

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

By  
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&  
Friends

NOTE:

Please take the time to study the Last Day Event Chart (Explanation)

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

**GC 437:** “The importance of the Sabbath as the memorial of creation is that it keeps ever present the true reason why **worship** is due to God’—because He is the Creator, and we are His creatures. ‘The Sabbath therefore lies at the very foundation of divine worship, for it teaches this great truth in the most impressive manner, and no other institution does this. The true ground of divine worship, not of that on the seventh day merely, but of all worship, is found in the distinction between the Creator and His creatures.’”

Not to underscore the importance of worship, however, we would like to talk to you about the Sabbath in terms of its **redemptive power**.

Furthermore, we want to talk to you about **a prophecy**, one in which we will all participate, one concerning our church.

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

**Question:** Is there a Commandment that one can break and still be acceptable among conservative Christians?

**Answer:** Yes – it is the Sabbath.

The one concern we have, has been our inability as a people, to express the prophetic significance of the Sabbath and its relationship to the **New Covenant** message. Too often when asked why we observe the Sabbath, the answer is simply, “because it is the seventh day of the week.” This is certainly a true answer, although we hope that our answer would go a little deeper than that, in order to help our friends who are asking these questions come away with a better understanding. Upon closer examination, we will find that the Sabbath indeed encompasses all that our message is about.

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

**Question:** Is the Sabbath central to our Gospel Message?

**Question:** If central, how so?

**Question:** If peripheral, why is it to be of such ultimate significance in the last days?

For centuries the Sabbath has been a debate among Christendom. We would agree that the word Sabbath means **Rest** and is **Saturday, the 7<sup>th</sup> day of the week.**

**Question:** But why the controversy over this day?

**Answer: GC 605** reveals that, “The [seventh day] Sabbath will be the great **test of loyalty** [to God, the Creator, or to the traditions of men], for it is the point of truth especially controverted.”

**Answer: GC 605:** “The obligation of the fourth commandment has never been set before them [many] in its true light.” When this happens, they will have to choose to whom they will be loyal.

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

**Ex. 31:16,17:** Sabbath a **perpetual covenant** and **sign**.

**Thought Question:** When a Jew converts to (Sunday keeping) Christianity, why would a Christian ask a Jew to give up the true Sabbath?

**Question:** Could it be that Seventh-day Adventists who hold sacred the Sabbath Day don't fully realize the **prophetic significance** of that day? We know that this was the case of Israel of old.

We get a hint of this in **Ps. 95:10,11**. "Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said, It is a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known My ways: Unto whom I swear in My wrath that they should not enter into my rest."

**Note:** That word "rest" is making a direct reference to the Sabbath.

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

**Question:** What did God mean by this statement?

The Jews had the Sabbath.

Weekly they entered into those Sabbath hours.

But unfortunately, they failed to learn and follow God's way.

**Heb. 4:6** says, "...[They] entered not in because of unbelief."

The Bible refers to the Jews as an "unsettled people", people afraid of their enemies and trying to solve their problems by works instead of resting by faith in God, the God of their Sabbath.

**Consequently** they were never able to experience the rest that God intended for them.

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

**Question:** Are we in danger of doing the same?

**1 Jn. 4:8** says, "...God is Love." It was this love that Christ came to impart to the world.

**Isa. 26:3** states, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee."

**Matt. 11:28**, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest."

These verses are making reference to the Sabbath itself. We will find that the Sabbath embodies a message. It is the message of the **New Covenant**.

**Isa. 56:6**, "...everyone that keepeth the Sabbath from polluting it, and taketh hold of My Covenant;" **Here Isaiah equates the Sabbath with the New Covenant.**

**Ex. 31:16,17** reveals that, to us as to Israel, the Sabbath is given for a perpetual covenant.

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

**Question:** What is the Covenant that God made with Israel?

It is stated in the Old as well as in the New Testament that God would write His law on our hearts and in our minds.

**Deut. 11:13,18** says, “And it shall come to pass, if ye shall hearken diligently unto my commandments which I command you this day, to love the Lord your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul,...**vs.18**, Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes.”

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

**Question:** What is the Covenant that God made with Israel? (cont)

**Heb. 8:10,11** says, “For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: **vs.11**, And they shall not teach every man his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.”

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

**Question:** What is the Covenant that God made with Israel? (cont)

When God accomplishes this (putting His Laws in our hearts and minds), we will choose never to sin again. We will be at rest. In other words, the Sabbath has become a reality in our lives. This is why we read in **Eze. 20:12**, The Sabbath is a sign that He will sanctify us (to make us holy).

“sign”=mark Strong’s **Hb. 226**

**Therefore, the Sabbath is a symbol of the New Covenant.**

Those who refuse to advance in holiness, may hear the question asked in **Isa. 66:1**, “...where is the house that ye built unto Me? and where is the place of My rest?”

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

**Question:** What other symbols do we have that make reference to the **New Covenant**?

- 1. Circumcision**
- 2. Baptism**
- 3. Communion**
- 4. Husband and Wife (the 2 become 1)**
- 5. Miracles**
- 6. Creating new wine at the wedding feast**
- 7. Etc.**

**(Each of these speak to an end of sin)**

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

The **New Covenant** promises and predicts that God will have a purified church in which there is to be no spot or wrinkle or any such thing. But this will not come without a price. Those who refuse to subject themselves to the refining process, and the refining covenant, are to be separated from among the just.

**Zech.13:8,9**, says, “...two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein. **vs.9**, And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined,...”

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

## The Rejected Stone:

**Ps. 118:22,24** says, “The Stone which the builders refused is become the Head Stone of the corner.”  
**vs.24** says, “This is the day which the Lord hath made.”

The Stone they rejected was **Christ** as well as the **Sabbath**, because Christ is the embodiment of the Sabbath. You can't reject one without rejecting the other, and because the Sabbath is a symbol of the **New Covenant**, then **in reality they rejected all three** – The Sabbath at that moment became a dead symbol.

**Matt. 23:38** says, “Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.”

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

The **New Covenant** is the mighty divider of the wicked from the righteous.

Seventh-day Adventists have long believed that the Sabbath would have produced just such a division in the world. And in this we have been correct beyond our wildest imagination.

But what we have not recognized is that this Sabbath is to accomplish the same within the church. We see this to be the case in **Lev. 23:26-32** concerning the **Day of Atonement**. The soul that is **not afflicted** shall be cut off.

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

**The Sabbath has been a test** since 1844.

See: **EW 42, 254, Ev 213.**

As we have found, the Sabbath embodies a message: It is the message of the **New Covenant**. This message must be such that it cannot be falsely professed, if, as we expect, the last message is to give the lie to every form of falsehood, counterfeit, and hypocrisy; hypocritical acceptance of this message should be difficult at the outset and impossible over the course of time.

**Question:** Why?

**Answer:** Because this message will convict you of the sinfulness of sin...

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

## **The Sabbath is a test:** (cont)

...For, if the false are as at home within this message as are the true, in what way is it a test? How does it ignite a conflict between good and evil? In other words, the message should have the same impact within our church that we expect it to have in the world at large. A message that is to so test the world as to divide it into two overt camps of good and evil, should do the same for the church (us). This message, if received in the heart, will enable God to write His law on our hearts and in our minds. So the test will show whether you have a true desire to enter into the **New Covenant** by your **willingness** to comply with the message.

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

**Question:** Why is it important for God to accomplish the writing of His Law on our hearts and in our minds?

*Please consider studying again, **Who are the 144,000?***

Unless God's people (sanctuary) are at last cleansed, none who have been redeemed during the period of its defilement can at last be saved. In other words, as **Heb. 11:38-40** states, "...**vs.40**, they without us should not be made perfect."

The fate of the entire 6,000 year effort thus hinges upon its final hour and victory.

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

**Satan's disdain for the covenant and the victory it promises:**

It is therefore to be expected that Satan would concentrate his greatest effort of all time toward preventing the perfection of God's remnant people. At the end it matters not to him if they have but partially achieved, as have previous generations of the faithful. All that ultimately matters to him is that their perfection be prevented. For this is all that is necessary to destroy the entire length of the process of redemption and defeat all that God has ever done on behalf of mankind. **Satan has his eye on this church!**

**Question:** Why?

**Answer:** Because we are the only ones with a message that currently threatens his existence. 18

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

**Satan's disdain for the covenant and the victory it promises: (cont)**

**DA 763** says, "He [Satan] needs not to assail the whole law; if he can lead man to disregard one precept, his purpose is gained." That one precept is the fourth commandment, the one commandment that bids us enter into rest precisely as did Christ upon the cross, through total victory over sin amidst this the worst of all conflicts.

This commandment, the commandment of the **New Covenant**, the commandment calling for total and perfect obedience, is the commandment that we have been systematically setting aside for years, even though we have professed continued loyalty to the seventh day.

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

**Satan's disdain for the covenant and the victory it promises:** (cont)

**Question:** How have we been systematically setting aside this commandment?

**Answer:** By not living up to every ray of light, in other words, abusing Grace.

Satan hates this commandment, for upon it hangs the fate of the entire controversy. Because it is a symbol of what God wants to do in us, write His law on our hearts and in our minds! And if God accomplishes this, it seals Satan's fate. That's why he attacks the symbols, the Covenant, and the Sabbath, husband and wife (the two becoming one), etc.

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

**Satan's disdain for the covenant and the victory it promises: (cont)**

**EW 215,216:** Satan seeks to corrupt only one of the Commandments.

**7A BC 182,** speaks of Satan's contempt for the Sabbath. He says: "I will work at cross-purposes with God. I will empower my delegate, the man of sin, to take down God's memorial, the seventh-day Sabbath. Thus will I show the world that the day sanctified and blessed by God has been changed. That day shall not live in the minds of the people. I will obliterate the memory of it...."

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

## **Satan's disdain for the covenant and the victory it promises: (cont)**

“...I will place in its stead a day bearing not the credentials of heaven, a day that cannot be a sign between God and His people. I will lead the people who accept this day, to place upon it the sanctity that God placed upon the seventh day. Through my vicegerent I will exalt myself. The first day shall be extolled, and the Protestant world shall receive this spurious Sabbath as genuine. Through the non-observance of the Sabbath God instituted, I will bring His law into contempt....

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

## **Satan's disdain for the covenant and the victory it promises: (cont)**

“...The words, ‘A sign between me and you throughout your generations,’ I will make to serve on the side of my sabbath. Thus the world will become mine. I will be ruler of the earth, prince of the world. I will so control the minds under my power that God's Sabbath shall be an object of contempt. A *sign*? I will make the observance of the seventh day a sign of disloyalty to the authorities of earth. Human laws shall be made so stringent that men and women will not dare to observe the Seventh-day Sabbath. For fear of wanting food and clothing, they will join with the world in transgressing God's law; and the earth will be wholly under my dominion.”

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

## **The Gospel:**

**Question:** So, is the Sabbath central to our Gospel message?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Rom. 1:16:** “...for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth;...”

The power of God is His love for us which gives Him the ability to write His law on our hearts and in our minds. (In other words, to be re-created in His image).

**COL 3:5** says, “...by beholding we become changed.”

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

## The Gospel: (cont)

**John 12:32** says, “...if I be lifted up..., [I] will draw all men unto Me.” It is this love that empowers the human race to **surrender the will** to God.

**Question:** When we give the gospel, are we teaching the people what they must do to be saved?

**This is one doctrinal belief that truly separates us from all others.** The Bible teaches that we are saved from our sins, rather than in our sins.

**The protestant world at large believe that salvation is found in substitutionary atonement alone, apart from total victory.**

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

## **The Gospel:** (cont)

The Christian world would have us believe that you cannot overcome sin in this lifetime, and that the best God can do for us is to save us **in** our sins rather than **from** our sins. This thinking opens the door for continued sin. This is a brand of atonement that the sanctuary and the Bible do not teach. Ultimately the **Justice of Reality** (sin is death) will be vindicated when the veil in the sanctuary is removed. At that time, **sin will be seen for what it really is – death.**

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

## **The Gospel:** (cont)

**Question:** Does our Gospel differ from that of Evangelicals? Or are we conveying the same message? And if so, do we understand those differences?

**Answer:** Their Gospel as well as apostate Seventh-day Adventists, is summed up in **Eze. 13:22**, which reads, “Because with lies ye have made the heart of the righteous sad, whom I have not made sad;” **The Clear Word** paraphrase says, “You lied to my people and kept them from doing what is right. You did not turn the wicked from their ways or try to save them.”

**Question:** What is the lie?

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

## **The Gospel:** (cont)

**Answer:** To Eve, Satan promised a richer, fuller life than could be obtained through strict obedience. This he will do in his last deception. He will say that a religion allowing for continued sin is far more rewarding than a religion offering and requiring perfection.

But the **lie of all lies** of the serpent is, “ye shall not surely die.” This is the very foundation of all his lies. It is the cornerstone of his rebellion. It is with this lie, above all others, that he will strike at the **New Covenant**—continue in sin **and** gain heaven too.

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

## **The Gospel:** (cont)

The **New Covenant**, remember, is based upon the very realities of existence itself, God's as well as ours. And within that reality, sin is death, and God Himself cannot and will not alter that fact. As long as sin is sin, it will produce its sure weight of condemnation and death. But the dragon, through his lie of "ye shall not surely die," advocates a brand of atonement, of which this basic reality is supposedly circumvented, and at the time, it appears that he is correct. Thus, **sin loses its enormity** and the **law loses its power**.

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

**The Gospel:** (cont)

**Question:** What brand of atonement is Satan advocating?

**Answer:** The prostitution of substitutionary atonement.

Remember, you cannot circumvent the reality that sin is death. When the veil is finally removed, disaster will be the sure fate of all who sanctimoniously shun light.

**Note:** “Ye shall not surely die.” By this deception Satan’s work began and by this deception, Satan’s work will close. The very deception by which man first fell, must at last be exposed and overcome, if man is ever to regain the purity that he lost through that deception 6,000 years ago.

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

## **The Gospel:** (cont)

**Matt. 19:16,17:** The **Question** is, “...what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?” **vs.17,** Jesus replied, “...if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.”

We can see how the Sabbath is as central to our Gospel message as Sunday is to the Gospel message of Evangelicals.

**Sabbath is symbolic of righteousness by faith.**

**Sunday is symbolic of righteousness by works,** because they have devised their own method of salvation.

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

**Conclusion:** There can be no more sure path to **disaster** than, for one to reverence or even casually believe in the symbols of the **New Covenant**, while at the same time reject the message for which they stand. Through it all we are perfectly poised to repeat the history of the Jews. We, like them, do not see, nor do we understand the prophetic significance of the Sabbath and its relationship to the **New Covenant**. When one denies the **New Covenant** message, then in reality he has rejected the **Old** as well. By denying the **New Covenant**, he chooses to be saved **in** his sins, rather than **from** them. Substitutionary Atonement was never designed to save anyone in and of itself, apart from total victory. We believe that by showing allegiance to this day (Seventh-day Sabbath), one is revealing to others that he believes that Christ can accomplish in him what He made possible at the Cross....

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

## **Conclusion:** (cont)

...When one embraces the Sabbath day, he embraces the message that the symbol contains, which is the **New Covenant** message. Anyone who claims to keep the Sabbath but rejects the message that the day contains, might as well keep any other day. The Sabbath at that point becomes moot.

Remember, the **New Covenant** promises and predicts that God will have a **purified church and the Sabbath is a symbol to that fact.**

The fact that a Man died on the cross is the greatest evidence we have that we can overcome.

The Bible says that Christ was a forerunner. That's why Christ tells us in **Matt. 16:24** to "take up his [your] cross and follow Me [Christ]."

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

**Conclusion:** (cont)

**Heb. 4:2,6-11** says, “For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it....**vs.6**, Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein, and they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief: Again, He limiteth a certain day, saying in David, To day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts. **For if Jesus had given them rest, then would He not afterward have spoken of another day.** There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. For he that is entered into His rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from His. Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.”

**Question:** Will history repeat itself?

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

## **Conclusion:** (cont)

It is clear that the saints will undergo the experience of the cross, and the experience of the horror of great darkness, for their own purification.

The **Cross of Christ** is a prophecy – the **cross of the saints** will be the fulfillment of that prophecy.

**DA 680** says, “Christ looks upon His people in their purity and perfection, as the reward of His humiliation, and the supplement of His glory, . . .”

*Refer to the **Last Day Events Chart (Explanation)***

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

## **Conclusion:** (cont)

Jerusalem's stance against the **New Covenant** will be Babylon's stance against the **Sabbath**. This is such a sad commentary for a people who were privileged to have so much light

In other words, the fall of Jerusalem can be seen in the later fall of Babylon, and in the fall of Babylon can be seen the earlier fall of Jerusalem.

**Both:** are to assume that same position against the **New Covenant**.

**Both:** are to become the habitation of devils and the hold of foul spirits, and the cage of every unclean and hateful bird.

**Both:** are to persecute the righteous....

# The Sabbath and the New Covenant

**Conclusion:** (cont)

**Both:** are to commit the **Abomination of Desolation**.

**Both:** are to be fled from (their influences).

**Both:** are to fall. See **Joel 1:5,6,9,10**. How did/does Israel fall? (By rejecting the New Covenant).

**Both:** in their turn, are to be punished with a series of seven fearful judgments.

Note: Two cities are to be punished, burning as it were, a mountain. (Apostate Jerusalem and Babylon)

Refer to chart on next slide.

## The New Covenant The Day of Atonement

### Promises and predicts that God will have a purified church

#### The Righteous

1. Day of Atonement:
  - Their sins are atoned for.
2. Afflict your souls:
  - What must I do to be saved? MLT-271
  - They subject themselves to the refining process and come out from the world. MS-69, 1912, 5T-535
3. Sabbath Rest:
  - By faith, Christ's life has become theirs.
  - The Sabbath has become a reality *in their life*.
  - Sabbath is a symbol of their gospel.

#### Christ's Ministry

- My hour has come:
- Jn. 17:1, Jn. 16:21. Christ gives birth to the New Covenant.

Our "Hour" has come:  
Jer. 30:6-10.

#### The Travail

vs. 6 – the travail, vs. 8 – they break the yoke (of sin),  
vs. 10 – shall be at rest.  
The firstfruits – born again – 1 Jn. 3:9 RSV.  
They give birth to a character that is forever fixed.

**IT IS DONE!**

#### The Wicked

1. They rejected the New Covenant and their sins are not atoned for.
2. Not willing to afflict their souls – they abused the grace of God.
3. Righteousness by works.
  - Sunday a symbol of their gospel.
  - Psalm 95:11 “. . . I swear in my wrath that they should not enter into my rest.”
4. Cut off:
  - They are shaken out – sins are given back.
  - They were not willing to die to self. 5T 535 – by their unwillingness to come out from the world.

#### The Little Horn

They war against the Holy Covenant.

- Ps. 95:10-11 – History repeats itself. “They shall never enter into my rest.”

#### The Travail

Ps. 7:14-16 – They travail with iniquity.  
They give birth to a character that is forever fixed.

**IT IS DONE!**