

You can be an Overcomer! 07

“But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name.” John 1:12

THE FABULOUS FOURTH!

The Part of the Story you were Never Told about the Sabbath

“Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day [is] the sabbath of the LORD thy God: [in it] thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that [is] within thy gates: For [in] six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them [is], and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it”. Exodus 20:8-11

“The Sabbath is the great question, to unite the hearts of God's dear waiting saints.” A Word to the Little Flock: PG 18.

A STORY ABOUT OBEDIENCE

The story is told in various forms about a man who had bought a lovely farm for his son and told him, “I will give you some instructions on how to plant the crops on this farm and I will come back in a few months and if you have followed my instructions, I will deed the farm to you to be yours.”

The son readily agreed and the father delivered to him a list of instructions. The days went by and the son was following the list carefully in every directive. He could see the wisdom of his father in what he had planned, but one day as he was preparing to plant one of the fields, he saw that his father wanted a crop there that the son felt was just not suitable. “It will never grow properly in this particular field”, he reasoned, “Dad must have made a mistake. I know what crop is best to be put here so I will plant that.”

The day appointed came and as the father came to inspect the farm, his son assured him that he had followed his every directive. The father systematically went around the property checking the various fields against the list he had given to the son. All went well until he came to the last field and saw there a crop that he had not ordered.

“What’s this all about?” he asked the son.

“Oh Dad”, replied his boy, “All the orders you gave me were just great Dad, except for this one, the crop you had said to plant just was no good for this field, but I obeyed you in all the rest.”

“No, son”, said the father sadly, “You didn’t ‘obey me’ at all, your own logic accepted to do what I had said, but here you showed clearly who you were really following, it was your own will all along.”

THE PAPAL SABBATH

Of all the days of the week there is only one that in no way could have been the Sabbath, the memorial of creation, and that is the First day. God could have made everything in one day and rested on the second, or any other number, but the first day could never have been the Sabbath!

The Fourth commandment says ‘Remember’; it draws attention to something established by God from the very beginning. It was made by the Word of God. What about Sunday? It has evolved gradually, silently, slowly intruding its defiance into the customs of man until we see the ‘Man of Sin’ exalting it and himself above all that is called God.

A Roman Catholic book, entitled "A Sure Way to Find Out the True Religion," says: "The keeping holy the Sunday is a thing absolutely necessary to salvation; and yet this is nowhere put down in the Bible; on the

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contrary, the Bible says, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy" (Ex. 20: 8), which is Saturday, and not Sunday; therefore the Bible does not contain all things necessary to salvation."

"This is only one out of many similar citations that might be given, but is sufficient to show that in the observance of Sunday the Catholic Church deliberately repudiates the Word of the Lord, and sets itself above it. It has placed its sabbath on an entirely different day from the Sabbath of the Lord,-- a day which even God Himself could not possibly have made His Sabbath, since on it He began His work,-- in order to emphasize its claims to be above God. It would teach men that they are to obey the church rather than God.

"Notice that the citation speaks about necessity of "keeping holy the Sunday." But God has not made the Sunday holy. In fact, the Bible knows nothing about such a day. It does know the first day of the week, which it calls a working day, but the Sunday, a day composed of parts of two days, was made in Rome. The only day that God has ever spoken of as holy is the seventh day of the week. That day He Himself has made holy, and all He asks of us is keep it holy. But since God has not made the Sunday holy, it follows that if man is to keep it holy, a man himself must make it holy. All the sacredness in the world that Sunday has is that which man gives to it. The Sunday sabbath, therefore, stands as the sign of man's pretended power to make things holy. For if man can make one thing holy, it is evident that he can make anything holy. If man can make and keep a day holy, then he can make and keep himself holy. The papal sabbath is thus the sign of the pope's claims to take the place of the Lord as the sanctifier of sinners. While the seventh day is the sign of God's power to save by His own works, the Sunday is the sign of man's assumed power to save himself by his own works, entirely apart from and in spite of the Lord." The 3 Sabbaths: E J Waggoner

THE SABBATH OF YOUR LORD

I remember years ago my husband-to-be was working in another city many miles away. Each week there was one day when he would come out and we could be together for that day. How precious did the hours of that day become to me. Everything in the whole week centered upon being ready for that day when the joy of just being with my beloved was mine. Whether we went walking or sang hymns or just sat and talked together, it was all a delight, the highlight of my whole week.

Suppose someone had told me, "You know, you don't really need to spend that day with him. Don't you think he is being kind of arbitrary to expect you to drop your activities and spend a whole day with him?" I can tell you, I would have told them they were out of their mind if they thought I would fail to meet the arranged appointment!

God means the Sabbath to be just that kind of joy to us. A more personal arrangement cannot be conceived of, to spend time together- just our Creator-Father and us in loving fellowship.

FAITH OR NON-FAITH

The judgment is a real event and real evidence that can be seen by all is what will decide our destinies. God knows all hearts and could just decide without making a dividing test for mankind, but He has chosen to do things in a way that all created intelligences can see by the choice we make, what our hearts really believe. It's merely a matter of faith, we either believe God or we don't—It's just that simple.

"I saw that the holy Sabbath is, and will be, the separating wall between the true Israel of God and unbelievers; and that the Sabbath is the great question, to unite the hearts of God's dear waiting saints. And if one believed, and kept the Sabbath, and received the blessing attending it, and then gave it up, and broke the holy commandment, they would shut the gates of the Holy City against themselves, as sure as there was a God that rules in heaven above." A Word to the Little Flock: PG 18

THE GOLDEN CLASP

The Sabbath is a 'golden clasp to bind our hearts to God and also to unite our hearts together here in holy fellowship. It is this 'crowning jewel' of the Law that binds God's children here to the great family in heaven. It

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is much more than a duty, much different than a ceremony, and certainly never a burden! It is a family matter; a heart affair with God and will be a heart affair with each one of His loving children.

"Here is our test which God has made, and He will fulfill His word, if human agents will show their love to God in keeping all His commandments. If they reverence the Sabbath, which is engraved on the first table of stone, they will keep the first three commandments, and the last six will reveal the duty of man to his fellow man; for the Sabbath sign is the covenant between God and man. It is the golden clasp which unites man to God in supreme obedience and reverence, and which unites man to his fellow man." Ms 45, 1900. Manuscript Releases Volume 5 -PG- 89

"The Sabbath is a golden clasp that unites God and His people. But the Sabbath command has been broken. God's holy day has been desecrated. The Sabbath has been torn from its place by the man of sin, and a common working day has been exalted in its stead. A breach has been made in the law, and this breach is to be repaired. The true Sabbath is to be exalted to its rightful position as God's rest day.

"In the fifty-eighth chapter of Isaiah is outlined the work which God's people are to do. They are to magnify the law and make it honorable, to build up the old waste places, and to raise up the foundations of many generations. To those who do this work God says: "Thou shalt be called, the repairer of the breach, the restorer of paths to dwell in. If thou turn away thy foot from the Sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on My holy day; and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honorable; and shalt honor Him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it." Isaiah 58:12-14. 6T-PG- 351

When you read this, it brings to mind a Father waiting patiently in the old family homestead, watching and longing for His wayward children to come home; to return to the safe and tried paths of His tender care; to come back to His heart of love for them.

Is the Fabulous Fourth different? Yes, and what a glorious difference for the true Christian child of God!

"And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 18:3

Here is a dialogue that took place in the pioneer days of Seventh-day Adventism in Northern Europe. A Norwegian-American minister, Elder O.J. Olsen was working on a revival of old-fashioned, Sabbath-keeping Christianity in the Vestmann Islands, and other parts of Iceland. He was speaking with the captain of an Icelandic steamer on which Elder Olsen was traveling. This captain had just informed the minister that he did not see what difference there could be, to a modern Christian, between keeping the Seventh-day Sabbath of the "Jewish" tradition and keeping any other day of the week. Ps. Olsen desired to clarify the issue; so he asked the captain a simple question.

"Do you have any fire emergency system on board this ship?"

"Certainly."

"Then you probably also have regular exercises to test the equipment and to train the crew for such an emergency?"

"Of course."

"Now, suppose that one week you, as a captain, announce the following: 'On Tuesday night at 8 o'clock all members of our fire brigade are requested to attend a meeting on the lower deck for an important drill.' Well, Tuesday night arrives. The ship clock strikes eight. You are there. But, sad to say, not one single crew member turns up. A slip of paper has been left on your desk by one of the men, stating that this happens to be his bridge game night. For fire emergency drills he definitely prefers Fridays. Another man is reported to have expressed some days ago, in the company of some companions, that he has always adhered to the principle

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that drill meetings should take place on the first evening of the week. A third has hinted that Wednesday nights would be a good time.

"Now, Captain, what is your feeling about this? Don't you think they may all be right, each one in his own way, considering the matter from his individual point of view? In fact, is not a Wednesday night just as good for that meeting as a Tuesday?"

"No, Pastor Olsen, not if I have announced Tuesday. For then I mean Tuesday, not Wednesday or Friday."

"Well, but frankly speaking, was not your choice of Tuesday somewhat capricious perhaps, after all? You could equally well have chosen another day, couldn't you?"

"Maybe, but one day had to be chosen, and someone had to choose it. Now I do happen to be the captain of this ship. I have been appointed as its responsible leader. So the crew-member, who simply chooses Friday after I have decided Tuesday, must have assumed a dreadful responsibility of his own. And I should think his choice of Friday is bound to be capricious in a far more serious sense than my choice of Tuesday. To me this is simply an audacious overthrow of my whole authority. It is stubborn rebellion against an established order. It is mutiny, it . . ."

The captain was manifestly working himself up into a mood of righteous indignation that was becoming louder and louder in its spontaneous expression. You might almost imagine that that "mutiny" had already taken place in factual reality on board this very ship, so peacefully sailing on its way between Iceland and Norway one beautiful summer day sometime in the twenties.

Then he suddenly became silent. They were both silent for some seconds. The captain finally looked up with a smile. It was the smile of one who has had the experience of some weird recognition. He was just coming back to the reality of this present moment, this present world.

"Aha, I see the matter we were just arguing about in a strangely different light now. So this is what you were driving at, Pastor Olsen? Of course, you are right. The Sabbath is simply a question of obedience. It is a matter of submitting unreservedly, unquestioningly to God. It is a matter of humbly accepting His right to command. It is a matter of believing implicitly that He is a Person who says something, and means what He says.

"He is the literal Captain of my literal life; He is a literal Person, ordering things in a literal way, in this literal world of mine. He must also be a loving Person. Theoretical rules do not love anybody. But he loves me, right here in my everyday bustle and busy-ness. He personally cares about what I do, and He pleadingly invites me to come to a literal appointment, an urgent appointment, with Him, the Lord of the universe. But I simply ignore that appointment. I turn up on another day, a day of my own choosing. I am either an obstinate crank or a man who has failed to believe -- to really believe that my Lord and Maker is literally there."

Our attitude toward the Sabbath, I am afraid, gives a measure of the narrowness of our vision regarding what Christ has done for us. Just imagine: the Creator Himself, the Majesty of Heaven, has found it sufficiently urgent and worthwhile, nay absolutely indispensable, to make an emergency descent to one particular creature of His, on a tiny planet called Earth, to save him from misery and death. In fact, already before there was any problem emerging on Earth, He had come down. His urgent desire was to have a relationship of sanctification with us; that is the most intimate union known between the Creator and the created ones, the only safe protection from the fall into sin. So He communicates to man the exact time of the holy appointment He wants to have with him.

Now, would it be reasonable to think that this whole complex planning, and fulfillment of plans, would tend to make the Sabbath commandment less binding, less important, than the other nine to the creaturely person for whom it was specifically devised?

Let's consider now, Where Did the WEEK Come From?

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Considered from the viewpoint of human reasoning the Sabbath may seem to have a certain degree of "arbitrariness" about it. Take the very idea of dividing time into units containing just seven days each. Does that make any sense, humanly speaking?

If we go back to the smaller unit, the day, that is an altogether different matter. For this is at least a dividing up of time based on a definite astronomical fact: a day is the time this globe of ours takes to make one turn around its own axis. To any observer this "makes sense"; similarly for certain larger units of time, for instance the month and the year. They are self-evident divisions based on rationally acceptable mathematical and astrophysical relations.

But who ever hit upon the idea of dividing time into weeks? We must be reasonably justified, as far as human knowledge and human reason are concerned, in qualifying that idea as somewhat "arbitrary". So this question presents itself: Who has had the incomparable "arbitrariness" to command, with an unmistakably authoritative voice:

"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord, thy God: In it thou shalt not do any work, thou nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates." Exodus 20:8-10.

Only the Lord thy God!!

The Sabbath was given to all mankind at the Creation of this world. The seventh-day Sabbath was given to mankind on the seventh day of Creation Week.

"Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had made; and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had made. "And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it He had rested from all His work which God created and made." Genesis 2:1-3.

God dedicated and set aside the Sabbath as a rest day 2,000 years before the first Jew. Abraham is considered by all to have been the first Jew. He lived about 2000 B.C. Biblical records indicate that the Creation of this world took place about 4000 B.C. So the Bible Sabbath is not Jewish! It is for mankind; it is for all the world.

"The Sabbath was made for man." Mark 2:27.

The Sabbath is a memorial of Creation and also a symbol of our salvation. When we keep it, we tell the entire world that we belong to God and that we serve and obey Him. The seventh-day Sabbath is a sign of our conversion, sanctification, and salvation: "Verily My Sabbaths ye shall keep: 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." Exodus 31:13.

"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.

"And hallow My Sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between Me and you, that ye may know that I am the Lord your God." Ezekiel 20:20.

But what about Christ's resurrection? Nowhere in Scripture were we told to keep any day in honor of Christ's resurrection. To do so is unscriptural. On the contrary, to set aside the Creation and sanctification Sabbath of the Bible for another day of the week and excuse it by saying that we do so "in honor of Christ's resurrection" is indeed to do a very daring thing. Who dare presume to set aside the Memorial of Creation and salvation for any reason! To knowingly do so flies in the face of repeated, direct, Biblical commands by the God of heaven. To do so denies that He is our Creator and Redeemer. "By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments: and His commandments are not grievous." 1 John 5:2-3.

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If we abandon the Bible Sabbath and keep another day holy, in the Judgment what excuse can we offer? There is no Bible reason for keeping the first day of the week holy instead of the seventh day.

The Change: Did you know that God predicted, in Scripture, that men would later try to change the Law of God; especially the "time law?"

The Bible Sabbath is the very center of our worship of God! If men were later to try to change it to another day, we should surely expect a Bible prophecy saying that it would happen and sure enough it is there.

"And he [the little horn power] shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into His hand until a time and times and the dividing of time." Daniel 7:25.

The church of the Dark Ages was to rule the world for 1260 years; and, during this time, they would try to tear out God's holy Time Law and put a counterfeit in its place. Oh, what blasphemy men can dream up, when they are tempted by Satan to gain religious control of their fellow men!

"For that day [the Second Coming of Christ] shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped." 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4.

God said: "And hallow My Sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between Me and you, that ye may know that I am the Lord your God." Ezekiel 20:20.

After the New Testament was finished and the Apostles had died, men tried to transfer the sacredness from the seventh day to the first day of the week. They tried to change the "time law." Here are some quotes about it.

Roman Catholic: "It is well to remind the Presbyterians, Baptists, Methodists, and all other Christians, that the Bible does not support them anywhere in their observance of Sunday. Sunday is an institution of the Roman Catholic Church, and those who observe the day observe a commandment of the Catholic Church." Priest Brady, in an address at Elizabeth, N.J., March 17, 1903; reported in the Elizabeth, N.J., News of March 18, 1903.

"You may search the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, and you will not find a single line authorizing the sanctification of Sunday. The Scriptures enforce the religious observance of Saturday, a day which we never sanctify." Cardinal James Gibbon, *The Faith of Our Fathers*, chapter 8.

"If Protestants would follow the Bible, they should worship God on the Sabbath day. In keeping the Sunday they are following a law of the Catholic Church." Albert Smith, Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, replying for the cardinal, in a letter of February 10, 1920.

"We hold upon this earth the place of God Almighty." Pope Leo XIII, Encyclical Letter, June 20, 1894; *The Great Encyclical Letters of Leo XIII*, p. 304.

"Prove to me from the Bible alone that I am bound to keep Sunday holy. There is no such law in the Bible. It is a law of the Holy Catholic Church alone. The Bible says 'Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.' The Catholic Church says, No. By my divine power I abolish the Sabbath day and command you to keep holy the first day of the week. And lo! The entire civilized world bows down in reverent obedience to the command of the Holy Catholic Church." Priest Thomas Enright, CSSR, President of Redemptorist College, Kansas City, MO, in a lecture at Hartford, *Kansas Weekly Call*, February 22, 1884, and the *American Sentinel*, a New York Roman Catholic journal, in June 1893, p. 173.

"Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change was her act . . . AND THE ACT IS A MARK of her ecclesiastical power." From the office of Cardinal Gibbons, through Chancellor H.F. Thomas, November 11, 1895.

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How important it is that we obey the commandments of God rather than the commandments of men. "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey?" Romans 6:16. "It is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve." Matthew 4:10. "But in vain they do worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." Matthew 15:9. "How long halt ye between two opinions? If the Lord be God, follow Him; but if Baal, then follow him." 1 Kings 18:21.

God's Seal of Authority: The seventh-day Sabbath, instituted by God at the Creation of this world, is the seal of His governmental authority. God's basic governmental code for mankind is the Ten Commandments. Of those ten, only the Sabbath commandment reveals the name of our Creator and Lawgiver. Only the Fourth Commandment reveals the (1) name, (2) authority, and (3) dominion of the Author of this Law: In six days, (1) the Lord (name) (2) made (office, the Creator) (3) heaven and earth (dominion or territory over which He rules). This commandment alone contains the seal of God.

Examine the seal of a notary public or any other legal seal. Each seal will always contain the above three identifying marks; name, Authority and Dominion.

"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy . . . for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it." Exodus 20:8, 11.

The Sabbath is the basis of all true worship of our Creator. And this worship lies at the heart of all our acknowledgment of His authority as our Creator and our God. The Sabbath is ever to be kept as a sign that we belong to Him. And the keeping of it brings us within the circle of this seal. The seal is impressed in order that all may know the authority from whence it comes and that all may know that it is not to be changed.

The seventh-day Sabbath comes from God. Let no man dare to tamper with it—for the Seal of God is upon it.

The Crisis: In the final crisis before His return, there will be a people who will yield obedience to the beast instead of to God. "And he [the beast] causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads." Revelation 13:16.

In contrast with those who serve the beast and receive his mark, are those who, in the last days, will serve God and receive His seal. Here is a description of God's remnant people at the end of time: "And the dragon [Satan, working through his agents] was wroth with the woman [the true church], and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." Revelation 12:17.

And the third angel of Revelation 14, who warns men to not receive the mark of the beast, also tells them how to avoid receiving it, by keeping the commandments of God through the faith of Jesus Christ: "And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture . . . Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." Revelation 14:9-10, 12.

The final crisis will be caused by a decree by the beast power, that all men must disobey a commandment of the law of God. The nations and churches of the world will not require men to steal or lie or commit adultery but rather to disregard the very commandment that bears the Seal of God! The growing movement toward national Sunday laws is growing stronger every passing year. It is seen that in this point, and in this alone, will be found the heart of the crisis of Revelation 13 and 14.

The first angel of Revelation 14 calls on all men everywhere, today, to reverence God by returning to the worship of the Creator of all things. "And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people. "Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come: and worship Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters." Revelation 14:6-7.

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“The observance of Sunday by the Protestants is an homage they pay, in spite of themselves, to the authority of the [Catholic] Church.” Monsignor Louis Segur, Plain Talk about the Protestantism of Today, p. 213.

As the crisis nears, we must prepare for it. Already we are facing Sunday closing laws on local levels. Men are prohibited from doing business on the first working day of the week, lest they be fined or imprisoned. And the situation will grow worse in the days just ahead.

“That the image of the beast should both speak, and cause [decree] that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark.” Revelation 13:15-17.

But there is victory for those who will stand true to the God of heaven. There is overcoming power for those who will “keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus” (Rev 14:12).

“And I saw . . . them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.” Revelation 15:2. God’s remnant people will keep the Bible Sabbath, and that holy day will be kept throughout eternity.

Even though there are over two thousand denominations today, the remnant people of God, living at the end of time, can be identified. God has identified them for us. “And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.” Revelation 12:17.

The third angel, after warning all men against receiving the mark of the beast, tells us clearly who will be the little group that will stand apart from this almost universal apostasy: “Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.” Revelation 14:12.

It will be an almost universal apostasy. All around us can be seen a rising tide of rebellion against the Ten Commandments. The colleges and universities teach that man is but an animal descended from worms and amoeba. The churches teach that God destroyed the Ten Commandments at Calvary and that Jesus died to take sinners to heaven just as they are. This world is becoming a curse; but, soon, God will intervene. Prophecy tells us that before the end there will be a small company who will stand true to the commandments of God, by faith in Jesus Christ.

Soon this present evil world will be ended suddenly by the return of Jesus Christ and heaven will begin for the faithful. In that heaven the seventh-day Sabbath will be kept forever. God’s people suffered and died for it down here; and they will worship God on that holy day through all ages to come. Revelation 21 and 22 tells us about this new life with Jesus, when sin has come to an end and the wicked are no longer alive.

“And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea . . . And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.” Revelation 21:1; 22:1.

And then we are told who will enter that beautiful new world: “Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.” Revelation 22:14.

Now you have seen God’s plan for His people and it is a wonderful one. It can begin for you right now and it will continue on throughout eternity. Why not begin today, this very week? Ask God to forgive you for the past and tell Him that, by His grace, you will worship your Creator on His day and next Sabbath begin that holy walk with God on His day, the holy day of Isaiah 58. Read that chapter and see the blessings He will add, if you will but let Him take over your life. But think not that there will be no problems or trials. Satan will bring many upon you. He hates the Sabbath and all who will stand loyal to it. Yet if you will determine to be true to God and His Word, you will have strength from above to go through all that lies ahead.