

Hello all, here is yet another study against the Lunar Sabbath. I must admit that this study came to me in Adobe (.pdf) format which I had to convert to a Microsoft Word document (.doc) before I could respond to it. The main graphic did not “translate” and had to be recreated from scratch. That said, neither jot nor tittle of the original study has been changed and is represented here in its entirety.

Also, I received TWO studies by Gerhard Pfandl by the same title, one dated 1-11, the other dated 7-13. They are similar, but not identical. One is 9 pages, the other 6 (respectively). One has footnotes, the latter endnotes (respectively). They are formatted differently as well (different font, different paragraph settings, etc.) I am responding to the most recent, dated 7-2013. {I am writing this addendum after I completed this study. I found that there was no significant difference between the two studies, so there is no need to address the original study dated 1-2011.}

Without reading in advance a single line of this study, I can guarantee that Bro. Pfandl will not offer a single text that says that saturday is the Sabbath or offer any evidence from Scripture or from Ellen White’s writings against the lunar Sabbath of the Creation Calendar. But I welcome his every word and relish the opportunity to once again vindicate the Sabbath of Creation before my fellow men.

I will respond in blue, [bracketed in blue] and perhaps a little red or green. 12-28-2013

Weekly Sabbath or Lunar Sabbath: Are Adventists Keeping the Wrong Sabbath?

Gerhard Pfandl

Jews, Seventh-day Adventists, and other Sabbath-keeping groups keep the Sabbath every seventh day in accordance with the creation account in Genesis 1:1-2:3 and the fourth commandment in Exodus 20:9-11. In the last few years, a number of individuals among Messianic Jews and Seventh-day Adventists have started to promote the Lunar Sabbath Theory.

That the Jews, Seventh-day Adventists and other Sabbath keeping groups keep the Sabbath in accordance with **Genesis 1:1** through **2:3** is an assumption. Please note Elder Pfandl offers no evidence to support this other than it is his belief. His opinion is not evidence. Nor is mine.

The Lunar Sabbath Theory

This theory says that the fixed traditional Sabbath keeping every seventh day from Friday sunset through Saturday sunset is a corruption of an “original” biblical Sabbath based on the lunar cycle. Under this model, the Sabbath always falls on the 8th, 15th, 22st (*sic*) and 29th day of each lunar month.

It is true. Every Sabbath that can be date identified in Scripture always falls on either the 8th, 15th, 22nd or 29th days of the month. Click here for the evidence: http://www.creationcalendar.com/CalendarIssue/28-8-15-22-29_Proof.doc

On the Biblical lunar-solar calendar, each lunation (or lunar month) always begins with a New Moon day, which is in a class of worship day all by itself. Six work days follow on the second through seventh of the month. The seventh-day Sabbath always falls on the 8th, the 15th, the 22nd and the 29th of every lunar month. This is the reason it is called a lunar Sabbath. ¹

Since the lunar month is 29 ½ days, each month has 4 weeks with seven days and one or two days over depending on whether the month has 29 or 30 days. If you maintain a seven-day rhythm, it means that the lunar Sabbath can fall on any day of the regular week; because with each new lunar month it falls a day or two later in the week than the last month (see below). [So, why maintain a seven day rhythm? There is not a single verse in Scripture that says the Sabbath is the seventh day of an unbroken, uninterrupted cycle of seven days.] As a result, to follow this system one must deal with the difficult and impractical situation of having to take a different day off from work each month on a rotating schedule.

Whom do you fear most, YHVH or your boss? How convenient for Elder Pfandl that the pagan/papal calendar created by Pope Gregory in 1582 and used by the SDA church permits him to observe his seventh-day Sabbath on a fixed day weekend for his entire life. Does he trust the papacy? If so, why? If not, why adopt the pagan/papal calendar just because the entire world wanders after the beast?

Since when is obedience to the commands in Scripture open to debate? Since when is obedience to the commands in Scripture a matter of convenience? Who does Elder Pfandl think he is that the Creator of the universe is supposed to suspend the Sabbath institution just for him because he finds obedience impractical?

Come now, let us reason together.

Joshua said that as for he and his family, he was going to serve YHVH. **Joshua 24:15**

Peter said it was better to obey YHVH than man. Acts 5:29

Let me pose this issue to you another way. The calendar you observe tells you when to work and when to worship. WHICH day you worship tells heaven and the on-looking universe WHO you worship. So getting the day right is THAT important.

A further complication arises from the alleged counting of new moon and transition days. That is, because the seven-day rhythm cannot be maintained if the Sabbath must always fall on the 8th, the 15th, the 22nd, and the 29th of every lunar month, the first day, the New Moon day, and 30th day of the month are not counted as part of the week.

Why does this seven-day rhythm need maintained? Where is the command in Scripture to maintain this seven-day rhythm? It is not there. In Scripture the Sabbath is the seventh day of the week. Period. Nothing added, nothing diminished. The ONLY reason Elder Pfandl thinks that the Sabbath is on a repeating unbroken, uninterrupted cycle of seven days is because the pagan/papal Gregorian calendar he uses to find his Sabbath lists satyrday as the seventh day of the week in an unbroken cycle.

There is no text that says satyrday (the first day of the pagan planetary week) is the Sabbath. Satyrday was moved from the first day of the planetary week to the seventh day by Constantine in A.D. 321 when he “venerated the day of the sun.” This is a quote Adventists LOVE to bounce off of potential new converts because it shows that Rome adopted Sunday, the first day of the week rather than the seventh day as commanded in Scripture. What the Adventist church will NOT tell these potential new converts is that before Constantine venerated the day of the sun in A.D. 321, Sunday was the second day of the pagan planetary week and satyrday the first. In A.D. 321, Constantine (who converted to Mithraism, the Persian version of sun worship) venerated the day of the sun by bumping satyrday from the coveted Number One position in the week all the way to the seventh day, which was vacated by all the other days moving up one position in the weekly cycle, permitting the sun’s day to hold the preeminent position.

Elder Pfandl, Saturday is the 7th day of the week by the sole virtue of the Roman Emperor Constantine. You are hanging your Sabbath on a peg placed there by the church of Rome. You don't openly worship the beast, you have just adopted the beast's calendar system and are feebly trying to worship the creator by the use of a pagan/papal calendar.

All days are not created equal according to Scripture. The Lord Yahuwah has ordained three separate and distinct classes of days that occur monthly: *New Moon* days, *six work days*, and *seventh-day Sabbaths*. The 30th day, known in astronomical terms as translation day, is simply a work day, but is not part of a six day week followed by a seventh-day Sabbath.²

This is the opinion of World's Last Chance (see endnote 2). There is no evidence in Scripture that day 30 is a work day that is excluded from the work week. It is the Scriptural opinion that both days of new moon were observed as part of a two day new moon celebration when there was a 30 day month. The illustration Pfandl offers below is a pretty bad representation of what WLC believes, but it accurately represents what Elder Pfandl *thinks* lunar Sabbatarians believe.

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
24	25	26	27	28	29	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	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	29	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	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	9	10

The transition days (yellow) and the New Moon days (blue) are not counted as part of the regular week because “the New moon is a worship day all by itself and is not counted when counting out the week.”³ Therefore, when a lunar month has 30 days the time between the Sabbath on the 29th of the month and the first Sabbath of the next month are not six days but eight days (transition day, New Moon day, and six work days).⁴

And yet, Elder Pfandl could not figure out how to present these days existing outside of the work week. The illustration is very confusing (which is his point), but it is not an accurate representation of the month that lunar Sabbatharians observe. This is a more accurate illustration...

New Moon Days	First Week Day	Second Week Day	Third Week Day	Fourth Week Day	Fifth Week Day	Sixth Week Day	Seventh day 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

There are not always 30 day months, but there is at least one day of new moon each month, two if it is a 30 day month. Day 30 is not a transition day, it is part of the new moon celebration and I can show you a two day new moon in both the OT and the NT.

Here is a two day new moon in the OT: It was on the 29th day of the month that David said to Jonathan, “Tomorrow was the new moon.” (**1 Samuel 20:5**, Jonathan agreed in verse **18**). New moon *always* follows the last Sabbath of the month. David understood that there would be 2 days of feasting (Day 30 and Day 1) which is why he asked Jonathan come into field to shoot the arrows on the 3rd day (the day following the 2nd day of the new moon celebration). David knew that the king would expect him for the 2 days in question, and he was right. The king ignored his absence the first day thinking him unclean or something, but was wroth when he was not there the second day - **1 Samuel 20:24-30**. The underlying Hebrew in **1 Samuel 20:27, 34** where it says 2nd day of the month literally means the 2nd day of the chodesh or *new moon* (celebration) not the 2nd day of the *month* as translated. (I asked a non-lunar Sabbath keeping Hebrew student). This man didn’t just convince me by his answer. Nature did. Nature is the first gospel. There are sometimes one dark day after the last Sabbath of the month, sometimes two. Might look like this...

New Moon Days	First Week Day	Second Week Day	Third Week Day	Fourth Week Day	Fifth Week Day	Sixth Week Day	Seventh Day Sabbath
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Jonathan and David came to their agreement on the 29th day of the month. David was not at the Kings table on day 30, nor on day 1. Jonathan then shot his arrows on the 2nd day of the month. When there are two days of new moon celebration, the second of the two is always the first day of the new month. I can offer you no “verification” for this other than in nature and the Word itself. I have never seen a single study on this point, other than one in opposition to it. But here is the paper trail....

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 was originally 360 days long. Twelve 30 day months = 360 day year. Here is the evidence for this. **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 30 days in length (proof from Creation, and also from the timed prophecies). The lunar cycle is now 29.5 days rather than 30 day in length, which equates to some months consisting of 29 days, others consisting of 30. There are 4 seven day weeks in each month, which accounts for only 28 of the 29 or 30 days. These other days are new moon days.

New moon days are a third category of day. Scripture reveals that new moon days are never numbered in the work week. **Ezekiel 46:1** tells us that the new moon CANNOT be counted as a week day, the gate to the inner court being shut all 6 working days, open on Sabbath and new moon. There are three other witnesses that attest to the work days being separate from the Sabbath and new moon, **Amos 8:5**, **Isaiah 66:23** and **II Kings 4:23**. So the only way to count the lunar cycle and have the three different types of day be marked off with 3 different phases (AND have the Sabbaths announced by the quarter phases) is for the dark phase to be new moon. The illuminated phase to be for the work week, of which the quarter phases announce the Sabbaths.

Count the month this way and the quarter phases will announce the Sabbaths the evening before the 8th and 15th and at dawn of the 22nd and 29th days of each month. Sometimes there are 2 dark days after the last Sabbath of the month.

When there is only one dark day after the 29th day of the month, conjunction took place on the 29th, followed by one day of the dark phase of the moon. When there are two days of the dark phase after the 29th of the month, conjunction will have taken place on the day AFTER the 29th. The moon is in an elliptical orbit, meaning that conjunction will never (rarely) take place at dawn, when a new day and a new month could begin at the same moment. So the first of two consecutive dark days is day 30 of the old month, the second is the first day of the new month.

This is exactly the scenario found in **I Samuel 20**. When it says 2nd day of the month, the Hebrew is second day of chodesh. The first meaning of chodesh is new moon (renewal), it only means month by implication. In David’s day, the clock had not yet been dented, so every month was 30 days in length. This is why Saul expected him for two days because every new moon celebration was a two day event.

There is also a two day new moon in the NT: *These going before tarried for us at Troas.*

And we sailed away from Philippi after the days of unleavened bread, and came unto them to Troas in five days; where we abode seven days.

And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight. Acts 20:5-7


Paul took five days to get to Troas after the last day of Unleavened Bread, which is Abib 21. So he arrived on the 26th day of Abib then stayed 7 days.

New Moon Days	First Week Day	Second Week Day	Third Week Day	Fourth Week Day	Fifth Week Day	Sixth Week Day	Seventh day Sabbath
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20	<u>21</u>	22
	23	24	25	<u>26</u>	27	28	29
(30)							
1	<u>2</u>	3	4	5	6	7	8

Remember, new moon days are NOT week days. The only way for Paul to arrive in Troas on the 26th, be in Troas for 7 days and speak until midnight of the first day of the week ready to depart on the morrow is if there is a two day new moon. Day 30 and day 1 (the 2 days of a 2 day new moon celebration) would not be counted against the week. Look above and count ‘em: 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 1, 2 (that’s seven days) as he was going to depart on the morrow. The second day of the second month (underlined above) MUST be the first day of the week in order for the math to work. This passage is a stumbling block for the Gregorian calendar as there is no way to successfully manufacture or force the end of the 7 day stay to fall on the first day of the week.

Below is how most try to “force” their understanding of the calendar onto this verse, and I will explain why the evidence in Scripture flat blows it out of the realm of possibility.

First Week Day	Second Week Day	Third Week Day	Fourth Week Day	Fifth Week Day	Sixth Week Day	Seventh day Sabbath
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	<u>21</u>	22	23	24
25	<u>26</u>	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8



They say that Passover (Abib 14) must have taken place on a wednesday, forcing the weekly Sabbath to take place on the 17th for which there is no evidence in Scripture. Now when Paul leaves on the evening of the 21st, arriving in Troas in 5 days (Abib 26), and abodes there 7 days, (26-27-28-29-30-1-2) ready to depart on the morrow, the night he preached was actually the first day of the week (at least on this calendar). Do you spot the problem? Check the arrow above. The 10th day of the first month floats around on the Roman calendar.

If the 17th is the Sabbath of any month, so is the 10th. Do you remember what happened on Abib 10? The 10th day of Abib is a work/commerce day, the day to set aside to select the Passover Lamb. If you did not own a lamb, you had to go and purchase one on THIS particular day. Did you know that there are three commanded work days on the Father’s calendar? Abib 10 is one of them.

The 14th day of Abib is always the preparation day for first day of Unleavened Bread. **Matt. 27:62, Mark 15:42, Luke 23:54–24:1, John 19:14, 31, 42—John 20:1.** Abib 14 floats on our calendar. The fact is that the 10th, 14th and 16th of Abib (which all float around on the Roman calendar) are, without exception, commanded work days. The barley could be harvested on the 16th after the Wave Sheaf had been offered, **Leviticus 23:9-14.**

If there is a continuous 7 day cycle, every few years either the 10th, 14th, and 16th will fall on a satyrday. Evidence: Abib 10 fell on a satyrday in 2003. The 14th fell on satyrday in 2004, 2008 and 2011. The 16th fell on a satyrday in 2002, 2006 and 2009. There is no legislation provided to do these tasks a day early or late, these work dates are fixed. And YHVH never has Israel do common work on a rest day. He is not the Author of confusion.

Isn't it interesting how the Father maneuvered His commanded work days in such a fashion that they would totally disrupt and destroy all the calendars of apostate man?

The Calendar of Israel

It is hard to imagine a people with lives more closely regulated by the calendar than the people of ancient Israel.⁵ The Israelite year was a lunisolar year of 354 days in which the months alternated between 29 and 30 days, but the seven-day week was not affected by the lunar calendar. [Says who? Elder Pfandl says it, but where is his evidence? Does he think if he says something often enough that it becomes the truth? The evidence that proves Elder Pfandl is talking through his hat is below.] The Jewish month invariably began with the new moon. No exact information is available to explain how the Israelites originally adjusted their inaccurate lunar calendar to synchronize with the actual solar year. But we know that in post-exilic times an extra month was inserted between Adar and Nisan. That month, sometimes called Veadar (“and Adar”), was added seven times within a 19-year cycle.

Which is odd, since how Israel adjusted the lunar year to the solar year is well documented and Pfandl actually reveals the answer in his follow up sentence (underlined by me above). Here now is the evidence that the seven day week was indeed affected by the lunar calendar...

“The New Moon is still, and the Sabbath originally was, dependent upon the lunar cycle.” *Universal Jewish Encyclopedia, p. 410. No quote can be clearer than this.*

“... each lunar month was divided into four parts, corresponding to the four phases of the moon. The first week of each month began with the new moon, so that, as the lunar month was one or two days more than four periods of seven days, these *additional days* were not reckoned at all.” *Universal Jewish Encyclopedia, Vol. 10, p. 482. Article "Week."*

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

“In the time of the earliest prophets, the New Moon stood in the same line with another lunar observance, the Sabbath. Ezekiel, who curiously enough frequently dates his prophecies on the New Moon ... describes the gate of the inner court of the temple looking eastward as kept shut for the six working days, but opened on the Sabbath and the New Moon.” *Scribner's Dictionary of the Bible (1898 edit.), p. 521*

“...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, page 254.*

“... 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.

“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. Article, "Week," p. 482.*

“The four quarters of the moon supply an obvious division of the month...it is most significant that in the older parts of the Hebrew scriptures the new moon and the Sabbath are almost invariably mentioned together. The [lunar] month is beyond question an old sacred division of time common to all the semites; even the Arabs, who received the week at quite a late period from the Syrians, greeted the New Moon with religious acclamations. ... We cannot tell [exactly] when the Sabbath became disassociated from the month.” *Encyclopedia Biblica, 1899 edit., pp. 4178-4179.*

How is it that Scholars cannot tell when the Sabbath was disassociated from the lunar cycle while modern Saturday sabbath keepers in general deny that the Sabbath was ever connected with the moon in the first place?

*The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib: but Israel doth not know, My people doth not consider. **Isaiah 1:3***

The Jewish calendrical system and the annual feast cycle was tied to the harvest seasons of the Jewish year. The Passover on the 14th day of the first month and the wave sheaf offering two days later always fell in the period of the newly ripened barley harvest, Pentecost fifty days later in the time of the ripening of the wheat harvest, and the Day of Atonement and the Feast of Tabernacles in the 7th month after the remaining harvests (primarily grapes and olives) had been gleaned. This was the general pattern in Old Testament times as well as in the time of Jesus.

Correct, except the Pentecost part being “fifty days later.” This is the Catholic version of Pentecost.

While the Jewish feasts were set by the lunar calendar, the seventh-day Sabbath was not. [Again with the negative assertions, but without any documentation whatsoever, which is beginning to have a certain ring to it, like sounding brass or clanging cymbal.] It had its own set time and was not considered part of the feasts. [Agreed, the weekly Sabbath had a different set time frame, but to say that the Sabbath is not considered part of the feasts is disingenuous at best.] The feasts were dependent on the lunar calendar but the Sabbath was not dependent on anything except the seven-day cycle God developed and preserved since Creation.⁶ Throughout the Bible there is a distinction between the feasts, new moons, and Sabbaths of the ceremonial system (see, e.g., Lev 16:31; 23:4-8; 25:4) and the seventh-day Sabbath (Gen 1:2-3; Exod 20:8-11; 28:9; Lev 23:3; Deut 5:12).

How convenient that Elder Pfandl found texts that isolate the weekly Sabbaths from the annual, while ignoring these texts that list the new moon, feasts and weekly Sabbaths all in the same breath...

I Chronicles 23:13, II Chronicles 2:4, 8:12-13, 31:3, Nehemiah 10:33, Ezekiel 45:17, Hosea 2:11 and Colossians 2:16. These are all special appointments in time when special offerings were to be offered to YHVH. And to say that the weekly Sabbath is not linked to the lunar cycle is dishonest. Please watch...

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, meaning that either the sun or moon will regulate it.

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). **Leviticus 23:4** then calls the annual Sabbaths **feasts**, using the SAME Hebrew word, mo'edim, and everyone knows that the annual feasts are regulated by the moon. Do the math.

This alone is enough to prove that the Sabbath is by the moon. Why does Elder Pfandl USE **Leviticus 23:3** above when trying to prove that the Sabbath is not linked to the moon, when this verse is the lynch pin in proving just the opposite?

The Claims of Lunar Sabbatarians examined

Claim # 1 – “The seventh-day Sabbath fell on every 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th of the lunar month.”⁷

The study at the link provided on page one effectively proves this claim to be true. The next logical step is for Elder Pfandl to try to disprove this claim. He would best serve Adventism by following Gamaliel's advice, to let it be because if it is of YHVH, no man can stop it. Let's see how well he does, shall we?

a. All the ceremonial Sabbaths were assigned to certain dates. [Ceremonial Sabbath is catch phrase invented by men who do not want to keep the feasts of Yah. This phrase is not found in Scripture.] The Passover on the fourteenth day of the first month (Lev 23:5); the Feast of Unleavened Bread on the fifteenth day of the first month (Lev 23:6); the Feast of Firstfruits on the sixteenth of the first month (Lev 23:10, 11); the Feast of Weeks or Pentecost 50 days after the Feast of Firstfruits (Lev 23:16); the Feast of Trumpets on the first day of the seventh month (Lev 23:24); the Day of Atonement on the tenth day of the seventh month (Lev 23:27); the Feast of Tabernacle on the fifteenth day of the seventh month (Lev 23:34).

All good, other than the counterfeit count to Pentecost. Unless Elder Pfandl makes a burden of this point, I will not address it here as it has been addressed numerous times in other rebuttals. The study that will explain it fully is found here: <http://www.creationcalendar.com/CalendarIssue/17-FeastOfWeeksSDA.doc>

God tied each ceremonial Sabbath to a particular day. If He wanted each weekly Sabbath celebrated on the 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th of the month why is there not a single verse in Scripture telling the Israelites that the Sabbath should be observed on these days? Was not the weekly Sabbath more important than the yearly Sabbaths?

The Father had already tied the weekly Sabbath to the cycles of the moon at Creation. Does He HAVE to spell it out? He did not tell us the date for Pentecost as He did the other feasts; He gave us an equation.

b. According to Numbers 33:3 the Exodus took place on the fifteenth day of the first month. The fifteenth day was the day after Passover, “They departed from Rameses in the first month, on the fifteenth day of the first month; on the day after the Passover the children of Israel went out with boldness in the sight of all the Egyptians.” They began their journey on the 15th while it was still night. Ellen White says, “Before the morning broke, they were on their way.”⁸ If the 15th was a Sabbath it would have been their first full day of travel. In light of Matthew 24:20 where Jesus told the disciples “And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath,” it is hardly likely that God began the Exodus from Egypt on a Sabbath.

Praying that your flight be not on the Sabbath is entirely different from the exodus. Flight is if someone is after you. Egypt did not chase Israel until after three days. The exodus was more a victory parade than flight from Egypt. Israel had been redeemed, saved from bondage; this was not a frightful sprint from Rameses to the nearest place of refuge. **Leviticus 23:5-7** later proved that Abib 15, the date they left Egypt was indeed the Sabbath.

c. The children of Israel arrived in the wilderness of sin “on the fifteenth day of the second month after they departed from the land of Egypt” (Exod 1:61 .) (sic—Exod 16:1) Again, they travelled on the 15th; therefore it cannot have been a Sabbath.

Why can't they travel on the Sabbath? Where is the prohibition against leaving Egypt on the Sabbath? Is it a sin to be released from bondage on the Sabbath? Hardly. It is no more a sin to be released from their oppressors than it was for Jesus to heal people on the Sabbath, releasing them from the bondage of illness and then telling them to carry their bed linen home on the Sabbath after being healed.

What is idiotic of Elder Pfandl is that **Exodus 16** is one of the easiest passages in Scripture to prove the Sabbaths fell on a certain date. Watch...

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.

New Moon	x1	x1	x1	x1	x1	x2	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

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). Pfandl did not think about this now did he? I'm guessing he did not think much at all, he just wrote his opinion as proof that he is correct in his rebuttal of the Creation Calendar with the lunar Sabbaths.

d. In Joshua 5:10-12 we are told that the manna ceased on the 16th of the first month:

Now the children of Israel camped in Gilgal, and kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month at twilight on the plains of Jericho. And they ate of the produce of the land on the day after the Passover, unleavened bread and parched grain, on the very same day. Then the manna ceased on the day after they had eaten the produce of the land; and the children of Israel no longer had manna, but they ate the food of the land of Canaan that year.

The Passover was the 14th day of the first month. On the 15th they ate the produce of the land, and on the 16th the manna ceased. If the manna ceased on the 16th of the first month, it must have fallen on the 15th otherwise the text would have said it ceased on the 14th or on the 15th. Hence the 15th cannot have been a Sabbath because God never gave manna on the Sabbath.⁹

Yes, I can't believe what I just read. Elder Pfandl, a double portion would have fallen on the 14th in preparation for the Sabbath on the 15th. Have you forgotten this most basic format of how the manna fell?

We have looked at four biblical texts that indicate that the 15th of the month could not have been a Sabbath. This shows the fallacy of the Lunar Sabbath theory. The main pillar of this teaching is clearly not as sound as advocates of this theory would have us believe.

I just looked back at all four supposed proof texts, and none of them prove that Saturday is the weekly Sabbath, and none of them disproved that the Sabbaths are regulated by the moon. And the reality of it is that only one of the four proof texts offered by Elder Pfandl was even close to being applicable to use as evidence (**Exodus 16**), and then it proved just the opposite, that the Sabbaths were on the 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th days of the second month of the exodus.

Claim # 2 – “The Lord has ordained three separate and distinct classes of days that occur monthly: New Moon days, six work days, and seventh-day Sabbaths.” In addition, the 30th day is also not counted as part of the six-day week.¹⁰

True claim, this.

a. According to Genesis 1:1-2:3, God created only two classes of days: six working days and the Sabbath. This is confirmed in the Ten Commandments in Exodus 20 and Deuteronomy 5. “Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day *is* the Sabbath of the LORD your God. *In it* you shall do no work” (Exod 20:9, 10).

In **Genesis 1:1-2**, the first two verses of the passage listed above (**Genesis 1:1 to 2:3**), we see established a time consuming creation event that takes place at the beginning of the first month of earth's history. Please note that this time consuming creation event is NOT included in the first week. The second month of earth's history began with a new moon. Last month began with a new moon. What do you suppose the very first month of earth's history began with? When you factor in **Ezekiel 46:1, Amos 8:5, Isaiah 66:23** and **II Kings 4:23**, the prudent student of Scriptures has no choice but to admit the truth, that the new moon days are included in the week.

In **Exodus 20:9-10**, YHVH was contrasting the Sabbath to the other days in the week. The new moon is not included in the week, thus no mention of this third category of day in the Sabbath commandment.

b. There is evidence for a New Moon festival among the nations in ancient Mesopotamia as far back as the third millennium B.C.¹¹ In the Bible, however, the New Moon celebration is not mentioned until the time of Moses. The only legislation concerning the New Moon in the Old Testament is in the prescribed burnt offering of Numbers 28:14. While Amos 8:5 seems to indicate that no work was to be done on the New Moon day, other texts show that it was not a day of rest. For example, Moses was told to set up the tabernacle on the first day of the month (Exod 40:2); Ezra began his journey to Jerusalem on the first of the month (Ezra 7:9). William Hallo says, “Only the first day of Tishri had the character of a special holiday, and even here the biblical text, as is well known, avoids the term *rōš haššānā*, head of the year.”¹²

OK, so the first mention of the new moon is in **Numbers**, chapter **10:10** actually, not **28:14**. The Sabbath is first called by name in **Exodus 16** during the time of Moses. And are we to suppose that none of the righteous men before this ever observed a Sabbath? Come now, let us reason together.

No one said that certain types of labor could not be performed on new moon; the point is that new moon days are not included in the work week.

Even if the New Moon was a day of rest like the Sabbath, there is no indication that it was not reckoned as part of the 6-day week, as were all the other ceremonial Sabbaths of Leviticus 23. Why should all the other yearly Sabbaths be part of the 6-day week but not the New Moon day?

And here we have a perfect example of circular reasoning. The other appointments in time are all days of the work week, why can't the new moon be also? (Shaking head in disgust). I'm sorry Elder Pfandl, but the verses listed in the middle of page 5 above very much indicates that the new moon days are not reckoned as part of the work week.

New moon days are not rest days like the Sabbath, they ARE however days of assembly or convocation, like the Sabbath, **Numbers 10:2, 10, Isaiah 66:23**. Kind of like prayer meeting. A meeting set-apart to YHVH that takes place on a day other than a Sabbath.

c. That the weeks in the Old Testament were continuous unbroken cycles uninterrupted by the New Moon is shown in Leviticus 23:15, 16.

And you shall count for yourselves from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering: seven Sabbaths shall be completed. ¹⁶ `Count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath; then you shall offer a new grain offering to the LORD.

Seven Sabbaths are forty-nine days and the day after the last Sabbath is the fiftieth day. This can only be so if the weeks are counted as uninterrupted cycles of seven days.

So he IS going to play this card. So be it. **Leviticus 23:15-16** does not prove that the weeks are continuous unbroken cycles. Let the record show that Elder Pfandl does err, not knowing the Scriptures...

The only weeks we know of consist of seven days. But WHERE in Scripture does it say that the seventh Sabbath is the 49th day from wavesheaf? Elder Pfandl, have you not ADDED this to the text (**Deuteronomy 4:2**)?

Lunar Sabbatarians add the 50 days where we were told to. *From the morrow after the seventh Sabbath, shall you number 50 days.* What text said to number 50 days from wavesheaf?

Counting seven Sabbaths means counting seven Sabbaths. Period. Why are you numbering the days in between? Were you told to? No, you were not. As already proven time and again, the new moon days are NOT numbered in the week. There will be anywhere from 2-4 new moon days during the counting of the Sabbaths complete, meaning that when you get to the seventh Sabbath, it will be 51-53 days from wavesheaf. But please note, you were NOT told to number the days from wavesheaf, you were told to number the Sabbaths only. Period. Stop adding to the text instructions that are not there! **Deuteronomy 4:2**

We admit, "ad" or "od" (Strong's H-5704, H-5703) does NOT mean "FROM" the morrow after the 7th Sabbath, but H-4480 DOES. Guess where THAT word is?

↘

Leviticus 23:16 Even unto⁵⁷⁰⁴ the morrow^{4480, 4283} after the seventh⁷⁶³⁷ sabbath⁷⁶⁷⁶ shall ye number⁵⁶⁰⁸ fifty²⁵⁷² days;³¹¹⁷ and ye shall offer⁷¹²⁶ a new²³¹⁹ meat offering⁴⁵⁰³ unto YHVH.³⁰⁶⁸

Look at what Strong's says about H-5704 though: "whether of space (even unto) or time (during, while, until)". **Leviticus 23:16** is about time, not space, so we've been applying the word in the wrong manner all along because the King James translators blew it BIG time. The Hebrew actually should be translated: *WHILE⁵⁷⁰⁴ FROM the morrow ^{4480, 4283} (after the) seventh Sabbath (shall ye) number fifty days (and ye shall) offer a new meat offering (unto) YHVH.*

The Fenton Translation is the ONLY translation that seems to be honest with this evidence:

You shall also count for yourselves from the day after the Sabbath that you bring the Wave-Sheaf, seven Sabbaths. They must be complete.

*Then after the seventh Sabbath, you shall count fifty days, when you shall present a new offering to the Ever-Living. **Leviticus 23:15-16***

						1..... 1st Month	
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
wave sheaf >	16	17	18	19	20	21	22 <1 st "Sabbath complete"
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29 <2 nd complete week
							30
							1..... 2nd Month
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8 <3 rd complete week
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15 <4 th complete week
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22 <5 th complete week
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29 <6 th complete week
							1..... 3rd Month
morrow after	2	3	4	5	6	7	8 <7 th complete week
7 th Sabbath >	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
							30
							1..... 4th Month
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Feast of Weeks/Pentecost,
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22 50 days from the morrow
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29 <= after the Seventh Sabbath.
							JUST like it says.

And guess what, the only wheat harvest found in Scripture is in the summer, not late spring.

Thus hath the Sovereign YHVH showed unto me: and behold a basket of summer fruit.

And he said, Amos, what seest thou? And I said, A basket of summer fruit. Then said YHVH unto me, The end is come upon my people of Israel; I will not again pass by them any more.

And the songs of the temple shall be howlings in that day, saith the Sovereign YHVH: there shall be many dead bodies in every place; they shall cast them forth with silence.

Hear this, O ye that swallow up the needy, even to make the poor of the land to fail,

Saying, When will the new moon be gone, that we may sell corn? and the sabbath, that we may set forth wheat, making the ephah small, and the shekel great, and falsifying the balances by deceit?

That we may buy the poor for silver, and the needy for a pair of shoes; yea, and sell the refuse of the wheat? Amos 8:1-6 This summer fruit is apparently grapes, maybe olives, but there is wheat is on the scene. Let's keep looking...

But it came to pass within a while after, in the time of wheat harvest, that Samson visited his wife with a kid; and he said, I will go in to my wife into the chamber. But her father would not suffer him to go in. And her father said, I verily thought that thou hadst utterly hated her; therefore I gave her to thy companion: is not her younger sister fairer than she? take her, I pray thee, instead of her. And Samson said concerning them, Now shall I be more blameless than the Philistines, though I do them a displeasure.

And Samson went and caught three hundred foxes, and took firebrands, and turned tail to tail, and put a firebrand in the midst between two tails.

And when he had set the brands on fire, he let them go into the standing corn of the Philistines, and burnt up both the shocks, and also the standing corn, with the vineyards and olives. Judges 15:1-5 Some say that the wheat was destroyed which also burnt up the not yet ripe vineyards and olives. This is not the context of the passage, but for the sake of discussion, let's say that this is a possibility and continue on...

Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth. Daniel 2:35 Chaff comes from the threshing of wheat. Notice that the season is not in the spring, making the verses above lean in one direction.

And the hail smote throughout all the land of Egypt all that was in the field, both man and beast; and the hail smote every herb of the field, and brake every tree of the field.

And the flax and the barley was smitten: for the barley was in the ear, and the flax was balled.

But the wheat and the rye were not smitten: for they were not grown up. Exodus 9:25, 31-32 The wheat was not destroyed because it had just been sown. It takes 4 months for Spring wheat to mature making a summer crop, on or about the end of the fourth month.

Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in YHVH your Elohim: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month.

And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. Joel 2:23-24 The threshing floors are full of wheat AND the vats are overflowing with wine and oil at the same time that the wheat is on the ground. Grapes and olives are as summer harvest, not spring.

All the best of the oil, and all the best of the wine, and of the wheat, the firstfruits of them which they shall offer unto YHVH, them have I given thee. Numbers 18:12 First fruits are only offered at pilgrimage feasts. Olive oil and new wine are summer crops, so is this first fruits of the wheat. There is no spring harvest of wheat in Scripture.

Early Sivan (June) is still the spring of the year. In Scripture, the wheat harvest is in the summer meaning Feast of Weeks occurs in the summer.

This [referring to unbroken cycles of seven day weeks] is confirmed by the timeline for the Flood. According to Genesis 7:24, "the waters prevailed on the earth one hundred and fifty days." It began to rain "in the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month" (Gen 7:11). The ark came to rest on Mount Ararat five months later "in the seventh month, the seventeenth day of the month" (Gen 8:4). This is clear evidence that the biblical month has 30 days; therefore, 150 days are five months, uninterrupted by New Moon days.

WHAT? What on earth is Pfandl saying? New moon days begin each and every month. It is quite true that the original months were 30 days. I'm shocked that Elder Pfandl knows this, much less admits it. The problem with his conclusion is that only 28 days of these 30 day months are week days ($4 \times 7 = 28$). The other two days were/are new moon days.

There are 28 days in the lunar cycle when the moon is illuminated. There are 28 week days (4×7) in the lunar calendar month.

There are 4 quarter phase moons in the lunar cycle. There are 4 weekly Sabbaths in the lunar calendar month.

There are then 1-2 dark days in the lunar cycle (no visible moon) after the last Sabbath of the month depending on whether it is a 29 or 30 day month. Which leaves these 1-2 dark days after the last Sabbath of each month as the new moon days of each lunar calendar month. This kind of symmetry never appears in nature by accident or coincidence.

***Claim # 3** – The Jews were forced to give up their lunar calendar and accept the pagan Roman calendar.*

Not true. Rome was content to let Israel do their own calendar thing because it was not until the late date of A.D. 341 that Rome forced priest Hillel II to alter the Hebrew calendar so that Passover never fell on easter.

The Julian/Gregorian calendar has never changed its seven day cycle once it changed from the original eight day cycle around the time of Constantine in A.D. 321. . . . Most people have had no idea that the eight day week of the original pagan Julian calendar was not recognized by the Hebrew communities at the time of Christ. . . . It was only after Rome conquered Jerusalem in A.D. 70 that the Jews began to succumb to the ways of Rome and her pagan calendar.¹³

The author of this quote is hardly representative of the entire lunar Sabbatarian community that she should speak for us all, yet Elder Pfandl chose her work to paint lunar Sabbatarians in a bad light.

That said, a couple of things that Ms. French said above are true. **1.** The Julian/Gregorian calendar has never changed its seven day cycle ONCE it changed from the original 8 day cycle around the time of Constantine in A.D. 321. **2.** Most people indeed have no idea that in the first century Rome had an 8 day calendar, not seven.

What she should have said after that is that in A.D.70, after Israel was scattered to the 4 corners of the earth and began to lose their identity, they gradually assimilated into their host nations, adopting their calendars, which just happened to be the various official Roman calendars. This is basically what Ms. French said, but her use of the word *succumb* to Pfandl means that Israel was forced to give up the lunar calendar. Ms. French's choice of word is regrettable, Pfandl's ill-fated use of this particular resource, more so as it does not prove that satyrday is the weekly Sabbath, nor disprove that the Hebrew calendar was lunar-solar.

Traces of the seven-day week can be found among the earliest civilizations of the Middle East. Mesopotamian astrologers designated one day for each of the seven most prominent objects in the sky—the Sun, the Moon, and the five major planets visible to the naked eye. The Israelites always adhered to the seven-day week as Genesis 1:1-2:3 and Leviticus 23:15, 16 clearly indicate. Other nations had weeks of different lengths.¹⁴

This is true. The seven day planetary week was and still is pagan. This is the calendar week adopted by Rome in the 4th century of the common era. The seven day week established at Creation was never related to or associated with the pagan seven day planetary week. My point is that Elder Pfandl identifies his Sabbath on the pagan/papal seven day planetary week. Can he explain this to our satisfaction in light of the fact that he is actively telling lunar Sabbatarians that they are in error, and that he holds the key to the Sabbath of creation?

The Roman eight-day calendar was changed to a seven-day calendar early in the imperial period not in the time of Constantine.¹⁵ [This is not entirely true. It is true that parts of the Roman Empire was using this seven day planetary week before it was the official Roman calendar week, but it was not official until A.D. 321 when adopted by Constantine.] Now, if the Jews were forced to give up their lunar Sabbath calendar in exchange for adopting the pagan Julian calendar either in the days after A.D. 70 or since the time of Constantine, there should be a huge amount of evidence in existence today that this change occurred.

The Jews have always been persistent and faithful in observing the Sabbath. If they believed God had given them a lunar Sabbath, they would not have given it up without a major struggle. There would be records everywhere in history about the resistance of the Jews in changing their method of keeping Sabbath.

I can't believe what I just read. Every time Israel apostatized, they forgot/changed the Sabbath. Please read **Lamentations 2:6**. When the Father causes you to forget something, you will have forgotten indeed. Clearly, Israel lost the Creation Calendar at some point after their return from exile, but prophets were raised to restore Torah observance. During the first century, when the man from Galilee is said to have walked this earth, Israel was in compliance with the Creation Calendar, but lost it almost completely in the 3 centuries following the crucifixion.

The reason no one knows for certain when it occurred, although there are several differing dates offered, is because it was forgotten. How many of you remember that you have forgotten? The simple act of "forgetting" means that there will NOT be a paper trail admitting or recording the act of forgetting. If it was recorded, then it would never have been forgotten in the first place. Elder Pfandl wants something that is not possible to provide, and hangs his faith on this lack of a paper trail upon which, he believes, proves his conclusion to be right. To see the utter foolishness of this search and demand for a specific timeframe, please see the following two (*ficitious*) examples...

"As impossible as it may sound, my fellow countrymen all seem to have forgotten that the Sabbath is regulated by the moon, that the Sabbaths fall on the 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th days of the month and that the new moon is regarded as a third category of day. Yesterday, we all went to the temple on the Sabbath, but today no one can remember why. This is a highly illogical development considering Israel's approximately 2,800 year history of Sabbath observance. Here at the Institute of Torah Observance, my fellow colleagues and I are simply baffled. We will diligently continue our effort to discover what has occurred and who is to blame for this unthinkable loss. Next week, we will simply keep day G, the seventh day of the Roman calendar as the Sabbath and count off 7 days until we have discovered the cause of what appears to be a case of national amnesia. This is going to be very difficult as Rome has an 8 day market week at this time. If Rome changes her calendar at any point in the future and we need to reassign our national day of worship, we will of course let you know immediately. Please join with us in shaving your heads and rending your garments as we regard this as a tragic day indeed for Israelites everywhere." *Rabbi Weir N. Fallible, in a lecture given before the congregation at Feast of Tabernacles, in the 4,279th year of Creation.*

Dear Diary, date of entry 7-16-4279: “Yesterday, I forgot that the Sabbath is regulated by the moon, that the Sabbaths fall on the 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th days of the month and that the new moon is a third category of day. Alas, it seems that I shall never remember this again.” (signed) *Ima Doofus*

Fact: Something that is recorded cannot be forgotten. It is up to later generations to determine what a former generation has forgotten. Lunar Sabbath keepers are finding what Israel lost.

Since the Jews were spread throughout the nations of the world it would have required an army of missionaries going everywhere to convince and enforce the change of their Sabbath-keeping from the lunar method to the weekly cycle. There should have been pockets of Jews worldwide ferociously clinging to the old ways that God had given them and many Jewish groups still keeping the lunar Sabbath to this day.

No, all it took was apathy. One generation removed from an entire tight knit Torah observant community to a scattered existence amongst heathen nations is all it took. How many generations did it take to move from the peaceful idyllic 1950's to the drug infused sexual revolution of the 60's? What happened? One generation of fathers forgot to teach their children moral values. That's what.

For the record, earth has never been without a lunar Sabbath keeper. When Israel was in apostasy, YHVH always raised up a prophet to restore Torah. **Jeremiah 31:35-36** records just how important the ordinances of the moon and stars are to YHVH.

Thus saith YHVH, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; YHVH of hosts is His name: If those ordinances [of the moon and stars] depart from before Me, saith YHVH, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before Me forever.

If the ordinances of the moon and stars depart from before YHVH and are forgotten entirely, YHVH is not coming back because Israel would cease from being a nation before YHVH. **Forever.** The ordinances of the moon are pretty important, don't you think? If he repents and is blessed, Elder Pfandl will one day have the opportunity to thank these stalwarts of truth who stood in the breach, upholding the standard of truth even when they felt they were the only ones on the planet. Because without them, there would be no Kingdom of Yah set up here on earth as YHVH is only coming back to claim His chosen nation and those who have joined themselves to Israel. Both the OT and NT make this crystal clear.

But the exact opposite is true. History is absolutely silent as to any such events taking place. There are no recorded commands given to change the cycle from a lunar to weekly Sabbath, and the Jews today around the world keep the Sabbath on Saturday.

That is correct. No one remembered to record when they forgot the lunar Sabbath. This hasn't stopped scholars from making just such discoveries though...

“The four quarters of the moon supply an obvious division of the month...it is most significant that in the older parts of the Hebrew scriptures the new moon and the Sabbath are almost invariably mentioned together. The [lunar] month is beyond question an old sacred division of time common to all the semites; even the Arabs, who received the week at quite a late period from the Syrians, greeted the New Moon with religious acclamations. ... We cannot tell [exactly] when the Sabbath became disassociated from the month.” *Encyclopedia Biblica, 1899 edit., pp. 4178-4179.*

“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. Article, "Week," p. 482.*

When differences arise between two groups, there is always a split, with some believing one way and others believing the other way. With such conflicting changes to the belief structure of the Jews, we should see such a split among them. There was a split between Jews, but it wasn't over the lunar Sabbath theory. It was the split between the Karaite and Rabbinical Jews – and that was mainly over how to calculate the feast days.

Irrelevant.

The mathematical odds of all the Jews worldwide changing from the lunar calendar to the 7-day week without leaving any historical trace are astronomical – it is virtually impossible. This is an overwhelming missing link for the lunar Sabbath theory.

I guess the Father causing them to forget is also not possible. Hmm.

And He hath violently taken away His tabernacle, as if it were of a garden: He hath destroyed His places of the assembly: YHVH hath caused the solemn feasts and sabbaths to be forgotten in Zion, and hath despised in the indignation of His anger the king and the priest.

Lamentations 2:6

Every time Israel apostatized, they forgot the Sabbath. Why was Jerusalem destroyed and Israel scattered in A.D. 70? Did they just need a change of pace or different bit of scenery or do you suppose they were in apostasy? Now can you understand how an entire nation could forget the true Sabbath of Creation?

Summary and Conclusion

Lunar Sabbatarians claim that the luni-solar calendar is the true biblical calendar in which the Sabbath falls always on the 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th of the month. Furthermore, the New Moon and the 30th day of the month are not counted as part of the week. They also claim that the Jews under the Romans were forced to give up the lunar calendar and accept the Julian calendar with its continuous cycle of seven-day weeks.

First two sentences are true, the last one is false.

Our investigation has shown that these claims cannot be substantiated from Scripture or history. [What investigation? I'm no scholar, I'm not the retired associate director of the Biblical Research Institute. But I've presented Scriptural and historical documentation that clearly demonstrates Israel's lunar Sabbath observation.] The biblical Sabbath, as the seventh day of the week, was instituted in Eden and was celebrated by the Jews in Old and New Testament times without interruption. Like the feast days the new moon days were part of the weekly cycle. Ellen White clearly stated:

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. Like every other, it consisted of seven literal days.¹⁶

And lunar Sabbatarians observe weeks that consist of seven literal days. And it just happens to be the weeks that were instituted at Creation, not the pagan/papal planetary week adopted by Rome which has become the ubiquitous, de facto week of the entire earth, including (to their shame) the Adventist church.

In conclusion, all the arguments of lunar Sabbatarians seem to boil down to whether God tied the Sabbath to the lunar calendar, as He did with the feasts, or if He set up a weekly cycle at Creation for the Sabbath and preserved it to our day. There is no conclusive evidence in Scripture pointing to the Sabbath being tied to the moon. On the contrary, the Bible is clear that the week has a recurring cycle of seven days ending with the Sabbath. This is supported by the plain statements of God's word, the Spirit of Prophecy, and history.

Gerhard Pfandl is Retired Associate Director of the Biblical Research Institute

And if Scripture is so clear on this matter, where is the text that says Saturday is the weekly Sabbath? And where is the text that says the week is a recurring cycle of seven days without interruption? Neither Elder Pfandl, nor all the scholars in the Adventist church can refute the verity of the Creation Calendar with its lunar Sabbath. To his credit, Elder Pfandl did not attempt to slander lunar Sabbatarians.

Elder Pfandl offered no plain statements from Yah's Word or the Spirit of Prophecy or history. As predicted, he did not prove his conclusion, nor disprove (or scratch or slow down) the lunar Sabbath movement. No man can stop it since it is of YHVH.

Respectfully submitted,

Troy Miller
www.CreationCalendar.com

¹www.worldslastchance.com, "Saturday Sabbath? Or Lunar Sabbath?" (accessed January 2011)

²www.worldslastchance.com "Three Months in a Row." (accessed January 2011)

³Arnold Bowen, "The Lunar Sabbath," page 1 (<http://www.lunarsabbath.org/> accessed January 2011).

⁴I am indebted to Terri Heagy for the above calendar graphic. Her unpublished manuscript "Challenges Regarding the Lunar Sabbath" contains an excellent rebuttal of the Lunar Sabbath theory.

⁵G. W. Bromiley, ed., *The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*, Revised, 4 vols. (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1988), 1:576.

⁶See Gerhard F. Hasel, "Sabbath" in *Anchor Bible Dictionary*, ed. David Noel Freedman (New York: Doubleday, 1992), 5:849-856.

⁷www.worldslastchance.com "Time by Design." (accessed January 2011)

⁸Ellen G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets* (Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press, 1958), 281.

⁹I am indebted to Michael Pedrin for some of the material in this article. His unpublished manuscript "The Big Lie" is another excellent rebuttal of the Lunar Sabbath theory.

¹⁰www.worldslastchance.com "Three Months in a Row." (accessed January 2011)

¹¹See William W. Hallo, "New Moons and Sabbaths: A Case-study in the Contrastive Approach," *Bible and Spade* 9 (1980).

¹²*Ibid.*, 64.

¹³K. L. French, "The Creator's Calendar," unpublished manuscript, 3, 4.

¹⁴In Assyria, 6 days was the rule; in Egypt, 10; in China; 15. The ancient Germans used a five-day cycle; the early Romans used eight days.

¹⁵"During the first two centuries AD, the Greco-Roman world generally adopted the planetary seven-day week of the astrologers" (*Encyclopedia Britannica*), 15th edition, s.v. "Church Year".

¹⁶Ellen G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets* (Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press, 1958), 11.