

A large, dark, rectangular stone block, possibly a millstone or a large paving stone, is the central focus of the image. It is positioned on a cobblestone path in the foreground. Behind the stone is a wall made of red and yellow bricks, with some grey stone blocks interspersed. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day, and the overall composition is a classic architectural or historical setting.

# SOLEMN REVIEW OF THE SABBATH

~ ELIHU ~

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Rejected Stone – Psalm 118:22

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## Foreword

**T**HIS article appeared in the *Review and Herald* of June 23, 1853. James White wrote a small introduction for it. The next year it was published in the 1854 *Sabbath and Advent Miscellany*, and in an 1854 printed publication which contained many articles on the Sabbath, entitled, *Sabbath and Advent Miscellany*.

Apparently, it was a tract that was basically “anonymous,” only bearing the name of “Elihu” as author. An Adventist found it in a house, and showed it to James White, who published it in the *Review and Herald* shortly after. It was popular, and so by request was released in tract form.

A bit of the inside story on the real “Elihu” is related at the end of this booklet, in a section titled, *A Visit to Brother “Elihu”* by R. F. Cottrell.

The booklet presents a compelling, direct, and forceful argument for the adoption of the original seventh-day Sabbath.

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# Solemn Review of the Sabbath

By Elihu

The following article, in pamphlet form, was placed in our hands a short time since by one of the brethren. It was probably, written some years since, though the precise time is not known, no date being given, and it bears simply the signature of "Elihu." It is, however, an excellent article, and our readers will peruse it with interest.—*James White* (introduction to the 1853 *Review and Herald* article).

The subject of this little Work was placed in our hands a short time since in Tract form, without date, bearing simply the signature of "Elihu." It was published in the *Review and Herald* for June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1853. Since that time several devoted friends of the Sabbath have called for it in Tract form for distribution. We cheerfully comply with their wishes, with the hope that it will be the means of calling the attention of many to the Lord's Sabbath.—*James White* (introduction to the 1854 printing in *Sabbath and Advent Miscellany*).

**I**N REVIEWING the subject of "the Sabbath," I design not to follow any previous writer; but simply, plainly, and briefly, to convince sinners of sin, let their profession be what it may. And this I hope and pray may be done without giving offense to those who love the truth more than error: for God has many servants on earth, who would gladly exchange error for truth, and many who do exchange their former traditions for the precious and everlasting truths of God as contained in his Word.

## The Witness of the New Testament

Now the New Testament witnesses to the law and the prophets: and that book is said to have been written thus:

- Matthew's gospel, six years after the resurrection of Christ.
- Mark's gospel, ten years after the church commenced.
- Luke's gospel, twenty-eight years after.
- John's gospel, sixty-three years after.
- The Acts of the Apostles, thirty years after.
- The Epistle to the Romans, and two to the Corinthians and Galatians, twenty-four years after.
- Ephesians, Colossians and Hebrews, twenty-nine years.

- To Timothy, Titus and the second Epistle of Peter, thirty years.
- The Revelation of John, sixty-one years.
- John’s three epistles about sixty-five years after the resurrection, and after the church had properly commenced.

And it is easy for us to understand how these apostles understood and practiced, with regard to the Sabbath; and they are the “foundation” next after Christ himself. Therefore if there was any such institution known and frequently spoken of in the church as “Sabbath,” in those different ages of the church, we can easily know what then was meant by it.

Some say if we keep the seventh day of the week, we shall keep a “Jewish Sabbath!” Well, we have no Saviour to trust in but Jesus Christ, who was, according to the flesh, a Jew—no other apostles and prophets, but Jewish—no other than Jewish Scriptures, and indeed, Jesus said himself, that...

#### **John 4**

<sup>22</sup> ...salvation is of the Jews.

And what did the writer of the New Testament mean by the words “Sabbath” and the Sabbath day? What did Matthew mean in the 6<sup>th</sup> year of the Christian church? He certainly did not mean the first day of the week, but he meant the day before the first day of the week.

#### **Matthew 28**

<sup>1</sup> In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.

He meant what all other Jewish writers ever meant, *viz*:

#### **Exodus 20**

<sup>10</sup> The seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God.

But neither Matthew nor any of the Apostles ever told us a word about the Sabbath being changed from the seventh to the

first day of the week. Now if the scriptures cannot be broken, but everywhere mean one and the same thing, viz:

### **Exodus 20**

<sup>10</sup> The seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord,

–then if ministers contradict this, and say the seventh day is *not* the Sabbath of the Lord, but the first day of the week is the Sabbath, will they not in this bear witness clearly and positively against themselves, unless they bring forward the chapter and verse where God commanded the Sabbath to be changed?

What did Mark mean by the word “Sabbath”? He meant, also, that the Sabbath was the day before the first day of the week.<sup>1</sup> Surely if the Sabbath had been changed at the resurrection of Christ, Mark would have known it within ten years afterwards.

What did Luke mean who wrote twenty-eight years after the resurrection of Christ? He also meant that the Sabbath was the day before the first day of the week: for he says that the women who prepared the ointment,

### **Luke 23**

<sup>56</sup> ...rested the Sabbath day according to the commandment.

Thus Luke understood the words, the “Sabbath day” in the 58<sup>th</sup> year of the Christian era to mean the day immediately preceding the first day of the week.

How did John understand this subject in the 63<sup>rd</sup> year of the Christian church? He not only speaks of the Sabbath day as the others did, but he shows plainly that the first day of the week was considered a business day by the disciples after the resurrection.<sup>2</sup>

But what did the writer of the *Acts of the Apostles* mean by the word “Sabbath,” and the “Sabbath day” thirty years after the christian church was fully commenced? In writing he often mentions the Sabbath and once mentions the first day of the week, as

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<sup>1</sup> Mark 16:1-2.

<sup>2</sup> John 20:1. See also Luke 24:13.

meaning quite another thing in plain distinction from the Sabbath.<sup>3</sup> The practice of the Jews was then as it is now, to meet in the synagogue on the seventh day. And again,

**Acts 13**

<sup>44</sup> The next Sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God.

He does not say this was the Jewish sabbath, but the Sabbath day; this was the seventh day; and the first day of the week was not then known as a Sabbath by this writer; because he says the next Sabbath day the Jews and Gentiles most all came together again. I say there would not have been any next Sabbath in the week till the next seventh day. Again,

**Acts 16**

<sup>13</sup> And on the Sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made.

He does not say on the Jewish, nor on one of the sabbaths, as though there were two sabbaths then, but on *the Sabbath*, i.e. the seventh day, as understood by all the Jewish writers, to this day. Again,

**Acts 17**

<sup>2</sup> Paul, as his manner was, went in among the Jews, and three Sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures.

Thus have I proved that the Apostles of Christ, understood that one day in the week should be called the Sabbath day, and further, I have proved that this day was the day before the first day of the week, which is the seventh day; and you cannot deny it, nor by the Scriptures disprove it.

Consequently if the apostles of our Lord always called the seventh day the Sabbath day, six, ten, twenty-eight, thirty, and sixty-three years after the church was fully commenced, then it must be the Sabbath day now. And every one of the Lord's ministers who call any other day the Sabbath besides the one so called by

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<sup>3</sup> Acts 13:14, 42, 44; 20:7.



the writers of the New Testament, gives it a title which is nowhere found in the Scriptures; for when they say the Sabbath day, they mean something very different from what the New Testament means.

It is already proved that the apostles called the seventh day, or the day before the first day of the week, the Sabbath, and the Sabbath day for many years after the church was fully commenced.

### **In Relation to the Law**

Now we are to show what sin is; and we are not left to guess at it, or to suppose it; but we have a given rule to know with certainty what constitutes sin.

#### **Romans 3**

<sup>20</sup> By the law [then] is the knowledge of sin.

By what law was the knowledge of sin twenty-four years after the resurrection of Christ? Ans. The very same law that was given when it was said,

#### **Exodus 20**

<sup>17</sup> You shall not covet.

The law, then, by which sin is known, is the ten commandments, and you cannot deny it! This law says,

<sup>10</sup> The seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God; in it you shall not do any work, you nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your man-servant, nor your maid-servant, nor your cattle, nor the stranger that is within your gates:

<sup>11</sup> 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.

Now until this law is altered or abrogated (and Christ says He “came not to destroy the law!”<sup>4</sup>) by the same power that enacted it—a willful transgression of it is a willful sin! Let your profession be what it may;

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<sup>4</sup> *Matthew 5:17.*

### **1 John 3**

<sup>4</sup> ...for sin is the transgression of the law.

### **James 2**

<sup>10</sup> He that offends in one point, [or in one of these commandments,] is guilty of all,

–i.e. is a transgressor of the law, a sinner in the sight of God. Now a regenerated soul, a true hearted Christian, says with Paul,

### **Romans 7**

<sup>22</sup> I delight in the law of God after the inward man.

<sup>12</sup> The law is holy, the commandment holy, and just, and good.

And any person who is not willing to keep the commands of God, when plainly understood, has still a carnal mind, which...

### **Romans 8**

<sup>7</sup> ...is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

Will you say this is judging too hard, or:

### **John 6**

<sup>60</sup> This is a hard saying, who can hear it?

I wish to judge no man; but the word that the Lord has spoken the same shall judge you in the last day.<sup>5</sup>

### **Romans 2**

<sup>12</sup> As many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law;

<sup>16</sup> In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.

Then those who shall hold the truth in unrighteousness, those who pretend to keep the law differently from what God appointed it, those who, in fact, lay aside the commandments of God, (the seventh day or any other command) and teach for doctrine the commandments of men, (the first day instead of the seventh,) such, the Word says, are vain worshipers.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> *John* 12:48.

<sup>6</sup> *Mark* 7:7-8.

## The Traditions of Men

But you say,

“It makes no difference which day is kept or called the Sabbath day, provided we keep one seventh part of the time!”

This is not correct, because God never said so. God is not to be mocked in this way!! He has been very good and kind to make the Sabbath for man—to appoint the day and the particular time of the day, when the Sabbath is to commence, and when it is to end; it is the seventh day in order from the creation—the seventh day in the creation: and He said,

### **Leviticus 23**

<sup>32</sup> From even till even shall you celebrate your sabbath.

—as the evening and the morning were reckoned for the day.<sup>7</sup> God did not leave this subject undecided, so that His people would appoint different days, and then for every one to call his own, the Sabbath day! But God blessed and sanctified *the seventh day*, and proved that particular day to be designated by Him, in the face and eyes of about six hundred thousand witnesses, by a miracle directly from heaven, in withholding the manna on that day, and in giving the food for that day on the day before; and you cannot deny it, or disprove it!

Again, you say,

“How shall we know which is the seventh day?”

I answer, do you wish to know? Then ask the Jews, for God has committed the lively oracles to them, and then scattered them among all nations! Do you know when the first day of the week comes? Well, the Sabbath day is always the day before the first day of the week.<sup>8</sup>

But you may say,

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<sup>7</sup> Genesis 1:5, 8, 13, 19, 23, 31.

<sup>8</sup> Matthew 28:1.

“Do not the majority of honest hearted Christians keep the first day of the week? and have they not for centuries done common labor on the seventh day, and observed the first in obedience to the fourth command, and still been honest in their motives, and living Christians?”

I answer, what is that to us? so long as the true light of the Sabbath did not come to their minds? Now we certainly know what sin is; not by what popular writers say—not by the popular traditions of our fathers—not altogether by our own feelings; but by the law of God is this knowledge; for sin is the transgression of the law; and all who have the law of God, have an infallible and an everlasting rule, to know what sin is!

### **Isaiah 8**

<sup>20</sup> To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word it is because there is no light in them.

And now if you are a willful, weekly transgressor of the law of God, then by the law is the knowledge that you are a willful sinner before God! But if you are an ignorant transgressor of the law of God, then by the law is the knowledge that you are an ignorant sinner before God. To say nothing of presumptuous sins, I say, if you have ignorantly sinned, then repent and reform, and God will heal you.<sup>9</sup> By the law of God then is the clear knowledge of sin.

I speak to you (Protestant) who keep the Sunday, a day formerly dedicated to the worship of the Sun, by the Pagans; and afterwards brought into the church by Constantine and Roman Catholics, and called the “christian sabbath,” a name never known for the first day of the week by any of the writers of the New Testament.

I speak to you Protestants and ask you if you have any given rule to know what sin is? Have you any certain rule to know whether Roman Catholics sin, or not, in bowing down to images? They say, they do not sin! you say you know they do sin! but how

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<sup>9</sup> *Leviticus* 4:2, 13.

do you know it is sin to bow down to images when they say it is not sin? Answer. By the law, you say, you know this is sin, and you know it by no other rule; for you...

### **Romans 7**

<sup>7</sup> ...had not known sin, but by the law.

Well, by the same rule, I know what sin is. You say it is not sin to work and do common labor on the seventh day. But we know not by your assertion, but by the law, whether you sin or not. You say you know by the law that it is sin to bow down to images. I say, (by your own rule) I know by the law, that it is sin to do common labor on the seventh day; and you cannot deny it! And if you know it is the duty of Roman Catholics to repent of their sins for transgressing the second command, then I know it is also your duty to repent of your sins for transgressing the fourth command. He that said, "You shall not kill," "You shall not steal,"<sup>10</sup> "You shall not bow down to images, neither serve them," etc., also said,

### **Exodus 20**

<sup>10</sup> The seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God.

I would that you could see the weakness of your argument, *viz.* that one seventh part of time, was meant in the law, without regard to any particular day. In this you make the commandments of God of no effect through your tradition!<sup>11</sup> Yea, you make void that part of the command which says,

<sup>10</sup> The *seventh day* is the Sabbath of the Lord your God.

We read not that the Lord blessed the seventh part of the time, or the Sabbath institution, as you say, but the seventh day, in particular. Why do you wish to take out and make void this part of the fourth command? When Christ has said,

### **Matthew 5**

<sup>18</sup> Till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or tittle shall in no wise pass from the law.

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<sup>10</sup> *Romans* 13:9.

<sup>11</sup> *Matthew* 15:6.

It was just as necessary that the particular day should be designated as it was that there should be a Sabbath made for man. It would not have been according to the Divine Wisdom, to have said,

“You shall keep one seventh part of the time, or one whole day in seven,”

—because this would have left mankind in as much confusion as your theory could have made them! One might have kept one day and another the next, till seven sabbaths might have been kept in one family. Thus much for your seventh part of time.

Suppose a parent should command his child to do a certain piece of labor on a certain day, and the child should without any just cause neglect to perform the labor on the day specified, and should perform it on the next day. Would this show any respect for the authority of his parent, or would the parent approbate such conduct in his child? You must say no. Or if a governor should command all the military to do duty two days in the year, and for each one to select his own days, there would be as much wisdom in this, as in your seventh part of time, for the Sabbath of the Lord.

God is not the author of confusion,<sup>12</sup> but of order. While your theory of one seventh part of time, or one whole day in seven, instead of the seventh day, impeaches the Divine Wisdom, and makes God the author of confusion. Thus your theory, not the law of God, leads to anarchy and confusion, and the observance of no Sabbath; and you cannot deny it.

What reasonable objection have you to the law of God? What fault can you find with it, just as it stands? Have you wisdom enough to alter it for the better?

### **Psalm 42**

<sup>7</sup> The law of the Lord is perfect converting the soul.

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<sup>12</sup> *1 Corinthians 14:33.*

Yea, it is so perfect that it has already converted the souls of many, even from the doctrines and commandments of men, to keep the Sabbath of the Lord, and I trust in God that it will convert many more. Because,

### **Psalm 19**

<sup>8</sup> The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandments of the Lord are pure, enlightening the eyes.

<sup>10</sup> More to be desired are they than gold, yea than much fine gold, sweeter than honey and the honey comb.

### **Romans 7**

<sup>12</sup> Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just and good.

<sup>22</sup> For I [Paul,] delight in the law of God after the inward man.

Reader, do you delight in the law of God after the inward man? If not, your soul should be converted, by praying for the law of God to be put into your heart, and written in your mind.<sup>13</sup> But if the law of God is already your delight, then why not be reconciled to it? Why not be subject to it just as it stands? Why wish to make void one jot or tittle of it?<sup>14</sup>

I do not present the law for justification; but as a perfect rule of right, in this life;

- 1<sup>st</sup>, between man and his Creator:
- 2<sup>nd</sup>, between man and his fellow man.

Therefore,

### **Matthew 5**

<sup>19</sup> Whosoever shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

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<sup>13</sup> *Jeremiah 31:33; Hebrews 8:10.*

<sup>14</sup> *Matthew 5:18; Romans 3:31.*

## Westminster Divines Proved Wrong

The Westminster Divines, are found contradicting the writer of the *Acts of the Apostles*. These divines say,

From the beginning of the world to the resurrection of Christ, God appointed the seventh day of the week to be the weekly Sabbath, and the first day of the week ever since, to continue to the end of the world, which is the Christian Sabbath.

1. Luke (the writer of the *Acts of the Apostles*.) says,

### **Acts 13**

<sup>14</sup> Paul and his company went into a synagogue of the Jews on the Sabbath day.

This was, according to our account, 45 AD, and twelve years after the resurrection of Christ. Luke says this was on the Sabbath day, then at this time. But the divines say,

“This was not on the Sabbath day at that time, but on Saturday, and that the seventh day was not then the Sabbath, neither had been for twelve years.”

Thus they contradict Luke as plainly and pointedly as can be.

2. Luke says, that...

### **Acts 13**

<sup>42</sup> ...when the Jews had gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words [of the Gospel] might be preached to them the next Sabbath.

<sup>44</sup> And the next Sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God.

This, Luke says, was on the Sabbath day at that time, twelve years after the resurrection. But the Divines say that...

“It was not on the Sabbath at that time, for Sunday had been the Sabbath for twelve years!”

3. Luke says,



## Acts 16

<sup>13</sup> And on the Sabbath we went out of the city, by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made;

–53 AD, twenty years after the resurrection, and ten years before the *Acts of the Apostles* were written. This Luke says, was actually on the Sabbath day at that time—but the divines contradict him in saying,

“This was not on the Sabbath at that time, but on Saturday; for the seventh day was not then the Sabbath, neither had been for twenty years—ever since the resurrection of Christ!”

Thus they contradict Luke again, for all admit that Luke always called the seventh day, the day the Jews met in their synagogue, the Sabbath in the *Acts of the Apostles*.

4. Luke says,<sup>15</sup> Paul at Thessalonica, “as his manner was,” went into a synagogue of the Jews, and so preached Christ and the resurrection three Sabbath days, that some Jews and a great multitude of Gentiles believed. This was twenty years after the resurrection of Christ. This, Luke says, was on three Sabbath days then at that time.

But the divines deny this also, because they say that the Sabbath had been changed from the seventh to the first day of the week, twenty years before. Thus they give Luke the lie! an awful mistake in them.

5. Luke says,<sup>16</sup> at Corinth Paul labored with his hands, as a tent maker, (on the other days as we should understand,) but...

## Acts 18

<sup>4</sup> ...reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks.

This was 54 AD, twenty-one years after the resurrection of Christ, and nine years before the *Acts of the Apostles* were written.

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<sup>15</sup> Acts 17:2-4.

<sup>16</sup> Acts 18:3-4.

This Luke said or wrote, 63 AD, the thirtieth year after the resurrection, and the thirtieth year of the Christian church, that this preaching of Paul, was on “every Sabbath;” that is on every seventh day, (the same days that the Jews always met in their synagogue for worship.)

This is a plain, pointed and positive proof, that the seventh day was the Sabbath, at least thirty years after the resurrection of Christ; for Luke testified again and again that those meetings of the Jews and Gentiles were held on the Sabbath, and if Luke was a Christian, then the seventh day was the Christian Sabbath thirty years after the resurrection! the Westminster divines to the contrary notwithstanding!

And if the seventh day was the Sabbath thirty years after the resurrection of Christ, as Luke says it was, then it is the Sabbath now. For you will admit, that no man or body of men, have had any lawful right to alter or change this command of God, since 63 AD.

But we find not one word in favor of the idea, nor even the least hint or allusion in all the New Testament, that the first day of the week was ever so much as thought of as a Christian Sabbath by any of the apostles while they lived! And you must give it up, yea, and you will give it up, if you search the scriptures carefully and prayerfully on this subject, and if you have a spirit of discernment, and are willing to forsake error for truth, and if you are an honest-hearted Christian in the sight of God.

Now if the scriptures are able to make one wise unto salvation, through faith in Jesus Christ,<sup>17</sup> then why need I stop to examine all the various doctrines of popes, councils and fathers, when in searching I should find pope against pope, council against council, and fathers against fathers? This would be like two companies fighting at a great distance with small arms. But if we wish to come at close action, let us take the armor of truth, which will

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<sup>17</sup> 2 Timothy 3:15.

most assuredly prevail; and the closer the action the sooner the victory will be won on the side of truth.

### **Further Testimony in the New Testament**

Now my dear reader, if you will take the Scriptures and search them as above requested, then you will find the following valuable treasures of knowledge among the many therein contained.

1. You will find Christ himself saying,

#### **Mark 2**

<sup>27</sup> The Sabbath was made for man,

–and that it was made when the first seven days were made, before man had sinned. The Sabbath was thus made not for the Jews in particular, but as a gift of God to man, *i.e.* mankind universally, of all nations and all ages of the world.

2. You will find that before the law was given at Mount Sinai, this was a law and a commandment,<sup>18</sup> that it was also written by the finger of God, with the “lively oracles,” which God committed to the Jews, to give unto us; that this law, by which is the clear knowledge of sin, is an infallible and everlasting rule to know by, what is sin and what is not sin; that sin is the transgression of the law; that to act against it, or to do things contrary to it is sin; but:

#### **Romans 4**

<sup>15</sup> ...where no law is there is no transgression;

–that this law Christ came not to destroy, abrogate, or make void; that the law is holy, and just, and good; and that Christians delight in it. And as Paul...

#### **Romans 7**

<sup>7</sup> ...had not known lust except the law had said, You shall not covet,

–so we had not known which day of the week was the Sabbath except the law had said,

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<sup>18</sup> *Exodus 16.*

## Exodus 20

<sup>10</sup> The seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God.

Now we know by the law, that this is the Sabbath without help of commentators!

3. You can find that the resurrection of our Saviour has nothing to do with changing the Sabbath, any more than His birth, His death or His ascension. Whether He was risen near the end of the Sabbath, or some time before the common time of commencing the first day Sabbath, so-called, has nothing to do with altering one jot or tittle of the law of God.

4. You can find that the common reasonings of men, that Christ frequently met with His disciples on the first day of the week, after His resurrection, any more than on other days, are false and without foundation: that He went with two of them to Emmaus, about seven and a half miles and returned to Jerusalem, which would plainly show that He did not regard that day as a Sabbath; that He met with His disciples in the evening, which must have been after the commencement of the second day of the week,<sup>19</sup> when they were met, but not to celebrate the resurrection, as false reasoners pretend; that He met with them again “after eight days,”<sup>20</sup> *i.e.* near the middle of the next week, and again when they were together fishing, so that the fishing day would prove a Sabbath, just as much as either of the two first visits.

5. You can find that Luke had not forgotten the distinction between the “first of the week” and “the Sabbath day,”<sup>21</sup> in his recording the meeting of the disciples to break bread, on that day, and that this is the only time the first day of the week is mentioned in all the *Acts of the Apostles*; and that it is the only notice of Paul’s preaching on that particular day, or rather evening, and that on a particular occasion, *viz:* in order to be “ready to depart on the morrow;” that this one instance of the first day being men-

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<sup>19</sup> See *Genesis* 1:8.

<sup>20</sup> *John* 20:26.

<sup>21</sup> *Acts* 20:7.

tioned, proves that it was not on the Sabbath and that the many meetings of the Jews and Gentiles, believers and unbelievers, where Paul preached “every Sabbath,” did not mean on the first day of the week.

6. You may find that Paul, in giving orders to some of the churches, to...

**1 Corinthians 16**

<sup>2</sup> ...lay by themselves in store something, according as God has prospered them, on the first of the week,

–for the poor saints at Jerusalem, does not prove that to be the Sabbath day, but that it was not the Sabbath day, nor suitable to a Sabbath day’s work; but rather as an offering to the Lord of “the first ripe fruits of their increase;” to be the first business attended to in the week, to reckon up their earnings or incomes and devote a part of the same, and lay it by itself so that it would be ready when Paul came. This indeed was a good calculation for the first business of the week.

7. You can find that as there is no law of God against doing common labor on the first day of the week, so it is no sin, nor transgression of any law other than the laws and commandments of men.

8. You can find that the Saviour said to His disciples,

**John 14**

<sup>15</sup> If you love me, keep my commandments.

Again,

<sup>21</sup> He that has my commandments, and keeps them, he it is that loves me; and he that loves me shall be loved of my Father; and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

Again,

<sup>23</sup> Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

Now my dear readers, if you neglect or refuse to obey this fourth command of the decalogue, you are left without excuse, and you can plead nothing in extenuation of your neglect.

**Ecclesiastes 12**

<sup>14</sup> For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good or whether it be evil.

- *Elihu*

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# A Visit to Brother “Elihu”

Elder R. F. Cottrell

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I TOOK a little pains recently to visit the brother who wrote the tract called, *Elihu on the Sabbath*, which has been so extensively published within the last twenty-five years. He was ninety years of age in January past, and is still able to walk about quite nimbly.

His article over the signature of “Elihu” was written a little this side of 1830, published in the organ of the Seventh-day Baptists, and then put out in a tract. One of these tracts was found in a house in Connecticut, and came into the hands of Bro. White. From that time, numerous editions have been published in English and other languages.

Little did he think when he penned that article what the effect would be. He did not know that the little ball which he set in motion would roll on till the end of time, and tell in the Judgment in the cases of so many.

This may teach us the importance of sowing the right kind of seed at all times. Though past the time of active labor, he is still speaking, as I said to him, not only in his own tongue, but in German and other languages. He has some peculiar views that have become stereotyped with him, in which he does not agree with Seventh-day Baptists nor with us. He does not, and probably will not, at his advanced age, recognize the fulfillment of the third angel’s message.

He has come down to the present from former generations, and may be of the class to whom the Lord says,

## Revelation 2

<sup>24</sup> I will put upon you none other burden.

<sup>25</sup> But that which you have already, hold fast till I come.

He used to take pleasure in the explication of those portions of Scripture which are figurative, such as *Solomon’s Song*; and some

twenty-five years ago or more he suggested to me that “the company of two armies”<sup>22</sup> were Seventh-day Baptists and Seventh-day Adventists. His address is Benj. Clark, Alden, Erie Co., N. Y.

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## The Sabbath

The evening shades steal gently on,  
I fain would rest;  
Let earthly care this day be gone—  
Divinely blest.  
Brightest and best of all the seven  
Is this, the day my God has given;  
‘Tis as it were a type of heaven—  
The Sabbath.

Welcome, you peaceful, sacred day,  
Welcome to you!  
My thoughts I’d lift to God, and pray  
Unceasingly.  
That it may be my chief delight,  
Ever with all my mind and might  
T’ improve the hours, and keep aright  
The Sabbath.

You blissful period of repose,  
To travelers worn;  
A balm to heal the many woes  
Of those that mourn.  
New strength it gives us while we may  
Journey along o’er life’s rough way,  
We’ll reverence, while on earth we stay,  
The Sabbath.

This truth like holy fire it burns—  
‘Twill ne’er decline:  
It came from heaven—to heaven returns,

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<sup>22</sup> *Song of Solomon* 6:13.



God's hallow'd time!  
And though for ages it has lain  
Buried beneath traditions vain,  
Its light is shining bright again,  
The Sabbath.

Gem of the week, the best of all  
Created days.  
'Twas made for man before the fall—  
Give God the praise!  
And upward lift your longing eyes  
To greet His coming from the skies:  
When all will keep in Paradise,  
The Sabbath.

Then lift your hearts, the time is near,  
Ye pilgrims lone;  
When Jesus will for you appear—  
Then think of Home!  
Think of the hours that ne'er will end,  
And fervent let each prayer ascend,  
That we may all in glory spend,  
The Sabbath.

There shall we all each other meet  
In peace together;  
There brother will his brother greet,  
And naught will sever.  
Sorrow will never dim the eye,  
No clouds ere hide the heavenly sky;  
Sweet then will be the rest on high,  
The Sabbath.

- *H. O. Nichols, Rochester, Mass.*

