



The Hope of Jubilee

This year, *Shabbat Shalom* celebrates its Jubilee. It is a celebration, a reason to rejoice but at the same time it brings a feeling of sadness: we are still here, fifty years later, yearning the Shalom of the great Shabbat.

Two thousand years ago Christians and Jews departed from each other precisely on the issue of Shabbat. Since that time they have been suspecting each other. Christians deplored that the Jews did not recognize in Yeshuah the Messiah promised by the old prophets of Israel, and Jews dismissed the Christian claim since Christians had erred away from the Torah revealed by God through Moses His servant. Could it be that the recovery by the Christians of their Jewish roots would help them remember and rediscover the beauty and the relevancy of the Shabbat? Could it be that this Christian repentance could help Jews and Christians work on healing old wounds and repairing the old breach? But can we redo history?

The truth of the Jubilee reminds the pes-

simist that this miracle is possible. Yes, we can free ourselves from the chains of past mistakes and write a new history of peace and redemption. This hope is registered in each word of *Shabbat Shalom*. The rabbi who seeks to respond to our questions and the Christian theologian who risks thinking outside his traditions are both testimonies of this new adventure of hope. This special issue of *Shabbat Shalom* devoted to its Jubilee should refresh our hope in the Great Shalom whose Shabbat is a spark.



Jacques B. Doukhan, D.H.L., Th.D.