

What's All This about the

Sabbath-New Moon Controversy?

John Keyser, formerly with Triumph Prophetic Ministries, has broken off to do his own "work," and has published an article contending that everybody has the Sabbath Day all wrong! He claims it is neither Saturday OR Sunday -- but changes every month, due to the New Moon. Is this theory "for the birds" -- sheer "lunacy" and "moon madness"? What is the TRUTH?

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As many of you may know, John Keyser -- formerly associated with Triumph Prophetic Ministries -- has printed a 27 page paper on what he claims is "Sabbath new truth." He claims that the Sabbath fluctuates -- changes -- every month to a different day of the week. Thus he claims, or speculates, with a few other unknown and untrustworthy individuals, whom he quotes, that the Jews as well as the rest of the world lost track of the week around 400 A.D. -- AFTER the time of Christ!

Is there any validity to this new thesis? Is it really "new truth," as he claims? Or is it sheer rubbish and hogwash?

Let's examine the most important aspects of this controversy, and see what the Scriptures themselves REALLY say on this subject! For as Jesus Christ said, "Thy Word is TRUTH" (John 17:17), and, "The Scripture cannot be broken" (John 10:35).

Which Day IS the SABBATH?

According to John Keyser, all mankind, including the Jews, lost track of time in the fourth century after Christ, about the time of Emperor Constantine, and the persecution of the Jews by the Roman Empire. He claims even the Jews lost track of the weekly Sabbath, and at that time instituted a Sabbath which fell on every seventh day, in a continuous weekly cycle, independent of any astronomical body.

Says Keyser, this was a departure from the original Sabbath. He claims that the Bible teaches the original Sabbath was governed by the MOON -- and the original week was dependent upon the phases of the MOON. Therefore, according to him, the new moons interrupted the weekly cycle every month, and “new moon” day was considered outside the weekly cycle and was not even counted! In 29 day months, he figures there was “one new moon day,” but in 30 days months, he ascribes “two new moon days.” Thus the remaining 28 days are divisible by 7 (4 x 7 = 28), and every seventh day, he says, is the Sabbath.

This reasoning, of course, makes the Sabbath to fall on a DIFFERENT DAY OF THE WEEK each successive month! Thus one month, the Sabbath would be on a Tuesday, for example, another month it would all on a Thursday, or a Friday, or a Sunday -- over the course of a year, it could fall on ANY day of the week!

Now, is this sound-minded scholarship, based on clear and plain evidence?

Or is this pure and unadulterated rubbish, straight from the mind of a devil (opposer)?

To really address this issue, we must do one thing -- SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES OF TRUTH! For only in the Bible will we find the real TRUTH! For, as the apostle Paul wrote:

“Every Scripture is God-breathed -- given by His inspiration -- and profitable for instruction, for reproof and conviction of sin, for CORRECTION OF ERROR and discipline in obedience, and for training in righteousness [that is, in holy living, in conformity to God’s will in thought, purpose and action], so that the man of God may be complete and proficient, well-fitted and thoroughly equipped for every good work” (II Tim.3:16-17, Amplified Bible).

To investigate this matter properly, therefore, let’s see what the Word of YAHWEH has to say about the origins of the Sabbath and weekly cycle -- and not the nonsense paraded in the notions of bigoted and biased men, heretics, and supposed “scholars” who aren’t worth a dime a dozen!

When we get down to the real “nitty gritty,” it only matters what Yahweh says, in His Word, and not the ramblings of malcontent men and their myths and heretical opinions!

Back to the Beginning

In the book of Genesis, the first book of the Bible, we read of the true origin of the WEEK! Notice!

“And God said, Let there be light; and there was light. . . . And God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. And there was evening, and there was morning, ONE DAY.

“And God said, Let there be a firmament [the expanse of the sky] in the midst of the waters; and let it separate the waters [below] from the waters [above]. . . . And God called the firmament Heavens.

And there was evening, and there was morning, a SECOND DAY.

“And God said, Let the waters under the heavens be collected into one place (of standing), and let the dry land appear. And it was done. God called the dry land Earth, and the accumulated waters He called Seas. And God saw that this was good. . . . And God said, Let the earth put forth (tender) vegetation, plants yielding seed, and the fruit trees yielding fruit each according to its kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth. And it was so. . . . And there was evening and there was morning, A THIRD DAY.

“And God said, Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and tokens [of God’s provident care], and [to mark] seasons, days, and years. . . . And there was evening and there was morning, a FOURTH DAY.

“And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly and swarm with living creatures, and let birds fly over the earth in the open expanse of the heavens. God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves And God saw that it was good -- suitable, admirable -- and He approved it. . . . And there was evening and there was morning, a FIFTH DAY.

“And God said, Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds, and domestic animals according to their kinds. . . . God said, Let Us make mankind in Our image, after Our likeness; and let them have complete authority . . . over all of the earth So God created man in His own image, in the image and likeness of God He created him; male and female He created them. . . . And God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good -- suitable, pleasant -- and He approved it completely. And there was evening and there was morning, A SIXTH DAY” (Genesis 1:2-31).

Now perhaps some might regard me as simple-minded, but I see a clear consecutive counting here of SIX DAYS. Correct me if I’m wrong! There is one through six days mentioned here!

Now God’s own Record, the book of Genesis, the Book of “Beginnings,” for that is what the word “Genesis” means, goes on, in the next passage:

“Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And ON THE SEVENTH DAY God ended His work which He had done, and He RESTED on the *seventh day* from all His work which He had done. And God blessed [spoke good of] the *seventh day*, *set it apart as HIS OWN, and HALLOWED IT*, because on it God rested from all His work which He had created and done” (Genesis 2:1-3, *Amplified Bible*).

Now let’s get this, and get it straight -- straight from the Word of the living GOD! Here the “week” was created. It was based SOLELY on the days God took to “create” the heavens and the earth -- SIX DAYS -- followed by a singular “Day of Rest” -- the SEVENTH DAY -- THE SABBATH DAY!

In other words, the Word of Yahweh itself plainly tells us the WEEKLY CYCLE IS A SEVEN DAY CYCLE, *which repeats itself every seven days!* It is based on Yah’s “number of

perfection,” or “completion,” which is the number SEVEN!

There is not even the vaguest “hint” or slightest {“clue” here, in the book of Genesis, that God did not mean what He said -- that is, the week of the BIBLE, the Word of God, is simply the SEVEN DAY WEEK, *which goes on without any interruption FOREVER!*

Any other interpretation is sheer foolishness and putting one’s own ideas INTO the Scriptures! And, Almighty God thunders at all those who would tamper with His plain word of truth --

“You shall not add to the word which I command you, neither shall you diminish it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you” (Deuteronomy 4:2, *Amplified Bible*).

“Whatever I command you, be watchful to do it; you shall not add to it or diminish it” (Deut.13:32).

Are we willing to humble ourselves before the plain Word of God, and obey Him?

Further Evidence from Yah’s Word

In Exodus 16, where God reveals His true Sabbath to His people, He gives them manna for six days -- and then stops the manna on the Sabbath (Exo.16:4-5), to see “whether they will walk in my law, or no” (v.4).

The manna came for six days (v.26), “but on the SEVENTH DAY, which is the SABBATH, there shall be none” (v.26). “So the people rested on the seventh day” (v.30).

Notice, now! God revealed to His people when they left Egypt which day was the true seventh day of the weekly cycle. Perhaps they had lost this knowledge while they served as slaves in Egypt. Perhaps the Egyptians did not have a seven day week, and their calendar was much different.

Therefore, God had to reveal to His people once again the true says of the week -- which was the first day, second day, third day, and on to the Sabbath Day! This He did with an astonishing MIRACLE of the MANNA!

In this manner, God showed His people *exactly how the weekly cycle functioned, and which day was THE SABBATH!*

THIS WAS A PLAIN AND SIMPLE WEEKLY CYCLE. Every seventh day, then, was the SABBATH! That is plainly what this Scripture is telling us.

Yet in his reconstruction (or destruction) of the week and Sabbath day sequence, Keyser utterly DESTROYS and demolishes GOD’S WEEKLY SABBATH, which occurs every seventh day, according to this plain Scripture! He claims, “Oh no! Wait a minute! You’ve got to insert the NEW MOON days or days every month!”

But where do you read any such thing in this plain commandment of Yahweh?

In this passage of Scripture, God says, “Behold, I will rain bread from the heavens for you; and the people shall go out and gather a day’s portion every day, *that I may PROVE them, whether they will walk in My law or not*” (Exo.16:4, AB).

Later God said to Moses, when some people defiantly went out to gather manna on the seventh day -- the Sabbath, “How long do you [people] refuse to keep My commandments and My laws?” (verse 18).

Clearly, this episode when Israel came out of Egypt shows us *how to figure the week and weekly Sabbath. It is EVERY SEVENTH DAY!* There is no hint, clue, or indication whatsoever that any “new moon” madness was also to be considered and calculated into the weekly cycle! That is sheer nonsense! If the new moons had to be considered, and factored in, don’t you think God would have said so? If they were to change every month, *isn’t it strange that God left His people without any indication thereof in this seminal, foundational passage?*

How could God even begin to expect His people to keep His Sabbaths properly, if He didn’t even tell them they had to CHANGE IT every month, and keep the new moon days as NON-WEEK days, outside of the days of the week?

This passage in Exodus 16 explodes the theory of a changing Sabbath day every month! How so? Because it is the foundation Scripture showing us HOW AND WHEN to observe the Sabbath -- *and it makes NO MENTION of any "new moon" days to base the Sabbath upon!*

So what do we see, here? Keyser’s teaching destroys the weekly Sabbath sequence, as Exodus 16 reveals. It ignores this sequence, as God reveals it, and claims it is false. He inserts “new moon” days each month, which are not counted in the “week.”

With sheer audacity, he has forsaken the right way, and with his rebellious heart and mind, he *destroys God’s weekly Sabbath, preserved by God’s people, down through the centuries --as being every seventh day, just as Exodus 16 clearly implies!*

Stop and think for a moment. *IF* there were any intervening “new moon” days, in calculating the weekly Sabbath day, *don’t you think Yahweh would have SAID SO, IN THIS PASSAGE, which tells us WHEN the Sabbath occurs?*

Why, if Keyser were right, then God MISINFORMED His people -- because He clearly implied the SABBATH would be EVERY SEVENTH DAY -- and He told them nothing about, “Oh, by the way, each month you will need to subtract the New Moon days FROM the weekly cycle, and not count them!”

Are you, dear reader, going to swallow such nonsense?

Let’s recapitulate, for a moment:

Genesis 1 clearly shows that the week was established by GOD Himself, and was entirely INDEPENDENT of any and all astronomical or celestial phenomena. It was clearly delineated as the seventh day following six days, and so forth, for all perpetuity. The SEVENTH day is the Sabbath --PERIOD! Nowhere does the Bible say there are “intervening MOON DAYS which interrupt the seven day weekly cycle!

Exodus 16 also plainly shows the way to count the weekly cycle is *every seven days* -- with absolutely NO REGARD for any so-called “new moon days”!

This so-called “new truth,” which has evidently picked up from some very questionable and dubious sources, is sheer RUBBISH! It is a cunningly devised “doctrine of devils” (I Tim.4:1-3). Any who fall for this seductive, slickly polished and packaged garbage are certainly NOT among Yahweh’s true “elect” (Matt.24:24).

Proof #3 -- the Sabbath Command

Again, if there were to be “new moon” days to be figured into calculating the true Sabbath every month, then surely somewhere in His Word -- His instruction manual for all mankind -- God would have clearly stated this fact.

Then why is it to be found nowhere in Scripture?

If such were the case, then surely when God gave the Ten Commandments to His people Israel at Mount Sinai, and gave them His Sabbath commandment, He would have told them how to figure the Sabbath! Wouldn't He?

Let's notice God's own words in Exodus 20:8-11:

“[Earnestly] remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy [withdrawn from common employment and dedicated to God]. SIX DAYS shall you labor and do all your work. But the SEVENTH DAY IS A SABBATH to the Lord your God; in it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, your daughter, your manservant, your maidservant, your domestic animals, or the sojourner within your gates.

“For in SIX DAYS the Lord made heavens and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and RESTED THE SEVENTH DAY. That is why the Lord blessed the sabbath day and hallowed it [set it apart for His purposes]” (Exodus 20:8-11, *Amplified*).

Notice! God's Word here plainly says we are to work SIX days, and then REST on the Sabbath day -- a seven day cycle -- with absolutely NO MENTION OF ANY “MOON DAYS”!

This is the plainly given law of the Sabbath day. This is what God commanded on top of Mount Sinai, to all His people! Since there is no mention of any “new moon” days which interrupt the weekly cycle of seven, therefore we must discard such a theory as FALSE!

Proof #4 -- How to Figure the Sabbath

In Leviticus 23, God commands us how to count the feast day of Pentecost, or the “feast of Weeks,” which falls 50 days from the day which begins the count. We read:

“And you shall count from the day after the sabbath [Passover annual sabbath, or Nisan 15], from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering [the “omer”], SEVEN SABBATHS; (SEVEN FULL WEEKS) SHALL THEY BE; *COUNTING FIFTY DAYS TO THE DAY AFTER THE SEVENTH SABBATH*” (Leviticus 23:15-16).

Now let’s get this! In counting the “omer,” we are to count “fifty days” -- which we are told is seven weeks, plus one day (Lev.23:15). Seven Sabbaths or weeks is stated to be complete (49 days), and the next day is stated to be the “fiftieth day” (v.16).

There is clearly NO NEW MOON DAYS *interrupting this clear cycle of seven weeks* (7 days each), equaling 49 days, followed by Pentecost! Adding in “new moon” days would have clearly destroyed this simple COUNTING, as God commanded!

Isn’t this plain enough? Let’s THINK about it, and not allow John Keyser’s nonsense to trip us up! This passage telling us how to count the “omer” till Pentecost is FATAL to Keyser’s new moon-Sabbath theory!

Notice also God’s command in counting the weeks from the barley harvest’s beginning until the Feast of Weeks (Pentecost), as it is given in the book of Deuteronomy:

“You shall count SEVEN WEEKS [seven weeks of seven days each equals 49 days]; begin to number the seven weeks from the time you begin to put the sickle to the standing grain. Then you shall keep the FEAST OF WEEKS to the Lord your God . . .” (Deut.16:9-10).

Deuteronomy 16 clearly states that seven weeks, of seven days each, were to be numbered -- with no mention of any intervening “new moon” days! Thus, either God was miserably incompetent and a poor communicator, when He gave His commandments to Israel, and left a lot to be desired in His instructions -- or else Keyser’s theory is so much sheer bunk -- hogwash -- fit only to slop the pagan hogs!

Which do you believe?

Proof from the Sabbath Year Cycle

Also, notice the same PATTERN in God’s Word concerning the Sabbatical years, and the Jubilee years. Israel was to sow and plant for six years; and the seventh year was a LAND REST (Leviticus 25:3-4). Verse 8 says,

“And thou shalt number SEVEN SABBATHS OF YEARS unto thee, *SEVEN TIMES SEVEN YEARS; and the space of the seven sabbaths of years shall be unto thee FORTY NINE YEARS*”

(Lev.25:8).

Do we get it? Do we see what this means? Do we understand it?

Here is God's own pattern, with His own imprint. He Himself tells us how to number SABBATICAL YEARS, WHICH ARE PATTERNED ON THE WEEK ITSELF!

Just as the omer count is forty nine days (seven weeks of seven days), leading up to Pentecost, SO THE ANNUAL SABBATHS, *which occur every seventh year*, without any interruptions, also are seven times seven,, or forty nine YEARS, and the following year is THE JUBILEE YEAR -- the FIFTIETH YEAR (Lev.25:10-11).

Think about it! There is obviously NO ROOM FOR ANY "NEW MOON" YEARS IN THE SABBATH YEAR CYCLE, nor in the OMER CYCLE, *nor are there any "new moon" days interrupting the WEEKLY SABBATH CYCLE!*

John Keyser's so-called "new truth" is in reality, carnal man's newest tactic and device to attempt to DESTROY God's people. His teaching is sheer "loony tunes" -- sheer "lunacy." It is "moon madness!"

Remember, we READ in Exodus 20, where God gives His original Sabbath Commandment, where God says: "Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: But the SEVENTH day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God . . . For in SIX days the Lord made heaven and earth . . . and rested the SEVENTH day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed IT" (Exo.20:9-11). *The true Sabbath of God occurs EVERY SEVENTH DAY in a weekly cycle which began with the Act of Creation itself!*

How plain! No "new moon" days to figure in! Simply count six, then observe the SEVENTH day -- in an ongoing, perpetual CYCLE! God's Word is PLAIN! It does not need rocket scientists or self-ordained "scholars" to interpret it for us! God never intended His Sabbath cycle to be "lost" -- and it never has been! God would never leave His true people in sheer ignorance of one of the basic, one of the very Ten Commandments, down through 1,500 years, to the present!

Time, among the Hebrews, has NEVER been lost! The knowledge of the weekly cycle has NEVER been lost!

New Moons and Sabbaths

In a vain attempt to "prove" the new moons influence the weekly Sabbath cycle, the claim has been made that Ezekiel 46 provides evidence to that effect. But does it?

Let's read this Scripture, and see what it really says! Notice it. In Ezekiel 46:1:

"Thus said the Lord God; The gate of the inner court that looketh toward the east shall be *shut the six working days*; but on the *Sabbath* it shall be opened, AND in the *day of the new moon* it shall be opened" (v.1).

Clearly, the new moon day was NOT the same as the Sabbath day -- they were two different days. This passage simply says that during the six work days of the week, this gate was to be closed, but opened on the weekly Sabbath. What is so difficult to understand about that?

The passage also states that the gate is to be open on the day of the new moon (the first day of each month). Notice, it does NOT say the “DAYS of the new moon,” which Keyser insists occurs in many months! With his theory, some months begin with TWO CONSECUTIVE “DAYS” of the “New Moon”!

But think about this! NOWHERE in Scripture are we ever given the knowledge that there are EVER “two consecutive New Moon days” to begin a Biblical month!

Rather, all this passage in Ezekiel says is that the gate of the Temple, in the millennial reign of Christ the Messiah, will be shut on the six working days of the week, but opened on the Sabbath, and on the New Moon. The word “Sabbath” here can also refer to the annual holy days, which are also called “sabbaths” (see Lev.23:24, 32, 39). On the holy days the gate will be opened -- but shut on all other days!

Ezekiel, Sabbaths, and New Moons

Notice, another passage which discusses the weekly Sabbaths and New Moons. Some claim that this passage shows a “link” between Sabbaths and New Moons, thereby proving the Sabbaths are *derived from* the New Moons. Is this true? Notice what Ezekiel says:

“Likewise the people of the land shall worship at the door of this gate before the Lord IN THE SABBATHS AND IN THE NEW MOONS” (Ezek.46:3, KJV).

Clearly, Sabbaths and New Moons are *two different things*. Just because they are both mentioned in the same verse does not in any way prove the Sabbaths are derived from the New Moons! There is no mention that Sabbaths are based on a monthly lunar cycle, and therefore change every month, in this verse. Such a conclusion is *reading into the text what simply is not there!*

According to Keyser, this text demonstrates that the Sabbaths are dependent on the New Moons, which means that that in one month they would fall on a Monday, the next month on a Wednesday, the next month on a Friday, or whatever -- the weekly Sabbath would fall on a different day of the week each succeeding month of the year.

The whole idea is *preposterous* -- has no proof whatsoever -- and smacks of rebellion and diabolical deception!

The point has been made that the fact that six working days occurs before the Sabbath means that the annual holy days of God would therefore fall on a weekly Sabbath as well -- thus there would always be six working days during the week, before either a new moon, or an annual

Sabbath. This is used by some to “prove” that the annual Sabbaths must fall on a weekly Sabbath -- otherwise there would not be “six working days” during that week.

This claim, however, proves nothing. The fact is, even with Keyser’s new theory, the holy days of Shavuot (Pentecost) would still fall on a day other than a weekly Sabbath -- since it falls on Sivan 6. By his calendar, Sivan 1 would be a new moon day, and Sivan 2 would be the first day of the following week, making Sivan 6 fall on a Friday, every year. Likewise, the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur), which comes 10 days after Rosh Hashana (the new moon), would always fall on a Monday, by his calendar. This would clearly interrupt the “six days of work” leading up to the weekly Sabbath during those particular weeks!

Thus the fact that Ezekiel mentions 6 work days before the Sabbath does NOT prove the annual holy days also must fall on a weekly Sabbath!

All Ezekiel 46:1 shows us, therefore, is that the weekly Sabbaths and new moons are DIFFERENT! That is very clear. It certainly provides no proof whatsoever that the sabbaths are determined *by* the new moons! Merely being mentioned in the same verse together does not prove a connection -- but merely an association.

Others have pointed out that there are eleven places in the Scriptures -- 11 -- where the Sabbaths, New Moons, and annual Festivals of God are *mentioned together*. For example, see the following: I Chron.23:32; II Chron.2:4; 8:3; 31:3; Ezra 3:5; Neh.10:33; Isaiah 1:14; Ezekiel 45:17, 46:3; and Hosea 2:11. Count them -- yes, *eleven* places! Is this supposed to “prove” something?

Not that I know of! Merely mentioning certain things together may merely prove that they are loosely associated, or that they all derive from *God*, which is true. In looking these Scriptures up, I found one common denominator -- in every case they were all associated with the *special burnt offerings* God commanded on each of these days!

But does that in any manner “prove” that the Sabbath “hangs” from the New Moon, and must be calculated every month from that month’s new moon? Again -- pure claptrap rubbish and nonsense!

By John Keyser’s configuration, the new moon day would always fall eight days before a “sabbath day” -- which would suggest that it had to be a Sabbath as well -- except that he calls it a “non-day” and not part of the “week!” Talk about “weird,” “strange,” and “bizarre!” The whole idea is utterly grotesque! Keyser’s teaching actually claims that the new moon days were NOT EVEN COUNTED, but were separate and apart from any weekly cycle -- sort of “intervening days,” if you please!

Doesn’t this smack of sheer folly and nonsense? WHERE in the Scriptures do we find such a thing? *NOWHERE!*

The Babylonian MYSTERIES

When we boil it all down, Keyser's own "proof" of the lunar-influenced week comes from bits and pieces of PAGAN BELIEFS and practices, hinted at by scholars who believe the pagans had such a lunar-weekly cycle. In fact, in an astonishing bit of sophistry, Keyser even admits his idea of a LUNAR-BASED WEEK comes straight out of Babylon itself!

Notice! He quotes *The New Schaff-Herzog Religious Encyclopedia* as saying:

“. . . there is general agreement that the seven-day period [as observed by the Hebrews] was DERIVED FROM BABYLONIA, where it was employed in pre-Semitic times -- this is confirmed by the fact that not only were the seventh, fourteenth, twenty-first, and twenty-eighth days of the month observed, but the nineteenth was also a special day . . .”
(vol.7, page 492, emphasis mine).

Read that again! Did you get it? This very quotation itself admits that the new moon-based “Sabbath,” with the 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th days of the month observed as “sabbaths,” DERIVES FROM -- COMES FROM -- *WHERE?*

ANCIENT BABYLON!

It was the pagan *Babylonians* who had such a cycle -- anything is possible in this corrupt world. But so what? God warns us: “LEARN NOT THE WAY OF THE HEATHEN . . . For the customs of the people are VAIN” (Jeremiah 10:2-3). This very “authority” whom Keyser quotes, actually admits the idea of the lunar-based week comes from *BABYLON!* Keyser even quotes this “authority” to prove it! Well, since such is the case, then isn't that reason enough for us to REJECT IT as being PAGAN and the creation of PAGAN IDOL WORSHIPPERS, and to have nothing whatsoever to do with it???

In this case, Keyser's own quotation hoists him on his own petard -- skewers him with his own spear! And destroys his argument, tearing it to shreds!

The fact is, even so-called scholarship, of this world's unconverted scholars -- which may indicate that the pagans once had a moon-based week -- proves absolutely *nothing* as far as the Scriptures -- *the Word of God* -- or the Sabbath of Almighty YAHWEH -- is concerned! It merely proves that wicked men were doing their dirty work and work of seduction even way back in those primordial times!

Isn't that what we should expect? Didn't man actually begin his dirty work of rebellion and lies back in the very garden of Eden? Then why should we be shocked or dismayed because the *pagan Babylonians* once held to a lunar-based “week” and series of “sabbaths”?

The SCRIPTURES are our only real source of authority -- and THEY MENTION NO SUCH CONNECTION of the MOON governing the week or weekly Sabbath days! The prophet Isaiah plainly says no other authority matters! Notice His words!

“And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar

spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead? TO THE LAW [TORAH] AND TO THE TESTIMONY [THE WORD OF GOD]: *if they speak not according to THIS WORD, it is because there is NO LIGHT in them*" (Isaiah 8:19-20).

In trying to prove the original "Sabbath" was based on the phases of the moon, Keyser goes straight to ancient BABYLON! *The Babylonian Empire was the empire of the rebel Nimrod! Is that where we ought to seek the truth of God? Should we go to Babylon? To Nimrod and his successors? (Gen.10:8-10). Absolutely NOT!*

Notice what God's Word says of "Babylon": "Babylon hath been a golden cup in the LORD's hand, that made all the earth drunken: the nations have drunken of her wine; therefore the nations are mad" (Jer.51:7).

God says to the daughter of Babylon, "Thy nakedness shall be uncovered, yea, thy shame shall be seen: I will take VENGEANCE, and I will not meet thee as a man. . . Sit thou silent, and get thee into darkness, O daughter of the Chaldeans: for thou shalt no more be called, the lady of kingdoms" (Isaiah 47:3-5).

In the New Testament, God declares further of the whole *Babylonian system*:

"Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have DRUNK of the WINE of the wrath of her FORNICATION, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her" (Rev.18:2-3).

Is *Babylon* the place we ought to go for "truth"?

Yah *FORBID!*

The Sabbath -- a SIGN of GOD

In one of his articles entitled "The New Moon and Weekly Sabbath -- Side by Side!", Keyser quotes a Jehovah Witness commentary called *Insight on the Scriptures*, which states, what I would call the "obvious." Nevertheless, it seems important to Keyser. Says the Jehovah Witness commentary:

"The solar day, the solar year, and the lunar month are thus NATURAL divisions of time, governed respectively by the daily turning of the earth on its axis, by its annual orbit around the sun, and by the MONTHLY PHASES OF THE MOON in its relation to earth and sun. The division of time into WEEKS and the division of the day into hours, on the other hand, are ARBITRARY ones" (emphasis Keyser's, *Insight on the Scriptures*, vol. 1, p.389, article "Calendar").

Notice how he emphasizes the word "arbitrary," here, making it sound as if the arrangement were merely a human determination -- something done by pure happenstance, or "accident," with no basis whatsoever. The word "arbitrary" means "arising from will or caprice; selected at random and without reason" (*Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary*).

Is the week, and weekly Sabbath, purely a random choice -- without reason? Is it therefore, as Keyser claims, totally without foundation and without Scriptural support?

Keyser then leaps across the chasm, in a death-defying attempt to bridge the unbridgeable gulf, stating dogmatically, without equivocation:

“It should be quite apparent that nothing in our *present* seven-day cycle or week can be tied to anything in the natural phenomena . . . The beginning and end of our seven-day cycle are simply not ANCHORED in nature, *and this in itself proves that God’s true Sabbath is neither Saturday nor Sunday . . .*” (p.2, italics emphasis in final part, mine; rest, his).

Is that claim true? Absolutely not! It is pure prejudicial poppycock! *Utter nonsense!*

The Scriptures themselves clearly indicate that the weekly pattern was was patterned after natural phenomena, but was DESIGNED BY GOD HIMSELF -- set forth as THE evidence that He is Creator!

The weekly Sabbath day is based on the CREATION WEEK -- not the lunar-moon cycle each month! God Himself tells us the Sabbath is HIS UNIQUE SIGN -- pointing not to the moon, but to HIM as the Creator (Genesis 1:1-30; 2:1-3; see also Exodus 20:10-11). Thus, God Himself says that the Sabbath is not related to any heavenly or astronomical cycle in nature. Rather, it is of *DIVINE ORIGIN!*

The Sabbath is the seventh day of a DIVINE cycle -- not a “natural” cycle! It points to the Creator, GOD -- not to the moon! It is the concluding day of the weekly cycle, began by God AT CREATION.

God told Moses:

“Verily my sabbaths you shall keep: for it is A SIGN between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may KNOW that I am the LORD that doth sanctify you. Ye shall keep the sabbath therefore; for it is holy unto you: every one that defileth it shall surely be put to death: for whosoever doeth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people. *Six days may work be done ;but IN THE SEVENTH is the SABBATH of rest, holy to the LORD:* whoso doeth any work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death” (Exo.31:13-15).

God goes on, pointing once again to the connection of the weekly Sabbath with His identity as our Creator, and as a SIGN that we recognize His as Creator:

“Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, for a PERPETUAL COVENANT. It is a SIGN between me and the children of Israel FOR EVER: *FOR IN SIX DAYS THE LORD MADE HEAVEN AND EARTH, AND ON THE SEVENTH DAY HE RESTED, and was refreshed*” (Exo. 31:16-17).

Do you get it? The Sabbath is not of natural derivation -- but of SUPERNATURAL ORIGIN! It does not trace back to the moon, or moon worship. It traces back to the God of

Creation who set it aside as a holy day of rest! It bears not the signature of the moon, or the moon goddess of Babylon --- rather, it bears the distinctive *Signature* of Almighty GOD Himself!

The weekly Sabbath cycle goes back to GOD and is of divine origin. The fact that God created the sun, moon, and stars, and set them for “signs, and for seasons, and for days, and for years” (Gen.1:14), is a fact. But notice carefully! In this verse, God did NOT say He set the sun or moon or stars to determine *THE WEEK!* The “week” of seven days is simply *not included in this verse!* How strange that would be, IF God had decided to let the phases of the *moon* to correlate and determine the succession of the weeks, and the weekly Sabbath!

Do we get the hint? Can we see the truth? Keyser claims Genesis 1:14 proves the weekly Sabbath is determined by the “moon.” That is utter nonsense! It says plainly no such thing at all! In fact, although the sun determines the solar year (“years”), and the moon determines the length of the month (“signs” or “seasons”), and the sun also determines the “days,” nowhere in this strategic verse discussing the arrangements of time, and the calendar, IS THE WEEK MENTIONED! Why not?

Because unlike these other features, the week itself is not of astronomical relevance or derivation. **Instead, it is of supernatural DIVINE DESIGN and origin!**

“Seasons” and “Moedim”

However, Keyser makes an issue of the use of the word “seasons,” in Genesis 1:14. He claims this word is mistranslated. The Hebrew word here is *moed*, or *moedim* (plural form). Strong’s Concordance points out this word has several related meanings:

“prop. an appointment, i.e., a fixed time OR SEASON; spec. a festival; conventionally, a YEAR; by implication, an assembly (as convened for a definite purpose): technically the congregation; by extension, the place of meeting; also a signal (as appointed beforehand).”

Thus, despite Keyser’s claims, the word *moed* clearly can and does mean “season,” and “seasons!” To state otherwise is to misuse and misunderstand Hebrew definitions.

Since the word *moed* can and does also refer to festivals, and festival assemblies, it is noteworthy that all of God’s ANNUAL HOLY DAYS are determined by the lunar month -- that is, they are counted according to the day of the month. That is, the Passover is sacrificed on the 14th of the lunar month (Exo.12:6, 12-14, Lev.23:5), the Passover Holy Day is the 15th of the month (Lev.23:6), the Feast of Trumpets falls on the day of the new moon in the month of Tishri (Lev.23:24), and the first day of the Feast of Tabernacles falls on the 15th of Tishri (Lev.23:34). There is no question but that the new moon determines the Hebrew monthly cycle, and therefore these annual feast days are indirectly determined by the moon.

However, this does not state or mean that the *weekly* Sabbath is also so determined! Although it, too, is classified as a “feast of Yahweh” (Lev.23:1-3), notice that it is listed *separately* from the annual holy days. God says:

“ . . . these are my feasts. Six days shall work be done: but the SEVENTH DAY is the SABBATH of rest, an holy convocation: ye shall do NO WORK therein: it is the sabbath of the LORD in all your dwellings” (v.3).

Thus God Himself sets the Sabbath day apart, stating it occurs every seven days, with no other days in between! After clarifying this point, God goes on to discuss, separately, the annual holy days, saying:

“v.4. “These are the FEASTS of the Lord, even holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their SEASONS [moadim]. In the fourteenth day of the first MONTH at even [evening, or ending of the day] is the Lord’s passover. And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the feast of unleavened bread unto the Lord: seven days ye must eat unleavened bread” (Lev.23:4-6).

Notice carefully! Here the annual holy days begin -- and they are listed as a body by themselves -- and it is THESE ANNUAL FEASTS that God specifically says are to be proclaimed “in *their seasons*” (v.4, end). These are the holy days determined by the *moadim* -- the seasons of the year, and by the new moons, or the regular monthly calendar!

But the weekly Sabbath itself was already dealt with in verse 3, by itself, and is clearly stated to be regulated *solely by counting six days, and then observing the seventh as the Sabbath!* Clearly, then, the Sabbath is to be counted, or regulated, differently, from the annual holy days!

The weekly Sabbath cycle is one cycle of God -- based on the DIVINE nature and origin of the seven-day “week.”

The New Moon cycle is an entirely different cycle -- the monthly cycle -- based on the changes in the moon during a month, from new moon to new moon.

The two cycles are entirely different! The monthly cycle is based on astronomy. But the weekly Sabbath cycle is based sheerly on the PLAN OF GOD! It has no astronomical basis, because its origin is the MIND and WILL of God Himself, the Creator. Thus it points to Him as Creator, the One who made the heavens and the earth, and it is therefore not dependent upon creation or astronomy, but only on the DECLARATION OF GOD! Thus it is His “SIGN” -- His “SIGNATURE” -- PROOF we worship HIM as the True God!

When we understand that the source for our knowledge ought to be the plain and simple Word of God - and that God has NOT hidden His true Sabbath from the world all these years and centuries -- then we can rest assured that we are worshipping on the correct weekly Sabbath day!

What Really Happened in the 4th Century of the Present Era?

In his paper on the New Moon-Sabbath connection, John Keyser claims that in the fourth century, A.D., during the time of Rabbi Hillel II, that the Jewish rabbis deliberately CHANGED from a lunar-based shifting weekly cycle, every month, to the present seven day cycle -- that they

did this for “economic” reasons -- for “commercial purposes” -- to facilitate money making schemes and commercial trade. But merely stating something this way does not make it the truth!

Supposedly, the Jews living in Babylon, decided to scrap the lunar-based week, and opted for the seven-day modern week, and changed the Jewish Sabbath from the former to the latter, in the fourth century A.D.

Is such a thing possible? Those who are ignorant of history might think so. But what is the evidence of history, itself?

Did the Jews in the fourth century suddenly LOSE TRACK OF TIME, because they were living in Babylon, and deliberately altered the weekly cycle?

The fact is, contrary to Keyser’s insinuations, there is ABSOLUTELY NO EVIDENCE that in the fourth century A.D. the Jewish rabbis in Babylon changed the weekly cycle!

Let’s understand! While rabbis in Babylon compiled the Babylonian Talmud, there were other rabbis in Palestine, around Jerusalem and the region of Judea, who were compiling the “Jerusalem Talmud.” Both Talmuds have come down to us, replete with knowledge and information of Jewish history and practices.

Neither one of these historical documents mentions or alludes to any controversy over the WEEK, or any change from a lunar-based week to a non-astronomical week!

There is absolutely NO MENTION of any such controversy, or Sabbath crisis, or conflict over the “week,” during that time!

The whole idea is based on a tissue of unsupported, undocumented assumptions and unproven conclusions -- it is merely a hypothesis -- and a sheer fabrication made out of whole cloth!

Unfortunately, most people are not well grounded in Jewish history. The Talmud (both Jerusalem and Babylonian), and the Mishnah, written down from 250 A.D. and finished about 1000 A.D., all show that the only calendar changes made in the fourth century were those concerning the perpetual calendar versus the historical observational calendar, by Rabbi Hillel II, in 359 A.D. Those changes were made in order to preserve unity among the widely scattered Jewish people in observance of the holy days -- to preserve the calendar, so confusion and chaos would not result.

In his article, Keyser makes a major point, in his mind, that by the fourth century political and religious control passed from the rabbis of Palestine to the rabbis of Babylonia. He says they were much more willing to accommodate themselves to existing governments and to compromise certain principles they held. This is all perverted nonsense. The Jews of Babylon, in reality, were more prudent and peacemakers -- and sought to live within the Gentile community without sowing seeds of strife, rebellion, or to give any cause to bring on unnecessary persecution, which could have destroyed their independence and community. In their wisdom, they learned to “get along”

with their Gentile neighbors. But in no way does this suggest they compromised their religious principles or teachings! They still remained observant orthodox Jews and were highly regarded in the entire Jewish community worldwide. In fact, their authority and power increased, by dint of circumstances, in the succeeding ages.

But they NEVER changed the weekly succession or the Sabbath rotation! Such a claim is entirely unwarranted, unproven and unfounded!

Jewish history itself tells us what changes were made to the calendar during that age. Those changes *in no way altered the weekly cycle!* Our booklet "A New Look at God's Holy Calendar" discusses this subject in detail. Rabbi Arthur Spier discusses exactly what changes were introduced in 359 A.D. Notice!

The FACTS of History

Because it is so important, let us notice the facts concerning the preservation of the Jewish calendar. Famed educator, scholar and calendar expert, Arthur Spier tells us,

"In the early times of our history . . . [the] beginnings of the months were determined by direct observation of the new moon. Then those beginnings of the months (Rosh Hodesh) were sanctified and announced by the Sanhedrin, the Supreme Court in Jerusalem, after witnesses had testified that they had seen the new crescent and after their testimony had been thoroughly examined, *confirmed by calculation*, and duly accepted" (*The Comprehensive Hebrew Calendar*, p.1).

Arthur Spier continues:

"A special committee of the Sanhedrin, with its president as chairman, had the mandate to REGULATE AND BALANCE the solar with the lunar years [the lunar year equals 12 lunar months, about 354 days long; the solar year is 365.25 days long; thus it is approximately 11 days longer than 12 lunar months]. This so-called Calendar Council (*Sod Haibbur*) CALCULATED the beginnings of the SEASONS (*Teklufoth*) on the BASIS OF ASTRONOMICAL FIGURES which had been HANDED DOWN AS A TRADITION OF OLD. Whenever, after two or three years, the annual excess of 11 days had accumulated to approximately 30 days, a thirteenth month Adar II was inserted before Nisan in order to assure that Nisan and Passover would occur in Spring and not retrogress toward winter. However, the astronomical calculation was not the only basis for intercalation of a thirteenth month. The delay of the actual arrival of spring was another decisive factor. The Talmudic sources report that the Council intercalated a year when the barley in the fields had not yet ripened, when the fruit on the trees had not grown properly, when the winter rains had not stopped, when the roads for Passover pilgrims had not dried up, and when the young pigeons had not become fledged. The Council on intercalation considered THE ASTRONOMICAL FACTS TOGETHER WITH THE RELIGIOUS REQUIREMENTS OF PASSOVER and the natural conditions of the country.

"This method of observation and intercalation was in use throughout the period of the second temple (516 B.C.E. -- 70 C.E.), and about three centuries after its destruction, *as long as there was an independent Sanhedrin*. In the fourth century, however, when OPPRESSION AND PERSECUTION THREATENED THE CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF THE SANHEDRIN, the patriarch Hillel II took an extraordinary step to PRESERVE the UNITY OF ISRAEL. In order to prevent the Jews SCATTERED ALL OVER THE SURFACE OF THE EARTH from celebrating their New Moons, FESTIVALS and holidays at DIFFERENT TIMES, HE MADE PUBLIC THE SYSTEM OF CALENDAR CALCULATION WHICH UP TO THEN HAD BEEN A CLOSELY GUARDED SECRET. It had been used in the past only to check the observations and testimonies of

witnesses, and to determine the beginnings of the spring season.

“In accordance with this system, Hillel II formally sanctified all months in advance, and intercalated all future leap years UNTIL SUCH TIME AS A NEW, RECOGNIZED SANHEDRIN would be established in Israel. This is the PERMANENT CALENDAR according to which the New Moons and Festivals are calculated and celebrated today by the Jews ALL OVER THE WORLD” (p.1-2).

Just because the Jews rejected the Messiah, which they were prophesied to do, as a whole, nevertheless, that fact does not mean that they “disqualified” themselves from their God-appointed duty of preserving the Oracles of God -- among which are included the calendar, and its calculations.

To be blunt about it, God is able to use imperfect men to do His Work -- and has been doing so from the very beginnings of time. Only Christ, among all men, was ever “perfect” (Heb.5:7-9). All the rest of us have sinned (Rom.3:10, 23; I John 1:8-10). Yet God uses us, in various ways, to get His Work done. And He has used the Jews in a rather remarkable, phenomenal way, to preserve His sacred calendar! It is preposterous nonsense to claim that they completely altered the weekly succession and Sabbath reckoning in the fourth century of the present era, four hundred years after the time of Christ! Rather, they were the God-appointed GUARDIANS of the calendar, including the weekly cycle, which they preserved from dim antiquity!

The Scribes and the Pharisees

Yeshua Messiah (Jesus the Christ) alluded to this truth, and the authority of the Jews to preserve the calendar, which is the key to understanding and observing the annual Holy Days and Festivals of God. He declared in plain words:

“The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses’ seat. Therefore whatever they tell you to observe, that observe and do”
(Matt.23:2-3).

Any one who sits in “Moses’ seat” would have authority to interpret and rule on the words and laws that were imparted by God through Moses -- including the Law, the Holy Days, and the statutes and judgments God gave Israel through Moses. The scribes and Pharisees of Jesus’ time inherited this prerogative -- this jurisdiction!

Jesus Himself said so, and *He never revoked this authority.*

The rabbis of the fourth century were the spiritual descendants of the scribes and Pharisees of Jesus’ own day. They therefore inherited this SAME AUTHORITY -- they also “sat in Moses’ seat” during their time.

There is *no evidence whatsoever* that during the fourth century, or any other time, they rejected God’s seven day weekly cycle, or substituted another cycle for it!

This idea, *masquerading* as “modern scholarship,” is nothing but sheer modern *lunacy!*

The Jews knew they needed to preserve the knowledge of when the holy days occurred. *The weekly cycle was never altered, abrogated, or tampered with!*

If there had been such a change, it would have been documented as a tremendous controversy rocking the foundations of Judaism -- but the sheer *overwhelming SILENCE* of such a controversy, by the Jews who document EVERY MAJOR DISAGREEMENT, and every controversy, in the Mishnah and Talmud -- is *powerful proof that such a thing did not happen!!!*

Isn't it about time we open our eyes, and carefully check the record of history, before we swallow modern day bunk and poppycock?

New Testament Proof

What about the New Testament Scriptures? What do they have to say on this controversy? When we analyze the repercussions of Keyser's "new truth," we find that it completely distorts and alters the plain teachings of the New Testament.

For example, Keyser's theory postulates that the 15th of Nisan -- the First Day of Unleavened Bread -- would always fall on a Sabbath. This means that according to Keyser, therefore, in 30 A.D. when Yeshua Messiah was crucified, the "high day" following His crucifixion (John 19:31) fell on the weekly Sabbath. In other words, according to this new hypothesis, the day of the crucifixion was FRIDAY! So, according to Keyser, the crucifixion fell on Friday, and the resurrection was on Sunday morning -- Easter Sunday -- after all!

One of the major arguments among Christians, today, is over how much time Jesus Christ actually spent in the grave. In the book of Matthew, we read the very words of Jesus Christ concerning His death and resurrection. He declared in plain and unequivocal words:

"Then certain of the scribes and Pharisees answered, saying, Master, we would see a sign from thee. But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of Jonah: For as Jonah was THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS in the heart of the earth" (Matthew 12:40).

Did our Messiah mean what he said? Are the words of the Bible true in this matter? Our Savior said that he would be in the grave three days and three nights. We know that he was crucified at the 3rd hour (9AM - Mark 15:25) and expired on the cross at the 9th hour (3PM - Mark 15:34-37). Then Joseph of Arimathea obtained the body from Pilate for burial which occurred just before sunset of that particular day.

Anyone who has studied the literature available on this subject realizes that many scholars contend that the Jews counted a portion of a day as a whole day or a portion of a night as a whole night. They purport that the phrase "three days and three nights," therefore, can mean simply a part of three days and nights.

Of course! Thursday afternoon would be day one, Thursday night would be one night; Friday is day two, Friday night is two nights; Saturday is day three and Saturday night is the third night – three days and three nights. Simple! Now, how does this fit with the traditional Friday crucifixion and Sunday morning resurrection?

Friday would be day one, Friday night is one night, Saturday would be the second day, Saturday night the second night and since the woman went to the tomb *while it was yet dark*, before sunrise, well, that's only TWO days and TWO nights! And if you want to *force* another day from a few minutes on Sunday morning, that still only constitutes the third day or three days and TWO nights! It just doesn't fit!

Yeshua clearly referred the Pharisees back to the familiar account of Jonah and the great fish (whale). He plainly told them that just as Jonah was in the belly of the fish for three days and three nights, so would He be in the tomb for the same period of time. This was the ONLY one great sign he gave!

It should be obvious from Messiah's direct statement that he and the Jews of his day clearly understood the fact that he would be gone for three days AND three nights, and then making reference to an actual historical event as an existing precedent (as Messiah did to Jonah), would never have been understood to mean anything less. To suggest that it's possible is patently ridiculous!

The thoughtless acceptance of this sort of false teaching has been responsible for millions of sincere people failing to understand when the Saviour was crucified and when he rose. This misunderstanding has subsequently led the vast majority of professing Christians to blindly and ignorantly believe that Messiah was resurrected on a Sunday *sunrise* morning, and they just as blindly have honored the first day of the week, both as a day of weekly worship, as well as adhering to the false doctrine of Easter, the annual spring fertility festival which is derived straight from paganism, the worship of Nimrod and his wife/mother Semiramis (the goddess Ashtoreth, Astarte or Easter). Do some research, the historical facts are available in many encyclopedias.

Yahweh does everything ON TIME - ON SCHEDULE! The Messiah appeared on the world scene, as Paul expressed it, "*when the fullness of time was come*" (Gal. 4:4). The prophet Daniel predicted the precise year when the Messiah's ministry would begin (Dan. 9:24-26). When certain of the Jewish leaders attempted to kill Christ, they were thwarted. Why? Simply because the carefully planned time had not yet come. And when finally that moment did indeed arrive, the Saviour knew it, saying: "Father, the HOUR IS COME" (John 17:1). So it should not be surprising that the Father specifically timed the events surrounding the final days and hours of His Son's human life, including the very moment of his death, burial and resurrection.

The verse in John's gospel, which shows that there were two Sabbaths is John 19:31: "*The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the cross on the sabbath day, (for that sabbath day was an high day,) besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away.*"

Yeshua was crucified on Thursday, the 14th of Nisan, the day before the first High Holy Day Sabbath of the Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread, which is the 15th of Nisan and fell on a Friday (April 7) in the year our Master was crucified, in 30 A.D. The Passover meal was celebrated that very evening, that is, Thursday at sunset (beginning the 15th). Remember that according to Yah's calendar, the evening part of the day comes first (Gen 1:5). God reckons time from sunset to sunset. Incidentally, there are those who believe that Messiah was crucified on a Wednesday; however, this doesn't fit with the historical or biblical record either.

Now, if Jesus was in the grave only two days and two nights, more or less, then *He failed to fulfill the ONLY SIGN which He said would be given to that generation, proving that He was the Christ -- the Messiah -- the Savior of the world!*

John Keyser's lunar-sabbath theory claims that Christ was crucified on a Friday after all -- and that the annual holy day fell on the weekly Sabbath. Since this idea is the very same as the Protestant-Catholic "Good Friday-Easter Sunday" tradition, isn't it also a RETURN TO BABYLON instead of a discovery of "new truth"?

In reality then, Keyser has gone *BACK TO BABYLON* in his new theology!

Which will we believe -- God's word? Or the ideas of men? Jesus Christ warned those who profess to follow Him, "Howbeit in VAIN do they WORSHIP ME, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. For *laying aside* the commandments of God, ye *hold the tradition of men* . . . And he said unto them, Full well ye *reject* the commandment of God, that ye may *keep your own tradition*" (Mark 7:7-9). Jesus warned of the danger of "making the word of God of none effect *through your tradition*" (verse 13).

This new teaching of Keyser sets aside the commandments of God, and substitutes Satan-devised and Babylonian-based inventions!

The ORACLES of God!

God gave His oracles -- including the knowledge of the Sabbath day -- TO THE JEWS to preserve down through time. As the apostle Paul wrote:

"What advantage then hath the JEW? or what profit is there in circumcision? MUCH EVERY WAY: CHIEFLY, BECAUSE THAT UNTO THEM WERE COMMITTED THE ORACLES OF GOD. For what if some did not believe? Shall their unbelief make the faith of God of no effect? GOD FORBID: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar" (see Romans 3:1-4).

God did not give His oracles to John Keyser. He gave them to the JEWS to preserve down through the centuries and the corridors of time. They have done a very good job, overall -- that is why God gave them this responsibility! What mistakes they have made God will judge them for. But overall, they have preserved the oracles -- teachings -- of God. The rabbis still sit in Moses' seat (Matt.23:1-3). They still have authority to TEACH the laws of God handed down through Moses. And this most definitely includes the true knowledge of the Sabbath day!

GUARD the Doors of Your Mind

Be on your guard! GUARD the doors of your MIND! The false teachings of deceived men can confuse you and lead you astray into sheer folly and foolish fantasy. But God is not the author of confusion! The apostle Paul declared: "For God is NOT the author of confusion" (I Cor.14:33).

As James wrote: "But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This [kind of] wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. For where envying and STRIFE is, there is CONFUSION and every evil work" (James 3:14-26). This rebellion towards God's law resides in our flesh. "For the interests of the flesh are hostile to God; they do not yield to the law of God (indeed they cannot). Those who operate in the flesh cannot please God." (Rom. 8:7, 8).

According to John Keyser, God has left His people in the complete and total dark as to His true Sabbath day from the fourth century until our day, right now! Nothing could be further from the truth!

Do you think for one minute that God would leave His people, the true Church which Jesus Christ said He would build (Matt.16:18), ignorant of the true Sabbath day from that time until now? Would God allow His own church, down through the centuries, to remain IN TOTAL DARKNESS, on the matter of which day is the Sabbath? The whole idea is preposterous.

We must reject this lunar-sabbath lunacy concerning Yahweh's weekly Sabbath, which he placed in the heart of His Ten Commandments. Thank Him for preserving this knowledge through the Jews and thank Him for leading, guiding and keeping us in His truth by His Holy Spirit!

"But others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh. Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to God our Savior, who alone is wise, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen." (Jude 1: 23-25).