

### WHO ARE WE?

Group Name: We have no official name--nor do we want one--however we provide the following: INTERDEPENDENT-INTERACTIVE, CHURCH OF GOD, SABBATH SERVICES, BIBLE STUDIES, AND OPEN FELLOWSHIP.

Address: 320 N. Griffin St. City: Bismarck State: ND Zip Code: 58501

Country: USA Phone: (701) 258-7172 FAX: (919) 640-1806

E-Mail: [darwin-laura@earthlink.net](mailto:darwin-laura@earthlink.net)

Website: <http://darwinlauralee.150m.com>

Leadership Body: Christ the Head of God's Church, Colossians 1:18, Ephesians 5:23, and I Corinthians 11:3. Local contact persons are Darwin or Laura Lee.

Purpose: To provide Interdependent-Interactive, Church of God, Sabbath Services and Bible Studies to all of God's People, including those who are not welcome to visit or attend other groups due to having been suspended or disfellowshipped, as well as those who want a place to attend weekly, those who are just visiting our area, and anyone else who is interested in God's way of living. We also have open fellowship here, meaning that you are welcome to come visit with us during our open fellowship times even if you are not interested in attending our Sabbath Services or Bible Studies.

History: We held our first Bible Study here on June 30, 2000 and our first Sabbath Service was held on December 16, 2000.

Affiliation/Membership: Our Affiliation is with God our Father and His Son Jesus the Christ. Our membership includes *all* of God's people, no matter where they are.

Distinctive Doctrines: John 13:34-35

Use Sacred Names?: Since salvation is between God and each individual (Philippians 2:12), so the use of sacred names would be between each individual person and God.

Observe Holy Days?: We believe that God commands us to keep the Weekly Sabbath as well as Passover/Days of Unleavened Bread, Pentecost, Feast of Trumpets, Atonement, Feast of Tabernacles, and the Last Great Day, however, we also believe there is much controversy out there in understanding if certain ones should or shouldn't be kept, how to keep them and when to keep them. So with this in mind, we will try to the best of our ability to accommodate these differences, believing and having faith that someday through God's Holy Spirit, we will all be brought into the same understanding on this subject. Until then let's follow John 13:34-35.

Evangelistic Efforts: We provide a service to God's People no matter where they are to the best of our ability. This service includes Interdependent-Interactive, Church of God, Sabbath Services, Bible Studies and Open Fellowship. We also welcome live speakers for interactive, and special music, on a volunteer only basis.

Periodicals: We have a newsletter, which we publish every 2 months.

Literature: We distribute some literature besides the distribution of newsletters to the best of our ability.

Parent Group: The greater Church of God--The Ekklesia. Language: English

Other Language: None Country: USA

Name: Contact Persons are Darwin & Laura Lee Address: 320 N. Griffin St.

City: Bismarck State: North Dakota Zip Code: 58501

Phone: (701) 258-7172 E-Mail: [darwin-laura@earthlink.net](mailto:darwin-laura@earthlink.net)

Directions To Meeting: 320 N. Griffin St., Bismarck, North Dakota, located at the corner of Rosser Avenue and Griffin Street, with plenty of side street parking.

Time of Meeting: Usually 1:00 PM, but may vary.

**SABBATH SERVICES**--Every Saturday unless stated other wise on page 2. We generally do a phone hookup, video tape, or cassette tape, service with various speakers. If you have a video or audio tape you think we should hear, please send it.

We also welcome live speakers, and special music, by others on a volunteer basis. Please ask us about hosting.

Sabbath Schedule is as follows:

12:00 Noon-Open Fellowship  
(Door Open, Come In)  
1:00 PM----Sabbath Services  
3:00 PM----Open Fellowship

**BIBLE STUDIES**--We have Bible Studies approximately every 6 weeks. We have a Pot Luck Meal before we start our Bible Studies, so please bring food if you would like to participate in the fellowship, which goes with a meal.

Bible Study Schedule is as follows:

6:30 PM----Open Fellowship  
(Door Open, Come In)  
7:00 PM----Pot Luck Meal  
(Bring Food)  
8:00 PM----Bible Study  
9:00 PM----Open Fellowship

Bible Study Dates are as follows:

Friday, April 29, 2005  
Friday, June 10, 2005  
Friday, July 29, 2005

**GUEST ROOM**--If you are from out of town and are here to attend Sabbath Services or one of our Bible Studies, we do have a guest room. Please call ahead so we know when you will be arriving. (701) 258-7172 (Please Leave a message.)

**LOCATION**--Sabbath Services and Bible Studies are held at the home of Darwin & Laura Lee, located at 320 N. Griffin St., Bismarck, North Dakota. Please use the upper back door by the garage. Phone Number (701) 258-7172 (Please Leave a message.)

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**--The deadline for submitting articles and letters for possible inclusion in our July/August 2005 Newsletter is June 15, 2005. Thank You. Laura Lee (Editor)

AD SECTION --- [newsletter-only-darwin-laura@earthlink.net](mailto:newsletter-only-darwin-laura@earthlink.net)

**NOTICE:** We do not necessarily agree with everything printed in this newsletter. If you do not agree with items printed within this newsletter, we expect to hear from you. Remember iron sharpens iron. Darwin & Laura Lee

**SABBATH SCHEDULE--BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA**

April 16, 2005----Teaching the Law--Lesson #70-- The Identity of the True Church (Part 44) Mat. 10-two millenniums commission to Israel; Mat. 12:15-21 - The Father exalts His Son; Mat. 13-temporary blindness of Israel and consequences; Mat. 15-unacceptable worship; Mat. 16:21-28 - Christ comes for lost sheep of Israel; Mat. 16:18 - doctrine of binding/loosing. Teaching the Law--Lesson #71-- The Identity of the True Church (Part 45) Mat. 16:18-binding/loosing authority; Mat. 16:27-28 - coming of Kingdom of Israel; Mat. 17:1-transfiguration/deity of Christ; Mat. 18:10-13 - Christ came for lost sheep of Israel; Mat. 19:16-30 - obedience to Law as condition for Kingdom, 12 disciples to rule Israel.

April 23, 2005----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up

April 24, 2005----Passover (Night Before at the Lee's)/First Day of Unleavened Bread (Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up)

April 30, 2005----Last Day of Unleavened Bread---Video Presentation "The Exodus Revealed"

May 7, 2005----Teaching the Law--Lesson #72-- The Identity of the True Church (Part 46) Mat. 21:33-45 - Parable of vineyard (Isa. 5); Mat. 24-Future of Israel since Christ to His return, punishment and deliverance; Mark 1 - Tidings of God's Church, Israel; Mark 2:1-22 - Message of Kingdom to bride, Israel.

Teaching the Law--Lesson #73-- The Identity of the True Church (Part 47) The Oral Law; Mark 12:18-34 - Nature of those to be resurrected, Nature of two great commandments and Godhood; Mark 13:5-6/Ezek. 20:33-38 - False Prophets' fate.

May 14, 2005----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up

May 21, 2005----Teaching the Law--Lesson #74-- The Identity of the True Church (Part 48) Mark 13:26-36 - Return of Christ; Luke 1:5-80, John's parents are law-abiding, commission of John to God's Church (Israel), Gabriel informs Mary of birth/commission of Jesus (to save and rule His wife); Luke 2:8-25, Witnesses speak of Savior.

Teaching the Law--Lesson #75-- The Identity of the True Church (Part 49) Luke 2:25-38, Simon/Anna give testimony of Savior; Luke 3:1-18, John restores many in Israel to their Husband/Lord; Luke 4:16-19, Jesus' first sermon to his wife (Israel); Luke 7:11-17, Raising Widow's son; Luke 7:24-end, John's demise; Luke 8:26-end, Casting out demons among Gentiles.

May 28, 2005----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up

June 4, 2005----Teaching the Law--Lesson #76-- The Identity of the True Church (Part 50) Luke 9:1-6, First commission of disciples to Israel; Luke 9:51-56, Spirit of vengeance against Samaritans; Luke 10:1-12, Commission of Seventy to Israel; Luke 11:14-23, demons and divided house; Luke 15:1-32, Restoring lost sheep, "Prodigal Son"(Israel to His Maker/Father). Teaching the Law--Lesson #77-- The Identity of the True Church (Part 51) Luke 19:1, Jesus and Zaccheus, deliverance for a son of Israel, reality of two divine Beings in Old Testament/New Testament. Jesus enters Jerusalem on a colt.

June 11, 2005----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up

June 13, 2005----Pentecost -- Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up

June 18, 2005----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #78-- The Identity of the True Church (Part 52) Luke 19:43-48, Coming destruction of Jerusalem; Luke 22:7-end, Resurrected Jesus and two disciples on road to Emmaus, a message to Israel.

Teaching the Law-- Lesson #79-- The Identity of the True Church (Part 53) Jesus' terminology for Hebrew Scriptures; John 1:11-52, Israel's Husband comes to His own, nature of law, grace, truth; John 4, Jesus and Samaritan woman - a meeting between a representative of the true church and a representative of the false church, divinity of God.

June 25, 2005----Open for Hosting--Please Sign Up

July 2, 2005----Teaching the Law-- Lesson #80-- The Identity of the True Church (Part 54) John 4:37-42, The harvest of prophets ripped by disciples; John 5, The resurrection, relationship of Father and Son; John 6:45-47, Jesus, bread of life/epitome of Torah; John 8:26-31, Christ gives all credit to Father, truth makes us free.

Teaching the Law-- Lesson #81 The Identity of the True Church (Part 55) John 8:32-58, truth makes us free, Jesus predates Abraham; John 9:3-5, the blind healed; John 14:24, Jesus equates love with obedience; John 10, Christ is door, most spiritual leaders are thieves, Christ's divinity in question, the church; John 11:49, Caiphas' plot/prophecy of Christ; John 12:12-end, Jesus enters as King into Jerusalem.

If you want to host Sabbath Services and need 2 Sabbaths in a row for your presentation and/or would like to have your presentation listed on our Sabbath Schedule in our newsletter which is sent out to the public, the next deadline for that would be: June 15, 2005. On those Sabbaths of Open Hosting where no one signs up, we will just play a cassette tape by any of various speakers. All Sabbath Services are Hosted by Darwin & Laura Lee unless otherwise stated.

**E-MAIL & SNAIL MAIL:**

[prayer-requests-darwin-laura@earthlink.net](mailto:prayer-requests-darwin-laura@earthlink.net) For Prayer Requests & Updates and letters in regard to them.

[newsletter-only-darwin-laura@earthlink.net](mailto:newsletter-only-darwin-laura@earthlink.net) For items meant for print in our newsletter or on our web site.

[questions-section-darwin-laura@earthlink.net](mailto:questions-section-darwin-laura@earthlink.net) For Biblical Questions Only (50 words or less).

[answer-me-darwin-laura@earthlink.net](mailto:answer-me-darwin-laura@earthlink.net) For personal letters or letters with non specific biblical content.

[darwin-laura@earthlink.net](mailto:darwin-laura@earthlink.net) If you don't know where to send it, send it here and we will sort it.

[archeology-exchange-darwin-laura@earthlink.net](mailto:archeology-exchange-darwin-laura@earthlink.net) For the exchange of Archeological Information.

**FAX**--Our Fax number is: (919) 640-1806

**SNAIL MAIL**--Our snail mail address is Darwin & Laura Lee, PO Box 2333, Bismarck, ND 58502.

**WEB SITE ADDRESS**--<http://darwinlauralee.150m.com>

**FINANCIAL DISCLOSER:**

We do not charge for the services that we provide to the brethren. We also do not take any wages from the gift donations we are sent. The services we provide do however cost us money. From 2001 to 2004 our total balance left owing for expenses for services provided was **-\$5674.28**.

Donations for 2005 total **+\$665.00**. Expenses for 2005 are as follows: Postage **-\$355.17**, Telephone **-\$8.55**, Internet Services **-\$39.06**, Printing Charges **-\$444.13**, Local Services **-\$46.93** and Research Materials **-\$0.00**. Total balance for 2005 is: **-\$228.84**.

Major computer problems --- purchase of new computer and 2G memory --- Total **-\$1842.78** Rebates **+\$100.00** Total Left **-\$1742.78**  
We are still expecting some rebate money and we plan to have a rummage sale in May 2005 to raise some money to cover some of this cost.

If you need a year end receipt, please request one. We truly appreciate the help we receive in helping others. Please make all checks out to Darwin and/or Laura Lee. Thank you Darwin & Laura Lee.

**Attention: Feast planners!**

It's that time of year again. People are going to be looking for a place to attend the Feast. We have a new and exciting way to promote **your** Feast site.

There are plenty of Feast site lists out there, but anybody can be on a list. Wouldn't you rather have an entire web page for your Feast site? Feast lists usually list just the basics such as location and contact person but we offer you a full web page with pictures, links to local attractions, schedules, hotel information, and whatever else you might want. A picture is worth a thousand words.

**Feastgoer.org** is hosted by Internet Church of God, a nondenominational, interdependent church group working with all churches that keep the Feast of Tabernacles - regardless of their affiliation. Set up is simple for you. Just go to **feastgoer.org** - look at the sample sites to get an idea about what you want your web page to look like and what kind of information you might want to list. When you are ready, just click "list YOUR site" and follow the simple directions. We will take care of the rest.

So don't just be a name on a list. Give people looking for a Feast site all your information - pictures, links, text, **the whole picture**. Visit **feastgoer.org** today!

*There is no cost for this service and we will not be soliciting you for money.*

**AD** --- Go to: <http://darwinlauralee.150m.com> under "Links" to find the Internet Church of God Web Site. This **AD** is posted as a courtesy and does not necessarily mean that we are in agreement with the views of the Internet Church of God. Darwin & Laura Lee

**PENTECOST**--We will observe Pentecost here at 320 N. Griffin St., Bismarck, North Dakota on Monday June 13, 2005 (Sivan 6), with services at 1:00PM (door open for fellowship at 12:00 noon). At 5:00PM for anyone who would like to join us, we will meet for a meal and fellowship at the "North American Steak Buffet Restaurant" in Bismarck. We realize that not all people will be observing Pentecost on the same day, so with this in mind, if you need a place to observe this day differently than we do, please contact us and if we can help you in anyway, we certainly will try.

### Internet Church of God

We offer Sabbath Services on line, live and you can participate. Go to: <http://www.thinkgod.org>

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PRAYER REQUESTS & UPDATES --- [prayer-requests-darwin-laura@earthlink.net](mailto:prayer-requests-darwin-laura@earthlink.net)

For Details Go To: <http://darwinlauralee.150m.com>

#### February 2005

Angela--Stomach Problems  
Brian--Iraq  
Elizabeth--Hard Times  
Kathy--Cancer  
Keena & Julie--Cat Scratch Fever  
Swarup & Anasua--Mother is Sick  
Alexander, Sharon--Work and Financial  
Andrews, Sean--Auto Accident  
Anibuisi, Kenneth--Loosing Home  
Bailey, Charles & Karen--Problems  
Bleasdale, Margo--Relative Wounded-Iraq  
Blevins, Suzi--Liver Cancer  
Bowker, Elaine--Malignant Infusion  
Boyce, Peggy--Possible Heart Problems  
Brame, Ray--Health Problems  
Carter, Doyle--Flu  
Cavender Sr., John--Esophageal Cancer  
Church in Kenya--Chicken Pox  
Clemens, Barbara--Lung Cancer  
Corley, A. V.--Prostate Cancer  
Corley, Louise--Stroke  
Creech, Pat--Dialysis  
Feaker, Grace--Quadruple Bypass  
Fiske, Bob--Eye Surgery  
Fortner, Rhonda--Testing  
Frana, Makela--Type 1 Diabetes  
Glasscock, Ruthie--Collapsed Lung  
Henderson, Jasan--Terminal Cancer  
Hinton, Wayne--Prostate Cancer  
Hubert, M. R.--Tsunami  
Ireland, Jeanne--Depression  
Kizer, Homer--Repentance  
Kottwitz, Don--Prostate Cancer  
Kramer, Ted--Lung Cancer  
Krumrei, Edna--Breast Cancer  
Kusheba, Logan--Born 2-16-05  
Lockett, Billie--Financial Problems  
Lopez, Ileana--Thyroid Cancer  
Mallory, Keith--Testicular Lymphoma  
Markland, Linda--Terminal Colon Cancer  
McElhaney, Maggie--Blood Pressure  
Meadows, Jim--Heart Problems  
Meyers, Josephine--Diabetic Coma  
Moers, Christopher--Return from Iraq  
Narber, June--Divorce  
Nass, Amy--Baby in Breach Position  
Nelson, Lee--Cancer  
Pelshaw, Bob--Heart Trouble

Peralta, Charlie--Died 2-7-05  
Powell, Betty--Cancer  
Ramsey, Robert--Cirrhosis of the Liver  
Raven, Robert--Back Surgery  
Robertson, Andrew--Multiple Sclerosis  
Rowe, Mary--Infection and Pneumonia  
Scott, Gene--Died 2-21-05  
Secotte, Stuart--Snowmobile Accident  
Sisk, Shirley--Family Health Problems  
Sliger, Danielle--Scarlet Fever  
Sliger, Mary--Head Injury  
Sliger, Miranda--Scarlet Fever  
Stamper, Sam--Arterial Fibrillation  
Stoling, Earl--Despondent  
Taylor, Ruth--Pneumonia  
Thom, John--Stroke  
Tuxen, Helen--Heart Attack  
Walker, Kyle--Enlarged Lymph Nodes  
Weisel, Kim--Depression  
Whittington, Pete--Kidney Failure

#### March 2005

Anonymous Gentleman--Mental Problems  
Brandon--Eye Infection  
Calvin--Wounded in Iraq  
Donna--Critical Condition  
Keith--Pray for Others  
Abrams, Paul--Cancer  
Arnaldo, Frances--Liver Cancer  
Arvan, Amiee--Chron's Disease  
Baker, Melverna--Flu and Pill Reaction  
Berkey, Linda--Surgery Recovery  
Blevins, Suzi--Liver Cancer  
Buenaventura, Edna--Problems  
Burry, Bill--Wheelchair Bound  
Burry, Helen--Terminal  
Cavender Sr., John--Esophageal Cancer  
Copeland, Ann--Fluid in Her Lungs  
Cox, Ken--Heart Fibrillations  
Cryer, Lia--Malignant Stomach Tumor  
Duhaime, Becky--Ruptured Disk  
Eggleston, Dolores--Sick  
Evans, William--Foot Amputation  
Garcia, Jacob--Head Injury & Broken Arm  
Hinton, Wayne--Prostate Surgery Recovery  
Hanush, Makayla--Liver Failure  
Hayes, Beverly--Hepatitis  
Houston, Ross (Bud)--Tree Fell on Him  
Ireland, Jeanne--Depression

Johnson, Jimmy--Pneumonia  
Klein, Gordon--Brain Tumor  
Kramer, Ted--Lung Cancer  
Latham, Jerry--Emphysema & Lung Cancer  
Laukert, Charlotte--Pneumonia  
Lazor, P. F.--Prison  
Living Church of God--Shooting 3-12-05  
Mallory, Keith--Testicular Lymphoma  
Mallory, Sarah--Very Sick  
McComb, Lisa--Not Doing Well  
Meadows, Jim--Healthy Heart  
Portell, Darrel--Back Surgery  
Quayle, Terrie--Severe Back Pains  
Reigelsperger, Brittany--Auto Accident  
Russell, Nathalie (Nana)--New Environment  
Savannah, Joyce E.--Work & Healing  
Schiavo, Terri--Starving to Death  
Secotte, Stuart--Head Injury Recovery  
Smith, Connie--Pneumonia  
Sprue, Melissa--Health Concerns  
Williams, Jeremy--Remove Colon

#### April 1-6, 2005

Arnaldo, Frances--Liver Cancer  
Baker, Mrs.--Doing Better  
Calvert, Jennifer--Craniofacial Surgery  
Cavender Sr., John--Esophageal Cancer  
Coffee, Jon--Kidney Failure Recovery  
Copeland, Ann--Congestive Heart Failure  
Cryer, Lia--Liver & Lung Cancer  
Dennison, Dave--Pancreatic Cancer  
Eastman, Linda--Brain Tumor  
Garcia, Richard--Renal Cell Carcinoma  
Hall, Marie--Heart Problems  
Hanush, Makayla--Liver Failure Recovery  
Hutson, Matthew--Accident Recovery  
Living Church of God--Shooting 3-12-05  
Mannes, Alice--Flu & Blood Clot  
Painter, Joyce--Knee Surgery & Stroke  
Parker, Jimmie--Heart Problems  
Parr, Herb--Stent Surgery  
Pelshaw, Bob--Died End of March 2005  
Reigelsperger, Brittany--Auto Accident  
Schiavo, Terri--Died 3-31-05  
Sisk, Shirley--Family Health Problems  
Stamps, Ryan--Chronic Illness  
Tessitore, Cynthia--Ovarian Cancer  
Tribon, Malvin--Hip Problems  
Winne, George--Cardiomyopathy

INFORMATION SECTION ---

[newsletter-only-darwin-laura@earthlink.net](mailto:newsletter-only-darwin-laura@earthlink.net)

**RETURN WITH REJOICING!**

by David Ben-Ariel  
Toledo, Ohio

"When the LORD turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing: then said they among the heathen, The LORD hath done great things for them.

The LORD hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad.

Turn again our captivity, O LORD, as the streams in the south.

They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.

He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him" (Psalms 126).

I can't wait to return to Zion with Beyond Babylon in hand, praising God all the way, before the nations!

"The wicked shall see it, and be grieved; he shall gnash with his teeth, and melt away: the desire of the wicked shall perish" (Psalms 112:10).

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

**SEAGULL AND THE STARFISH**

by Ted Saunders  
Renton, Washington

I would like to suggest a new look at the first three of the Ten Commandments. Are they not important parts of love towards God? Then there is the fourth one, which seems to be a fly in everyone's soup. I can't understand why it seems to be so hated by so many. A couple of weeks ago I was on a trip, which allowed me to stop for lunch down by a beautiful stretch of salt-water shoreline.

A sharp-eyed companion noticed a seagull trying to eat a starfish that must have been 6 or 7 inches across from tip to tip. It could not bite it into pieces so it struggled for perhaps 15 minutes to rearrange the legs so half stuck out one direction and the other half stuck out the other direction. Then to our surprise it picked that starfish up and started the laborious process of swallowing it down.

You could see a huge lump in it's throat for several minutes before the whole starfish finally went all the way down. Then that seagull drank some salt water and stood around a few more minutes before flying off! I was amazed that that seagull was even able to fly!

What does this have to do with the fourth commandment you say? Just that it seems so hard for people to swallow an idea that God may have given it to us for a blessing of helping us take the time to draw closer to him learning to love him more than we ever would if we were too busy earning a living all the time.

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

**HEBREW CALENDAR**

by Jeffrey Caldwell  
Cupertino, California

Have you seen this one? Ronald Dart is usually thought-provoking...

<http://www.mmccg.org/articles/cemcaldr.html>

**Alan asks some questions:**

**Moses' Seat**

(excerpt from the above web site)

"This is why Jesus told the Jews: **"The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat: All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not"** (Matthew 23 :1-3). **In spite of their hypocrisy, they did have authority from God. The calendar is a good example of that authority."**

**Why is it that most of the Churches of God do not observe when it comes to the Passover and Pentecost "The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat: All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do"? But they do follow the teaching of the Sadducees (who no longer exist) and the Samaritans who had set up their own temple in opposition to the Jews. I know there are those who say the Sadducees and the Samaritans were more in accordance to these scriptures (about the Passover and Pentecost) than were the Pharisees and the Jews of today.**

So is it the Hebrew Calendar (the

**Hillel II Calendar) most of the Churches of God are following or what?**

- Alan

**Editors Note:**

The response to Alan's letter was written by Jeffrey Caldwell. Laura Lee

**In response to Alan's questions, reproduced below:**

My understanding is that the scribes and Pharisees were recognized authorities comparable to those behind the current standard Hebrew calendar. The "true" Calendar itself versus interpretations of Scriptures that relate to it are entirely different matters. The holy Scriptures don't address how to determine some supposed absolute "true" Calendar -- Calendar dates appear in them as a given, much as they do in our daily lives or in historical works tied in with our societal Roman Calendar. The holy Scriptures do tell us how to keep Passover or count Pentecost, though there are "some things that are hard to understand". In either matter I trust we agree that the holy Scriptures are far more useful and authoritative than any extra-biblical source. As a rule, the more reliance placed upon extra-biblical sources, the more confusion!

**Editor's Note:**

Jeffrey Caldwell, in his above response to Alan is in essence saying that the Scribes and the Pharisees are the recognized authorities in regard to the Hebrew Calendar and then goes on to say what makes the dates of that Calendar different is our individual interpretation of Scripture. We are in agreement with Jeffrey in that the Bible is our Authority, however when he compares the Hebrew Calendar to the Roman Calendar, please take note that people are not at all confused as to what days Christmas and Easter fall on, on the Roman Calendar. 1 Corinthians 14:33 tells us that God is not the author of confusion, so what are we to conclude from this. The Church of God is more confused in what days to keep the Holy Days on than the secular world is in when to keep Christmas and Easter. Shame on us for the example we set for the rest of the world. Laura Lee

As far as for the mantra of dissent that accuses much of the church of "following" the Sadducees in practice, just because we have the same understanding doesn't mean

it was derived from them. The very *concept* of Sadducean practice in the matter *is extra biblical*. The holy Scriptures don't specifically address their practice. We also happen to agree with Roman Catholics on some points, Jehovah's witnesses on some points, Mormons on some points, *et cetera* in practice and doctrines that both we and they derive from the holy Scriptures. Some accusers say we took our doctrines from them! Thus the "you're following the Sadducees" argument impresses me not a wit. It is a weak and **contentious** argument, not a **compelling** one. It is *sans* sound logic and doesn't derive from the holy Scriptures. **It is as true as saying "you're following the Catholics" in opposing abortion!** It is exactly, in fact, the sort of accusative argument that arises from an evolutionary viewpoint, from people who cannot -- or choose to not -- believe *anyone* looks to Scripture, or God, but that *all* in religion derives from men.

#### Editors Note:

This is a lame argument on the part of Jeffrey Caldwell. Abortion is murder and is totally condemned by God in the Bible. Many different religions on this earth today teach some things which are backed up by the Bible and those who are God's will and do look to scripture before following what men say and do.

The Bible very clearly addresses the practices of the Sadducees. Acts 23:8 "For the Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, neither angel, nor spirit: but the Pharisees confess both."

Christ clearly knew that the Pharisees practiced the "Tradition of the Elders" Mark 7:9 "And he said unto them (the Pharisees), Full well ye **reject the commandment of God**, that ye may keep **your own tradition**."

Christ is not here speaking to men (Pharisees) who did not know the law of God. Christ is speaking to men (Pharisees) who knew the law of God and rejected it. On the other hand the Sadducees never even understood that the law of God teaches a resurrection and a spirit world. The Pharisees knew the law of God, the Sadducees did not.

So when Christ said: "Saying, The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat: All therefore **whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do**; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not." (Matthew 23:2-3) Christ knew what He was talking about and we should all obey Christ. Part of what was to be observed would certainly have been the Holy Days. Christ is very clearly telling the people then and us today to observe those things the Pharisees

told us to observe as written in the law of Moses, but we are not to do as they (the Pharisees) practice which was the tradition of the Elders (Talmud, Kabala, etc.).

Within the Church of God, the multitude of people follow the Calendar and keep the Holy Days as Herbert Armstrong kept them. Herbert taught the Holy Day dates according to his knowledge and we all need to study this subject to see if he was right or wrong. Laura Lee

The Calendar has an inevitable "extra-biblical" aspect. Human opinions and judgments must enter in. At this point even a supposed "true" Calendar comes down to who has authority to produce it, since -- if we have lost the "true" Calendar -- it must needs be produced. Many seem to be vying for the authority to declare it, but it's not clear to me that any of them are truly "with the Lord" in their mission.

#### Editor's Note:

Only God has the authority to declare which Calendar we are to keep in regard to the Holy Days. The Bible gives us a multitude of information as to where that Calendar is today. For example, several of the month names are used throughout the Bible, Nehemiah 2:1, and Esther 3:7 calls the first month Nisan. The first month is earlier called Abib Exodus 13:4, Exodus 23:15, Exodus 34:18, and Deut. 16:1. In all places Nisan and Abib are said to be months. Abib and Nisan are both said to be the first month. Abib is the Canaanite name and Nisan is the Babylonian name. Zif (Canaanite name) is said to be the second month, 1 Kings 6:1 and 1 Kings 6:37, Sivan (Babylonian name) the third month Esther 8:9, Elul (Babylonian name) Neh. 6:15, Ethanim (Canaanite name) which is the seventh month 1 Kings 8:2, Bul (Canaanite name) which is the eighth month, Chisleu (Babylonian name) which is the ninth month Neh.1:1 and Zech. 7:1 Tebeth (Babylonian name) which is the tenth month Est. 2:16, Shebat (Babylonian name) which is the eleventh month Zech. 1:7, and Adar (Babylonian name) which is the twelfth month, Ezra 6:15, Esther 3:7, 3:13, 8:12, 9:1, 9:15, 9:17, 9:19, 9:21.

Many of the above scriptures say these are months and many of these scriptures show the use of a calendar, by stating different numbered days of the month, just as we would do with our current day secular calendar.

Another piece of evidence are the scriptures which speak of the oracles of God, which are as follows: Acts 7:38, Rom. 3:2, Heb. 5:12, and 1 Peter 4:11. These

scriptures are speaking of the oracles of God and not the oracles of the Jews. One group of scriptures which should be closely looked at is: Acts 7:37-39, "This is that Moses, which said unto the children of Israel, A prophet (Jesus) shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear. This is he (Jesus), that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him (Moses) in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us: To whom our fathers would not obey, but thrust him (Jesus) from them, and in their hearts turned back again into Egypt."

So who of the tribes of Israel were the oracles of God (not the oracles of the Jews), entrusted to? Genesis 49:10 "The sceptre (mark of authority Strongs #7626) shall not depart (come to an end Strongs #5493) from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh (Christ) come; and unto him (Christ) shall the gathering of the people be."

That sceptre of authority has not passed from the Jews. The lineage of David led through time to the birth of Christ of the lineage of Judah. Christ will be the last King and thus is the authority. The oracles of God were entrusted to the Jews because they bare the mark of authority due to their lineage and not because they kept the law as God wanted them to. The Jews were entrusted by God to preserve the law of God, which includes the calendar of God, as one cannot keep the Holy Day Law of God without a calendar.

The authority to call the dates on the Calendar of God comes through the lineage of Judah and was put in motion by God. So when Christ says: "...The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat: All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not," He Christ is commanding us to do as the Jews say but not as they do. Christ never said the Jews kept the law of God, He (Christ) only told us that they knew the law of God and rejected it. Laura Lee

Rejecting the Hebrew Calendar leads inevitably to confusion. I'm unconvinced that the Holy One is opposed to the Hebrew Calendar or that His word calls for it to be rejected.

#### Editors Note:

We keep the Hebrew Calendar complete with the dates given by the Rabbinic Jews of today. In other words, we believe Passover week is a Feast of 7 days in which we eat unleavened bread as stated in Ezekiel 45:21.

\*\*\*CONTINUED ON PAGE 12\*\*\*\*\*

Questions section ---

[questions-section-darwin-laura@earthlink.net](mailto:questions-section-darwin-laura@earthlink.net)

ANSWER BIBLICAL QUESTIONS

Send your answers to:  
[questions-section-darwin-laura@earthlink.net](mailto:questions-section-darwin-laura@earthlink.net)

Or

Darwin & Laura Lee  
PO Box 2333  
Bismarck, ND 58502

**WE NEED ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.**

(When answering questions, please include the # of the question you are answering.)

**QUESTION #1**=And then the most wonderful of it all is this in Luke 22:25-38. In verse 35, Jesus said, when I sent you out that time without purse, bag or shoes, did you lack anything, and they answered not a thing. And verse 36, makes me to wonder and ask, do we as believers need this sword in our fellowship today?

**QUESTION #2**=Because Jesus demanded this sword (verse 36) and verse 38 presented two swords and he answered that is enough, and in verse 49 of Luke chapter 22, the disciples asked shall we use the sword in verse 50. One of the disciples named Peter used the sword and in verse 51 Jesus said enough of this. I ask again do we need a sword in our fellowship today?

**QUESTION #4**=Are Jesus and Jehovah the same?

**QUESTION #8**=How did the serpent speak to Eve?

**QUESTION #11**=If Satan, a spirit-being, was not "literally" living in Pergamon, can we then draw the conclusion that the saints, spirit-beings, will not "literally" be on the earth, that is the physical realm, in the Millennium?

**QUESTION #12**=After reading through the bible about money and it's role, I'm beginning to ask who created money and where was

money created in heaven or in the world and for what purpose?---These are some of the questions about money in the bible.---(1) This is the first money transaction I saw in the bible, (Gen. 23 v 7 - 20 it is all about burial ground). (2) The second transaction is all about hatred (Gen. 37 v 26-28), this is where the power of money came into play (Gen. 42 v 25-38). No wonder Ecc. 7 v 12 calls it defense, but wisdom is better so where does it (money) come from?

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

**QUESTION #32**

**What Bible translations do you recommend? What are good in use for the Torah, Haftarah and Gospel Brit Hadasha portions?**

We live in a unique age in which two distinct and fairly independent clusters of independent groups are slowly merging together in their sets of beliefs. On the one hand are the COG's (people who call themselves Church of God), ex-COG's, Sabbath keeping Baptists and Adventists, and other Sabbath keeping independent Christian groups). On the other hand there are the independent Messianic Jewish groups who do readings from the Torah (the Law of the first 5 books), the Haftarah (the prophets), and the Brit Hadasha (New Testament), who, like the Karaites, reject the idea that the Talmud is inspired, but, unlike the Karaites, accept Christ.

The just shall live by faith. The huge multitudes of people converting to Christianity in the first century, for the most part, did not have more than a fraction of the Old Testament as a point of reference. I say this for the benefit of people who may be frustrated over the fact that today we do not have any translation that is an absolutely perfect translation of the Old and New Testaments.

There are no autographs (absolute originals) of the Old or New Testaments in their original languages. However, finding the most likely approximation of the original is becoming easier and easier with each passing year.

Everyone should have a King James translation. Why? Not because of accuracy but because of how universal it is in its use. You can always use the King James as a

starting point for the analysis of any scripture.

The other translations you should have depend on how deep you choose to go.

One fairly good book for figuring out difficult scriptures is The Word from Mathis Publishers, Gulfport, MS. The subtitle is: The Bible from 26 Translations. It doesn't have 26 complete translations but a sampling of several for each verse.

It would be a good idea to have a modern (non-paraphrasing) Bible. The New American Standard Bible (NASB) is one such Bible. A Bible book store would be a logical place to go to look for alternate translations because you can thumb through the books before buying them. Of course, some book stores may have only one brand of christianity represented so this is something to also be aware of.

It is sometimes beneficial to have an annotated Bible. The Companion Bible is an excellent annotated Bible with a wealth of background, historical, and linguistic information in the margin. The marginal notes were written by EW Bullinger.

Having a translation of the Septuagint (the Greek translation of the Hebrew Old Testament) may be a good idea. Even though this is a translation of a translation it can, at times, provide good comparisons to the King James which is based on the masoretic texts.

The New Testament was originally written in Greek. In this age of computers, even though there are no autographs of the New testament, there are hundreds of Greek manuscripts (copies and copies of copies) available for analysis. By comparing the various manuscripts, it has become a fairly easy task to sift out and find the purest manuscripts and discard those likely to be corrupt. As a result of this system we are able, for the most part, to realize what the most likely approximation of the original is for the New Testament. The latest most readable result of this research is the Aland 27 New Testament published by Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, Stuttgart, Germany. It has the Greek on one page and the English on the opposite page.

The obvious question that might be asked is: How can I get to the meanings of the original language words without having to search through lexicons and concordances?

One answer to that is Bible software. The ultimate one (to the best of my knowledge) is Bible Works (Hermenutika)

from Computer Bible Research Software. In this program you can simply put your cursor over a word and the original word and its meaning appears at the bottom of the screen. This is certainly convenient. It is also expensive (\$300 last time I checked).

Another answer is to get interlinear translations. These have the Hebrew or Greek on one line and the English word for word underneath it.

Of course, much of the time, a difficult scripture can be resolved by simply comparing two or three English translations.

Answered by:  
Wily Elder  
North Miami, Florida

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

### QUESTION #33

**Do you really think that the witch of Endor really "talked to Samuel's Spirit"? Because the Bible says the dead don't know anything, it's like they (the dead) are asleep?**

To answer this question we need to quote a few scriptures referred to in the question.

Job 34:15 All flesh shall perish together, and man shall turn again unto dust.

Ecc. 9:5 For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not any thing, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten.

Ecc. 3:20 All go unto one place; all are of the dust, and all turn to dust again. This tells us that Samuel did not do the talking, unless peradventure dead people can talk.

In 1 Samuel 28 we read of the encounter of Saul and the witch at Endor. We can make some observations that are absolute. One: v.3, Now Samuel was **dead**, and all Israel had lamented him, and buried him in Ramah, even in his own city. And Saul had put away those that had familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land. Why did he do this? When he was first chosen as king and was little in his own eyes, he knew the law of God and did what God instructed for the nation of Israel. Exd. 22:18 Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live. Lev. 19:31 Regard not them that have **familiar spirits**, neither seek after wizards, to be defiled by them: I am the Lord your God. Lev. 20:6 And the soul that turneth after such as have **familiar spirits**, and after wizards, to go a whoring after them, I will even set my face against that soul, and will

cut him off from among his people. Deut. 18; 10 There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch. (v 11) Or a charmer, or a consulter with **familiar spirits**, or a wizard, or a necromancer. (v12) For all that do these things are an abomination unto the Lord: and because of these abominations the Lord thy God doth drive them out from before thee. See Isaiah 8:19 And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have **familiar spirits**, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead?

Two: in 1 Sam. 16:1 we read "And the Lord said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? fill thine horn with oil, and go, I will send thee to Jesse the Bethlehemite: for I have provided me a king among his sons". As we read the long story between David (who would become King of Israel) and Saul, we see God was no longer with Saul and God's spirit departed from Saul. 1 Sam. 16:14 But the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord troubled him.

We read in chapter 28 of 1 Sam. that Saul is afraid because of the armies of the Philistines. 1 Sam. 28:5 "And when Saul saw the host of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart greatly trembled". Now he does what he once knew to be against the commandment of God. He seeks out a familiar spirit through the means of a woman dabbling in the occult even though she knew that was against the law and knew it could spell trouble for her.

Familiar spirits are of the spirit world now called demons. They were once angels who rebelled against God under Lucifer's influence who now wait a future judgment. At this time they are bound to this earth to roam freely. We cannot see them as they are spirit. However, they manifest themselves to those humans who seek them out. Many people today do not believe that God still says that we are not to delve into witchcraft.

This was a spirit that the witch at Endor saw and talked to, manifesting himself as Samuel. One thing we do know, it was not Samuel as in Samuel the man, for the dead know not anything.

In 1 Sam. 28:14-20 we read the account of what this spirit said to the woman (witch) as to what God wanted Saul to hear of the out come of Saul's battle with the Philistines, which was not good news for Saul. Saul's demise can be found in 1 Sam. 31.

What is sure is that it was a spirit and not Samuel.

Answered by:  
Darwin Lee  
Bismarck, North Dakota

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

### QUESTION #34

**What are the issues of Judah and Tamar in Genesis 38:1-30?**

Recently, I received an e-mail from a newsletter requesting an answer to the following question: what was the issue with Judah and Tamar in Genesis 38? After reading the chapter more in depth and checking a few Bible reference books in my Library at home, the answer became very clear. The main issue that was being addressed in this chapter was the continuation of the line of Judah. Here is the evidence to this fact from the Bible and a few reference sources.

In verses 1-5, it states that Judah marries a Canaanite named Shuah and she bore three sons, whose names were Er, Onan, and Shelah.

In verses 6-7, Er, the firstborn, married a woman named Tamar, but Er was very wicked in God's eyes so God killed him which left Tamar a widow.

In verses 8-10, Onan was requested by his father, Judah, to marry Tamar and to have children with her. But Onan in his own way refused to obey this request and this action displeased God which led to his death.

In verse 11, Judah told Tamar to remain a widow till his youngest son becomes old enough to marry her and she obeyed this command at first.

Later in this chapter, it is stated that Judah's wife had passed away.

As you continue to read the rest of the chapter, Tamar seems to have taken matters in her own hands which assisted in continuing Judah's family line during this time of crisis which prevented the lineage from perishing.

The custom of marrying widows to next of kin was a common practice of the Old Testament times. The purpose of this custom was to assist in continuing family lineages.

In **Manners and Customs of the Bible**, 1980, under article of family relationship, page 418, it states, "If she [widow] was childless, she was expected to continue living with her husband's family, according to levirate law (**Deut. 25:5-10**). She was to marry one of her husband's brothers or a near kinsman. If these men were not

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LETTERS section ---

**Letter Received:  
July 18, 2004**

**Subject: PASSOVER AND  
CAROL BENNES**

**by Dale Smith  
Olney, Illinois**

Many thanks for the newsletter. There are many articles that have much truth that I hadn't thought of before and I appreciate them very much. I did read the letter from Carol Bennes and I don't believe that you will ever convince her that Passover is the end of the 14th and the beginning of the 15th. She just argues in circles and her mind is closed just as so many others are. Once they have been told over and over again, that it is at the beginning of the 14th, their mind is like a steel trap. It took me a lot of reading and studying before I knew just when the Passover is. There is so much information available if they would just read it with an open mind. Nevertheless she will find out the truth eventually as every person will.

**Editors Note:**

Our intent is to help people to think on their own and to encourage people to study these many subjects that come up.

What someone believes is between the person and God. With that said, if the person is wrong and I include myself in that, God will deal with every correction that is needed, eventually. Laura Lee

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*

**Letter Received:  
July 18, 2004**

**Subject: NEWSLETTER AND  
LITERATURE**

**by Robert D. Smith  
Dalhart, Texas**

I wanted to drop you a quick note and thank you for the newsletter that you sent. I am very interested in the literature that you have and want to thank you in advance for your help.

**Editors Note:**

We are sorry that literature requests have not been filled very well in the last year.

We have had many on going computer problems for well over a year and then I broke my ankle and my finger back in September and October of 2004 so that was a set back. The good news is that the computer problems are over with the purchase of a new computer and the recovery from the broken bones is doing well. We hope to start filling those literature orders toward the end of May as we have time and are able to. Again we are sorry for the delays. Laura Lee

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*

**Letter Received:  
October 9, 2004**

**Subject: BOOKS, PASSOVER  
AND CAROL BENNES**

**by Dale Smith  
Olney, Illinois**

I hope that your Feast was as nice as ours here. We weren't able to travel since I am having many health problems and they grow worse all the time, but I am thankful for what we do have that the Father has supplied for us.

In Issue #23 of the newsletter, David Ben-Ariel wrote a very nice column and he asked about others that had books available. There is one in Texas. I don't agree with everything that he does write, but he does have a newsletter and also some books out. One book is titled "The End" and the other is "Can We Avoid Another Holocaust?" Both books are very good. He also has some others out that I don't have, but the address is "The Prophetic Word, PO Box 2498, Abilene, TX 79604". The author is Israel Hawkins. He does have a lot of information that the major news media considers too controversial.

I also noticed that Carol Bennes still hasn't been convinced from the scriptures just when Passover is. I know that Passover is on the 14th, but it isn't a Holy Day. The Passover was killed on the afternoon of the 14th and eaten at the start or just after the beginning of the 15th. Very easy for me to understand, but many have had so much traditions of the elders taught to them over the years they can't understand. Just like the Feast days. But some day they will get the understanding that they need. We're still enjoying the newsletter although I may disagree with some, the articles are good.\*\*\*

**Letter Received:  
January 3, 2005**

**Subject: RELIGIOUS WAR**

**by Leonie Peers  
Australia**

Thanks for Issue #24 of the newsletter. Regarding the item, "Religious War", I looked this up further on the internet and came across a site, [www.BreakTheChain.org](http://www.BreakTheChain.org), which stated that the presenter on Islam was not an Imam, but rather a Muslim inmate who was pressed into presenting after no Imam could be arranged.

I further contacted Mr. Robert Spencer of [www.Jihadwatch.org](http://www.Jihadwatch.org) and asked if he had heard of the above, etc. He replied, "I've been in touch with Rick Mathes about it. He says, as I recall, that the Imam was actually an untrained prison volunteer, which somewhat clarifies his ashamed silence. An Imam would most likely have had many canned answers ready."

I do recommend that readers look at [www.jihadwatch.org](http://www.jihadwatch.org) site as it gives news items from all over the world, not usually seen in local newspapers. (But from interest not from hatred of Muslims).

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*

**Letter Received:  
February 4, 2005**

**Subject: CALENDAR ISSUES**

**by Lloyd Brumbaugh  
Ludlow Falls, Ohio**

**Lloyd writes:**

I just received the two latest issues of your paper and thank you for the same. Here is an item which I would like for you to publish both in the Letters section of your Newsletter and on your website. It is a response to the article by David Ben-Ariel.

**Laura writes:**

All newsletters are converted to printable PDF files and then placed on our Web Site. Depending on a persons connection speed, newsletters can be downloaded in 6 seconds to approximately 12 minutes for most people. If you use Adobe Acrobat Reader, you will have

no problem being able to read these PDF downloads. Adobe Acrobat Reader is free of charge and can be downloaded from the following Web Site:

<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>

Once on our Web Site at: <http://darwinlauralee.150m.com> people can use our "Pico Search Engine" to find what they are looking for. We also have two index pages listed in the newsletter section of the opening page so you can see what articles have been published "by Author" and "by Subject".

#### Lloyd writes:

In this response to David Ben-Ariel's article on page 21 of Issue No. 24, let me start by defining some terms I will be using. The Modern Jewish Calendar is the mathematical calculated calendar used by Rabbinic Judaism and by WWCG and some of the Church of God offshoots. It is published in Arthur Spier's book, The Comprehensive Hebrew Calendar.

#### Laura writes:

In the book "The Comprehensive Hebrew Calendar" by Arthur Spier, the calculated calendar is called the "Hebrew Calendar" and not the "Modern Jewish Calendar" as you wish to call it. The Hebrew Calendar does not belong to the Jews alone, so it should not be referred to as the Jewish Calendar, modern or otherwise.

The Hebrew Calendar as laid out in Arthur Spier's book is the calendar used by Rabbinic Judaism today, but it is not the calendar that WWCG uses now or in their past. WWCG as we know it today uses the calendar of the sun with Christmas and Easter as the highest points of the year. WWCG in their past at the time of Herbert Armstrong also did not use the calendar as laid out in Arthur Spier's book as Herbert Armstrong made up his own dates for Passover and Pentecost.

In other words, Herbert Armstrong taught many people in WWCG that it was okay to make up their own calendars by his own example. We all in the Church of God today suffer in some way due to the bad example that Herbert Armstrong set by his own example in matters regarding the calendar. Herbert Armstrong created confusion within the Church in regard to the calendar. Confusion which is with us today and which continues to split the church daily into smaller and smaller groups because people want to continue to make up their own calendars or insist on following calendars that have been made up by someone else such as Herbert Armstrong.

#### Lloyd writes:

In contrast, the Visual Calendar begins its months by directly observing the moon's first

visible crescent above the Western horizon just after sunset. It is used by Karaite Judaism, Assemblies of Yahweh, and some Churches of God. I reject the Modern Jewish Calendar in favor of the Visual Calendar.

#### Laura writes:

Reject the Hebrew Calendar all you want. What you believe is between you and God, however I strongly suggest that before you reject the Hebrew Calendar that you study the subject much deeper than you have.

#### Lloyd writes:

I have many reasons, but at the moment, to keep this communiqué simple, I will make just one point. If I am successful, this article will have well served its purpose. My point is this. It was the Visual Calendar that the Jews were using during the Messiah's ministry. From the Bible alone there is no possible way to know which of the two systems they were using, but from history we have a unanimous abundance of evidence that they were using the Visual Calendar and not the Modern Jewish Calendar.

#### Laura writes:

It can be proven from the Bible which calendar was being used at the time of Christ and where that calendar is today.

#### Lloyd writes:

So if you insist on relying so heavily on Matt 23:2-3, then it was the Visual Calendar that the Messiah was endorsing. And if you still reject the Visual Calendar and say that it was a particular line of authority that the Messiah endorsed, then I must inform you: It was long after the Messiah's ministry that Judaism split into two factions, Rabbinic Judaism, and Karaite Judaism. Rabbinic Judaism began for the first time in all history to use the Modern Jewish Calendar, but Karaite Judaism continues to this very day to use the Visual Calendar. Which line of authority do you think the Messiah was endorsing, and how would you prove it?

#### Laura writes:

Genesis 49:10 The **sceptre (mark of authority Strong's #7626)** shall not depart from **Judah**, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until **Shiloh (Christ) come**; and unto him (Christ) shall the gathering of the people be.

According to the Bible the mark of authority is with the tribe of Judah until Christ returns to start his rule as King.

Once it is established that the tribe of Judah has the mark of authority, then we have to figure out which branch of the tribe of Judah has that mark of authority, because there are **sects of the Jews**.

Acts 5:17 Then the high priest rose up, and all they that were with him, (which is the **sect of the Sadducees**,) and were filled with indignation,

Acts 15:5 But there rose up certain of the **sect of the Pharisees** which believed, saying, That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses.

The two main sects of the Jews at the time of Christ were the **sect of the Sadducees** and the **sect of the Pharisees**. Here is what Christ had to say about both sects:

In reference to the Sadducees: Matthew 22:29 Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, **not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God**.

In reference to the Pharisees: Mark 7:9 And he (Jesus) said unto them, Full well **ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition**.

It is very important to look at the above two verses because they tell us who understood the law of God and who did not. Christ himself is stating that the Sadducees did not understand the scriptures nor the power of God, where as the Pharisees understood the scriptures and rejected them in order to keep their own traditions. Technically the Pharisees thought they were making the law of God better, but all they ended up doing by their tradition is to bind heavy burdens on the people.

Matthew 23:4 For they (the Pharisees) **bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne**, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers.

There is no command anywhere in the Bible for us to follow the Sadducees in anything, in fact the Bible is pretty clear in stating that the Sadducees opposed God's people and God's Gospel.

Acts 5:17 Then the high priest rose up, and all they that were with him, (**which is the sect of the Sadducees**,) and were filled with **indignation (at the Gospel being preached and the healing of the sick)**,

18. And laid their hands on the apostles, and put them in the common prison. (**The Sadducees threw the apostles in prison for preaching the Gospel and healing the sick**).

19. But the angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, and brought them forth, and said,... (**God let the apostles out and told them to go speak in the Temple, verse 20**)

On the other hand, the Pharisees knew the law of God and preached it:

Acts 15:5 But there rose up certain of the **sect of the Pharisees** which believed,

saying, That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses.

Paul was a Pharisee and here is what Paul stated in regard to the Pharisees:

Acts 26:5 Which knew me from the beginning, if they would testify, that after the most **straitest sect of our religion I lived a Pharisee.**

Paul was a Pharisee, a Benjamite of the tribe of Judah and he is saying that of the sects of the Jews the Pharisee sect is the straitest sect. Straitest sect is Strong's #196 and means: #1-exact, careful, #2-of the strictest sect: the most precise and rigorous in interpreting the Mosaic law, and in observing even the most minute precepts of the law and tradition.

Christ himself gave the command as follows:

Mathew 23:1 Then **spake Jesus to the multitude, and to his disciples,**

**2 Saying, The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat:**

**3 All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not.**

If one wants to reject that command given by Christ himself, then I would have to ask you, how many of the other points of the law are you rejecting?

Now you say, but the Pharisees and the Sadducees no longer exist. Is that true? If they do exist today, where does the Bible say they are? Where does history say they are?

We can know from the Bible exactly who the Pharisees are, because the Bible clearly shows them as having the "tradition of the elders".

Matthew 15:2 Why do thy disciples transgress the **tradition of the elders?** for they wash not their hands when they eat bread.

Mark 7:3 For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, except they wash their hands oft, eat not, holding the **tradition of the elders.**

Mark 7:5 Then the Pharisees and scribes asked him, Why walk not thy disciples according to the **tradition of the elders,** but eat bread with unwashen hands?

The "tradition of the elders" is nothing more than the "oral law of the Jews" the things they added to the law of God and later recorded in the Talmud, Kabala, etc.

Christ clearly rejected the Pharisees "oral law" or "tradition of the elders" and we shouldn't follow the "tradition of the elders" either.

Mark 7:9 And he (Jesus) said unto them, Full well **ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.**

Many people today know the Rabbinic Jews

are the ones with "the oral law of the Jews" or the "tradition of the elders", so our Pharisees are today known as the Rabbinic Jews.

The Bible as we have already gone through earlier shows that the Sadducees were in opposition to the Pharisees in what they taught. There is nothing new in that regard today. Many people within the Churches of God follow the Sadducees of today for various reasons, but the main one is because of "the oral law of the Jews" or the "tradition of the elders". The modern day Sadducees make themselves out to be the Jews in authority because they like Christ have rejected "the oral law of the Jews" or the "tradition of the elders". Because the Sadducees of today reject this oral law and tradition many fall into the trap of Satan in believing they are looking to the right sect of the Jews for their authority in the calendar.

All is not always as it looks on the surface. We are to reject the oral law of the Jews or the tradition of the Elders, because Christ told us to, so we should do it. Christ also gave us a clear command to follow the Pharisees as they taught the law of God which God gave to Moses and people refer to as the Mosaic Law.

With all of this in mind, what are the modern day Sadducees teaching? They are teaching against the Hebrew Calendar as laid out in Arthur Spier's book and they are teaching visual sightings of the moon and many as well as yourself within the Churches of God are promoting or following this idea with much confusion.

The modern day Sadducees are teaching that Passover is the First Day of Unleavened Bread which is not an Idea prevalent within the Churches of God as Herbert Armstrong taught a 14th of Abib Passover and not a 15th of Abib Passover. So here is more confusion.

The modern day Sadducees are teaching that you are to count from the day after the Weekly Sabbath rather than the day after the High Sabbath of Passover to get to Pentecost. Sometimes Herbert Armstrong's count to Pentecost would be the same as the modern day Sadducees and sometimes it wouldn't be depending on which weekly Sabbath one counts from.

To top all of this off, because the modern day Sadducees use a visual calendar only, they are sometimes a day or two off from most calendars or as it happened this year almost a month off, creating even more confusion.

Who are the modern day Sadducees which have gained a great deal of popularity among the Churches of God? They are the Karaites. Don't believe me? Go to their Web Site at <http://www.karaite-korner.org/history.shtml> and look for yourself.

This is a direct quote from Karaite Korner's Web Site: **"Karaism is the original Judaism**

**which has existed throughout history under various names incl. Righteous, Sadducees, Boethusians, Ananites and Karaites, all of whom obeyed the Torah with no additions."**

So there you have it, the modern day Pharisees are clearly the Rabbinic Jews of today and the Sadducees are clearly the Karaites of today. Christ gave us the command to follow the Pharisees as they teach the law of God and warned us at the same time not to follow their "oral law" or "traditions of the elders".

From Arthur Spier's book, "The Comprehensive Hebrew Calendar"--"This method of observation and intercalation was in use throughout the period of the second temple (516 BC to 70 AD), and about three centuries after its destruction, as long as there was an independent Sanhedrin. In the fourth century, however, when oppression and persecution threatened the continued existence of the Sanhedrin, the patriarch Hillel II took an extraordinary step to preserve the unity of Israel. In order to prevent the Jews scattered all over the surface of the earth from celebrating their New Moons, festivals and holidays at different times, **he made public the system of calendar calculation which up to then had been a closely guarded secret. It had been used in the past only to check the observations and testimonies of witnesses, and to determine the beginnings of the spring season."**

At the time of Christ both visual sightings and calculations were used for the calendar.

#### Lloyd writes:

You cannot evade this issue by saying that visual observation was used merely to verify the calculations, or vice versa, to say that calculations were used merely to verify the visual observations. It is a knowable fact that the two systems are different and that they produce different results.

#### Laura writes:

I suggest that you study the Hebrew Calendar to see all of the factors which needed to be taken into account for it to have the Holy Days of Passover and the First Day of Tabernacles fall on the brightest illumination of the moon. Look at your moon on Nisan 15 and Tishri 15. All I can say is you don't understand what God required in his calendar and you don't understand where God put his mark of authority. The sightings and the calculations worked together to produce the most accurate calendar that man has ever known, the Hebrew Calendar. Please do not evade the issue. Study

the subject and write us back. Please send proof for what you say, as I noticed that you sent none in this letter. We shall be awaiting your follow up on this matter.

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6\*\*\*\*\*

We believe the Passover meal is eaten at sunset on the 15<sup>th</sup> of Nisan. We believe the Omar Count to Pentecost starts on the 16<sup>th</sup> of Nisan which ends with a Sivan 6 Pentecost.

The above mentioned dates are the same dates as set down in the book "The Comprehensive Hebrew Calendar" by Arthur Spier. Jeffrey is speaking here of the Hebrew Calendar as laid out by Herbert Armstrong on which Herbert Armstrong of his own mind changed the dates without any authority from God to do so. The Bible clearly states that God gave the mark of authority to the Jews. Laura Lee

Based on all I know about the Hebrew Calendar I cannot stand before the Judge of all the earth and say: "I *know* that the men who formed the Hebrew Calendar acted contrary to your will! I know it is not **your true** Calendar!" I can't even say that I honestly begin to believe that the adjustments they made are ungodly *in any way*. I can't **justly** accuse those men and prove their choices are displeasing in His sight, unrighteous, nor do I have *any* inclination to do so.

#### Editors Note:

Here Jeffrey is pretty much saying that the Jews, Scribes and Pharisees as he stated in the first paragraph were probably right in their setting up of God's Calendar, the Hebrew Calendar. What Jeffrey does not mention here are the adjustments that Herbert Armstrong made to the Hebrew Calendar and whether he had any authority to make those adjustments. Laura Lee

If, as our Master says, the Sabbath *itself* is made for man, and not man for the Sabbath, *how much more the Calendar?* I don't believe man was made for the Calendar, but rather that the Calendar is made for man! Very possibly, indeed, for all I know, *ever and only* the Calendar is also made **by** man! Isn't it the choices made in the Hebrew Calendar "for man" that give rise to your doubts? It seems to me those Jewish authorities were following the principle that the Calendar is made for man, not man for the Calendar! I believe they knew much more about what they were doing then than any of their accusers do now! I must give them the benefit of the doubt.

#### Editors Note:

Jeffrey is again backing up the Jews by saying they know far more about the Hebrew Calendar than any of us know today. So while at the same time siding with the Jews he again never mentions the adjustments that Herbert Armstrong made to the Hebrew Calendar. If Herbert Armstrong had not changed the dates for Passover and Pentecost, most of the Church of God would today be keeping the same Holy Days as written on the Hebrew Calendar and we would all be a much better light to the rest of the world around us. Laura Lee

Everything done in attempting to establish a supposed "true" Calendar is based on **accusing** them. Accusation is the **foundation** of such efforts. I've no reason to believe the Judge approves. It seems to me that Hebrew Calendar dissenters aren't standing firm in the Lord, but rather taking a stand on *sand* -- on suppositions. **Standing on accusations and hurling accusations!** Dragging people into matters dubious, doubtful, difficult and dreary -- full of argument not truly edifying that wanders from a focus on the Word. It doesn't "ring true" as the work of the Holy One to me.

#### Editors Note:

I do agree that we should not be making accusations and if we do we need to back it up with proof. Again, we claim to follow the Hebrew Calendar and so does Jeffrey. The difference between our two calendars is that we are using the authority of God's word in the Bible for our Hebrew Calendar and Jeffrey is using the authority of Herbert Armstrong for his Hebrew Calendar. If that sounds like an accusation of some sort, so be it. Laura Lee

An authoritative basis for Calendric determination isn't spelled out in Scripture. That the Calendar is an **absolute** ordained by God without human input is an assumption. Many details of cultic practice are not spelled out in God's word. The Calendar appears as a "given" in the holy Scriptures, much like the Roman Calendar we all live by is a "given" for us -- destined for the dustbin, but useful for now. We don't worry about today's date or how it was derived, we know it's from a man-made Calendar.

#### Editors Note:

Again, common sense would certainly tell us that if God commanded us to keep certain days Holy that He would give us a calendar so we would know when to keep these days. If any of us believe that we have

the authority to make up our own Holy Day dates and then tell God when He should show up, we are walking a thin line and are just asking for God's wrath to be on us. God made the Holy Days Holy and He would have given us a Calendar so we would not break His law. God hates law breakers so why would he encourage law breaking by not providing a calendar? Laura Lee

It is mere **supposition** that "the Calendar" -- an **absolute** and somehow unchanging Calendar -- was **ever** revealed by fiat. God wrote the ten commandments in stone with His own finger, but not so the Calendar.

#### Editors Note:

Unless Jeffrey was on Mount Sinai with Moses and God, he would have no way of knowing whether God gave them a calendar or not.

Most of what Jeffrey says in this response to Alan looks to be his own opinion as I don't see any proofs given for the things he says and the above paragraph is a real "oops" on Jeffrey's part. God spent 40 years with the Israelites in the wilderness and I'm sure that not everything that was said got recorded in the Bible. Laura Lee

The holy Scriptures don't actually tell us whether the Calendar Noah employed, or even Moses, was revealed by God, or made by man.

God established the weekly Sabbath, but it runs *uncoupled* to the Calendar.

Some Hebrew Calendar dissenters are eager to create Calendars tailor-made for their own little corner of the earth, their *own* Calendars. But surely when the Messiah comes *all* nations will come up to Jerusalem to observe the feast at the same time, regardless of the season where they live. A world standard Calendar will make no less sense then than it does today -- it better serves man.

#### Editor's Note:

I agree with Jeffrey that the Calendar within the Church of God should be standard so that all follow the same calendar. What I don't believe that Jeffrey looks at is that the Hebrew Calendar as preserved by the Jews has been around a whole lot longer than the one he (Jeffrey) keeps which was made up and taught by Herbert Armstrong. We sincerely hope that as time goes by more people will study and understand this calendar issue and quit making up their own calendars as many people continue to do. Laura Lee

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

ARTICLES SECTION ---

[newsletter-only-darwin-laura@earthlink.net](mailto:newsletter-only-darwin-laura@earthlink.net)

**PERSECUTION ARTICLES**

(This is the 5<sup>th</sup> in a series of articles in regard to the subject of persecution. If you have an article in regard to persecution, please send it for our consideration to print.)

**THE PERSECUTION OF  
WILLIAM ROGERS**

by Wily Elder  
North Miami, Florida

In the 1500's AD there had been the struggle in England of the standard religion of Rome imposing itself upon the population. Persecution resulting from this would be in the form of execution. When monarchs friendly to Rome were in power, Protestants and all people who disagreed with the Pope would face persecution. If you disagreed with the Church of Rome, you could face an agonizing death. People were commonly burned at the stake. After Queen Elizabeth I came to power, for the most part, the powers of Rome were crushed. This ended the extreme persecution that had existed for several decades. However, as the Church of England began to be a power in England, there would also be persecution of a different sort. Unlike the New World (the emerging United States), England did not promote a generic freedom of religion. In early and middle 1600's ministers who did not conform to the religion approved by parliament would, in many cases, find themselves in prison. These ministers were called non-conformists. William Rogers was one such minister.

The little girl, Hattie Craddock, lived next door to William Rogers. She was a spoiled brat, raised by servants. She noticed William Rogers pulling weeds in his yard and said, "pulling weeds is for servants."

"Servants cost money," was Rogers' reply. Hattie's grandfather, Sir Richard Craddock, the magistrate, was the reason Rogers had no money. Mr. Craddock had outlawed Roger's preaching in the local church house. Rogers now had only a living room church.

Little Hattie had been spoiled from an early age. She had sliced herself with a knife

one day when she was having a temper fit. After that incident, her grandfather, Craddock, ordered that she should be able to have her way in most cases. Thanks to this imperative, she was able to get away often to go see her next door neighbor, William Rogers. He would tell her stories from the Bible about people of strong faith.

One day when he was having a church service in his home there was a knock at the door. When he opened the door angry people grabbed him and pulled him out of the house and threw him on the ground. When he stood up he was taken prisoner. His wrists were tied up. He noticed his fellow laborers, Jeremiah and Sarah Abbot and Thomas Powell, had also been taken into captivity.

The four of them were brought to the house of the magistrate, Sir Richard Craddock. Craddock came in and gloated over the capture of these non-conformists.

Craddock addressed the prisoners as wolves who were leading the sheep astray. William Rogers was accused of preaching without a license. Getting a license would have meant that the state had the right to turn religion into a privilege granted only to people who conform to the approved doctrine. Craddock told them he would go to fill out the papers.

After he left Sarah began to cry.

Rogers said, "Blessed are you, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven. Be you faithful unto death, and I will give you a crown of life." William Rogers said this to encourage everyone who was in captivity. The faces of his companions brightened up.

Rogers continued, "Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow his steps."

Suddenly Hattie burst through door, shouting her excitement over something. Seeing the group of strangers in the hall, she stopped and looked. Then she recognized her next door neighbor.

"You've come to visit at last!" she said, walking up to him. He smiled at her but did not answer. "What's the matter?" she questioned the deputy who held Mr. Rogers. "What are you doing to my good old gentleman?"

The deputy told her "He's a wicked man, but he'll pay now."

The little girl became angry. "What are

they going to do with you?" she asked of Mr. Rogers.

"Your grandfather says that I and my friends must go to prison," he replied.

Hattie began to have a temper fit. She stomped her foot, and her voice rose to a shout. "You will not go to prison. Grandpapa can't do that to you."

The girl raced down the hall to the room her grandfather had gone to fill out the papers. Finding the door locked, she banged her head against it and kicked it aggressively, demanding to get inside. Someone opened the door. She raced across the room to her grandfather. "What are you going to do with my good old gentleman out there?" she asked loudly.

"None of your business. Go on out and play," her grandfather replied.

"But I will not," She responded. "He says you are going to send him and his friends to jail. If you send them to jail, I will drown myself in the pond as soon as they are gone! I really will!"

Craddock was speechless for a while. His astonishment was profound due to the fact he knew she was willing to carry out what she threatened to do. He picked up the papers and walked down the hall to the prisoners.

He addressed the prisoners: "I had intended to send you all to jail, but my granddaughter has requested that I show you mercy. You are all released; see that you do not repeat the offense."

The deputies released the prisoners. The prisoners thanked Craddock. Then Mr. Rogers turned to the child whose intervention had saved them much suffering. He put his hand on her head and, lifting his eyes to heaven, he said, "God bless you, my dear child. May the blessing of that God whose cause you now plead, though as yet you know Him not, be upon you in life, at death, and throughout eternity."

In England, toward the end of the 1600's the imprisonment of non-conformist ministers began to be less frequent. Close to the turn of the century this practice was practically extinguished.

William Rogers died. He was loved and honored by many for the faithful saint he was. Timothy Rogers, William's son, followed in his father's footsteps. He was a dedicated Christian who became well-known as a writer.

One evening Timothy Rogers sat in the parlor of a house in London, visiting a friend, Mrs. Tooley, who was famous for her

hospitality to those who loved the Lord. He told her the story of the deliverance that God had given to his father by means of a little child.

Mrs. Tooley listened with great interest. "And are you that Mr. Rogers' son?" she asked.

"Most certainly I am," he replied.

She shook her head in amazement, "As long as I have known you I never realized that. I am the little girl your dear father blessed. It made such an impression on me that I could never forget it. Now let me tell you a story."

And here is the story she told: She had spent some time in Bath, a town in the western part of England. She had told a doctor friend of hers of the emotional problems she had. She told him of the wealth she possessed and how it did her no good in finding peace for herself. She was depressed and at the point of wanting to kill herself.

His reply was, "What you need is religion. That's the only way to find the peace you seek."

"I'm not a child."

"No, you are not a child. But you have not lived so many years as I have, and you asked my counsel. Now you can take it or leave it, but that is what I think."

"Well, what do you suggest I do?"

He suggested she should read the New Testament for her health.

She agreed to do it and promised to finish it.

Hattie kept her promise. But she found no peace. Her lack of peace became worse. Still an intense conviction took root in her mind that the answer might be from that source after all.

One morning after her return to London she called to Jane, her companion. "Get ready, Jane. We're going to church today."

Jane looked at her in amazement. This was totally out of character for Hattie.

Putting on appropriate clothing, they began walking through the streets. At last Jane's curiosity reached the bursting point. "Where is this church we're going to, Miss Hattie?"

Hattie put off her answer as long as she could. Finally she confessed, "I don't know. During the night I had a vivid dream. I was sitting in an old church."

Hattie's eyes searched every church they passed.

"If only I could find it!" The pent-up yearning of those years of frustration threatened to explode.

They passed the fashionable part of town and turned down a narrow lane called The Old Jewry, close to Cheapside. Lots of

people here all seemed to be going to the same place. Following the crowd, they found themselves outside a little church.

"It's the one!" Hattie cried. She went through the door and down the aisle to a front seat. Jane had to fight against the urge to look down her nose at the simple chapel, but she followed Hattie to a seat. A man entered the pulpit.

Hattie told Jane, "That's the very man I saw! If it's all true, he'll preach on the text 'Return unto your rest, O my soul.'"

The minister prayed, lifting his hands to heaven. They both listened in amazement as he announced his text: "Re-turn unto your rest, O my soul."

Concluding the story she was telling to Timothy Rogers, she said, "That day I met my Lord and found the rest my soul so long had sought. God heard your father's prayer. That blessing has followed me all my life, and I doubt not that it will accompany me to the world to come."

#### Information sources:

Dugger, Andrew, and Dodd, C.O., A History of the True Religion, pages 214 to 217, 1972, Jerusalem, Israel.

Footprints, presenttruth.org.

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

**PERSECUTION ARTICLES**  
**Present Day Persecution:**  
**Port Austin, Michigan**  
**Sabbatarian Community in**  
**Crisis**

**SUMMARY OF EVENTS AT**  
**PORT AUSTIN (Points #1-13)**

**by Norman Edwards**  
**Port Austin, Michigan**

#### Editors Note:

**This is the latest edition of the events in Port Austin. It was revised on 4-22-2005 and is the 4th Edition.**

**As much as we really wanted to print this all at one time, we felt we just couldn't due to the length. We have decided to print this in 4 parts for those who do not have computers. For those who do have computers and have internet access, we will put the entire document on our web site at:**

<http://darwinlauralee.150m.com>

#### Look for it on our opening page in the advertising section. Laura Lee

This is a brief description of the events surrounding the formation of the Port Austin Sabbatarian Church Community Sacred Purpose Trust (herein referred to as "the Trust"), from the viewpoint of Norman Scott Edwards ("Edwards"), who has repeatedly reviewed the matter and continues to pray for understanding in it:

1. Edwards first learned about the Port Austin Bible Center on the former Port Austin Air Force Base property in early 2000. He arranged to hold a Feast of Tabernacles meeting there in the Fall of 2000, and maintained occasional contact with its owners, Eternal Life Bible Institute ("ELBI"), and their on-site representative, Warwick Potts.

2. Edwards began to write articles on forming a Sabbatarian Educational Environment ("SEE") during 2003 and publish them in Servants' News. Terry Monte Williams (herein "Williams") was also interested and wanted to work with Edwards to include a Sabbatarian Elder Adult Living ("SEAL") program and a farm. Edwards published one of Williams' articles as well. The two began looking for a place to implement this program, and Edwards contacted Warwick Potts during the late summer of 2003, but received no significant response. Edwards and Williams made a presentation to the Board of Directors of Spring Vale Academy, a Church of God Seventh Day boarding high school, proposing to implement such a program at their campus. Some of the board members were interested, but as a whole they rejected the proposal.

3. In late 2003, Warwick Potts contacted Edwards and offered to make the facilities available for Edwards' purposes if a suitable contract could be negotiated. Even though ELBI had paid multiple hundreds of thousands of dollars into the property, both to purchase it and fix it, they were unable to continue to make payments on their existing land contract. They had dedicated the property to the service of God and wanted to sell it to a group that would continue that concept.

4. Edwards wrote additional articles intended for Servants' News, but was not able to publish them. Between his family responsibilities-his oldest son graduating from high school, the many tasks involved with starting SEE and his half-time teaching job at Spring Vale Academy-the publications were not completed. As an aside, the year of half-time teaching at Spring Vale Academy was extremely valuable to Edwards. He

learned a lot about the attitudes of Sabbatarian young people today, about Christian school operation, and about the difficulty of convincing parents of a school's value until after their young people spend some time there. He also saw the incredible change in the lives of two of his own sons and many other young people.

5. Instead of publishing another newsletter, Edwards emailed the articles to the hundreds of subscribers for whom he had e-mail addresses. He also wrote articles for other Sabbatarian publications. In early 2004, Phillip Daniel Frankford ("Frankford") and Paul Douglas Drieman ("Drieman") responded to one such article and asked to join Williams and Edwards in the project.

6. After many group telephone conversations, considering other possible sites, and a couple of visits to the Port Austin property in January/February 2004, Drieman, Frankford, Williams and Edwards verbally agreed to work together to establish the SEE/SEAL programs on the Port Austin Campus and to work together to make the decisions necessary for the project.

7. In the SEE plan published January 2004, Edwards wrote: **The SEE government will be selected after D-day [earlier defined in the document as "Do-it Day"-the time when those interested would actually move to the property]. It should be governed by those who are providing the facilities and doing the work. If that is primarily one person or a small group of people, then it will be a small group. If it is many, then, many will govern. The government will be firmly bound to implement the plan for SEE as laid out in this and future documents. SEE will maintain its independent status-it will not become tied to a particular church organization, but serve Sabbatarian believers from a variety of congregations.**

There was never any jointly written plan for the project other than Edwards' articles and Williams' one article on SEAL (which Edwards had heavily edited due to his overly-optimistic mindset). Later plans called for the campus responsibilities to be divided in the following manner:

- a. Drieman: manage the facilities
- b. Frankford: develop industry and help financially
- c. Williams: develop SEAL program and farm, and help financially
- d. Edwards: develop SEE program, publications, write contracts and other documents necessary for the purchase of the property and for the organization of the project, and help financially.

8. Unfortunately, one fundamental issue that was never set to writing was this: Which of the above two points (6 & 7) are most important? Was this project to be whatever four men voted it to be at any given moment? Or, was it to implement the specific plans outlined in Edwards' and Williams' writings, each man with his responsibility?

9. Edwards made several attempts to write an initial plan for the workings of the four men but found resistance to most of his writings, primarily from Frankford. As it was, the four men could not even agree as to the method of how the property should be acquired. Edwards felt it was best to cooperate with ELBI, while Frankford suggested several hostile takeover methods; for example, by attempting to buy out the interest of ELBI's creditors then foreclosing on ELBI if they could not pay, or by getting ELBI in trouble with various government agencies. Edwards objected to these methods - He even played a tape of Frankford's phone message suggesting this to Drieman and Williams and asked if something should be done about this, but no personnel decision was made. Unfortunately, Edwards did not have the wisdom, the spiritual insight or the willingness to listen to counsel to see that he should have exited the group at that time. Edwards now freely admits this and has repented of it.

10. By late February, 2004, ELBI's situation was desperate. It had missed its February 15th payment of \$6548, and was now in default on its land contract. A "balloon payment" of nearly \$95,000 was due March 15. Edwards had negotiated to have this major payment delayed until July 15th. Williams and Edwards were in favor of taking over the payments and working out a contract with ELBI as soon as possible. However, Drieman and Frankford would not agree. Apparently, they were hoping to force ELBI into a more desperate situation to obtain a lower price or to pick the property up through foreclosure. So Edwards' Church Bible Teaching Ministry used a low interest credit card check to make the late payment for ELBI, preventing foreclosure for ELBI. Frankford and Drieman objected to this payment made without their agreement, but agreed to keep moving on the project. Williams said that the payment had shown him for sure that Edwards was really going to do this project.

11. Edwards spent weeks pouring over deeds, laws and other legal documents in an attempt to determine the legal status of the property. As it turned out, much of the property was part of a site condominium-not some kind of apartment complex, but a legal method of subdividing property when

the streets, utilities and lot sizes do not correspond to the state's subdivision laws. Many of the people already involved with the property did not know this. Edwards found previous legal transactions that were left unfinished, surveys that needed to be done, and other issues that had simply been let go. The legally required condominium association was no longer functioning.

12. Even with these known problems, all four men spoke of dedicating their personal resources to the project: selling their houses and/or moving their resources to the property. This is what was promised then, and what has actually happened to date:

- a. Drieman had never planned to sell his house, but did speak of moving his substantial collection of maintenance tools and parts to the property for its use. He only moved half a truckload of belongings, most of his tools still being in Missouri.
- b. Frankford initially spoke of selling his house or collecting a large insurance settlement on damages to it and using the proceeds to help the project. He spoke of making substantial financial contributions from his own earnings. None of this ever happened.
- c. Williams moved from his Ann Arbor apartment and advanced over \$85,000 for payments toward the property. He did not put his Illinois house up for sale as once planned, but did make substantial efforts toward doing so. (At one time, he considered borrowing against the equity in this house to help make payments.)
- d. Edwards sold his house, used the proceeds for the project and moved everything he owned to the property. He has borrowed approximately \$100,000, nearly exhausting his personal and ministry credit to keep the project operating. (While some will say that a project should not be started by borrowing money, the Scriptures do not teach against borrowing at interest for an emergency-but against lending at interest to those in need. Also there are a great many church groups that would like to have a school for Sabbatarian young people, but are-and always will be-waiting to have enough funds to be sure that they can do it.)

In short, the others all have a home to which to return; Edwards does not. He is committed to the project.

13. Edwards had already done extensive research and writing on the need for ministries to be wholly dedicated to God, to forgo state incorporation and IRS "501(c)(3) status". He had always told the others that the best way to take title to the

property would be as a Sacred Purpose Trust-a method used by dedicated Christian groups for over 400 years. In early April of 2004, Drieman, Frankford, Williams and Edwards had a conference phone call with a fifth man who was able to prepare and create such a sacred purpose trust. A trust is a piece of paperwork, kind of like a miniature private government, that specifies its purpose and powers, and the responsibilities of those who govern it. All governments recognize the ability of trusts to own real estate, vehicles, bank accounts, etc. All four men agreed that the property would be purchased by this Trust, which would be created effective April 5, 2004. Church Bible Teaching Ministry paid \$2500 to have the work done.

**\*\*\*TO BE CONTINUED IN ISSUE #28\*\*\*\*\***

#### COMING IN ISSUE

**#28: Seventh Day Men of England -- by Doyle Carter**

**#28: Summary of Events at Port Austin (Points #14-25) -- by Norman Edwards**

**#29: Seventh Day Men, Part 2 -- by Doyle Carter**

**#29: Summary of Events at Port Austin (Points #26-#37) -- by Norman Edwards**

**#30: Persecution -- by Ray Kaping**

**#30: Summary of Events at Port Austin (Points #38-50) -- by Norman Edwards**

#### THE PHARISEES SIT IN MOSES' SEAT

**by David Ben-Ariel  
Toledo, Ohio**

Who isn't aware of the sins of the Pharisees? (Especially the Accuser of the Brethren?). But does that mean the truths they teach, even if they don't live them, are no longer true? It reminds me of James 1:22 encouraging Christians to be doers of the Word and not hearers only; of Ezekiel 33:31 where it shows "God's People" hearing the Word but not implementing it; and of Romans 2:17-23 where the Jews are proud of

knowing God's Word but miserably fail to put it into perfect practice, although demanding it of others! You could substitute "God's Church" for Jews and get the same message! How many of us know God's truth and yet aren't exactly paragons of virtue? Do our personal failings somehow negate God's truth? As a general rule, despite ourselves, doesn't God's Church still have more truth than any other religion? And Jesus did state that "salvation is of the Jews" (Jn. 4:22).

Could this be WHY while Jesus acknowledged (and God's Church should too!) that the Pharisees are the chosen ones that GOD has ordained to sit in Moses' seat of authority (to execute judgments and make binding decisions), that He said to follow their teachings but not their bad examples? (Mat. 23:1-3). We must be careful not to throw the baby out with the bathwater! Paul also recognized that God had chosen the Pharisees out of all the Jewish groups, and called himself a Pharisee "blameless in the law" (Philip. 3:5-6). Paul, under divine inspiration, also declared that God had ordained the Jews to preserve "the oracles of God" (Rom. 3:1-4). What if the Jews, specifically the Pharisees whom God has chosen, are less than perfect? Does it make God's purpose for them null and void? Paul answers: "GOD FORBID!" Read and believe Romans 3:1-4. There's no need for any controversy. The Scriptures are quite clear!

What about Jesus' giving authority to his disciples? There's no contradiction. They're to base their Church decisions UPON the foundational LAW that is preserved by the Jewish Pharisees - not apart from them! Otherwise they would be among those who "think to change the times and the seasons." God's Church is built upon the Law and the Prophets (Ephes. 2:20). The Biblical traditions of the Pharisees continue to this day among the Jews as Rabbinic Judaism. The Sadducees and Samaritans are history! If and whenever the Pharisees or God's Church would attempt to enforce doctrines contrary to Scripture, then we must obey God and not man. Paul wrote that God has given it to the Jews to preserve "the oracles of God" (God's Word, sacred calendar, holy days) even AFTER Jesus had given authority to His disciples. He didn't say, "Now God's Church is in control of everything!" That's a Catholic doctrine of demons!

As far as the Pharisees go, we should be careful to remember that Paul called himself a Pharisee (Acts 23:6) and would have taught the traditions of the Pharisees such as the BIBLICAL dates for Passover and Pentecost (2 Thes. 2:15) that were at odds with the Sadducees; that wise Gamaliel was a Pharisee (Acts 5:34); that many of the brethren remained Pharisees, even though

they had to grow and learn that Gentiles didn't have to first become Jews and then become Christians (Acts 15:5); and that Nicodemus who originally met Jesus by night, later went with Joseph of Arimathea, in broad daylight, to give Jesus a proper Jewish burial with spices (Jn. 19:39-42).

The issue isn't whether the Jewish group whom GOD has ordained to preserve the Bible are without sin, but whether or not we accept the Biblical record that God has only authorized the Pharisees to occupy "Moses' seat." Those who would attempt to usurp their God-given position would do well to remember Gamaliel's advice about fighting against God!

**\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\***

#### HOMESCHOOLING -- A LIFESTYLE CHOICE *Where are the Children?*

**by Mary Ames  
Proctor, Texas**

When my first child was but a few weeks old, I looked into that precious little face and I realized that there was NO way I could send this child, this gift from Yahweh, into the government school system. There was no way I could put him on one of those yellow school buses at 7:00 AM each day and subject him to 40 hours a week of lies and peer pressure. I am sure that the Creator's spirit was working inside my heart as I made that decision. Since that day, Yahweh has paved the way for us to homeschool all three of our young children. We have never regretted this decision.

Today homeschooling is legal in all states. Requirements vary from state to state, however no state requires that the parents be certified. Homeschooling has gained great popularity since the late 60's when approximately 10,000-15,000 children were taught at home. Today, over one million school-aged children are homeschooled and that number is growing about 10% each year. Families who elect to educate their children at home come from all ethnic, cultural, and religious backgrounds, and all income levels. However, homeschoolers are more likely to be religious, conservative, better educated, and part of a two-parent family, compared with the average American family. Homeschooling families tend to have more children and be middle-class.

Homeschooling is a lifestyle choice. When a couple chooses to homeschool, they

are choosing to sacrifice a great deal. Homeschooling requires planning, patience, and time. Homeschooling isn't easy. Your children are with you all day as well as all night. At least one parent must stay home to be the teacher.

Homeschooling for our family is not about academic excellence, although many studies prove homeschool students do exceptionally well scholastically when compared with nationwide averages. Our goal is to keep our children pure and undefiled by the world. By teaching them at home, we are our children's mentors, spiritual leaders, and role models. When the children are at home, parents have the opportunity to instill values and beliefs into our children--all day and every day, just as Deuteronomy 6:5-7 commands us.

*And you shall love YHWH your Elohim with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. And these Words which I am commanding you today shall be on your heart. **And you shall teach them to your sons, and shall speak of them as you sit in your house, and as you walk in the way, and as you are lying down, and as you are rising up.** (Deut 6:5-7)*

By sending our children to government schools, we are subjecting them to 40 hours of the darkest dark where the enemy is standing ready to infect these innocents. I hear many parents tell me that their children are "lights" in the government school system. My question is: How many 6-year olds do you know who can withstand peer pressure day after day? There is a good reason Yahshua sent his disciples out by twos. They were to strengthen each other. One is simply not strong enough to withstand the temptations and defeats. Can we expect our children to be any different? Consider Solomon's words:

*He that walketh with wise **men** shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed. (Prov 13:20)*

By homeschooling, you discover and develop your child's unique and individual talents. If we throw them into a pool of 25-30 other kids, how can we expect them to receive any individual attention--unless they misbehave? I am certain that my firstborn son would be a prime candidate for Ritalin if he were in the government school system. He is very active and at times "out of control." Because he is homeschooled at home, we are able to channel this energy into productive learning activities.

Socialization is often a concern about homeschooling. However, studies show that homeschooled children are more "socialized" and mature than their government school counterparts. As homeschooled children

interact with each other, they have no age barriers. The 12-year old plays freely with the 7-year old; the older children usually take care of the younger. (This is because they are with siblings all day.) A homeschoolers conversation and vocabulary will usually be noticeably mature for their age because they have spent considerably more time talking with adults than with their peers.

Many parents believe that they are not qualified to teach their children, which I believe is simply not true. Who taught your children to walk and talk? Who taught your children to use the potty, a fork and knife and to dress themselves? Teaching your children to read, write and do basic arithmetic is just as natural and easy. Young children quickly learn these skills when they are in the presence of loving, nurturing parents. Our goal is to teach our children to **learn to learn**, so that at a certain age (hopefully by age 10), they are able to teach themselves. You will simply be there to help guide and encourage them to find what their talents and gifts are.

Many homeschooling resources are available to make homeschooling easier and enjoyable. Organized homeschooling groups exist all over the world for support, fun and activities. You will most likely find a group in your own community. If you and your children want to be a light to the world, here is a great place to shine. Most homeschooling parents are conservative, mainstream Christians and many are open-minded to Yahweh's way of life. (We have found 3 families in a very small homeschool group to whom we have been able to witness to about the issues of the Sabbath and Holy Days--Halleluyah.)

There are also many kinds and types of curriculum available. Depending on your situation, you may choose a complete curriculum that tells you exactly what to teach each day or you can build your own. Using your state's curriculum guidelines, you are free to teach from any resources. Search the Internet for homeschool material and you will find there is plenty of help out there.

Any parent can homeschool, although it is not for the faint-hearted. The parents must be fully persuaded and fully committed to protect, lead and nurture their children. To begin your study about homeschooling, I recommend an excellent book which is considered a classic in the homeschooling arena: [The Successful Homeschool Family Handbook](#), by Raymond S. Moore and Dorothy Moore. The Moores are now grandparents who have been homeschooling for 50+ years.

As my parting words for this article, I

want to plead with Yahweh's people to prayerfully consider this option for your children or grandchildren, even if they are already firmly ensconced in a government school. We are losing children to the world because they cannot withstand the pressure. We cannot possibly overcome the influence of 40 hours week after week of lies and satanic agendas. Scripture promises that if we "train up a child in the way he should go, when he is old he will not **depart** from it" (Prov 22:6). The "way" is the way of YHWH. Yahweh is **promising** us that if we bring them up in His way, our children WILL NOT LEAVE HIS WAY. Yahweh **promises** that if they are founded in scripture, they will NOT leave the faith for the world. But we must do our part. We must do as Yahweh commands--to teach our children as they walk, lie down and rise up. That means we cannot afford to let anyone else teach them. We cannot allow them to be under the world's influence for so many hours each week. Children are a heritage and blessings from YHWH. We must take great care with them, no matter what personal sacrifice we must make.

As we look around our congregations of true believers, we see people of childbearing years and very few young children. Where are the children of the last generation? Who will carry the next generation?

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

**THE SABBATH IN THE CATHOLIC CATECHISM**

by Bill Bratt  
Portsmouth, Ohio

Most Churches have a statement of beliefs. The Catholic Church has an elaborate statement of beliefs which they call its catechism. The entire Catechism of the Roman Catholic Church was updated and published in English in 1994. This Catechism is a compendium of Catholic doctrine and contains 2,865 points which is the official statement of faith of the doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church.

Let's look in the Catholic Catechism and see what it says about: The Sabbath.

#### The New Catechism

**345 - The sabbath - the end of the work of the six days.** The sacred text says that "on the seventh day God finished his work which he had done," that the "heavens and the earth were finished," and that God "rested" on this day and sanctified and blessed it. These inspired words are rich in profitable

instruction:

**347** - Creation was fashioned with a view to the sabbath and therefore for the worship and adoration of God. Worship is inscribed in the order of creation. As the rule of St. Benedict says, nothing should take precedence over "the work of God," that is, solemn worship. This indicates the right order of human concerns.

**348** - The sabbath is at the heart of Israel's law. To keep the commandments is to correspond to the wisdom and the will of God as expressed in his work of creation.

**349** - The *eighth day*. But for us a new day has dawned: the day of Christ's Resurrection. The seventh day completes the first creation. The eighth day begins the new creation. Thus, the work of creation culminates in the greater work of redemption. The first creation finds its meaning and its summit in the new creation in Christ, the splendor of which surpasses that of the first creation.

**Comment:** There is nothing in the Bible that refers to an eighth day beginning a new creation.

**582** - Going even further, Jesus perfects the dietary law, so important in Jewish daily life, by revealing its pedagogical meaning through a divine interpretation: "Whatever goes into a man from outside cannot defile him... What comes out of a man is what defiles a man. For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts..." In presenting with divine authority the definitive interpretation of the Law, Jesus found himself confronted by certain teachers of the Law who did not accept his interpretation of the Law guaranteed though it was by the divine signs that accompanied it. This was the case especially with the sabbath laws, for he recalls often with rabbinical arguments, that the sabbath rest is not violated by serving God and neighborhood which his own healings did.

**Comment:** Jesus' healing did not violate God's laws. It violated the "oral law" of the Jews and that is one of the reasons why the Pharisees hated Jesus and wanted to kill Him.

## I. THE SABBATH DAY

**2168** - The third commandment of the Decalogue recalls the holiness of the sabbath: "The seventh day is a sabbath of solemn rest, holy to the LORD."

**Comment:** The Catholic Church has renumbered the Ten Commandments. They ignore the Second Commandment (Exodus 20:4-7) and renumber the Third through the Ninth and then they split the Tenth Commandment into two Commandments. This renumbering makes the Fourth

Commandment the Third Commandment.

**2169** - In speaking of the sabbath Scripture recalls creation: "For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and hallowed it."

**2170** - Scripture also reveals in the Lord's day a memorial of Israel's liberation from bondage in Egypt: "You shall remember that you were a servant in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out thence with a mighty hand and outstretched arm; therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the sabbath day."

**2171** - God entrusted the sabbath to Israel to keep as a sign of the irrevocable covenant. The sabbath is for the Lord, holy and set apart for the praise of God, his work of creation, and his saving actions on behalf of Israel.

**2172** - God's action is the model for human action. If God "rested and was refreshed" on the seventh day, man too ought to "rest" and should let others, especially the poor, "be refreshed." The sabbath brings everyday work to a halt and provides a respite. It is a day of protest against the servitude of work and the worship of money.

**2173** - The Gospel reports many incidents when Jesus was accused of violating the sabbath law. But Jesus never fails to respect the holiness of this day. He gives this law its authentic and authoritative interpretation: "The sabbath was made for man, not man for the sabbath." With compassion, Christ declares the sabbath for doing good rather than harm, for saving life rather than killing. The sabbath is the day of the Lord of mercies and a day to honor God. "The Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath."

**2189** - "Observe the sabbath day, to keep it holy" (Deut 5:12). "The seventh day is a sabbath of solemn rest, holy to the Lord" (Ex 31:15).

**Comment:** For the most part the Catechism has given an accurate view of the Sabbath with the exception of the comments about the "eighth day begins a new creation."

Let's take a brief look at what the Catechism says about Sunday in relation to the Sabbath:

### Sunday- fulfillment of the sabbath

**2175** - Sunday is expressly distinguished from the sabbath which it follows chronologically every week; for Christians its ceremonial observance replaces that of the sabbath. In Christ's Passover, Sunday fulfills the spiritual truth of the Jewish sabbath and announces man's eternal rest in God. For

worship under the Law prepared for the mystery of Christ, and what was done there prefigured some aspects of Christ:

Those who lived according to the old order of things have come to a new hope, no longer keeping the sabbath, but the Lord's Day, in which our life is blessed by him and by his death.

**Comment:** The Bible nowhere says that the day of worship was changed from the Sabbath to Sunday. Notice that the Catechism does not quote any scripture to back up their claim that the day of worship was changed to Sunday. The Catechism says: "no longer keeping the sabbath, but the Lord's Day." This is not scriptural. The Catechism in point #2173 quoted the following passage: "And he said unto them, The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath: {28} Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath" (Mark 2:27-28 KJV). If Jesus is the "Lord of the Sabbath" then that makes the Sabbath the true "Lord's Day." (Request the article: "Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath" for a more in depth look at this topic. This article was printed in Issue #19 on Page #13.)

**2176** - The celebration of Sunday observes the moral commandment inscribed by nature in the human heart to render to God an outward, visible, public, and regular worship "as a sign of his universal beneficence to all." Sunday worship fulfills the moral command of the Old Covenant, taking up its rhythm and spirit in the weekly celebration of the Creator and Redeemer of his people.

**Comment:** Notice what the Catechism is saying: "The celebration of Sunday observes the moral commandment inscribed by nature in the human heart." The word "moral" is defined as: "relating to principles of right and wrong in behavior." God's "moral law" is the Ten Commandments in which God defines right and wrong behavior. In Exodus 20:8-11 God commands mankind to "Remember the Sabbath, to keep it holy."

Notice that the Catechism is setting the stage for Sunday observance even though it is not scriptural.

**2190** - The sabbath, which represented the completion of the first creation, has been replaced by Sunday which recalls the new creation inaugurated by the Resurrection of Christ.

**2191** - The Church celebrates the day of Christ's Resurrection on the "eighth day," Sunday, which is rightly called the Lord's Day (cf. SC 106).

**2192** - "Sunday . . . is to be observed as the foremost holy day of obligation in the universal Church" (CIC, can. 1246 § 1). "On

Sundays and other holy days of obligation the faithful are bound to participate in the Mass" (CIC, can. 1247).

**2193** - "On Sundays and other holy days of obligation the faithful are bound... to abstain from those labors and business concerns which impede the worship to be rendered to God, the joy which is proper to the Lord's Day, or the proper relaxation of mind and body" (CIC, can. 1247).

**2194** - The institution of Sunday helps all "to be allowed sufficient rest and leisure to cultivate their familial, cultural, social, and religious lives" (GS 67 § 3).

**2195** - Every Christian should avoid making unnecessary demands on others that would hinder them from observing the Lord's Day.

### The day of the Resurrection: the new creation

**2174** - Jesus rose from the dead "on the first day of the week." Because it is the "first day," the day of Christ's Resurrection recalls the first creation. Because it is the "eighth day" following the sabbath, it symbolizes the new creation ushered in by Christ's Resurrection. For Christians it has become the first of all days, the first of all feasts, the Lord's Day (he kuriake hemera, dies dominica) Sunday:

We all gather on the day of the sun, for it is the first day [after the Jewish sabbath, but also the first day] when God, separating matter from darkness, made the world; and on this same day Jesus Christ our Savior rose from the dead.

**Comment:** Notice what the Catechism said in this last paragraph: "We all gather on the day of the sun, for it is the first day." Please notice that the Catechism is tying Sunday worship in with the resurrection of Jesus by claiming that the resurrection was on Sunday. Matthew recorded in his gospel account the following: "But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas: {40} For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth" (Matthew 12:39-40 KJV).

Jesus died on the cross at 3 p.m. and was buried before sunset. Since He was resurrected three days and three nights later, then He would have been resurrected near sunset at the close of the Sabbath.

We have looked at the "Catechism of the Catholic Church" (dated 1994) in regards to the "Sabbath" and for the most part we would have to conclude that it is an honest interpretation of what the Bible says

regarding the Sabbath.

We would also have to conclude that the Catechism is saying that Sunday is the day of worship because as section 2191 says: "The Church celebrates the day of Christ's Resurrection on the "eighth day"" Please notice that no Bible scriptures are given except their reference to Christ's resurrection.

It seems that there is something missing in this latest Catechism in their explanation of why the day of worship was changed from the seventh day (Saturday) Sabbath to Sunday.

Let's continue our search for the "truth" by looking in an older Catholic Catechism. This Catechism takes on a different format with questions and answers. The word "catechism" is defined as: "a manual for catechizing; specifically: a summary of religious doctrine often in the form of questions and answers."

### The Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine

The Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine by: Peter Geiermann, C. SS. R. (published by: B. Herder Book Co. -1946)

#### 3. The Third Commandment:

**Q.** What is the Third Commandment?

**A.** The Third Commandment is: Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.

**Comment:** Remember the Catholic Church renumbered the Ten Commandments.

**Q.** Which is the Sabbath Day?

**A.** Saturday is the Sabbath Day.

**Q.** Why do we observe Sunday instead of Saturday?

**A.** We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday.

**Q.** Why did the Catholic Church substitute Sunday for Saturday?

**A.** The Church substituted Sunday for Saturday, because Christ rose from the dead on a Sunday, and the Holy Ghost descended upon the Apostles on a Sunday.

**Comment:** This particular Sunday in which the Holy Spirit descended on the apostles was Pentecost, which is one of the seven annual holy days of God - See Acts 2 and Lev. 23.

**Q.** By what authority did the Church substitute Sunday for Saturday?

**A.** The Church substituted Sunday for Saturday by the plenitude of that divine power which Jesus Christ bestowed upon her.

**Q.** What does the Third Commandment command?

**A.** The Third Commandment commands us to sanctify Sunday as the Lord's Day.

**Comment:** WRONG - In Exodus 20:8-11 (KJV) God commands mankind to keep the seventh day holy, not the first day: "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. {9} Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: {10} 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: {11} 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."

**Q.** What does the Third Commandment forbid?

**A.** The Third Commandment forbids (1) The omission of prayer and divine worship; (2) All unnecessary servile work; (3) Whatever hinders the keeping of the Lord's Day holy.

**Q.** Is the desecration of the Lord's Day a grievous matter?

**A.** The desecration of the Lord's Day is a grievous matter in itself, though it admits of light matter."

**Comment:** The "Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine" is a little more honest and accurate in their answers as to why the day of worship was changed from the Sabbath to Sunday:

"The Third Commandment (actually the Fourth Commandment) is: Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day."

"Saturday is the Sabbath Day."

"We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday."

"The Church substituted Sunday for Saturday, because Christ rose from the dead on a Sunday, and the Holy Ghost descended upon the Apostles on a Sunday (Comment: Pentecost)."

"The Church substituted Sunday for Saturday by the plenitude of that divine power which Jesus Christ bestowed upon her."

Notice that the Catholic Church says that they have the right to change the day of worship from the Saturday Sabbath to Sunday.

#### In Conclusion:

God made the Sabbath for man and Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath. Mark 2:27-28 reveals that the Sabbath is the real Lord's day.

Every Christian should know why they keep Sunday or the Saturday Sabbath as the day of worship. The Catholic Church commands you to worship on Sunday. The Bible commands you to worship on the seventh day Sabbath which is on Saturday. The Catholic Church agrees that Saturday is the Sabbath, but they say that they have the right to change the day of worship from the Saturday Sabbath to Sunday.

The Choice is yours: Do you want to keep the Sabbath as the Bible commands or keep Sunday as the Catholic Church commands?

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

**AFFINITIES OF THE TRIBES OF ISRAEL**  
by Jeffrey Caldwell  
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In the beginning of Israel's rule by earthly kings, all Israel was ruled at first by Saul, then by David followed by his son Solomon: the period of "the United Monarchy". After Solomon died, Rehoboam, the son of his Ammonite wife [possibly his only son], became king. Rehoboam foolishly chose to continue oppressive policies his father instituted during his later life, provoking a rebellion that divided the country. From then on there was "a kingdom of Israel" in the north ruled by a succession of many kings, all bad, and a "a kingdom of Judah" in the south ruled by David's dynasty. The northern tribes of Israel followed one of Solomon's outstanding officials, Jeroboam. The time of the division of the country is described thusly:

"When all Israel saw that the king refused to listen to them, they answered the king: "What share do we have in David, what part in Jesse's son? To your tents, O Israel! Look after your own house, O David!" (1 Kings 12:16 NIV).

H. A. Ironside, in his Introduction to Christopher Knapp's The Kings of Israel and Judah, explains:

"We would only add a few remarks to trace the roots of the division that took place at the death of Solomon, rending the kingdom in twain, never to be reunited till that day of Israel's regeneration yet to come, when "the envy also of Ephraim shall depart, ... Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not vex Ephraim" (Isa. 11:13).

As descendants of Joseph, who (in Jacob's and Moses' blessings) was exalted above and "separate from his brethren," Ephraim seems ever to have aspired to leadership in the nation. Already, in the time

of the Judges, that pride had twice broken out in haughty demeanor. After the mighty victory of Gideon's little band over the Midianites that had invaded and ravaged the land, the men of Ephraim sharply chided Gideon because he had not called them to the war – envying the fame of such a victory. Gideon's most gracious answer to their haughty chiding averted a catastrophe (Judg. 8:1-3); but their still more haughty chiding of Jephthah on a later occasion brought upon Ephraim a terrible, though deserved, retribution (chap. 12:1-6).

When the Theocracy (God's direct rule in Israel) gave place to the kingdom by Israel's impious request, Saul, taken from "little Benjamin," is acclaimed by all Israel. Benjamin having been nearly annihilated for their sin some time before, and being Joseph's full brother, may on that account have been more welcome to Ephraim. But when David, of the tribe of Judah, is manifested as God's anointed in the place of rejected Saul, and at Saul's death is made king in Hebron by Judah, he is not acclaimed, but opposed, by the other tribes, of whom Ephraim was chief, and a seven-year's war ensues, until the weak pretender of Saul's house gives way before the rising power of David and Judah, and Israel is reunited in one kingdom under David's godly and righteous rule. The jealousy and strife that broke out on previous occasions is for the time forgotten and out of sight.

But as David's sin, and his son's wicked conduct, brought about upheavals in the kingdom, so, later on, through Solomon's departure from God and oppression of his people, occasion is found at his death to make demands upon the new king coming to his father's throne. His insolent and foolish answer brings about the crisis in which the unthankful and heartless cry is heard, "What portion have we in David? Neither have inheritance in the son of Jesse: to your tents, O Israel! Now see to thine own house, David" (1 Kings 12:16). Ephraim, headed by Jeroboam – an Ephraimite – then takes leadership of the ten tribes revolted from the house of David, and a new kingdom is formed, in which every one in the line of their nineteen kings is an apostate from Jehovah."

Jacob had twelve sons; each son's descendants became a tribe of Israel. Jacob really only wanted one wife, Rachel, whom he loved deeply, but because of her father's guile and treachery also ended up marrying her sister, Leah. While Rachel remained barren, Leah began to bear children first. Israel's firstborn son by Leah was Reuben, followed by Simeon, then Levi, and then Judah, Leah's fourth son. Rachel, still childless, was jealous; so she had her

maidservant Bilhah act as a surrogate mother: Bilhah bore Dan and then Naphtali. At that point Leah wasn't having any more children, so she followed suit by offering her maidservant, Zilpah, who bore Gad and then Asher. Then Leah bore Issachar, followed by Zebulon. Then, finally, Rachel bore Joseph. Joseph was the firstborn son of the wife Jacob really loved. Later, Rachel died giving birth to a second son, Benjamin. Joseph had two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh; each of these "half-tribes" was blessed by God to become prominent in numbers and power among the tribes. To recapitulate:

- ✓ The sons of Leah: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar and Zebulon;
- ✓ The sons of Rachel: Joseph and Benjamin;
- ✓ The sons of Rachel's maidservant Bilhah: Dan and Naphtali;
- ✓ The sons of Leah's maidservant Zilpah: Gad and Asher.

In the immediate family the effects of being full brothers under one mother or another were evident in their associations, especially as younger men. And the family relationships and circumstances of birth of each of the patriarchs of Israel continue to be relevant centuries later among the resulting tribes, as the saying that goes with the division of the kingdom reveals.

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*

**HAGER, MT. SINAI AND THE TWO COVENANTS**  
by Rhoda Foust  
Williamsburg, Indiana

21. Tell me, ye that desire to be under the law, do ye not hear the law?
22. For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a freewoman.
23. But he who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh; but he of the freewoman was by promise.
24. Which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth to bondage, which is Agar.
25. For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children.
26. But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.
27. For it is written, Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest not; for the desolate hath many more children than she which hath an husband.
28. Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the

children of promise.

29. But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now.

30. Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman.

31. So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman, but of the free. (Gal. 4:21-31)

What has the woman (Agar) have to do with our salvation? What does the word (allegory) mean? What are the two Covenants Paul is talking about? This scripture has puzzled many people. We hope to answer some of the questions in this study.

Paul is talking to a new Gentile congregation in Galatia that he has been working with for some time. The problem he is addressing is that while he was away from them, other men, some agnostic and some Jewish, had come in teaching that the new converts had to keep certain traditions and other man-made laws in order to earn their salvation. Neither of these false ministers were teaching that Yeshua Christ was the son of Yahweh or that He had (redeemed) (taken away) the curse of the law from those who repent. Paul's teaching of Yeshua, as the Son of Yahweh, was being taken lightly. Paul was having to go through the basics again, showing them that there was no law that they could keep that would take away the penalty of death for past sins. He is not doing away with keeping the laws of Yahweh by any means, but wants them to understand that those who depend solely on their own ability to keep the laws are still living under the (curse) of the law. He insists that keeping Yahweh's Commandments is still what Yahweh requires and that the law reveals what sin is. But the believer, through the sacrifice of Yeshua, can repent of his/or her sins and become righteous before Yahweh through the faith of Christ.

1 Jn. 2:3 And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

1 Jn. 2:4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

Rom. 3:20 Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

1 Jn. 3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

Rom. 3:21 But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;

Rom. 3:22 Even the righteousness of God

which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:

Rom. 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Rom. 3:24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

Rom. 3:25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

Rom. 3:26 To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

Rom. 3:27 Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith. (One cannot boast that he has earned righteousness by his ability to keep the law).

Rom. 3:28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law. (One can be righteous in Yahweh's justification through faith if he lives by the spirit)

Rom. 3:29 Is he the God of the Jews only? is he not also of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also:

Rom. 3:30 Seeing it is one God, which shall justify the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith.

Rom. 3:31 Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law.

1 Cor. 7:19 Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but the keeping of the commandments of Gad.

Rom. 5:13 For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

#### **Romans 8:1-13**

1. There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

2. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. (What is the "law of sin and death"? Is it not that death is the penalty for sin? Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.)

3. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin

4. That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

5. For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the

Spirit the things of the Spirit.

6. For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

7. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

8. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

9. But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

10. And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

11. But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

12. Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.

13. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live

Paul has just explained that we, without the holy spirit of Yahweh, cannot please Yahweh or keep his Commandments because our natural minds are an enemy to righteousness. Without accepting Yeshua as Savior one cannot receive the holy spirit. Acts 2:38-39 tells us what the requirements are:

38. Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

39. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

Now that we understand what the (curse) or (bondage) of the law is, and how Yeshua redeemed the sinner of the death penalty, we will get back to Agar and the two Covenants.

In Gal. 4: Paul uses an (allegory) (a symbolic representation) to picture the two covenants. One: Yahweh gave the ten commandments, the Statutes and Judgments to ancient Israel to be delivered by Moses, and this was done on Mt. Sinai. The first part of the covenant was the ten commandments, followed by Judgments, beginning in Exodus 20; then instructions in how to construct Yahweh's sanctuary, and who were to officiate as Priests, how and when sacrifices were to be offered, and for what purpose. Much later the blessings and cursings were given in the book of Deuteronomy. That was the first covenant between Yahweh and Israel. Now we will go to the next covenant.

In Gal. 4:21 Paul asks the question: Why do you want to be under the curse (death penalty) of the law again? Read Gen.

17:21 and 21:9-19. Paul uses the story of Abraham's two wives to illustrate his point. Agar was a slave (under bondage) who was sent away; her offspring was not accepted as part of the family heritage, the covenant with Israel. Her son, Ishmael, was born through a physical process, (of the flesh), but Sarah's son, Isaac, was a miracle of promise, which represents the spiritual aspect of Yahweh's plan. So Agar, because she was in bondage, a slave, (of the flesh) was used to represent the first covenant, and anyone who still clings to physical works to earn salvation, rejecting the sacrifice of Yeshua. Paul says they are still in bondage and under the curse of the law, and accuses them of persecuting the family of promise (faith) because they have rejected Yeshua Christ. Jerusalem above, the spiritual plan of salvation, is the mother of the house of faith and (free) from the curse of the law.

To find the next Covenant we go to the prophet Isaiah where Paul quoted Isa. 54:1 Sing, O barren, thou that didst not bear; break forth into singing, and cry aloud, thou that didst not travail with child: for more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married wife, saith the LORD.

When we read the whole chapter we see that Yahweh is foretelling the distant future age of Israel, and all the things he plans for them. Isa. 55:3-5

3. Incline your ear, and came unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.

4. Behold, I have given him for a witness to the people, a leader and commander to the people.

5. Behold, thou shalt call a nation that thou knowest not, and nations that knew not thee shall run unto thee because of the LORD thy God, and for the Holy One of Israel; for he hath glorified thee.

Jeremiah 31:31 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:

Hebrews 8:8 For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah:

Hebrews 8:13 In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away.

Hebrews 12:24 And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

Isaiah 55:3 Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will

make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.

What is the (promise) of the new covenant for those who have accepted Yeshua as their Redeemer and Savior? These scriptures will explain that it is eternal life:

Mark 10:30 But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life.

Luke 10:25 And, behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?

Luke 18:18 And a certain ruler asked him, saying, Good Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?

John 3:15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. John 5:39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

John 6:54 Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.

John 10:28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

John 17:2 As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.

Acts 13:48 And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.

Romans 2:7 To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:

Romans 5:21 That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

1 Timothy 6:12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

1 Timothy 6:19 Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

Titus 1:2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;

Titus 3:7 That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

1 John 1:2 (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew

unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)

1 John 2:25 And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life.

1 John 5:11 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

1 John 5:13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

1 John 5:20 And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.

Jude 1:21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Hebrews 13:20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant.

Isaiah 61:8 For I the LORD love judgment, I hate robbery for burnt offering; and I will direct their work in truth, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

Jeremiah 32:40 And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; but I will put my fear in their hearts, that they shall not depart from me.

Ezekiel 16:60 Nevertheless I will remember my covenant with thee in the days of thy youth, and I will establish unto thee an everlasting covenant.

Ezekiel 37:26 Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them: and I will place them, and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in the midst of them for evermore.

\*\*\*THE END\*\*\*\*\*



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**Laura Lee (Editor)**

KIDS KORNER --- [newsletter-only-darwin-laura@earthlink.net](mailto:newsletter-only-darwin-laura@earthlink.net)

**IS GOD REAL TO YOU?**

by Jeana Anderson  
 Casa, Arkansas

It is possible that we can attend church services, attend bible studies, attend Sabbath school, and yet, not really know God. In Exodus 3 we can see how God introduces himself to Moses. God then instructs Moses on what He wants Moses to do. During this meeting, Moses asks the question "suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'the God of your fathers has

sent me to you', and they ask, 'what is his name?' Then what shall I tell them?" God replies, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you.'" In Exodus 19 God comes down to his people. He wants a relationship with His people. He wants a relationship with both, the young and old! So, how does God become real to you? Chances are, He will not appear. John 6:44 and 45 show His calling. 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:18-20 shows how we have been reconciled to God through Jesus Christ. 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3:18 shows that we are instructed to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior. I strongly recommend reading through 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles, picking out the verses and

emphasizing the story of David; read the final chapters of 1<sup>st</sup> Chronicles into the first chapters of 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles and you will see how David finally believed whole-heartedly and taught his son, Solomon, thoroughly. Note the most important part, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 1:9-10, where Solomon greatly pleased God by asking for Wisdom and Knowledge! Solomon could have asked for anything in the world, but he chose to know God! My kids are 5 and 7; they understood the meaning when I read Chronicles. Parents do not be afraid to teach everything, read everything, in the bible to your kids. Kids, do not be fearful that you will not understand things in the bible. If you ask for understanding, God will grant it to you and as you grow up, you will understand more. As you grow and develop in Christ, He and the Eternal Father become real to us. It does not happen over night. We have to put forth effort by studying His word and putting it into practice. Adult and children alike, have to take part in prayer and study. Here are some verses to study in this time of Passover and days of Unleavened Bread: **1) Know**, Deut. 4:20-24, Jeremiah 9:23, Matt. 5:1-17, 23:23, **2) Cultivate your faith**, Deut. 6:1-11, Luke 10:27. **3) Example**, Deut. 10:12-13, 11:1-8, **4) Creativity, songs**, Deut 32:1-47, Psalms and all of David's writings, **5) Consistency, routine, repetition**, Deut. 11:18-21, Deut. 1:1, **6) Prayer**, Psalm 127:1, I Corinthians 15:58, John 6:63, **7) Thankfulness**, I Thessalonians 5:16-18, Luke 1:49-50. ASK YOURSELF, "What does this ceremony mean to you, children?" When your parents are taking of the Passover. Exodus 12:26-27, 13:8-10 Make sure that you, parents and children, understand with your hearts why it is so very important to do as we are commanded, and not take of what the world wants to make of it. READ the Passover scriptures of the Old Testament and the Passover of Christ in the New Testament, EVERY WORD, with enthusiasm and significance!

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 T R U M P L A S T G R O T A V  
 T N E M E N O T A T O E G T E  
 P S B R A D S T O O C P Y M N  
 E S T W F R T L A S T E A N E  
 C N D S T O S E N S A R D S D  
 B F E A O F E S T O F B T E B  
 N T R U M C M E N T S Y A P R  
 G R E T B D I T S E E E E A E  
 L A S T G R E A T D A Y R S A  
 T R U M P E T S N H I D G S D  
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\*\*\*CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8\*\*\*\*\*

available, she was free to marry outside the clan. (Ruth 1:9)"

In **Smith Bible Dictionary**, under topic of Tamar, it states, "The wife successively of the two sons of Er and Onan (B.C. about 1718). Her importance in the sacred narrative depends on the great anxiety to keep up the lineage of Judah. It seemed as if the family was on the point of extinction. Er and Onan had successively perished suddenly. Judah's wife died; and there only remained a child, Shelah, whom Judah was unwilling to trust to the dangerous union, as it appeared with Tamar, lest he should meet with the same fate as his brothers. Accordingly she resorted to the desperate expedient of entrapping the father himself into the union which he feared for his son. The fruits of this intercourse were twins, Pharez and Zarah, and through Parez the sacred line was continued."

In Ruth 4:12 It states, "And let thy house [Boaz], be like the house of Pharez, whom Tamar bare unto Judah, of the seed which the Lord shall give thee of this young woman [Ruth]."

As a side note, in **Matthew 1:3**, it states, "And Judah begat Phares and Zara of Thamar [Tamar of Genesis 38]..." This passage is from the list of members of the family tree of Jesus Christ.

In **Halley's Bible Handbook** on page 106 on the topic of this chapter, it states, "This chapter is inserted, probably, because Judah was the progenitor of the Messiah; and it was in accord with the Old Testament purpose to preserve family registers all along

the line of succession, even though they contained some things not very praiseworthy."

Due to the offspring of this union in this chapter, the family line of the Messiah and of Judah was continued.

Answered by:  
Doyle Carter  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

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