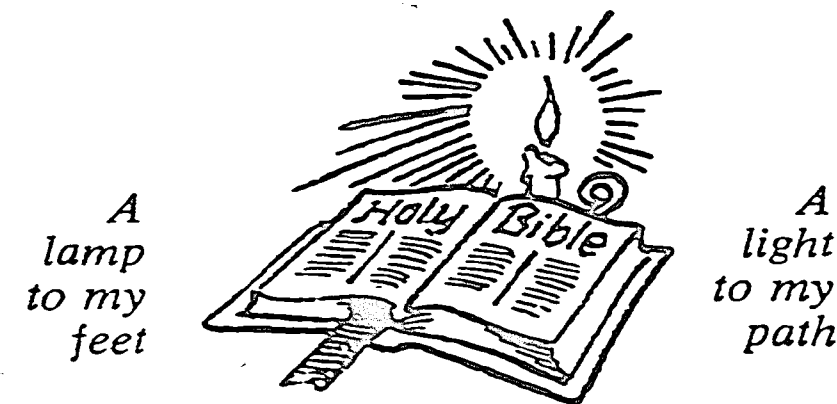


# The Sabbath Recorder

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS for March 1972



(Including and supplementing the daily Bible readings of the Uniform Series of Bible Lessons published in "The Helping Hand.")

### The Foundation of the Church

- 1—Wed. Basis of Christian Living. Matt. 18:15-20
- 2—Thurs. The Master Builder. 1 Cor. 3:5-15
- 3—Fri. The New Covenant. Jer. 31:31-40
- 4—Sabbath. The Superior Covenant. Heb. 8:1-13

### Empowered by the Spirit

- 5—Sun. Fulfillment of a Dream. Acts 2:14-21
- 6—Mon. Spirit-filled Boldness. Acts 4:23-31
- 7—Tues. Prayer with One Accord. Acts 1:9-14
- 8—Wed. A Replacement for Judas. Acts 1:15-26
- 9—Thurs. The Promised Holy Spirit. Acts 2:1-4
- 10—Fri. The Universal Gospel. Acts 2:5-13
- 11—Sabbath. Promise for Spiritual Living. Acts 1:1-8

### The Redemptive Fellowship

- 12—Sun. The Unity of the Spirit. Acts 4:32-37
- 13—Mon. Bear Each Other's Burdens. Gal. 6:1-10
- 14—Tues. Welcome for All People. Rom. 15:7-13
- 15—Wed. Good News for All Nations. Rom. 15:14-21
- 16—Thurs. Gentiles Share with Jews. Rom. 15:22-33
- 17—Fri. Fellowship of Witnessing. 1 Thess. 1:2-10
- 18—Sabbath. A Living Hope. 1 Pet. 1:3-12

### One Body in Christ

- 19—Sun. Absolute Oneness. Eph. 4:1-8
- 20—Mon. Fellowship Heirs. Eph. 3:1-8
- 21—Tues. His Spirit Unifies. 1 Cor. 12:1-6

- 22—Wed. Unity in Diversity. 1 Cor. 12:7-13
- 23—Thurs. All Members of Universal Value. 1 Cor. 12:14-26
- 24—Fri. God Appoints Specialists. 1 Cor. 12:27-31
- 25—Sabbath. One Body by God's Grace. Rom. 12:1-13

### The Church of the Risen Lord

- 26—Sun. Christ "Appeared Also to Me." 1 Cor. 15:1-11
- 27—Mon. If No Resurrection Happened. 1 Cor. 15:12-19
- 28—Tues. Christ Triumphant over Death. 1 Cor. 15:20-28
- 29—Wed. My Experience Proves It. 1 Cor. 15:29-34
- 30—Thurs. Resurrection Bodies. 1 Cor. 15:35-41
- 31—Fri. "Raised a Spiritual Body." 1 Cor. 15:42-50

### Church Giving and Worship

A two-year survey based on 3500 in-depth interviews shows why people give to the church.

In sum, the motivation uncovered by the survey on this central question is described by respondents as a sense of gratitude to God and a religious awareness of the privilege of being able to share. Further, most feel that giving is an intimate part of religious worship. The placing of cash or a check on a church offering plate is far more satisfying, members say, than signing a pledge and giving by mail.

Worship is hard to define. Giving is felt to be an integral part of the worship service. It would appear from the survey that here is a strong argument for regular attendance. Those who are absent but send a check later have missed more than the sermon and prayers; they have missed the worship experience of giving to the Lord in the Lord's house along with the Lord's people.



### Getting to Church in the Winter

Some of us remember when getting to church on Sabbath morning in the winter was an hour's cold ride. Perhaps that is one reason it meant so much to us. How easy (and how foolish) are some of the excuses for irregular attendance at church in these times.

# The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue June 13, 1844

A Magazine for Christian Enlightenment and Inspiration  
Member of the Associated Church Press

REV. LEON M. MALTBY, Editor

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## Terms of Subscription

Per Year ..... \$5.00 Single Copies ..... 15 cents

Special rates for students, retired Seventh Day  
Baptist ministers, and servicemen

Postage to Canada and foreign countries 50 cents  
per year additional. Gift and newlywed subscriptions  
will be discontinued at date of expiration unless re-  
newed. All subscriptions will be discontinued six months  
after date to which payment is made unless renewed.  
The Sabbath Recorder cannot pay for contributed articles  
but will send the writer, upon request, up to 10 free  
copies of the issue in which an article appears.

Second class postage paid at Plainfield, New Jersey.

The Sabbath Recorder does not necessarily endorse  
signed articles. All communications should be addressed  
to the Sabbath Recorder, P. O. Box 868, Plainfield,  
New Jersey 07061.

A Seventh Day Baptist weekly (two issues  
omitted in August) published by the American  
Sabbath Tract Society, 510 Watchung Ave.,  
Plainfield, N. J. 07061.

PLAINFIELD, N. J. February 26, 1972  
Volume 192, No. 9 Whole No. 6,488

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## Retirement in Russia

Older people in the Soviet Union are thanking God for the much vaunted pension benefits of the socialist system. The Communist leaders point with pride to the inalienable rewards their system gives to citizens who have given long years of labor. But the fact that these benefits can't be taken away becomes a boon to believers and a boomerang to the atheists.

All through their lives Christians have had to keep quiet about their faith. Although church attendance was permitted (if one could find a church that hadn't been closed) teaching of Christianity to the young was prohibited. Students who openly professed faith in Christ did not get higher education. There was (and is) job discrimination. The government had an economic axe over the heads of Christians which kept many of them submissive and inhibited others from embracing Christian faith.

Upon retirement men are free from government reprisal for the first time in their lives. Many of these pensioners are turning to God in their search for deliverance from the evils and suffering of life. This is said to be true of some segments of the intelligentsia.

Intelligence agencies monitoring broadcasts designed only for Russian citizens indicate that the Kremlin is worried about this resurgence of religion which they can't do much about. After so many years of atheist propaganda religion should have died out, but it hasn't. Perhaps the party leaders will come to the conclusion that Christian faith is real and more satisfying than materialism.

We in this free country do well to ponder the case of the pensioners of the Soviet Union who are returning to an interest in God and heaven. We are providing more and more benefits to our aging people. Perhaps some of them are finding more time for the things of the Spirit, but many are finding more time for the pleasures of the flesh. We talk about providing gospel jobs for the godly retirees who have time on their hands; we should also consider what sort of evangelism will reach those who are not Christians. There hasn't been government repression of faith here in our working

years as in Russia, but many have not taken time for the claims of Christ and the work of Christ that can now mean so much. The retirees need a firm grip on spiritual realities.

## Losing a Good Word

Editors deal with words and realize how important it is to keep meanings from eroding if communication is to continue between writers and readers. Perhaps religious editors are nearly as guilty as others in the overuse of certain words that are not too well defined in the minds of readers.

*Ecumenical* is a relatively new word now in common use though it has been used by Catholic theologians for a long time. It is a religious word which in its derivation and denotation has reference to the whole world. The ecumenical movement, properly speaking, has to do with bringing the whole Christian world together in deliberation and action. Catholics have thought of their church as the world church and therefore a council of their whole church is called an ecumenical council. Protestants (and Catholics) have come to think of gatherings that take in Protestants and Catholics on a worldwide basis as ecumenical gatherings. This is logical and clear.

It is easy for good words to become profaned and all but lost when they are overused and applied to situations where they do not properly fit. One of the meanings of profanity is to use sacred names in a secular or profane way, as in cursing. Christians are distressed by the practice and the poverty of vocabulary by which the same word is used in every situation.

*Ecumenical* is a word that is fast losing its meaning. We can stop the trend if we are careful to use it correctly. To illustrate this degradation of a meaningful word we call attention to a caption under a newspaper picture of four men, one of whom wore a clerical collar. It was captioned "Ecumenical Affair." The occasion was the seventh annual Masonic-Knights of Columbus dinner-dance. The question is whether such a lodge dance program should be dignified with so im-

portant a religious word. Not every community social gathering is an ecumenical affair.

There are other good words like *church* and *evangelism* that have already and will continue to suffer loss if we cheapen their use. Let's not be guilty of profaning the sacred or abusing good Christian words.

## Incentive To Give

As the editor sees it

Nearly every subscriber feels a financial obligation to support some local church, a loyalty that is commendable. Our national publication tries to encourage such local giving, but its primary emphasis on giving is to the denominational budget, which is the cooperative effort of all. Of this we can speak freely, for the figures of denominational giving are printed each month.

Attention is called to the first report for 1972 on page 15 prepared by Gordon Sanford, OWM treasurer. This January statement of receipts from the churches may be taken as a strong incentive to give to the current denominational budget. The receipts were unusually good. It is very, very seldom that the treasurer is able to report that we are ahead of our goal. We were slightly ahead at the end of January last year, but dropped way down in February and never quite caught our stride again. To have raised 9.5 percent of the budget in 8.3 percent of the year is all the more significant when we recall that our 1972 budget requires \$14,280 more than we tried to raise last year.

In order to keep our giving incentive high and avoid coasting we need to remind ourselves that the January report is high partly because a number of church treasurers did not get the December gifts sent in early enough to be counted — making two-month figures in January. If just three of the larger churches had been credited for December giving we would not have reached our January goal. Fortunately, the totals for December were pretty good in spite of this.

Another way of stating what must be

accomplished is to note that we have to raise from February to December almost the same amount as we aimed for in the twelve months of 1971.

February, apart from some unforeseen prompting of the Holy Spirit, will be a much lower month. But March, if we are loyal, can show us meeting the budgeted needs of our growing work.

### No News Is Bad News

Surveys have shown that many readers turn first in the *Sabbath Recorder* to the page that carries "News from the Churches." They want to know what the local correspondents have supplied by way of important things that are planned or have recently taken place. Sometimes there is a disappointing shortage of reported news. For those who look for it, no news is bad news.

What can be done about it? The editor can't do much; he has to wait for the news to come in before he can print it. You can do something by encouraging your local *Recorder* correspondent by suggesting news items that would be interesting to others and by thanking her (or him) for her good work. It is a labor of love.

We know we can't have everything we want every week. Our magazine isn't big enough to print all the news of every church and have room for inspiring and thoughtful articles too. But we can hope to see more churches covered regularly with short write-ups. Interesting things are happening everywhere; let's hear about them.

If you have a good story with pictures we might make a feature of it for the benefit of other churches that could be stimulated by your special achievements in the Lord's work. Maybe you can get somebody with special journalistic flair to write the story.

News is happening where you are if you are active in Christian work. Wouldn't it be nice if every church could have brief news in the *Recorder* at least six times a year? It would be interesting reading. Does your church have an active correspondent? Are you helping? Be patient with her and with the editor, who has his problems too.

## President's Column

(To one church but meant to be shared with all in this way)

Seventh Day Baptist Church  
Daytona Beach, Florida 32014

February, 1972

Dear Friends:

It looks as if the Conference president won't make it to Florida in 1972, so I'm writing to tell you some of the things you should know.

In January I was able to jet to Denver to see the *Loretto Heights Campus* where we will meet for the 160th session of General Conference August 6-12. It is beautiful . . . on the southwestern edge of Denver, accessible in location, adequate in facilities, and admirable in view . . . oh, those Rockies!!! But I'll let the host committee keep you posted on all that.

We are looking for a week of inspiration and recreation as we also take care of administration of the Lord's work entrusted to us. As the details go down on paper I keep asking myself . . . is it for the glory of God? I appreciate the prayer support of so many people! *To God Be the Glory* for sure, because it will be His answer to prayer that accomplishes His purpose.

A series of studies on Galatians in *The Sabbath Recorder* was intended this year, but as you can see, they haven't started yet. Paul's Epistles are still in the Bible however, and I'm glad to see that several groups are studying this particular one.

I hope to announce soon the appointment of the recreation director for Conference week. In the meantime, you folks practice on volleyball, for we don't want the Smog-town Supremes vs. the Milton Misfits to be the only match. Let's have the Florida Surfers give them a real challenge! There's also tennis, a nine-hole putting course, plenty of lawn, and all those mountains to look at! Keep praying that God will lead us into a proper blend of fun and fellowship.

As I write this I'm about to leave on

"What this church needs is . . ."

## Some Good Old-Fashioned Evangelism

By Ben Hartley

Remember when a visiting preacher came and held a week or more of special preaching services and people got converted or rededicated their lives to Christ?

"I wish we could recapture the fervor and enthusiasm of those days," an elder churchman remarked recently. "And you know we could really rebuild this church if we had regular revivals and visitation programs!"

Surprisingly large numbers of people yearn for the drama and emotional release of revival evangelism and for the friendly warmth of personal visitation programs. A woman who had been living in a midwestern city for several months mentioned to a friend that she had been "disappointed that no one from a church has come to see me." Visitation had been standard procedure in the Texas town where she grew up. But churches in her new suburban community had almost given up "such old-fashioned things," her friend explained.

Can revivals and visitation work to the glory and strengthening of His church in this modern, sophisticated era? Some experts say no, that resistance to high-pressure preaching and altar calls is increasing, in spite of Billy Graham and his continuing numerical successes.

Perhaps what we need is to try them again — of course, with some changes and variations to meet the needs of contemporary men, especially city folks. Why not push for a week of special preaching services if your church has

---

a trip which will include Commission and Planning Committee meetings. Before I get home on March 5 I hope to have visited the Berlin/Schenectady, N. Y., New England and Plainfield churches, and the Ohio fellowship. I'll write again when I get home.

In His Service,  
Paul

abandoned the practice? It's difficult to see how it would damage anyone. And with more sophisticated promotion and a bit less pressure preaching, this old-fashioned technique just might launch something exciting in your church.

Visiting programs too might be updated and made to work. But not if you drop in unannounced and stay most of Sunday afternoon when the male newcomer might ordinarily be watching pro football. But use the telephone first just to say a word of welcome to Mrs. Newcomer or stop in just long enough to deliver a card with the church's name, address, phone number, and pastor's name on it. Such low pressure, friendly approaches might just be old fashioned enough to work. —ACP

### Our Prayer Corner

#### Suggestions for Prayer This Week

Pray for:

1) The separate and joint meetings of Commission and Planning Committee at Plainfield February 20 to March 3, that they may experience the leading of the Holy Spirit as they evaluate, make decisions, and plan program.

2) The young folks who have recently started special pastor's classes looking toward church membership.

3) A keener interest in the things of the Spirit and in witnessing to the saving power of Christ.

4) A balanced perspective on the ethical and social issues of our society, that our involvement and influence may be as our Lord would have it to be.

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#### MEMORY TEXT

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

---

**Makapwa Medical Unit**

**1971 Annual Report of the  
Medical Unit of Makapwa Station  
P. O. Sandama, Malawi, Africa**

Truly the Lord has been gracious to us this year and has continued to heal and guide in the care of our many sick patients. Our faith has been strengthened as we have seen His miracles in our midst.

**Makapwa Outpatient Clinic**

Staff: medical assistant, A. Sankhulani; dressers, D. Kungali, E. Salema until end of August and B. Kenjedza from October 1.

Total number of treatments given 21,388  
Total number of new cases 5,636  
Total number of subsequent visits 15,752

On April 1 the Government asked us to report our patients in two categories, those under 5 years of age and those 5 years and over. This helps us to see where the greatest number of problems lie and whom we have been serving. April through December

New cases, under 5 years of age 1,665  
New cases, 5 years and over 2,610  
Subsequent visits, under 5 5,432  
Subsequent 5 and over 6,139

**Makapwa Hospital In-Patients**

Total number of patients admitted and treated in the hospital 363

Adult and junior males 100  
Adult females and children 263  
Daily average in-patients 5.4  
Average number of day spent in hospital 5.1

Number of patients who died in hospital

Adults 1, Juniors 0, Children 12.

**Maternity Unit**

Staff: Mrs. B. Sankhulani, Mrs. B. Thomas, Mrs. Kasenda until end of June, Mrs. Mtsetso since July 1, (Mrs. Mtsetso is a Class II nurse midwife and the other three are Class III midwives.)

Total number of normal confinements 374  
Total number of live births 395

Sets of twins 9  
Stillbirths 10  
Abnormal deliveries 13  
Neonatal deaths 9  
Maternal deaths 1

This mother suddenly took ill on her seventh postpartum day with an acute abdominal problem and died suddenly.

Antenatal visits:  
New patients 444  
Subsequent visits 1,599

**Under 5 Clinics**

Total number of children attended 2,491

Normal weighing children

Newcomers 192

Subsequent visits 1,483

Underweight children

Newcomers 110

Subsequent visits 706

Total number of immunizations:

Polio, first 178, second 180, third 141

DPT, first 297, second 253, third 179

Smallpox vaccination:

first 254, revaccination 350

We have a lesson each session; topics: hygiene, sanitation, disease prevention, food preparation, child feeding, etc.

**Thembe Dispensary**

Staff: medical assistant, B. Matengale; dresser, F. Mbawa.

Total number treated 15,705

Total number of new cases 5,137

Total number of subsequent 10,568

April first to end of December:

New cases under 5 2,458

New cases 5 and over 1,241

Subsequent under 5 5,041

Subsequent 5 and over 2,742

**Added Interest**

From our records this past year, I see that the most frequent causes of sickness are in this order:

Malaria, bronchitis, measles, tropical ulcer, dysentery, conjunctivitis, neuritis, whooping cough, skin infections, severe anemias.

Number of patients treated for parasites: Hookworm 459, ascaris 318, bilharzia urinary 247, rectal 63.

We began health teaching sessions on March 17 in our general clinic at Makapwa. We held them on Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings for 25 to 30 minutes. We had good attendance and good discussions and hope that the people will really profit from this. We had to interrupt this subject on the first of September because of holiday relief and

changes in the staff. We hope to start again early in the new year.

The Thembe Dispensary addition got caught by the rainy season. It is hoped that the bricks can be produced after the rains stop. There is a real desire to start an Under 5 Clinic at lease by mid January 1972. Community lay people are planning to help the two medical workers. All plans are made and we hope they get off to a good start.

And now with joy we report:

On September 28, Miss Elizabeth Maddox, R.N., arrived at Makapwa to help in the Medical Department. We thank the Lord daily, and her often, for her willingness to come for a year of service. In these three months she has made a real place for herself and has won the hearts of her coworkers and patients.

She has many interests and activities going. To mention but a few will show you what I mean: She helped in the General Clinic when M. A. Sankhulani was on holiday. She has set up an In-Service Teaching Program that the medical staff is happy about. She has helped in teaching some of the classes we hold on alternate Thursdays for the people living on the station. Her artistic skills are a very great help in making teaching aids for Makapwa and Thembe classes. She has been and continues to be a good consultant in medical problems. I also very much appreciate her help in driving when we have patients to take to other hospitals for care we cannot give. There have been quite a few. She has also been asked to do health teaching with the church women's groups in the outlying churches. The young people also will enjoy her abilities in enlarging their understanding early in the new year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah Becker, R.N.

**Our Largest Prayer Meeting**

It is possible that the annual National Prayer Breakfast sponsored by the prayer breakfast groups of the Senate and the House of Representatives can lay claim to being the best-attended prayer meet-

ing in the country. It was held recently in the international ballroom of the Washington Hilton Hotel with an attendance of 3,000. It is an honor to be invited to this prayer breakfast, which features appropriate messages by the President, Billy Graham and others.

As in past years, the occasion brought together prominent leaders from business, labor, and religion to meet with members of the Supreme Court, the Congress, top military men and representatives of government agencies. Distinguished diplomatic leaders from 100 countries were present also.

The President referred to the great differences that exist between this nation and Red China and Russia, the two nations he will visit soon. "It is naive to think our differences would evaporate if we get to know each other better," Nixon said. "These differences exist because we do know each other . . . and the philosophical gulf is great," he emphasized.

He referred to giving economic help when that is needed, but he stressed the challenge for America "to build a new structure of peace in the world where men of differences can talk about these differences instead of fighting about them.

Earlier in the program, Mayor Walter Washington, the black appointed leader of the District of Columbia, received a standing ovation after an emotional message asking for "unity and reconciliation" in the land.

"We cannot say that we can reach the moon and yet fail to heal the wounds of those who suffer," the mayor cried. Preaching that "this is the commitment we have" as a nation, Washington said the country has the capabilities to solve all our problems.

The National Prayer Breakfast concluded with a prayer and a plea for commitment to Christ, voiced by Sen. Harold Hughes (D., Iowa).

"If the people here in this room make a commitment to God and Jesus Christ, it could alter the course of history," Sen. Hughes declared.

"But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men" (Matthew 15:9).

## Sabbath Reform

We Have an Anchor That Keeps the Soul

By Rev. John P. Pettway



The Sabbath was hallowed at the creation. As ordained for man, it had its origin when "the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy" (Job 38:7). The earth was in harmony with heaven. "God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good" (Genesis 1:31).

"And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it," — set it apart to a holy use. It was given to Adam as a memorial of the work of creation and a sign of God's power and His love (Gen. 2:2-3) (Rom. 1:20). Our rest is to be a miniature representation of God's rest. As God worked six divine days and rested one divine day, so are we to work six human days and to rest one human day.

The Sabbath calls our thoughts to nature and brings us into communion with the Creator. In resting, we behold His power in nature and we find comfort; for the word that created all things is that which speaks life to the soul (John 1:1). He "who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ" (2 Cor. 4:6).

"Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve" (Matt. 4:10). Between the precepts of Jehovah and the laws of men has come a great conflict of truth and error. There is a battle not between rival churches contending for supremacy, but between

the religions of fable and tradition. There are few who really accept God's Word as the rule of life. Infidelity prevails to a large extent, not in the world only, but in the church. Many have come to deny doctrines which are the pillars of the Christian faith. The facts of creation presented by the inspired writers, the fall of man, the atonement, the perpetuity of the law — all of these — are practically rejected by many of the professedly Christian world. We should not worship God traditionally as many do, saying because my mother or father worshiped here at this particular church I will remain regardless.

Christians should be preparing for the Lord's return. They should be diligently studying the Word of God and striving to conform their lives and worship to its precepts. The issues of eternity demand more than an imaginary religion, a religion of words and forms. "God is a Spirit and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24). True worship proceeds from the heart.

If we would keep God's Sabbath, we must have love in our hearts. God must be worshiped in truth — not in superstition, sectarianism, and ignorance. There must be a total submission of feeling, thought, and desire to do His will even in the observance of His Holy Day.

Neither our Lord nor His apostles abrogated the Sabbath of the Decalogue. Men teach that we are not under law but under grace; thus in the new dispensation Sabbath observance has been done away within the new Creation (Second Adam). The new dispensation does away with the Mosaic prescriptions as to the method of keeping the Sabbath, but at the same time declares its observances to be of divine origin and to be a necessity of human nature. It binds us to set

apart a seventh part of our time for rest and worship.

The Decalogue, thank God, is not set aside, but has become our anchor — being established by the gospel (Romans 3:31). The penalties of the Decalogue are the natural and subjective sequence of transgression, and unless set aside by the provisions of the gospel must of necessity be eternal. Jesus never condemned the law and the prophets, but He did condemn those who did not obey them.

If we disregard God's will and Word and teach others to do so we, "shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 5:19).

We have an anchor in God's Word: "For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled" (Matt. 5:18).

Paul gives us an unshakable assurance of our anchor holding fast. "Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast" (Heb. 6:19). What is the hope set forth before us and where is that hope? Certainly Christ is our hope and He now sits at the right hand of the Majesty. Christ is set before all men in the gospel of God's marvelous grace and in the gospel we find the only hope for sinners (Rom. 3:24, 25).

In the gospel, Christ is presented to mankind as Savior, the only object of saving faith, the only object of living hope. This made the anchor of the believer both sure and steadfast. "Sure" suggests that the anchor is not liable to failure, meaning the anchor is so designed, large enough, heavy enough to hold without failure — a sure guarantee that it will not drift or let go. "Steadfast" denotes that it is impossible for the anchor to break even under the strain of the most severe storm.

There are many who are crying for the living Christ to anchor their souls in this stormy life, seeking for the living God, and longing for His divine presence. Let the Word of God speak to the heart. Let those who have heard or observed

only tradition and human theories and maxims hear the voice of Him who can renew the soul and anchor it unto eternal life.

Heaven and earth are still in existence. The same stars that Adam saw still shine in the heavens. The same moon still rises and sets. The earth is waxing old "like a garment," yet it has not passed away. Thus, "let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man" (Eccl. 12:13). "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city" (Rev. 22:14).

The same voice that spoke from Sinai is still declaring, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me" (Exo. 20:3). Man has set his will against the will of God, but he cannot silence the word of command. The human mind cannot forever evade its obligation to a higher power — the power that anchors the soul.

### "White as Snow"

I stood and looked o'er our village  
In the crisp cool hours of night,  
The moon so full and so radiant—  
The earth with its blanket of white.

I thought of the promise of God  
Declared to all men long ago.  
I was warmed by the knowledge that Jesus  
Came this promise to work here below.

I saw in that glistening moment  
My own self and the sins that are mine,  
I am thankful that God in His goodness  
Sent Jesus my life to refine.

His life then gave He for my pardon—  
Brought daylight where never was light,  
He's my only hope of salvation—  
In Jesus my sins are made white.

—John 3:16, 17

By Claston Bond of Dodge Center, Minn.  
on the night of January 1, 1972 after  
the quarterly Communion service.

## Vocations Highlight January Session

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Thorngate of the Washington, D. C., Seventh Day Baptist Church were honored guests of the Board of Christian Education at their January quarterly meeting held Sun. Jan. 16, 1972 in the usual parlor room of the Alfred Parish House. Dale and Janet had spent all day Friday investigating the vocational and youth materials available in the Board of Christian Education offices in Alfred Station. They were interested in better acquainting themselves with the vocational work of the entire denomination, assigned for coordination through this board.

The board's Vocational Committee met with the Thorngates before the Directors' Meeting. The very cold day was somewhat overcome by hot soup and sandwiches provided at the Parish House. Thomas Burdick and Jack Reynolds came from Little Genesee along with Mark Sanford who remains on the board as consultant. Mr. and Mrs. Don Stearns of Hebron were unable to come because of illness. Vice-President Burton Crandall attended, as did the executive and corresponding secretaries, David and Frances Clarke. The recording secretary, Mrs. Harold King, and her husband, also shared in the meal and discussion.

It is anticipated that Dale and Janet will serve as consultants to the Vocational Committee of the board. Their part in the 1972 General Conference program will make possible new and creative kinds of relationships for Seventh Day Baptists in the vocational field. We of this board are very grateful for the prospect of the imaginative efforts of the Thorngates as well as the helpful sharing of ideas and experience with us in mid-January.

They spoke briefly during the quarterly meeting, and shared constructive ideas with the directors on many matters.

Regular reports were received from the other committees of the board. The Youth Work Committee recommended that the board become an executive member of the American Camping Association in

order to receive ideas, services and advice that organization has to offer. It was noted that a section on Church Camping has been recently created within the association. The executive secretary is anticipating attendance at the national convention in March in New York City.

The Publicity Committee reported its work in creating materials for the March special emphasis issue of the *Sabbath Recorder*.

The Publications Committee reported helpful gifts of the Seattle church to the *Helping Hand* editor's work. Seattle Pastor Duane Davis, has the services of a new dictation machine which is matched with a similar machine used by the church secretary. Thus he is able to more quickly do his correspondence and editorial work. This committee had considered the possibility of publishing the worship resource book created for the 1971 Conference by Pastors Glen Warner and Herbert Saunders. Investigation continues.

The Family Life Committee is working on materials for the 1972 Family Week observance. They will soon send out a packet around the theme of "Christian Responsibility to the Glory of God."

The executive secretary reported his sharing in the Central New York Association quarterly meeting December 10, 11; his advising a number of persons on goals, programs, and resources in Christian education; his attending meetings of Family Ministries Staffs, Camping Consultation, Department of Educational Development, and the *Spectrum* Editorial Board. He also told of preparation of various resources — camp photos, statistics for the yearbook, 100th anniversary of Uniform Series statement to appear in the *Helping Hand*, workshop plans, Daily Bible Readings for *Helping Hand*, assistance with *Sabbath Visitor* which is chiefly the editorial work of Mrs. Clarke. He thanked God "for missions to inspire," and for the help of the board members in a wide variety of ways.

## What I See in Jesus Christ Superstar

Deborah Barber\*

Contrary to what many people believe, *Jesus Christ Superstar* has much contemporary significance. The lives of the apostles, Mary Magdalene, the crowd, and Judas bring out the weaknesses and strengths of the people then and prove that human nature has not changed since Jesus' death.

In the musical, the apostles constantly question Christ as to where they are going and demand to know what is going on. Repeatedly, the apostles go up to Christ asking, "What's the buzz? Tell me what's happening." They do not have faith in God, believing that He will take care of everything. Many times throughout the Bible this point is brought out. As an example, a father brings his epileptic son to Jesus saying, "I brought him to your disciples, but they could not heal him." Jesus answers, "How unbelieving and wrong you people are! How long must I stay and put up with you?" The disciples come up to Him privately asking why they had failed. "It was because you do not have enough faith."

How many today can say they never worry or are never afraid walking home alone along a dark path or a dimly lit road? How many are thankful in all circumstances, as it says in 1 Thess. 5:18, knowing that God will work everything out according to His plan for their lives? *Jesus Christ Superstar* reemphasizes the fact that we are very much like these apostles and that we have all failed as Christians.

Mary Magdalene is the one character in the musical, besides Jesus, who shows us that one is capable of living a Christian life no matter what he has done in the past. Jesus says, "She alone has tried to give me what I need right here and now." She soothes, calms and anoints Jesus with myrrh to cool His hot

\* Debbie is the daughter of Hiram W. Barber, III, of Westerly, R. I., a senior in high school who has done some research on *Jesus Christ Superstar* in an elective course set up under the name "Inquiring into Crucial Affairs."

forehead, showing real love and concern for someone other than herself. But immediately Judas insists that the perfume could have been used to help the poor. He cannot understand how a man like Jesus can "waste His time on women of her kind." He feels that she doesn't fit in well with what He teaches and says.

We criticize Judas for his attitude, but many people are like him in this respect. We "judge a person by the company he keeps," quickly forming an opinion of a person before even meeting him. We still look out for our own welfare instead of others and fail to realize that the people whom we hate are the ones who need the most love.

Read the following words which are sung by the crowd in *Superstar*:

Christ, you know I love you;  
Did you see I waved?  
I believe in you and God,  
So tell me that I'm saved.  
Jesus I am with you;  
Touch me, touch me, Jesus;  
Jesus, I am on your side;  
Kiss me, kiss me, Jesus.

These words reflect the attitudes of "the crowd" today. Many attend church to show God that they are being "good little Christians" so that they will be saved and blessed another week. If the chorus read, "Christ, you know I love you, did you see I went to church? . . ." it would have the same meaning. In the second stanza, the crowd feels that it deserves to be healed by Jesus since it is literally following Him.

So many pray for this very reason—to be physically healed. We pray only when we are troubled or have problems that we ourselves are not capable of healing. God is never forgotten when a miracle is needed, but when things are going fine, the common theme is, "Who needs Him?" We, like the crowd who yells, "Crucify Him, Crucify Him," reject Christ until the next time we need a miracle-worker.

"Some of our young people turn out real well — others are more like their parents." — Frank A. Clark

### Senior Highs Serve and Explore

Brandon Work Camp, sponsored by the Vermont Ecumenical Council and Bible Society, brought a small number of high schoolers last summer to the state school for mentally retarded persons for eight summer weeks of close engagement in recreation and craft and conversation. The program will be repeated in summer 1972. Applicants are welcomed from all over the U.S.A. and costs are minimal because of subsidized Title I financing.

This youth group experience is just one of many that are briefly described in a folio of "High School Program Events During 1971," most of which will occur again in 1972. A few copies are available for study from the Board of Christian Education. The folio was collected by a consortium on outdoor education within the Department of Educational Development of the National Council of Churches of Christ. At the head of the camping program is Miss Ima Jean Kidd.

Near Portland, Ore., sixty persons spent twelve days searching for ways to improve artistic expressions of man's awareness of his relation to God. More than twelve forms of art were available under guidance of as many competent artists.

Music and drama were two other outdoor educational opportunities developed by New Hampshire and Ohio groups.

Work camp programs were developed by such as Camp Daybreak for emotionally disturbed children; an inter-generational service to institutionalized older persons; a camp for Harlem youth in a mountain camp site; and many others of special nature related to local service opportunities.

By the way, several of our Seventh Day Baptist camps have been used for such service camp programs, for which we thank God and express encouragement for continued development. Our facilities are valuable tools for God's reconciling love to use if we respond to the divine call to "proclaim liberty to the captives . . . heal the sick . . ." in Jesus' spirit. Cooperation with other

Christian sponsors is often the mode of supporting such work, demanding careful love and wise planning on our part as owners.

A bicycle trip, with overnights in churches, is typical of several growing outdoor educational experiences. An area development of "CIT" relationships for high schoolers and collegians offered a wide variety of group experiences in which leadership was extended. "Counselors In Training" volunteered for three years of service in such programs as inner city action, migrant service, camp and special schools. Dynamics of the Christian community (faith, compassion, repentance and forgiveness, etc.) are overtly put into play as work is assumed and carried through.

Seeking to understand themselves more clearly, to change behavior that alienates others, and to become more sensitive to ways of reconciliation—these are some of the goals of youth human relations labs in several parts of the country.

Youth leaders are invited to send for a copy of the folio which describes such high school programs.

### Teen-agers Converted

Two Baptist churches in the United States have reported huge numbers of teen-age conversions.

More than 4,000 persons made professions of faith in Christ during a crusade conducted by the First Baptist Church of Houston, Texas. Nearly 95 percent of them were teen-agers. More than 600 of the converts have been baptized — 145 of them at a single mass baptismal service.

A church staff member said, "The crusade was characterized by short, difficult to accept, low-pressure invitations (to profess faith in Christ)." The twenty-four-year-old crusade evangelist stressed personal acceptance and personal commitment to Christ.

In Niceville, Florida, the 726-member First Baptist Church during an eight-day revival sponsored by church young people reported 461 professions of faith, most of them by teen-agers with no prior church ties. —EBPS

### LET'S THINK IT OVER

#### Sick and Tired of Prophets of Doom

William Verity, chairman of Armco Steel Corporation, in a recent address called for a brighter outlook on America's future. He believes that most people are sick and tired of hearing false prophets tell them how rotten they are and how doomed our country is to a computer-plotted shortcut to an economic hell. He says:

"Perhaps most absurd of all is the concept that, despite statistics which show the average American lives twice as long as his great-grandparents, enjoys far better health, works half as many hours, and earns ten times the real income, we are asked to believe that our people are somehow worse off today."

"We've been swamped in a barrage of talk about what's wrong with America, harangued by nearsighted Neros who always seem ready to fiddle or talk, but seldom are ready to offer their country anything more than a match."

However, he said the activists had performed an important service in convincing many Americans that they must respond in more positive ways on a variety of issues.

#### Pentagon Liberalizes Rules for Conscientious Objectors

The Pentagon has enlarged its definition of "conscientious objector" to include persons with a deeply held moral or ethical belief" in keeping with a 1970 Supreme Court decision.

Under the new rules a draftee would not have to hold traditional religious convictions in order to receive CO status, but he would have to show that his moral or ethical belief is "the primary controlling force" in his life.

The Department of Defense directive, number 1300.6, defines Conscientious Objection as a "firm, fixed and sincere objection to participation in war in any form or the bearing of arms, by reason of religious training and belief."

Under this general definition, two classes of CO status are available. Class 1-0 is for a member who, by reason of conscientious objection, "sincerely ob-

jects to participation of any kind in war in any form."

Class 1-A-O is available for a member who "sincerely objects to participation as a combatant in war in any form, but whose convictions are such as to permit military service in a noncombatant status." —BPA

### Report on Campus Unrest

Many American Baptists across the country are reacting positively to the report made by the President's Commission on Campus Unrest, but are concerned that we as a nation and as a church take the report seriously.

The report, which described the division between established society and the new youth culture in strong and often passionate terms, warned that unless the violence created by this division is stopped, the nation could disintegrate into near-civil war. It condemned fanatical student terrorists, complacent campus officials, brutal law enforcement officers and vindictive acts and inflammatory words of politicians, but said that violence was only one part of a dual crisis on the campus, that a crisis of understanding was the underlying cause of campus unrest. The commission offered dozens of detailed recommendations to government, universities and law enforcement agencies so that our nation could fulfill its "shared national commitment to peace, justice, decency, equality and the celebration of human life." —ABNS

### To God Be the Glory

Conference President Paul B. Osborn has been setting an example for pastors and church leaders by preaching on the Conference theme in the Nortonville church just before starting on a four-week church visitation and denominational planning trip.

"To God Be the Glory—in Separation" was the Sabbath morning theme January 29.

"To God Be the Glory—in Confession" was the subject announced for the sermon on February 5.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

### Action for the Aging

President Nixon, in addition to his state of the union message, sent to each Congressman a 14,000-word message proposing changes in school financing and other reforms, the first time any president has presented such a message. Whether or not Congress will accept his legislative program on its merits is doubtful. He plugged for legislative action to help the aging.

"Let's make this a year of action for the aging," the President challenged Congress. In another plug for his bill on welfare reform, Mr. Nixon said the 21 million older Americans would benefit especially from some of the proposals of H. R. 1 (the President's welfare reform bill). Specifically the bill would place a national floor under the income of all older Americans, it would guarantee inflation-proof social security benefits, allow social security recipients to earn more from their own work, increase benefits for widows, and provide a five percent increase in social security payments.

Altogether, H. R. 1, as it now stands, would mean some \$5.5 billion in increased benefits for America's older citizens, Mr. Nixon said.

### Big Money Given

The president of the University of Richmond, a Baptist School, announced at commencement that it had received an unrestricted gift of \$50 million from Clairborne Robins, president of the A. H. Robins (Pharmaceutical) Co. It is believed to be the largest gift ever given to a Baptist school. Money, they say, doesn't grow on trees, but money, when there is enough of it does grow beyond the needs of any man. Put into religiously oriented education this \$50 million will help countless thousands of young people. The generous donor, who wants that university "to provide education of the highest quality and to become one of the outstanding private institutions of high learning in the country," is reported to be worth about \$400 million — before the gift.

## NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

SHILOH, N. J.—The pastor's report for 1971 outlines much of the work of the church in which he was involved. It occupies five and a half legal size pages in the mimeographed annual report of thirteen pages sent to members and friends, at the end of January and gives a clear picture of the progress made in one of our oldest and most active churches. The report begins: "The 235th annual business meeting of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Shiloh, New Jersey, was held in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, January 9, 1972. This delightful afternoon of the fellowship, reflection, and planning started at 12:00 when members of the congregation gathered for a soup luncheon sponsored by the Ladies' Benevolent Society."

In the conclusion of the pastor's report is this summary: "Once again this has been a thrilling year for me as I have served the church. There seems to be a deepening interest on the part of many. The attendance averages are on the increase at all the major services. There seems to be a greater interest and deeper interest in prayer and Bible study and more of a desirer to get outside ourselves. The spirit of God is working in the hearts of our people. However, there are still areas where we need to let go and let God have control."

### Marriages

Baumgarten - Clarke.— Bruce S. Baumgarten, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Baumgarten of Huntington, L. I., N. Y., and Catherine Shaw Clarke, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. David S. Clarke of Alfred Station, N. Y., were united in marriage on Jan. 29, 1972, in the Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church, the bride's father and Dr. Melvin Bernstein of Alfred University Hillel group officiating. The new home is at 97 E. Main St., Williamson, N. Y. 14589.

### Accessions

DODGE CENTER, MINN.

By Profession of Faith:  
Theodore D. Neher

PAWCATUCK, R. I.

By Letter:  
Patricia G. Lawton

THE SABBATH RECORDER

## OUR WORLD MISSION

### OWM Budget Receipts for January 1972

	January Treasurer's	January Boards'		January Treasurer's	January Boards'
Adams Ctr NY .....	\$	\$ 10.00	Milton Jct WI .....	85.00	
Albion WI .....	85.36	20.00	Monterey CA .....		
Alfred NY .....	1,194.25	40.00	New Auburn WI .....	93.55	
Alfred Sta NY .....	259.50	10.00	New Milton WV .....	50.00	
Ashaway RI .....		40.00	New Orleans LA .....	5.00	
Assns & Groups .....			North Loup NB .....	200.00	
Battle Creek MI .....	512.67	40.00	Nortonville KS .....	308.50	50.00
Bay Area CA .....			Ohio Fellowship .....	20.00	
Berea WV .....	60.00		Paint Rock AL .....		10.00
Berlin NY .....			Plainfield NJ .....	478.83	45.00
Boulder CO .....			Putnam Cnty FL .....		
Brookfield NY .....			Richburg NY .....	145.50	10.00
Buffalo NY .....			Riverside CA .....	500.00	20.00
Chicago IL .....			Roanoke WV .....		
Daytona Beach FL .....	100.00	110.00	Rockville RI .....		
Denver CO .....	762.26	10.00	Salem WV .....	585.00	30.00
De Ruyter NY .....	59.00	10.00	Salemville PA .....	55.00	
Dodge Ctr MN .....	121.70		Schenectady NY .....	11.50	
Farina IL .....		10.00	Seattle WA .....	15.00	10.00
Fouke AR .....		10.00	Shiloh NJ .....	2,241.50	
Hammond LA .....	50.00		Stonefort IL .....	15.00	10.00
Hebron PA .....	70.00	10.00	Syracuse NY .....	25.00	15.00
Hopkinton RI .....	15.00	10.00	Texasarkana AR .....		20.00
Houston TX .....			Verona NY .....	164.94	20.00
Independence NY .....	40.55		Walworth WI .....	100.00	
Individuals .....	340.00		Washington DC .....	155.50	35.00
Irvington NJ .....	600.00		Washington People's DC .....		
Jackson Ctr OH .....		10.00	Waterford CT .....	174.85	10.00
Kansas City MO .....	90.00		Westerly RI .....	1,672.50	20.00
Leonardsville NY .....	86.00		White Cloud MI .....	64.14	
Little Genesee NY .....	348.16				
Little Rock AR .....		10.00	Totals .....	\$14,689.84	\$734.00
Los Angeles CA .....	982.32	32.00	Non-Budget .....	\$ 693.30	
Lost Creek WV .....	500.00	2.00			
Marlboro NJ .....	324.93	55.00	Total To Disburse .....	\$15,383.14	
Metairie LA .....					
Milton WI .....	921.83				

### JANUARY DISBURSEMENTS

Board of Christian Education .....	\$ 1,323.98
Historical Society .....	9.99
Ministerial Education .....	519.60
Ministerial Retirement .....	1,330.21
Missionary Society .....	6,975.86
Tract Society .....	1,842.77
Trustees of General Conference .....	79.94
Women's Society .....	224.88
World Fellowship & Service .....	505.10
General Conference .....	2,545.81
Mission Notes .....	10.00
Washington DC Church .....	15.00
<b>Total Disbursements .....</b>	<b>\$15,383.14</b>

### SUMMARY

1972 Budget .....	\$162,050.00
Receipts for 1 month:	
OWM Treasurer .....	\$14,689.84
Boards .....	734.00
	<b>15,423.84</b>
To be raised by December 31, 1972 .....	\$146,626.16
Percentage of year elapsed .....	8.3%
Percentage of budget raised .....	9.5%
One month:	
Raised .....	\$ 15,423.84
Due .....	13,504.17
Ahead .....	1,919.67

Gordon Sanford  
OWM Treasurer



# The Sabbath Recorder

## WRONG WAY

By Eugene Lincoln

A few years ago, two buses rolled into the depot at Idaho Falls, Idaho — one headed for Butte, Montana, from Salt Lake City, Utah, and the other headed for Salt Lake City from Butte. Drivers and passengers got out to stretch their legs or grab a few bites to eat.

Several minutes later the driver of the Salt Lake-bound bus headed toward Utah. Passengers settled comfortably in their seats, reading magazines, chatting with their seatmates, or looking out the windows at the scenery.

Thirty miles out of town, a state patrolman, with siren screaming, signalled the bus driver to pull off the highway and stop. He informed the astounded driver that he had mistakenly boarded the bus — the one that should have been headed toward Butte!

What is amusing — and also somewhat disturbing — about this story is the reaction of the passengers. Not one had queried the driver: "Say, isn't this the same way we came into town?" or "Aren't we going the wrong direction to get to Butte?"

Theoretically, a bus driver should know his business and be sure where he is going. No doubt that is what the passengers thought as they erased any questions they had in their minds about their eventual destination. And yet, when all indications showed that something was wrong, isn't it strange that the passengers' faith in their driver was so great

that not one voiced a doubt concerning his route?

One would think that the leaders of the world — especially the renowned spiritual leaders — should know their business, too — that they should be aware of the way they are taking us. And yet, some items in the news may cause us to wonder.

Religious news abounds with stories of church leaders voicing their doubts concerning the inspiration of the Bible, the divinity of Christ, the promise of His return, and — in a few cases — the very existence of a personal Deity. Some openly flout the laws of the land in seeking to achieve social goals which, if reached in the proper manner, might be desirable. Neither the Savior nor His disciples sought to further their aims by unnecessarily violating man's laws.

It is disturbing to read such news about the religious world; but it is even more disturbing — even frightening — to hear so little concern and so few voices raised among the followers of these leaders over the way they are being led.

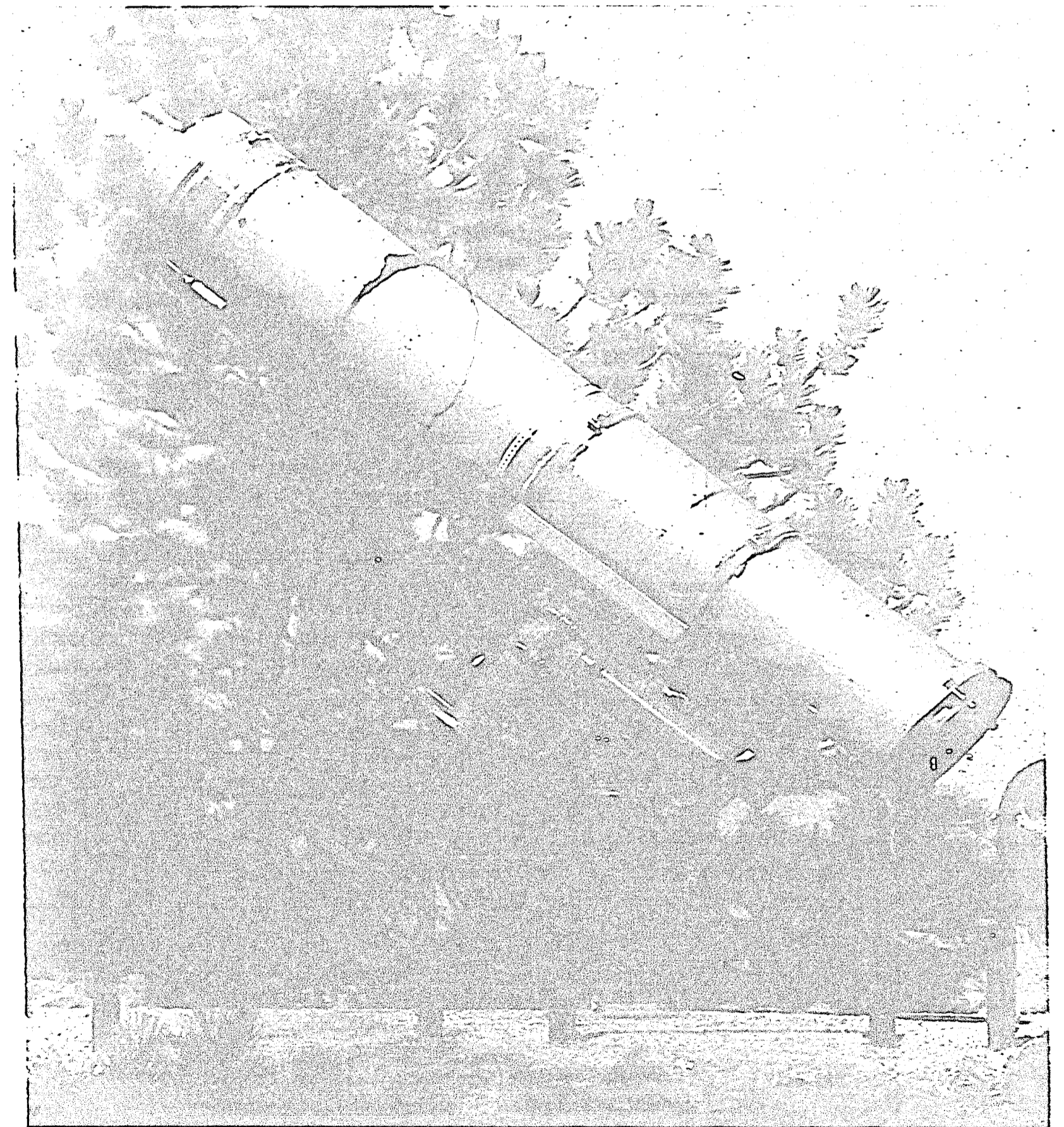
Is it possible that these blind followers will find too late — the truth of the passage in Proverbs 16:25? It states plainly a great truth: "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man; but the end thereof are the ways of death."

## SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for March 4, 1972

THE FOUNDATION OF THE CHURCH

Lesson Scripture: Ephesians 2:19-22;  
Matthew 16:13-20.



## John Watts Memorial Telescope

One of the facilities for the God-centered education of youth peculiar to Camp Paul Hummel through the generosity of Seventh Day Baptist individuals and organizational funds is the Watts Memorial telescope by which the young folks can better see how the heavens declare the glory of God.