

HEALING STREAM MINISTRIES presents...

THE UNDILUTED, FULL STRENGTH, THREE ANGELS' MESSAGES
with enough power to...

- **cleans** from all sin
- **set us free** from all bondage
- **break all the power** of the enemy over us
- **restore us to total spiritual health**
- **develop immunity** to all last-day deceptions

#38 – Bumper Sticker Witnessing

In the city where I once resided [Loma Linda, CA], I often spotted bumper stickers or license plate frames with the words – *The Seventh-day Is the Sabbath*. Without challenging the truth of these slogans, I have often wondered about how effective as witnessing tools such bumper stickers really are. I have sometimes asked myself questions such as these:

- Is the driver of the vehicle wanting to tell others that he is right about the Sabbath.
- Does anyone really want to listen to a person who claims he is right, and, therefore, others are wrong?
- Will people really respond positively to bumper stickers with a desire to know more?
- Does the proclaiming of doctrinal knowledge really constitute witnessing?

This reminds me of a statement by a physician in a church I once served. He said, *Doctrine is like medicine. Medicine in the right dosage can do a lot of good. In the wrong dosage, medicine can sometimes kill.* Are we saying that doctrine is unimportant? Not at all! Would you want a physician to perform surgery on you if he did not know his anatomy (doctrine).

After all, if you go to the hospital emergency room with a leg fracture, the nurses do not ask you read 21 pages of an article on orthopedic surgery from the *Journal of the American Medical Association* before they treat you. How then can we communicate to others about the Sabbath and do it in a way that attracts rather than repels people?

In the Sabbath Commandment we find embedded the features of our identity. Our identity is like the internal operating system of a computer. When we doubt our identity, we set ourselves up for aimlessly drifting through life without purpose. Even worse, when we doubt our God-given identity, we set ourselves up for a crash of our internal operating system. Our identity designates who we are. The devil's lie is that what you do

determines who you are. God's truth is that who you are determines what you do.

So rather than just telling others that that we possess correct doctrinal knowledge, let the Sabbath be a celebration of our solid and secure identity as found in God and His Son, Jesus Christ. Just like the celebration of the 4th of July and even your own birthday are celebrations of your personal or national identity. When our God-designated identity is firmly programmed in our minds, we will possess immunity against all the enemy's deceptions, because all temptations have in them a veiled attack on our identity. The tempter said to Jesus, *IF you are the Son of God!*

So keep the Sabbath then as a celebration of your identity, and not as a statement about correct religious information contained in doctrines. Exhibit personal contentment in your great Creator God, as you delight yourself in awesome power of your God: *"Ah, Lord God, You have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched hand. Nothing is too difficult for you"* (Jeremiah 32:18).

Join with the witnesses in heaven's open courtroom in declaring, *"You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power: for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created"* (Revelation 4:11).

How do you glorify God the most? By telling others where they are wrong and you are right? God is most glorified when we are most satisfied in Him. Let the Sabbath be a day for giving a testimony about your satisfaction in Him. This kind of testimony cannot be refuted by proof texts, and it is unassailable because it rests on your personal experience.