

The Sabbath Day and The Date Setters

Part One

The Sabbath Day

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

I. The seventh day of the week (Saturday):

A. God blessed the seventh day: Made it special (Holy).

B. God sanctified the seventh day: Set it apart from the other days. (He hallowed it.)

* Why? Because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

* On the seventh day God took a sabbatical/rest.

Just prior to God resting he says something concerning us that is very import to understand with regard to the sabbath day:

Genesis 1:26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth,

Satan wanted dominion over the earth and so he tricked man into rebelling against God and believing that they could become gods also, which is probably the same trick he used to get a third of the angels to rebel with him.

When Adam fell Satan became the god of this world, and mankind and the earth came under the curse. The ground was cursed which is the exact same thing that God used to make Adam out of. God intended man to live forever in paradise on the earth, but the fall happened and that was lost to man.

What the first Adam lost, the second Adam (Christ Jesus) will regain in the kingdom when Israel finally enters into her rest.

Genesis 3:17 And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it:

cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; 18 Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; 19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

23 Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.

The term "sabbath" is first mentioned in Exodus when the children of Israel have departed (made an exodus) from Egypt.

Exodus 16:1 And they took their journey from Elim, and all the congregation of the children of Israel came unto the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after their departing out of the land of Egypt. **2** And the whole congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness: **3** And the children of Israel said unto them, Would to God we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the flesh pots, *and* when we did eat bread to the full; for ye have brought us forth into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger. **4** Then said the LORD unto Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or no. **5** And it shall come to pass, that on the sixth day they shall prepare *that* which they bring in; and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily. **6** And Moses and Aaron said unto all the children of Israel, At even, then ye shall know that the LORD hath brought you out from the land of Egypt: **7** And in the morning, then ye shall see the glory of the LORD; for that he heareth your murmurings against the LORD: and what *are* we, that ye murmur against us? **8** And Moses said, *This shall be*, when the LORD shall give you in the evening flesh to eat, and in the morning bread to the full; for that the LORD heareth your murmurings which ye murmur against him: and what *are* we? your murmurings *are* not against us, but against the LORD. **9** And Moses spake unto Aaron, Say unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, Come near before the LORD: for he hath heard your murmurings. **10** And it came to pass, as Aaron spake unto the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked

toward the wilderness, and, behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. 11 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 12 I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel: speak unto them, saying, At even ye shall eat flesh, and in the morning ye shall be filled with bread; and ye shall know that I *am* the LORD your God. 13 And it came to pass, that at even the quails came up, and covered the camp: and in the morning the dew lay round about the host. 14 And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness *there lay* a small round thing, *as* small as the hoar frost on the ground. 15 And when the children of Israel saw *it*, they said one to another, It *is* manna: for they wist not what it *was*. And Moses said unto them, This is the bread which the LORD hath given you to eat. 16 This *is* the thing which the LORD hath commanded, Gather of it every man according to his eating, an omer for every man, *according to* the number of your persons; take ye every man for *them* which *are* in his tents. 17 And the children of Israel did so, and gathered, some more, some less. 18 And when they did mete *it* with an omer, he that gathered much had nothing over, and he that gathered little had no lack; they gathered every man according to his eating. 19 And Moses said, Let no man leave of it till the morning. 20 Notwithstanding they hearkened not unto Moses; but some of them left of it until the morning, and it bred worms, and stank: and Moses was wroth with them. 21 And they gathered it every morning, every man according to his eating: and when the sun waxed hot, it melted. 22 And it came to pass, *that* on the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for one *man*: and all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses. 23 And he said unto them, This *is that* which the LORD hath said, To morrow *is* the rest of the holy sabbath unto the LORD: bake *that* which ye will bake *to day*, and seethe that ye will seethe; and that which remaineth over lay up for you to be kept until the morning. 24 And they laid it up till the morning, as Moses bade: and it did not stink, neither was there any worm therein. 25 And Moses said, Eat that to day; for to day *is* a sabbath unto the LORD: to day ye shall not find it in the field. 26 Six days ye shall gather it; but on the seventh day, *which is* the sabbath, in it there shall be none. 27 And it came to pass, *that* there went out *some* of the people on the seventh day for to gather, and they found none. 28 And the LORD said unto Moses, How long refuse ye to keep my

commandments and my laws? 29 See, for that the LORD hath given you the sabbath, therefore he giveth you on the sixth day the bread of two days; abide ye every man in his place, let no man go out of his place on the seventh day. 30 So the people rested on the seventh day. 31 And the house of Israel called the name thereof Manna: and it *was* like coriander seed, white; and the taste of it *was* like wafers *made* with honey. 32 And Moses said, This *is* the thing which the LORD commandeth, Fill an omer of it to be kept for your generations; that they may see the bread wherewith I have fed you in the wilderness, when I brought you forth from the land of Egypt. 33 And Moses said unto Aaron, Take a pot, and put an omer full of manna therein, and lay it up before the LORD, to be kept for your generations. 34 As the LORD commanded Moses, so Aaron laid it up before the Testimony, to be kept. 35 And the children of Israel did eat manna forty years, until they came to a land inhabited; they did eat manna, until they came unto the borders of the land of Canaan. 36 Now an omer *is* the tenth *part* of an ephah.

* God gives further instruction to the children of Israel concerning the sabbath day:

Exodus 20:8 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.

Here Israel learns for the first time that they, their children, their servants, their cattle, nor the stranger (visitor) that is within thy gates shall not do any work on the sabbath. Nothing is said about all the other nations of the world having to keep the sabbath.

It was only for the children of Israel and the visitor as long as they were staying at their house. God knew that Israel would eventually try to find loopholes in the rules of the sabbath.

They tried to hire Gentiles to come and do work for them in their homes on the sabbath, so God prevented that from the very beginning with these instructions.

* **Sabbath definition:** "The seventh day of the week was set aside by God for the nation of Israel as a day of rest and remembrance."

* The second time the sabbath day is mentioned by name we learn some new things about it:

Exodus: 31:12 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, **13** Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the LORD that doth sanctify you. **14** Ye shall keep the sabbath therefore; for it is holy unto you: every one that defileth it shall surely be put to death: for whosoever doeth *any* work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people. **15** Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the sabbath of rest, holy to the LORD: whosoever doeth *any* work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. **16** Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, *for* a perpetual covenant. **17** It is a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever: for *in* six days the LORD made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed. **18** And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God.

I. The Sabbath was given to the children of Israel as a sign between them and God for ever!

It was to remind them that it is God that sanctified them or set them apart from all the other nations for a specific purpose.

II. The penalty for violating the sabbath day was the death penalty.

III. It was to be a perpetual covenant with the children of Israel, forever.

* Deuteronomy teaches us another reason for God giving the Sabbath Day to Israel:

IV. The sabbath day was given to the children of Israel so they would remember that it was God that brought them out of slavery.

Deuteronomy 5:15 And remember that thou wast a servant in the land of Egypt, and *that* the LORD thy God brought thee out thence

through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm: therefore the LORD thy God commanded thee to keep the sabbath day.

* The Body of Christ, the church, was never in bondage to anyone, and no such statement is mentioned to the church as to their taking Israel's sabbath day and making it their own.

Nor was there ever anything ever said about Israel's sabbath day ever being changed to the first day of the week/Sunday.

*** The Sabbath Day was given to Israel at Sinai**

Could the children of Israel have known about the Sabbath and kept it prior to their departure from Egypt? Not according to the Bible:

Nehemiah 9:13 Thou camest down also upon mount Sinai, and spakest with them from heaven, and gavest them right judgments, and true laws, good statutes and commandments: 14 And madest known unto them thy holy sabbath, and commandedst them precepts, statutes, and laws, by the hand of Moses thy servant:

For the 2,500 years from the seventh day of Genesis 2 until that day that Moses stood with God on Mt Sinai, no one ever observed the sabbath day.

Why? Because there wasn't a nation of Israel yet!

They were called the children of Israel for the last 430 years, but God continually talked to Abraham in the future tense about making a nation out of his descendants.

Genesis 12:2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

* Israel was to allow the land to rest every seven years as its own sabbath:

Leviticus 25:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses in mount Sinai, saying, 2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye come into the land which I give you, then shall the land keep a sabbath unto the LORD. 3 Six years thou shalt sow thy field, and six years thou shalt prune thy vineyard, and gather in the fruit thereof; 4 But in the seventh year shall be a sabbath of rest unto the land, a sabbath for the LORD: thou shalt neither sow thy field, nor prune thy vineyard.

* The nation came into being when the sabbath was taught to them. The penalty for the nation for violating the sabbath was different than it was for the individual, and it is laid out in Leviticus 26:

1 Ye shall make you no idols nor graven image, neither rear you up a standing image, neither shall ye set up *any* image of stone in your land, to bow down unto it: for I *am* the LORD your God. **2** Ye shall keep my sabbaths, and reverence my sanctuary: I *am* the LORD. **3** If ye walk in my statutes, and keep my commandments, and do them; **4** Then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit. **5** And your threshing shall reach unto the vintage, and the vintage shall reach unto the sowing time: and ye shall eat your bread to the full, and dwell in your land safely. **6** And I will give peace in the land, and ye shall lie down, and none shall make *you* afraid: and I will rid evil beasts out of the land, neither shall the sword go through your land. **7** And ye shall chase your enemies, and they shall fall before you by the sword. **8** And five of you shall chase an hundred, and an hundred of you shall put ten thousand to flight: and your enemies shall fall before you by the sword. **9** For I will have respect unto you, and make you fruitful, and multiply you, and establish my covenant with you. **10** And ye shall eat old store, and bring forth the old because of the new. **11** And I will set my tabernacle among you: and my soul shall not abhor you. **12** And I will walk among you, and will be your God, and ye shall be my people. **13** I *am* the LORD your God, which brought you forth out of the land of Egypt, that ye should not be their bondmen; and I have broken the bands of your yoke, and made you go upright. **14** But if ye will not hearken unto me, and will not do all these commandments; **15** And if ye shall despise my statutes, or if your soul abhor my judgments, so that ye will not do all my commandments, *but* that ye break my covenant: **16** I also will do this unto you; I will even appoint over you terror, consumption, and the burning ague, that shall consume the eyes, and cause sorrow of heart: and ye shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it. **17** And I will set my face against you, and ye shall be slain before your enemies: they that hate you shall reign over you; and ye shall flee when none pursueth you. **18** And if ye will not yet for all this hearken unto me, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins. **19** And I will break the pride of your power; and I will make your heaven as iron, and your earth as brass: **20** And your strength shall be spent in vain: for your land shall not yield her increase, neither shall the trees of the land yield their fruits. **21** And if ye walk contrary unto me, and will

not hearken unto me; I will bring seven times more plagues upon you according to your sins. 22 I will also send wild beasts among you, which shall rob you of your children, and destroy your cattle, and make you few in number; and your *high* ways shall be desolate. 23 And if ye will not be reformed by me by these things, but will walk contrary unto me; 24 Then will I also walk contrary unto you, and will punish you yet seven times for your sins. 25 And I will bring a sword upon you, that shall avenge the quarrel of *my* covenant: and when ye are gathered together within your cities, I will send the pestilence among you; and ye shall be delivered into the hand of the enemy. 26 *And* when I have broken the staff of your bread, ten women shall bake your bread in one oven, and they shall deliver *you* your bread again by weight: and ye shall eat, and not be satisfied. 27 And if ye will not for all this hearken unto me, but walk contrary unto me; 28 Then I will walk contrary unto you also in fury; and I, even I, will chastise you seven times for your sins. 29 And ye shall eat the flesh of your sons, and the flesh of your daughters shall ye eat. 30 And I will destroy your high places, and cut down your images, and cast your carcasses upon the carcasses of your idols, and my soul shall abhor you. 31 And I will make your cities waste, and bring your sanctuaries unto desolation, and I will not smell the savour of your sweet odours. 32 And I will bring the land into desolation: and your enemies which dwell therein shall be astonished at it. 33 And I will scatter you among the heathen, and will draw out a sword after you: and your land shall be desolate, and your cities waste. 34 Then shall the land enjoy her sabbaths, as long as it lieth desolate, and ye *be* in your enemies' land; *even* then shall the land rest, and enjoy her sabbaths. 35 As long as it lieth desolate it shall rest; because it did not rest in your sabbaths, when ye dwelt upon it. 36 And upon them that are left *alive* of you I will send a faintness into their hearts in the lands of their enemies; and the sound of a shaken leaf shall chase them; and they shall flee, as fleeing from a sword; and they shall fall when none pursueth. 37 And they shall fall one upon another, as it were before a sword, when none pursueth: and ye shall have no power to stand before your enemies. 38 And ye shall perish among the heathen, and the land of your enemies shall eat you up. 39 And they that are left of you shall pine away in their iniquity in your enemies' lands; and also in the iniquities of their fathers shall they pine away with

them. 40 If they shall confess their iniquity, and the iniquity of their fathers, with their trespass which they trespassed against me, and that also they have walked contrary unto me; 41 And *that* I also have walked contrary unto them, and have brought them into the land of their enemies; if then their uncircumcised hearts be humbled, and they then accept of the punishment of their iniquity: 42 Then will I remember my covenant with Jacob, and also my covenant with Isaac, and also my covenant with Abraham will I remember; and I will remember the land. 43 The land also shall be left of them, and shall enjoy her sabbaths, while she lieth desolate without them: and they shall accept of the punishment of their iniquity: because, even because they despised my judgments, and because their soul abhorred my statutes. 44 And yet for all that, when they be in the land of their enemies, I will not cast them away, neither will I abhor them, to destroy them utterly, and to break my covenant with them: for I *am* the LORD their God. 45 But I will for their sakes remember the covenant of their ancestors, whom I brought forth out of the land of Egypt in the sight of the heathen, that I might be their God: I *am* the LORD. 46 These *are* the statutes and judgments and laws, which the LORD made between him and the children of Israel in mount Sinai by the hand of Moses.

* For 490 years the nation of Judah disobeyed God by not keeping the sabbath and so they owed God 70 years of sabbath obedience, and God got them all back to back when he let the southern kingdom go into captivity in Babylon for 70 years. Then God delivered them out of captivity.

* Do you remember when Peter asked Jesus this question?

Matthew 18:21 Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?

And what was Jesus' response?

22 Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.

Do the math, 7 x 70 equals 490. God was not only serious about the individual Israelite keeping the sabbath, but he was equally serious about the nation keeping it as well.

*** Did Jesus keep the Sabbath Day?**

Absolutely! But he kept it not as the Pharisees with all their man-made traditions and teachings added to it but as it was intended to be kept.

Jesus Christ is the Word of God and he could not violate his own word by adhering to the Pharisees interpretation of what it meant to keep the sabbath day.

Jesus fulfilled all of the Law including the sabbath day perfectly and never violated them even one time in the slightest way!

In Matthew chapter 12 we see an example of Christ correcting the religious people who had perverted his own words concerning the sabbath:

Matthew 12:1 At that time Jesus went on the sabbath day through the corn; and his disciples were an hungred, and began to pluck the ears of corn, and to eat. 2 But when the Pharisees saw *it*, they said unto him, Behold, thy disciples do that which is not lawful to do upon the sabbath day. 3 But he said unto them, Have ye not read what David did, when he was an hungred, and they that were with him; 4 How he entered into the house of God, and did eat the shewbread, which was not lawful for him to eat, neither for them which were with him, but only for the priests? 5 Or have ye not read in the law, how that on the sabbath days the priests in the temple profane the sabbath, and are blameless? 6 But I say unto you, That in this place is *one* greater than the temple. 7 But if ye had known what *this* meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice, ye would not have condemned the guiltless. 8 For the Son of man is Lord even of the sabbath day. 9 And when he was departed thence, he went into their synagogue: 10 And, behold, there was a man which had *his* hand withered. And they asked him, saying, Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath days? that they might accuse him. 11 And he said unto them, What man shall there be among you, that shall have one sheep, and if it fall into a pit on the sabbath day, will he not lay hold on it, and lift *it* out? 12 How much then is a man better than a sheep? Wherefore it is lawful to do well on the sabbath days. 13 Then saith he to the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched *it* forth; and it was restored whole, like as the other. 14 Then the Pharisees went out, and held a council against him, how they might destroy him.

The only other time the mention of the Sabbath Day is found in Matthew is in chapter 24 in a tribulation context after the church is gone. Hmm, he just skips over the church age, Imagine that. I wonder why.

The same is true in Psalm 92 which is *A song for the sabbath day*.

Psalm 132. This Psalm looks to the future and has in view the ultimate end of God's purpose in creation.

"Ye observe days, and months, and times, and years." I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labour in vain" (Gal. 4:10,11).

"One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind" (Rom. 14:5).

You can't esteem every day alike and obey Exodus 20:8!

To fail to *"rightly divide the Word of Truth"* (II Tim. 2:15) is to cause confusion.

We are now in the dispensation of grace and the nation of Israel has been temporarily set aside in order for God to form the body of Christ (Rom. 11:11-15, Eph. 2:11-16).

Notice the definition of God's "rest" His purpose in creation was to make a place where He "will dwell."

Isaiah 40:22 *It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in:*

Revelation 21:3 *And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.*

God was giving to man an opportunity to enter into His rest, to have the same appreciation He had for His plan in creation, but man did not enter into the rest of God.

So he, and the whole human race plunged into that which is the very opposite of the sabbath of the Lord, the labor and toil, the guilt and unrest of sin.

Yet God had a plan to redeem and restore not only man but also His whole creation.

His purpose in the earth focused on restoring His headship over the earth through the kingdom of Israel.

This is the program that has been "spoken by the mouth of all the holy prophets since the world began" (Acts 3:21).

So He formed the nation Israel and He declared His purpose for them: "ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation" (Ex. 19:6).

And this is the point of the Fourth Commandment: **"Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy."**

They were to take one day each week and "remember" God's purpose for creation and Israel's role in that plan.

With an understanding of God's purpose for the Sabbath--that it was the embodiment of His plan for the earth--we can understand why it belongs to the nation Israel.

This also tells us why the sabbath is not for the body of Christ, because we are God's people who will accomplish His purpose in the heavenly places.

God has presently set the nation Israel aside so that He can form the body of Christ as His agency to reconcile the government in the heavenly places unto Himself.

As member of the body of Christ--a heavenly people, blessed with all spiritual blessings, meant to execute God's heavenly purpose, the sabbath has no significance to us.

The sabbath is mentioned only 10 times after the cross and never in association with the church observing it. In fact it is mentioned only once by the apostle of the Gentiles and it is used negatively (See 10 below).

1. Acts 1:12 Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey.

The following eight times are all found in the book of Acts, and all have to do with Paul going into a synagogue to reach the Jews who met on the sabbath day to preach Christ unto them.

These were not Christians assembling to worship the Lord! There were also many Gentiles that attended the synagogues which Paul was able to preach in initially:

2. Acts 13:14 But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and sat down.

3. Acts 13:27 For they that dwell at Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they knew him not, nor yet the voices of the prophets which are read every sabbath day, they have fulfilled *them* in condemning *him*.

4. Acts 13:42 And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next sabbath.

5. Acts 13:44 And the next sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God.

6. Acts 15:21 For Moses of old time hath in every city them that preach him, being read in the synagogues every sabbath day.

7. Acts 16:13 And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted *thither*.

8. Acts 17:2 And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures,

9. Acts 18:4 And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks.

10. Colossians 2:16 Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath *days*:

* Isn't that exactly what the seventh day Adventist do to people today who do not keep the sabbath day? Yes, it is, they Judge them.

* The phrase "the seventh day" is only mentioned once in the new testament period!

It is used in a memorial sense only:

Hebrews 4:4 For he spake in a certain place of the seventh *day* on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works.

The End

To submit your test for grading simply copy and paste the test **and the answers only in bold font** and send to:

test@schoolofthebible.us

The Sabbath Test: 1.0 Credit hours

1. Which day of the week was the Jewish sabbath?
2. What 2 things did God do concerning the seventh day of the week in Genesis 2?
3. Why did he do those 2 things?
4. When was the term sabbath first used in the scripture?
5. When was the sabbath first given to man?
6. Who was it given to?
7. What was it?
8. What was one of the purposes of the sabbath according to Ex 16:4?
9. What was the first requirement to keep regarding the sabbath day? Exodus 20
10. Who is the Sabbath a sign or token between?
11. What is another reason God gave Israel the sabbath in Ex 31:13?
12. What was the penalty for not keeping the sabbath?
13. How long was the children of Israel supposed to keep the sabbath? Exodus 31:17
14. What does Deut 5:15 also tell us about why Israel was to keep the sabbath?
15. Where was Israel given the sabbath at?
16. Did Israel know about the sabbath before Sinai according to Nehemiah 9:13-14?
17. How long was it from the first sabbath until Israel started keeping it?
18. According to Lev 25:1-4 what was Israel to do with the land every 7th year?

19. What would the nations penalty be for violating the sabbath rest for land?
20. How many years did Judah not rest the land each seventh year?
21. How many years were they taken into captivity for not resting the land?
22. Did Jesus keep the Sabbath? Why?
23. How many times does the gospel of Matthew mention the sabbath?
24. Where is the last time the sabbath is mentioned?
25. Is there any command in scripture for the church to keep the sabbath?
26. On what day of the week do we see the church assembling in the Bible?
27. What does Paul say about the sabbath to the churches of Galatia?
28. What was God's purpose in creating the earth?
29. Why did God wait until Israel became a nation to introduce the sabbath?
30. What was the sabbath supposed to picture for mankind and the earth?
31. What role does the nation of Israel have concerning the sabbath?
32. Why did Paul go in the synagogues on the sabbath day in the book of Acts?
33. In all 13 of Paul's epistles he mentions the sabbath day how many times?
34. Does Paul speak favorably concerning the sabbath day or not? Colossians 2:16
35. How many times is the phrase "The seventh day" mentioned in the new testament?

The other date setters

1897 In studies in the scriptures volume 4 page 621, "Our LORD, and appointed king, is now present since October 1874.

In 1899, in the time is at hand book, page 101 1908 Edition. "The battle of the great day of God almighty (Revelation 16:14), which will end in 1914 A.D. with the complete overthrow of earth's present rulership is already commenced.

The six great 1,000-year days beginning with Adam are ended, the great seventh day the 1,000 years of Christ's reign began in 1873. 1916

In 1925 Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob will return to human perfection and those prophets listed in Hebrews 11. In millions now living will never die. Pg 89

Jehovah's Witnesses

Their Origins

Charles Taze Russell is without question the founder of the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society. Pastor Russell as he was called was a disgruntled Presbyterian who became disillusioned with organized religion and opposed the doctrine of eternal damnation (Hell).

He then attended a meeting held by Elder Jonas Wendell (a Millerite like preacher) who later became a Seventh Day Adventist. He like Willan Miller, was a date setter for the second advent of Jesus Christ.

Miller predicted the Lord would return in 1843-44 based on a faulty understanding of Daniel chapter 8. He decided that a day equaled a year as said in Ezekiel 4:6 and used that to say that the 2300 days for the cleansing of the sanctuary was really 2300 years which would end in 1843-44.

There were many problems with this method of Bible interpretation the main thing is that the 2,300 days mentioned in Daniel 8 are 2,300 literal days. There wasn't even a sanctuary (Temple) in Israel for almost 2,000 years but that didn't stop Miller.

Wendell who joined the SDA used Daniel 4 to get his erroneous date for the end of the world. He also used Ezekiel 4:6 a day is a year to get a later date as he used the mention of 1260 days plus 1295 days 2555 years to come up with 1878 as the year the LORD would return. It did not happen.

The Date Setters

Part Two

In order to understand Seventh Day Adventism, we must first take a look at how this sect of Christianity came into existence. It all started with the teachings of a Baptist lay-minister named William Miller (1782-1849), his followers would later be called Millerites, and he would be called by them, "Father Miller".

In order to fully understand Adventism in Miller's day, one must understand William Miller's view on Daniel chapter eight and verse fourteen,

because much of what he taught was on the subject of the Lord's return was founded on his faulty view of Daniel chapter eight.

A young Methodist girl from Portland, Maine named Ellen Harmon (White) heard Miller preach and joined the Adventist's ranks along with her family.

William Miller grew sick soon after "the Great Disappoint" of October 22nd, 1844, that is mentioned below in greater detail, and Ellen G. White soon filled the void left by Miller as the next Adventist leader.

Miller would die just four and a half years after his failed predictions which left the Adventist movement in disarray.

The death of Adventism's founder didn't stop the young Ellen G. Harmon (White) and her followers (many of which were former Millerites) from taking Miller's wrong teachings and expounding on them, and adding many new teachings to Miller's form of Adventism.

In fact, Ellen's first "visions" was about the Adventists who were depressed and disappointed greatly with the failed prophecy, but Ellen's vision rallied the Adventist around her, (How interesting).

She claimed that "the sanctuary" teaching of "Father" Miller wasn't the end of their journey, but the beginning. She told people that she saw light behind the Adventists (that light was the teachings of Father Miller), and as long as the Adventist stayed loyal to the Adventist light, they would make it to that heavenly city.

This vision was told to hundreds of Adventists and it spread like a wildfire amongst the Adventists and they rallied behind her.

Ellen would keep them on track with her very convenient visions that consolidated the Adventist's under her guidance and she wasn't done yet.

She would gather the Seventh Day Baptist into her fold not soon after this and combine forces to expand her influence and control of both groups.

The Book of Daniel

Chapter Eight

The Little Horn and the Sanctuary teaching of William Miller:

The eighth chapter of Daniel was written in the Hebrew language, whereas chapters two through seven were written in Aramaic by a Gentile king to all his realm.

The focus in this chapter turn us back towards Israel even though Gentile powers are mentioned, but they are mentioned in relationship to Israel.

1 In the third year of the reign of king Belshazzar a vision appeared unto me, even unto me Daniel, after that which appeared unto me at the first. 2 And I saw in a vision; and it came to pass, when I saw, that I was at Shushan in the palace, which is in the province of Elam; and I saw in a vision, and I was by the river of Ulai.

We see a common occurrence here with the dating of the chapter by God to help the liberal academic who will still find some way not to believe the truth of God's word.

3 Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, there stood before the river a ram which had two horns: and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last.

This is a single empire that has two parts (horns) Media and Persia, and Daniel here is referring to Cyrus the Persian. The Medes and Persians alternated leaders of this world empire.

4 I saw the ram pushing westward, and northward, and southward; so that no beasts might stand before him, neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great.

This one verse covers the whole empire of Media-Persia from beginning to the end. Now God introduces to us the he-goat known to all the world as Alexander the Great.

5 And as I was considering, behold, an he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes. 6 And he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing before the river, and ran unto him in the fury of his power. 7 And I saw him come close unto the ram, and he was moved with choler against him, and smote the ram, and brake his two horns: and there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but he cast

him down to the ground, and stamped upon him: and there was none that could deliver the ram out of his hand. 9 Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven.

The great horn once again is Alexander the Great who died at the age of thirty three (his horn was truly broken off early). He was without an heir so his four generals each divided up his kingdom amongst themselves.

9 And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land.

Here Daniel sees two thousand years into the future to the false Messiah (the little horn), that comes from one of these four notable horns (the lands divided to the four Greek Generals of Alexander).

This little horn eventually brings an idol of himself into the rebuilt temple in Jerusalem and desecrates it. Many have identified this as Antiochus Epiphanies, but he could not do all the supernatural things attributed to the little horn in the following verses, he was a type of the antichrist however:

10 And it waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them. 11 Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down. 12 And an host was given him against the daily sacrifice by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practiced, and prospered.

Antiochus the 4th (Epiphanies) sacrificed a pig on the altar in the temple in Jerusalem. He is a type of the antichrist who reigned from 175 to 164 BC.

The language then attributes supernatural powers to this little horn, but we know that it is referring to Satan, and the antichrist in those instances.

We do know that the devil will cast down some of the host (army), and of the starts (angels) from heaven to the ground (earth). He will also magnify himself to the prince of the host (Jesus Christ).

Revelation 12:3 And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. 4 And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the

dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.

We also know that he will cause the sacrifices in the temple in Jerusalem to cease in the sanctuary, after he is cast out of the heavens, where his sanctuary currently is.

Chapter Two

The Sanctuary teachings of William Miller:

13 Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said unto that certain saint which spake, How long shall be the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot? 14 And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.

Then shall the Sanctuary be cleansed

It was from verse fourteen that William Miller first came up with his dating system for the Lord's second advent, but Miller's ideas were flawed from the beginning.

Miller mistakenly determined that since there was no literal sanctuary on the earth, that the earth must be the sanctuary that would be cleansed by fire at the second advent of Jesus Christ.

2nd Peter 3:6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: 7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. 8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. 10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. 11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

* Did you notice what I underlined in Peter's epistle? Peter tells the Jewish believers he is writing to that a day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as a day.

That doesn't go along with the way Ezekiel interprets days, or even Moses. For Moses, a day was a literal twenty-four-hour day as in the seven days of creation, For Ezekiel's vision a day is a year.

For God, a day is a thousand years. Guess which day measurement the Miller chose? The one that lead to his day, which was wrong of course.

This could not be biblically possible because of the 137 times that the word sanctuary is mentioned in the scriptures it is always referring to an actual sanctuary, and never to the earth itself, plus, no sanctuary is ever mentioned in 2nd Peter 3.

One time it refers to the sanctuary in heaven, and 136 times it refers to the physical, literal one that God commanded Moses to make, or the one Solomon made.

The one time that the sanctuary refers to the heavenly sanctuary made by the Lord himself, and not man, is mentioned in Hebrews:

Hebrews 8:2: A minister of the true sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.

Antiochus Epiphanies ruled eleven years (11 x 360 = 3960 days), and for 2,300 days (6 years and 140 days) of his rule the evening and morning sacrifices were not allowed until Judas Maccabeus recaptured Jerusalem, and cleansed the sanctuary, and restored the evening and morning sacrifices in 164 BC.

This is celebrated each year at Hanukkah with the Feast of Lights.

The Millerites and their more famous off-shoot the Seventh Day Adventist like to take these two thousand and three hundred literal days and make them into years, in an effort to predict the precise year that the Advent of the Seventh Day (Millennium) would be.

They use the formula found in Ezekiel 4:6 to get their calculations from, equating a day to equal a year:

Ezekiel 4:6 And when thou hast accomplished them, lie again on thy right side, and thou shalt bear the iniquity of the house of Judah forty days: I have appointed thee each day for a year.

This of course was not speaking at all about a sanctuary being cleansed, but about Israel and Judah being judged. So, they made all believers look like fools because of their inability to rightly divide scripture.

2 Timothy 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

It was called the great disappointment. (A play on words related to the great awakening).

They came up with the years 1843-1844 as the year of the return of the Lord, and of course nothing happened. They used the formula of 457 BC + 2,300 years later = 1843 AD.

When Miller's prediction of the year 1843 turned out to be wrong a member of his group Samuel S. Snow, figured it to the day of Atonement that year which was October 22nd in 1844, and again nothing happened, but rather a great disappointment (a play on the phrase "the Great Awakening).

It was at the time of their great disappointment that had diminished their ranks greatly, that Ellen G. Harmon, later Ellen G. White started to have her over two thousand alleged visions from God.

She became their new leader because she was offering answers to a large group of disillusioned people who didn't understand why Jesus hadn't returned as predicted by Miller and Snow.

White's followers began to grow rapidly as people were seeing things going on in the world that seemed to indicate according to Millerites and Seventh Day Adventists (SDA) that the time of the Lord's return was near. The SDA is now the fifth largest sect in "Christianity".

* William Miller was sick for many of the years when Ellen's prophecies and writings became popular, and he did not endorse much of what Ellen White taught.

15 And it came to pass, when I, even I Daniel, had seen the vision, and sought for the meaning, then, behold, there stood before me as the appearance of a man. 16 And I heard a mans voice between the banks of Ulai, which called, and said, Gabriel, make this man to understand the vision. 17 So he came near where I stood: and when he came, I was afraid, and fell upon my face: but he said unto me, Understand, O son of man: for at the time of the end shall be the vision.

The vision is for the end times (the time of the end) it is for those who in the near future who will have to go through the Seventieth Week of Daniel and not so much for the people of Daniel's time.

18 Now as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep on my face toward the ground: but he touched me, and set me upright. 19 And he said, Behold, I will make thee know what shall be in the last end of the indignation: for at the time appointed the end shall be.

Daniel's body was asleep here, but his soul and spirit are not his body. It is to those parts of Daniel that God delivered this message to because his sinful flesh could not stand in the presence of his holiness.

20 The ram which thou sawest having two horns are the kings of Media and Persia. 21 And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king. 22 Now that being broken, whereas four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not in his power. 23 And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up. 24 And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practice, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people. 25 And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.

His power shall be mighty but not by his own power, simply means that his power comes from Apollyon, or Satan. Zechariah tells us that two thirds of the Jews will be killed by this little horn. If that were to happen today it would dwarf the destruction of the Holocaust.

26 And the vision of the evening and the morning which was told is true: wherefore shut thou up the vision; for it shall be for many days. 27 And I Daniel fainted, and was sick certain days; afterward I rose up, and did the kings business; and I was astonished at the vision, but none understood it.

Daniel was told to shut up the vision because it was for the latter days. Notice how that Daniel is affected in these verses.

Modern-day false prophets who claim to speak for God have one thing that is always missing from their so called prophecies.

Ellen G. White never got sick like Daniel did from her visions because they were either fake or from the Devil himself to drawl people from the truth with doctrines of devils which is the tactic by which he deceives the nations today according to Paul:

Daniel was sick for days, because he in his wretched state saw a holy God and it made him sick. This is in sharp contrast to the reports of the Tele-evangelist phony claims to speak with God. They are nothing more than modern day Ellen G. Whites going about deceiving and being deceived.

The failure of the body of Christ to rightly divide the word of truth in separating Israel's earthly program from the body of Christ's mystery program is the cause of all this confusion.

* Please see our study on the Sabbath Day as Seventh Day Adventist founder Ellen G. White alleged to have a vision to keep the Sabbath Day. All of these visions were designed to undo many of the teachings of the apostle Paul.

If she had any visions (she claims around 2,000 of them) they were not from God but were from the very ones Paul warns us about that teach doctrines of devils.

Why she would keep tract of just how many visions she had seems pretty boastful to me. "Look how many visions I have had." She, and Charles Taze Russell have done more to turn Christianity back towards Judaism than all the others combined.

The End

To take a test, simply copy the questions below **along with their answers in bold black font**, and paste them into the body of an email and send them to:

test@schoolofthebible.us

Seventh Day Adventism Tests 0.5 Credit hours

Chapter One Test

1. Who started modern-day Adventism teachings?
2. What were his followers eventually called?
3. What date did the "great disappointment" happen on?
4. How long after the great disappointment was it before Miller died?
5. Who started the Seventh Day Adventist movement with many of Miller's followers?
6. What chapter in the scriptures did Miller use as a basis for his "Adventist" beliefs?
7. Who was the little horn spoken of by Daniel?
8. What language(s) was the book of Daniel written in?
9. Who was the great horn or the he-goat spoken about by Daniel?
10. What happened to the kingdom of the he-goat after his death at 33 years of age?
11. What does the little horn bring into the sanctuary to defile it?
12. When did the little horn die?

Chapter Two Test

1. What was the sanctuary that was to be trodden down for 2,300 days?
 2. Did the days represent literal days, or years?
 3. Who in history cleansed the sanctuary 2,300 days after Daniel's prophecy?
 4. Was the sanctuary speaking about the earth or the Temple in Jerusalem?
 5. What verses from Peter's epistles did William Miller combine wrongly with Daniel 8 to teach God was going to burn up the earth at his second advent in just a few short years?
 6. How many times does scriptures teach that the word sanctuary actually refers to the earth?
 7. How many times does scripture refer to the sanctuary as a literal tabernacle or temple?
 8. How many times does scripture reference the sanctuary that is in heaven?
- * Type out a verse that supports a sanctuary in heaven:**

9. When does Daniel's prophecy of 2,300 days begin according to Daniel 8?
10. How many years and days make up 2,300 days on a Jewish calendar of 360 days per year?
11. What day did Samuel S. Snow predict the Lord's second advent?
12. From what verse did William Miller get his day/year formula from?
13. What was the great disappointment?
14. From what year did Miller and others base the Lord's return in 1843-44 from? When did the 2,300 years begin?
15. Who revived Adventism and took it over after Miller got sick and died?
16. What did Ellen White's followers eventually call themselves?
17. When was the time of this vision that Daniel saw supposed to be for according to verse seventeen?
18. Who was the ram identified as?
19. Who is the king of fierce countenance that will spring up that will destroy many by peace?
20. When was this vision for according to Daniel 8:26 & 27?