

Sabbath *Selah's* “Connect-i-cut”? Cutting the Connector

Have we cut our spiritual umbilical cord with our Father and our connector with our siblings in Jesus? The Sabbath is a connector. It connects God's people to Him and to each other. It is a weekly, spiritual family reunion.

So there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near (Heb. 4:9;10:25).

Behold, the [Eternal's] hand is not so short That it cannot save; Nor is His ear so dull That it cannot hear. But your *iniquities* have made a *separation* between you and your God, And your *sins* have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear. For your hands are defiled with blood And your fingers with iniquity; Your lips have spoken *falsehood* ... (Isa. 59:1-3).

I am the true vine...Abide in Me, and I in you...***If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love*** (John 15:1,4,10).

Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest [same Greek word used for the Sabbath in the Greek version of the Hebrew Scriptures] (Mat. 11:28). *Selah*.



CHAPTER THREE

Lifting the Veil

A murky veil is about to be lifted on one of the cleverest satanic deceptions in history. While we know as believers that Satan is a defeated foe for us and will be eliminated soon, he has done more than deceive world leaders, pagan hordes, atheists, agnostics -- even the world of religiosity -- man's puny and often counterfeit effort to worship God his own way.

The wily devil has deceived the very body of Jesus Christ -- His beloved bride. He has seduced her -- unwittingly for the most part -- into disobeying her Husband. He has even caused her to mock God by using ways and days blemished by pagan roots to worship the holy God. He has deprived her of one of the great blessings of a loving Creator.

Our long-suffering God has patiently observed this disobedience for over 1700 years. But His time has now come to lift the veil of deception.

When Jesus lifts this veil off His beloved bride, He won't see the kind of bride for which Jacob labored for Laban seven years. Though special in God's eyes, Leah was second best in Jacob's eyes. His true beloved, whom he saw as beautiful and spotless, was Rachel. When he lifted her veil, he got no bad surprise. He looked with joy upon his spotless virgin bride. When Jesus lifts that veil of deception from His bride, He will exult over her.

Jesus Christ is soon going to call for His bride -- His church. He does not want a

blemished bride. He longs to behold a bride “without spot or wrinkle” and whisk her off on a thousand-year honeymoon. And He is going to be sure that she is observing the day that foreshadows their millennial reign on earth together.

Isaiah prophesied the time when the whole world would rest in Jesus according to His commandments of love. He also foretold that in these last days that a veil would cover the world, including the Bride of Jesus. She would be mixed up, confused by theologians and seers who would not speak the truth of God’s Word (Isa. 8:20; 5:24). God warns (Isa. 5:20-21): “Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who substitute darkness for light and light for darkness; Who substitute bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter! Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes And clever in their own sight!”

Are You Ready for Truth?

While some of you have already figured out where we’re headed, others may not be ready for the punch line. Ready or not, we have a responsibility and a commission that we will fulfill (Isaiah 58:1; 59:1-3). Pointing out our sins is part of that mission. And what is sin? I John 3:4 says sin is lawlessness, or “the transgression of the law” (KJV).

Jesus puts it this way: “He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and He who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to Him” (John 14:21). Other translations render “disclose” as “manifest Myself to him, show him who I am, show him what I’m like, reveal Myself to him.”

Do you want that intimacy with Jesus? You may have it to a certain degree now. Would you not, however, like to know Jesus more? As I write, the majority of sincere Christians have not accepted this intimacy. Why not start a trend?

The minority view in history has often been the true view. Winston Churchill’s view at the onset of World War II was the minority view. Had we not listened to his opinion, we may not have been around to hear any more opinions. Today the “Flat Earth Society” is the minority view. Once upon a time it was the prevailing lie that passed for truth. Those who decry the prevailing lies of our society and our religion are never popular. So what’s new? It’s the same old story.

What may be new to you is the truth you are about to hear. Yet it is not new. It has only been covered by Satan’s veil. The cloak of lawlessness covers our world and even our Bible commentaries. It covers the eyes and the fancy writings of eminent theologians.

The mystery of lawlessness is so strongly at work already that many who read the truth you are about to read have been pre-conditioned to treat it with skepticism or disdain. If you choose to do so, you may miss out on an amazing blessing.

The time that Jesus appointed for corporate worship and fellowship is today called evil – even though God calls it good (Neh. 9:13-14). The time that Satan ordained for corporate worship is called good. Those who keep the appointed times of Jesus are not usually well seen by those adopting the prevailing view.

The Shakeup before the Fill-up

God is about to shake up the church. It must be shaken up so it can be turned right side up. This book is a small part of that shaking, “so that those things which cannot be shaken may remain” (Heb. 12:27). “See to it that you do not refuse Him who is speaking...” (12:25). It was indeed not any man but Jesus Himself, the Word, who thundered out *all* of the Ten Commandments. Will you hear His voice?

You can choose to cling to the excuses offered by pastors and commentaries for not obeying the simple truth of God. Or you can obey the command to Israel (Deut. 6:4), which signifies the believers. “Hear, O Israel!” The Hebrew word for “hear” has multiple meanings. It commands us to listen and obey.

Jesus’ words to the believers back then apply to us today: “Oh that they had such a heart in them, that they would [revere] Me and keep *all* My commandments always, that it may be well with them and with their sons forever!” (Deut. 5:29).

Many have been covered by the part of the deceptive veil that says, “That’s Old Testament!” If that is your case, listen to the New: “For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all. For He [that was Jesus!] who said, ‘Do not commit adultery,’ also said, ‘Do not commit murder...’” (James 2:10).

Which commandment of the Big Ten has been cleverly twisted to the point of omission? It is the same commandment that, if obeyed, opens the door to intimacy, love and power. It is the commandment that Satan has stolen from the church.

Do you want the fullness of the abundant life Jesus promised? Or do you want the status quo of a church sapped in strength and power by the thief that “comes only to steal and kill and destroy...” (John 10:10). Jesus said He was the Door of the sheep (10: 9). You cannot graze in the greenest pastures unless you come through the Door pictured as the true Shepherd in Psalm 23.

If you want the cup that overflows, you must go where the anointing is. You must go through the Door. Jesus blessed and made holy a certain day of the week. None of the others are called holy. That special day of fellowship and intimacy is called the Sabbath. There is only one. That day could not be called holy unless Jesus had poured part of Himself into that period of time.

Yes, it’s about time -- it’s about time we began to reap the magnificent blessings of the day of rest in Jesus. It’s time. So, ready or not, here is the simple truth about the holy Sabbath of which Jesus is Divine Master (Mark 2:27-28).

Get Ready to Be Blessed!

What a blessing to discover a truth hidden for centuries! The Sabbath day is one of the greatest blessings ever given to man. Yet most Christians miss out on it because they don’t

read the Bible from the beginning. For some, the truth has to be written in red. Some Bibles put the words Jesus spoke when He was on the earth 2000 years ago in red letters. Others say that even Jesus' words were "Old Covenant" and that we must listen to the writers of the epistles to know the truth.

We hope you prefer to believe Jesus. Satan did not contradict him, as many believers have, when He said to the devil, quoting the "Old Testament," "Man shall not live by bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God" (Mat. 4:4). The only word available at the time Jesus spoke these words was the "Old Testament." Taking the whole Bible into consideration (Acts 24:14) is a key to unlocking the code.

Finally we've come to the code breaker -- the punch line. And some will surely feel the punch. The Word of God is sharp and it will pierce (Heb. 4:12). Our Father disciplines us for our good, "so that we may share His holiness" (Heb. 12:10). What better way to share His holiness than to meet with Him on the day He made holy. If you accept this course correction, you will taste and see that the real Jesus is good, and His day is full of blessings for His bride.

What a Day!

What a day God has given us! What a blessing! The Sabbath is the...

- Day of Revelation -- Intimacy with Jesus on this day unfolds all mysteries, which are sealed up in Jesus, who unfolds Himself into and in this day. The “here a little, there a little” puzzle is only solved by obedience to the Sabbath. The Sabbath is the key that unravels all Bible mysteries. Only obedience to the Sabbath commandment reveals the real Jesus in all His fullness.
- Day of Wisdom -- All the treasures of wisdom and knowledge and all mysteries are hidden in Jesus. You cannot, however, have access to all of this without being intimate with Jesus on His day.
- Day of Redemption – It’s the day for remembering our freedom from the slavery of Egypt or sin, the day to celebrate our redemption in the cross of Jesus. It is the day He was redeemed from death, the day of His resurrection.
- Day of Freedom – We are set free from sin, free from the concerns of the week, free to relax and rest in Jesus.
- Day of Rescue --We were drowning in sin and its results and Jesus rescued us, set us free. This is a day to celebrate being rescued from the hands of Satan, who wanted to destroy us. Maybe that’s why the church isn’t free today – because they haven’t kept the day that celebrates that freedom from Satan.
- Day of Rest – We rest from our weekly routine of work, resting in the righteousness of Jesus. It is “laid back” day. Jesus laid back and relished His creation when He rested on that first Sabbath.
- Day of Celebration – We celebrate the end of Satan’s rule on earth and the establishment of the Kingdom of God on earth.
- Day of Peace – We rejoice as we look forward to the time of peace in the coming seventh millennial day. In the here and now, we leave behind a whirlwind of activities to enjoy the *shalom* of God.
- Day of Joy – The fellowship we enjoy with God and our brethren bring a joy the world cannot know. The songs of joy we sing together express and enhance that joy.
- Day of Release -- Fast food chains have apple and cherry turnovers. The Sabbath is the day for a different kind of turnover. It’s the turnover to the great Caretaker of all our cares, burdens, and oppressions from Satan. And since it’s a day of celebration, you can have your apple turnover too!
- Day of Revival, Renewal, Refreshing ,”Re-creation” and Life -- Jesus *is* life. Since He pours Himself into this day, we receive an impartation of His life. He also refreshes us as He was refreshed Himself when He ceased from His labor on the first Sabbath (Ex. 31:17). We are refreshed and we prophesy “times of refreshing” to come in the millennial Sabbath (Acts 3:19-21). Sometimes the Sabbath is like spiritual CPR. As Jesus renewed, completed, and perfected the *tohu* and *bohu* of

chaos into which Satan's rebellion had plunged the earth by "re-creating" it and relishing His creation on the Sabbath, so Jesus celebrates the new creation He is working in each of us on the Sabbath day. We celebrate a time when the earth will be renewed as we are renewed on the Sabbath. It is the day for corporate teaching and anointing to "re-create" us, forming in us God's character.

- Day of Sanctification -- God clearly sets the Sabbath apart to set those who keep it apart as holy unto Him. One of His very names is a part of a powerful Sabbath verse that shows the purpose of this day: "...that you may know that I am the [Eternal] who sanctifies you [Yehovah Makkadesh]" (Ex. 31:13). This day identifies the holy God is the one and only Creator and identifies and sets apart as holy His people and trains them in holiness.
- Day of Victory – This day celebrates the defeat of the devil! That's why he hates it so much.
- Day of Terror (for the devil!) -- Not keeping the Sabbath has opened the door for terror and adversity to strike the nation – and the church. Keeping the Sabbath will close the door on unnecessary adversity and will terrorize the terrorizer, Satan. That's one of the meanings of a Hebrew word that relates God's appointed times of feasting.
- Day of Eternity – This day looks forward to the time when time will not exist. It pictures the fulfillment of God's plan of love when we enter into His eternal joy.
- Day of Hope – When things in the world look bleak, this day points to the sure hope of a better day to come.
- Day of Kingly and Priestly Training – We are given special instructions on this day to teach us to be kings and priests in our sphere of influence today and in a much larger way in the Kingdom of God on earth.
- Day of Remembrance – The only commandment God tells us to remember is the one that reminds us that God is Creator. He remade the earth in six days and rested on the seventh day. It is a memorial day to commemorate the most important Being in the universe. We specifically remember Jesus as Creator and Deliverer/ Redeemer.
- The Day of Intimacy – This day is the gateway to intimacy with God the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. In spirit we sit on our Father's knee. The Bride of Jesus has her weekly date with the Bridegroom. And because of the powerful presence of the Holy Spirit, the Sabbath is also the...
- Day of the Anointing – The Holy Spirit anoints us with fresh oil on this day. His presence can be sensed, felt, and seen more than on any other day of the week. Many healing ministries, without realizing why, hold their healing meetings on the Sabbath. They get greater results on that day because the Sabbath is the...
- Day of Healing – Jesus did great and numerous healings on the Sabbath. He saw the appropriateness of the healing of the woman with the issue of blood on the Sabbath. Why, he asked those around him, should she not be set free from Satan's oppression on this day of freedom from sin and sickness?

- Day of Provision – The manna miracle reveals the Sabbath as the day of provision.
- Day of Fellowship – This is the appointed time that we are commanded to meet with Jesus and with our brothers and sisters in Jesus. And what a joy it is to obey that command!
- Day of Rapture – We are “raptured” up into His presence as we praise Him on the Sabbath day. The Sabbath also pictures and prepares us for that intimate communion we will have with Jesus when He brings us up to enjoy His presence. We will then descend to earth to rule with Him and revel in intimacy with Him forever.
- Day of Glory – God’s glory is all that He is. It is the most infinite word in the Bible. He releases His glory on that day. We stay stuck at a certain level unless we keep the Sabbath. It pictures the government of God, which is to be ever increasing (Isa. 9:7) throughout eternity. So the Sabbath pictures eternity – going from glory to never-ending glory. Putting Himself in this day meant Jesus was pouring His glory into it -- a glory that is infinite. That’s why the angels cry Holy, Holy, Holy every few seconds. Moreover, He has given *us* His glory. It is in us and will also rise in greater strength in us and will be revealed around us. The fullness of God’s end time glory will be revealed only on those who keep the Sabbath.
- Day of Belonging -- The Sabbath sets us apart as belonging to God (Ex. 31:13). Assembling together on His day gives us each week freedom from the feeling of homelessness that attacks so many today and that wonderful feeling of belonging (II Cor. 6:16-18).
- Dominion Day (Kingdom Day) -- One of the most important aspects of the Sabbath is the dominion power it gives us. It is the day that prophesies Jesus’ reign on the earth. It also assures our dominion over the earth as ambassadors of God’s Kingdom in this world today (Isa. 58:13-14).
- Day of Excellence -- The excellencies of Jesus are released in the Sabbath. When we choose the higher road of obedience by keeping this test commandment, God says we will ride on the heights of the earth, leading the way in excellence. Keeping only nine of ten laws of love is not excellence.
- Day of Love – Love poured Himself into this day. When we meet with Him on his day, we receive His love and grow in love. It is the day to soak in God’s love and celebrate it, to rejoice that He has set us apart as special to Him, to rejoice that the Father sent Jesus to die for us and save us. On this day we individually and corporately express our love to God in prayer and song. This day also prophesies the time when the whole world will experience God’s love and we will all bask in His love forever.