

Bible Advocate Press

Writer's Guidelines



History

The *Bible Advocate* is one of the oldest religious magazines in America, founded in 1863. *Now What?* has been online since late 1996 (<http://nowwhat.cog7.org/>). Both are published by the Bible Advocate Press, the publishing agency of the General Conference of the Church of God (Seventh Day).

Mission • Vision • Frequency

The *Bible Advocate* seeks to encourage the church to live by every word of God and to fully equip believers in Christ in every good work through Holy Scripture (Matthew 4:4; 2 Timothy 3:15-17). It is published six times a year (January-February, March-April, May-June, July-August, September-October, and November-December). *Now What?* is posted monthly.

Readership

Bible Advocate readers have a wide range of denominational and religious backgrounds. About half are members of the Church of God (Seventh Day). The print edition has subscribers in 80 nations around the world, with the majority of readers from North America.

Editorial Focus

The *Bible Advocate* strives to help Christians understand and obey God's Word, with articles on biblical topics and doctrine, current religious and cultural issues, Christian living, and inspiring personal testimony. Other editorial features include poetry, church news, and mission activity.

Now What? addresses the "felt needs" of the unchurched (grief, depression, sickness, etc.). Each issue is built around a personal experience, with articles related to the topic. Personal experiences show a person's struggle that either led him to faith in Christ or deepened his walk with God. No opinion pieces, poetry, or fiction.

Tips

Articles must be consistent with the doctrinal statement of the Church of God (Seventh Day) as outlined at cog7.org (About Us). A good article will maintain a single focus throughout and provide well organized transitions to help readers follow the flow of thought. Avoid unnecessary jargon or technical terms. Because of the BA's international readers, be sure to use national references minimally, keeping a "global" perspective in mind. **No Christmas or Easter articles, fiction, or devotionals.**

While we don't require writers to belong to a certain denomination, we do ask that they be born-again believers in Christ, confessing Jesus as Lord.

Editing

Publication of any submission is at the sole discretion of the editors. They reserve the right to edit an accepted manuscript for space requirements, doctrinal teaching, Church terminology, style (using the *Chicago Manual of Style*), and/or general clarity. Significant changes are referred to the writer for approval.

Word/Line Lengths

Feature articles, personal experiences: 1,000-1,500 words
Short articles: 500-1,000 words
Fillers: 100-400+ words
Poetry: 5-20 lines (traditional, free verse, blank verse)

Manuscript Format

Submissions should be in Word attachments, or similar format, and sent by email. Please do not send PDF's or links to websites or blogs. On the first page of the manuscript, include your name, mailing address, email, phone number, word count, and rights offered.

Payment

On publication, Bible Advocate Press pays an honorarium of \$25 per published page, up to \$65. Poetry and fillers pay \$20. We purchase first, one-time, and reprint rights. We also accept simultaneous submissions.

Please note: We are not able to pay writers who live outside the United States, except for those living in Canada.

Scripture Quotations

Reference all Scripture quotations, and enclose them in parentheses. The BAP uses primarily the New King James Version but also accepts other translations. Specify the main translation used, and note where other translations are quoted.

Contact and Submission

We accept email submissions only. Send them to Sherri Langton, associate editor (bibleadvocate@cog7.org). Please allow 4-10 weeks for a response.