The Seventh Day

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Vital Force NZ Charitable Trust Inc PO Box 11-031 HASTINGS, NEW ZEALAND email: info@vitalforce.org.nz website: www.vitalforce.org.nz Perhaps you belong to a growing number of people who are becoming aware that the seventh day of the week, Saturday, is the true biblical day for worship.

On the other hand, like many others you may know very little about the meaning of worship, especially Sabbath worship.

Shall we have a brief look at this wonderful truth from a biblical standpoint? Remember, knowledge gives understanding. And in turn understanding gives us power to make informed choices for our lives.

Sabbath worship is steeped in history, beginning at the dawn of earth's creation.

"Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made." Genesis 1:31; 2:1-3

Having finished creating our world in six days, God rested. And through resting he unfolded another 24 hour day from evening to evening, sunset to sunset, completing the seven day week.

"Dr JB Dimbleby, premier chronologist to the British Chronological and Astronomical Association, after years of careful calculations asserts: 'If men refused to observe weeks, and the line of time was forgotten, the day of the week could be recovered by observing when the transits of the planets, or eclipses of the Sun and Moon, occurred. These great sentinels of the sky keep seven days with scientific accuracy, thundering out the seven days inscribed on the inspired page." *All Past Time, p 10.*" *from National Sunday Law, Appendix 12 p 93 by Jan Marcussen*

And man has named the seventh day "Saturday." The Collins English Dictionary puts it like this:

"Saturday n. the seventh and last day of the week..."

But why did God rest on the seventh day? Was He utterly exhausted by His works of creation? No,

"...The everlasting God, the LORD, The Creator of the ends of the earth, Neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable." Isaiah 40:28

God rested on the seventh day to unfold a holy day of rest for human life. He intends us to work through the six common days, then to come aside on the seventh day to worship and honour Him as our Creator God. So the six common days God gave to us. But the seventh day Sabbath remains as God's holy day of rest.

The Sabbath is a special time to meet with God, resting our bodies, refreshing our minds with spiritual thoughts of Him. Thus the seventh day Sabbath bonds us to God in a full spiritual relationship of love and truth.

Let's continue on through the Bible and ancient history. We find in the book of Exodus, the Israelite nation camping in the wilderness having been recently freed from Egyptian slavery.

Providing food for His people, God sets in motion a miracle which continues for "... forty years..." Exodus 16:35.

And with this miracle, the seventh day Sabbath shines forth as God's holy day for worship.

"Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you. And the people shall go out and gather a certain quota every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in My law or not. And it shall be on the sixth day that they shall prepare what they bring in, and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily." Exodus 16:4-5

"And so it was, on the sixth day, that they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for each one. And all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses. Then he said to them, 'This is what the Lord has said: "Tomorrow is a Sabbath rest, a holy Sabbath to the Lord. Bake what you will bake today, and boil what you will boil; and lay up for yourselves all that remains, to be kept until morning."

So they laid it up till morning, as Moses commanded; and it did not stink, nor were there any worms in it.

Then Moses said, 'Eat that today, for today is a Sabbath to the Lord; today you will not find it in the field. Six days you shall gather it, but on the seventh day, which is the Sabbath, there will be none.'

Now it happened that some of the people went out on the seventh day to gather, but they found none. And the Lord said to Moses, 'How long do you refuse to keep My commandments and My laws? See! For the Lord has given you the Sabbath; therefore He gives you on the sixth day bread for two days. Let every man remain in his place; let no man go out of his place on the seventh day.' So the people rested on the seventh day." Exodus 16:22-30

Journeying on, the Israelites arrive at the base of Mount Sinai and upon the plain they set up camp. On the third day God comes down upon Sinai, and the summit burns like a furnace.

"Now Mount Sinai was completely in smoke, because the Lord descended upon it in fire. Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly." Exodus 19:18

From Mount Sinai God speaks His law, the Ten Commandments. And the vast assembly hears God's authoritative voice. But this is not all, because: "Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Come up to Me on the mountain and be there; and I will give you tablets of stone, and the law and commandments which I have written, that you may teach them." Exodus 24:12

Now the Ten Commandments are a holy expression of God's character, written into ten wise rules showing us how we are to live, and believe it or not, just as God Himself lives.

And in the fourth commandment, God reminds us to keep holy the seventh day Sabbath.

"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it."

Exodus 20:8-11

"And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying..." Exodus 31:12
"Therefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant. It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever; for in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed." Exodus 31:16-17

And throughout all generations of human life, even to us today, keeping the seventh day Sabbath holy is a visible sign of our love and loyalty to God showing that we are His people and He is our God.

And at the same time, the seventh day Sabbath is God's sign of authority, declaring that He is the Creator:

"For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day." Exodus 20:11

"Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made." Genesis 2:3

"The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein."

Psalm 24:1

Yes, God holds the deeds to our world, and the seventh day Sabbath is His seal of ownership upon those deeds and upon our lives. When we learn this truth, hopefully we will worship Him as our Creator.

"Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water." Revelation 14:6-7

The Sabbath is a beautiful, refreshing gift of time, bringing balance to life. God said, "Six days you shall do your work, and on the seventh day you shall rest, that your ox and your donkey may rest, and the son of your female servant and the stranger may be refreshed." Exodus 23:12

God's presence rests upon the Sabbath day and His sanctifying spirit permeates our lives, consecrating us to Him. Thus we receive His rest, His blessing, His holiness into our lives. And as we honour God through Sabbath worship, enthroning Him as king over our lives, we receive His promises of prosperity and salvation.

"If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath,
From doing your pleasure on My holy day,
And call the Sabbath a delight,
The holy day of the Lord honorable,
And shall honor Him, not doing your own ways,
Nor finding your own pleasure,
Nor speaking your own words,
Then you shall delight yourself in the Lord;
And I will cause you to ride on the high hills of the earth,
And feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father.
The mouth of the Lord has spoken." Isaiah 58:13-14

Keeping holy the seventh day Sabbath, we walk in the very footsteps of Jesus our Saviour and Lord who said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." John 14:6

"Then Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and news of Him went out through all the surrounding region. And He taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all. So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read."

Luke 4:14-16

With compassionate love Jesus healed the sick and brokenhearted on the Sabbath saying to the people,

"What man is there among you who has one sheep, and if it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will not lay hold of it and lift it out? Of how much more value then is a man

than a sheep? Therefore it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath." Matthew 12:11-12

And as Co-Creator of our world, Jesus said, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. Therefore the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath."

Mark 2:27-28

And the sacred importance of the Sabbath rest was borne out when Jesus' lifeless body hung upon the cross:

"But all His acquaintances, and the women who followed Him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Now behold, there was a man named Joseph, a council member, a good and just man. He had not consented to their decision and deed. He was from Arimathea, a city of the Jews, who himself was also waiting for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.

Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a tomb that was hewn out of the rock, where no one had ever lain before. That day was the Preparation, and the Sabbath drew near. And the women who had come with Him from Galilee followed after, and they observed the tomb and how His body was laid. Then they returned and prepared spices and fragrant oils. And they rested on the Sabbath according to the commandment." Luke 23:49-56

According to which commandment? The fourth commandment of the Ten Commandments, the law given by God to Moses upon Mount Sinai. Let's read the fourth commandment again in Deuteronomy 5, when Moses read the commandments out loud to the Israelites:

"Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy, as the Lord your God commanded you. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your ox, nor your donkey, nor any of your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates, that your male servant and your female servant may rest as well as you. And remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the Lord your God brought you out from there by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm; therefore the Lord your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day." Deuteronomy 5:12-15

And the Israelites' deliverance from slavery symbolises our deliverance from the slavery of sin. We receive this precious gift of freedom through the death of God's only Begotten Son. And with God's gift of freedom the seventh day Sabbath becomes the focal point of our week.

Following His horrific experience on the cross Jesus honoured and exalted the Sabbath day by resting in the tomb of death. Without question Hi rest was on the seventh day of the week, for we read:

"Now on the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they, and certain other women with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. Then they went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. And it happened, as they were greatly perplexed about this, that behold, two men stood by them in shining garments. Then, as they were afraid and bowed their faces to the earth, they said to them, 'Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee saying, "The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again."" Luke 24:1-3

So on Friday, the Preparation day and the sixth day of the week, Jesus died upon the cross and late that afternoon, friends laid Him in the tomb. On Saturday, the seventh day, He rested in the tomb of death to honour the fourth commandment for our example.

Then on Sunday, the first day of the week, Jesus rose from the dead. Did rising on the first day of the week somehow change the day for Sabbath worship?

Not according to Jesus and the Scripture.

Before His death and resurrection back to life, Jesus spoke to His disciples about the future destruction of Jerusalem. As Jesus was giving this warning, He looked down the stream of time to AD66-AD70. Yes, you read correctly. Jesus was talking about a time long after His return to Heaven. And what was His warning:

"But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near. Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those who are in the midst of her depart, and let not those who are in the country enter her." Luke 21:20-21

"'And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath.'" Matthew 24:20

Yes, yet again Jesus was setting in stone the sacred seventh day Sabbath, after His death, until today, forever. Jesus was referring to none other than the seventh day Sabbath which He still keeps holy today.

"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and forever." Hebrews 13:8

"For I am the Lord, I do not change;" Malachi 3:6

And did Jesus' family and disciples still keep the seventh day Sabbath after His return to heaven? Most certainly. And so did the flourishing Christian church.

"Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, **a Sabbath day's journey.** And when they had entered, they went up into the upper room where they were staying: Peter, James, John, and Andrew; Philip and Thomas; Bartholomew and Matthew; James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot; and Judas the son of James. These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers."

Acts 1:12-14

The apostle Paul, a former Pharisee converted to Christianity after Jesus returned to heaven, was another believer who kept the Sabbath day holy, teaching and preaching to the people.

"Now when Paul and his party set sail from Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia; and John, departing from them, returned to Jerusalem. But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, **and went into the synagogue on the**Sabbath day and sat down. And after the reading of the Law and the Prophets, the rulers of the synagogue sent to them, saying,

"Men and brethren, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, say on."

Acts 13:13-15

"So when the Jews went out of the synagogue, the Gentiles begged that these words might be preached to them **the next Sabbath**. Now when the congregation had broken up, many of the Jews and devout proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas, who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God. **On the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God.**" Acts 13:42-44

"And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them.

Therefore, sailing from Troas, we ran a straight course to Samothrace, and the next day came to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is the foremost city of that part of Macedonia, a colony. And we were staying in that city for some days. **And on the Sabbath day** we went out of the city to the riverside, where prayer was customarily made; and we sat down and spoke to the women who met there. Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul." Acts 16:9-14

And in the book of Hebrews, Paul declares that the seventh day sabbath remains a rest for God's people.

'For He has spoken in a certain place of the seventh day in this way: "And God rested on the seventh day from all His works"...There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His.' Hebrews 4:4-10

Now moving on to the book of Revelation, we meet the apostle John, exiled to the rocky and isolated isle of Patmos and he mentions the Sabbath day in these words:

"I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet..." Revelation 1:10

"...the Lord's day..." refers to the seventh day Sabbath. Remember, Jesus said,

"Therefore the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath." Mark 2:28, so the Sabbath is, "...the Lord's day..."

And when we choose Jesus as Lord, His commandments, His faith become the pattern for our lives. This means we will keep holy His seventh day Sabbath just as He keeps it holy.

"Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus." Revelation 14:12

In truth, if we want a true spiritual relationship with God, keeping the commandments for pure living, and observing the seventh day for Sabbath worship are inseparable.

"God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

John 4:24

Jesus said, "...if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments." Matthew 19:17

"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy..." Exodus 20:8

"'If you love Me, keep My commandments." John 14:15

"...the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God." Exodus 20:10

Now, while John was in the Spirit on "...the Lord's day..." he saw in the heavenly temple, the ark of the covenant.

"Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail." Revelation 11:19

So what is the ark of the covenant? And how does it relate to the seventh day Sabbath? Let us return to Mount Sinai. When Moses met with God upon the Mount, God gave Moses plans to build a special tent called a sanctuary. In the sanctuary God's presence would dwell with His people.

"'And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them." Exodus 25:8

God also instructed Moses to make special items symbolising His plan of salvation. This plan was to save His people from sin and eternal death. These special items were to be placed in the sanctuary to teach the people and involve them in God's plan. The symbolic items in the earthly sanctuary were copies. The true items were in the heavenly temple, awaiting Jesus' ministry in the future as High Priest...

"...the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man." Hebrews 8:2

"For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us..."

Hebrews 9:24

The most important item in the earthly sanctuary was the ark of the covenant.

The ark resembled a large box made of acacia wood, overlaid with gold. Poles were inserted through golden rings on either side of the ark so it could be easily carried when the Israelites moved camp. Enclosing the ark was a solid gold lid, called the mercy seat, symbolising God's throne and His mercy towards sinful man. Mounted at each end of the ark were two solid gold cherubim figurines (angels). And between the two cherubim, God's presence dwelt.

Inside the ark were the Ten Commandments engraved by God's own finger on two stone tablets.

"You shall put the mercy seat on top of the ark, and in the ark you shall put the Testimony that I will give you. And there I will meet with you, and I will speak with you from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim which are on the ark of the Testimony, about everything which I will give you in commandment to the children of Israel." Exodus 25:21-22

The ark of the covenant is a living masterpiece of spiritual art picturing God's yearning desire to save fallen humans from sin and eternal death. God's laws feature dramatically in the plan of salvation.

In fact, salvation bridges the void between:

- the law broken in our lives marring our characters, producing eternal death, and,
- the law amended in our lives, restoring our characters in the image of God, producing eternal life.

You see, when our first parents, Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit of good and evil they sinned, breaking God's law.

"...for sin is the transgression of the law." 1 John 3:4 (KJV)

And the penalty for sin is death.

"For the wages of sin is death..." Romans 6:23

So Adam's and Eve's holy relationship with God was severed at the roots. Now having lost their perfect innocence they could do nothing to amend the broken law in their lives. So what could be done?

Surely, God could make no compromise with sin. He could not change the law to accommodate sin, or make sin non-existent.

"For You are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness, Nor shall evil dwell with You." Psalm 5:4

So to rescue Adam and Eve and us, He did the only thing possible. In loving mercy, God's Divine Son, whose character is the living essence of the law, became a human babe, receiving our fallen nature. As He grew, He faced the trials of life,

"...but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin." Hebrews 4:15

This means he could have sinned, but He chose not to. On our behalf, He lived a perfect life of obedience to God's law - the Ten Commandments.

"The Lord is well pleased for His righteousness' sake; He will exalt the law and make it honorable." Isaiah 42:21

Jesus' victory over sin entitled Him to become our Saviour. So taking upon Himself our sins, our guilt, our sentence of eternal death for transgressing God's law - Jesus died in our place.

He paid the asking price to set us free from the slavery of sin and eternal death, so we might have a new beginning, and live again within the love boundaries of the law.

"For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit." Romans 8:3-4

"For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life." Romans 5:6-10

"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace." Ephesians 1:7

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 6:23

"Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city." Revelation 22:14

Has the magnificent truth dawned upon you, that the Ten Commandments, in the ark of the covenant, resting in the heavenly temple declares to us today that God's law is eternal and operating throughout the universe? Yes, even in the 21st century!

"Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail." Revelation 11:19

"The works of his hands are verity and judgment; all his commandments are sure. They stand fast forever and ever, and are done in truth and uprightness." Psalm 111:7-8

And so without question the fourth commandment, declaring the seventh day Sabbath, applies to us today. The Sabbath is eternal as God is eternal.

"For as the new heavens and the new earth Which I will make shall remain before Me,' says the Lord,

'So shall your descendants and your name remain.

And it shall come to pass

That from one New Moon to another,

And from one Sabbath to another,

All flesh shall come to worship before Me,' says the Lord."

Isaiah 66:22-23

Yes, on the newly created earth the saved will gather together every seventh day to worship God on His Sabbath day. If we choose, this can be our glorious destiny.

As earth's history draws to a close, God is calling us back to the seventh day Sabbath to prepare us for the storm of coming events which is breaking upon this world affecting every man, woman and child.

The great test will be our loyalty to God, and the sign of our loyalty will be keeping holy His seventh day Sabbath. Today God is gathering His people out of all churches, religions and the world to stand on His side of truth. And Sabbath worship is the golden thread which binds us together in unity.

So to this glorious end, God invites you to worship Him on His holy day of rest, the seventh day Sabbath.

"Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For He is our God,
And we are the people of His pasture,
And the sheep of His hand.
Today, if you will hear His voice:" Psalm 95:6-7

"Give to the Lord, O families of the peoples, Give to the Lord glory and strength. Give to the Lord the glory due His name; Bring an offering, and come into His courts. Oh, worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness! Tremble before Him, all the earth." Psalm 96:7-9

What you have just read is only part of the true story surrounding the seventh day Sabbath. Yes, there is more. Another side you need to know about. Just like a coin with two sides - so there are two sides to life. Goodness with truth, and evil with error.

In the Bible, God warned there would come a time when His old enemy, "...that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world..." would infiltrate Christianity to sabotage God's law. And Satan's main target would be the

seventh day Sabbath. Why? ecause the seventh day Sabbath is God's seat of authority in the earth, and most importantly in people's lives.

"Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time." Revelation 12:12

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour." 1 Peter 5:8

"Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places." Ephesians 6:11-12

In the book of Daniel we see the beginning of Satan's scheme to dethrone God from the seventh day Sabbath.

"Thus he said:

"The fourth beast shall be

A fourth kingdom on earth,

Which shall be different from all other kingdoms,

And shall devour the whole earth,

Trample it and break it in pieces.

The ten horns are ten kings

Who shall arise from this kingdom.

And another shall rise after them;

He shall be different from the first ones,

And shall subdue three kings.

He shall speak pompous words against the Most High,

Shall persecute the saints of the Most High,

And shall intend to change times and law...""" Daniel 7:23-25

These "...times and law..." refers to God's time, God's law. Remember the seventh day Sabbath encompasses both time and law.

Can you see where a change has occurred in Christiandom? The apostle Paul also wrote about this blasphemous power who thinks to change God's time, God's law.

"Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? And now

you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved."

2 Thessalonians 2:3-10

Do you see the man of sin in the world today? He who claims and exercises great authority - as though he were God upon earth? Do you also see a web of false teachers, false ministers surrounding the man of sin?

"For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works." 2 Corinthians 11:13-15 "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world." 1 John 4:1

Working through the man of sin, the spiritual leader of a prominent apostate (corrupt) Christian church, Satan attempts to overthrow God's authority in the earth and become king of this world.

"For you have said in your heart:

"I will ascend into heaven,

I will exalt my throne above the stars of God;

I will also sit on the mount of the congregation

On the farthest sides of the north;

I will ascend above the heights of the clouds,

I will be like the Most High.""

Isaiah 14:13-14

Now in Revelation Chapter 13, we read about Satan's conspiracy coming to a worldwide climax.

The conspiring power we saw in the book of Daniel is also the beast of Revelation 13. This symbolic beast makes a coalition with another beast arriving on the scene of earth's history.

"Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast,

whose deadly wound was healed.

He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived. He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed. He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666." Revelation 13:11-18

Here we see a coalition of political superpower enforcement with apostate Christianity. Any person who refuses to submit to this global power, faces extermination.

Have you heard of the New World Order, the one world government? If you haven't, you soon will.

Believe it or not, working through the New World Order, Satan makes his last desperate attempt to dominate the world.

During this time, breaking upon us, the entire world will be thrown into the spiritual "...battle of that great day of God Almighty...." This is the final battle called "...Armageddon...", between God the force for good, and Satan the force for evil. Revelation 16:12-16

Which side will you and I be on? There will be no ground for indecision. In fact, at this time every person will be brought to a decision whether to serve God and worship Him on His seventh day Sabbath; or submit to the beast and worship His image on Satan's counterfeit Sabbath - Sunday.

Yes, this final confrontation ushers in the end of this old sinful world. Those who have chosen God, His truth, His seventh day Sabbath will be received into His heavenly kingdom at the second coming of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

Those who have chosen to worship the beast and His image, His counterfeit Sabbath day - Sunday - will be consumed by the power of Jesus Christ's second coming.

Remember what happens to the man of sin? "And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming." Thessalonians 2:8

And his worldwide following shall also meet the same fate. Check it out in Revelation 14:9-11; Revelation 20:7-15

Yes, to be forewarned with truth is to be forearmed to meet the crisis.

"At that time Michael (Christ) shall stand up,
The great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people;
And there shall be a time of trouble,
Such as never was since there was a nation,
Even to that time.
And at that time your people shall be delivered,
Every one who is found written in the book.
And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake,
Some to everlasting life,
Some to shame and everlasting contempt.
Those who are wise shall shine
Like the brightness of the firmament,
And those who turn many to righteousness
Like the stars forever and ever." Daniel 12:1-3

What we have read in the second part of this booklet is only a brief scriptural outline of the great conspiracy against God's truth and His authority. Deeper study into Bible prophecy (God revealing the future), lined up with documented historical evidence, gives us a complete and clear picture of events unfolding today - rather like piecing together a jigsaw puzzle.

Remember historical records confirm unconditional prophecy has always been fulfilled. Be assured, prophecy will continue to be fulfilled in these final events we live in today. God tells us:

"Behold, the former things have come to pass, And new things I declare; Before they spring forth I tell you of them." Isaiah 42:9

"And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts..." 2 Peter 1:19

Thankfully, we need not be left in the peril of darkness while the beams of Bible prophecy light up our future.

With this thought in mind we guide you to: "National Sunday Law" by Jan Marcussen. You can view and download this book for free on the internet at:

http://www.usa-the-republic.com/religion/National Sunday Law.pdf

Jan Marcussen's book unveils Bible prophecy, unmasking the man of sin for who he really is, his name, and his church authority.

Scenes of history open before our eyes and we behold Satan's master deception,

infiltration of Sunday worship into Christiandom.

The two beasts of the book of Revelation found in Chapter 13 are exposed for who they are, and how their collective conspiracy enforces Sunday worship, in place of God's seventh day Sabbath.

The mystery of the number 666 is revealed also, and the reasons why we should at all cost, not receive the Mark of the Beast and his number.

And so, seize the opportunity now and be forewarned and forearmed to meet the crisis breaking upon us.

Thank you for your time.