

Reflections on the Luni-Solar Calendar and Sabbath Issue

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The question has arisen as to whether Seventh-day Adventists are using the right calendar in continuing their dependence upon the Gregorian solar calendar as much of the world follows. It is being advocated that perhaps the Advent Movement is not being consistent today by not using the ancient Jewish Karaite luni-solar calendar for the reckoning of time. In view of the fact that the Advent Movement used the Karaite system for arriving at its famous October 22, 1844 date for the close of the 2300 day prophecy of Daniel 8 thus marking the beginning of the great Antitypical Day of Atonement, should it not also use the same calendar today as “God’s calendar”? It is claimed that using the ancient Karaite calendar is more in keeping with following what some believe to be the “Mosaic calendar” or “God’s calendar” from creation week.—*The Great Calendar Controversy*, pp. 86, 21-26. It is being suggested that following a luni-solar calendation would also cause the seventh day Sabbath to “float” through the Gregorian solar calendar so that Saturday of the Gregorian calendar would seldom be the actual true Sabbath of the Lord. The authors of *The Great Calendar Controversy* have stated: “If the light on God’s true Sabbath is accepted, it will cause separation. Most people’s lives are structured around their days off work, week-ends and vacations. Because the true Sabbath floats through the continuous weeks of the Gregorian calendar, all areas of life are greatly impacted.”—*Ibid.*, p 123.

Troy Miller responding in red: In truth, our Pioneers did not use the Karaite calendar to arrive at 10-22-1844 as Day of Atonement; the Karaites observed Day of Atonement (DOA) on 9-23 in 1844. Sam Snow TOLD them that the Karaites were going to observe DOA on 10-22-1844, and apparently no one followed up to see if this was so. The Karaites keep VERY accurate records, and they will tell you that they observed DOA in September in 1844, not 10-22-1844.

There is no such thing as the “Great Anti-typical Day of Atonement.” You have been told that in 1844, Jesus went into the Most Holy Place and has been there ever since, ministering before the Ark of the Covenant, performing what is called the “investigative judgment. In Adventist theology, this is known as the “Great Anti-typical Day of Atonement.” If you know anything about the festival cycle, you should see a problem with the above scenario. In type, Day of Atonement—Judgment Day—was a one day event, how long do you think it will be in anti-type, earth’s final Judgment day? One day. Where do we get the idea that in anti-type, for earth’s final judgment, a Great High Priest will be in there for 166 years, and counting (from 1844 to 2010)? Even using a day for a year principle, the longest he could be in there is ONE year.

You cannot use Ellen White to support this false doctrine because she knew full well that this appointed time was a ONE DAY appointment in time. It occurred on the 10th day of the seventh month. In the following quotes, she even admits that this “Great Day of Atonement” is a ONE day event...

“The tenth day of the seventh month, the great Day of Atonement, the time of the cleansing of the sanctuary, which in the year 1844 fell upon the twenty-second of October, was regarded as the time of the Lord’s coming.” *The Great Controversy*, p .399 **[Right event, wrong date.]**

“Once a year, on the great Day of Atonement, the priest entered the most holy place for the cleansing of the sanctuary.” *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 355. [This quote also appears, word for word, in *The Great Controversy*, p. 419.]

The question must be asked of course, is this “light on God’s true Sabbath,” or is it another diversion of the enemy of our souls?

Planting seeds of doubt already? Why not present the evidence and let it speak for itself?

Introduction

Beginning my reflection on this topic, and the proposals being put forward, I am reminded of counsel given to the church by the Lord’s messenger that provides a caution regarding so-called new light. “The greatest care should be exercised concerning those who claim to receive revelations from God. There needs to be much close watching and much praying. Those who are acting a part in the great work for these last days need to counsel together in regard to every new thing that shall be introduced, for no one man’s mind is to be left to judge of, or to place before the public, important matters which have a relation to the cause of God. . . . There is danger of excess in that which is lawful, and that which is not lawful will surely lead into false paths. If there is not careful, earnest, sensible work, solid as a rock, in the advancement of every idea and principle, and in every representation given, souls will be ruined. . . .”—*Letter 6a*, 1894.

Agreed, we should never take one man’s or woman’s word for it. And where is the voice of caution against the content and message of the quote above though? It appears to me that EGW contradicts herself. Please examine the following quotes and see if she presents the same warning...

For His church in every generation God has a special truth and a special work. The truth is revealed to the childlike and humble. At the outset its advocates are few. By great men of the world and by a world conforming church, they are opposed and despised. See John the Baptist, standing alone to rebuke the pride and formalism of the Jewish nation. See Martin Luther withstanding that mighty church. As in earlier ages, the special truths for this time are found, not with the ecclesiastical authorities, but with men and women who are not too learned or too wise to believe the Word of God.” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, 78, 79 [All emphasis my own.]

John and Martin stood alone against a false religious system, but they were right.

The Test of New light

Our brethren should be willing to investigate in a candid way every point of controversy. **If a brother** is teaching error, those who are in responsible positions ought to know it; **and if he is teaching truth, they ought to take their stand at his side**. We should all know what is being taught among us; for if it is truth, we need it. We are all under obligation to God to know what He sends us. He has given directions by which we may test every doctrine,—“To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.”[ISA. 8:20.] If the light presented meets this test, we are not to refuse to accept it because it does not agree with our ideas. *Gospel Workers*, p. 300

“Precious light is to shine forth from the word of God, and let no one presume to dictate what shall or what shall not be brought before the people in the messages of enlightenment that He shall send, and so quench the Spirit of God. Whatever may be his position of authority, no one has a right to shut away the light from the people. **When a message comes in the name of the Lord** [His Name is YHVH] **to His people, no one may excuse himself from an investigation of its claims.** No one can afford to stand back in an attitude of indifference and self-confidence and say: ‘I know what is truth. I am satisfied with my position. I have set my stakes, and I will not be moved away from my position, whatever may come. I will not listen to the message of this messenger for I know that it cannot be truth.’ It was from pursuing this very course that the popular churches were left in partial darkness, and that is why the messages of heaven have not reached them.” *Testimonies On Sabbath School Work, p. 65*

The momentous issues at stake through neglect of the Word of God should be carefully considered. The study of the Bible is worthy of the best mental effort, the most sanctified ability. When new light is presented to the church, it is perilous to shut yourselves away from it. Refusing to hear because you are prejudiced **against the message or the messenger will not make your case excusable before God. To condemn that which you have not heard and do not understand will not exalt your wisdom in the eyes of those who are candid in their investigations of truth. And to speak with contempt of those whom God has sent with a message of truth, is folly and madness.** If our youth are seeking to educate themselves to be workers in His cause, they should learn the way of the Lord, **and live by every word that proceedeth out of His mouth.** They are not to make up their minds that the whole truth has been unfolded, and that the Infinite One has no more light for His people. If they entrench themselves in the belief that the whole truth has been revealed, they will be in danger of discarding precious jewels of truth that shall be discovered as men turn their attention to the searching of the rich mine of God’s Word. *Testimonies to Sabbath School Workers, p. 60*

In these quotes, ONE man is bringing a message of truth in the Name of YHVH, and EGW says that the masses should join with that one.

Christ’s Prayer for Unity in the Body

On the point of unity in the church we do well to consider the following counsel: “The church of Christ is in constant peril. Satan is seeking to destroy the people of God, and one man’s mind, one man’s judgment, is not sufficient to be trusted. Christ would have His followers brought together in church capacity, observing order, having rules and discipline, and all subject one to another, esteeming others better than themselves. Union and confidence are essential to the prosperity of the church. If each member of the church feels at liberty to move independently of the others, taking his own peculiar course, how can the church be in any safety in the hour of danger and peril? The prosperity and very existence of a church depend upon the prompt, united action and mutual confidence of its members.

Please find what I have underlined above in the law and the testimony of the prophets (**Isaiah 8:20**). There is no church ordained anywhere in Scripture. Of course there is a call to obedience, which entails rules and self-discipline, but this was commanded for a nation and the individual, not a church body. But notice she said that we are ALL subject one to another; she does not say that the laymen are subject to the leaders.

“God is leading a people out from the world upon the exalted platform of eternal truth, the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. He will discipline and fit up His people. They will not be at variance, one believing one thing, and another having faith and views entirely opposite, each moving independently of the body. Through the diversity of the gifts and governments that He has placed in the church, they will all come to the unity of the faith. If one man takes his views of Bible truth without regard to the opinions of his brethren, and justifies his course, alleging that he has a right to his own peculiar views, and then presses them upon others, how can he be fulfilling the prayer of Christ? And if another and still another arises, each asserting his right to believe and talk what he pleases without reference to the faith of the body, where will be that harmony which existed between Christ and His Father, and which Christ prayed might exist among His brethren?”—Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 3, pp. 445-447.

Yes, they will COME into unity, but here will never be unity in the body of believers until YHVH reestablishes His Kingdom. What did Jesus say? He said that he did not come to bring peace (unity) but a sword (Matthew 10:34-36). The truth is a sword that divides friends and families just as it does joint and marrow (Hebrews 4:12, see also **Jeremiah 23:29**).

If everyone thought the same way, if we were a carbon copy, cookie cutter body of believers, the body of believers would stagnate and die. It is because we are not the same, do not think the same, and do not BELIEVE the same that we are able to discern new truths. When the bright Light of Shekinah was with Israel, there was no thinking outside the box. There was no need; the Giver of Light and Truth dwelt among them. However, that Shekinah is not here now. Today, rather than Scripture being the definer of truth, churches establish creeds and fundamental beliefs that must be kept in order to remain in good standing with the church. Unless I'm mistaken, every word that proceeds from the mouth of YHVH should be a fundamental belief. The denominations of the world have cherry picked the doctrines they wish to uphold, being partial in the law (**Malachi 2:8-9**).

God's Voice in the Church

“Christ gives power to the voice of the church. ‘Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.’ *No such thing is countenanced as one man's starting out upon his own individual responsibility and advocating what views he chooses, irrespective of the judgment of the church. God has bestowed the highest power under heaven upon His church. It is the voice of God in His united people in church capacity which is to be respected.*”—Ibid. pp. 450, 451.

This is true, but if that one man can prove his conclusion from Scripture, what then?

1. Every word must have its proper bearing on the subject presented in the Bible;
2. All Scripture is necessary, and may be understood by diligent application and study;
3. Nothing revealed in Scripture can or will be hid from those who ask in faith, not wavering;
4. To understand doctrine, bring all the scriptures together on the subject you wish to know, then let every word have its proper influence; and if you can form your theory without a contradiction, you cannot be in error;

5. **Scripture must be its own expositor**, since it is a rule of itself. If I depend on a teacher to expound to me, and he should guess at its meaning, or desire to have it so on account of his sectarian creed, or to be thought wise, then his guessing, desire, creed, or wisdom is my rule, and not the Bible.” *EGW, RH 11-25-1884* Mrs. White gives William Miller credit for this quote.

“Wherever the truths of the gospel are proclaimed, those who honestly desire to do right are led to a diligent searching of the Scriptures. If, in the closing scenes of this earth’s history, those to whom testing truths are proclaimed would follow the example of the Bereans, searching the Scriptures daily, and comparing with God’s word the messages brought them, there would today be a large number loyal to the precepts of God’s law, where now there are comparatively few. But when unpopular Bible truths are presented, many refuse to make this investigation. Though unable to controvert the plain teachings of Scripture, they yet manifest the utmost reluctance to study the evidences offered. Some assume that even if these doctrines are indeed true, it matters little whether or not they accept the new light, and they cling to pleasing fables which the enemy uses to lead souls astray. Thus their minds are blinded by error, and they become separated from heaven.” *Acts of the Apostles, p. 232*

“There are those who have prided themselves on their great caution in receiving “new light,” as they term it; but they are blinded by the enemy, and cannot discern the works and ways of God. Light, precious light, comes from heaven, and they array themselves against it. What next? These very ones will accept messages that God has not sent, and thus will become even dangerous to the cause of God because they set up false standards. Men who might be of great use if they would learn of Christ and go on from light to greater light, are in some things positive hindrances, forever on the point of questioning, wasting much precious time, and contributing nothing to the spiritual elevation of the church. They excite doubt and fear. They misdirect minds, leading them to accept of suggestions that are not safe. They cannot see afar off, they cannot discern the conclusion of the matter. Their moral force is squandered upon trifles; they view an atom as a world, and a world as an atom.” **Pamphlet, *An Appeal to Our Ministers and Conference Committees, 1892***

“There is no excuse for anyone in taking a position that there is no more truth to be revealed, and that all our [SDA] expositions of Scripture are without error. The fact that certain doctrines have been held as truth for many years by our [SDA] people, is not proof that our [SDA] ideas are infallible. Age will not make error into truth, and truth can afford to be fair. No true doctrine will lose anything by close investigation.” *Review & Herald, 12-20-1892* **Nuff said. Study!**

One sentence above:

“God has bestowed the highest power under heaven upon His church. It is the voice of God in His united people in church capacity which is to be respected.”

This may have been true when the denomination was faithful to the light given it, but after the rejection of the 1888 message, EGW said, in essence, that the Shekinah had left the Adventist church.* See endnotes.

Keep a Large Contextual View

Because the information available to address the question can run into thousands of pages, [I think this is a gross exaggeration, even though I'm sure I will more than triple his 13 page count.] it is not my purpose in this reflection to make a definitive statement regarding the subject. I will say at the outset however that tracking the Sabbath on a perpetually recurring seven day weekly cycle like that of the Julian and then Gregorian solar calendars is consistent with history, Scripture, and the Spirit of Prophecy.

I am shocked that the pastor would propose his own understanding as being correct before he has examined the evidence or even offered the evidence to you the reader. The underlined above is totally false.

History proves Pastor Schultz to be in error:

Did Philo, an Israelite living in Alexandria, Egypt circa 20 B.C. to 50 A.D., who was alive while Jesus walked the earth; link the Sabbath or the "week" with the phases of the moon? The answer is yes. In fact the lunar week and lunar Sabbath are the only week or Sabbath mentioned in Philo's writings. Notice that the number seven, the weeks, the Sabbath and the moon are all linked together in Philo's writings.

In **Allegorical Interpretation, 1 IV (8)**, it says...

"Again, the periodical changes of the moon, take place according to the number seven, that star having the greatest sympathy with the things on earth. And the changes which the moon works in the air, it perfects chiefly in accordance with its own configurations on each seventh day. At all events, all mortal things, as I have said before, drawing their more divine nature from the heaven, are moved in a manner which tends to their preservation in accordance with this number seven. ... Accordingly, on the seventh day, Elohim caused to rest from all his works which he had made." ...

Notice that Philo says the moon is perfect in its shape or appearance at seven day intervals. Elsewhere in his writings, Philo identifies that when he mentions the seventh day [of the week] he is speaking of the Sabbath. Above, he tells us that the moon perfects its own configurations on each seventh day. It was understood, that at the end each period of six work days there would be a weekly Sabbath. The Greek speaking Jews referred to the Sabbath as the seventh day or the sacred seventh day, while in the language of the Hebrews it was termed Shabbat, or the Sabbath. Continuing on with Philo:

The Decalogue XXX (159),

"But to the seventh day of the week he has assigned the greatest festivals, those of the longest duration, at the periods of the equinox both vernal and autumnal in each year; appointing two festivals for these two epochs, each lasting seven days; the one which takes place in the spring being for the perfection of what is being sown, and the one which falls in autumn being a feast of thanksgiving for the bringing home of all the fruits which the trees have produced" ...

Let's look carefully at what Philo is saying. To the seventh day of the week He [the Father above] has assigned the greatest festivals, in other words the greatest (longest) festivals have been assigned to the seventh day of the week. Philo, keeping the same luni-solar calendar established in Scripture, calls the first day of each of these seven day feasts the "*seventh day of the week*". Scripture says that both of the seven day feasts (Unleavened Bread and Tabernacles) begin on the 15th day of their respective months. See **Leviticus 23:5-6** and **23:34**. Friend, the seventh day of the week is the Sabbath, is it not? It is the seventh day of the week EVERY year. If the 15th is the weekly Sabbath, so are the 8th, 22nd and 29th days of the month.

Notice Philo did not say they would receive two holydays of festivals, but one, the 15th. Satyrday Sabbath keepers insist that there will be a satyrday Sabbath that interrupts these seven day feasts, and indeed, if the Gregorian calendar were the calendar of Scripture that would be true. But Scripture says nothing of a [satyrday] Sabbath in the middle of these 7 day feasts. To prove the seventh day of the week is the same as the 15th, elsewhere Philo states, "*And this feast is begun on the fifteenth day of the month, in the middle of the month, on the day on which the moon is full of light, in consequence on the providence of Elohim taking care that there shall be no darkness on that day.*" Philo's *Special Laws II, The Fifth Festival, Section XXVIII (155)*

In other words, Philo is saying the weekly Sabbath begins these feasts, and is on the 15th. This proves the Sabbaths by the lunar calendar is true and the Gregorian false because there is no way the weekly Sabbath can begin these two festivals on the 15th in the 1st and 7th month each year, on a continuous seven day cycle presented by the Gregorian calendar we have today.

Speaking of "lunar" intervals, in **Special Laws I. (178)**, Philo writes...

*"...there is one principle of reason by which the moon waxes and wanes in equal intervals, both as it increases and diminishes in illumination; the seven lambs because it receives the perfect shapes in periods of seven days—the half-moon in the first seven day period **after its conjunction with the sun, full moon in the second**; and when it makes its return again, the first is to half-moon, then it ceases at its conjunction with the sun."* [All emphasis my own.]

The half-moon (first quarter moon) announces the first Sabbath of the month. It is the seventh day of the week, naturally, but this is the 8th day of the month. New moon day is not counted against the week. The full moon rising at the end of the 14th day of the month announces the 15th as the second Sabbath of the month. If the new moon was counted, the quarter phases (or as Philo describes them, *the moon as it perfects in its own configurations on each seventh day*) would not come at the end of the week, disconnecting the perfection of the lunar cycle from the Sabbath. What YHVH has joined together, let not man put asunder.

Philo gives a second witness in **On Mating with the Preliminary Studies, XIX (102)**...

"For it is said in the Scripture: On the tenth day of this month let each of them take a sheep according to his house; in order that from the tenth, there may be consecrated to the tenth, that is to Elohim, the sacrifices which have been preserved in the soul, which is illuminated in two portions out of the three, until it is entirely changed in every part, and becomes a heavenly brilliancy like a full moon, at the height of its increase at the end of the second week".

The Essenes were also around during Philo's time. Did they observe or write about the Creation Calendar that Philo observed? Indeed they did. Please read this quote found among the fragments in the Qumran caves along with the Dead Sea Scrolls. Seventy-six fragments of an astronomical text written in a cryptic alphabet record the phases of the moon divided into 1/14^{ths} of the full size of the moon. J. T. Milik has reconstructed a 14 line section based on fragment 7 ii, 2-14. It is entitled *Phases of the moon* (4Q317), part of which is found below...

“[On the f]ifth (day) of it (the month), [tw]elve (fourteenths of the moon's surface) are covered and thus it [enters the day]. On the sixth (day) of it] thirteen (fourteenths of its surface) are covered and thus it enters the day. On the seventh (day) of it [fourteen (fourteenths of its surface) are covered and thus] it enters the day. *vacat* [On the eighth (day) of it...the firmament above...its light is to be covered...on the first of the Sabbath. *vacat* [On the ninth (day) of it one (fourteenth) portion (of its surface)] is revealed [and thus it entered the night]. On the tenth (day) of it [two (fourteenths of its surface)] are [revealed and it enters] the night. *vacat* On the ele[venth] (day) of it three (fourteenths of its surface) are revealed] and thus it enters the night. *vacat*”

This is utterly astounding. This statement flat out states that the 8th day of the month is the Sabbath and at the same time very clearly describes the visible light upon the face of the moon as it waxes, linking the moon with the numbered days of the month *including* the Sabbath.

Here is another translation of the same parchment (4Q317) done by another set of scholars...

“On the eighth of the month [chodesh], the moon rules all the day in the midst of the sky...and when the sun sets, its light ceases to be obscured, and thus the moon begins to be revealed on the first day of the week”. Wise, Abegg and Cooke, in their book *The Dead Sea Scrolls, A New Translation*, pp 301-303 [All emphasis my own]

The first day of the week follows the Sabbath, right? Here the first day of the week follows the 8th day of the month. Here are a few more historical accounts of Israel's lunar Sabbath...

In the Talmud the *Steinsaltz Edition, Volume XIV Tractate Ta'anit Part II* (1995 by Israel Institute for Talmudic Publications and Milta Books), pages 205-206. It says the following regarding the destruction of Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar's army:

Page 205: “Then late on the day of the ninth, close to nightfall, they set the Temple on fire, and it continued to burn the entire next day, on the tenth.” **Page 206:** “When the Temple was destroyed for the first time at the hands of Nebuzaradan [the captain of the guard], that day was the ninth of Av, **and it was the day following Shabbat**, and it was the year following the Sabbatical Year.... And similarly when the Temple was destroyed a second time at the hands of Titus, the destruction occurred on the very same day, on the ninth of Av.”

Care to guess what day the ninth day of Av was when Titus destroyed the temple in 70 A.D.? (The day after the weekly Sabbath, naturally.) It was destroyed twice on the same date. If I've done the math right, the ninth day of the month follows the 8th day of the month. Correct? If the 8th day of the month is the Sabbath, so are the 15th, 22nd and 29th days of the month.

The historian Josephus also records Sabbaths that can be pinpointed on the 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th and the New moon was not counted as one of the six workdays. Josephus records an interesting type of strategy by General Pompey and the Romans. The Roman's saw that the Hebrews did not fight on the Sabbath unless attacked. So, the Romans simply moved their engines and battering rams up to the walls on the Sabbath day, which otherwise they could not do, and on the next day, they battered the city. See page 369-370. *Antiquities of the Jews* Book 14, Chapter 4, section 3.

“...For although the city [Jerusalem] was taken on the third month, on the day of the fast...” (c) *Antiquities of the Jews* Book 14, Chapter 4, section 3, p. 370

Footnote (c): *Antiquities of the Jews* Book 14, Chapter 4:3, page 370: “That is on the twenty-third of Sivan, the annual fast for the defection and idolatry of Jeroboam, ‘who made my people Israel to sin,’ or possibly some other fast might fall into that month, before and in the days of Josephus.”

The 23rd day of the month follows the 22nd day of the month. If the 22nd day of the month is the Sabbath, so are the 8th, 15th, and 29th. Still not convinced? In the second century A.D., proof that the Israelites were still keeping the Sabbath day according to the lunar week can also be found in the writings of Clement of Alexandria (c. 150-215 A.D.):

“[Peter] inferred thus: ‘Neither worship as the Jews...[for] if the moon is not visible, they do not hold the Sabbath, which is called *the first*; nor do they hold the new moon, nor the feast of Unleavened Bread, nor the Feast, nor the Great Day’” *The Stromata*, chapter 5).

Further, in vol. 6, chapter 16 of *The Stromata*, Clement plainly writes that “in periods of seven days the moon undergoes its changes. In the first week she becomes half moon; in the second [week], full moon; and in the third [week], in her wane, again half moon; and in the fourth [week] she disappears.”

This is about as plain as it can get. Obviously, in Clement's day, the week (as kept by the Israelites) was still tied to the moon's phases and, by extension, the weekly Sabbath was also still tied to the moon! History also records, however, that by this time (150-215 A.D.) some of the Christians had indeed gotten away from a week and Sabbath that was dependent upon the lunar reckoning. The curse of Jeroboam!!

Why was Jeroboam cursed?

Isaiah 13:21 *But wild beasts of the desert shall lie there; and their houses shall be full of doleful creatures; and owls shall dwell there, and satyrs shall dance there.*

*The wild beasts of the desert shall also meet with the wild beasts of the island, and the satyr shall cry to his fellow; the screech owl also shall rest there, and find for herself a place of rest. **Isaiah 34:14***

In both cases, the Hebrew word here translated as *satyr* is Strong's H8163.

Leviticus 17:7 *And they shall no more offer their sacrifices unto devils, [Strong's H#8163] after whom they have gone a whoring. This shall be a statute for ever unto them throughout their generations.*

Same Hebrew word, H 8163, Satyrs, the universal symbol for Satan himself.

Jeroboam and his sons are later cursed for causing Israel to sin, **II Chronicles 11:15**...*And he [Jeroboam] ordained him priests for the high places, and for the devils, [Strong's H#8163] and for the calves which he had made.*

Same Hebrew word, H 8163, Satyrs. Jeroboam brought back what the Father had removed from Israel in **Leviticus 17**. It is everywhere written of him that he caused "My people Israel to sin."

Amos 5:26 *But you have borne the tabernacle of your moloch [king] and Chiun your images, the star of your god which you made for yourselves.*

Chiun is the Hebrew word for Saturn. Here Amos remembers the day when Israel worshiped a star-god that they had made for themselves.

In **Acts 7:43**, Stephen, later still reminding Israel of their idolatry, quotes Amos but is translated as Remphan, which is Greek for Saturn.

Let's apply **Isaiah 28:9-10**, do some poking around and you will find that Satyrday worship was pagan in origin, Jeroboam and his sons led Israel into this abominable practice, and that Amos and Stephen both reminded Israel of her apostasy. Stephen paid for his impudence with his life. Satyr and Saturn are the same deity.

Which day do YOU keep holy?

- Sunday, the current first day of the pagan Roman/papal calendar
- Saturday, the current seventh day of the pagan Roman/papal calendar.

I say "current" because these days were not always the first and seventh days of the week, respectively.

As a side note, I find it interesting that we pronounce the "n" in Woden's day (Wednesday), but we don't for "Saturn's day" (Saturday). Have you ever heard of a Satyr? The cloven footed half-man, half-goat—the universal symbol of Satan himself?

Sunday is the obvious fraud. Only the enemies of YHVH would observe Sunday, in honor of the pagan sun-god. But every Satyrday, of every week, of every year, Sabbatarians everywhere, in spite of themselves, worship on **Satyrday** — a day named after Satan himself.



Very cleverly, the Adversary receives his worship every week, all year long, by sincere folks who believe they are following YHVH. Friends, what we have here is a dual counterfeit; one is obvious, the other not-so-obvious. Even if Saturday really is named after Saturn, don't think we are going to get off the hook so easily. Saturn worship is the oldest form of Satanism and is clearly and historically linked to Satyr, the horned goat. Please feel free to connect the dots... Satan (or Pan) is called the "Horned God".

Pan a lusty satyr, half-man, half-goat, was given to every form of licentiousness and debauchery.

Kronos, the father of the gods.....for a certain wicked deed, was called **Titan**, and cast down to hell. **Kronos** is none other than **Satan himself**. **Titan**, or **Teitan**, as it is sometimes spelled, is the

Chaldee form of the Hebrew word **Sheitan**, the common name of the Adversary.

In the region where the **Chaldee Mysteries** were originally concocted,--that **Adversary who was ultimately the real father of all the pagan gods**,--and who (to make the title of **Kronos (Saturn)**, "the Horned One," appropriate to *him* also) was symbolized by the Kerastes, the **Horned serpent**.

Horned goat, horned serpent, father of the gods, Satan (Adversary)....hmm. Kronos (Satan) claims to be in charge of TIME! Kronos is where we get our work Chronology, the study of time. Kronos, said another way, is also Father Time.

For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of Elohim:

*I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the Most High. **Isaiah 14:13-14***

The word *congregation* here is the Hebrew word Mo'edim, which means "appointed times". A mountain in Scripture represents a controlling power or seat of government (see **Daniel 2:34-45**). What Satan is proclaiming here is that he will sit on the mount of the appointed times. He is saying that he will control the calendar, and the appointed times. And indeed he does.

Now, the name **Saturn** in Chaldee is pronounced **Satur**; but, as every Chaldee scholar knows, consists only of four letters, thus — S T U R. This name contains exactly the Apocalyptic number 666...

| | |
|---|------------|
| ס | S = 060 |
| ת | T = 400 |
| ו | U = 006 |
| ר | R = 200 |
| | <u>666</u> |

The information in the blue font on this page was gleaned from Alexander Hislop's *The Two Babylons*

Truth is a two edged sword. If we are going to condemn “Sunday” observance as worshipping on the “venerable day of the Sun,” Satyrday Sabbath keepers need to look in the mirror. Is worshipping on a day named after Satan any better? Satyrday bears the name of our enemy.

“The Sabbath question is to be the issue in the great final conflict in which all the world will act a part. Men have honored Satan’s principles above the principles that rule in the heavens. They have accepted the spurious sabbath, which Satan has exalted as the sign of his authority. But God has set His seal upon His royal requirement. **Each sabbath institution bears the name of its author**, an ineffaceable mark that shows the authority of each. It is our work to lead the people to understand this. ... God has called us to uplift the standard of His downtrodden Sabbath. How important, then, that our example in Sabbathkeeping should be right.” *T6, p. 352-353.* The (lunar) Sabbath commanded in **Exodus 20:8-11** reveals YHVH as the author.

Scripture proves Pastor Schultz to be in error:

1. Where does it say in Scripture that satyrday is the Sabbath?
2. Where does it say in Scripture that the Sabbath is every seventh day in succession? All Scripture says is that the Sabbath is the seventh day of the WEEK, not every seven days in succession.

Answer these two simple questions and this issue goes away. Simple as that. But there is a LOT more...

3. Every weekly Sabbath that can be date identified in Scripture falls on either the 8th, 15th, 22nd or 29th day of the (lunar) month. This cannot happen with the current solar calendar; this does however occur on a lunar-solar calendar though. Can you find a single weekly Sabbath in Scripture that falls on a date other than these?

4. Read **Exodus 31:13**, **Ezekiel 20:12** and **20:20** and understand that the Sabbath is not only a sign [Hebrew word *owth*] but also a season/appointed time [Hebrew word *mo’edim*]. See **Genesis 1:14**, **Psalms 104:19**, and **Leviticus 23:1-3**, which calls the Sabbath a feast, *mo’edim*. **Genesis 1:14** clearly says that either the sun or moon will regulate these calendar events, signs (*owth*), seasons (*mo’edim*), days and years. Can you go outside, look at the sun and tell whether it is either satyrday or the Sabbath? If not, you are looking at the wrong light. Try the other one.

5. The new moon days never fall during the common week; they are a third category of day. **Ezekiel 46:1** says that the gate to the temple is shut on all six working days, but open on the Sabbath and new moon. New moon days can fall on any day of the Gregorian week. If it fell on a tuesday and if the tabernacle were still here and I asked you, “Would the gate have been open or shut?” How would you answer? If you say open because it is new moon day, I would respond that it is a work day, it must be shut. If you agreed, “Of course tuesday is a work day, it must be shut.” I’d reply, “But friend, it is new moon, it must be open.” You have no correct answer because you are applying a pagan/papal/Roman/solar-only/man-made calendar to this Scriptural calendar event. **Isaiah 66:23**, **II Kings 4:18-23**, **Amos 8:5** are three more witnesses that the new moon cannot fall on one of the six work days.

Day one and day 30 are NOT weekdays, they are days of the new moon, but have something in common with the Sabbaths--both are worship days, both are welcomed by an open gate to the temple. There is not always a 30th day now. There used to be 12 thirty day months, making a 360 lunar-solar year.

I have seen and used a few different calendar illustrations, but the model below more accurately shows the uniqueness, presenting new moon as the third category of day better. The days of the work week are in black. The new moon days are in blue, the Sabbaths (the seventh day of the week) are in red...

| | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | 5th | 6th | 7th | |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------|-------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | |
| | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | |
| | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | |
| | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | (30) |

6. The 14th day of Abib is always the preparation day for first day of Unleavened Bread. Abib 14 floats on our current version of the Roman calendar. Abib 10 is the day to purchase a lamb if you don't already own one. Abib 10 floats on the Roman calendar. The fact is that the 10th, 14th and 16th of Abib are, without exception, commanded work days. The barley could be harvested on the 16th only after the Wave Sheaf had been offered and accepted, **Leviticus 23:9-14**. If there is a continuous 7 day cycle, every few years either the 10th, 14th or 16th will fall on a satyrday. In fact, satyrday fell on Abib 10 in 2003. Satyrday fell on the 14th of Abib in 2004 and 2008. Satyrday fell on the 16th of Abib in 2002, 2006 and 2009. There is no legislation provided to do these tasks a day early or late in case these days "just happen" to fall on the Sabbath, these work dates are fixed. YHVH never has Israel do common work on a rest day, and did not here either. These days will never fall on the Sabbath, yet they will fall on your satyrday every few years. Can you explain this?

7. The battle of Jericho was a seven day event. Every able bodied Israelite male took with him every available weapon at his disposal. The priests even carried with them the sacred Ark of the Covenant. In this battle/siege, Israel is on the offensive, they are the aggressors. Read the account in **Joshua 6**. Only Joshua knew it would be a 7 day affair, the men were told they would attack when Joshua gave them the signal. These soldiers were marching around Jericho for seven days in attack mode, on a full tilt adrenalin rush, not knowing for sure when the signal would come. **Which day was the Sabbath?** Did YHVH ever send Israel into battle on the Sabbath? No. The battle of Jericho is more a calendar statement than it is about the conquest of Canaan. How do I know this? Simple. Israel had JUST come out of the wilderness after a 40 year sojourn, having to relearn the law (including the Sabbath) of Yah. Do you suppose that the VERY first thing YHVH commanded Israel to do would be to break the Sabbath with a 7 consecutive day siege? The Book of Jasher (which is mentioned twice in Scripture) reveals that this battle began on new moon day. Please compare the verse below with the illustration above.

And it was in the second month, on the first day of the month, that YHWH said to Joshua, Rise up, behold I have given Jericho into thy hand with all the people thereof; and all your fighting men shall go round the city, once each day, thus shall ye do for six days. And on the seventh day they went round the city seven times, and the priests blew upon trumpets. Jasher 88:14, 17

8. You cannot count backward by 7 to any of the years accepted by scholars for the crucifixion [30, 31 or 33 A.D.] and find a fri, satyrday (Sabbath), sun. crucifixion weekend. In fact, there was not a fri-sat-sun sequence for the crucifixion in any of the years from 27-34 A.D. There are two reasons for this. 1. In the first century, Israel was still observing the natural calendar established at Creation. 2. Nature [the cycle of the moon] does not lie. Rome was not using the current calendar in the first century either. They had an 8 day market calendar called the Roman Republican Calendar. Since Israel was not using the Julian or Gregorian calendar in the first century (Hint: the current calendar, the Gregorian calendar, was not invented until 1582) and Rome was using an 8 day weekly calendar, why do you assume that the crucifixion was on a friday followed by a satyrday in the grave and a s-day resurrection? Rome did not officially adopt the pagan seven day planetary week, which is still in use today, until 321 A.D. The pagan freya's day (friday) was not added to the calendar until the Middle Ages, several hundred years after the crucifixion.

Above are two witnesses (History and Scripture) that are in agreement. Shall I pit Sister Ellen against these two or shall we let it rest?

Especially important to Seventh-day Adventists today is the fact that the Spirit of Prophecy always juxtaposes Sunday side by side with the seventh day of the week that is recognized by the world today as Saturday. Also, the discussion regarding the falsity of Sunday as the Sabbath is usually compared with Saturday, the seventh day of the week, as the true Sabbath. This is consistently the position of the Spirit of Prophecy on the Sabbath/Sunday question because it also leads to the discussion ultimately of the Mark of the Beast. In the end of days the acceptance of the false Sabbath as Sunday will be in contrast to observing the true Sabbath on the seventh day of the week that the world presently refers to as Saturday.

And according to the pagan calendar, that is exactly where you should find satyrday and sunday—side by side. But are we discussing the pagan/papal calendar or the calendar established in Scripture? It seems to me that the pastor is defending his own position already without the benefit of presenting the evidence for either side of the issue. This means that the pastor is answering the matter before he has heard it. **Proverbs 18:13.**

Addressing the Issue

I will address the matter now in three parts. First, I will give an abridged list of the subjects that can be encompassed in the study. Second, I will provide some statements regarding the Sabbath. Third, I will make some observations.

When is Pastor Schultz going to present the points of the Creation Calendar and Lunar Sabbath? Before you can discuss something, the thing must be presented, not debated or argued against BEFORE the evidence is presented.

List of Subjects:

1. Millerite justification for using ancient Karaite Jewish luni-solar reckoning to arrive at the October 22, 1844 date for the end of the 2300 day prophecy of Daniel 8 and 9.

Again, they did not use the Karaite calendar to arrive at 10-22-1844. **Note: Sam Snow, not Ellen White** said 10-22-1844 was Day of Atonement, but EGW apparently went along with it. Also, the Karaites use the Babylonian method to determine the new moon, counting from the first visible crescent. The Scriptural/natural method (which the early SDA pioneer's actually employed as proven above) is to count from the dark of the moon.

Former SDA, E. S. Ballenger learned the truth in the response to his letter to the Karaites.

“Oct. 22, 1844 has been a crucial time with S. D. A.’s since their pioneers fixed upon it for the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ; and they still stand tenaciously for this date in spite of all facts to the contrary. The Day of Atonement fell on Sept. 23, in 1844 instead of Oct. 22. This can be easily demonstrated by consulting any Jewish almanac of that time, or any orthodox Jewish authority. They celebrate the Day of Atonement in 1844 on Sept. 23.

“The defenders of the [SDA] creed declare that while the orthodox Jews may have celebrated the Day of Atonement on Sept. 23, the Karaite Jews observed it on Oct 22. We have made careful investigation, and we find that this is a false claim. The leading Karaite rabbi of Cairo, Egypt, Youseff Ibrahim Marzork, in reply to an inquiry as to the day on which they celebrated the atonement in 1844, wrote:

“...I inform you that the sacred days of the Karaite are the same as those of the Rabbinical Jews except that their dates may differ by one day before or after. ...As to the dates of the Passover and Yom Kippur they are the following:— According to the Karaite Jews in the year 1843 the Yom Kippur is on Wednesday the 4th October, and just the same date according to the Rabinnical. In the year 1844 it is on Monday 23rd September for the Karaite and Rabinnical.” ***The Gathering Call* by E. S. Ballenger, May-June 1941, pp. 14-15.**

Note: I would like to ask the early Seventh-day Adventist pioneers why they did not go to the Karaites for documentation to verify Snow’s claim as was done by Ballenger in 1941? If they had, they would have severely lessened the scrutiny and criticism they have faced for the last 160+ years. There are others who have done the homework that SDA pioneers and modern SDA researchers should have done:

“Writing to the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City, I learned some very surprising things. The Day of Atonement in 1843 occurred on Wednesday, October 4th. In 1844, the Day of Atonement occurred on Monday, September 23rd. I have the letter from the Seminary on file as proof. Anyone can check it out if they want to by paying me a visit, or writing to the Seminary themselves” — ***The GC News-letter, September, 1980, by Donald E. Mote.***

“In 1994 I spoke with Indiana’s Purdue University professor Prohofsky of the Hillel Foundation of the B’nai Brith concerning the date of the Day of Atonement in 1844. Professor Prohofsky verified the September 23 date through the Inter Lauch computer and stated that the Day of Atonement has never occurred so late in the year as October 22.” — ***Conversation with Robert K. Sanders, Lafayette, Indiana, in November, 1994.***

Sadly, and to only make matters worse, SDA leaders have known about this problem for years but have systematically buried the evidence which proves their doctrine in error.

2. General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists study of the crucifixion date issue (Wednesday or Friday of the Julian calendar) in 1938 and following (see the Grace Amadon collection at Andrews University).

And they found that no such fri-Sabbath-sun “weekend” exists in the historical timeframe needed to prove SDA timed prophecies found in Daniel.

3. Repetitive weekly cycle versus renewing weekly cycle with the beginning of each new month.

There is no evidence in Scripture of a repetitive weekly cycle. They are all renewed by the new moon. If the evidence is presented and examined honestly this is the only conclusion.

4. History of the Karaite Jews versus modern Rabbinic Judaism.

Both observe a partly true partly false calendar. The Rabbinic is more in error than the Karaite, but what would you rather have, two drops of cyanide in your Kool-Aid or a teaspoon?

5. The Council of Nicea (321 A.D.) and the calendar ruling separating Christian reckoning from Jewish reckoning over the celebration of Easter.

And let’s not forget that in 321 A.D., Constantine abandoned the Roman Republican Calendar and its 8 day week, and adopted the pagan seven day planetary week that eventually morphed into our current calendar by changing the names of the days of the week from saturn’s day, sun’s day, moon’s day, mars’ day, mercury’s day, jupiter’s day, and venus’ day to sunday, monday, tuesday, wednesday, thursday, friday, saturday. Also, that satyrday became the seventh day of the week in 321 A.D., prior to that it had been the first day of the week. Constantine, who worshipped Mithra, the Persian sun god, bumped Satyrday from the first to the seventh column, elevating the day of the sun to the prominent #1 status, thus venerating the day of the sun.

6. Calendar evolution in Hebrew culture prior to the time of Christ and dependence upon pagan names for their luni-solar calendar.

This is another deceptive statement. The Hebrews did not depend upon the pagan names for their calendar. In fact, they never had them or used them until they returned from Babylon. It was a (bad) habit they picked up while in captivity. The calendar did evolve some after the dent YHVH put in His clock (in Hezekiah’s day), but other than that there were no man-made changes, only the divinely inspired ones.

7. Calendar evolution in other religious and pagan cultures prior to the time of Christ.

Will never affect the Creation Calendar.

8. Julian calendar evolution.

Created by Romans for Romans. Israel received her calendar from YHVH.

9. Gregorian calendar establishment.

Created by Romans for Romans. Israel received her calendar from YHVH.

10. Creation week versus post-fall festivals of shadows for redemption (e.g. Sabbath vs. festivals).

The feasts indeed are the plan of salvation, in fact it is dress rehearsal for the entire plan from beginning to end. They are all shadows, even the Sabbath. Most Adventists will argue that point, but it is in their own literature...

“The weekly Sabbath was a stepping-stone leading up to the other Sabbatic institutions; and besides being a memorial of creation, it pointed forward to the final rest of the Jubilee.” *Steven Haskell, The Cross, and its Shadow, pg 249*

The jubilee cycle has never been halted or repealed by the Almighty. And guess what is casting the shadow? Our weekly Sabbath points forward to the final Jubilee. By the way, did you notice that in Colossians 2:16 Paul says that the annual festivals, new moons and Sabbath days ARE (not were) shadows of things to come?

11. Differentiation between the Seventh-day Sabbath and Jewish festivals.

Please read **Leviticus 23**. There is no differentiation. They are all on equal footing, one occurs more often than the others, but that is about it. The Sabbath is listed as the first feast (mo’edim) of YHVH, **Leviticus 23:1-3**. The annual feasts are also called described as mo’edim.

12. Astronomical records and scholarship tracing lunar movements in relation to Jewish festivals.

It was YHVH who established this ‘tracing [of] lunar movements’ to determine the feasts. Scholars and scientists are just stating the evidence.

13. Significance of the juxtaposition of Preparation Day, Sabbath, and First Day (eighth day) as pervasive in early Christian literature.

I hope Pastor Shultz trots out some evidence here because this is pure, grade A, gold star, 100% government inspected, religious propaganda. The first day of the week has never been the 8th day of the month anywhere in Scripture, neither in the OT nor NT. The first day (resurrection day) was never accurately referred to as the 8th day in any early “Christian” literature.

14. Understanding the Passover (Jewish) Easter (Christian) controversy as a festival controversy of cultural and calendar types in distinction to the Sabbath Sunday controversy as an ecclesiological and theological controversy rooted in a perpetual 7-day repeating cycle.

Please find for me a single text that says the Sabbath is every seventh day in a repeating cycle. You won't find one because every reference to the Sabbath places it as the seventh day of the week, not a repeating cycle of seven. Folks have been given this idea because the pagan week they are using is a repeating seven day cycle. And therein lays the rub. Why are believers trying to find or force their Sabbath onto a pagan calendar?

15. Definition of terms and assumptions such as: "God's calendar," "pagan calendars," "moed," "signs and seasons," "even unto even," "the daily," etc.

I wish Pastor Schultz had provided the information available in the list of 15 subjects above rather than just mention them. If he had, my comments may not have been necessary.

Sabbath Statements:

GC 453 – Hallowed by the Creator's rest and blessing, the Sabbath was kept by Adam in his innocence in holy Eden; by Adam, fallen yet repentant, when he was driven from his happy estate. It was kept by all the patriarchs, from Abel to righteous Noah, to Abraham, to Jacob. When the chosen people were in bondage in Egypt, many, in the midst of prevailing idolatry, lost their knowledge of God's law; but when the Lord delivered Israel, He proclaimed His law in awful grandeur to the assembled multitude, that they might know His will and fear and obey Him forever.

From that day to the present the knowledge of God's law has been preserved in the earth, and *the Sabbath of the fourth commandment has been kept*. Though the "man of sin" succeeded in trampling underfoot God's holy day, yet even in the period of his supremacy there were, hidden in secret places, faithful souls who paid it honor. *Since the Reformation, there have been some in every generation to maintain its observance*. Though often in the midst of reproach and persecution, a constant testimony has been borne to the perpetuity of the law of God and the sacred obligation of the creation Sabbath.

I find it interesting and troubling that for two pages, Pastor Shultz quotes EGW rather than Scripture for support for the weekly Sabbath. Sister White would roll over in her grave if she knew. We need to prove our doctrine from Scripture. The *Spirit of Prophecy* is the lesser light, remember? EGW said we are to use Scripture to determine truth; she never said to use her work to test truth. See quote at the bottom of page 2 above, *Gospel workers, page 300*.

I agree with the quote above, but it was not satyrday that has been observed by all these patriarchs and righteous men throughout history. Satyrday is only found on a pagan calendar, not on the Creation Calendar, and from its inception (800-600 B.C.) until 321 A.D, satyrday was the FIRST day of the pagan seven day planetary week, not the seventh. It has only been the seventh day of the week for 1700 years.

3SM 317-319 – God rested on the seventh day, and set it apart for man to observe in honor of His creation of the heavens and the earth in six literal days. He blessed and sanctified and made holy the day of rest. When men are so careful to search and dig to see in regard to the precise period of time, we are to say, **God made His Sabbath for that round world, controlled by the sun that rules the day**, it is the time in all countries and lands to observe the Sabbath. In the countries where there is no sunset for months, and again no sunrise for months, the period of time will be calculated by records kept. . . . **All those who hold the beginning of their confidence firm unto the end will keep the seventh-day Sabbath, which comes to us as marked by the sun**. . . . The whole battle before us hinges upon the observance of the true Sabbath of Jehovah. . .

I'm sorry, but if Sister White wrote this, she misspoke. Scripture is the Greater Light. Using **Isaiah 28:9-10** as my guide, **Genesis 1:14** says that the two great lights would be for signs, **seasons**, days and years. Thus the calendar of Yah is in the heavens. The underlying Hebrew word for seasons (above) is mo'edim, Strong's H4150, which means *times appointed or set feast*.

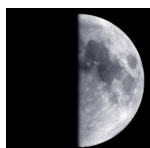
Psalms 104:19 says that the moon will regulate the **seasons** using the SAME Hebrew word, (mo'edim--appointed times, set feasts). Finally, **Leviticus 23:1-3** shows the weekly Sabbath to be the first **feast** (mo'edim--appointed times, set feasts). Twice YHVH uses the Hebrew word mo'edim in His introduction to His feasts in **Leviticus 23:2**, and a third time in verse **4**.

This alone is enough to prove that the Sabbath is by the moon, not the sun, and you can test this for verity. Go out side and look at the sun. Can you tell by looking at the sun whether it is satyrday or the seventh day of the week? No, the sun looks the same every day. The Sabbath is regulated by a particular luminary in the heavens, Scripture says that light is **the moon**.

Whoever is in charge is in charge of the calendar. A calendar tells you when to work and when to worship. **WHEN** you worship tells heaven and the onlooking universe **WHO** you worship. Getting the day right is **THAT** serious! Providentially, YHVH wrote His calendar in the heavens where man cannot mess with it.

So, how do you know when the Sabbath of heaven is about to begin? It is not as difficult as you might think. My children have been taught to look in the heavens. When my youngest child was four (in 2003) he could tell you when the Sabbath was at hand by simply looking up.

New moon days are a third category of day, they do not count against the week. They are not days of the week. **Ezekiel 46:1, 3** says that the gates of the temple would be shut the **six** working days, but open for worship on the Sabbath and new moon. Since Rome eliminated the new moon from their calendar, creating a repeating seven day calendar week, the astronomical new moon can take place any day of the week or month on the counterfeit man-made months. Not so the Creator's Calendar. New moon day is always the first day of the Creator's month, and not a week day.



At the end of the seventh day of the month the first quarter moon will be directly overhead (facing south), announcing the following day as the first Sabbath of the month. New moon (day 1) is neither work day nor Sabbath, so the first Sabbath is the 8th day of the moon (month). See illustration on p. 13 above.



Seven days later, at or after sunset of the 14th day of the lunar month, a full moon arises announcing the following day as the second Sabbath of the month. This is always the 15th day of the Creator's month (moonth). After Jesus died, a full moon rose marking the following day as the Sabbath.



The first two quarter phases are seen at sunset the evening before the Sabbaths. The third quarter moon is seen at dawn heralding the beginning of the third Sabbath. This is always the 22nd day of the Creator's month.



Seven days later, the 29th, there is a very thin sliver or no moon at all in the east at dawn. This is the fourth quarter or the beginning of the rebuilding phase of the moon. The first quarter moon will be seen shortly after sunset directly overhead (facing south) the full moon will rise in the east shortly after sunset. The 3rd quarter moon will be directly overhead at dawn on the morning of the 3rd Sabbath. The last sliver (if seen) will be seen at dawn in the east the morning of the 4th Sabbath of the month.

“The New Moon is still, and **the Sabbath originally was, dependent upon the lunar cycle.**”
Universal Jewish Encyclopedia, p. 410.

“...the [early] Hebrews employed lunar seven-day weeks which ended with special observances on the seventh day but none the less were tied to the moon's course.” *Hutton Webster* in his book, *Rest Days, pages 254-255.*

“...the Hebrew *Sabbathon*...was celebrated at intervals of seven days, corresponding with changes in the moon's phases,” *Encyclopedia Biblica, 1899 edition, p. 4180*

“With the development of the importance of the Sabbath as a day of consecration and the emphasis laid upon the significant number seven, the week became **more and more divorced from its lunar connection...**” *Universal Jewish Encyclopedia: Vol. 10, 1943 edit., p. 482.*

4SG 14 – When God says, Keep holy the seventh day he does not mean the sixth, nor the first, but the very day he has specified. If men substitute a common day for the sacred, and say that will do just as well, they insult the Maker of the heavens and the earth, who made the Sabbath to commemorate his resting upon the seventh day, after creating the world in six days. It is dangerous business in the service of God to deviate from his institutions. Those who have to do with God, who is infinite, who explicitly directs in regard to his own worship, should follow the exact course he has prescribed, and not feel at liberty to deviate in the smallest respect, because they think it will answer just as well. God will teach all his creatures that he means just what he says.

Nor, considering that He placed His calendar in the heavens, did He mean the seventh day of the pagan, seven day planetary week that was adopted by the Roman government and enforced upon the Roman empire and all who will follow (Revelation 13:3) via the Julian, then the Gregorian calendars. Is it not also an insult to the Creator to teach that His Sabbath, established at creation, is NOT regulated by the lights in the heavens as He said, but is found only on a pagan calendar?

GC 65 – Among the leading causes that had led to the separation of the true church from Rome was the hatred of the latter toward the Bible Sabbath. As foretold by prophecy, the papal power cast down the truth to the ground. The law of God was trampled in the dust, while the traditions and customs of men were exalted. ***The churches that were under the rule of the papacy were early compelled to honor the Sunday as a holy day.*** Amid the prevailing error and superstition, many, even of the true people of God, became so bewildered that while they observed the Sabbath, they refrained from labor also on the Sunday. But this did not satisfy the papal leaders. ***They demanded not only that Sunday be hallowed, but that the Sabbath be profaned;*** and they denounced in the strongest language those who dared to show it honor. ***It was only by fleeing from the power of Rome that any could obey God’s law in peace.***

This is true. So why do you trust this same papal power to enforce a calendar upon which you find your Sabbath?

“. . . Sunday is not the Sabbath. Any schoolboy knows that Sunday is the first day of the week. I have repeatedly offered one thousand dollars to anyone who will prove by the Bible alone that Sunday is the day we are bound to keep, and no one has called for the money.” -- THOMAS ENRIGHT, C.S.S.R., in a lecture.

Remember Thomas Enright, the Bishop who offered \$1000 dollars in the quote above? This quote has been used by SDA’s forever to prove that Sunday is not the Sabbath. We are quick to quote this fellow about the Papacy’s abrogation of the Sabbath commandment. However, he does not end there:

“The Catholic Church abolished not only the Sabbath, but all the other Jewish festivals.”
THOMAS ENRIGHT, C.S.S.R.

Paul did not nail the feasts to the stake, the Catholic Church did. Here’s a second witness:

“If you want to know the days to keep, go to the Catholic Church, not to the Mosaic Law. We have power to put down feast days, and we have power to institute feast days.” CARDINAL JAMES GIBBONS

“Hence, as far as the commandment obliges us to set aside some part of our time for the worship and service of our Creator, it is an unalterable and unchangeable precept of the eternal law, in which the Church cannot dispense: but for as much as it prescribes the seventh day in particular for this purpose, it is no more than a ceremonial precept of the old law, which obliges not Christians. And therefore, instead of the seventh day, and other festivals appointed in the old law, the Church has prescribed the Sundays and Holy Days to be set apart for God’s worship; and these we are now obliged to keep in consequence of God’s commandment, instead of the ancient Sabbath.”¹

¹ *The Catholic Christian Instructed in the Sacraments, Sacrifice, Ceremonies, and Observances of the Church*, by the Right Rev. Dr. Richard Challoner, published in Baltimore in 1852 by John Murphy & Co., pp. 202, 204.

And he shall speak pompous words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and think to change times (mo'edim) and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time. Daniel 7:25

If you were paying attention earlier, the Sabbath is the first mo'edim listed in **Leviticus 23**, and is included in the warning given in **Daniel 7:25**.

Here is a quote that Adventists will not like one bit. Patrick Madrid, Catholic conservative made the startling comment on EWTN, Global Catholic Radio Network on Jan 5, 2006 when answering a question about the Catholic Church changing the day of worship from saturday to sunday:

“...There was a distinct break between the Old Testament requirements . . . dealing with the Sabbath worship... They wanted to show that Christianity was distinct from Judaism... The other thing that we should remember, too, is that our calendar that we follow, including Seventh-day Adventists, is not only a calendar that was devised by the Catholic Church, but also it is a calendar that's based upon the solar year, not the lunar year and the Jewish calendar that was observed in the time of Christ follows a lunar calendar . . . So the great irony is that even the Seventh-day Adventists themselves are not worshipping on exactly the same Sabbath day as the Jews of the time of Christ.”

Is there any need of more proof? The Adventist denomination ADMITS that saturday is not the Sabbath, and they have KNOWN this since 1843. This is not a “*conspiracy theory*”. In fact William Miller himself originally believed that Jesus was crucified in A.D. 33 instead of A.D. 31, simply because he was not able to harmonize sunday (his Sabbath) of the Julian/Gregorian Calendar to the resurrection.² Miller and others knew that the full moon for Passover in A.D. 31 fell on a Julian calendar wednesday, not on *friday*, thus making it impossible for Jesus to have rested in the tomb on a saturday, followed by a sunday resurrection.

Forty years later in 1883, the problem was still unresolved. In that year, the first Adventist Yearbook was published. It included calendar information for all of 1883 – including dates and times for astronomical new moon, first quarter, full moon and last quarter phases of the moon. On page 66 of the *online* 1883 Yearbook appeared the following statement beneath the calendar for July:

“Those who disbelieve in the seventh-day Sabbath bring against it numerous objections, all of which are readily answered with the exception of one, –THE CROSS. This is the great, the unanswerable objection to the Bible Sabbath.” (Capitalization in original)

² *Prophetic Faith of Our Fathers*, Vol. 4, by L.E. Froom, Review & Herald Publishing Association p. 478

So from the early 1840's to 1883, early Adventists were UNABLE to prove that Saturday is the Sabbath. There is a reason for this. Saturday is **not** the Sabbath. The Sabbath is the seventh day of the Hebrew week, not the pagan week.

The SDA church learned for certain that Israel observed a lunar/solar calendar back in the late 1930's. A committee was formed to "prove" a fri-sat-sun crucifixion weekend, but found that when they counted backward by 7 to 31 A.D., Passover did not fall on what we call Friday, the same thing they discovered in 1843. Perplexed, the committee wrote extensively to leading scholars around the world trying to figure this out, but they were told by every one of them that what they had found was correct, that Israel had a lunar/solar calendar, and that if you count backward by seven, Passover in 31 A.D. would not have been on what we now call Friday. While trying to figure out what was going on, WWII broke out and the committee was disbanded and was never reconvened. None other than M. L. Andreasen stopped all further investigation by saying that a lunar calendar would be too confusing for the common man.

GC 52, 53 – In the first centuries the true Sabbath had been kept by all Christians. They were jealous for the honor of God, and, believing that His law is immutable, they zealously guarded the sacredness of its precepts. But with great subtlety Satan worked through his agents to bring about his object. That the attention of the people might be called to the Sunday, it was made a festival in honor of the resurrection of Christ. Religious services were held upon it; yet it was regarded as a day of recreation, *the Sabbath being still sacredly observed*. . . . But while many God-fearing Christians were gradually led to regard Sunday as possessing a degree of sacredness, *they still held the true Sabbath as the holy of the Lord and observed it in obedience to the fourth commandment*. . . . In nearly every council *the Sabbath which God had instituted was pressed down a little lower, while the Sunday was correspondingly exalted*. Thus the pagan festival came finally to be honored as a divine institution, while the Bible Sabbath was pronounced a relic of Judaism, and its observers were declared to be accursed.

In the first centuries A.D., Israelites and new converts were keeping the lunar Sabbath. Saturday wasn't even the seventh day of the ROMAN week until 321 A.D. You have already seen what Philo and other early writers said about the Sabbath and the moon on pages 6-9 above, here are some more quotes about the calendar practices of early assemblies in the NT era.

*In the article **Shawui Calendar: Ancient Shawui Observance**, we find confirmation of a radical change in YHVH's calendar. "The [lunar]...calendar was used by ALL the original disciples of Yeshua... This original Nazarene lunar-solar calendar was supplanted by a Roman 'planetary week' and calendar in 135 C.E. -- when the 'Bishops of the Circumcision' (i.e. legitimate Nazarene successors to Yeshua) were displaced from Jerusalem. This began a three hundred year controversy concerning the true calendar and correct Sabbath."*

*Hutton Webster in his book, **Rest Days**, p. 244 wrote: "These imported [from Babylon] superstitions eventually led Jewish rabbis to call Saturn *Shabbti*, "the star of the Sabbath," [and]...it was not until the first century of our era, when the planetary week had become an established institution, that the Jewish Sabbath seems always to have corresponded to Saturn's Day [Saturday]."*

After Clement of Alexandria's time (150-215 A.D.), an ominous change started to take place that was to radically change the believer's concept of the Sabbath.

"This intimate connection between the week and the month was soon dissolved. It is certain that the week soon followed a development of its own, and it became the custom -- without paying any regard to the days of the month (i.e. the lunar month) -- ...so that the new moon no longer coincided with the first day [of the month]." *Encyclopedia Biblica*, (1899 edit.), p. 5290.

"The introduction...of the custom of celebrating the Sabbath every 7th day, irrespective of the relationship of the day to the moon's phases, led to a complete separation from the ancient view of the Sabbath..." *Encyclopedia Biblica*, (1899 edit.), p. 4179.

GC 578 – The churches of Africa held the Sabbath as it was held by the papal church *before her complete apostasy. While they kept the seventh day in obedience to the commandment of God, they abstained from labor on the Sunday in conformity to the custom of the church.* Upon obtaining supreme power, Rome had trampled upon the Sabbath of God to exalt her own; but the churches of Africa, hidden for nearly a thousand years, did not share in this apostasy. When brought under the sway of Rome, they were forced to set aside the true and exalt the false Sabbath; but no sooner had they regained their independence than they returned to obedience to the fourth commandment.

These records of the past clearly reveal the enmity of Rome toward the true Sabbath and its defenders, and the means which she employs to honor the institution of her creating. The word of God teaches that these scenes are to be repeated as Roman Catholics and Protestants shall unite for the exaltation of the Sunday.

Apparently, the African assembly preserved her own version of calendar apostasy because saturday has never been a day on the Father's calendar. The African assembly did the same as we all. They did the best they could with the knowledge they had. Saturday is one step better than Sunday observance, at least it is the seventh day of the (pagan) week, but that one step is not the end of the journey. What also seems to be lost on Adventism thus far is that Saturday observance is just a stepping stone toward the final truth of the matter.

"I saw that G-d had children who do not see and keep the Sabbath. They have not rejected the light upon it. And at the commencement of the time of trouble, we were filled with the Holy Ghost as we went forth and proclaimed the Sabbath more fully. This enraged the churches and nominal Adventists, as they could not refute the Sabbath truth. And at this time G-d's chosen all saw clearly that we had the truth, and they came out and endured the persecution with us. I saw the sword, famine, pestilence, and great confusion in the land. The wicked thought that we had brought the judgments upon them, and they rose up and took counsel to rid the earth of us, thinking that then the evil would be stayed." *Early Writings*, p. 33

Adventists, even nominal ones (which means, in name only) have already accepted the Sabbath. Look at the context of this passage. This "Sabbath more fully" message is enabled by the power of the Spirit of YHVH. Adventists cannot refute it from Scripture. The Father's chosen ones ALL saw that the ones with the "Sabbath more fully" message had the TRUTH, and they came OUT of Adventism and the other "churches" and endured persecution with them!

What Sabbath message could possibly incite such rage among Adventists? Do you suppose if someone could prove that satyrday was a spurious Sabbath, the seventh day of the wrong calendar, that this could generate sufficient heat?

The last final conflict is not going to be about Sabbath vs. sunday; it is going to be the Sabbath vs. satyrday. The knowledge or light regarding this “Sabbath more fully” message is here. Now is the time!

GC 447 – (Quoted from A. E. Waffle, *The Lord’s Day*, pages 186-188.) “Up to the time of Christ’s death, no change had been made in the day;” and, “so far as the record shows, they [the apostles] did not . . . give any explicit command enjoining the abandonment of the seventh-day Sabbath, and its observance on the first day of the week.”

That is correct. The apostles did not change the Sabbath to sunday. Nor did they espouse the first day of the pagan week (satyrday). In the first century, satyrday was the first day of the pagan seven day planetary week, sunday was the second day. It was not until 321 A.D. that Constantine changed satyrday from the first column to the seventh day of the week, thus promoting sunday to the coveted first day slot. Rome worshiped Mithra, the Persian sun god, and were not about to permit Saturn to be number one over the sun, so, whoever was in charge (in this case, Constantine) was in charge of the calendar and made the changes accordingly.

Arguing with me won’t change these historical facts. Don’t believe me? Examine the evidence. If this causes any anger, please see the Early Writings quote above. I’m just the messenger.

GC 434, 435 – *Those who by faith followed their great High Priest as He entered upon His ministry in the most holy place* beheld the ark of His testament. . . . Within the holy of holies, in the sanctuary in heaven, the divine law is sacredly enshrined—the law that was spoken by God Himself amid the thunders of Sinai and written with His own finger on the tables of stone. . . . The Spirit of God impressed the hearts of those students of His word. . . . They began to examine the reasons for observing the first day of the week instead of the day which God had sanctified. They could find no evidence in the Scriptures that the fourth commandment had been abolished, or that the Sabbath had been changed . . . ***and they manifested their loyalty to God by keeping His Sabbath holy.***

It is true, the Creator expects us to observe the Sabbath, HIS Sabbath, the one established at Creation, not the one found on the pagan seven-day planetary week and pagan/papal calendar.

GC 587 – This claim is especially urged *in America, where the doctrine of the true Sabbath has been most widely preached.* (see the larger context for this statement)

***PP 111** – Like the Sabbath, the week originated at creation, and it has been preserved and brought down to us through Bible history. **God Himself measured off the first week as a sample for successive weeks to the close of time.**

Absolutely true. And every Sabbath in Scripture is regulated by the moon, not a pagan calendar.

Observations:

In my review of *The Great Calendar Controversy* I have been both stimulated and troubled. I am stimulated because the arguments brought forth sound very logical and are juxtaposed with history and science in such a way as to seem persuasive and reasonable. However, I am also troubled and dissatisfied when I compare various statements with the evidence of history, Scripture, and the inspired writings of the Lord's servant on the issue of Sabbath truth. Simply put, I find glaring contradictions which I have not been able to reconcile. I was also confronted with propositions I have not yet dealt with to my own satisfaction. Therefore I continue to study, but in my study I am always aware that if one starts out with a faulty assumption, the conclusion will also be faulty.

The problem is that Pastor Schultz relies heavily upon the Spirit of Prophecy rather than on Scripture. He admits that history and science lines up with the lunar Sabbath, but ignores the supportive evidence from Scripture. The reason he is forced to do so is because the Spirit of Prophecy does not always line up, so he is forced to take the evidence in Scripture from its place along side history and science rather than admit that Sister White was not shown everything.

Starting with a faulty assumption indeed will lead to a faulty conclusion. And if you will apply this logic to satyrday as the Sabbath and TEST this assumption with the 8 test points found on pages 12-14 above, you will find out that satyrday does not stack up. Every test applied to it fails; therefore we have ASSUMED that satyrday is the Sabbath based on faulty information. And even more information proving that satyrday is NOT the Sabbath is forthcoming...

Observation #1—The first observation I will make concerns “God’s clock/calendar.” It is assumed that because God created two great lights, the sun and the moon, on the fourth day of creation and established them “for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and for years” (Gen. 1:14), that He thereby established a luni-solar calendar system in the creation week. As a result it is then believed there is no such thing in God’s calendar of a perpetually repeating seven-day weekly cycle from the time of creation. Rather, it is claimed God’s calendar system recognizes the establishment of the week of seven days at creation, but each month begins a new series of weeks, and as the lunar cycle progresses you would end up having “a long weekend” at least once a month. This peculiarity would of course cause the seventh-day Sabbath to “float” through the Gregorian calendar.

It is not assumed that there is a lunar week, it is Scriptural and historical as seen above. If this results in proof that there is not repeating seven day weekly cycle, so be it. Let Yah be true and every man a liar. If the Sabbath was on a perpetual and unbroken seven day cycle, why doesn't the Creation say so? This is another faulty assumption made by satyrday Sabbatarians. There IS NO unbroken, repeating seven day cycle in Scripture. There is no Scripture to provide to prove this because there ISN'T any!

What I have underlined above is absolutely true. However, the Creation Calendar came long before the Gregorian Calendar (circa 1582) so in reality, satyrday floats through the Creation Calendar. The Sabbath of YHVH is fixed, occurring on the 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th days of the month, EVERY month.

Exodus 12, 16 and 19 reveal that the Sabbaths fell on the 15th of the month for three consecutive months.

Exodus 12 reveals that Israel was released from bondage on Abib 15, the 15th day of the first month. It is not called a Sabbath in **Exodus 12**, but later Scripture does reveal the nature of this day. **Leviticus 23:4-8** shows us that Passover (Abib 14) is preparation day for Abib 15, the Sabbath of Unleavened Bread. Some say that Abib 21 is also a Sabbath, but this is not the case. The evidence is that the 15th of the first month is the weekly Sabbath; Scripture is not saying that the 21st is an annual Sabbath at all. Consider the following.

The first day of the feast and the “seventh day” [of the week in context] are one and the same. The 21st is the 6th day of the week and of course the 7th day of a seven day feast, but....

| | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |

...the “seventh day” spoken of in **Exodus 13:6** is called a Chag (H2282) which is used 62 times in Scripture and is only used to refer to the pilgrimage feast days (found in **Exodus 23:14-17**), in this case, Abib 15. It is not referring to the last day of the feast, rather the first. This *chag* can only be the 15th of Abib. See also **Deuteronomy 5:12-15** and **Leviticus 23:6-8**.

The Sabbath commandment in **Exodus 20** is linked to Creation week. The 4th commandment listed in **Deuteronomy 5** is linked to the deliverance of Israel. That date was the 15th of Abib.

I submit to you that this “seventh day” is Abib 15, and it is not only an annual Sabbath, but a weekly Sabbath as well. There are no back to back Sabbaths in Scripture. The 15th is without question a Sabbath, meaning that the 22nd of the first month is also a Sabbath. If the 21st is an annual Sabbath, there would be two Sabbaths back to back, and there would be no preparation day for the second Sabbath of the two. Common sense, right?

Exodus 16 is the first place where the word “Sabbath” is used in Scripture. In the first verse, YHVH is speaking to Moses and Aaron on the 15th day of the 2nd month and gives them what turns out to be a simple math equation. From day 15 add 6 days of manna = 21. Next day (22nd) is the Sabbath.

| | | | | | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------------|-----------|
| | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | Sabbath | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | |
| | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | |
| | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | |
| | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | |

Israel was to collect one portion of manna from the 16th to the 20th and a double portion on the 21st because the morrow was the Sabbath. If the 22nd is a Sabbath, so is the 15th (as well as the 8th and the 29th. The first day of the month is new moon day, not a Sabbath.

Exodus 19:1 also proves that the children of Israel arrived at Sinai on the 16th day of the third month. Please read the context. Moses indicates that the children of Israel rested at Rephidim the 15th of the third month. The root word for *Rephidim* means “rest” and this passage says that they arrived at the Wilderness of Sinai the “same day” of this month that they left Egypt (two months earlier). If you’ll remember, Israel got as far as Succoth the 15th, and actually left Egypt the on the 16th. **Numbers 33:3-6**. So Israel arrived at Sinai on the 16th and Moses was immediately summoned up the mount. YHVH told Moses to go back down the mountain and to tell the people to consecrate themselves for on the third day of the week (the 18th) He would come down on the mount in a cloud, **Exodus 19:10-11**.

If the 18th is the third day, then the 16th is the first day, meaning that they were “resting” in Rephidim on the Sabbath, the 15th, which is the weekly Sabbath.

Looks like this:

| 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | 5th | 6th | 7th |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |

Amazing isn’t it? There is always harmony in the truth. The evidence presented here cannot happen with the modern seven day cyclical week.

The difficulty I find here is the opening assumption that God has embedded the luni-solar calendar in the language of the fourth day of creation and that the creation week was not meant to be understood as a perpetually repeating seven-day weekly cycle from the time of creation. I find no evidence in scripture for this conclusion.

Then please find for me the evidence in Scripture that says there IS an unbroken, repeating seven day cycle. Don’t talk about what you think or what you feel are our assumptions, give us the evidence in Scripture for YOUR calendar model Pastor Schultz. When you cannot produce it, what then? Are you going to accept the Creation Calendar (which is the ONLY calendar model in Scripture) or are you going to be enraged by the Sabbath more fully message, the one that cannot be refuted? *Am I therefore your enemy because I tell you the truth?* Galatians 4:16.

It should be understood that the luni-solar Hebrew reckoning was an integral part of the sacrificial system of festivals that were shadows of things to come, that is, the reality of the crucified and risen Christ who bore the sins of the whole world. Rightly understood this luni-solar system of reckoning time kept the spring and fall festivals celebrated in the various months anchored in their appropriate seasons of the year, while the year was regulated by the earth’s rotation around the sun (solar), thus a luni-solar system.

The calendar in **Genesis 1** was created well before the sacrificial law. I agree that the lunar-solar calendar kept festivals and seasons in line, but if the sacrificial system and feasts have been done away with, then so has the Sabbath. The weekly and annual Sabbaths are called mo'edim (YHVH's appointed times) in **Leviticus 23** and there were double sacrifices offered on the weekly Sabbath.

The earth is not rotating. Scripture says it is standing still (**Psalm 93:1, 96:10, I Chronicles 16:29-30**), and in fact, every scientific method known to man has been utilized trying to "prove" a rotating earth. Not a single test has ever proved the rotation of the earth around the sun. Scripture says the sun and moon are moving around the earth.

Nature does not lie, men (and science so called) do. The sun rises (**Genesis 19:23, Psalm 113:3, Isaiah 45:6**, Mark 16:2, James 1:11), the sun sets (**Genesis 15:12, Exodus 17:12, Daniel 6:14, Malachi 1:11**, Luke 4:40, Ephesians 4:26). The sun races around the earth...

*Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath He [YHVH] set a tabernacle for the sun, Which [the sun] is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race. His [the sun's] going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his [the sun's] circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat [of the sun] thereof. **Psalm 19:4-6***

David understood Hebrew weddings. Before a wedding, the bridegroom stepped into a chariot or cart and was driven around the city or village. A herald ran before the bridegroom announcing that the feast was made ready and to fall in line for the wedding party. They made a circuit around the city then returned to the home of the groom's father for the wedding. The race, in context, seems to be in a circle, where the starting point is also the finish line.

David, speaking for YHVH, says that the SUN (not the earth) is like the bridegroom, like a man running a race. If David had said that the earth makes a circuit around the sun, he would have been duplicitous at best, a false teacher or false prophet with no light in him (**Isaiah 8:20**) at worst. After all, David also wrote twice that the earth cannot be moved. See texts above.

And since the sun and moon are moving around the earth, they can be commanded to STOP moving.

Joshua 10:12-13 - *Then spake Joshua to YHVH in the day when YHVH delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon. And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies. Is not this written in the book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and hasted not to go down about a whole day.*

The book of Jasher very clearly says that the sun and moon stood still, (Jasher 88:62-65) and adds that, "there was no day like that, before it or after it that YHVH hearkened to the voice of a man, for YHVH fought for Israel."

Habakkuk 3:11 - *The sun and moon stood still in their habitation...*

Only something that was previously moving can be said to have stood still.

The creation week with the Sabbath established on the seventh day was of course pre-fall and pristine in its perfection. No taint of sin or need of shadows to forecast victory over sin was needed. The Lord reminds us through His servant, “In Eden, God set up the memorial of His work of creation in placing His blessing upon the seventh day. The Sabbath was committed to Adam, the father and representative of the whole human family. . . . The institution was wholly commemorative, and given to all mankind. **There was nothing in it shadowy** or of a restricted application to any people.”—PP 48.

I understand the premise here, but if applied as written, then EGW, who encouraged Haskell to write *The Cross and its Shadow*, speaks out of both sides of her mouth, because Haskell wrote that the weekly Sabbath points forward (is a shadow of) the final Jubilee.

Observation #2—It seems to be assumed but not clearly articulated that the seventh-day Sabbath is wholly dependent upon relationship to the luni-solar calendar. Taking the Bible as it reads, however, the creation week is presented as the foundation of all creation on earth that came perfect from the hand of the Creator. What follows, therefore, regarding the needs and challenges of human beings as a result of the fall, becomes a subset to the original design. Festivals were added to guide and educate the believer in the way of salvation. The luni-solar calendar provided the grid for this salvation ministry to be conceptualized and practiced, but it does not supplant the original foundation of a perpetually recurring seven-day cycle with the Lord’s appointed day on the seventh of each week.

The foundation (underlined above) for observation #2 is the same as for #1. The repeating seven day week. Again, WHERE is a perpetually recurring seven day cycle mentioned or implied in Scripture? I agree that there was a cycle instituted at Creation, and that cycle has not changed, but it was lunar months, not a repeating seven day cycle that was created. For instance, if the second month after creation began with a new moon day, and if LAST month began with a new moon day, what do you think the first month of the first year of earth’s history began with?

As shown above at the bottom of page 12, New moon days are not numbered in the week in Scripture, they are a third category of day. What was the first thing created? Light you say? Friend, did you miss the Creation event that occurred prior to the creation of light? It says, “*In the beginning, Elohim CREATED heaven and earth.*” This was a **time consuming event** that took place. Obviously, there were many things created prior to the first day of the week when light was created. What was the first thing created (as far as humans are concerned)? *The heavens and the earth!* However, it does not say, “and the evening and the morning were the ___ day,” after this first creation event.

Why? Because the sun that regulates day and night had not been lit yet.

Then we read about the “first day” of Creation week, Elohim said, “*Let there be light,*” and *there was light... And the evening and the morning were the first day*. What light regulates the day? Is there any light in the universe that does not have a source? It would be ridiculous to say that YHVH was the light source during day one because He is a Being of Light. On day one of earth’s Creation Week He didn’t create the light that emanates from Himself. The light referred to in **Genesis 1** separated light from darkness, creating Day and Night. The light from YHVH does not do this. The book of Revelation says that where YHVH is—there is no night. There is only one luminary in the cosmos, as seen from earth, that can regulate an evening and morning; that can divide light from darkness, and cause day and night to come upon the earth.

The SUN!

Isn’t it interesting that after Elohim created light, then and ONLY then was there an evening and a morning that made the first day? “Houston, we have a problem...”

How can we have a day as seen from earth before the sun was created on day 4? Interestingly, there is an evening and morning for the second day of creation and an evening and a morning for the third day of creation all **BEFORE** the sun was made on day four. Days are regulated by the sun! The evidence from Scripture reveals that the sun was ignited on DAY ONE!

Evidently, after this un-numbered creation event, the sun was just a big ball of gas, then on day one...PHOOM! YHVH lit the sun. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

It may not say this in English, but it does in Hebrew. The star in our solar system is our major source of light. This star is the only light source that could possibly separate day from night on this earth. So as strange as it sounds, it appears that the other heavenly bodies were created at the same moment that this blob of earth was initially created. This is made evident by the phrase: *In the beginning, Elohim made the heaven and the earth*. So YHVH lit the sun on the first day of creation therefore creating light (and Day and Night as a result). The proof for such a bold statement is found in the language used in the *fourth day* creation account:

And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:

And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so.

And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also.

And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth,

And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good.

*And the evening and the morning were the fourth day. **Genesis 1:14-19***

This word “made” (Strong’s H# 6213) is used several times during the creation week. This is the Hebrew word *asah*, (ah-saw). The Hebrew word *bara* means something was created from scratch and is found in **Genesis 1:1**, *asah* means advanced upon or appointed, *made*, like making a bed in the morning. For example: *He appointed (asah) the moon for seasons... Psalm 104:19.*

David nearly quotes **Genesis 1:14**, only he's specific about the role of the moon. *Seasons* in **Psalms 104:19** is the same Hebrew word in **Genesis 1:14**; *mo'edim*, appointed times or set feasts.

Yah's Creation week began the first month of earth's history, and began with a new moon day (the same as every other month in Scripture), described in **Genesis 1:1-2**. That unnamed, unnumbered segment of time was dark, and it is not part of the SIX day work week. In this Creation model, the Sabbath was indeed the seventh day of the week (it always has been), but it was the EIGHTH day of the first month. It has always been THAT too, as well as the 15th, 22nd and 29th days of the lunar cycle. Please see the calendar model again on p. 13 above.

Even Jewish comment reflects the concept of a perpetually repeating seven-day weekly cycle that is anchored in creation week with the Sabbath as the seventh day of the week. U. Cassuto in his *A Commentary on the Book of Genesis*, 1961, p. 68 has this to say: "The Torah, it seems to me, purports to say this: Israel's Sabbath day shall not be as the Sabbath of the heathen nations; it shall not be the day of the full moon, or any other day connected with the phases of the moon, but it shall be the *seventh day* (this enables us to understand why this particular name, *the seventh day*, is emphasized here), the seventh in *perpetual order*, independent and free from any association with the signs of the heavens and any astrological concept."

The Jews are Edomites (Esau's descendants) who adopted Judaism in the middle of the 8 century A.D. Judaism is the half pagan religion of the Babylonian rabbis who did not return to Israel with Ezra and Nehemiah. The Jews have nothing to say that will hold any bearing on the Sabbath other than to support what is clearly represented in Scripture. See quotes on page 20 above. The Jews are not Israelites, yet many, including Pastor Schultz, seem to trust them for their personal doctrine. Listen and you can hear it from their own lips...

"Here is a paradox . . . A most ingenious paradox: an anthropological fact, many Christians may have much more Hebrew-Israelite blood in their veins than most of their Jewish neighbors."
Jewish author, Alfred M. Lilienthal, What Price Israel, p. 223.

The 1980 Jewish Almanac, "*Identity Crisis*," p. 3 said... "Strictly speaking, it is incorrect to call an ancient Israelite a 'Jew' or to call a contemporary Jew and 'Israelite' or a 'Hebrew.'"

"No one can deny that the Jews are a most unique and unusual people. **That uniqueness exists because of their Edomite heritage.** You cannot be English Jews. We are a race, and only as a race can we perpetuate. **Our mentality is of Edomitish character**, and differs from that of an Englishman. Enough subterfuges! Let us assert openly that we are International Jews."
Manifesto of the "World Jewish Federation," January 1, 1935, through their spokesman, Gerald Soman. [Emphasis my own.]

"Edom is modern Jewry." —*The Jewish Encyclopedia, 1925 edition, Vol.5, p.41*

"Today, the Khazars are known as 'Jews,' not because of any racial question, but because of their religion." (*Jewish historian, Arthur Koestler, The Thirteenth Tribe, New York: Random House, Inc. 1976, pp. 152-161*) Koestler also wrote that during the Middle Ages, they lost the name Khazar and became known as Jews.

The Khazars, now known as Jews are descendants of Esau, not Jacob. The Khazars claim Mt. Seir as their point of origin (*Jewish Encyclopedia, 1901-6, Vol. IV, p. 3*). Mt. Seir was the origin of the Edomites that descended from Esau. (**Genesis 36:1-8, Deuteronomy 2:4-5**). YHVH says in **Malachi 1:2-3**, Jacob I have loved, Esau I have hated.

In every place where “Jew” appears on the KJV, it is a mistranslation. In EVERY case, the underlying Hebrew is Judean (one from the land of Judea) or Judahite (one from the tribe of Judah). The Edomites who are now known as Jews are not from Judea and they are not from the tribe of Judah. They are Esau’s descendants who are attempting to steal back the birthright sold to Jacob/Israel. The word Jew was never used anciently to describe the children of Israel. It is a name adopted by the Khazars after they adopted Judaism in the 8th century A.D.

The same author affirmed earlier (see p. 64), “Every seventh day, without intermission since the days of creation serves as a memorial to the idea of the creation of the world by the word of God, and we must refrain from work thereon so that we may follow the Creator’s example and cleave to His ways. Scripture wishes to emphasize that the sanctity of the Sabbath is older than Israel, and rests upon all mankind.” See also N. M. Sarna, *Understanding Genesis*, 1923, p. 23, and H. Cox, *The Secular City*, 1965, pp. 22-23, as quoted by S. Bacchiocchi, *Divine Rest for Human Restlessness*, 1988, p. 263.

Bacchiocchi was a Jesuit intruder.

Saying something without corroborating evidence from Scripture means nothing. Prove what I have underlined above from Scripture. The weeks have been interrupted by an intermission since Creation. New moon days do not count against the week. The Sabbath has always been the seventh day of the week, but the pagan weeks are not where a believer will find his Sabbath.

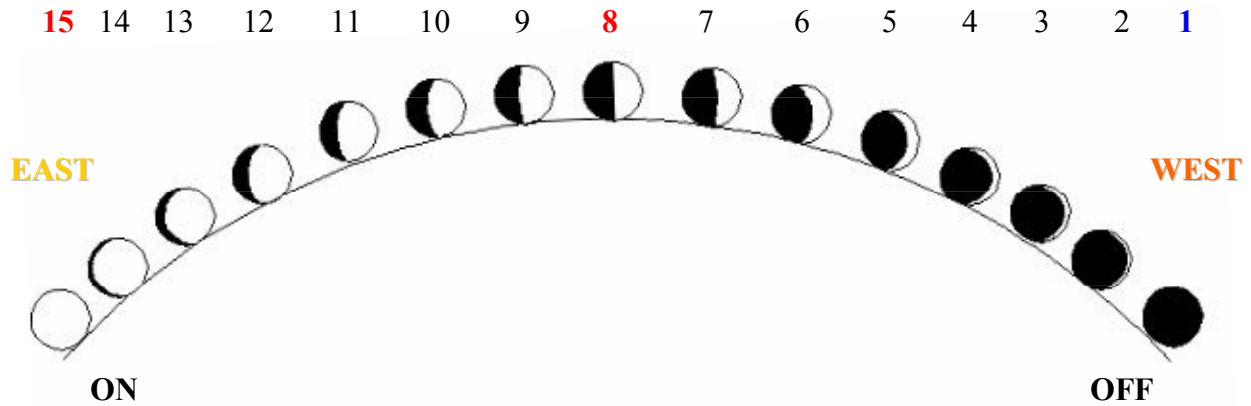
And finally, in regard to the testimony of the Spirit of prophecy, it is clearly stated in the reference cited before that **“All those who hold the beginning of their confidence firm unto the end will keep the seventh-day Sabbath, which comes to us as marked by the sun” (3SM 319)**. This reference clearly suggest that, rather than being determined by a lunar system, the seventh-day Sabbath is determined by the Solar system. [Emphasis supplied by C. Schultz]

Then we should be able to back this up with Scripture. I have all the time in the world to wait for someone to find evidence that the Sabbath is regulated by the sun. It will not be found because Scripture says it is regulated by the moon...

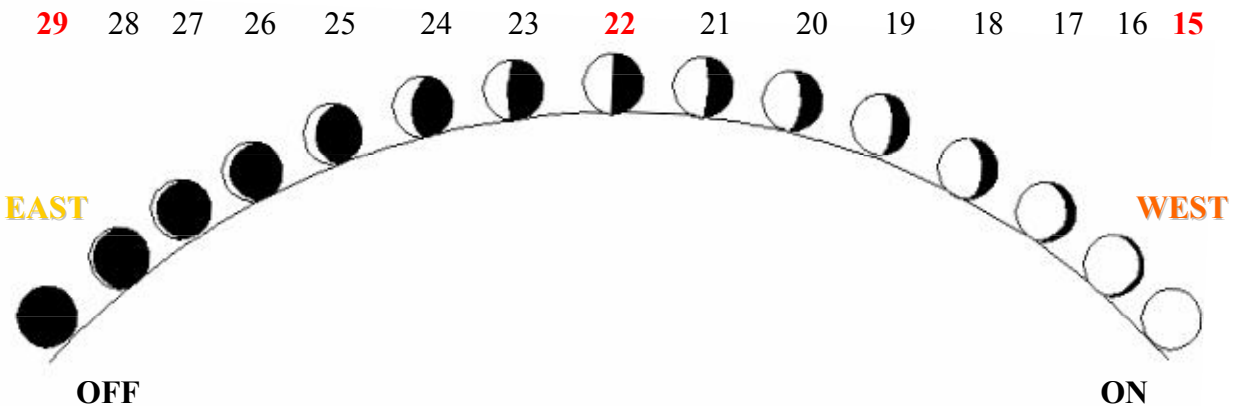
Genesis 1:14 says that the two great lights would be for **signs, seasons**, days and years. Thus the calendar of Yah is in the heavens. **Exodus 31:13, Ezekiel 20:12, and 20:20** all say that the Sabbath is a **sign**, using the SAME Hebrew word found in **Genesis 1:14** (owth), meaning signal or beacon.

Psalms 104:19 says that the moon will regulate the **seasons** (Mo’edim--appointed times, set feasts). **Leviticus 23:1-3** shows the weekly Sabbath to be the first **feast** (Mo’edim--appointed times, set feasts).

The Hebrew word translated as *signs* is *ôwth* (Strong’s H#226) — like the lights on a radio tower or lighthouse. These lights rotate or turn on and off. The sun rises and sets every day, but other than being higher or lower on the sky’s dome depending on the season, it looks the same every day. Can you go outside, look at the sun and tell whether it is either satyrday or the Sabbath? If not, you are relying on the wrong light. The moon is a different story. In the northern hemisphere, face south. From the “OFF” position, from day 1-15, the moon waxes brighter and brighter each night from right to left (just like the Hebrew language is read) until it is fully luminous...



When it could be said to be turned fully “ON”. Then it wanes until it is fully UN-illuminated.



From day 15-29, the moon is effectively, turned “OFF.”

As mentioned earlier, the Hebrew word translated in both **Genesis 1:14** and **Psalms 104:19** as *seasons* is of course, *mo'ed*, (Strong’s H#4150) meaning appointed times. The feast days, new moons and Sabbaths are these appointed times. How can we know that these days are ruled by the moon?

Well, what day of the sun is it now? Can someone go out and look at the sun and tell me what day it is? The ancients could tell the days of the week/month by the moon and so can we. However, you cannot identify the days of the week by the sun. It looks the same every day.

Interestingly, the moon enters into a different phase approximately...every **Seven Days**, so it can/does regulate the Sabbath! Nature does not lie. Men do. Nature is the first gospel. All nature screams the majesty of Yah.

Observation #3—Acceptance of the false premise that the luni-solar calendar is embedded in the fourth day of creation leads to a second faulty assumption—that the perpetually recurring seven-day cycle is “pagan.” Why take this position? [Because it is true, this cycle cannot be found anywhere in Scripture.] Common sense would dictate that if [that’s right IF. It is assumed so and nothing more.] God established the week in and through the creation process at the very beginning and set it as the very foundation of life on earth, pagan and believer alike would be embedded in the usage of the time system appointed by the Creator. It appears to be a myth to say the perpetual seven-day cycle is pagan simply because pagans are found to be relying on it. On the contrary, it is a wonderful testament to evidence of the Creator that His week as a time marker is used so prominently throughout human history by believer and unbeliever alike. It is a testimony the unbeliever bears in spite of his unwillingness to worship the Creator of the heavens and the earth!

The foundation (underlined above) for observation #3 is the same as for #1 and #2. The repeating 7 day week. So far, he really has only one issue, which is a non-issue if he would abandon his tradition and accept Scripture as is reads. Pastor Schultz may be a great guy but he is apparently not very knowledgeable of history.

Ancient calendar studies have been done, and ALL nations, if you go back far enough, have the SAME identical calendar on earth all at the same time. A 360 day lunar solar calendar consisting of twelve 30 day months. Not a SINGLE one of them had recurring 7 day weeks until paganism reared its ugly head with the worship of the heavenly bodies. The pagans spoke the language of Eden (the only one they knew) until YHVH changed the languages at Babel. These same pagans then spread over the earth taking the Creation Calendar with them—the only one they knew.

Interestingly enough, in Scripture the months ALL used to be 30 days in length, for a total of a 360 lunar/solar year. The luni-solar year in Scripture was originally 360 days long. Twelve 30 day months = 360 day year. **Genesis 7:11** says that the flood began on the 17th day of the second month. **Genesis 8:4** says the water prevailed upon the face of the earth until the 17th day of the seventh month. That is 5 months. **Genesis 7:24** and **8:3** say that the water prevailed upon the earth for 150 days. 150 divided by 5 = 30. So there were 5 consecutive 30 day months in Scripture, which is not possible with the current relationship between the earth and moon. So, we have solid Scriptural proof that the months were all originally 30 days in length. Currently some of the months are 29 days long because of a divinely ordained cosmic disturbance. The lunar cycle is now 29.5 days rather than 30 day in length, which equates to some months being 29 days long, some being 30 days long. There are 4 seven day weeks in each month, which accounts for only 28 of 29 or 30 days. These other days are new moon days.

Even more proof that the original Scriptural calendar is a 360 day lunar solar affair is found in prophecy where the prophetic year is 360 days. Time, times and the dividing of time (1260) was a combination of 360 days + 720 days + 180 days. Why would the prophetic model be 360 days, yet different than the original calendar in nature?

Observation #4—The claim is made by the authors of *The Great Calendar Controversy* that in order for Seventh-day Adventists to be consistent they “need to compute when the true Sabbath occurs by using the same calendar utilized for determining the Day of Atonement in 1844” (p. 53). The problem with this line of reasoning is that it requires an extra-biblical source (the Karaite Jewish reckoning) centuries after creation to determine the time of Sabbath observance when in fact, if the Bible is taken as it reads, observance of the Sabbath simply falls every seventh day. [The underlined is a lie, but it is a sin of ignorance, not presumption. You can use Scripture alone to determine the lunar-solar calendar.] It should also be remembered that the Hebrew luni-solar calendar was largely dependent on the time of the barley harvest as it manifested itself in the region of Jerusalem. The patriarchs of scripture did not live in the region of Jerusalem and yet it is said of Adam, Abel, Noah, Abraham, and Jacob that “it was kept by all the patriarchs” (GC 453). This of course was long before the “Mosaic calendar.”

The foundation (underlined above) for observation #4 is the same as for #1. #2 and #3. The repeating seven day week. So he STILL has only one issue with the Creation Calendar.

What is wrong with the premise of the quote from *The Great Calendar Controversy*? A man would be derelict in his duty if he compared the ancient calendar of Israel with the modern calendar in order to determine the True Sabbath of Scripture. The underlined above shows a lack of effort on the part of Pastor Schultz. The authors of *The Great Calendar Controversy* meant that we should be using the same lunar-solar calendar from Scripture that the Karaites are using.

Also, the barley harvest was not centered on Jerusalem, but all of Israel and by extension, wherever an Israelite lived. The Father’s calendar was to be observed regardless of where the believer lives. This is a false and misleading statement on the pastor’s part. The barley harvest is the same time (within a few days) all over the Middle East, and in fact, it is the within the same time frame in Atlanta and Dallas as it is in Israel. All the patriarchs lived in the Middle East so the calendar affected them the same as if they were in Jerusalem. The barley harvest in Egypt was largely the same timeframe as in Israel as proven by the plagues.

Let’s examine **Exodus 9:18-35** and the plague of hail that destroyed Egypt. In verses **31-32** we will find our answer. The flax was ready to harvest and the barley was near ready. Both crops were a total loss. Based on the recorded events, the hail fell just a few days before Passover (Abib 14). The barley harvest could begin on Abib 16.

Further, is it possible the call for “consistency” here is a straw man? Prophetic interpretation has been unfolding through the centuries as the Lord teaches His people the mysteries of salvation that will culminate with the second coming of Jesus. Prophetic interpretation has been often bolstered by a study of history, sacred and secular, and by the archeologist’s spade. The Sabbath, however, was established as part of creation week, a measure of time-keeping embedded in creation itself. To now say in the end of the age that one needs to “compute” the time of the true Sabbath based on a method of prophetic interpretation is paramount to suggesting God gave us the week but waited until the end of the age for us to keep it at the right time through computation. This seems to clearly contradict the simple statement of reminder to the people at Horeb when God said “Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.”

Who says lunar Sabbatharians need to compute the Sabbath? Looking at the moon is an act of observation, not computation. If I asked you the time, would you close your eyes turn your head and cover your watch with your hand and GUESS (compute in your head)? Or would you look at it, observe your watch? That is all we are doing, and all we are commanded to do. Where in **Genesis 1:14-16** does it say to count to seven to find the Sabbath? All I can see is the implied command to look up because that is where the two great lights in the heavens are.

With the record of creation before them, and the record of patriarchs faithfully keeping the Sabbath before us, it seems clear enough the only computation needed is to count seven days to the end of each week just as it was in the first week of creation. To bring in a method of calculation developed long after the simply stated creation account, and to suggest this new method is now the right method for revealing the truth is without reasonable foundation.

Pastor, that is because you have immersed yourself in a pagan calendar for multiple generations and don't know any better. The question is do you WANT to know better or continue in the folly of our fathers? Pastor Schultz, in studying this matter out, you COULD have inquired of a lunar Sabbatharian to get some of your questions answered rather than jump to unsupported conclusions or cause your readers to question your integrity by presenting your tradition as fact.

There was no calculation established at Creation, only observation. Again, if you can observe the sun and tell if it is the Sabbath or Satyrday, please let me know. Here is why this is so essential...

You and I have been in storm at sea for two weeks, not knowing day from night before we are finally ship wrecked. We both wake up floating in the surf of a deserted island. We have no idea what day it is. You are a satyrday Sabbatharian, I am a lunar Sabbatharian. I would know the when the Sabbath was within 48 hours of regaining consciousness. Unless someone comes along and shows you a calendar or tells you what day it is, you will NEVER know. The sun tells you when a new day begins. The MOON tells you which day it is. In order to count seven you MUST have a frame of reference, and keeping any day in seven is the sin of presumption.

Here is another example of why counting to seven will not work in the real world. You and I meet at a certain place. We immediately make peace and become friends. You introduce me to the seventh-day Sabbath (based on a repeating seven day cycle) which I accept. You are a farmer, I am a seafaring nomad. You and your family bid me farewell and I embark on a journey around the world. I travel westward and circumnavigate the globe. When I return to you and your people I throw my arms around your neck and say, "Happy Sabbath Brother." You look perplexed and say, "Friend, you are mistaken, the Sabbath was yesterday." Because of the fixed man-made international dateline, I would either be a day early or a day late, depending on whether I went east or west around the earth even though we are BOTH counting sunsets.

The lights in the heavens reset or regulate the days, weeks, months and years. Regardless of our position on earth, if we would each "observe" the setting of the sun, phases of the moon, and conjunctions (new moon phase) we will always be on the same lunar date, not only locally, but even if one or BOTH of us are moving away or toward one another.

The luminaries in the heavens are a local phenomena. We see them reset wherever we are. There is no need for an international time line. If you don't start your Sabbath when they start the Sabbath in Jerusalem, you can observe the local lights in the heavens for every other appointment on YHVH's calendar.

Observation #5—Perhaps the most troubling shortcoming in the discussion is what would have to be ignored were one to adopt a luni-solar method in accordance with the so-called “Mosaic calendar.” Early Christian literature, especially that addressing the observance of either Sabbath or Sunday as days for worship, is filled with content that indicates the church was operating on the basis of a perpetually repeating weekly cycle instead of following a Hebrew luni-solar calendar. This is taken as evidence of dependence upon a “pagan” system of reckoning time but should actually be recognized as testimony that the church was in fact struggling to keep the Sabbath according to the commandment. The juxtaposition of the seventh day Sabbath with that of Sunday the first day of the week, or “eighth day” as it is often called, signifies the fact that the Christians of the apostolic age did not tie the seventh day Sabbath of the Decalogue to a Jewish festival calendar. Ultimately the Christian church through papal edict severed its tie with the Jews on this issue making the mistake in the process of not recognizing the Bible Sabbath of the seventh day as integral to God's moral law of Ten Commandments. Separation occurred not as a result of two different calendar systems being used but because of political, ecclesiastical, theological, and social differences. However, when the Christian church, again through papal edict, established its timing for the celebration of Easter, it did so by severing its tie with the Jewish calendation associated with the Passover. These differences of relationship regarding a day of worship on the one hand and a religious festival on the other demonstrates a pervasive recognition by default that counting time for the Sabbath on a perpetually repetitive weekly cycle, and in this case manifested through the Julian calendar, was orthodox Christian doctrine.

And the events recorded in this early historical content would have occurred AFTER the calendar wars. Starting in 126 A.D. there was a serious struggle for calendar supremacy which was finally put to rest in 341 A.D. when Hillel II fixed the Hebrew calendar at the demand of the Roman Bishop. By fixed, I mean changed, altered forever, not “repaired”.

The foundation (underlined above) for observation #5 is the same as for #1, #2, #3 and #4. The repeating seven day week. So he STILL has various shades of one single issue with the Creation Calendar, yet he has not offered a shred of evidence from Scripture that there ever was an uninterrupted repeating seven day cycle.

There is one fact that blows this issue to bits. First of all, Rome did not observe the seven day planetary week in the first century (having an 8 day market week), but IF they did, there was no fri-sat-sun Passover weekend in 31 A.D. In fact, if you start the year as ancient Israel did, you will not find a single fri-sat-sun Passover weekend at any time from 27-34 A.D. Pastor Schultz is worried about what was written about the early assembly when no amount of calendar wrangling will produce a fri-sat-sun crucifixion weekend to fit Adventist prophecy. This concerns me, sounding a great deal like someone worried about the speck in their neighbor's eye while ignoring the plank in his own.

This is further attested to in our modern age by insights and pronouncements of the Spirit of Prophecy in the Advent Movement. One example among many is that referred to above from the book *The Great Controversy*: “**In the first centuries the true Sabbath had been kept by all Christians. . . . The Sabbath being still sacredly observed. . . . They still held the true Sabbath as the holy of the Lord and observed it in obedience to the fourth commandment**” (pp. 52, 53). It becomes immediately apparent that the early Christian church with all its faults still early observed the “true” Sabbath, and there is no doubt in the minds of all who study this period of history that the church was functioning on the basis of the Julian calendar system. But again, it should be remembered the Roman world and any nations outside her domains who were following a perpetually repetitive weekly calendar cycle were doing nothing more than continuing in the legacy of the weekly cycle established at the dawn of time in creation week by the Creator.

How can modern insights and pronouncements be offered on something that did not happen in Scripture? Notice the quote offered says nothing about a repeating seven day cycle. That is because all through the first centuries the early assembly observed the Creation Calendar established in **Genesis 1**, so the quote is quite accurate. Israel did not observe the Roman calendar or a repeating seven day week until 126-340 A.D. during the great calendar wars, well after the NT was written.

To adopt a luni-solar system of reckoning today that would shackle the seventh day Sabbath with the parameters of a time-keeping system meant to maintain stability for a system of shadows and types would be to go backward and away from the light of God’s commands regarding his holy Sabbath. It would be a denial of the faith of millions who kept the “true” Sabbath while keeping time first with use of the Julian calendar and then again during the time of the Gregorian calendar.

I beg your pardon, but it is shackled by no such thing. It is obedience to the parameters of calendation set up at Creation, LONG before the feasts or sacrifices were commanded. The truth is still the truth even if no one will accept it. Error is still error even if everyone embraces it. The truth is not a beauty contest or up to democratic vote. The salvation of the millions in question here is safe with YHVH who winks at our multitude of ignorance, but NOW calls all men to repent.

YHVH did not demand this truth of those millions. It was not yet time. However the same cannot be said of men today. We are responsible for the light shown to us. You want to see a couple of EGW quotes that cannot be disputed or questioned and are actually on point?

“In every age there is a new development of truth, a message of God to the people of that generation. The old truths are all essential; new truth is not independent of the old, but an unfolding of it. It is only as the old truths are understood that we can comprehend the new. When Christ desired to open to His disciples the truth of His resurrection, He began ‘at Moses and all the prophets’ and ‘expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning Himself.’ Luke 24:27. But it is the light which shines in the fresh unfolding of truth that glorifies the old. He who rejects or neglects the new does not really possess the old. For him it loses its vital power and becomes but a lifeless form.” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, pp. 127-128

“We do not occupy the position which they occupied in the unfolding of truth. In order to be accepted and honored as they were, we must improve the light which shines upon us, as they improved that which shone upon them; we must do as they would have done, had they lived in our day. Luther and the Wesleys were reformers in their time. It is our duty to continue the work of reform. If we neglect to heed the light, it will become darkness; and the degree of darkness will be proportionate to the light rejected.” *Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 186*

To ignore the claim of inspiration that Christians in the first centuries had kept the true Sabbath puts one in the unenviable position of being out of harmony with the Lord. The “true” Sabbath here referred to is of course the seventh-day of either the Julian or the Gregorian calendar since these were the calendars used in Christian literature by which the seventh day and first day controversy was addressed through the centuries. Christian history is replete with this seventh day/first day juxtaposition, and continues to our modern time with such solidarity to the perpetually repeating seven day cycle of creation that a controlling lunar influence is not tenable.

We are not ignoring inspiration, nor do we live in any fear of being out of harmony with YHVH. It’s true; they were observing the true Sabbath in the first century. But that first century calendar looked nothing like our modern calendar. The issue here is that the true Sabbath ceased to be observed around 340 A.D.

Observation #6—No change of the magnitude here being suggested in reverting to a luni-solar calendation can be done without the voice of the assembled people of God. This may indeed be an interesting and stimulating study of an issue the General Conference itself never fully resolved to the satisfaction of those investigating the matter. Perhaps it should be studied further.

I have never heard such unmitigated propaganda from a Pastor. A multitude of counselors only works when they are all equally righteous men. [** See endnote] The multitude of counselors spoken of in the Scriptures was not on a payroll where their vote might cost them their job. The Adventist church is a 501c3 organized incorporation; it’s a business. In places like this, a dissenting voice can be fired (and have been many times) in order to protect the interest of the “church” business. If men were hired and fired based upon their performance in upholding the doctrines of Scripture, this would not be an issue, but they are not. They are hired and fired based on their upholding of the principles of church doctrine found in the Church Manual. The truth is not revealed to the masses or to the leaders of an apostate organization. It is revealed to the humble few to share with the masses.

For His church in every generation God has a special truth and a special work. The truth is revealed to the childlike and humble. At the outset its advocates are few. By great men of the world and by a world conforming church, they are opposed and despised. See John the Baptist, standing alone to rebuke the pride and formalism of the Jewish nation. See Martin Luther withstanding that mighty church. As in earlier ages, the special truths for this time are found, not with the ecclesiastical authorities, but with men and women who are not too learned or too wise to believe the Word of God.” *Christ’s Object Lessons, 78, 79*

At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.
Matthew 11:25

“There are many honest souls in these valleys; but they do not understand the truth for this time, and it is not merely by argument that they are to learn it. There is a work to be done of feeding these hungry, starving sheep with spiritual food. Many of the professed teachers of the people are perfectly content to set their stakes and make no advancement themselves, and they are much disturbed when others are induced to seek for truth. When new light is presented, ... [t]hey want to stop the increase of light. They not only refuse to search the Scriptures for themselves, but they do all in their power to prevent others from searching.” *Review & Herald, 6-29-1886*

“There are new truths to be revealed to the humble seeker. The teachings of God’s word are to be freed from the errors and superstition with which they have been encumbered. Doctrines that are not sanctioned by the Scriptures have been widely taught, and many have honestly accepted them; but when the truth is revealed, it becomes the duty of every one to accept it. Those who allow worldly interests, desire for popularity, or pride of opinion, to separate them from the truth, must render an account to God for their neglect.” *Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 186*

Will the matter be taken up as a serious study by the church? That remains to be seen. In the mean time I would encourage all who are inclined to study the question in depth to be patient with one another and not rush to judgment, either of the persons or of the conclusion. If it is a matter of vital importance, we can afford to give it our best study and share in the dialogue with calm deliberation. No hasty decision should be made either in the adoption of so-called “new light” or in the leaving of one’s post in the work of the Lord.

This is disingenuous as he knows full well that the church is already in full scale damage control and spin mode. However, he is correct in the way he wrote his question. WILL the matter be taken up as a serious study by the SDA church? The answer to that is a sound and hearty, No.

That said, he made a nice come-back by asking for patience and tolerance while this is being studied. I will give the Pastor credit where credit is due.

Should one’s personal convictions lead them to adopt a method of calendation not commonly used by the rest of the body, that is an individual right to exercise. However, being a Seventh-day Adventist Christian is recognized as being one who honors God and worships Him on the seventh day of the week according to the Gregorian method of counting weeks. **[You could knock me down with a feather with this admission.]** If one adopts a method of reckoning that places the Sabbath otherwise than on the seventh day as recognized in the Gregorian calendar, they could not then be considered a faithful Seventh-day Adventist Christian. The reason is quite plain of course, since the observance of the Sabbath according to their calculation would have them observing the Sabbath on days most often not associated with the seventh day of the week according to the present manner of counting successive weeks of time, commonly referred to as the Gregorian calendar. The Sabbath-keeping feature is a central postulate of our faith, and is vitally important to our practice as Seventh-day Adventist Christians.

I appreciate Pastor Schultz's acknowledgment that it is my privilege to observe the truth if I am so convicted, but I am stupefied that he would admit that unless you keep the Sabbath by the order of the Gregorian calendar, a pagan/papal calendar, you cannot be an Adventist in good standing. The Father has His own calendar in the heavens, but in order to be an Adventist, you must observe the Catholic calendar. If this is not an indictment of the spiritual condition of the Adventist denomination in the highest order of magnitude, I do not know what is.

Observation #7—I personally have a few questions I have not yet answered to my satisfaction with the introduction of this question on the use of the luni-solar method of keeping time. One such question has to do with the appeal to the lunar tables of the U. S. Naval Observatory and other similar “scientific” information. Once again, however, we should be reminded that science does not interpret revelation, but rather divine revelation must always give depth and understanding to science. “Science is ever discovering new wonders; but she brings from her research nothing that, rightly understood, conflicts with divine revelation” (Ed 128).

I agree, science can only prove Scripture, it will never disprove it.

If the Pastor has questions, why did he wait until the very end to say so? And furthermore, where are these questions stated? He has questions, but does not ask them. Is he afraid of the answer? The problem with the US Naval Observatory is that all their calendar models and data are based on Gregorian time. So by default, the information gleaned from them will contradict or conflict with the Scriptural calendar model. I find the USNO very helpful because they do very accurately pinpoint when astronomical events occur, the key to understanding and unlocking this information is learning how to translate this information into Creation Calendar time. I can do this and would be happy to teach the Pastor or anyone else how to do so.

Since I am not an astronomer or proficient in the knowledge of lunar science, I have much to learn in this field. Having said that, I am aware enough to know that there has been great disagreement among scholars on the issue of whether Jesus was crucified on a Wednesday or on a Friday according to the Julian calendar. Much of the debate swirls around the issue of lunar calculations regarding the Passover weekend on which it is believed Jesus was put to death. Some will point to science as a definitive answer to the problem, but in doing so can easily exchange one problem for another—that of making science the final arbiter of how one understands the plain statements of scripture. This would be contrary to our experience of faith in the word of God and to the statements of progression as found in the gospel accounts that trace for the believer the events of the crucifixion of our Lord.

It is not science, it is nature. Nature is the first gospel, and all nature will support the events in Scripture. If man cannot find a fri-sat-sun crucifixion weekend in the years they THINK it should have occurred, that is because it didn't happen on a fri-sat-sun. Nature denies the possibility of it occurring because the full moon rose the evening after Passover Day, announcing the 15th as the Sabbath of unleavened, the second Sabbath of the first month. You can extrapolate the current calendar back to the first century, and you will NOT find a fri-sat-sun crucifixion weekend in any of the years suspected as being the year of Jesus' murder. There is no science involved here, just overlaying a man-made, pagan/papal calendar over the natural cycles of the moon.

To further complicate matters, Israel was not using a Roman calendar in the first century; it was not until the 4th century that Israelites were forced to observe Roman time. Also, Rome did not have a repeating seven day cycle in the first century. They had a repeating 8 day market week. So overlaying the current 7 day Gregorian calendar week on the lunar cycle and forcing it into the first century is an effort in futility, but not a completely useless or ignorant waste of time. If one honestly examines the evidence, forcing one calendar over the other FORCES one to admit that the current calendar is a fraud.

If the Scriptural events are correct, Jesus was murdered on preparation day, Passover, Abib 14, rested in the tomb on the Sabbath, Abib 15, and rose early on the first day of the week, Abib 16. But none of these dates were recorded using a Roman calendar, rather all these dates are found on the lunar-solar calendar of Israel, thus the problems overlaying the man-made Roman calendar onto the natural calendar of ancient Israel.

Observation #8—This observation takes the form of a rhetorical question. In the “Change of Calendar” portion of *The Great Calendar Controversy* it is suggested that a calendar change is a Sunday law. If this is the case, what would be the need of changing the calendar again for another Sunday law in the end of time (2012 proposal, etc. for a world calendar change to come)? If people are already living under the misguided notion they are keeping God’s Sabbath commandment, when in fact they are not, nor have they ever been keeping the right day for the Sabbath. This would make the whole idea of a National Sunday Law redundant and call in question all that the Seventh-day Adventist Church has taught regarding the restoration of the Sabbath of the Lord.

At last, a question. The answer is found above on pages 10-11. There is a dual counterfeit, one for the enemies of YHVH, the other established to fool the elect of YHVH (if possible).

The pastor is right, why bother, if it is a redundant issue? The point is that while redundant; it is not a waste of time for the Arch Deceiver to try to snare spiritually slothful children of YHVH. And it is not a waste of time for the Father to test His children to see if they will honestly examine the evidence and obey, even at great personal cost.

The satyrday-sunday issue is Pastor’s question, but the final conflict will not be a question between two counterfeit rest days. It will be between the true system of worship and the false. The 2012 World Calendar effort is not going to bring about a sunday law. Sunday will still be the first day of the week with this calendar, so it is still an obvious counterfeit. However, satyrday, while still the seventh day of the week, will no longer be every seven days throughout the years, proving it is a man-made counterfeit calendar, not the calendar of YHVH. I pray that the World Calendar will be enforced because it will then expose Adventists as having adopted a pagan/papal/man-made calendar, then rigorously defended it even though it miserably failed every possible test brought forward to prove it is the Sabbath of Scripture. These tests all prove that the Sabbath is by the moon, just as Scripture, nature and history clearly reveal.

A Word of Caution: [Why caution people from examining the evidence in search of the truth?]

As a pastor I am quite concerned that the stirrings on this subject of not having had the right Sabbath and not following the right calendar is not the subject of our mission in the assignment given to us of proclaiming the three angels' messages. [Since when is the truth, including the true Sabbath not part of the 3 angels' messages? Revelation 14:7-Fear YHVH, and give honor to Him, for the hour of His judgment is come. And worship Him who made heaven and earth. If this is not clearly a worship/Sabbath issue, I don't know what is!] Many years ago there were movements among the Advent people to stir them up with various concepts of "new light" that would bring distraction to their mission. A caution was given in the following words:

"Many theories were advanced, bearing a semblance of truth, but so mingled with misinterpreted and misapplied scriptures, that they led to dangerous errors. Very well do we know how every point of truth was established, and the seal set upon it by the Holy Spirit of God. And all the time voices were heard, 'Here is the truth,' 'I have the truth; follow me.' But the warnings came, 'Go not ye after them. I have not sent them, but they ran.' (See Jeremiah 23:21.)

The leadings of the Lord were marked, and more wonderful were His revelations of what is truth. Point after point was established by the Lord God of heaven. That which was truth *then*, is truth today. But the voices do not cease to be heard—"This is truth. I have new light." But these new lights in prophetic lines are manifest in misapplying the Word and setting the people of God adrift without an anchor to hold them. If the student of the Word would take the truths which God has revealed in the leadings of His people, and appropriate these truths, digest them, and bring them into their practical life, they would then be living channels of light. But those who have set themselves to study out new theories have a mixture of truth and error combined, and after trying to make these things prominent, have demonstrated that they have not kindled their taper from the divine altar, and it has gone out in darkness."—Manuscript 31, 1896.

I agree fully. Regarding the first paragraph of the quote above, it is of the utmost importance that you should know just how satyrday became the Sabbath. Regarding the second paragraph, since the Creation Calendar and lunar Sabbath were established at creation and was the truth *then* when the Torah and the testimony of the prophets was written as well as in the first century, it is still the truth today. It is not new light, it is old light, just new to us who have been immersed in such spiritual darkness and the traditions of our fathers. If we would take the Word, just as it is written, this paper would never have been written nor my response necessary.

"The Lord will not lead minds now to set aside the truth that the Holy Spirit has moved upon His servants in the past to proclaim. Many will honestly search the Word for light as those in the past have searched it; and they see light in the Word. But they did not pass over the ground in their experience, when these messages of warning were first proclaimed. Not having had this experience, some do not appreciate the value of the truths that have been to us as waymarks, and that have made us as a peculiar people what we are. They do not make a right application of the Scriptures, and thus they frame theories that are not correct. It is true that they quote an abundance of Scripture, and teach much that is true; but truth is so mixed with error as to lead to wrong conclusions. Yet because they can weave Scripture into their theories, they think they have a straight chain of truth. Many who did not have an experience in the rise of the messages, accept these erroneous theories, and are led into false paths, backward instead of forward. This is the enemy's design."—2SM 110, 111.

We are not saying that the Sabbath is no longer important. The waymark is still a valid truth. Why is it that no one seems to understand the huge deception, and mass deception that has taken place, with the seventh day of a pagan/papal calendar taking the place of the true Sabbath of Creation? When we try to present the truth of this matter, it is the messengers who are reviled and slandered and the message regarded as a light thing, of no great importance. It is easy to understand why there will be sighing and crying by the aged and learned for the assembly of YHVH.

Never has there been such naked rebellion by such a stiff-necked people. Ancient Israel, most of whom could not read, had only the words of the prophets. We, most all of us literate, have all of Scripture, Nature AND the historical record all saying the SAME THING: The weekly Sabbath is regulated by the moon. What excuse will these offer come judgment day? *“I didn’t know”?*

The promotion of subject matter in this instance was different than what is being suggested in the work of calendar reform, but I believe the same caution may well serve us today.

In addition we have the following cautions that we would do well to observe during this time when every wind of doctrine seems to be blowing:

“God has not passed His people by and chosen one solitary man here and another there as the only ones worthy to be entrusted with His truth. He does not give one man new light contrary to the established faith of the body. In every reform men have arisen making this claim. . . . Let none be self-confident, as though God had given them special light above their brethren. . . .

True, but He will give ONE man a message of truth to take to a house of rebellion, living contrary to established truth. Elijah and Jonah are clear examples. This is where the line of distinction is drawn. Thus far Adventism has done as Israel did and tried to silence the Elijah’s sent in their midst rather than repent as Nineveh did after Jonah’s message of reform.

One accepts some new and original idea which does not seem to conflict with the truth. He . . . dwells upon it until it seems to him to be clothed with beauty and importance, for Satan has power to give this false appearance. At last it becomes the all-absorbing theme, the one great point around which everything centers, and the truth is uprooted from the heart. . . .

I warn you to beware of these side issues, whose tendency is to divert the mind from the truth. Error is never harmless. It never sanctifies, but always brings confusion and dissension.”— 5T 291, 292 (1885).

Side issue? The Sabbath and/or Sabbath reform is a side issue? A side issue would be “Are short skirts and low cut blouses permissible in church?” Sorry, but I see a ton of evidence in Scripture regarding the Sabbath, but not a shred of instruction in Scripture on modest dress.

Don’t misunderstand. I’m not saying that immodest dress is appropriate. I’m saying that if one has the truth regarding the Sabbath and other doctrinal issues in Scripture, one will eventually correct their appearance, dress and other personal habits not mentioned in Torah because of their love of truth and dedication to the righteous principles of YHVH.

“There are a thousand temptations in disguise prepared for those who have the light of truth, and the only safety for any of us is in receiving no new doctrine, no new interpretation of the Scriptures, without first submitting it to brethren of experience. Lay it before them in a humble, teachable spirit, with earnest prayer, and if they see no light in it, yield to their judgment, for ‘in the multitude of counselors there is safety.’ . . .

Men and women will arise professing to have some new light or some new revelation whose tendency is to unsettle faith in the old landmarks. Their doctrines will not bear the test of God’s Word, yet souls will be deceived. False reports will be circulated, and some will be taken in this snare. . . . We cannot be too watchful against every form of error, for Satan is constantly seeking to draw men from the truth.”—5T 293, 295, 296 (1885).

The issue here is that the doctrine of satyrday Sabbatarians will not bear the test of Yah’s Word, and the multitude of counselors that Adventism will trot out will support the false Sabbath over the true. Don’t believe me? Just keep watching. When the World Calendar is enforced, Adventism will prove her mettle. She is as full of apostasy as all other protestant faiths. I love the people, but the denomination is rotten at the top and guilty of misleading the people.

“We must make it appear essential to be united, not that we are to require others to come to our ideas, but if all are seeking the meekness and lowliness of Christ they will have the mind of Christ. Then there will be unity of spirit.”—Letter 15, 1892.

“I urge those who claim to believe the truth to walk in unity with their brethren. Do not seek to give to the world occasion to say that we are extremists, that we are disunited, that one teaches one thing, and one another. Avoid dissension.”—TM 57 (1893).

There will never be unity here until YHVH establishes His Kingdom on earth. The truth divides as a sword divides joint and marrow. Do you remember that narrow winding path spoken of by Matthew and in the Spirit of Prophecy? The truth unifies all right, but as it does, it sloughs off the deadwood, the pretenders, the pew warmers and the half converted. Time and the progression of truth whittle down the body of believers until there are but few to walk the narrow path.

You KNOW what I’m saying is true; will you confess and admit as much? Nay, most dare not because it proves that they are part of an apostate denomination that purposely and ritually misleads the people, demanding that they all have to think and believe alike, that there is strength in numbers, and to trust only those at the top who are alone ordained and commissioned and entrusted with the truth. If that is not Catholicism, I don’t know what is.

When has the majority EVER been correct? At the flood? In Sodom and Gomorrah? When the 12 spies came back with a great report about the promised land? When Elijah challenged Ahab and the prophets of Ba’al? When Goliath challenged Israel? At the crucifixion? When Martin Luther challenged the papacy? It makes me sick to hear this unity message because when applied it causes spiritual stagnation, a tool of the enemy. Thinking for oneself, thinking outside the box, being convicted by the Spirit of YHVH is prohibited and said to be extremism, the cause of dissension and disunity. In reality, it is the lifeblood of all true believers everywhere. Is the lighthouse correct or the hundred ships all heading straight toward the reef?

In summary, my initial review of this calendar question leads me to believe it is not a direction God is calling His children. In my mind it is clearly a false doctrine designed by the enemy to distract the people of God from their central mission of proclaiming the Gospel and the Third Angel's Message.

I have to question Pastor Schultz's integrity here. The Sabbath, the true Sabbath, is very much a part of the three angels' message. I appreciate his "permission" for me to think outside the box and to act upon my convictions, but I recoil at his misguided conclusion.

"Men occasionally stumble over the truth, but most of them pick themselves up and hurry off as if nothing ever happened." *Winston Churchill*

"There is a principle which is a bar against all information, which is proof against all arguments, and which cannot fail to keep a man in everlasting ignorance; that principle is contempt prior to investigation." *Herbert Spencer*

I respect the right of all to make their own decisions in the matter but fear that adoption of the luni-solar concept will in the end destroy one's ministry and influence in the work of the Advent Movement, and will frustrate God's purposes for what the Advent Movement has been raised up to do—the proclamation of the messages found in Revelation 14. I believe the Lord is still leading out a group of people he has denominated as Seventh-day Adventists and that if this is the direction they are to go it will be determined in the larger councils of the world church. In the mean time, as the body of Christ, we are mandated to work together in brotherly love for the advancement of God's kingdom. Rather than drawing apart on an issue for which we have no good reason, let us press together continuing to work for the soon return of our Lord.

It's true, the lunar Sabbath will destroy the Advent Movement. I believe that is why the lunar Sabbath movement is becoming an issue now. Adventism has shown herself an unworthy apostate. What could have been her brightest moment, admitting that she has promoted the wrong Sabbath count for all these years and embrace the Creation Calendar, will now become her undoing. All righteous men will see her nakedness when Adventism goes along with the Catholic introduced World Calendar reform rather than admit that the weekly count does not go backward by seven all the way to creation.

The foundation for the weekly cycle and the seventh day Sabbath at the end of the week was clearly and simply laid out at creation. [That is correct, and that is how lunar Sabbatarians worship.] Christian history has pervasively juxtaposed seventh day and first day throughout the centuries since the time of Christ's first advent, [No they have not. They have THOUGHT to, but when the evidence is examined, this is a false conclusion. The modern calendar has only been able to be juxtaposed with the older Julian calendar since 321 A.D. The Roman calendar has never been juxtaposed with the Scriptural calendar.] and this the Spirit of Prophecy, ministering in the Advent Movement of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, has thoroughly identified with, calling the recovery of the Sabbath as observed on the Gregorian seventh day the "true Sabbath" (GC 587 and other references listed above) of the Lord.

Too bad for that, isn't it? To the law [Torah] and the testimony [of the prophets] if they speak not according to this word it is because there is no light in them. **Isaiah 8:20.** Now the test is are you going to believe Sister White or Scripture? So Adventism has two great tests to contend with. Has satyrday ever been the true Sabbath of Yah, and was Ellen White shown the truth regarding satyrday?

To now adopt a different view of the seventh day Sabbath would be to deny God's recognition of the blood-bought heritage of the ages and also cause one to cast aside the confirming principles of the Spirit of Prophecy that were given to guide the church through times just such as these when the very foundation of the time for Sabbath observance is being questioned.

It is not our fault that men have fought and died over the Sabbath issue in the dark and middle ages. The Father will reward their sacrifice and wink at their ignorance regarding the Sabbath of Scripture. To now REFUSE to adopt a different view of the seventh day Sabbath once the evidence is in would be to deny that YHVH is the restorer of men, the restorer of paths to dwell in and a merciful Redeemer who is unwilling to let men rot in ignorance forever.

With the issue of global calendar reform once again pushing itself to the world's attention, God's people will no doubt be soon required to give an account for their faith and the practice of the seventh day Sabbath observance as it now stands. [Very true.] What reasoning will the church give, and what reasoning will the world give when a proposed reform could make the seventh day the first and the first the seventh? [The coming World Calendar is not going to make satyrday sunday or vice versa.] We will have to be very careful here, but it just may be that such an issue will be part of the catalyst that causes the children of God to "proclaim the Sabbath more fully at the commencement of the time of trouble" (EW 33, 85).

As I said, the new calendar is not going to be about satyrday vs. sunday. These days are not going to move from their present locations in the calendar week. Again, the pastor's ignorance of the information available is showing.

Write this down. The Sabbath more fully message is going to be the Sabbath of Scripture vs. satyrday.

Conclusion

It is my conviction, based on careful Biblical, historical, and theological considerations, that the luni-solar calendar issue is a distraction of Satan that strikes at the very foundation of the Advent Movement and the Seventh-day Adventist Church in particular. I believe it places adherents to the concept at variance with the mission and purpose God has for the church's proclamation of the Third Angels Message. I believe it is clearly at odds with the Bible, the Spirit of Prophecy, and the larger context of church history from the time of Christ to the present. I believe it will only bring separation and conflict into the church and thus frustrate the prayer of Christ that His disciples may be one in spirit and proclamation of the Third Angels Message. In a word, the luni-solar proposition for true Sabbath observance is a false doctrine and should be rejected outright as a heresy designed by the enemy of our souls.

And dear reader, after reading this response to Pastor Schultz's take on the lunar Sabbath, which message is a distraction from Satan, and what is the Sabbath of Scripture?

The message is going to be [has already been actually] taken from Adventism and given to others who will be faithful to the recorded and natural evidence.

In addition, it should be remembered that the greatest danger to the Advent Movement and the Seventh-day Adventist Church is not from outside, but from within our own ranks. Just as Satan used Peter to contradict the words of Jesus, so Satan will use those most intimately associated with present truth to bring in distractions, diversions, disruptions, fanaticism, and heresies.

It's true. Listen to Pastor Shultz here. If you continue to follow Adventist leadership, you may lose your salvation. They are the greatest obstacle to the truth in the entire denomination.

Satan knows his days are numbered (Rev. 12:12) and therefore his special target for deception and destruction is the remnant of God "which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ" (Rev. 12:17). The luni-solar Sabbath concept strikes at the heart of the faithfulness of God's people at the very end of time. And it is all the more impressive in its deceitfulness and demonic nature because it issues from within our own ranks at such a time as this!

Satan offers a minimum of at least a dual counterfeit for every truth given by YHVH, sometimes even more. *If you will abide in him you should walk even as he walked.* I John 2:6. Jesus was a Torah observant feast keeper, who restored the Father's Name to its rightful place and kept the Creation Calendar and the lunar Sabbath because these are commandments of YHVH.

Pastor Schultz gives Adventists too much credit. This message did not come from within, it came from faithful believers outside the denomination who brought it to Adventist friends, who are now bringing it before the people AGAIN for the 5th time. Our early pioneers faced this in 1843, again in 1883, once again in 1938-39, and in 1995 now again today. Does the Father love Adventists or what? Israel only got three chances to enter the promised land.

An excellent resource for further study on the Jewish festivals and the Sabbath is Ron du Preez's recently published book *Judging the Sabbath*. You may purchase your copy by going to the website <http://www.amazon.com>

Ron du Prez knows very little about the feasts and Sabbath of YHVH. Click [here](#). I have no theological letters after my name, but I am just simple enough to believe the Word of Yah over the traditions of men.

This is Pastor Schultz' 8th revision. I look forward to receiving his ninth or any further revisions. If you come across it, please pass it along. These men need to be and SHALL BE held accountable for their campaign of misinformation. If they do not see the error of their ways pointed out by the hand of men, they will face it in final judgment. That decision is theirs.

Respectfully submitted,

Troy Miller
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End notes:

* “The prejudices and opinions that prevailed at Minneapolis [Where the GC took place in 1888] are not dead by any means; the seeds sown there in some hearts are ready to spring into life and bear a like harvest. The tops have been cut down, but the roots have never been eradicated, and they still bear their unholy fruit to poison the judgment, pervert the perceptions, and blind the understanding of those with whom you connect, in regard to the message and the messengers. When, by thorough confession, you destroy the root of bitterness, you will see light in God’s light. Without this thorough work you will never clear your souls. You need to study the word of God with a purpose, not to confirm your own ideas, but to bring them to be trimmed, to be condemned or approved, as they are or are not in harmony with the word of God. The Bible should be your constant companion. You should study the Testimonies, not to pick out certain sentences to use as you see fit, to strengthen your assertions, while you disregard the plainest statements given to correct your course of action.

“There has been a departure from God among us, and the zealous work of repentance and return to our first love essential to restoration to God and regeneration of heart, has not yet been done. Infidelity has been making its inroads into our ranks; for it is the fashion to depart from Christ, and give place to skepticism. ...” *Life Sketches of Ellen G. White, 1915, p 326*

** “Finite men should beware of seeking to control their fellow-men, taking the place assigned to the Holy Spirit. Let not men feel that it is their prerogative to give to the world what they suppose to be truth, and refuse that anything should be given contrary to their ideas. This is not their work. Many things will appear distinctly as truth, which will not be acceptable to those who think their own interpretations of the Scripture always right. Most decided changes will have to be made in regard to ideas which some have accepted as without a flaw. These men give evidence of fallibility in very many ways; they work upon principles which the word of God condemns. That which makes me feel to the very depths of my being, and makes me know that their works are not the works of God, is that they suppose they have authority to rule their fellow-men. The Lord has given them no more right to rule others than He has given others to rule them. Those who assume the control of their fellow-men take into their finite hands a work that devolves upon God alone.” *Selections from the Testimonies for the Church, 1903, Warnings and Counsels Given to the Battle Creek Church.*

“The false ideas that were largely developed at Minneapolis have not been entirely uprooted from some minds. Those who have not made thorough work of repentance under the light God has been pleased to give to his people since that time, will not see things clearly, and will be ready to call the messages God sends, a delusion.” *General Conference Daily Bulletin, 2-7-1893*