The Sabbath:  
A Memorial to the Creator

A Study of God’s Desire for a Relationship with Us, Forever

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File: Sabbath
Relationship with Christ

• The Most Important Understanding about our Salvation:
  – We believe eternal life is a gift from God in Christ Jesus and we are justified by His grace and His faith who paid the price; death, for our transgressions.

Romans 3:21-26; 4:4-5,25; 6:23; Ephesians 2:4-10; Titus 3:4-7 (Is 53; Eze 36:25-27; John 3:3-8,16; 16:8; Rom 5:6-10; 8:1-4, 14-17; 1Cor 15:3-4,20-22; 2Cor 5:14-15,19-21; Gal 1:4; 3:13-14,26; 4:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Col 1:13-14; Heb 8:7-12; 1Pet 1:23; 2Pet 1:3-4; 1John 2:2; 4:10)

• God “sent his angel to show his servants” the future (Rev 22:6) “Do not despise prophecies.” 1Thess 5:20
  – Purpose: To share the vital necessity of a character transforming relationship with Christ, namely the Gospel of His sacrifice for all who call Him Lord and Savior (Ps 1:1-2; Matt 20:25-28; Luke 19:17-20; John 20:21; Rom 12:2; 2Cor 3:17-18; Gal 5:22-25; Eph 5:19-21; 6:12-18; Phil 3:7-14; Col 2:6; 1Thess 5:16-23; Heb 10:25; 2Pet 2:9; 3:18; 1John 4:4)
Principles of Bible Study

• Paul’s counsel to Timothy:
  – 16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,
  17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2Tim 3:16-17 (Ps 119:105; Prov 30:5-6; Is 8:20; John 17:17; 1Thess 2:13; Heb 4:12)
  – for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. 2Pet 1:21

• Bible versions:
  – Use versions with the closest translation to the original language
    • Recommend comparing NKJV (used here), NASB95, KJV, and ESV
  – Concordance sources: www.abibleconcordance.com; www.blueletterbible.org

• Use of Expository study methods (versus Thematic study)
  – This method explores the literal meaning of each word in Scripture and its relationship to other words in its context (exegesis)
Sabbath...a Memorial to our Creator

• “¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made... ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.” John 1:1-3,14
  – Jesus created the world in 6 days and rested on the 7th
  – Jesus redeemed us all by paying the price of sin, death, on the cross, on the preparation day, Friday
  – Jesus rested in the tomb on the 7th day Sabbath, the Creator’s day of rest
Ellen White Comments

God's people will not find their safety in working
Sabbath...a Memorial to Creation

• Commemoration of the literal 6 Day Creation in order to Give Glory to God on the 7th Day:

✓ Gen 2:3 “Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.”
  – *Blessed*: to make holy, to consecrate, having a sacred nature, connected with God
  – *Sanctified*: to set apart for a sacred purpose, to declare holy, to free from sin, to consecrate, to entitle to reverence

✓ Deut 5:12 “Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy, as the Lord your God commanded you.”
Sabbath...a Memorial to Creation

How Important is it?

• “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the **seventh day** is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. In it **you shall do no work**: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. **For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.**”

Exodus 20:8-11

✓ When the government of *literal* Israel was a **theocracy**, the penalty of death was applied to intentional Sabbath breakers (Numbers 15:32-36)
Sabbath...Relationship with Our Creator

- Is 56:1-2 “Thus says the Lord: “Keep justice, and do righteousness, For My salvation is about to come, And My righteousness to be revealed. Blessed is the man who does this, And the son of man who lays hold on it; Who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, And keeps his hand from doing any evil.”

- Is 56:6-7 “Also the sons of the foreigner who join themselves to the Lord, to serve Him, And to love the name of the Lord, to be His servants—Everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, And holds fast My covenant, Even them I will bring to My holy mountain, And make them joyful in My house of prayer.”
Sabbath...Holy & Delightful

- **Is 58:13-14**  “If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, From doing your pleasure on My holy day, And call the Sabbath a delight, The holy day of the Lord honorable, And shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, Nor finding your own pleasure, Nor speaking your own words, Then you shall delight yourself in the Lord; And I will cause you to ride on the high hills of the earth, And feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father. The mouth of the Lord has spoken.”
  - The Lord commands Isaiah in 58:1-2 to tell the people how they have turned away from God, **while they still seek him!**
  - Isaiah 58:3-5 describes what the people **were** doing
  - Isaiah 58:6-10 indicates what God asks His people **to do**
Sabbath...God’s Seal

• Eze 20:12,20  "12 Moreover I also gave them My Sabbaths, to be a sign between them and Me, that they might know that I am the Lord who sanctifies them. 20 Hallow My Sabbaths, and they will be a sign between Me and you, that you may know that I am the Lord your God."
  – Hallow: Honor as holy, to sanctify, make holy, consecrate
• Revelation 4:11  "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created."
Jesus’ Sabbath Teaching

• Mark 2:27-28 “27 And He said to them, “The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. 28 Therefore the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath.”
  – Direct reference to creation and the Creator

• John 14:15, 21 “15 If you love Me, keep My commandments. 21 He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.”

• Matt 22:36-40 “36 Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?” 37 Jesus said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ 40 On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”
Jesus’ Sabbath Teaching

- Luke 4:16 “So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read.”
- Matt 12:8-14 “For the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.’ Now when He had departed from there, He went into their synagogue. And behold, there was a man who had a withered hand. And they asked Him, saying, “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?”—that they might accuse Him. Then He said to them, “What man is there among you who has one sheep, and if it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will not lay hold of it and lift it out? Of how much more value then is a man than a sheep? Therefore it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath.” Then He said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” And he stretched it out, and it was restored as whole as the other. Then the Pharisees went out and plotted against Him, how they might destroy Him.”
Jesus’ Sabbath Teaching

- Matt 24:16 “Therefore when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place” (whoever reads, let him understand), 16 “then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. 17 Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. 18 And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. 19 But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! 20 And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath.”
Importance of God’s unchanging law

• “10 For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all. 11 For He who said, “Do not commit adultery,” also said, “Do not murder.” Now if you do not commit adultery, but you do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. 12 So speak and so do as those who will be judged by the law of liberty.” James 2:10-12

• “2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. 3 For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.” 1John 5:2-3

• “4 He who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 5 But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. 6 He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.” 1John 2:4-6
Disciple’s Sabbath Understanding

• Luke 23:50 – 24:3 “Now behold, there was a man named Joseph, a council member, a good and just man. He had not consented to their decision and deed. He was from Arimathea, a city of the Jews, who himself was also waiting for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a tomb that was hewn out of the rock, where no one had ever lain before. That day was the Preparation, and the Sabbath drew near. And the women who had come with Him from Galilee followed after, and they observed the tomb and how His body was laid. Then they returned and prepared spices and fragrant oils. And they rested on the Sabbath according to the commandment. Now on the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they, and certain other women with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. Then they went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.”

– Friday: Preparation Day (“Good Friday” continues to be celebrated)
– Saturday: Sabbath Day
– Sunday: First Day of the Week
Disciple’s Sabbath Understanding

- Acts 13:14, 42-44 “14 But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day and sat down. 42 So when the Jews went out of the synagogue, the Gentiles begged that these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath. 43 Now when the congregation had broken up, many of the Jews and devout proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas, who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God. 44 On the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God.”
- Acts 16:13 “And on the Sabbath day we went out of the city to the riverside, where prayer was customarily made; and we sat down and spoke to the women who met there.”
- Acts 18:4 “And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and persuaded both Jews and Greeks.”
- Rev 1:10 “I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s Day...”
What is God’s Seal?

• Rev 14:12  “Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.”

• Rev 14:6-7  “Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people—saying with a loud voice, “Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water.”

• Rev 1:3  “Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.”

• 1 John 5:3  “…this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome”  NIV
What is God’s Seal?

- Ex 31:13-17 “Speak also to the children of Israel, saying: ‘Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am the Lord who sanctifies you. You shall keep the Sabbath, therefore, for it is holy to you. Everyone who profanes it shall surely be put to death; for whoever does any work on it, that person shall be cut off from among his people. Work shall be done for six days, but the seventh is the Sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord. Whoever does any work on the Sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. Therefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant. It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever; for in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed.’”
Sabbath...Reliance on God

• “Six days you shall work, but on the seventh day you shall rest; in plowing time and in harvest you shall rest.” Ex 34:21
  – Our faith is made stronger when we keep the Sabbath in the face of seemingly necessary action or involvement to avoid earthly loss which may indeed occur, however, God has our eternal salvation in mind and will preserve us for His kingdom (1John 5:13; 1Pet 1:5)
  – Jesus asks us to let Him transform our characters to be compatible with the principles of heaven
    • “Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.” Rev 3:20
  – The Sabbath is associated with the richest of blessings:
    • “Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.” Rev 22:14
Jesus and the Sabbath

• The gospels record 7 miracles Jesus performed on the Sabbath
  – 34 other miracles are recorded in addition to His resurrection
  – He was accused of blasphemy when He exercised His right to forgive sins
• Luke, a gentile convert, records that Jesus was buried, resting “on the Sabbath in obedience to the commandment” Luke 23:56
  – Jesus re-enforced the Sabbath by what He did and by His rest, in the tomb, throughout the Sabbath hours
Jesus and the Sabbath

• John 14:15-17  “If you love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.”

✓ In 108 languages of the world, the word for the seventh day of the week is “Sabbath.”
Keeping the Sabbath

• The “great woman” of Shunem (2Ki 4:8-37) was in the habit of seeking spiritual food on the Sabbath and new moons
  – “And she called unto her husband, and said, Send me, I pray thee, one of the young men, and one of the asses, that I may run to the man of God, and come again. And he said, Wherefore wilt thou go to him to day? it is neither new moon, nor sabbath.” 2Ki 4:22-23a KJV
Sabbath in Heaven

• Isaiah 66:22-23  “22 For as the new heavens and the new earth Which I will make shall remain before Me,” says the Lord, “So shall your descendants and your name remain. 23 And it shall come to pass That from one New Moon to another, And from one Sabbath to another, All flesh shall come to worship before Me,” says the Lord.”

• John 4:23-24  “23 But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. 24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”
Who are God’s People?

• 2Tim 2:19 “Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: “The Lord knows those who are His,” and, “Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity.”

• 1John 2:4 “He who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.”

• John 14:21 “He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.”

✓ Satan attacks and counterfeits every principle and law of God in order to deceive people
Our Mission as the Remnant

• “Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” (Rev 19:10)
  – The understanding of prophecy is a call to action; to share the gospel of everlasting life through a relationship with Jesus, proclaiming the 3 angels’ message of Rev 14:6-12

• “…obey God’s commandments” (Rev 12:17) and “Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water.” (Rev 14:7)

• “…Everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, And holds fast My covenant—Even them I will bring to My holy mountain, And make them joyful in My house of prayer.” (Is 56:6-7)

• “Be holy...blameless” (1Pet 1:16-19; 2Pet 3:10-14)
Additional Information

For an excellent verse by verse commentary see: http://www.bibleexplained.com

Ellen Gould White was a prolific author and an American Christian pioneer. Along with other Sabbatarian Adventist leaders such as Joseph Bates and her husband James White, she formed what became known as the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The Smithsonian magazine named Ellen G. White among 100 Most Significant Americans in an acknowledgement of her influence on religion. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ellen_G._White
The Sabbath...soon to be Attacked

- “When the Pharisees afterward questioned Him concerning the lawfulness of divorce, Jesus pointed His hearers back to the marriage institution as ordained at creation. “Because of the hardness of your hearts,” He said, Moses “suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so.” He referred them to the blessed days of Eden when God pronounced all things “very good.” Then marriage and the Sabbath had their origin, twin institutions for the glory of God in the benefit of humanity. Then, as the Creator joined the hands of the holy pair in wedlock, saying, A man shall “leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one,” He enunciated the law of marriage for all the children of Adam to the close of time. That which the eternal Father Himself had pronounced good was the law of highest blessing and development for man.” EG White, {AH 340.4}
The Sabbath...soon to be Attacked

• “The value of the Sabbath as a means of education is beyond estimate. Whatever of ours God claims from us, He returns again, enriched, transfigured, with His own glory. The Sabbath and the family were alike instituted in Eden, and in God’s purpose they are indissolubly linked together. On this day more than on any other, it is possible for us to live the life of Eden. It was God’s plan for the members of the family to be associated in work and study, in worship and recreation, the father as priest of his household, and both father and mother as teachers and companions of their children. But the results of sin, having changed the conditions of life, to a great degree prevent this association. Often the father hardly sees the faces of his children throughout the week. He is almost wholly deprived of opportunity for companionship or instruction. But God’s love has set a limit to the demands of toil. Over the Sabbath He places His merciful hand. In His own day He preserves for the family opportunity for communion with Him, with nature, and with one another.” EG White, {CG 535.2-3}
The Sabbath...under Attack

• “All who love God should do what they can to make the Sabbath a delight, holy and honorable. They cannot do this by seeking their own pleasure in sinful, forbidden amusements. Yet they can do much to exalt the Sabbath in their families and make it the most interesting day of the week. We should devote time to interesting our children. A change will have a happy influence upon them. We can walk out with them in the open air; we can sit with them in the groves and in the bright sunshine, and give their restless minds something to feed upon by conversing with them upon the works of God, and can inspire them with love and reverence by calling their attention to the beautiful objects in nature. The Sabbath should be made so interesting to our families that its weekly return will be hailed with joy. In no better way can parents exalt and honor the Sabbath than by devising means to impart proper instruction to their families and interesting them in spiritual things, giving them correct views of the character of God and what He requires of us in order to perfect Christian characters and attain to eternal life. Parents, make the Sabbath a delight, that your children may look forward to it and have a welcome in their hearts for it. As the sun goes down, let the voice of prayer and the hymn of praise mark the close of the sacred hours, and invite God’s presence through the cares of the week of labor. Thus parents can make the Sabbath, as it should be, the most joyful day of the week. They can lead their children to regard it as a delight, the day of days, the holy of the Lord, honorable.” EG White, {CG 536.1-4}
The Sabbath...under Attack

• “And at the commencement of the time of trouble*, we were filled with the Holy Ghost as we went forth and \textit{proclaimed the Sabbath more fully}.” {EW 85.3}
  – * This “time of trouble” refers to when the nations are angry, beginning at the “latter rain” of the Holy Spirit
Ellen White Comments

• “God’s people will not find their safety in working miracles, for Satan will counterfeit the miracles that will be wrought. God’s tried and tested people will find their power in the sign spoken of in Exodus 31:12-18. They are to take their stand on the living word: “It is written.” This is the only foundation upon which they can stand securely. Those who have broken their covenant with God will in that day be without God and without hope.” {9T 16.1}

• “(Quoting Ex 31:12-17), Do not these words point us out as God’s denominated people? and do they not declare to us that so long as time shall last, we are to cherish the sacred, denominational distinction placed upon us? The children of Israel were to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations “for a perpetual covenant.” The Sabbath has lost none of its meaning. It is still the sign between God and His people, and it will be so forever.” {9T 18.1}
“When the Sabbath commences, we should place a guard upon ourselves, upon our acts and our words, lest we rob God by appropriating to our own use that time which is strictly the Lord’s. We should not do ourselves, nor suffer our children to do, any manner of our own work for a livelihood, or anything which could have been done on the six working days. Friday is the day of preparation. Time can then be devoted to making the necessary preparation for the Sabbath and to thinking and conversing about it. Nothing which will in the sight of Heaven be regarded as a violation of the holy Sabbath should be left unsaid or undone, to be said or done upon the Sabbath. God requires not only that we refrain from physical labor upon the Sabbath, but that the mind be disciplined to dwell upon sacred themes. The fourth commandment is virtually transgressed by conversing upon worldly things or by engaging in light and trifling conversation. Talking upon anything or everything which may come into the mind is speaking our own words. Every deviation from right brings us into bondage and condemnation.” {2T 702.1}
Ellen White Comments

• “None should feel at liberty to spend sanctified time in an unprofitable manner. It is displeasing to God for Sabbathkeepers to sleep during much of the Sabbath. They dishonor their Creator in so doing, and, by their example, say that the six days are too precious for them to spend in resting. They must make money, although it be by robbing themselves of needed sleep, which they make up by sleeping away holy time. They then excuse themselves by saying: “The Sabbath was given for a day of rest. I will not deprive myself of rest to attend meeting, for I need rest.” Such make a wrong use of the sanctified day. They should, upon that day especially, interest their families in its observance and assemble at the house of prayer with the few or with the many, as the case may be. They should devote their time and energies to spiritual exercises, that the divine influence resting upon the Sabbath may attend them through the week. Of all the days in the week, none are so favorable for devotional thoughts and feelings as the Sabbath.” {2T 704.2}
Ellen White Comments

• “All heaven was represented to me as beholding and watching upon the Sabbath those who acknowledge the claims of the fourth commandment and are observing the Sabbath. Angels were marking their interest in, and high regard for, this divine institution. *Those who sanctified the Lord God in their hearts by a strictly devotional frame of mind, and who sought to improve the sacred hours in keeping the Sabbath to the best of their ability, and to honor God by calling the Sabbath a delight—these the angels were specially blessing with light and health, and special strength was given them.* But, on the other hand, the angels were turning from those who failed to appreciate the sacredness of God’s sanctified day, and were removing from them their light and their strength. I saw them overshadowed with a cloud, desponding, and frequently sad. They felt a lack of the Spirit of God.” {2T 704.3}
Ellen White Comments

• “The observance of the Sabbath is the sign between God and His people. Let us not be ashamed to bear the sign that distinguishes us from the world. As I considered this matter in the night season recently, **One of authority counseled us to study the instruction given the Israelites in regard to the Sabbath.** “Verily My Sabbaths ye shall keep,” the Lord declared to them; “for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the Lord that doth sanctify you. Ye shall keep the Sabbath therefore; for it is holy unto you.... Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the Sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord: whosoever doeth any work in the Sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. 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 forever.” Exodus 31:13-17.” {7T 105.1}
Ellen White Comments

• “The educators and those being educated in our medical institutions should remember that to keep the Sabbath aright means much to them and to the patrons. In keeping the Sabbath, which God declares shall be kept holy, they give the sign of their order, showing plainly that they are on the Lord’s side.” {7T 106.3}

• “Now and ever we are to stand as a distinct and peculiar people, free from all worldly policy, unembarrassed by confederating with those who have not wisdom to discern God’s claims so plainly set forth in His law. ... We are to bear witness to all nations, kindreds, and tongues that we are a people who love and fear God, a people who keep holy His memorial of creation, the sign between Him and His obedient children that He sanctifies them. And we are plainly to show our faith in the soon coming of our Lord in the clouds of heaven.” {7T 106.4}
Ellen White Comments

• “We are called to be holy, and we should carefully avoid giving the impression that it is of little consequence whether or not we retain the peculiar features of our faith. Upon us rests the solemn obligation of taking a more decided stand for truth and righteousness than we have taken in the past. The line of demarcation between those who keep the commandments of God and those who do not is to be revealed with unmistakable clearness. We are conscientiously to honor God, diligently using every means of keeping in covenant relation with Him, that we may receive His blessings, the blessings so essential for the people who are to be so severely tried.” {7T 108.1}

• “Concerning Israel, the Lord declared: “The people shall dwell alone, and shall not be reckoned among the nations.” Numbers 23:9. To us as well as to ancient Israel these words apply. God’s people are to stand alone. The observance of the seventh-day Sabbath is to be a sign between them and God, showing that they are to be a peculiar people, separate from the world in habit and practice. Through them God will work to gather from all nationalities a people for Himself.” {7T 109.3}
• “Brethren at the heart of the work, enter not into Sodom. Be willing to suffer inconvenience, if you can remain far from Sodom. The idols of gold and silver will very soon be cast to the moles and to the bats. Be content to live where you can have the bread of life, that living bread that came down from heaven. Keep holy the Sabbath day. **We need to be much more particular than we are in regard to the Lord’s institution. Bind about the edges of the Sabbath. Let us study the prospect.** Let us all allow our workers, if possible, the hours from noon on Friday until the beginning of the Sabbath. Relieve them, that they may prepare to meet the Lord’s day with quietude of mind. Let all the work of preparation, cleansing the body, blacking the boots, **be finished early**, and the family **assemble early** to **read the Word, to sing and pray before** the **Sabbath shall begin.** You will be no losers temporally. Let us study this, for we have all been remiss. We need to confess to God and to one another, and begin anew to make special arrangements, that **every member of the family** may be prepared to greet the **Sabbath, with every preparation made, to honor the Lord’s day, that He has sanctified and blessed.**” {Lt4-1898.36}
Call to Personal Action

• “24 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, 25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching. 26 For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins” Heb 10:24-26
(Repent: 2Chron 6:37-39; Eze 14:6; Matt 3:2; Luke 24:47; Acts 17:30)

• The Bridegroom of Matt 25:1-13 is returning from the wedding, soon. Prepare by storing oil (The Spirit) in our lamps now:
  1. Accept and invite Jesus daily (the Altar of Sacrifice)
  2. Wash in the baptism of the Spirit (the Laver)
  3. Keep a prayer in mind, constantly (the Golden Altar of Incense)
  4. Read God’s Word daily (the Table of Showbread)
  5. Share the gospel of Jesus; the 3 angels’ message (the Lampstand)
  6. Dwell on the goodness of His law (the Ark of His Covenant)
Call to Public Action

• The 4th angel of Rev 14:15, the illuminating angel of Rev 18:1-3, is the proclamation of the interpretation of the mystery of Rev 17:8-11. God’s remnant will repeat the 2nd and 3rd angel messages (Rev 14:8-13) with much greater power than during the “midnight cry” in 1844. (Hab 2:14)

  1 After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory.

  2 And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, “Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird!

  3 For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury.” Rev 18:1-3

– This is a warning for all of God’s people to come out of spiritual Babylon, the counterfeit trinity (spiritualism, the papacy, apostate Protestants/false prophet) (the abyss beast, the sea beast, the earth beast)
Share the Gospel

- “42 So when the Jews went out of the synagogue, the Gentiles begged that these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath. 43 Now when the congregation had broken up, many of the Jews and devout proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas, who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God. 44 On the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God.” Acts 13:42-44

- “4 And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and persuaded both Jews and Greeks. 11 And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.” Acts 18:4,11

- For He has spoken in a certain place of the seventh day in this way: “And God rested on the seventh day from all His works” Heb 4:4
Final Plea before Michael Stands

• The 5th angel of Rev 14:18 (Jesus, Himself), corresponds with the warning voice of Rev 18:4:
  – And I heard another voice from heaven saying, “Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues.” Rev 18:4  This plea, not heard by many (not a loud voice), is for His people to leave the great city Babylon to escape the plagues.
  – Speaking of the 2 Witnesses, “…And they ascended to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies saw them.” Rev 11:12
    • The Word/witness of the Old and New Testaments, including the law and the prophets, are known to all, so that each one will make an informed decision on Whom to Worship
  – This is the very last warning to accept salvation through Jesus Christ before the pre-advent “investigative” judgment closes (Dan 12:1), followed by the plagues of Rev 16  (Rev 14:17-20; Eze 9:5-10)
Everyone is Invited to Keep Sabbath

- Is 56:3-8  “Do not let the son of the foreigner who has joined himself to the Lord speak, saying, “The Lord has utterly separated me from His people; Nor let the eunuch say, “Here I am, a dry tree.” For thus says the Lord: “To the eunuchs who keep My Sabbaths, and choose what pleases Me, And hold fast My covenant, Even to them I will give in My house and within My walls a place and a name better than that of sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off. “Also the sons of the foreigner who join themselves to the Lord, to serve Him, and to love the name of the Lord, to be His servants—Everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, and holds fast My covenant—Even them I will bring to My holy mountain, and make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on My altar; For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.” The Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, says, “Yet I will gather to him others besides those who are gathered to him.”
“And it shall come to pass
That from one New Moon to another,
And from one Sabbath to another,
All flesh shall come to worship before Me,”
says the Lord. Isaiah 66:23