

Introduction

The True Sabbath and Weekly Cycle

The Great Controversy over the True Seventh Day

The platform of truth in Adventism has included the 7th Day Sabbath since 1846. Never before has any confrontation over the 7th Day Sabbath taken on such challenging theories to divert and subvert historical 7th Day keepers to forsake the historical 7th Day (commonly known as Saturday) in attempt to shift to another day of the week, or to a repeating day of the month according to the lunar sabbath theory.

The following study will present weight of evidence to show firstly that there has been no lost time or failure in determination of the weekly cycle since creation, or in recorded history, particularly in view of various calendar changes throughout history. Secondly, evidence will be presented to show that the moon, or monthly cycle, had no bearing or determination in the original weekly cycle given by the Creator, a cycle that was established well before the lights in the heavens were created on the 4th day of creation. Let us consider the weekly cycle was created and ordained to operate independently of the monthly or yearly cycle, thus, the 7th Day of creation was to be sacrosanct and inviolable to any other consideration or time keeping cycle.

Consider:

- The statements presented will show, that the Hebrews were directed to observe the same calendar as the Egyptians at the time of the Exodus. This is so because in an agricultural society, such as the Egyptian and Hebrew economies, a lunar based calendar would be problematic, even useless. The Egyptian solar calendar was based upon a constant 30 day calendar month.
- The Hebrew economy was also agricultural. It was based upon a solar calendar, with a constant 30 day calendar month for some significant time after the Exodus. It was appropriate for both economies to maintain harvest times and sacred Feasts (Hebrew) in their seasons without the addition of an un-Scriptural intercalary month added every few years. Today the Jewish calendar is based on solar-lunar observation.
- There is no evidence that there was a change in the calendar system of the Hebrews when they departed Egypt. The very names of the months given in the Book of Exodus are Egyptian in origin, not Hebrew.
- The moon was created as a “lesser light”. Nowhere in the Genesis text do we find that the moon was created as a variable light, with daily progression or digression in phase. It was strictly a lesser light in relation to the sun. With this in mind, we

can conclude that prior to the flood, the moon did not have phases, nor did the moon have a 28 day cycle. It was a constant light having its own light.

- The moon and the sun were in perfect synchronization prior to the flood, both with a 360 day cycle, with the earth in a perfect circular yearly orbit around the sun. The earth sun relationship was symmetrical in nature which would result in a perfect worldwide climate for the earth prior to the flood. If this sun-earth-moon relationship was not symmetrical in orbit and revolution the climate would have endured extremes as we have today.
- We are told in Genesis 1 that the moon ruled the night, clearly or logically indicating that it was always on the dark side of the earth, 180 degrees opposite the sun, not as it is today, visible day or night in various sky positions and with 28 phases throughout the month.
- Exodus 12:2 is explicit, not inclusive. The command that the first month, the Passover month, was “a beginning of months”. No inclusion of the weekly cycle is mentioned. It is presumptuous to include the weekly cycle in the command. This is clear since the weekly cycle began prior to the creation of the sun and the moon by four days.
- Finally, since the flood, each month at the lunar conjunction, when the phase of the moon is 0% phase (the dark of the moon), the moon could not fulfill the Genesis 1:16 requirement that it must “rule the night”. In other words, when the moon today is in its dark phase it cannot rule the night. The light of the object, whether the sun or the moon, is the principle feature that evidences rulership! Prior to the flood the moon gave a constant light in fulfillment of the Genesis 1:16 design. Therefore, the moon itself does not meet any Scriptural requirement, in its present function and variable cycle, to demarcate the beginning of a month (not in sync with the solar year) – particularly to regulate a weekly cycle, which it never did.

If Seventh-Day Adventists in particular were somehow historically wrong in the 7th Day Sabbath that was given by Inspiration to the movement from the beginning in 1846, then clearly the whole foundation was laid wrong and the movement must eventually and logically collapse upon itself if such falsehood was part of the “platform.” What confidence could we have in the inspired leadership since 1844 if even one of the truths of the platform was found to be laid wrong, due to theorized calendar manipulation in history! This is a most solemn issue confronting the church today in light of the sealing nature of the Seventh-Day Sabbath truth. The Sabbath is the first seal as seen in Revelation 3:12 since the Creator’s Name is found in the Sabbath. A total of three sealing truths are evidenced in Revelation 3:12, applicable to the Advent Movement – the Laodicean church. The Sabbath truth must rightfully stand as it was given in 1846.

The Pen of Inspiration:

Moving a Block or Stirring a Pin.--I saw a company who stood well guarded and firm, giving no countenance to those who would unsettle the established faith of the body. God looked upon them with approbation. I was shown three steps,--the first, second, and third angels' messages.

Said my accompanying angel, "Woe to him who shall move a block or stir a pin of these messages. The true understanding of these messages is of vital importance. The destiny of souls hangs upon the manner in which they are received." I was again brought down through these messages, and saw how dearly the people of God had purchased their experience. It had been obtained through much suffering and severe conflict. God had led them along step by step, until He had placed them upon a solid, immovable platform. --Early Writings, pp. 258, 259. (1858.) {CW 53.1}

The author of the following study, The True Sabbath and the Weekly Cycle, wishes to remain anonymous. Here we stand. Weight of evidence is all we have.