to continue for a few more days after we closed our one-week meeting at K___ Nairobi. His theme of the conference was "*Hope for Africa*" as we had our theme "*Jesus is coming.*" Ps Mark Finley is a renowned Adventist minister who managed to post live stream preaching fully funded by the SDA Church on Facebook, YouTube, Television networks and even announcing a number of souls getting baptized in different places and was doing all this to subvert our simple efforts which are only supported by few individuals. By His grace though a certain mighty sound was passing out a warning and was received by His elect who took on both the baptism of water and spirit which is empowering them to stand and press on at these perilous times. 2 Tim 3:1 Let us give more time to the study of the Bible and we need a more firm reliance upon a "Thus saith the Lord" which is to be our watch dog. I have taken some time to print out some booklets as on request, but also taken an extra interest to print out '*The Government of God Part 1 & 2*' to help our dear ones to be enlightened on how our Remnant church is established 1T 361 on the true gospel order so that our churches at the end time can be run differing from the worldly churches incorporating world systems into a divine arrangement. TM 263 We now are facing a real challenge to call upon our dear ones to stand by the truth or adopt worldly systems in managing the affairs of Heaven. In this time of trial, we need to be encouraged and comforted by one another and I was humbled seeing I. O. and O. N. taking on the platform for the week an issue I had earlier thought that it would be very hard to be on a bi-weekly zoom vesper fellowship managed by bro. Gerald Kireki and hosted by Zetech University. We appreciate this kind of innovation to support our efforts and I have been with a keen watch to get the right ministers of the Present Truth to minister to our people. By His grace, we have been able to sustain our meetings for a full year. One of my main roles over this online vesper fellowship is to encourage our ministers to prepare lessons and secure some airtime to join

online vespers and share with our yearning brethren across the region the message for now. EW 63

We have had evidenced of the advantages in the internet, accessing E. White library, and this gives us an opportunity to be received, to be trusted, and both men and women, have gotten a clear insight into His Word. We come to Christ as a poor sinner ready to humble our soul before God, and exercise that repentance which is needed to be received by God. We are communicating from the Word, the truth to others. This has led us to win all to the side of truth who are separating from Babylon fallen Rev. 18:1-4.

I have been exercised for this past quarter of the year 2023 taking on the mantle; gathering strength and spiritual experience to be manifested for one another. I was entrenched in our family sibling issues of sickness and death but I thank God that He delivered me and that His promises is our safeguard and defense. I have made a number of prints 2 types of booklets which I am sending out in areas most wanted by our fellow workers. I thank sis. G. M. for her contribution towards these publications which I believe will do a great work in our region. Some copies are to go to South Sudan and K___ . GC88 P 388

I do thank our supporters for this donation of sacrifice for the cause of Present Truth and praying for continued support without which it would be very difficult to write what I am communicating to you. 4MR 71

God bless you,

J. N.

Health Nugget

Vitamins C, A, and D

Vitamin C is a common vitamin found in fruits and vegetables, most commonly in the citrus family of fruits, such as oranges, lemons, and limes, etc. This vitamin is vital in fighting disease in your body, and so is a very good food to take lots of in case of disease.

Vitamin C stimulates immune cells allowing them to fight intruders, such as bacteria and viruses, with more ease. It also naturalizes free radicals, as they are called. These free radicals, are molecules in the body that can be formed in certain interactions, what sets them apart from other molecules in the body is that they contain one or more unpaired electrons on the outer shell of the molecule, which results in allowing the molecules to interact with other molecules and proteins of the body that it should not interact with, this usually results in cell damage, which can over a long period of time cause actual health damage. The body uses a lot of vitamin C when fighting disease and so taking more of it allows the body to fight the disease to a level impossible without the necessary vitamin. This makes citrus

fruit one of the best fruits to take for general defense in disease-fighting.

Vitamin A: This vitamin helps to maintain a balanced immune system and so helps with conditions such as autoimmune, autoinflammatory, and allergic conditions. These are conditions in which the body attacks itself or some non-dangerous foreign substance, this vitamin helps to balance the system, making it more tolerant. Vitamin A, or rather beta-carotene, which is transformed by your body into vitamin A, is usually found in yellow, red, and green foods, such as carrots, sweet potatoes, spinach, mangoes, and apricots, etc.

Vitamin D3, the sunshine vitamin, this vitamin is made by your skin when exposed to ultraviolet B light, which is produced by the sun. This vitamin is another balancing one, that assists the immune system in both being more tolerant and more capable of fighting disease.

These are just a few of the many natural helpers in disease treatment. These demonstrate for us the importance of a healthy lifestyle to maintain our immune system in its best state, not just in fighting intruders, but in balancing it, keeping it from attacking ourselves. It is our duty as caretakers of the body given to us by God to maintain them in their best and most balanced condition, so that we may present ourselves wholly acceptable before God, faithful, not just spiritually, but physically, to His laws.

Editor

Donations and Prayer Requests

If you have any donations you would like to make to help the work of spreading present truth.

Please send them to:

SRPA, P. O. Box 1794, Willits, CA 95490

We also list here special requests for financial aid and prayer. In this edition, we have a request from Brother J. N. one of our workers in Uganda Africa, as well as for Brother I. O. in Kenya. Brother J. N. is requesting financial support for the work he is trying to do in South Sudan, such as booklet printing and the buying of books to help reach people there. We also request your prayers for his work there.

Brother I. O. is requesting prayers and financial support for the work he and Brother M. N. are doing among the Muslims. Brother M. N. has also asked about the possibility of raising the necessary funds to purchase a vehicle, for transportation and transporting literature, for Brother I. O.

Please tell us when you send your money if you want it to go to one of the specific workers. Donations that are not specified to go to a specific place will be sent where needed.

Published by,

The Sabbath Remnant Publishing
Association

The Sabbath Remnant Publishing

Association is a small, independent publishing group for our remnant home churches.

Previously, we had published *The Voice* for our fellow separated Christian brethren only, but now we seek to reach out to everyone in the world curious about God's truth and the Message of Salvation for our times.

The Bible declares that today the churches of the world have become "Babylon Fallen" and that we need to leave them—as Revelation 18:4 states: "Come out of her my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins." This is one of the main messages we will be focusing on in this magazine, using both direct Bible quotes and writings by Ellen G. White and other Christian authors. We will also be focusing on Bible truth in regard to prophecy, the Sabbath, and many other important topics. Bringing people closer to Jesus and helping everyone find salvation through Him, is the main goal of this magazine.

We plan to publish issues of this magazine every few months, but you don't need to wait to find out more about these topics if you are interested in learning more—we have many books and booklets available now. You are also welcome to join our weekly online church services and Bible studies, or listen to an online catalog of previously recorded sermons and studies. We hope to see you there, and pray that you continue to study the truth!

Editor

**List of some of our ministry
websites you can visit**

www.lettherebelightministries.com
www.inlightofprophecyfulfilled.org

If you would like to contact us,
here is our email address.

editor@srvoice.org

If you are interested in material on the topics of this magazine, as well as other topics, here is a list of material you can order from us:

- The Government of God, booklets part 1 & part 2
- The Seventy Weeks, booklet
- 2300 Hundred days, booklet
- Caught Unprepared, (on the time of trouble,) booklet
- Identifying and Escaping Laodicea, booklet

If you would like to obtain any of these materials, please email us at:
editor@srvoice.org
to place an order or ask any questions, and we will happily get back to you.

Zoom Meeting Schedule

	<u>Local Time</u>	<u>GMT</u>	<u>Meeting Id</u>	<u>Passcode</u>
Light Ministries Oregon				
MONDAY				
Women's Group Meeting	6-7pm	Tuesday 2am	466 324 8724	
WEDNESDAY				
Mid-Week Church	6-7pm	Thursday 2am	466 324 8724	
FRIDAY				
Worship Service	6-7pm	Sabbath 2am	466 324 8724	
SABBATH				
Spanish Children's S.School	7:30am	Sabbath 3:30pm	466 324 8724	
Children's Sabbath School	9:30am	Sabbath 5:30pm	466 324 8724	
Youth & adult Sabbath School	10:30am	Sabbath 6:30pm	466 324 8724	
Church	11:30am	Sabbath 7:30pm	466 324 8724	
Ukiah Home Church California				
SABBATH				
Sabbath School & Church	11am-1pm	Sabbath 7pm	844 6830 7870	521946
Prophecy Seminar	10-11pm	Sunday 6am	830 9959 0064	199607
Oklahoma Home Church				
FRIDAY				
Worship	6:30-8:30pm	Friday 11:30pm	311 019 6177	98294052
SABBATH				
Morning Worship	9:30am-12pm	Sabbath 2:30pm	311 019 6177	98294052
Afternoon Service	2:30-4:30pm	Sabbath 7:30pm	311 019 6177	98294052
Evening Service	6:30-8:30pm	Sabbath 11:30pm	311 019 6177	98294052

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- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
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- +1 204 272 7920 Canada
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- +1 647 558 0588 Canada
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