

# The Fourth Commandment

*Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*

“**8** “**Remember the Sabbath** (seventh) **day to keep it holy** (set apart, dedicated to God). **9** Six days you shall labor and do all your work, **10** but **the seventh day is a Sabbath** [a day of rest dedicated] to the **Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] **your God**; on that day you shall not do any work, you or your son, or your daughter, or your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock or the temporary resident (foreigner) who stays within your [city] gates. **11** For in six days the **Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] made the heavens and the earth, the sea and everything that is in them, and He rested (ceased) on the seventh day. That is why the **Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] **blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy** [that is, set it apart for His purposes].” “

(Exodus 20:8-11, Amplified Bible, (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

“**12** ‘**Observe the Sabbath day to keep it holy** (set apart, dedicated to God), **as the Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] **your God commanded you**. **13** Six days you shall labor and do all your work, **14** but the seventh day is a Sabbath [a day of rest dedicated] to the **Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] **your God**; on that day you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter or your male servant or your female servant or your ox or your donkey or any of your livestock or the stranger who stays inside your [city] gates, so that your male servant and your female servant may rest as well as you. **15** You [the nation of Israel] shall remember [with thoughtful concern] that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and that the **Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] **your God brought you out of there with a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm; therefore the Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] **your God has commanded you to observe the Sabbath day.**”

(Deuteronomy 5:12-15, Amplified Bible, (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

# The Seventh-Day Sabbath

## Controversy and Division

YHWH's people are probably divided more over the Fourth Commandment than all of the other nine commandments put together. It is tragic that this commandment which was given to bless man is so often used to alienate Christians.

There are divisions over this commandment, almost without exception, and it has to do with the timing of the weekly Sabbath. More than 95% of the material that has been accumulated on the Fourth Commandment addresses when the Sabbath is to be kept. There are advocates for Friday, Saturday, Sunday, a rotating Sabbath or any day one chooses and most of them make a plausible argument for their case. There are proponents for sunset to sunset, midnight to midnight, dawn to dawn and noon to noon. There are 20 different possible combinations from these options and if each of these combinations were represented by a group insisting that theirs was the only correct interpretation (as most of them do), we would end up with 20 assemblies of Christians condemning each other as apostates. With this in mind, it is doubtful that another voice on the timing of the Sabbath would make a difference in bringing unanimity to this issue. Consequently, this teaching will be devoted to *how* the Fourth Commandment should be kept rather than *when* it should be kept. It is a shame that we cannot all be on the same page when we read our Bible. All too often, too many people read into the Scriptures (eisegesis) what they want it to say to line up with their theology/teaching/understanding rather than letting the Scripture speak for itself (exegesis).

This should not be misconstrued to mean that the timing of the Sabbath is unimportant. It is important and it behooves everyone who believes that the Fourth Commandment is a part of Yahweh's New Covenant to determine **when** the Sabbath should be observed. However, until Yahweh clarifies His perfect will as to the timing of His Sabbath and we all understand it the same way, the days and hours must be approached from a Romans Chapter 14 perspective, that is, as a matter of personal conscience.

Although the commandment to keep the Sabbath is not optional, we must stop judging our brethren on their heartfelt beliefs about its timing. Nearly all Christians regardless of what camp they are in have arrived at their diverse positions in the same manner. Desiring to please Yahweh, they went to His Word seeking His will. However, because we all approach Yahweh's Absolute Written Word with finite limitations at different levels of our human incompetency, we have not all arrived at the same conclusions.

It is true that there are people who approach Yahweh's Word to further their own agenda and one should beware of such people. However, not everyone who has arrived at a conclusion different from our own has done so because they are dishonest.

Therefore, when it has been determined that a fellow Christian believes what he or she does as a result of their devotion to Yahweh, then we must respond differently to them than we would to someone who has proven themselves to be a wolf in sheep's clothing. The sincere Christian should be accepted even as Yeshua accepts them just like He accepted you and me. They should not be despised or ostracized for their beliefs. Instead of being torn down, they should be edified:

## Principles of Conscience

**“1 As for the one** [Some Jewish believers may have struggled with abandoning all the old requirements of the Law regarding eating things considered unclean, while some Gentile believers may have been overly sensitive to anything associated with paganism, such as eating meat offered to idols.] **whose faith is weak, accept him** [into your fellowship], **but not for** [the purpose of] **quarreling over his opinions.** **2** One man's faith permits him to eat everything, while the weak *believer eats only vegetables* [to avoid eating ritually unclean meat or something previously considered unclean]. **3** The one who eats [everything] is not to look down on the one who does not eat, and the one who does not eat must not criticize or pass judgment on the one who eats [everything], for God has accepted him. **4** Who are you to judge the servant of another? Before his own master he stands [approved] or falls [out of favor]. And he [who serves the Master—the Lord] will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

**5** One person regards one day as better [or more important] than another, while another regards every day [the same as any other]. **Let everyone be fully convinced** (assured, satisfied) **in his own mind.** **6** He who observes the day, observes it for the Lord. He who eats, eats for the Lord, since he gives thanks to God; while he who abstains, abstains for the Lord and gives thanks to God. **7** None of us lives for himself [for his own benefit, but for the Lord], and none of us dies for himself [but for the Lord]. **8** If we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord. So then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. **9** For Christ died and lived again for this reason, that He might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

**10** But you, why do you criticize your brother? Or you again, why do you look down on your [believing] brother or regard him with contempt? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God [who alone is judge]. **11** For it is written [in Scripture],

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me,  
And every tongue shall give praise to God.”

**12** So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.

**13** Then let us not criticize one another anymore, but rather determine this—not to put an obstacle or a **stumbling block** or a source of temptation in another believer’s way. **14** I know and am convinced [as one] in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean [ritually defiled, and unholy] in itself; but [nonetheless] it is unclean to anyone who thinks it is unclean. **15** If your brother is being hurt or offended because of food [that you insist on eating], you are no longer walking in love [toward him]. Do not let what you eat destroy *and* spiritually harm one for whom Christ died. **16** Therefore do not let what is a good thing for you [because of your freedom to choose] be spoken of as evil [by someone else]; **17** for the kingdom of God is not *a matter of* eating and drinking [what one likes], but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. **18** For the one who serves Christ in this way [recognizing that food choice is secondary] is acceptable to God and is approved by men. **19** So then, **let us pursue** [with enthusiasm] **the things which make for peace and the building up of one another** [things which lead to spiritual growth].”

(Romans 14:1-19, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

The timing of the Sabbath *is* important. However, our individual *interpretations* of the timing may not be as important as *we* think they are and thus, the Sabbath should not be made a test of fellowship.

### **An Old and New Covenant Commandment**

In the first giving of the Law, the reason provided by Moses for keeping the seventh-day Sabbath was that, after creating the universe, Yahweh Himself rested on the seventh day. This is essentially a repeat of what is found in Genesis Chapter 2:

“**1** So the heavens and the earth were completed, and all their hosts (inhabitants). **2** And by **the seventh day God completed His work which He had done, and He rested** (ceased) **on the seventh day from all His work which He had done.** **3** So God blessed the **seventh day and sanctified it** [as His own, that is, set it apart as holy from other days], **because in it He rested from all His work which He had created and done.**”

(Genesis 2:1-3, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

All creation stands today as a testimony and a witness to Yahweh's creative act as it has in days gone by. Included in the creation week was Yahweh's Sabbath rest after completing His six days of work. In Genesis 1:14, it declares that the "lights in the firmament of the heaven ... divide the day from the night" and they are "for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years." However, the seven-day week, unlike the day, month and year, has no astronomical basis. We observe a seven-day week simply because our Creator did so first. With this being true, the seventh-day Sabbath remains as much a part of the testimony to Yahweh's creation under the New Covenant as it did and still does under the Mosaic Covenant.

Furthermore, the Sabbath is to be a *perpetual sign* between Yahweh and the Israelites throughout their generations:

### The Sign of the Sabbath

"**12** And the Lord [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] said to Moses, **13** "But as for you, say to the Israelites, 'You shall most certainly observe My Sabbaths, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, so that you may know [without any doubt] and acknowledge that I am the Lord [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] who sanctifies you and sets you apart [for Myself]. **14** Therefore, you shall keep the Sabbath, for it is holy to you. Everyone who profanes it must be put to death; for whoever does work on the Sabbath, that person (soul) shall be cut off from among his people [excluding him from the atonement made for them]. **15** For six days work may be done, but the seventh is the Sabbath of complete rest, sacred to the Lord [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text]; whoever does work on the Sabbath day must be put to death. **16** So the Israelites shall observe the Sabbath, to celebrate the Sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant.' **17** It is a sign between Me and the Israelites forever; for in six days the Lord [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He ceased and was refreshed."  
(Exodus 31:12-17, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Yahweh's covenants that He made with the Israelites did not end with the cessation of the Mosaic Covenant. The New Covenant, likewise, was made with Israelites:

"**31** "Behold, the days are coming," says the Lord [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text], "when I will make a new covenant with the house [The kingdom was united under David and

his successor, Solomon, but it split up after Solomon's son, Rehoboam became king.] **of Israel** (the Northern Kingdom) **and with the house of Judah** (the Southern Kingdom), **32** not like the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them," says the Lord. **33** "But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days," says the Lord [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text], "I will put My law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they will be My people. **34** And each man will no longer teach his neighbor and his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text],' for they will all know Me [through personal experience], from the least of them to the greatest," says the Lord [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text]. "For I will forgive their wickedness, and I will no longer remember their sin."

**35** Thus says the Lord [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text], **Who gives the sun for light by day And the fixed order of the moon and of the stars for light by night**, Who stirs up the sea's roaring billows *or* stills the waves when they roar; The Lord [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] of hosts is His name:

**36** "If this fixed order departs From before Me," says the Lord [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text], "Then the descendants of Israel also will cease From being a nation before Me forever."

**37** Thus says the Lord [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text], "If the heavens above can be measured And the foundations of the earth searched out below, Then I will also cast off *and* abandon all the descendants of Israel For all that they have done," says the Lord [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text]."

(Jeremiah 31:31-37, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

The Prophet Isaiah also tells us that Sabbath observance would be a part of the new heavens and the new earth:

"**22** "For just as the new heavens and the new earth Which I [Yahweh] make will remain *and* endure before Me," declares the Lord [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text], "So your offspring and your name will remain *and* endure."

**23 And it shall be that from New Moon to New Moon And from Sabbath to Sabbath, All mankind will come to bow down and worship before Me,” says the Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text].”

(Isaiah 66:22-23, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

The new heavens and the new earth represent His Kingdom Age. Whether a person’s eschatology dictates that the Kingdom is already here or it is yet sometime in the future, it still places the Kingdom and thus, the Sabbath observance in the New Covenant time frame. Moreover, because the Sabbath commandment was given to bless and benefit mankind, it would be a cruel god who would take away from His servants what is best for them. If YHWH has removed the Fourth Commandment from His New Covenant as some Christians teach, He would be guilty of promoting slave labor, precisely what He has forbidden in Deuteronomy Chapter 5:

**“but the seventh day is a Sabbath** [a day of rest dedicated] **to the Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] **your God; on that day you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter or your male servant or your female servant or your ox or your donkey or any of your livestock or the stranger who stays inside your** [city] **gates, so that your male servant and your female servant may rest as well as you.”**

(Deuteronomy 5:14, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

From the perspective of the Ten Commandments, the Fourth Commandment is one-tenth of the Law. Actually, there are more Scriptures that are devoted to the Fourth Commandment than any of the other nine commandments and while the Fourth Commandment is never repeated verbatim in the New Testament, there is more dialogue in the four Gospels addressing the Sabbath than any of the other commandments.

Yeshua declared...

**“The whole Law** [the Mosaic Law which is the Torah] **and the** [writings of the] **Prophets depend on these two** [greatest] **commandments.”**

(Matthew 22:40, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

From the second greatest commandment, Yeshua said...

**“36 Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law? 37 And Jesus replied to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 The second is like it, ‘You shall love**

**your neighbor as yourself** [that is, unselfishly seek the best or higher good for others].’ **40 The whole Law and the** [writings of the] **Prophets depend on these two commandments.”**”

(Matthew 22:36-40, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Some see the Ten Commandments broken up as follows:

1. The First Five Commandments address “how” we are to love Yahweh and
2. The Second Five Commandments address “how” we are to love our neighbor.

Further still, there are others including myself that look at the Ten Commandments as follows:

1. The First Four Commandments address “how” we are to love Yahweh and
2. The remaining Six Commandments address “how” we are to love our neighbor.

I personally take this a little further. When Yeshua said ‘**You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind,**’ I see this as a “*one-liner*” statement. It makes a simple statement without getting into the “*details*” of “*how*” we are to love Yahweh with all of our heart, soul and mind. To add to this “*one-liner*,” I see the First Four Commandments expanding on the “*one-liner*.” It is more in the form of a sentence in that it gives us a little bit more instructions on “*how*” we are to love Yahweh with all of our heart, soul and mind. Now, we can expand upon these two by looking at the Torah, the books of Moses wrongly translated as “*The Law*” to learn even more specifics of “*how*” we can love Yahweh with all of our heart, soul and mind. In the Torah, we learn what Yahweh has laid out for us as His children on “*how*” He wants and expects His children to love Him. If our love does not line up with the way He has given us His instructions on “*how*” He wants us to show Him our love for Him, our love is in vain and worthless.

Likewise, when Yeshua said ‘**You shall love your neighbor as yourself** [that is, unselfishly seek the best or higher good for others],’ this same principle applies that He has given us for loving Him. We can see what Yeshua said as a “*one-liner*” statement. Again, it makes a simple statement without getting into the “*details*” of “*how*” we are to love our neighbor as ourselves. To add to this “*one-liner*,” the last Six Commandments expands on the “*one-liner*.” It is more in the form of a sentence in that it gives us a little bit more instructions on “*how*” we are to love our neighbor as ourselves. Again, we can expand upon these two (the “*one-liner*” and “*the sentence*”) by looking at the Torah. In the Torah, Yahweh has laid out for us the “*details*” on “*how*” we are to love our neighbor as ourselves by giving us a lot of details for our instruction and guidance. All we have to do is take the time to sit down and read His Absolute Written Word.

Let's look at the Ten Commandments:

“**2** “I am the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] your God, who has brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

**3** You shall have no other gods before Me.

**4** You shall not make for yourself any idol, or any likeness (form, manifestation) of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth [as an object to worship]. **5** You shall not worship them nor serve them; for I, the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] your God, am a jealous (impassioned) God [demanding {God does not tolerate the transfer of the honor and worship that is due Him to any other being or object.} what is rightfully and uniquely mine], visiting (avenging) the iniquity (sin, guilt) of the fathers on the children [that is, calling the children to account for the sins of their fathers], to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, **6** but showing graciousness and steadfast lovingkindness to thousands [of generations] of those who love Me and keep My commandments.

**7** You shall not take the name of the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] your God in vain [that is, irreverently, in false affirmations or in ways that impugn the character of God]; for the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] will not hold guiltless *nor* leave unpunished the one who takes [Using the name of God in a casual, frivolous way establishes a mindset that diminishes and dishonors the omnipotent God. Using the name of God to abuse, manipulate, or deceive invites judgment.] His name in vain [disregarding its reverence and its power].

**8** Remember the Sabbath (seventh) day to keep it holy (set apart, dedicated to God). **9** Six days you shall labor and do all your work, **10** but the seventh day is a Sabbath [a day of rest dedicated] to the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] your God; on that day you shall not do any work, you or your son, or your daughter, or your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock or the temporary resident (foreigner) who stays within your [city] gates. **11** For in six days the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] made the heavens and the earth, the sea and everything that is in them, and He rested (ceased) on the seventh day. That is why the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text]

blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy [that is, set it apart for His purposes].

**12 Honor** (respect, obey, care for) **your father and your mother, so that your days may be prolonged in the land the Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] **your God gives you.**

**13 You shall not commit murder** (unjustified, deliberate homicide).

**14 You shall not commit adultery** [Jesus amplified this commandment in Matthew 5:27-28. Not only is adultery forbidden, but also any act of sexual impurity or unchastity, and any form of pornography or other obscenity].

**15 You shall not steal** [secretly, openly, fraudulently, or through carelessness].

**16 You shall not testify falsely** [that is, lie, withhold, or manipulate the truth] **against your neighbor** (any person).

**17 You shall not covet** [that is, selfishly desire and attempt to acquire] **your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."**

(Exodus 20:2–17, Amplified Bible (AMP), comments added)

As we can see from looking at all of the Ten Commandments there are instructions there teaching us on "how" to love our Neighbor as ourselves. The Ten Commandments are also in Exodus 20:2–17.

Someone may ask: "*How does Sabbath keeping demonstrate love for Yahweh?*" The love of money or wealth probably replaces love for Yahweh more than anything else in the hearts of most men and some women. For the love of money, man often sets aside the Sabbath. A man or woman who keeps their business open or works seven days a week rather than only six days has the potential of making that much more money, or so they think. Consequently, the man or woman who forfeits the extra money in order to keep the Sabbath **demonstrates** that they love Yahweh more than they do wealth. As it is with tithing, prosperity is promised when we observe the Sabbath, not when we neglect it:

**"13 If you turn back your foot from** [unnecessary {The ancient rabbis established strict limits for travel on the Sabbath, excepting unintentional violations and religious errands. This verse became a rabbinic proof text to rule on whether a person who had put one foot beyond the Sabbath limit for his city could reenter the city. But the Hebrew text may not refer to travel at all; turn back your foot from the Sabbath can be interpreted as an

idiom referring to keeping oneself from violating the Sabbath in other ways.} travel on] **the Sabbath, From doing your own pleasure on My holy day, And call the Sabbath a [spiritual] delight, and the holy day of the Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068** YHWH in the Hebrew text] **honorable**, And honor it, not going your own way Or engaging [Literally, *finding*.] in your own pleasure Or speaking your own [idle] words,

**14 Then you will take pleasure in the Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068** YHWH in the Hebrew text], **And I** [Yahweh] **will make you ride on the high places of the earth, And I will feed you with the [promised] heritage of Jacob your father;** For the mouth of the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068** YHWH in the Hebrew text] **has spoken."**

(Isaiah 58:13-14, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

**"24 "But it will come about, if you listen diligently to Me," says the Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068** YHWH in the Hebrew text], **"to bring no load in through the gates of this city on the Sabbath day, but keep the Sabbath day holy by doing no work on it, 25 then kings and princes who will sit on the throne of David will enter through the gates of this city, riding in chariots and on horses—the kings and their princes, the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and this city will be inhabited and endure throughout the ages. 26 People will come from the cities of Judah and the places all around Jerusalem, from the land of Benjamin, from the lowland, from the hill country and from the South (the Negev), bringing burnt offerings and sacrifices, grain offerings and incense, and bringing sacrifices of thanksgiving to the house of the Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068** YHWH in the Hebrew text]. **27 But if you will not listen to Me and keep the Sabbath day holy by not carrying a load as you come in the gates of Jerusalem on the Sabbath day, then I will kindle a fire in her gates that cannot be extinguished, and it will devour the palaces of Jerusalem."**

(Jeremiah 17:24-27, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

When we see what Yahweh says about the Fourth Commandment transgression, it is a heinous crime against Yahweh's moral nature as are all capital crimes. Because Yahweh's moral nature has not changed. It follows that Yahweh's Laws have not changed either. Thus, desecration of His Sabbath is still a sin in His sight and it is seen the same as murder, adultery, homosexuality and all other **capital crimes**.

In Malachi Chapter 3, we are warned that it is sinful to rob Yahweh of His tithes. Sabbath observance, in a sense, is a type of a tithe, a “*tithe*” of our time dedicated to rest, worship and the study of His Written Word. Moreover, the Sabbath reminds us of our accountability to Yahweh as our Creator and Redeemer. The Fourth Commandment points us to the true and living God. Thus, when the Sabbath is observed in the proper spirit, idolatry cannot exist.

## Fourth Commandment Regulations

Sad to say but many people view the seventh-day Sabbath and its regulations as *infringement* upon their way of life rather than *liberation*. If a person views Yahweh as a tyrant Who desires to enslave His people then, indeed, the Sabbath regulations, along with the rest of Yahweh’s Laws, become oppressive. On the other hand, if a person’s perspective of Yahweh is one of a loving Father Who looks out for His children and Who requires from them only what is best for them, then these regulations are actually liberating. The Apostle John advocates the latter perspective:

“For the [true] love of God is this: that we *habitually* keep His commandments *and* remain focused on His precepts. **And His commandments and His precepts are not difficult** [to obey].”

(1 John 5:3, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Although there are specific regulations associated with the Sabbath, a person should be careful that he or she does not approach the Sabbath with just the regulations in mind. John Calvin suggested that God’s Sabbaths are polluted when they are rendered to a series of observances.<sup>1</sup> Under the New Covenant, we keep Yahweh’s Laws not because we are forced to, but because we **desire** to as a result of our love for Yahweh and our fellow man. Moreover, Yeshua made it perfectly clear that “**the sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath.**” (Mark 2:27)

## Attention to Six Days of Labor

It is often overlooked that six days of labor are as much a part of the Fourth Commandment as it is the seventh day of rest:

“**Six days you shall labor and do all your work,**”  
(Exodus 20:9, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis added)

---

<sup>1</sup> John Calvin, [\*Commentaries on the Four Last Books of Moses in the Form of a Harmony\*](#) (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1981) Volume II, pg. 435.

Labor is commanded, if for no other reason, than society cannot function properly without it. In fact, the Apostle Paul wrote to the Thessalonian church that in a Christian society anyone unwilling to work is not permitted to eat:

**“10 For even while we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not** [I.e., if one is able, but unwilling to work to provide for himself or his family, it is unjust for him to receive the necessities of life provided free by those who willingly work.] **to eat, either. 11 Indeed, we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined and inappropriate life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies** [meddling in other people’s business]. **12 Now such people we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and work** quietly and earn their own food and other necessities [supporting themselves instead of depending on the hospitality of others].”  
(2 Thessalonians 3:10-12, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Implementation of this indispensable requirement of the Fourth Commandment would do away with the need for most of America’s current welfare programs. Everyone is required to work before they can sabbath and before they can eat.

### **Abstaining from Labor, Occupation and Business**

**“but the seventh day is a Sabbath** [a day of rest dedicated] **to the Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] **your God; on that day you shall not do any work, you or your son, or your daughter, or your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock or the temporary resident (foreigner) who stays within your [city] gates.”**  
(Exodus 20:10, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Like Yahweh, we need rest from our labors. The English word “*sabbath*” is translated from the Hebrew word “*shabbath*.” We find where James Strong translates both “*shabbath*” and its root word “*shabath*” as follows:

**shabbath** (shab-bawth’) ... **intermission**, i.e. (specifically) the Sabbath.<sup>2</sup>  
**shabath** (shaw-bath’); a primitive root; **to repose**, i.e. **desist from exertion**; used in many implied relations (causative, figurative or specific).<sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>2</sup> James Strong, “*Dictionary of the Hebrew Bible*,” The New Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible (Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1990) pg. 112.

From these definitions and the commandment itself, it is obvious that the Sabbath is to be a cessation from labor for all classes of people and livestock. This seventh-day intermission is for the purpose of rest and refreshment:

“Six days [each week] you shall do your work, but **on the seventh day you shall stop** [working] so that your ox **and** your donkey may settle down *and* rest, and the son of your female servant, as well as your stranger, may **be refreshed.**”

(Exodus 23:12, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Many people **think** that they cannot afford to take off one out of every seven days. The opposite is actually true. **It has been medically and scientifically proven that man’s biological rhythms are based on a seven-day week and that he/she functions best when they rest one day out of seven.** It has also been demonstrated that if a person goes too long without taking sabbath rest that it results in their physical, emotional and spiritual deficiencies. It has also been found to sometimes lead to a complete breakdown. While Yeshua was here on earth, He **demonstrated** the necessity for rest:

“He said to them, “**Come away by yourselves to a secluded place and rest a little while**”—for there were many [people who were continually] coming and going, and they could not even find time to eat.”

(Mark 6:31, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

The Hebrew word “*melakah*” (Strong’s #**H4399**) translated “*work*” in Exodus Chapter 20 could have also been rendered “*business*” or “*occupation*,” as it is found represented in Psalm 107:23 and Jonah 1:8. Therefore, Exodus 20:10 could have also been translated as follows: “**but the seventh day is a Sabbath** [a day of rest dedicated] **to the Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068** **YHWH** in the Hebrew text] **your God; on that day you shall not do any business**” or “**on that day you shall cease from your occupations.**”

The man who broke the Fourth Commandment in Numbers Chapter 15, at the best, had not prepared adequately for the Sabbath. What was more likely the case, he gathered sticks on the Sabbath as a *business* venture for the purpose of *selling* them on the Sabbath. Which ever it was, it was a serious Sabbath transgression to Yahweh:

### **Sabbath-breaking Punished**

“**32** Now while the Israelites were in the wilderness, they found a man who was gathering wood on the Sabbath day. **33** Those who found him gathering wood brought him to Moses and Aaron and to all the

congregation; **34** and they put him in custody, because it had not been explained [by God] what should be done to him. **35** Then the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] said to Moses, "**The man shall certainly be put to death. All the congregation shall stone him with stones outside the camp.**" **36** So all the congregation brought him outside the camp and stoned him to death with stones, just as the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] had commanded Moses."

(Numbers 15:32-36, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Sabbath cessation from work includes prohibitions against food preparation and unnecessary travel:

"**4** Then the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] said to Moses, "Behold, I will cause bread to rain from heaven for you; the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, so that I may test them [to determine] whether or not they will walk [obediently] in My instruction (Law). **5** And it shall be that **on the sixth day, they shall prepare to bring in twice as much as they gather daily** [so that they will not need to gather on the seventh day]." **6** So Moses and Aaron said to all Israel, "At evening you shall know that the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] has brought you out of the land of Egypt, **7** and in the morning you will see the glory of the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text], for He hears your murmurings against the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text]. What are we, that you murmur *and* rebel against us?"

### The Lord Provides Meat

**8** Moses said, "*This will happen when the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] gives you meat to eat in the evening, and in the morning [enough] bread to be fully satisfied, because the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] has heard your murmurings against Him; for what are we? Your murmurings are not against us, but against the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text]."*

**9** Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to all the congregation of Israel, 'Approach the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text], because He has heard your murmurings.'" **10** So it happened that as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of Israel, they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory *and* brilliance of the

**Lord** [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] appeared in the cloud! **11** Then the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] spoke to Moses, saying, **12** "I have heard the murmurings of the Israelites; speak to them, saying, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread; and you shall know that I am the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] your God.'" "

**13** So in the evening the quails came up and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a blanket of dew around the camp. **14** When the layer of dew evaporated, on the surface of the wilderness there was a fine, flake-like thing, as fine as frost on the ground. **15** When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What [Hebrew *man hu*, cf v 31.] is it?" For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, "This is the bread which the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] has given you to eat. **16** This is what the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] has commanded: 'Let every man gather as much of it as he needs. Take an omer [I.e., a little over two quarts.] for each person, according to the number of people each of you has in his tent.'" **17** The Israelites did so, and some gathered much [of it] and some [only a] little. **18** When they measured it with an omer, he who had gathered a large amount had no excess, and he who had gathered little had no lack; every man gathered according to his need (family size). **19** Moses said, "Let none of it be left [overnight] until [the next] morning." **20** But they did not listen to Moses, and some left a supply of it until morning, and it bred worms and became foul *and* rotten; and Moses was angry with them. **21** So they gathered it every morning, each as much as he needed, because when the sun was hot it melted.

### The Sabbath Observed

**22** Now on the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for each person; and all the leaders of the congregation came and told Moses. **23** He said to them, "This is what the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] has said: '**Tomorrow is a solemn rest, a holy Sabbath to the Lord**' [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text]; **bake and boil what you will bake and boil** [today], **and all that remains left over put aside for yourselves to keep until morning.**" **24** They put it aside until morning, as Moses told them, and it did not become foul nor was it wormy. **25** Then Moses said, "Eat that today, for today is a Sabbath to the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text]; today

you will not find it in the field. **26** Six days you shall gather it, but on the seventh day, the Sabbath, there will be none [in the field].”

**27** Now on the seventh day some of the people went out to gather, but they found none. **28** Then the **Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] said to Moses, “How long do you [people] refuse to keep My commandments and My instructions (Laws)? **29** See, the **Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] has given you the Sabbath; therefore He gives you the bread for two days on the sixth day. **Let every man stay in his place; no man is to leave his place on the seventh day.**” **30** So the people rested on the seventh day.”

(Exodus 16:4-30, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

### The Sabbath Emphasized

“**1** Moses gathered all the congregation of the sons of Israel together, and said to them, “These are the things which the **Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] has commanded you to do:

**2** For six days work may be done, but the seventh day shall be a holy day for you, a Sabbath of complete rest to the **Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text]; whoever does any kind of work on that day shall be put to death. **3 You shall not kindle a fire in any of your dwellings on the Sabbath day.**” ”

(Exodus 35:1-3, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

The restriction against kindling a fire was most probably associated with food preparation, which was to be completed on the sixth day.

In Exodus 16:29, the command was given to “**Let every man stay in his place; no man is to leave his place on the seventh day.**” This was not meant to be taken literally because we see in Ezekiel 46:1-3 the prince and the people were commanded to worship at the Temple on the Sabbath. Consequently, the Israelites in Exodus Chapter 16 were being admonished to remain home rather than going out and gathering provisions or doing business. In our modern terms today, we should do what shopping has to be done before the Sabbath begins so that the same is not required on the Sabbath.

The Bible does refer to a “**sabbath day’s journey:**”

“**Then the disciples returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet (Olive Grove), which is near Jerusalem, [only] a Sabbath day’s journey (less than one mile) away.**”

(Acts 1:12, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

A “*sabbath day’s journey*” before and at the time of Yeshua was generally considered two thousand cubits or approximately two-thirds of a mile. This was the estimated distance from the outside perimeter of the camp of Israel in the wilderness to the tabernacle and back. The average human’s walking gate is three miles per hour. Thus, it would have taken the average Israelite a total of fourteen minutes to travel the distance required for Sabbath services at the tent of meeting.

Although, the “*sabbath day’s journey*” is not mentioned anywhere in the Torah/Pentateuch, it is probably a fair representation of what the Israelites practiced in their day. However, times have changed and with them the means of travel. People seldom walk long distances and beasts of burden are no longer used in our automated culture. Consequently, there is virtually no work involved in traveling for man or beast, except possibly for long distance travel. Our places of worship are often at greater distances as well. As a result, it is safe to conclude that a “*sabbath-day’s journey*” has lengthened for modern man. As a rule of thumb, for church services and ministerial work the distance should be extended to whatever is required. If on an unavoidable trip on the Sabbath, the distance should be limited to the point of weariness.

Farmers might be inclined to think that during their planting and harvesting seasons their work would be exempt. This is not true:

**“You shall work for six days, but on the seventh day you shall rest; [even] in plowing time and in harvest you shall rest [on the Sabbath].”**  
(Exodus 34:21, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

In other words, even during these pressing times Yahweh wants us to trust in and obey Him. He is our provider. He knows what we need in order to live. After all it is He Who provides the sunshine and rain to begin with. Farmers and non-farmers alike would probably experience far less problems in their agricultural operations and businesses if they would simply trust Yahweh and observe the Sabbath.

## **Constraint from Buying and Selling**

Constraint from buying or selling is included in the prohibition against doing business on the Sabbath:

### **Obligations of the Document**

**“28** Now the rest of the people—the priests, the Levites, the gatekeepers, the singers, the temple servants, and all those who had separated themselves from the peoples of the lands to the Law of God, their wives, their sons, their daughters, all those who had knowledge and understanding— **29** are joining with their fellow Israelites, their nobles,

and are taking on themselves a curse and an oath to walk in God's Law, which was given through Moses the servant of God, and to keep and to observe all the commandments of God our **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #H3068 **YHWH** in the Hebrew text], and His ordinances and statutes: **30** and that we will not give our daughters [as wives] to the peoples of the land or take their daughters for our sons. **31 As for the peoples of the land who bring merchandise or any grain on the Sabbath day to sell, we will not buy from them on the Sabbath** or on a holy day; and we will give up *raising crops during* the seventh year [leaving the land uncultivated], and *forgive every debt* [Literally, *hand*.].”

(Nehemiah 10:28-31, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

### **Sabbath Restored**

“**15** In those days I saw some in Judah who were treading wine presses on the Sabbath, and bringing in sheaves or sacks of grain and loading them on donkeys, as well as wine, grapes, figs, and all kinds of loads, which they brought into Jerusalem on the Sabbath day. So **I protested and warned them on the day they sold the produce.** **16** Also men of Tyre were living there who brought fish and all kinds of merchandise, and they were selling them to the people of Judah on the Sabbath, even in Jerusalem. **17** Then I reprimanded the nobles of Judah, and said to them, “What is this evil thing that you are doing—profaning the Sabbath day? **18** Did your fathers (ancestors) not do the same, and did our God not bring all this trouble on us and on this city? Yet you are adding to the wrath on Israel by profaning the Sabbath.”

**19 Now when it began to get dark at the gates of Jerusalem before the Sabbath** [began], **I commanded that the doors be shut and not be opened until after the Sabbath. Then I stationed some of my servants at the gates so that no load** [of merchandise] **would enter** [Jerusalem] **on the Sabbath day.** **20** So once or twice the merchants and sellers of every kind of merchandise spent the night outside Jerusalem. **21** But I warned them, saying, “Why do you spend the night by the wall? If you do so again, I will use [Literally, *send a hand against*.] force against you.” From that time on, they did not come on the Sabbath. **22** And I commanded the Levites to purify themselves and come and guard the gates to keep the Sabbath day holy. O my God, remember me *concerning* this also and have compassion on me according to the greatness of Your lovingkindness.”

(Nehemiah 13:15-22, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

## Abstinence from One's Own Pleasure

The Sabbath, as a holy day dedicated to Yahweh, should also be one in which we refrain from doing our own pleasure:

### Keeping the Sabbath

**“13 “If you turn back your foot from [unnecessary {The ancient rabbis established strict limits for travel on the Sabbath, excepting unintentional violations and religious errands. This verse became a rabbinic proof text to rule on whether a person who had put one foot beyond the Sabbath limit for his city could reenter the city. But the Hebrew text may not refer to travel at all; turn back your foot from the Sabbath can be interpreted as an idiom referring to keeping oneself from violating the Sabbath in other ways.} travel on] the Sabbath, From doing your own pleasure on My holy day, And call the Sabbath a [spiritual] delight, and the holy day of the Lord [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] honorable, And honor it, not going your own way Or engaging [Literally, *finding*.] in your own pleasure Or speaking your own [idle] words,**

**14 Then you will take pleasure in the Lord [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text], And I will make you ride on the high places of the earth, And I will feed you with the [promised] heritage of Jacob your father; For the mouth of the Lord [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] has spoken.”**

(Isaiah 58:13-14, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Instead of involving ourselves in what pleases us, the Sabbath is to be a day devoted to what pleases Yahweh. This is the meaning of Exodus 20:8, “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.” The inspiring story of Eric Liddell, who went to the 1924 Olympics as one of the world’s premier runners, is a stirring example of this kind of dedication to Yahweh. Mr. Liddell was unwilling to run on the day he considered the Sabbath and he would not justify doing so even for a gold medal in the Olympics. Had he done so; the Olympics rather than Yahweh would have become the “god” that determined his morality.



Old Testament passages that employ the Hebrew word “*chephets*” (Strong’s #H2656 צֶפֶץ) translated “*pleasure*” in Isaiah 58:13 provides us with some clues as to some of what pleases Yahweh. In the following two passages “*chephets*” is translated “*delight*.”

**“1 Blessed [fortunate, prosperous, and favored by God] is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked [following their advice and example], Nor stand in the path of sinners, Nor sit [down to rest] in the**

seat of scoffers (ridiculers) [I.e., shallow thinkers who are quick to mock or disdain.].

**2 But his delight is in the Law of the Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text], **And on His Law** [His precepts and teachings] **he** [habitually] **meditates day and night.**"

(Psalm 1:1-2, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

**"Great are the works of the Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text], **Studied by all those who delight in them.**"

(Psalm 111:2, Amplified Bible (AMP), comment added)

When seeking what pleases Yahweh, the Law and the work of Yahweh are some of what a Christian should involve himself or herself with on the Sabbath.

## Attention to Worship

The Sabbath is a sacred day and it such should be devoted to worshipping Yahweh:

**"For six days work may be done, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of complete rest, a holy convocation** (calling together). **You shall not do any work** [on that day]; **it is the Sabbath of the Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] **wherever** [Literally, in all your dwellings and this is so noted throughout Leviticus Chapter 23.] **you may be.**"

(Leviticus 23:3, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

The phrase "*holy convocation*" means a sacred public meeting. *Strong's Concordance* defines the two Hebrew words "*qodesh*" and "*miqra*" translated "*holy*" and "*convocation*:"

**qodesh** (ko'-desh) ... **a sacred place or thing...**<sup>3</sup>

**miqra'** (mik-raw') ... **something called out, i.e. a public meeting....**<sup>4</sup>

The Prophet Ezekiel comments upon this type of Sabbath meeting:

**"1 Thus says the Lord God** [Strong's Concordance #**H3069 YHWH** in the Hebrew text], **"The gate of the inner courtyard that faces east shall be shut during the six working days, but it shall be opened on the**

---

<sup>3</sup> James Strong, "*Dictionary of the Hebrew Bible*," The New Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible (Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1990) pg. 102.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid, pg. 71.

**Sabbath day** and opened on the day of the New Moon. **2 The prince shall enter by the porch** (portico) **of the gate from outside** and stand by the post of the gate. **The priests shall prepare and provide his burnt offering and his peace offerings, and he shall worship at** [Only the priests will be allowed in the inner courtyard.] **the threshold of the gate** and then go out; but the gate shall not be shut until evening. **3 The people of the land shall also worship at the entrance of that gate before the Lord** [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] **on the Sabbaths and on the New Moons.**” ”

(Ezekiel 46:1-3, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

We see a slight variation of the vowel points used for H3069 for “God” in verse 1 above compared to H3068 that is used for “Lord” in verse 3. According to Strong's definition for H3069, it says, (used after H136 [Adonay], and pronounced by Jews as H430 [elohiyim], in order to prevent the repetition of the same sound, since they elsewhere pronounce H3068 as H136): - God.

Strong's #H3069 yehôvih

יהוה

Strong's #H3068 yehôvâh

יהוה

Although under the New Covenant animal sacrifices are no longer required; this passage, nevertheless, sets the precedent for worship services on the Sabbath during the Millennial Rule and Reign of Messiah Yeshua on earth. When we read Ezekiel Chapters 40 thru 48, we will see that all of these chapters are specifically talking about what takes place during the Millennium. In these chapters, we will see all the offerings noted in the Torah taking place during the Millennium. Yes, there will be animal as well as grain offerings made when Yeshua returns to earth to Rule and Reign.

Psalm 92, known as “A Psalm, A Song for the Sabbath Day,” provides us with a glimpse of what a Sabbath service should consist of:

“**1 It is a good and delightful thing to give thanks to the Lord** [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text], **To sing praises to Your name, O Most High,**

**2 To declare Your lovingkindness in the morning And Your faithfulness by night,**”

(Psalm 92:1-2, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comment added)

Prayers of thanksgiving, songs of praise and declarations of Yahweh's goodness should all be a part of our Sabbath services. Is He not worthy of our pure worship?

The following are the principle elements of the Fourth Commandment:

- Attention to six days of labor
- Abstention from labor, occupation and business on the Sabbath
- Constraint from buying and selling on the Sabbath
- Abstention from one's own pleasure on the Sabbath
- Attention to worship on the Sabbath

### **Fourth Commandment Exemptions**

The five principle elements of the Fourth Commandment noted above are general guidelines for Sabbath observance. However, there are lawful exemptions from these Sabbath requirements.

#### **Ministerial Work**

From reading the Law, it is quite obvious that under the Old Covenant system of worship, the work of the Levitical priests and laymen was an exception to these Sabbath requirements. In fact, the Sabbath was often the priests most arduous day and yet they were innocent of any Fourth Commandment infractions:

**“3 He [Yeshua] said to them [the Pharisees], “Have you not read [in the Scriptures] what David did when he was hungry, he and those who accompanied him— 4 how he went into the house of God, and they ate the consecrated [The bread of the Presence, the twelve fresh loaves presented each Sabbath to the Lord in the Holy Place.] bread, which was not lawful for him to eat nor for those with him, but for the priests only? 5 Or have you not read in the Law, that on the Sabbath the priests in the temple break [the sanctity of] the Sabbath and yet are innocent?” ”**  
(Matthew 12:3-5, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

The same holds true for the New Covenant counter parts of the Levitical priest's such as evangelists, pastors and teachers. While their labor may not be physical; nevertheless, because of their sermon preparation, preaching and teaching the Word of Yahweh and other ministerial duties, the Sabbath is often their most strenuous day as well. Consequently, ministerial work is an exempt area of work or occupation.

## Health Care and Related Services

Health care and related services are also exempt from the usual Sabbath regulations:

“**1** Again Jesus went into a synagogue; and a man was there whose hand was withered [The Greek word also means “to dry out” and may indicate that the condition resulted from disease or an accident.]. **2** The Pharisees were watching Jesus *closely to see* if He would heal him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse Him [in the Jewish high court]. **3** He said to the man whose hand was withered, “**Get up and come forward!**” **4** He asked them, “**Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save a life or to kill?**” But they kept silent. **5** After looking around at them with anger, grieved at the hardness *and* arrogance of their hearts, **He told the man, “Hold out your hand.”** And he held it out, and **his hand was** [completely] **restored.**”

(Mark 3:1-5, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

This account sets the criterion for doctors, nurses and employees of hospitals, emergency units, ambulance services, fire stations, emergency telephone services, energy services and some food services. They, too, are exempt from the usual Sabbath restrictions. Nevertheless, for those who work on the Sabbath in these areas of exemption, another day should be set aside on which to observe a substitute sabbath day. Biblical precedent for this practice is found in an Old Testament account pertaining to Passover observance. For those, who for one reason or another, were unable to celebrate the Passover on its designated day, an alternate day was set aside so that they would be able to fulfill their responsibilities concerning the Passover:

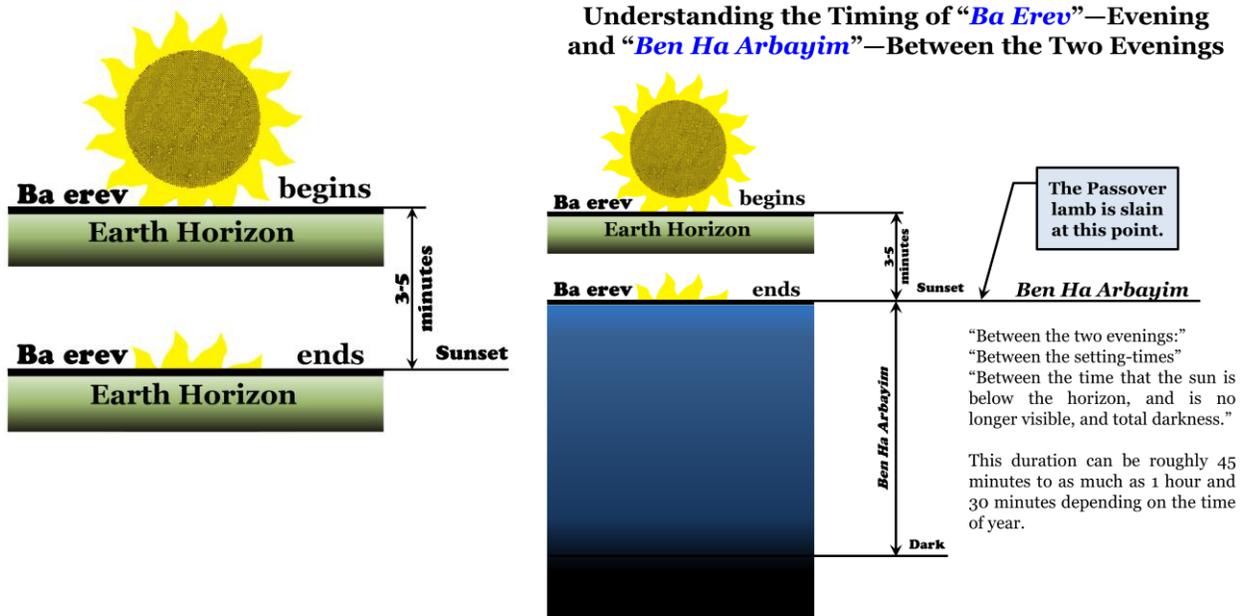
“**1** **The Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] spoke to Moses in the Wilderness of Sinai in the first month of the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying, **2** “**The sons of Israel are to keep the Passover at its appointed time.** **3** **On the fourteenth day of this month at twilight** [Literally, *between the two evenings.*], **you shall keep it at its appointed time; according to all its statutes and ordinances you shall keep it.**” **4** So Moses told the Israelites to observe the Passover. **5** They observed the Passover on the fourteenth day of the first month at twilight in the Wilderness of Sinai; in accordance with all that **the Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] had commanded Moses, so the Israelites did. **6** But there were certain men who were [ceremonially] unclean because of [touching] the dead body of a man, so they could not observe the Passover on that day; so they came before Moses and Aaron that same day. **7** Those men said to Moses, “We

are [ceremonially] unclean because of [touching] a dead body. Why are we being restrained from presenting the Lord’s offering at its appointed time among the Israelites?” **8** Therefore, Moses said to them, “Wait, and I will listen to what the **Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068** **YHWH** in the Hebrew text] will command concerning you.”

**9** Then the **Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068** **YHWH** in the Hebrew text] spoke to Moses, saying, **10** “Say to the Israelites, ‘**If any one of you or of your descendants becomes [ceremonially] unclean because of [touching] a dead body or is on a distant journey, he may, however, observe the Passover to the Lord. 11 On the fourteenth day of the second month [thirty days later] at twilight, they shall observe it; they shall eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.**” ’”

(Numbers 9:1-11, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

A quick note on the term “*twilight*” we see in verses 3, 5 and 11. The Hebrew for “*twilight*” is “*ereb*” which is Strong’s #**H6153** עֶרֶב, evening, night, sunset. The following illustrations will help clarify this timing.



### Deeds of Compassion

Although physical exertion may be involved, deeds of compassion are likewise exempt from Sabbath limitations:

**“11 But He [Yeshua] said to them [the Pharisees], “What man is there among you who, if he has only one sheep and it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will not take hold of it and lift it out? 12 How much more valuable then is a man than a sheep! So it is lawful and permissible to do good on the Sabbath.” ”**

(Matthew 12:11-12, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

If your neighbor’s cattle are out on the road, do not wait for the Sabbath to end to lend him or her a helping hand. If you are travelling to worship services and someone’s vehicle is broken down along side of the road, do not leave that person stranded with the excuse that it is the Sabbath and you have to get to church. Stop and be a good Samaritan, knowing that lending your neighbor a helping hand on the Sabbath does not violate the Fourth Commandment. Failing to assist a needy neighbor, however, transgresses the second greatest commandment of loving your neighbor as yourself.

Deeds of compassion also include caring for animals:

**“But the Lord replied to him, “You hypocrites (play-actors, pretenders)! Does not each one of you [Judahite Israelites] on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the stall and lead it away to water it?” ”**

(Luke 13:15, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Nevertheless, with the exception of emergencies and milking cows, most animal needs can be taken care of just prior to the commencement of the Sabbath, and they will remain in fine condition until the Sabbath has concluded.

Deeds of compassion in and of themselves are not always necessarily pleasing to Yahweh. John Calvin pointed out that *“the Sabbath is violated even by good works, so long as we regard them as our own.”*<sup>5</sup> What is done on the Sabbath should always be done unto Yahweh. In fact, this should be a Christian’s approach to life all seven days of the week:

**“Whatever you do [whatever your task may be], work from the soul [that is, put in your very best effort], as [something done] for the Lord and not for men,”**

(Colossians 3:23, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

## Warfare

Warfare is another exempt area from the usual Sabbath restrictions. Although this exception is not specifically addressed in the Torah/Pentateuch, the book of Joshua

---

<sup>5</sup> *John Calvin, Commentaries on the Four Last Books of Moses in the Form of a Harmony* (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1950) Volume II, pg. 436, quoted by Rousas John Rushdoony, *The Institutes of Biblical Law* (Vallecito, CA: Ross House Books, 1973) Volume 1, pg. 153.

demonstrates this war-exemption for us. In Joshua Chapter 7, Yahweh provided a great victory for the Israelites over the city of Jericho. He did so, among other things, by having Joshua send his army to march around the city seven days without a break, that is, without a Sabbath break.

A Sabbath intermission during certain acts of warfare would be foolishness at best and, in some cases, suicide. *The Popular and Critical Bible Encyclopedia and Scriptural Dictionary* comments on the consequence of King Ptolemy's surprise attack on Jerusalem on the Sabbath:

**“After the death of Alexander [the Great] at Babylon (B.C. 324), Ptolemy [King of Egypt] surprised Jerusalem on the Sabbath day, when the Jews would not fight, plundered the city, and carried away a great number of the inhabitants to Egypt....”<sup>6</sup>**

A similar tragedy occurred during the Maccabean Wars in 167 BC:

**“...when it was told the [Syrian] king's [Antiochus Epiphanies'] servants, and the host that was at Jerusalem, in the city of David, that certain [Judahite] men, who had broken the king's commandment, were gone down into the secret places in the wilderness, they pursued after them ... and made war against them on the sabbath day.... Howbeit they [those who had fled from the Syrian king] answered them not, neither cast they a stone at them, nor stopped the places where they lay hid; but said, Let us die all in our innocency: heaven and earth shall testify for us, that ye put us to death wrongfully. So they [the king's servants] rose up against them [the Judahites] in battle on the sabbath, and they slew them, with their wives and children, and their cattle, to the number of a thousand people.”<sup>7</sup>**

Those sacrifices were unnecessary and they were not required by Yahweh as demonstrated by the battle of Jericho. As a consequence of the tragedy noted above, Mattathias Maccabeus and his comrades decreed to fight on the Sabbath when it was necessary to defend their lives or the lives of their brethren:

**“At that time therefore they [Mattathias and his friends] decreed, saying, Whosoever shall come to make battle with us on the**

---

<sup>6</sup> Samuel Fallows, editor, *The Popular and Critical Bible Encyclopedia and Scriptural Dictionary* (Chicago, IL: Howard-Severance Company, 1909) Volume II, pg. 931.

<sup>7</sup> 1 Maccabees 2:31-38.

**sabbath day, we will fight against him; neither will we die all, as our brethren that were murdered in the secret places.**<sup>8</sup>

### **Exempt Purchases**

Essential purchases for the previous exemptions are also excluded from Sabbath prohibitions. For example, gasoline purchases for ambulances, Flight For Life vehicles and fire trucks are excused. The same would hold true for purchases associated with ministerial obligations, deeds of compassion or warfare. Nevertheless, most Sabbath purchases can be eliminated with a little forethought and planning. It is a simple matter to purchase gas the day before and in most cases, items for deeds of compassion and food for travel can be planned in advance so that no Sabbath purchases are necessary. When these items are purchased on the Sabbath, it means that a gas station or grocery store or drug store must be open to accommodate them. In order to stay in business, that business must pay its employees to remain open all day. They cannot afford to stay open exclusively on the off chance that someone *might* need an item of emergency or good deed. Most fire stations, Flight For Life vehicles, and other emergency vehicles have their own gas storage. Warfare items are purchased by contract and stored for later use. Regular medical supplies can be stored at home. Ministerial items can be purchased in advance and stored also. This narrows the issue down to those who for convenience sake purchase on the Sabbath rather than planning ahead. One exception would be emergency drugs and medical needs, and these, in most instances, could be purchased from hospitals that serve medical needs on the Sabbath.

### **The Captivity Exemption**

Any discussion concerning Sabbath exemptions would be incomplete without considering the exception for those in captivity. It is highly unlikely that when Israel was in the Egyptian, Assyrian and Babylonian captivities that their captors provided them with regular sabbaths. In fact, when Moses went to deliver the Israelites from their Egyptian taskmasters, “*sabbathing*” was one of the things that concerned Pharaoh:

“**1** Afterward Moses and Aaron came and said to Pharaoh, “Thus says the **Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text], the God of Israel, ‘Let My people go, so that they may celebrate a feast to Me in the wilderness.’ ” **2** But Pharaoh said, “Who is the **Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I do not know the **Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text], nor will I let Israel go.” **3** Then they said, “The God of the Hebrews has met with us. Please, let us go on a three days’ journey into the wilderness and sacrifice to the **Lord** [Strong’s

---

<sup>8</sup> 1 Maccabees 2:41.

Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] our God, so that He does not discipline us with pestilence or with the sword.” **4** But the king of Egypt said to Moses and Aaron, “Why do you take the people away from their work? Get back to your burdens!” **5** Pharaoh said, “Look, the people of the land are now many, and **you would have them stop their work!**” ”

(Exodus 5:1-5, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

The English word “cease” is translated from the Hebrew word “*shabath*” (Strong’s #**H7673 שָׁבַת**). In other words, Pharaoh was not about to give his slaves a sabbath rest from their labors. This appears to be at least one reason why, before entering the land of Canaan, Moses told the Israelites to...

**“You shall remember** [with thoughtful concern] **that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and that the Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] **your God brought you out of there with a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm; therefore the Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] **your God has commanded you to observe the Sabbath day.**”

(Deuteronomy 5:15, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Did Yahweh hold these captive Israelites accountable for not keeping the Sabbath when it was out of their control in the same way that He did when it was in their power to keep it? If He had held them accountable, the Israelites would have never gotten out of captivity.

Our present political climate must be taken into consideration as well. Depending upon a person’s occupation, his or her employer may or may not force them to work on the Sabbath. In some instances, it is either work on the Sabbath or lose your means of subsistence. In such cases what should a Christian do? There is no stock answer to this question. Probably the best choice would be to do everything in a person’s power to locate other employment that allows for Sabbath observance. However, under the current non-Christian civil body politic when Sabbath observance is not permitted, an exception is provided for those who have little or no choice in the matter:

**“If anyone fails to provide for his own, and especially for those of his own family, he has denied the faith** [by disregarding its precepts] **and is worse than an unbeliever** [who fulfills his obligation in these matters].”

(1 Timothy 5:8, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comment added)

This is a greater law, like that for emergency medical treatment, which comes into play in such situations as the one previously described. When a person has the choice to either keep the Sabbath or to feed his or her family, the latter takes precedence. This is known as a work of necessity. Christians in this kind of situation should treat the Sabbath the same as those who work in other areas of exemption, observing the Sabbath on an alternate day.

If Christians, who are a part of the Commonwealth of Israel, were to apply Yahweh's Law on both an individual and societal level, and they were in control of the government, life would be clearly different from the present situation. Many questions regarding the Sabbath would be automatically eliminated because if Yahweh's Laws were the law of the land, these situations simply would not exist. For example, there would be no such thing as an employer of a non-exempt business or industry forcing his or her employees to work on the Sabbath.

### **Pitfalls**

A person must be careful that he or she does not use these areas of exemptions as an excuse for doing their own desires on the Sabbath rather than what Yahweh would have them do. Living under a system governed by love and freedom, as we do under the Yahweh's Covenant He has made with His children, comes with pitfalls. The Apostle Paul warned us of these snares in Galatians Chapter 5. On one hand, Paul admonished that our freedom should be maintained and protected:

**“It was for this freedom that Christ set us free** [completely liberating us]; **therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery** [which you once removed].”

(Galatians 5:1, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

On the other hand, Paul warned of the snares that accompany freedom:

**“For you, my brothers,** were called to freedom; only **do not let your freedom become an opportunity for the sinful** [Literally, *flesh*.] **nature** (worldliness, selfishness), **but through love** [The key to understanding this and other statements about love is to know that this love (the Greek word *agape*) is not so much a matter of emotion as it is of doing things for the benefit of another person, that is, having an unselfish concern for another and a willingness to seek the best for another.] **serve and seek the best for one another.**”

(Galatians 5:13, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Jude warned us of the same trap:

“For there are certain men crept in unawares [just as if they were sneaking in by a side door], who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness [viewing it as an opportunity to do whatever they want], and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.”

(Jude 1:4, King James Version (KJV), emphasis and comments added)

In a state of freedom, a person can find himself or herself justifying or giving license to what is actually transgressions of the Law. One definition for “*licentiousness*” is “*free from moral restraint*.” Another word for “*moral restraint*” is “*law*.” Noah Webster’s first edition of his *American Dictionary of the English Language* defines “*licentious*” and “*licentiousness*” as follows:

**LICENTIOUS** ... Using license; **indulging freedom to excess; unrestrained by law** or morality....

**LICENTIOUSNESS** ... **With excess of liberty; contempt of the just restraints of law**, morality and decorum.<sup>9</sup>

In other words, **licentiousness** is **liberation from law** or **giving license to do what the law forbids**. Consequently, licentiousness is what today’s **antinomian** (anti-law) ministers are preaching. Yes, that is correct. This is “*fact*” and not my opinion. Not only are they turning “*the grace of our God into licentiousness*” but they are consequently denying “*our only Master and Lord Yeshua*” as well. This would also be true for anyone attempting to use some exemption for the Sabbath to justify a non-exempt act.

Yeshua’s declaration that “*the Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath*” is also often used in an *attempt* to give license to do that which is unlawful. However, Yeshua was not declaring that the Sabbath regulations were at fault but rather that the Pharisees’ application of the regulations was in error. The Pharisees made man subservient to the Law rather than the Law to man. Their approach left no room whatsoever for exceptions, whereas Yahweh allows lawful exemptions.

A Christian should ask himself or herself: “*Am I exempting a particular act or myself for my own benefit, pleasure or profit, or am I doing so for the sake of Yahweh and/or my fellow man?*” There are some vague areas related to Sabbath observance.

---

<sup>9</sup> Noah Webster, “*LICENTIOUS*” and “*LICENTIOUSNESS*,” [\*American Dictionary of the English Language\*](#), 1828 edition reprinted (San Francisco, CA: The Foundation for American Christian Education, 1967).

Nevertheless, whatever is done with the Sabbath should be done unto Yahweh in order to bring glory and honor to Him and His name.

## Is The Church Required to Keep The Sabbath?

We know from Scripture that Yahweh has never changed His established Sabbath (Saturday) to the pagan SUN god day of worship. Yes, Sunday is the day the pagans worship their gods. It is written in Malachi 3:6 “**I am Yahweh, I change not.**” Nor has Yahweh given to ANY person, Church, organization, etc. the “*authority*” to make such changes or even to establish additional holy days outside what He has established in the beginning. Anything established outside of what Yahweh has established in His Absolute Set-Apart (Holy) Written Word in the beginning is man-made. If that which is established by man does not come against what is written in the Scriptures and it does no harm to anyone, then it is okay. However, if it does come against what is written in the Scriptures, we are to abstain from it and have nothing to do with it.

One of the reasons we have all these “*added*” holy days and changing of the day of assembly is due to reading into Scripture what is not there. Churches today and going back to the second century C.E. are doing exactly what the Pharisees and Sadducees started doing long before Yeshua/Jesus was born. They *apply* what is known as “**eisegesis.**” Eisegesis is the approach to Scripture interpretation where the interpreter tries to “*force*” the Scripture to mean something that fits their existing belief or understanding of a particular issue or doctrine (teaching). People who interpret the Scripture this way are usually not teachable or willing to let the Scriptures speak for itself (*exegeses*). Their goal is to try to *prove a point* they already believe in and everything they read and interpret is *filtered* through that paradigm. Stated another way, they engage in what the Scripture refers to as “**private interpretation.**”

In the end, *eisegesis* is an exercise that in most cases leads to wrong interpretation and therefore improper applications of those verses in the person’s life.

As a result of *eisegesis*, we now have a host of different denominations, including non-denominations. The founder of each church started out by reading Scripture and thus seeing something that fit their belief be it right or wrong and then they formed their church doctrines (teachings/beliefs).

We are to use “**exegeses.**” Exegeses is reading out of Scripture what is there rather than trying to read into Scripture what is not there. When “**eisegesis**” is employed, this places a “*heavy*” weight upon people. This is exactly what is happening in different churches today. There are many “**man-made**” additional rules (do’s and don’ts) that have been added by each church throughout the centuries. This places a heavier “*yoke*” upon the Body of Messiah Yeshua (Christ Jesus).

If we look closely at the first century ekklesia (**Ekklesia** is Greek for “*called out ones.*”), you will not find any denominations. Those who followed and believed in Yeshua/Jesus were known as “**Nazarenes**” (Acts 24:5). Denominations started in the second century and they continue to be with us to this day.

As the Written Set-Apart (Holy) Word clearly states in Deuteronomy 19:15 “*that by the witness of two or more a thing is established.*” Below, you will learn there are more than two witnesses from various Roman Catholic and Protestant religions that Yahweh’s established Sabbath is NOT SUN-day, the first day of the week but Saturday the seventh day of the week. SUN-day is the SUN god worship day, not the day Yahweh established for His people to assemble together. Those who are teachable will learn and they will start being obedient to Yahweh’s Word and those who are not teachable, they will be turned over to believe a lie. That which they “*think*” they know will be twisted even more so in these last days. You have to “**want**” His Truths from His Set-Apart (Holy) Written Word and be willing to make life-style changes to walk down His Straight and Narrow Path unto His Righteous Set-Apart (Holy) Ways.

Time is running out to repent and come in line with Yahweh’s Appointed Times. To all who have ears to hear, hear what the Set-Apart Spirit is saying.

## **Exchanged Glory**

The ancient Israelites, Catholic and Protestant churches changed Him from a glorious, incorruptible Mighty One/God into an object. Yahweh, Who is omniscient (all knowing) and omnipotent (all-powerful) with all His capabilities, He was reduced in His Creation by mankind into “an idol.” They reduced Him into an “idol” made of gold, silver, wood, granite, marble, cement, ceramic or any other convenient material. Look at all the statues in the Catholic and Protestant churches. Look at all the crosses hung in the churches, homes and worn around people’s necks. Is it any wonder that Yahweh is angry?

Parents can perhaps empathize/understand in a very small degree to the hurt He feels. This is when a child is told a “*fact*” – but the child refuses to believe when they are told “*Don’t touch the hot stove because it will burn you.*” But the child touches it nonetheless. Parents commiserate/sympathize with the child’s pain as they experience what is a painful experience. Yahweh is also hurt when you do not believe His Truths which He has given us in His Absolute Written Word. Yeshua said in Matthew Chapter 23:

**“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who murders the prophets and stones [to death] those [messengers] who are sent to her [by God]! How often I wanted to gather your children together [around Me], as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling.”**

(Matthew 23:37, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Surely, you can understand why Yeshua/Jesus, The Son, is also hurt. When He saw Jerusalem, He brought the above message to His children, Israel. They changed His Father, the incorruptible Mighty One/God into an image made like unto corruptible man. He, in the eyes of His Creation, had been fashioned into an idol. He was compared to the image of birds, fish, creeping things and four-footed beasts! We should all hang our heads in shame and repent and return to His Absolute Written Word.

Now we will take a look at the confessions of the ministers of the Roman Catholic and Protestant Churches concerning the seventh day Sabbath.

### **Roman Catholic and Protestant Confessions about Sunday**

The vast majority of Protestant churches today teach the observance of SUN-day, the first day of the week, as a time for rest and worship. Yet, it is generally known and freely admitted that the early talmidim (disciples) of Yeshua/Jesus observed the seventh day as the Shabbat (Sabbath). We have to ask, *“How did this change come about?”*

History reveals to us that it was decades after the death of the Apostles that the religious system disapproved of the Sabbath clearly written in the Scriptures and thus, they substituted the observance of the first day of the week as the new sabbath. **The following quotations, all from Roman Catholic sources, who freely acknowledge that there is no Biblical authority for the observance of SUN-day, that it was the Roman Catholic Church that changed the Sabbath to the first day of the week.**

In the second part of these quotations, we will see what the Protestants say about the Sabbath. Undoubtedly, all of these noted clergymen, scholars and writers kept SUN-day but they all frankly admit that there is **NO** Scriptural authority for a first day Sabbath.

**Bottom line:** The reason for keeping SUN-day rather than Yahweh’s established seventh day Sabbath is **TRADITION**. When Yeshua/Jesus came, He spoke against the **“traditions”** of the elders as their **“traditions”** were missing the mark. They were not in line with the Written Word of Yahweh. They **“changed”** what He had established in His Word. Christianity has and continues to follow in the footsteps of the ancient elders/Pharisees. They have **changed** His Mo’edim/Appointed Times.

Protestant theologians and preachers from a wide spectrum of denominations have been quite candid in admitting that there is no Biblical authority for observing SUN-day as a Sabbath.

## AMERICAN CONGREGATIONALIST QUOTES ABOUT **THE SABBATH**

“The current notion that Christ and His apostles authoritatively substituted the first day for the seventh, is absolutely without any authority in the New Testament.”

—*Dr. Layman Abbot, in the Christian Union, June 26, 1890*

“. . . It is quite clear that however rigidly or devotedly we may spend **Sunday**, we are not keeping the **Sabbath** -. ‘The **Sabbath** was founded on a specific Divine command. We can plead no such command for the obligation to observe **Sunday**.... There is not a single sentence in the New Testament to suggest that we incur any penalty by violating the supposed sanctity of **Sunday**.’ (Emphasis added)

—*Dr. R. W. Dale, The Ten Commandments (New York: Eaton & Mains), pages 127-129*

“. . . The Christian **Sabbath** [**Sunday**] is not in the Scriptures, and was not by the primitive Church called the **Sabbath**.” (Emphasis and comment added)

—*Timothy Dwight, Theology: Explained and Defended (1823), Sermon 107, volume 3, page 258*

## ANGLICAN QUOTES ABOUT **THE SABBATH**

“And where are we told in the Scriptures that we are to keep the first day at all? We are commanded to keep the seventh; but we are nowhere commanded to keep the first day... The reason why we keep the first day of the week holy instead of the seventh is for the same reason that we observe many other things, not because the Bible, but because the Church, has enjoined it.”

—*Isaac Williams, Plain Sermons on the Catechism, pages 334 and 336*

**COMMENT:** Clearly what is being stated here is ‘forget what Yahweh has given us to obey and do it our own way.’ WOE BE UNTO THE CHURCH.

## BAPTIST QUOTES ABOUT **THE SABBATH**

“There was and is a command to keep holy the **Sabbath day**, but that **Sabbath day** was not **Sunday**. It will however be readily said, and with some show of triumph, that the **Sabbath** was transferred from the seventh to the first day of the week, with all its duties, privileges and sanctions. Earnestly desiring information on this subject, which I have studied for many years, I ask, where can the record of such a transaction be found: Not in the New Testament – absolutely not. There is no scriptural evidence of the change of the **Sabbath** institution from the seventh to the first day of the week.” (Emphasis added)

—*Dr. E. T. Hiscox, author of the ‘Baptist Manual’*

“There was and is a commandment to keep holy the **Sabbath day**, but that **Sabbath day** was not **Sunday**. It will be said, however, and with some show of triumph, that the **Sabbath** was transferred from the seventh to the first day of the week.... Where can the record of such a transaction be found? Not in the New Testament absolutely not.

To me it seems unaccountable that Jesus, during three years discussion with His disciples, often conversing with them upon the **Sabbath** question, discussing it in some of its various aspects, freeing it from its false [Jewish traditional] glosses, never alluded to any transference of the day; also, that during the forty days of His resurrection life, no such thing was intimated. Nor, so far as we know, did the Spirit, which was given to bring to their remembrance all things whatsoever that He had said unto them, deal with this question. Nor yet did the inspired apostles, in preaching the gospel, founding churches, counseling and instructing those founded, discuss or approach the subject.

Of course, I quite well know that **Sunday** did come into use in early Christian history as a religious day as we learn from the Christian Fathers and other sources. But what a pity that it [**Christianity**] **comes branded with the mark of paganism, and christened with the name of the sun-god**, adopted and sanctioned by the Papal apostasy, and bequeathed as a sacred legacy to Protestantism!” (Emphasis and comment added)

—*Dr. Edward T. Hiscox, a paper read before a New York Baptist Minister’s Convention, November 13, 1893, reported in New York Examiner, November 16, 1893*

**COMMENT:** Did you pick up on that “*But what a pity it comes branded with **the mark of paganism**, and **christened with the name of the sun-god**, adopted and sanctioned by the papal apostasy, and **bequeathed as a sacred legacy to Protestantism!**?” What was stated is absolutely true and yet, most Protestant Churches are doing what Rome is doing and not what is clearly written in the Scriptures. **SUN-day IS a pagan mark and the Church does NOT know it.** Those who are obedient to keep/do/obey His Sabbaths are the Bride of Yeshua/Jesus. Those NOT keeping/doing/obeying His Sabbaths are NOT of the Bride of Yeshua/Jesus. They, those who do not obey His Word, will be the wedding guests. The Bride is pure and she defiles NOT herself by disobeying that which has been established by Yahweh in the beginning. Those who are obedient to what is written in the Scriptures will rule with Yeshua/Jesus.*

“The Scriptures nowhere call the first day of the week the **Sabbath** . . . There is no Scriptural authority for so doing, nor of course, any Scriptural obligation.” (Emphasis added)

—*The Watchman*

“We believe that the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of His moral government.”

—*Baptist Church Manual, Article 12*

“There was never any formal or authoritative change from the Jewish **seventh-day Sabbath** to the Christian first-day observance.” (Emphasis added)

—*WILLIAM OWEN CARVER, The Lord’s Day in Our Day, page 49*

“There is nothing in Scripture that requires us to keep **Sunday** rather than **Saturday** as a holy day.” (Emphasis added)

—*Harold Lindsell (editor), Christianity Today, November 5, 1976*

“It may be that Jesus gave them an explicit command so to do [to change] the Sabbath from the seventh day to the first; but of this we have no revelation.”

—*O. C. S. WALLACE. “What Baptists Believe,” page 167*

## BRETHREN QUOTES ABOUT *THE SABBATH*

“With the views of the law and the **Sabbath** we once held ... and which are still held by perhaps the great majority of the most earnest Christians, we confess that we could not answer Adventists. What is more, neither before or since have I heard or read what would conclusively answer an Adventist in his Scriptural contention that the **Seventh day** is the **Sabbath** (Exodus 20:10). It is not ‘one day in seven’ as some put it, but ‘the **Seventh day** according to the commandment.’” (Emphasis and comment added)

—*Words of Truth and Grace, page 281*

## CATHOLIC QUOTES ABOUT *THE SABBATH*

“It is well to remind the Presbyterians, Baptists, Methodists, and all other Christians, that the Bible does not support them anywhere in their observance of **Sunday**. **Sunday** is an institution of the Roman Catholic Church, and those who observe the day observe a commandment of the Catholic Church.” (Emphasis added)

—*Priest Brady, in an address, reported in the Elizabeth, New Jersey ‘News’ on March 18, 1903*

“Practically everything that Protestants regard as essential or important they have received from the Catholic Church. They accepted **Sunday** rather than **Saturday** as the day for public worship after the Catholic Church made that change. But the Protestant mind does not seem to realize that in accepting the Bible, in observing the **Sunday**, in keeping Christmas and Easter, they are accepting the authority of the spokesman for the [**Catholic**] church, the pope.” (Emphasis and comment added)

—*Our Sunday Visitor, February 5th, 1950*

“When St. Paul repudiated the works of the law, he was not thinking of the Ten Commandments, which are as unchangeable as God Himself is, which God could not change and still remain the infinitely holy God.”

—*Our Sunday Visitor, October 7, 1951*

“Of course these two old quotations are exactly correct. The Catholic Church designated **Sunday** as the day for corporate worship and gets full credit – or blame – for the change.” (Emphasis added)

—*This Rock, The Magazine of Catholic Apologetics  
and Evangelization, page 8, June 1997*

**“Question:** Have you any other proofs that they (Protestants) are not guided by the Scripture?

**Answer:** Yes; so many, that we cannot admit more than a mere specimen into this small work. They reject much that is clearly contained in Scripture, and profess more that is nowhere discoverable in that Divine Book.

**Question:** Give some examples of both?

**Answer:** They should, if the Scripture were their only rule, wash the feet of one another, according to the command of Christ, in the 13th chap. of St. John; —they should keep, not the **Sunday**, but the **Saturday**, according to the commandment, “Remember thou keep holy the **Sabbath-day**,” for this commandment has not, in Scripture, been changed or abrogated;...” (Emphasis and comment added)

—*Rev. Stephen Keenan, A Doctrinal Catechism;  
New York in 1857, page 101 Imprimatur*

**“Question:** Have you any other way of proving that the Church has power to institute festivals of precept?

**Answer:** Had she [**Roman Catholic Church**] not such power, she could not have done that in which all modern religionists agree with her; —she could not have substituted the observance of **Sunday** the first day of the week, for the observance of **Saturday the Seventh day**, a change for which there is no Scriptural authority.” (Emphasis and comment added)

—*Rev. Stephen Keenan, A Doctrinal Catechism;  
New York in 1857, page 174*

**COMMENT:** Yahweh never gave the Roman Catholic Church ANY authority to make changes to His Written Word much less ANY Church. In the minds of evil wicked men, they have chosen/elected to develop their own set of holy days and rules for those that want a “*religion*” and not a relationship with Yahweh and His Son, Yeshua/Jesus. To have a meaningful relationship with the Father and Son, one MUST read His Written Set-Apart Word and obey what is written therein. **Do not add to nor take away from His Word.** His Righteous Judgment Day is coming and it will NOT be a pretty picture for those who have a “*religion*” and not a relationship with Him.

**“Question:** In what manner can we show a Protestant, that he speaks unreasonably against fasts and abstinences?

**Answer:** Ask him why he keeps **Sunday**, and not **Saturday**, as his day of rest, since he is unwilling either to fast or to abstain. If he reply, that the Scripture orders him to keep the **Sunday**, but says nothing as to fasting and abstinence, tell him the Scripture speaks of **Saturday** or the **Sabbath**, but gives no command anywhere regarding **Sunday** or the first day of the week.

If, then he neglects **Saturday** as a day of rest and holiness, and substitutes **Sunday** in its place, and this merely because such was the usage of the ancient Church, should he not, if he wishes to act consistently, observe fasting and abstinence, because the ancient Church so ordained?” (Emphasis added)

—*Rev. Stephen Keenan, A Doctrinal Catechism; New York in 1857, page 181*

**“Question:** Must not a sensible Protestant doubt seriously, when he finds that even the Bible is not followed as a rule by his co-religionists?

**Answer:** Surely, when he sees them baptize infants, abrogate the Jewish **Sabbath**, and observe **Sunday** for which [page 7] there is no Scriptural authority; when he finds them neglect to wash one another’s feet, which is expressly commanded, and eat blood and things strangled, which are expressly prohibited in Scripture. He must doubt, if he think at all. ...

**Question:** Should not the Protestant doubt when he finds that he himself holds tradition as a guide?

**Answer:** Yes, if he would but reflect that he has nothing but Catholic Tradition for keeping the **Sunday** holy; ...” (Emphasis and comment added)

—*Controversial Catechism by Stephen Keenan, New Edition, revised by Rev. George Cormack, published in London by Burns & Oates, Limited - New York, Cincinnati and Chicago: Benzinger Brothers, 1896, pages 6 and 7*

**“Question:** Which is the **Sabbath day**?

**Answer:** **Saturday** is the **Sabbath day**.

**Question:** Why do we observe **Sunday** instead of **Saturday**?

**Answer:** We observe **Sunday** instead of **Saturday** because the Catholic Church transferred the solemnity from **Saturday** to **Sunday**.” (Emphasis added)

—Rev. Peter Geiermann C.S.S.R., *The Convert’s Catechism of Catholic Doctrine* (1957), page 50

**COMMENT:** Most Protestant Churches are perpetuating the sins of the Roman Catholic Church by assembling on SUN-day rather than what Yahweh established in the beginning. Sad to say, but man puts MORE stock in “mans” ways/traditions than in Yahweh’s Set-Apart Ways. **Yahweh’s Word IS ABSOLUTE.** Man’s ways are **NOT** absolute. Whom do you follow, man or Yahweh? Choose you this day whom you shall serve (Joshua 24:15).

“The Church, on the other hand, after changing the day of rest from the Jewish **Sabbath**, or **Seventh day** of the week, to the first, made the Third Commandment refer to **Sunday** as the day to be kept holy as the Lord’s Day. The Council of Trent (Session VI, Canon XIX) condemns those who deny that the Ten Commandments are binding on Christians.” (Emphasis and comment added)

—*The Catholic Encyclopedia, Commandments of God, Volume IV, © 1908 by Robert Appleton Company, Online Edition © 1999 by Kevin Knight, Nihil Obstat - Remy Lafort, Censor Imprimatur - +John M. Farley, Archbishop of New York, page 153*

“The [Roman Catholic] Church changed the observance of the **Sabbath** to **Sunday** by right of the divine, infallible authority given to her by her founder, Jesus Christ. The Protestant claiming the Bible to be the only guide of faith, has no warrant for observing **Sunday**. In this matter the **Seventh-day** Adventist is the only consistent Protestant.” (Emphasis and comment added)

—*The Catholic Universe Bulletin, August 14, 1942, page 4*

“All of us believe many things in regard to religion that we do not find in the Bible. For example, nowhere in the Bible do we find that Christ or the Apostles ordered that the **Sabbath** be changed from **Saturday** to **Sunday**. We have the commandment of God given to Moses to keep holy the **Sabbath day**, that is the **7th day** of the week, **Saturday**. Today most

Christians keep **Sunday** because it has been revealed to us by the Church outside the Bible.” (Emphasis added)

—*The Catholic Virginian, To Tell You The Truth,*  
Volume 22, No. 49, page 9 (October 3, 1947)

**COMMENT:** Did you pick up on this, “Today **most Christians keep Sunday because it has been revealed to us by the [Roman Catholic] church outside the Bible?**” All who assemble on the first day of the week, SUN-day, are following what “*man*” has set forth and **NOT** what Yahweh has established in the beginning. The “**outside the Bible**” clearly comes from man and not from what is Written in the Scriptures.

“But you may read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, and **you will not find a single line authorizing the sanctification of Sunday. The Scriptures enforce the religious observance of Saturday, a day which we never sanctify.**” (Emphasis added)

—*The Faith of Our Fathers, by James Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop of Baltimore, 88th edition, page 89. Originally published in 1876, republished and Copyright 1980 by TAN Books and Publishers, Inc., pages 72-73*

**COMMENT:** Did you pick up on this bold, brazen statement “**a day which we** [Roman Catholic Church] **never sanctify?**” NO Church has the “*authority*” to NOT sanction ANY part of His Set-Apart (Holy) Written Word. Who gave these people the authority to change His Word? No man has been given authority to change anything in the Scriptures. We are given clear warning **NOT** to do this. What Yahweh inspired, no man has the right to change or remove, no matter how good the excuse sounds. King Solomon said:

“**4** Who has ascended into heaven and descended? Who has gathered the wind in His fists? Who has bound the waters in His garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is His name, and what is His Son’s name? Certainly you know!

**5** Every word of God is tested *and* refined [like silver]; He is a shield to those who trust *and* take refuge in Him.

**6 Do not add to His words, Or He will reprove you, and you will be found a liar.**”

(Proverbs 30:4-6, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comment added)

“Is **Saturday** the **seventh day** according to the Bible and the Ten Commandments? I answer yes. Is **Sunday** the first day of the week and did the [**Roman Catholic**] Church change the **seventh day -Saturday** - for **Sunday**, the first day? I answer *yes*. Did Christ change the day? I answer *no!* Faithfully yours, J. Card. Gibbons” (Emphasis and comment added)

—James Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop of Baltimore (1877-1921),  
in a signed letter

“Reason and sense demand the acceptance of one or the other of these alternatives: either Protestantism and the keeping holy of **Saturday**, or Catholicity and the keeping holy of **Sunday**. Compromise is impossible.” (Emphasis added)

—John Cardinal Gibbons, *The Catholic Mirror*, December 23, 1893

“The Catholic Church, . . . by virtue of her divine mission, changed the day from **Saturday** to **Sunday**.” (Emphasis added)

—*The Catholic Mirror*, official publication of James Cardinal Gibbons,  
September 23, 1893

**COMMENT:** Once again, no man nor any religious organization has the power nor the authority to change what Yahweh has established in the beginning.

“Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change was her act. And the act is a mark of her ecclesiastical power and authority in religious matters.”

—C. F. Thomas, Chancellor of Cardinal Gibbons, in answer to a letter regarding the change of the Sabbath, November 11, 1895

“Deny the authority of the Church and you have no adequate or reasonable explanation or justification for the substitution of **Sunday** for **Saturday** in the Third - Protestant Fourth - Commandment of God... The Church is above the Bible, and this transference of **Sabbath** observance is proof of that fact.” (Emphasis added)

—*Catholic Record*, September 1, 1923

“But since **Saturday**, not **Sunday**, is specified in the Bible, isn’t it curious that non-Catholics who profess to take their religion directly from the Bible and not the Church, observe **Sunday** instead of **Saturday**? Yes, of course, it is inconsistent; but this change was made about fifteen centuries before Protestantism was born, and by that time the custom was universally observed.

They have continued the custom, even though it rests upon the authority of the Catholic Church and not upon an explicit text in the Bible. That observance remains as a reminder of the Mother Church from which the non-Catholic sects broke away - like a boy running away from home but still carrying in his pocket a picture of his mother or a lock of her hair.” (Emphasis added)

—*The Faith of Millions*

“Perhaps the boldest thing, the most revolutionary change the Church ever did, happened in the first century. The holy day, the **Sabbath**, was changed from **Saturday** to **Sunday**. “The Day of the Lord” (dies Dominica) was chosen, not from any directions noted in the Scriptures, but from the Church’s sense of its own power. The day of resurrection, the day of Pentecost, fifty days later, came on the first day of the week. So this would be the new **Sabbath**. People who think that the Scriptures should be the sole authority, should logically become **7th Day** Adventists, and keep **Saturday** holy.” (Emphasis added)

—*Sentinel, Pastor’s page, Saint Catherine Catholic Church, Algonac, Michigan, May 21, 1995*

“If Protestants would follow the Bible, they would worship God on the **Sabbath day**. In keeping the **Sunday** they are following a law of the Catholic Church.” (Emphasis added)

—*Albert Smith, Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, replying for the Cardinal, in a letter dated February 10, 1920*

“The observance of **Sunday** by the Protestants is homage they pay, in spite of themselves, to the authority of the [Catholic] Church.” (Emphasis and comment added)

—*Monsignor Louis Segur, ‘Plain Talk about the Protestantism of Today,’ page 213*

“What Important Question Does the Papacy Ask Protestants?”

Protestants have repeatedly asked the papacy, “How could you dare to change God’s law?” But the question posed to Protestants by the Catholic church is even more penetrating.

Here it is officially: You will tell me that **Saturday** was the Jewish **Sabbath**, but that the Christian **Sabbath** has been changed to **Sunday**. Changed! but by whom? Who has authority to change an express commandment of Almighty God? When God has spoken and said, Thou shalt keep holy the **Seventh day**, who shall dare to say, Nay, thou mayest work and do all manner of worldly business on the **Seventh day**; but thou shalt keep holy the first day in its stead?

This is a most important question, which I know not how you can answer. You are a Protestant, and you profess to go by the Bible and the Bible only; and yet in so important a matter as the observance of one day in seven as a holy day, you go against the plain letter of the Bible, and put another day in the place of that day which the Bible has commanded.

The command to keep holy the **Seventh day** is one of the ten commandments; you believe that the other nine are still binding; who gave you authority to tamper with the fourth? If you are consistent with your own principles, if you really follow the Bible and the Bible only, you ought to be able to produce some portion of the New Testament in which this fourth commandment is expressly altered.” (Emphasis added)

—*Library of Christian Doctrine: Why Don't You Keep Holy the Sabbath-Day?* (London: Burns and Oates, Ltd.), pages 3 and 4

“I have repeatedly offered \$1,000 to anyone who can prove to me from the Bible alone that I am bound to keep **Sunday** holy. There is no such law in the Bible. It is a law of the holy Catholic Church alone. The Bible says, ‘Remember the **Sabbath** day to keep it holy.’ The Catholic Church says: ‘No. By my divine power I abolish the **Sabbath** day and command you to keep holy the first day of the week.’ And lo! **The entire civilized world bows down in a reverent obedience to the command of the holy Catholic Church.**” (Emphasis added)

—*T. Enright, C.S.S.R., in a lecture at Hartford, Kansas, February 18, 1884*

**COMMENT:** Did you pick up on this “**The entire civilized world bows down in a reverent obedience to the command of the holy Catholic Church?**” It is time the Protestant Churches come out from

under the “*obedience*” to the Roman Catholic Church and come into obedience to Yahweh’s Word.

“There is but one church on the face of the earth which has the power, or claims power, to make laws binding on the conscience, binding before God, binding under penalty of hell-fire. For instance, the institution of **Sunday**. What right has any other church to keep this day? You answer by virtue of the third commandment (the papacy did away with the 2nd regarding the worship of graven images, and called the 4th the 3rd), which says ‘Remember that thou keep holy the **Sabbath** day.’

But **Sunday** is not the **Sabbath**. Any schoolboy knows that **Sunday** is the first day of the week. I have repeatedly offered one thousand dollars to anyone who will prove by the Bible alone that **Sunday** is the day we are bound to keep, and no one has called for the money. It was the holy Catholic Church that changed the day of rest from **Saturday**, the **Seventh day**, to **Sunday**, the first day of the week.” (Emphasis and comment added)

—T. Enright, C.S.S.R., in a lecture delivered in 1893

“Only gradually did Christians begin to observe **Sunday** as a day of rest....In the third century, as we learn from Tertullian, many Christians had begun to keep **Sunday** as a day of rest to some extent...“The real need of **Sunday** as a day of rest as well as worship came much later, in the sixth century.” (Emphasis added)

—“Yes, I Condemned the Catholic Church” (Supreme Council, Knights of Columbus), page 4

“Regarding the change from the observance of the Jewish **Sabbath** to the Christian **Sunday**, I wish to draw your attention to the facts:

- 1) That Protestants, who accept the Bible as the only rule of faith and religion, should by all means go back to the observance of the **Sabbath**. The fact that they do not, but on the contrary observe the **Sunday**, stultifies [**unintelligent**] them in the eyes of every thinking man. (Emphasis and comment added)

**COMMENT:** This last sentence can better be stated as “*The fact that they (the Protestant Churches) do not but on the contrary observe the **SUN**-day clearly demonstrates their stupidity. They are unintelligent and silly in the eyes of every thinking man.*”

2) We Catholics do not accept the Bible as the only rule of faith. Besides the Bible we have the living [**Roman Catholic**] Church, the authority of the Church, as a rule to guide us. We say, this Church [**Roman Catholic Church**], instituted by Christ to teach and guide man through life, has the right to change the ceremonial laws of the Old Testament and hence, we accept her change of the **Sabbath** to **Sunday**. (Emphasis and comments added)

**COMMENT:** It is obvious that anything outside the Written Set-Apart Word of Almighty Yahweh is man “*adding*” to what He has established. To say the Church is on the same level as the Scriptures is blasphemy and a heavy price will be exacted by those who set it up and those who perpetuate it. WOE BE TO THEM. Yeshua/Jesus never did ordain nor institute ANY religion. Nor did Yahweh ordain or institute ANY religious organization. Religion is man-made. Yahweh did not start religion.

We frankly say, yes, the Church [**Roman Catholic Church**] made this change, made this law, as she [**Roman Catholic Church**] made many other laws, for instance, the Friday abstinence, the unmarried priesthood, the laws concerning mixed marriages, the regulation of Catholic marriages and a thousand other laws. (Comments added)

**COMMENT:** The Church as a whole no matter what label hangs above the front door does not have the authority to make laws. The Roman Catholic Church has and still is doing the same thing the Orthodox Jews have and are still doing. They have made up their own laws based on their uneducated and uninspired understanding of the Scriptures. The Church as a whole like the Orthodox Jews have built a “*fence*” around the Set-Apart Scriptures. They have “*added to*” what has been given to us by YHWH -- Yahweh. WOE BE TO THEM.

It is always somewhat laughable; to see the Protestant churches, in pulpit and legislation, demand the observance of **Sunday**, of which there is nothing in their Bible.” (Emphasis added)

—Peter R. Kraemer, *Catholic Church Extension Society (1975), Chicago, Illinois*

**COMMENT:** The Roman Catholic Church is laughing at the Protestant Churches for doing what they are doing because the Protestant Churches “*profess*” to be followers of what is written in the Scriptures. If this were correct, ALL Protestant Churches would be obedient in assembling on the

correct day, the Sabbath (Saturday) and NOT on SUN-day. The Protestant Churches are a laughing stock to the Roman Catholic Church.

“Tradition, not Scripture, is the rock on which the church of Jesus Christ is built.”

—Adrien Nampon, *Catholic Doctrine as Defined by the Council of Trent*, page 157

“The Pope is of so great authority and power that he can modify, explain, or interpret even divine law. The pope can modify divine law, since his power is not of man, but of God, and he acts a vicegerent of God upon earth.”

—Lucius Ferraris, *Prompta Bibliotheca*, art. Papa, II, Volume VI, page 29

“The leader of the Catholic church is defined by the faith as the Vicar of Jesus Christ (and is accepted as such by believers). The Pope is considered the man on earth who “takes the place” of the Second Person of the omnipotent God of the Trinity.” (Comment added)

—John Paul II, *Crossing the Threshold of Hope*, page 3, 1994

“...pastoral intuition suggested to the Church the christianization of the notion of **Sunday** as “the day of the sun,” which was the Roman name for the day and which is retained in some modern languages. This was in order to draw the faithful away from the seduction of cults which worshipped the sun, and to direct the celebration of the day to Christ, humanity’s true ‘sun.’ ” (Emphasis added)

—John Paul II, *Dies Domini*, 27. *The day of Christ-Light*, 1998  
(Prominent protestant leaders agree with this statement -  
See here for a statement by Dr. E. T. Hiscox,  
author of the ‘Baptist Manual’)

“The Sun was a foremost god with heathen-dom...The sun has worshippers at this hour in Persia and other lands.... There is, in truth, something royal, kingly about the sun, making it a fit emblem of Jesus, the Sun of Justice. Hence the church in these countries would seem to have said, to ‘Keep that old pagan name [**Sunday**]. It shall remain consecrated, sanctified.’ And thus the pagan **Sunday**, dedicated to Balder, became the Christian **Sunday**, sacred to Jesus.” (Emphasis and comment added)

—William Gildea, *Doctor of Divinity, The Catholic World*,  
March, 1894, page 809

“The retention of the old pagan name of Dies Solis, for **Sunday** is, in a great measure, owing to the union of pagan and Christian sentiment with which the first day of the week was recommended by Constantine to his subjects - pagan and Christian alike - as the ‘venerable’ day of the sun.”  
(Emphasis added)

—Arthur P. Stanley, *History of the Eastern Church*, page 184

“**Question:** How prove you that the Church hath power to command feasts and holydays?

**Answer:** By the very act of changing the **Sabbath** into **Sunday**, which Protestants allow of; and therefore they fondly contradict themselves, by keeping **Sunday** strictly, and breaking most other feasts commanded by the same Church.” (Emphasis added)

—Henry Tuberville, *An Abridgment of the Christian Doctrine* (1833 approbation), page 58 (Same statement in *Manual of Christian Doctrine*, ed. by Daniel Ferris [1916 ed.], page 67)

“Some theologians have held that God likewise directly determined the **Sunday** as the day of worship in the NEW LAW, that he himself has explicitly substituted **Sunday** for the **Sabbath**. But this theory is entirely abandoned. It is now commonly held that God simply gave His church the power to set aside whatever day or days she would deem suitable as holy days. The church chose **Sunday**, the first day of the week, and in the course of time added other days as holy days.” (Emphasis added)

—Vincent J. Kelly, *Forbidden Sunday and Feast-Day Occupations*, Washington, DC, Catholic University of America Press, *Studies in Sacred Theology*, No. 70, 1943, page 2

“If we consulted the Bible only, we should still have to keep holy the **Sabbath day**, that is, **Saturday**, with the Jews, instead of **Sunday**; ...”  
(Emphasis added)

—*A Course in Religion for Catholic High Schools and Academies*, by Rev. John Laux M.A., Benzinger Brothers, 1936 edition, Part 1

“Some theologians have held that God likewise directly determined the **Sunday** as the day of worship in the New Law that He Himself has explicitly substituted the **Sunday** for the **Sabbath**. But this theory is now entirely abandoned. It is now commonly held that God simply gave His Church [**Roman Catholic Church**] the power to set aside whatever day or days she would deem suitable as Holy Days. The [**Roman Catholic**]

Church chose **Sunday**, the first day of the week, and in the course of time added other days as holy days.” (Emphasis and comments added)

—John Laux, *A Course in Religion for Catholic High Schools and Academies* (1936), volume 1, page 51

**COMMENT:** It is obvious that this person is “unlearned” in the Scriptures. Nowhere in Scripture does Yahweh give anyone permission or authority to change/choose what day to assemble, nor even add other “holy days.” This is pure paganism and blatant blasphemy. The Catholic Church has set themselves up to be more than what Yahweh has given anyone. He did not create nor establish “religion.” Religion is a man-made created establishment. It is NOT ordained nor sanctioned by Yahweh.

“**Sunday** is a Catholic institution, and... can be defended only on Catholic principles.... From beginning to end of Scripture there is not a single passage that warrants the transfer of weekly public worship from the last day of the week to the first.” (Emphasis added)

—*Catholic Press*, August 25, 1900

“The **Sabbath** was **Saturday**, not **Sunday**. The Church altered the observance of the **Sabbath** to the observance of **Sunday**. Protestants must be rather puzzled by the keeping of **Sunday** when God distinctly said, ‘Keep holy the **Sabbath day**.’ The word **Sunday** does not come anywhere in the Bible, so, without knowing it they are obeying the authority of the Catholic Church.” (Emphasis added)

—Canon Cafferata, *The Catechism Explained*, page 89

“The abandonment of the **Sabbath** and the adoption of **Sunday** as the Lord’s Day, are the result of an interplay of Christian, Jewish and pagan religious factors.” (Emphasis added)

—Vincenzo Monachino, S.J., Chairman of the Church History Department, Pontifical Gregorian University, June 29, 1977

“**Question:** How prove you that the Church hath power to command feasts and holy days?”

“**Answer:** By the very act of changing the **Sabbath** into **Sunday**, which Protestants allow of, and therefore they fondly contradict themselves, by keeping **Sunday** strictly, and breaking most other feasts commanded by the same Church [**Roman Catholic Church**].” (Emphasis and comment added)

—Daniel Ferres, ed., *Manual of Christian Doctrine* (1916), page 67

**COMMENT:** Did you notice what was being implied here by the Roman Catholic Church about the Protestant Churches? What is being implied here is the Roman Catholic Church has made changes to what is clearly written in the Scriptures by changing the Sabbath established by Yahweh in His Word to the first day of the week (SUN-day) as well as adding holy days and watching the Protestant Churches follow them. What the Protestant Churches do not realize is they are giving homage/credit to the Roman Catholic Church by submitting to “*their*” authority and not breaking away from the **traditions** of the Roman Catholic Church by being obedient to the Written Set-Apart Word of Yahweh. The Protestant Churches are a walking contradiction to what is written in the Scriptures. They “*think*” they are different from the Roman Catholic Church but they are no different. They both are in the same bed, only sleeping on different sides of the bed. The Roman Catholic Church is steeped in idol worship and the Protestant Churches have followed suite.

“Is there any command in the New Testament to change the day of weekly rest from **Saturday** to **Sunday**? None.” (Emphasis added)

—*Manual of Christian Doctrine*, page 127

“Nowhere in the Bible is it stated that worship should be changed from **Saturday** to **Sunday**.... Now the Church ... instituted, by God’s authority, **Sunday** as the day of worship. This same Church [**Roman Catholic Church**], by the same divine authority, taught the doctrine of Purgatory long before the Bible was made. We have, therefore, the same authority for Purgatory as we have for **Sunday**.” (Emphasis and comment added)

—*Martin J. Scott, Things Catholics Are Asked About* (1927), page 136

**COMMENT:** It is obvious that this person does not know the Scriptures. Nowhere in the Scriptures does Yahweh give the Church the “*authority*” to change anything. Did you notice where he stated “*This same Church, by the same divine authority, taught the doctrine of Purgatory long before the Bible was made.*” Purgatory is a “*man-made*” doctrine/teaching. Nowhere in Scripture will you find any such teaching about purgatory. There was no such place called Purgatory in the Bible.

## CHRISTIAN CHURCH QUOTES ABOUT **THE SABBATH**

“ ‘But,’ say some, ‘it was changed from the seventh to the first day. Where? When? And by whom? No man can tell. No; it never was changed, nor could it be, unless creation was to be gone through again: for the reason assigned must be changed before the observance, or respect to the reason, can be changed! It is all old wives’ fables to talk of the change of the **Sabbath** from the seventh to the first day. If it be changed, it was that august personage changed it that changes times and laws *ex officio* - I think his name is Doctor Antichrist.’ ” (Emphasis added)

—*Alexander Campbell, The Christian Baptist, February 2, 1824, volume 1, No. 7, page 164*

“I do not believe that the Lord’s day came in the room of the Jewish **Sabbath**, or that the **Sabbath** was changed from the seventh to the first day, for this plain reason, where there is no testimony, there can be no faith. Now there is no testimony in all the oracles of heaven that the **Sabbath** is changed, or that the Lord’s Day came in the room of it.” (Emphasis added)

—*Alexander Campbell, in The Reporter, October 8, 1921*

“It is clearly proved that the pastors of the churches have struck out one of God’s ten words, which, not only in the Old Testament, but in all revelation, are the most emphatically regarded as the synopsis of all religion and morality.”

—*ALEXANDER CAMPBELL, Debate With Purcell, page 214*

“It has reversed the fourth commandment by doing away with the **Sabbath** of God’s Word, and instituting **Sunday** as a holiday.” (Emphasis added)

—*Dr. N. Summerbell, History of the Christian Church, Third Edition, page 415*

“There is no direct scriptural authority for designating the first day the Lord’s day.”

—*Dr. D. H. Lucas, Christian Oracle, January 23, 1890*

“The first day of the week is commonly called the **Sabbath**. This is a mistake. The **Sabbath** of the Bible was the day just preceding the first day of the week. The first day of the week is never called the **Sabbath** anywhere in the entire Scriptures. It is also an error to talk about the change of the **Sabbath**. There never was any change of the **Sabbath** from **Saturday** to **Sunday**. There is not in any place in the Bible any intimation of such a change.” (Emphasis added)

—*First-Day Observance, pages 17 and 19*

## CHURCH OF CHRIST QUOTES ABOUT **THE SABBATH**

“But we do not find any direct command from God, or instruction from the risen Christ, or admonition from the early apostles, that the first day is to be substituted for the **Seventh day Sabbath**. Let us be clear on this point. Though to the Christian ‘that day, the first day of the week’ is the most memorable of all days ... there is no command or warrant in the New Testament for observing it as a holy day.

The Roman Church selected the first day of the week in honour of the resurrection of Christ. ...” (Emphasis added)

—*Bible Standard, May, 1916, Auckland, New Zealand*

“... If the fourth command is binding upon us Gentiles by all means keep it. But let those who demand a strict observance of the **Sabbath** remember that the **Seventh day** is the ONLY **Sabbath day** commanded, and God never repealed that command. If you would keep the **Sabbath**, keep it; but **Sunday** is not the **Sabbath**. The argument of the ‘**Seventh-day** Adventists’ is on one point unassailable. It is the **Seventh day** not the first day that the command refers to.” (Emphasis added)

—*G. Alridge, Editor, The Bible Standard, April, 1916*

## CHURCH OF ENGLAND QUOTES ABOUT **THE SABBATH**

“Many people think that **Sunday** is the **Sabbath**. But neither in the New Testament nor in the early church is there anything to suggest that we have any right to transfer the observance of the **Seventh day** of the week to the first. The **Sabbath** was and is **Saturday** and not **Sunday**, and if it were binding on us then we should observe it on that day, and on no other.” (Emphasis added)

—Rev. Lionel Beere, All-Saints Church, Ponsonby,  
N.Z. in *Church and People*, September 1, 1947

“The Bible commandment says on the **seventh-day** thou shalt rest. That is **Saturday**. Nowhere in the Bible is it laid down that worship should be done on **Sunday**.” (Emphasis added)

—Phillip Carrington, quoted in *Toronto Daily Star*, October 26, 1949  
[Carrington (1892), Anglican archbishop of Quebec, spoke the above in a message on this subject delivered to a packed assembly of clergymen. It was widely reported at the time in the news media].

“Nowhere in the Bible is it laid down that worship should be done on **Sunday**. Remember the **Sabbath day** to keep it holy. ...! That is **Saturday**.” (Emphasis added)

—Phillip Carrington, Archbishop of Quebec, October 27, 1949;  
cited in *Prophetic Signs*, page 12

“The observance of the first instead of the **Seventh day** rests on the testimony of the church, and the church alone.” (Emphasis added)

—Hobart Church News, July 2, 1894; cited in *Prophetic Signs*, page 14

“The **Seventh day**, the commandment says, is the **Sabbath** of The Lord thy God. No kind of arithmetic, no kind of almanac, can make seven equal one, nor the seventh mean the first, nor **Saturday** mean **Sunday**. ... The fact is that we are all **Sabbath** breakers, every one of us.” (Emphasis added)

—Rev. Geo. Hodges

“Not any ecclesiastical writer of the first three centuries attributed the origin of **Sunday** observance either to Christ or to His apostles.”

—SIR WILLIAM DOMVILLE, *Examination of the Six Texts*,  
pages 6 and 7. (Supplement)

“There is no word, no hint, in the New Testament about abstaining from work on **Sunday**. . . . Into the rest of **Sunday** no divine law enters..., The observance of Ash Wednesday or Lent stands exactly on the same footing as the observance of **Sunday**. Into the rest of **Sunday** no Divine Law enters.” (Emphasis added)

—CANON EYTON, *The Ten Commandments*, pages 52, 63 and 65

**COMMENT:** What is being stated here is all “*added*” observances outside what is clearly written in the Scriptures is from man and his “*religion.*” Man wants “*religion*” and thus, he has created additional things to make up that “*religion.*” Ash Wednesday as well as Lent are pagan observances. Their origins come from pagan sources. The Church should abstain from such observances. I encourage everyone to do some research on these two things as well as Christmas, Easter, Valentine’s Day, and Saint Patrick’s Day. All of these that the Protestant Churches are observing comes from pagan sources. You will not find these in the Scriptures. What you will find is, we are commanded by Yahweh to “***learn not the ways of the heathen.***” (Jeremiah 10:2) If you read carefully the first few verses in Jeremiah Chapter 10, you will see that it is talking about the “Christmas Tree.” Most Protestants do not know that they are NOT to keep Christmas as it is one of the “***ways of the heathen.***” Christmas has absolutely **NOTHING** to do with the birth of Yeshua/Jesus. Did you pick up on this? They, the pagans, were celebrating Christmas long before Yeshua/Jesus was born. He was not born as late as December. He was born in the Hebrew month of Tishri which falls in the Gregorian calendar of September-October. Sheppard’s are not in the fields in December as it is too cold for them to be in the fields that time of the year. There are many things the Protestant Churches are taught to celebrate which are **NOT** written in the Scriptures and yet, they do not do what is given to them to celebrate in the Written Word. They choose to do it “*their*” way and not Yahweh’s Set-Apart Way.

“The Lord’s day did not succeed in the place of the **Sabbath**....The Lord’s day was merely an ecclesiastical institution. It was not introduced by virtue of the fourth commandment, because for almost three hundred years together they kept that day which was in that commandment...The primitive Christians did all manner of works upon the Lord’s day, even in times of persecution, when they are the strictest observers of all the divine commandments; but in this they knew there was none.” (Emphasis added)

—*BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR, Ductor Dubitantium, Part I, Book II, Chapter 2, Rule 6. Section 51 and 59*

“**Sunday** being the day on which the Gentiles solemnly adore that planet and called it **Sunday**, partly from its influence on that day especially, and partly in respect to its divine body (as they conceived it), the Christians thought fit to keep the same day and the same name of it, that they might not appear causelessly peevish, and by that means hinder the conversion

of the Gentiles, and bring a greater prejudice than might be otherwise taken against the gospel.” (Emphasis and comment added)

—*T. M. MORER, Dialogues on the Lord’s Day, pages 22 and 23*

“The Puritan idea was historically unhappy. It made **Sunday** into the **Sabbath day**. Even educated people call **Sunday** the **Sabbath**. Even clergymen do.

But, unless my reckoning is all wrong, the **Sabbath day** lasts twenty-four hours from six o’clock on Friday evening. It gives over, therefore, before we come to **Sunday**. If you suggest to a Sabbatarian that he ought to observe the **Sabbath** on the proper day, you arouse no enthusiasm. He at once replies that the day, not the principle, has been changed. But changed by whom? There is no injunction in the whole of the New Testament to Christians to change the **Sabbath** into **Sunday**.” (Emphasis added)

—*D. MORSE-BOYCOTT, Daily Herald, London, February 26, 1931*

“The Christian church made no formal, but a gradual and almost unconscious transference of the one day to the other.”

—*F.W. FARRAR, D.D., The Voice From Sinai, page 167*

“Take which you will, either of the Fathers or the moderns, and we shall find no Lord’s day instituted by any apostolical man-date; no **Sabbath** set on foot by them upon the first day of the week.” (Emphasis added)

—*PETER HEYLYN, History of the Sabbath, page 410*

“Merely to denounce the tendency to secularise **Sunday** is as futile as it is easy. What we want is to find some principle, to which as Christians we can appeal, and on which we can base both our conduct and our advice. We turn to the New Testament, and we look in vain for any authoritative rule.

There is no recorded word of Christ, there is no word of any of the apostles, which tells how we should keep **Sunday**, or indeed that we should keep it at all. It is disappointing, for it would make our task much easier if we could point to a definite rule, which left us no option but simple obedience or disobedience. . . . There is no rule for **Sunday** observance, either in Scripture or history.” (Emphasis added)

—*DR. STEPHEN, Bishop of Newcastle, N.S.W., in an address reported in the Newcastle Morning Herald, May 14, 1924*

## EPISCOPALIAN QUOTES ABOUT **THE SABBATH**

“We have made the change from the **Seventh day** to the first day, from **Saturday** to **Sunday**, on the authority of the one holy, Catholic, Apostolic Church of Christ.” (Emphasis added)

—*Bishop Seymour, Why We keep Sunday*

**COMMENT:** He is giving credit where credit is due, to the Roman Catholic Church because this is where this comes from. Not from the Set-Apart Written Word of Almighty Yahweh. Clearly Bishop Seymour is serving “*man*” and NOT Yahweh. WOE BE TO HIM.

## INFIDEL QUOTES ABOUT **THE SABBATH**

“Probably very few Christians are aware of the fact that what they call the ‘Christian **Sabbath**’ (**Sunday**) is of pagan origin.

The first observance of **Sunday**- that history records is in the fourth century, when Constantine issued an edict (not requiring its religious observance, but simply abstinence from work) reading, ‘let all the judges and people of the town rest and all the various trades be suspended on the venerable day of the sun.’ At the time of the issue of this edict, Constantine was a sun-worshipper; therefore it could have had no relation whatever to Christianity.” (Emphasis and comments added)

—*HENRY M. TABER. Faith or Fact (preface by Robert G. Ingersoll), page 112*

“I do not pretend to be even an amateur scholar of the Scriptures. I read the Decalogue merely as an average man searching for guidance, and in the immortal ‘Ten Words’ I find a blueprint for the good life.”

—*Id., page 33*

“I honestly believe that this commandment [the fourth, or **Sabbath** commandment] is just as binding today as it ever was. I have talked with men who have said that it has been abrogated, but they have never been able to point to any place in the Bible where God repealed it.

When Christ was on earth, He did nothing to set it aside; He freed it from the traces under which the scribes and Pharisees had put it, and gave it its true place. ‘The **Sabbath** was made for man, and not man for the

**Sabbath.**’ It is just as practicable and as necessary for men today as it ever was—in fact, more than ever, because we live in such an intense age.”  
(Emphasis and comment added)

—*Id.*, page 46

“I challenge any priest or minister of the Christian religion to show me the slightest authority for the religious observance of **Sunday**. And, if such cannot be shown by them, why is it that they are constantly preaching about **Sunday** as a holy day? ...

The claim that **Sunday** takes the place of **Saturday**, and that because the Jews were supposed to be commanded to keep the **Seventh day** of the week holy, therefore the first day of the week should be so kept by Christians, is so utterly absurd as to be hardly worth considering....That Paul habitually observed and preached on the **Seventh day** of the week, is shown in Acts 18:4—‘And be reasoned in the synagogue every **Sabbath**’ (**Saturday**).” (Emphasis added)

—*Id.*, pages 114 and 116

“Most certainly the Commandments are needed today, perhaps more than ever before. Their divine message confronts us with a profound moral challenge in an epidemic of evil; a unifying message acceptable alike to Jew, Moslem, and Christian. Who, reading the Ten in the light of history and of current events, can doubt their identity with the eternal law of nature?”

—*Id.*, page 124

## LUTHERAN QUOTES ABOUT **THE SABBATH**

“The observance of the Lord’s Day (**Sunday**) is founded not on any command of God, but on the authority of the Church. *Augsburg Confession of Faith*.

They [Roman Catholics] allege the change of the **Sabbath** into the Lord’s day, as it seemeth, to the Decalogue [the Ten Commandments], as it appears, neither is there any example more boasted of than the changing of the **Sabbath day**. Great, say they, is the power and authority of the church, since it dispensed with one of the Ten Commandments.”  
(Emphasis and comments added)

—*The Augsburg Confession, 1530 A.D. (Lutheran), part 2, article 7, in Philip Schaff, the Creeds of Christendom, 4th Edition, volume 3, page 64*

*[this important statement was made by the Lutherans and written by Melancthon, only thirteen years after Luther nailed his theses to the door and began the Reformation]*

**COMMENT:** All Protestant Churches that assemble on SUN-day are declaring the same thing as the Roman Catholic Church that they have “dispensed” with the Fourth Commandment to keep/do/obey the Sabbath according to what is written in the Scriptures. If the Protestant Churches are not keeping/doing/obeying ALL of the Ten Commandments, then they become “suggestions” and NOT Commandments.

“For up to this day mankind has absolutely trifled with the original and most special revelation of the Holy God, the ten words written upon the tables of the Law from Sinai.”

—*Crown Theological Library, page 178*

“The Christians in the ancient church very soon distinguished the first day of the week, **Sunday**; however, not as a **Sabbath**, but as an assembly day of the church, to study the Word of God together, and to celebrate the ordinances one with another: without a shadow of doubt, this took place as early as the first part of the second century.” (Emphasis added)

—*Bishop GRIMELUND, History of the Sabbath, page 60*

“The festival of **Sunday**, like all other festivals, was always only a human ordinance, and it was far from the intentions of the apostles to establish a Divine command in this respect, far from them, and from the early apostolic Church, to transfer the laws of the **Sabbath** to **Sunday**.” (Emphasis added)

—*Dr. Augustus Neander, The History of the Christian Religion and Church Henry John Rose, tr. (1843), page 186*

**COMMENT:** There is nowhere in the New Testament where any of the Apostles or even Yeshua/Jesus implied or taught any change in the assembly on the Sabbath, the seventh day of the week.

“I wonder exceedingly how it came to be imputed to me that I should reject the law of Ten Commandments...Whosoever abrogates the law must of necessity abrogate sin also.”

—*MARTIN LUTHER, Spiritual Antichrist, pages 71 and 72*

“We have seen how gradually the impression of the Jewish **Sabbath** faded from the mind of the Christian church, and how completely the newer thought underlying the observance of the first day took possession of the church. We have seen that the Christian of the first three centuries never confused one with the other, but for a time celebrated both.” (Emphasis added)

—*The Sunday Problem, a study book by the Lutheran Church*  
(1923), page 36

“But they [the **Roman Catholic Church and most Protestant Churches**] err in teaching that *Sunday* has taken the place of the Old Testament **Sabbath** and therefore must be kept as the **Seventh day** had to be kept by the children of Israel .... These churches err in their teaching, for scripture has in no way ordained the first day of the week in place of the **Sabbath**. There is simply no law in the New Testament to that effect.” (Emphasis and comment added)

—*John Theodore Mueller, Sabbath or Sunday, pages 15 and 16*

## LUTHERAN FREE CHURCH QUOTES ABOUT **THE SABBATH**

“For when there could not be produced one solitary place in the Holy Scriptures which testified that either the Lord Himself or the apostles had ordered such a transfer of the **Sabbath** to *Sunday*, then it was not easy to answer the question: Who has transferred the **Sabbath**, and who has the right to do it?” (Emphasis added)

—*George Sverdrup, ‘A New Day’*

## METHODIST QUOTES ABOUT **THE SABBATH**

“This ‘handwriting of ordinances’ our Lord did blot out, take away, and nail to His cross. (Colossians 2:14) But the moral law contained in the Ten Commandments, and enforced by the prophets, He [Christ] did not take away. It was not the design of His coming to revoke any part of this. The moral law stands on an entirely different foundation from the ceremonial or ritual law. This is a law which never can be broken... Every part of this law must remain in force upon all mankind and in all ages; as not depending either on time or place, or any other circumstances liable to change, but on the nature of God and the nature of man, and their unchangeable relation to each other.” (Comments added)

—JOHN WESLEY, *Sermons on Several Occasions*,  
2-Volume Edition, Volume I, Sermon XXV, pages 221 and 222

“No Christian whatsoever is free from the obedience of the commandments which are called moral.”

—*Methodist Church Discipline*, (1904), page 23

“The **Sabbath** was made for MAN; not for the Hebrews, but for all men.”  
(Emphasis added)

—E.O. HAVEN, *Pillars of Truth*, page 88

“The reason we observe the first day instead of the seventh is based on no positive command. One will search the Scriptures in vain for authority for changing from the **Seventh day** to the first. The early Christians began to worship on the first day of the week because Jesus rose from the dead on that day. By and by, this day of worship was made also a day of rest, a legal holiday. This took place in the year 321.

The reason we observe the first day instead of the seventh is based on no positive command. One will search the Scriptures in vain for authority for changing from the **Seventh day** to the first... Our Christian **Sabbath**, therefore, is not a matter of positive command. It is a gift of the church...”  
(Emphasis added)

—CLOVIS G. CHAPPELL, *Ten Rules for Living*, page 61

“**Sabbath** in the Hebrew language signifies rest, and is the **Seventh day** of the week... and it must be confessed that there is no law in the New Testament concerning the first day.” (Emphasis added)

—Charles Buck, *A Theological Dictionary*, *Sabbath*

“In the days of very long ago the people of the world began to give names to everything, and they turned the sounds of the lips into words, so that the lips could speak a thought. In those days the people worshiped the sun because many words were made to tell of many thoughts about many things. The people became Christians and were ruled by an emperor whose name was Constantine. This emperor made **Sunday** the Christian **Sabbath**, because of the blessing of light and heat which came from the sun. So our **Sunday** is a sun-day, isn't it?” (Emphasis added)

—*Sunday School Advocate*, December 31, 1921

“The **Sabbath** instituted in the beginning, and confirmed again and again by Moses and the prophets, has never been abrogated. A part of the moral law, not a jot or a tittle of its sanctity has been taken away.” (Emphasis added)

—*New York Herald 1874, on the Methodist Episcopal Bishops Pastoral 1874*

“Take the matter of **Sunday**. There are indications in the New Testament as to how the church came to keep the first day of the week as its day of worship, but there is no passage telling Christians to keep that day, or to transfer the Jewish **Sabbath** to that day.” (Emphasis added)

—*Harris Franklin Rall, Christian Advocate, July 2, 1942, page 26*

## MISCELLANEOUS QUOTES ABOUT **THE SABBATH**

“You will tell me that **Saturday** was the Jewish **Sabbath**, but that the Christian **Sabbath** has been changed to **Sunday**. Changed! But by whom? Who has authority to change an express commandment of Almighty God? When God has spoken and said, 'Thou shalt keep holy the **Seventh day**, who shall dare to say, 'Nay, thou mayest work and do all manner of business on the **Seventh day**; but thou shalt keep holy the first day in its stead?' This is a most important question, which I know not how you can answer.

You are a Protestant, and you profess to go by the Bible and the Bible only; and yet in so important a matter as the observance of one day in seven as a holy day, you go against the plain letter of the Bible, and put another day in the place of that day which the Bible has commanded. The command to keep holy the **Seventh day** is one of the Ten Commandments; you believe that the other nine are still binding; who gave you authority to tamper with the fourth? If you are consistent with your own principles, if you really follow the Bible and the Bible only, you ought to be able to produce some portion of the New Testament in which this fourth commandment is expressly altered.” (Emphasis added)

—*The Library of Christian Doctrine, pages 3 and 4*

“The first precept in the Bible is that of sanctifying the **Seventh day**: ‘God blessed the **Seventh day**, and sanctified it.’ (Genesis 2:3) This precept was confirmed by God in the Ten Commandments: ‘Remember the **Sabbath day** to keep It holy. ...The **Seventh day** is the **Sabbath** of the

Lord thy God.’ (Exodus 20:8, 10) On the other hand, Christ declares that He is not come to destroy the law, but to fulfil it. (Matthew 5:17) He Himself observed the **Sabbath**: ‘And, as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the **Sabbath day**.’ (Luke 4:16)

His disciples likewise observed it after His death: ‘They . . . rested the **Sabbath day**, according to the commandment.’ (Luke 23:56) Yet with all this weight of Scripture authority for keeping the **Sabbath** or **Seventh day** holy, Protestants of all denominations make this a profane day and transfer the obligation of it to the first day of the week, or the **Sunday**. Now what authority have they for doing this? None at all but the unwritten word, or tradition of the Catholic Church, which declares that the apostle made the change in honour of Christ’s resurrection, and the descent of the Holy Ghost on that day of the week.” (Emphasis and comments added)

—JOHN MILNER, *The End of Religious Controversy*, page 71

“**Sabbath** means, of course, **Saturday**, the **Seventh day** of the week, but the early Christians changed the observance to **Sunday**, to honour the day on which Christ arose from the dead.” (Emphasis added)

—FULTON OURSLER, *Cosmopolitan*, September 1951, pages 34 and 35

“The **Sabbath** is commanded to be kept on the **Seventh day**. It could not be kept on any other day. To observe the first day of the week or the fourth is not to observe the **Sabbath**. . . . It was the last day of the week, after six days of work, that was to be kept holy. The observance of no other day would fulfil the law.” (Emphasis added)

—H. J. FLOWERS, B.A., B.D., *The Permanent Value of the Ten Commandments*, page 13

“The evaluation of **Sunday**, the traditionally accepted day of the resurrection of Christ, has varied greatly throughout the centuries of the Christian Era. From time to time it has been confused with the **Seventh day** of the week, the **Sabbath**. English speaking peoples have been the most consistent in perpetuating the erroneous assumption that the obligation of the fourth commandment has passed over to **Sunday**. In popular speech, **Sunday** is frequently, but erroneously, spoken of as the **Sabbath**.” (Emphasis added)

—F. M. SETZLER, *Head Curator, Department of Anthropology, Smithsonian Institute, from a letter dated September 1, 1949*

“He that observes the **Sabbath** aright holds the history of that which it celebrates to be authentic, and therefore believes in the creation of the first man; in the creation of a fair abode for man in the space of six days; in the primeval and absolute creation of the heavens and the earth, and, as a necessary antecedent to all this, in the Creator, who at the close of His latest creative effort, rested on the **Seventh day**. The **Sabbath** thus becomes a sign by which the believers in a historical revelation are distinguished from those who have allowed these great facts to fade from their remembrance.” (Emphasis added)

—*JAMES G. MURPHY, Commentary on the Book of Exodus, comments on Exodus 20:8-11*

### MOODY BIBLE INSTITUTE QUOTES ABOUT **THE SABBATH**

“The **Sabbath** was binding in Eden, and it has been in force ever since. This fourth commandment begins with the word ‘remember,’ showing that the **Sabbath** already existed when God wrote the law on the tables of stone at Sinai. How can men claim that this one commandment has been done away with when they will admit that the other nine are still binding?” (Emphasis added)

—*D.L. MOODY, Weighed and Wanting, page 47*

“This Fourth is not a commandment for one place, or one time, but for all places and times.”

—*D.L. Moody, at San Francisco, January 1st, 1881*

### PRESBYTERIAN QUOTES ABOUT **THE SABBATH**

“The Christian **Sabbath** (*Sunday*) is not in the Scriptures, and was not by the primitive church called the **Sabbath**.” (Emphasis and comment added)

—*Dwight’s Theology, Volume 14, page 401*

“A further argument for the perpetuity of the **Sabbath** we have in Matthew 24:20, Pray ye that your flight be not in the winter neither on the **Sabbath day**. But the final destruction of Jerusalem was after the Christian dispensation was fully set up (A.D. 70). Yet it is plainly implied in these words of the Lord that even then Christians were bound to strict observation of the **Sabbath**.” (Emphasis and comment added)

—*Works of Jonathon Edwards, (Presby.) Volume 4, page 621*

“We must not imagine that the coming of Christ has freed us from the authority of the law; for it is the eternal rule of a devout and holy life, and must therefore be as unchangeable as the justice of God, which it embraced, is constant and uniform.”

—*JOHN CALVIN, Commentary on a Harmony of the Gospels, Volume 1, page 277*

“God instituted the **Sabbath** at the creation of man, setting apart the **Seventh day** for the purpose, and imposed its observance as a universal and perpetual moral obligation upon the race.” (Emphasis added)

—*American Presbyterian Board of Publication, Tract No. 175*

“The observance of the **seventh-day Sabbath** did not cease till it was abolished after the [Roman] empire became Christian, ...” (Emphasis and comment added)

—*American Presbyterian Board of Publication, Tract No. 118*

“The moral law doth for ever bind all, as well justified persons as others, to the obedience thereof; and that not only in regard to the matter contained in it, but also in respect of the authority of God the Creator who gave it. Neither doth Christ in the gospel in any way dissolve, but much strengthen this obligation.”

—*Westminster Confession of Faith, Chapter 19, Article 5*

“The **Sabbath** is a part of the Decalogue—the Ten Commandments. This alone for ever settles the question as to the perpetuity of the institution ... Until, therefore, it can be shown that the whole moral law has been repealed, the **Sabbath** will stand...The teaching of Christ confirms the perpetuity of the **Sabbath**.” (Emphasis added)

—*T.C. BLAKE, D.D., Theology Condensed, pages 474 and 475*

“Some have tried to build the observance of **Sunday** upon Apostolic command, whereas the Apostles gave no command on the matter at all... The truth is, so soon as we appeal to the *littera scripta* [literal writing] of the Bible, the Sabbatarians have the best of the argument.” (Emphasis and comment added)

—*The Christian at Work, April 19, 1883, and January 1884*

## PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL QUOTES ABOUT **THE SABBATH**

“The day is now changed from the seventh to the first day ... but as we meet with no Scriptural direction for the change, we may conclude it was done by the authority of the church.”

—‘*Explanation of Catechism*’

## SOUTHERN BAPTIST QUOTES ABOUT **THE SABBATH**

“The sacred name of the **Seventh day** is **Sabbath**. This fact is too clear to require argument [Exodus 20:10 quoted]... on this point the plain teaching of the Word has been admitted in all ages... Not once did the disciples apply the **Sabbath** law to the first day of the week, -- that folly was left for a later age, nor did they pretend that the first day supplanted the seventh.”

(Emphasis and comment added)

—*Joseph Hudson Taylor, ‘The Sabbatic Question,’ pages 14-17 and 41*

“The first four commandments set forth man’s obligations directly toward God.... But when we keep the first four commandments, we are likely to keep the other six. . . . The fourth commandment sets forth God’s claim on man's time and thought.... The six days of labour and the rest on the **Sabbath** are to be maintained as a witness to God’s toil and rest in the creation. . . . No one of the ten words is of merely racial significance.... The **Sabbath** was established originally (long before Moses) in no special connection with the Hebrews, but as an institution for all mankind, in commemoration of God’s rest after the six days of creation. It was designed for all the descendants of Adam.” (Emphasis and comment added)

—*Adult Quarterly, Southern Baptist Convention series, August 15, 1937*

I ask you; after ALL of the above witnesses have clearly stating that SUN-day is NOT Yahweh’s Sabbath, why do the Roman Catholic and Protestant Churches continue to violate Yahweh’s command to keep His Sabbaths? Clearly, the Roman Catholic and Protestant Churches **do not** believe the Word of Yahweh. They **pick** and **choose** out of Yahweh’s Written Word what “*they*” want to do because it suites their life-style. Woe be to those who have the mark of the “*SUN*” upon them rather than the mark of the “*SON*,” which is His Sabbaths.

Yahweh is unchangeable and He is NOT like man (Malachi 3:6, 1 Samuel 15:29, Psalm 102:26-27, Hebrews 6:17-19, James 1:17). This is one of the most important attributes of Yahweh and it cannot be separated from Scriptural Faith. One of the biggest pillars of Trust is the confidence that what you are trusting in is unchangeable, unmovable and unchanging.

I encourage everyone reading this teaching to sit down and prayerfully, in earnest, read your Bible slowly and carefully. You will come across things in there that you did not know about. You will learn far more than listening to your priest/pastor/minster when you go to church. They will not teach you everything. Some know the truth but they will not teach it to their congregations because if they were to do so, they possibly would lose their job. This indeed has happened. Some ministers have stepped up to the plate and they started teaching what is written in the Bible and as a result of them teaching what is written in the Bible, they lost their job as a minister of their church. Sad as it is, some people cannot handle His Truths because it goes against their respective Institutionalized Religious System's "traditions." They are "married" to their religious system and not Him. For those who take the time to read the Bible, use it to measure what you are being taught in your church. The Bible IS our "**plum-line**" by which we are to use to measure/test all things.

Too many who go to church do not take the time to sit down and read their Bible on their own. We are instructed from Scripture to "*study to show thyself approved*" (2 Timothy 2:15).

Those who truly love Him will take the time to read and study His Set-Apart (Holy) Written Word and they will apply what is written to their daily lives. **The Highest Form of Worship is to study His Absolute Written Word.**

Yahweh called me out of the Christian Institutionalized Church System to teach me His Ways from His Word. Once I started *reading* and *studying* His Word more and more, my relationship with Him grew closer and closer. He started me off by having me do research on all the holidays Christians celebrate and that was a real eye opener. He told me "**LEARN NOT THE WAY OF THE HEATHEN. DO NOT DO IT. THESE ARE A STINCH IN MY NOSTRALS.**" Needless to say, after hearing Him speak to me, I have not had anything to do with any of those holidays since then. Yahweh has and continues to bless me as a result of my obedience to observe/keep/do that which is written in His Word. I encourage you to do likewise and He will bless you also.

## Sabbath to Sunday

**NOTE:** The following came from a book that I was the editor on titled "**Let Yeshua ROCK Your World**" written by my sister in Yeshua Murline Miles.

A well-known expert on the Sabbath is Dr. Samuele Bacchiocchi, a retired theology professor at Andrews University in Michigan.

Bacchiocchi earned his doctorate in Church History at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. At that university he not only had open access to long-forgotten historical records, he also graduated at the top of his class – *summa cum laude*, an honor which included a gold medal from Pope Paul VI for his class work and dissertation, “[From Sabbath to Sunday: A Historical Investigation of the Rise of Sunday Observance in Early Christianity.](#)”

What he found in that investigation would probably shock most Christians who have never studied the subject, nor thought deeply about what became of the Fourth Commandment.

Bacchiocchi believes anti-Judaism caused the abandonment of the Sabbath, and pagan sun worship influenced the adoption of Sunday as there’s no Scriptural mandate to change or eliminate Sabbath-keeping, and he singles out the Catholic Church for its role in changing the day.

He says evidence of anti-Judaism is found in the writings of Christian leaders such as Ignatius, Barnabas and Justin in the second century. He notes these three “witnessed and participated in the process of separation from Judaism which led the majority of the Christians to abandon the Sabbath and adopt Sunday as the new day of worship.”

Here’s what Constantine said in his letter written in A.D. 325:

“Let us then have nothing in common with the detestable Jewish crowd: for we have received from our Savior a different way ... Strive and pray continually that the purity of your souls may not seem in anything to be sullied by fellowship with the customs of these most wicked men ... All should unite in desiring that which sound reason appears to demand and in avoiding all participation in the perjured conduct of the Jews.”

Not surprisingly, anti-Sabbath laws followed in Rome – imposing harsh penalties for anyone who refused to work on Saturday or who deigned to worship on that day of the week.

He quotes Sylvester I, the pope from 314-337:

“If every Sunday is to be observed joyfully by the Christians on account of the resurrection, then every Sabbath on account of the burial is to be execration (loathing or cursing) of the Jews.”

Observing the Sabbath meant excommunication from the Church as of A.D. 363 and the Council of Laodicea:

“Christians must not judaize by resting on the Sabbath, but must work on that day, rather honoring the Lord’s Day; and, if they can, resting then as Christians. But if any shall be found to be judaizers, let them be anathema from Christ.”

But Bacchiocchi also reminds readers the Saturday Sabbath, despite official repression against it, never was completely abandoned.

Likewise, over the years, some prominent voices have never forgotten the Sabbath – and what became of it.

Was it, indeed, a Roman Catholic decision made after the first century and the death of the apostles? It’s hard to argue with the historical record. In fact, some Catholics revel in the role Rome played in the switch.

“The Catholic Church of its own infallible authority created Sunday a holy day to take the place of the Sabbath of the old law,” wrote the Kansas City Catholic on Feb. 9, 1893.

But it’s not just Catholics who acknowledge the Church has just plain forgotten one of Elohim’s Great Commandments – without so much as a second thought.

There is also evidence that the early disciples kept the Sabbath on the true day:

“The ancient Christians were very careful in the observation of Saturday, or the seventh day. It is plain that all the Oriental churches, and the greatest part of the world, observed the Sabbath as a festival...Athanasius likewise tells us that they held religious assemblies on the Sabbath, not because they were infected with Judaism, but to worship [Yahushua], the [Master] of the Sabbath, Epiphanius says the same.” **Antiquities of the Christian Church**, Vol. II, Book XX, chap. 3, Sec. 1, 66.1137, 1138

“Ambrose, the celebrated bishop of Milan, said that when he was in Milan he observed Saturday, but when in Rome observed Sunday. This gave rise to the proverb ‘When you are in Rome, do as Rome does,’ ” Heylyn, **The History of the Sabbath**, 1613.

Constantine later enforced keeping a Sabbath on the first day of the week, which he calls “the venerable day of the sun.” Venerable means ‘commanding respect.’

The text of Constantine’s Sunday law of 321 A.D. is:

“On the venerable day of the Sun, let the magistrates and people residing in cities rest, and let all workshops be closed. In the country however persons engaged in agriculture may freely and lawfully continue their pursuits because it often happens that another day is not suitable for gain-

sowing or vine planting; lest by neglecting the proper moment for such operations the bounty of heaven should be lost.”

Later, those who observed the Sabbath were persecuted and killed by the Catholic Church. When the Jesuit St. Francis Xavier arrived in India, he immediately requested to the pope to set up the Inquisition there.

“The Jewish wickedness” of which Xavier complained was evidently the Sabbath-keeping among those native Christians as we shall see in our next quotation. When one of these Sabbath-keeping Christians was taken by the Inquisition he was accused of having \*Judaized\*; which means having conformed to the ceremonies of the Mosaic Law; such as not eating pork, hare, fish without scales, of having attended the solemnization of the Sabbath. Account of the Inquisition at Goa, Dellon, p.56. London, 1815

“Of an hundred persons condemned to be burnt as Jews, there are scarcely four who profess that faith at their death; the rest exclaiming and protesting to their last gasp that they are Christians, and have been so during their whole lives” (Ibid p.64).

## **There’s no place like Rome**

As Christianity spread through the pagan Roman Empire, it was finally given official toleration in the year 312 by Emperor Constantine, who purportedly had a vision that prompted his soldiers to fight under a “symbol of Christ,” leading to a key military victory. The emperor then restored confiscated church property and even offered public funds to churches in need.

Sunday observance received a historic boost when Constantine – himself a pagan who is said to have adopted Christianity at least nominally – established Sunday as the first day of the week in the Roman calendar and issued a mandatory order prohibiting work on that day, in honor of the sun god.

On March 7, 321, he decreed, “On the venerable day of the Sun, let the magistrates and people residing in cities rest, and let all workshops be closed.” Farmers were given an exception.

“The importance of the actions of Constantine cannot be overstated,” says author Richard Rives in “[Too Long in the Sun](#).” “During his reign, pagan sun worship was blended with the worship of the Creator, and officially entitled ‘Christianity.’”

Before the end of the 4th century, Sunday observance prevailed over Saturday.

In 380, Emperor Theodosius made Sunday-keeping Catholic Christianity the official religion of the empire, outlawing all other faiths:

“We authorize the followers of this law to assume the title Catholic Christians; but as for the others, since in our judgment they are foolish madmen, we decree that they shall be branded with the ignominious name of heretics.”

Once Sunday had the imperial power of the Roman Catholic government behind it, Saturday Sabbath-keepers became less visible, though some Sabbatarian websites have documented mentions of seventh-day observers through the centuries.

For example, the Catholic Church persecuted Sabbath-keepers in the 15th century. At the Catholic Provincial Council of Bergen, Norway, in 1435, it was said:

“We are informed that some people in different districts of the kingdom, have adopted and observed Saturday-keeping.

It is severely forbidden – in holy church canon – [for] one and all to observe days excepting those which the holy pope, archbishop, or the bishops command. Saturday-keeping must under no circumstances be permitted hereafter further than the church canon commands. Therefore we counsel all the friends of God throughout all Norway who want to be obedient towards the holy church to let this evil of Saturday-keeping alone; and the rest we forbid under penalty of severe church punishment to keep Saturday holy.”

The Catholic Encyclopedia even refers to Sabbath-keeping as “the superstitious observance of Saturday,” noting it was forbidden by that council.

Most biblical scholars have little disagreement when asked what day the Bible specifically calls the Sabbath.

“The seventh day, Saturday,” says, Richard Bauckham, Professor of New Testament at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. “No other day is called the Sabbath in Old or New Covenants.” (“Anti-Judaism at root of ‘Sunday Sabbath’? 4th century church banned observing Saturday at risk of excommunication.” WorldNetDaily. Ed. Joe Knovacs. 16 Mar 2008: 347. [www.wnd.com/index.php?fa=PAGE.view&pageId=58526](http://www.wnd.com/index.php?fa=PAGE.view&pageId=58526).)

## **The Disciples Kept the Sabbath 85 Times in the book of Acts**

There are many Scriptures that verify the Sabbath Day being the 7th day of the week. All throughout the ‘Renewed / New Covenant,’ the first day of the week is called “The first day of the week” and the 7th day of the week is called “The Sabbath”. This fact alone should prove when the Sabbath truly is.

However, let us examine the pattern of the disciples after Yahshua's resurrection in the book of Acts to determine what day that they attended Sabbath Services and what day they expected others to observe. We will keep a count of how many times the Sabbath is observed.

We see one example in Acts 17:1-4.

**Acts 17:1-4** (NKJV), "Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews (Yahudim). Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures, explaining and demonstrating that the Messiah had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and [saying], 'This Yahshua whom I preach to you is the Messiah.' And some of them were persuaded; and a great multitude of the devout Greeks, and not a few of the leading women, joined Paul and Silas."

Here we see that Paul went to a Sabbath service where there were both Yahudim (Jews) and Greeks. The Scripture also mentions that this was a regular custom of Paul. Was this also the custom of Yahshua the Messiah?

**Luke 4:16**, "And He came to Natsareth, where He had been brought up. And according to His practice, He went into the congregation on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read."

So here we can see that 22 years after Yahshua's death and resurrection the disciples were attending Sabbath Services. In no place do we see Paul or any other disciple teaching them that they should come back the next day for a 'first day of the week' service. But they went to three Sabbath Services where there were both Yahudim (Jews) and Greeks present. So then the doctrine that says the Yahudim (Jews) have their day (the 7th day) and the Gentiles have their day (the 1st day) is foreign to Scripture.

Some would argue that Paul was at the synagogue only because that is where he would find people to witness to...not to observe the Sabbath. But the Scripture does not say that. This is an assumption that those who refuse the simplicity of the Scriptures want to make, not one that the Scriptures support. Again, the Seventh Day is called "The Sabbath Day" in this passage.

So, let's see where we are at now.

### **Seventh day - 3 | First day - 0**

Another example is found in Acts 13:13-15.

**Acts 13:13-15**, "And having put out from Paphos, Sha'ul (Paul) and those with him came to Perge in Pamphulia. And Yoħanan (John), having left them, returned to Yerushalayim (Jerusalem). But passing through from Perge, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the congregation on

the Sabbath day and sat down. And after the reading of the Torah and the Prophets, the rulers of the congregation sent to them, saying, 'Men, brothers, if you have any word of encouragement for the people, speak.' ”

So here is another example where Paul and the other disciples came to the Synagogue in Perge to attend the Sabbath Service.

### **Seventh day - 4 | First day - 0**

A little later in the chapter, after Paul shares Yahshua with them we see that the Gentiles were quite interested.

**Acts 13:42**, “And when the Yahudim (Jews) went out of the congregation, the gentiles begged to have these words spoken to them the next Sabbath.”

Now here is a perfect situation for Paul to tell these Gentiles “Hey just come back tomorrow, we keep the Sabbath on the first day now!” But we don't see this written anywhere in Scripture.

**Acts 13:43-44**, “And when the meeting of the congregation had broken up, many of the Yahudim and of the worshipping converts followed Sha'ul (Paul) and Barnabah (Barnabas), who, speaking to them, were urging them to continue in the favour of Elohim. And on the next Sabbath almost all the city came together to hear the Word of Elohim.”

So here is the fifth time that the disciples attended a Sabbath service on the day that Yahweh sanctified at creation. Again, the Seventh Day is called “The Sabbath” in this passage.

### **Seventh day - 5 | First day - 0**

Here is another example in Acts 16:11-13:

**Acts 16:11-13**, “Therefore, sailing from Troas, we ran a straight course to Samothrake (Samothracia), and the next day came to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is the principal city of that part of Makedonia (Macedonia), a colony. And we were staying in that city for some days. And on the Sabbath day we went outside the city by a river, where there used to be prayer. And having sat down we were speaking to the women who met there.”

It was the custom of the Yahudim (Jews) of that day for the rabbi to shut down the synagogue if there were not at least 10 men that would show up for the Sabbath meeting. This could very well be why there were women meeting by the riverside for prayer. Nevertheless, we see that the disciples sought a place to meet for the Sabbath and they did. Again, the Seventh Day is called “The Sabbath Day” in this passage.

## Seventh day - 6 | First day - 0

Here is another example in Acts 18:1-4:

**Acts 18:1-4**, “And after this Sha’ul (Paul) left Athens and went to Corinth. And he found a certain Yahudite (Jew) named Aquilas, born in Pontos, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla – because Claudius had commanded all the Yahudim (Jews) to leave Rome – and he came to them. And because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them and was working, for they were tentmakers by trade. And he was reasoning in the congregation every Sabbath, and won over both Yahudim and Greeks.”

So, we see that Paul worked on the other days as a tentmaker...but on the Sabbath he did not work. And here again we see that both Yahudim (Jews) and Greeks are in the synagogue and on the Sabbath. Paul also is among them attending the Sabbath Services. The interesting thing about this verse is that instead of the Scripture saying that they attended only one or three Sabbath Services, it says that he was there every Sabbath persuading both Yahudim (Jews) and Greeks. Again, the Seventh Day is called “The Sabbath” in this passage so we know that we can at least count one. Let’s do that.

## Seventh day - 7 | First day - 0

Now if Paul was in Corinth and was reasoning in the synagogue every Sabbath, if we could find out how long he stayed in Corinth then we would know how many Sabbaths he actually attended. Let’s look further.

**Acts 18:5-11**, “And when Sila (Silas) and Timothy came down from Makedonia (Macedonia), Sha’ul (Paul) was pressed by the Spirit, and earnestly witnessed to the Yahudim (Jews) that Yahshua is the Messiah. However, when they resisted and blasphemed, he shook his garments and said to them, ‘Your blood is upon your head, I am clean. From now on I shall go to the gentiles.’ And having left there he came to the house of a certain man named Justus, who worshipped Elohim, whose house was next to the congregation. And Crispus, the ruler of the congregation, did believe in the Master with all his household. And many of the Corinthians, hearing, believed and were immersed. And the Master spoke to Sha’ul (Paul) in the night by a vision, ‘Do not be afraid, but speak, and do not be silent, because I am with you, and no one shall attack you to do you evil, because I have much people in this city.’ And he remained a year and six months, teaching the Word of Yahweh among them.”

A year and six months! Finally, the ruler of the synagogue was converted to Yahshua and Paul was there a year and six months! So, the Scripture says that Paul was there every Sabbath and that he was there for a year and six months. If we counted this by our present calendar that would give us 52 Sabbaths in a year plus 26 Sabbaths in the

following six months which gives us a total of 78 Sabbaths! Now let's add this to our present total:

### **Seventh Day - 85 | First day - 0**

So, we can see that the disciples observed the Sabbath and attended a Sabbath Service 85 times in the book of Acts alone! Again, the Seventh Day is called "The Sabbath" in this passage.

Nowhere in the Renewed / New Covenant writings will you find ANYONE (including Yahshua and His Apostles), ever changing the Seventh Day Sabbath to the first day of the week...neither before nor after His Resurrection. They ALL assembled on the Seventh Day Sabbath as instructed in Yahweh's Set-Apart (Holy) Written Word.

#### **QUESTION:**

Since it is obvious that Yahshua, the Apostles and even the Gentiles assembled on the Sabbath and not on the first day of the week, you have to ask yourself (just like I did) "Why do I assemble on the first day of the week?" IF I am WALKING in His footsteps and desiring to be OBEDIENT to His Written Word, then shouldn't I be DOING what He did? Shouldn't I observe the Sabbath the same as Yahshua, the Apostles and the Gentiles?

To believe or even entertain the idea or belief that the Sabbath is ONLY for the Yahudim (Jews), without one shred of Scriptural evidence, is proof of a strong delusion. Even the Gentiles came to the assembly on the Sabbath as previously noted above in Acts 13:42.

Keeping Yahweh's Sabbath is His "MARK" upon those who are His obedient children. That being said, whose mark is Sun-god-day? Currently, He has many disobedient children, but The Day IS coming when EVERYONE will keep His Sabbath. No exceptions! Don't you think it would be a good thing to start keeping His Sabbath and obeying His Word before THAT DAY arrives?

Those who are obedient to keeping His Sabbaths ARE BLESSED. By "Sabbaths," I am speaking of the weekly Sabbath as well as Yahweh's other Appointed Times—His Feast Days.

**Choose you this day whom you will serve – Yahweh  
wants obedient children.**

**If you love Him, keep His Sabbaths!**

This concludes the portion of "[\*Let Yeshua ROCK Your World\*](#)" written by my sister in Yeshua Murline Miles. I encourage everyone to get her book.

Check out these videos:

1. [Should Christians Keep the Sabbath? Jim Staley \(Entire Message\)](#)
2. [The Sabbath Day 119 Ministries](#)

## YAHWEH'S HOLY SABBATH

Does Almighty Yahweh Require Sabbath Observance?

We need to stop and ask ourselves these questions:

1. Does Yahweh require Christians to keep the Sabbath?
2. Or has the Sabbath been abolished under the terms of the New Covenant?
3. Does it really matter which day one chooses to keep holy?
4. Can you play golf, go to the movies, go grocery shopping, mall shopping on the Sabbath or go to the office for just a few hours without violating the Sabbath Law which is Yahweh's Teachings and Instructions?
5. Are people who keep the Sabbath considered legalists?
6. How important is the Sabbath to Yahweh?

### So, Who's Opinion Matters?

Muslims observe Friday, religious Jews observe Saturday and most professing Christians observe Sunday. Some people keep whatever day THEY choose as their Sabbath. Is it acceptable in Yahweh's eyes for people to take to one's self the authority to make a day, any day, holy? Truth more often flies out the window when it is overcome by man's reasoning. Yahweh's Truth IS Absolute Truth and His Truth about the Sabbath may surprise you! His Truth is, Yeshua/Jesus and the entire First Century Assembly kept the seventh-day Sabbath...they did not keep Sunday...they kept the Saturday Sabbath! Nowhere in all the New Testament will we find one single verse where anyone kept Sunday as the Sabbath. In fact, Yeshua/Jesus and His true Apostles never taught anyone to observe Sunday as the Sabbath of Almighty Yahweh!

The fact that early New Testament Believers in Yeshua/Jesus were seventh day Sabbath keepers is a biblical and historical fact. This "*fact*" is not even disputed by the Roman Catholic Church which is the largest Church in the World. Still, people tirelessly argue about the Sabbath observance. Is the New Testament Sabbath Saturday or Sunday? Can you work on the Sabbath? Can you play at sports and watch TV on the Sabbath? Can you go shopping on the Sabbath? Can you go to the movies on the Sabbath? Can you keep any day you choose "*holy*" so long as you observe one day in seven as a Sabbath?

The "*only*" source that can be considered authoritative enough to settle these questions is Yahweh's Absolute Written Word — the Set-Apart/HOLY Bible. We will take an

honest look at the Word of Yahweh to see what His thinking is on the subject of Sabbath observance. Yahweh's Word will tell us what He thinks about it and we will keep our human reasoning in check as we seek to understand this vital subject. So now, let's take an unbiased look at what the Bible says concerning the question of Sabbath observance.

## Yeshua/Jesus Kept the Sabbath

If you believe Yeshua/Jesus is your Savior, then all that really matters to you is what He believes and says about Sabbath observance. After all are, we not supposed to be walking/doing those things He did when He was here? Mans' "opinion" on this matter carries "no weight" whatsoever. What will be foremost in your mind is the example Yeshua/Jesus set for us and not the example of others; unless, of course, their example follows after Yeshua/Jesus.



So now we must ask ourselves this question, "What day did Yeshua keep as the Sabbath and did He ever teach that the Sabbath was done away?" After all, He IS our example. Our action, what we do, reveals what we actually believe. This was true of Yeshua. We can see from His actions what day He sanctified for Sabbath observance when we look at Luke Chapter 4:

**"So He [Yeshua/Jesus] came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and as was His custom, He entered the synagogue on the Sabbath [day], and stood up to read."**

(Luke 4:16, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

The Bible clearly shows us that Yeshua's custom was to observe the Sabbath, attending services in the synagogue. He did this on the seventh day of the week...on Saturday...while in a synagogue, rising up to read a passage from the book of Isaiah (Isaiah 61:1-2a – Yeshua stopped reading in the middle of Isaiah 61:2 since His first coming He preached only the "acceptable year of the LORD" [vs. 19]. The "day of vengeance of our God" [Isaiah 61:2b] was and is reserved for His second coming. Long-suffering and the stake/cross are associated with His first coming; judgment and a crown are associated with His second coming.). It was a message about setting people at liberty from bondage and the consequences of sin. If Yeshua's desire had been to do away with the Sabbath, this would have been an opportune time to do so. Now let's see if He told the people they no longer needed to keep the Sabbath:

**"18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me (the Messiah), Because He [Yahweh, His Father] has anointed Me [Yeshua] to preach the good news**

to the poor. **He has sent Me to announce release** (pardon, forgiveness) **to the captives, And recovery of sight to the blind, To set free those who are oppressed** (downtrodden, bruised, crushed by tragedy),

**19 to proclaim the favorable year of the Lord** [the day when salvation and the favor of God abound greatly].” ”

(Luke 4:18-19, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

After reading this passage, Yeshua returned the scroll to the rabbi and He sat down. He did not mention anything about changing the Sabbath or annulling the Sabbath command.

If Yeshua had determined to do away with the Fourth Commandment (Keeping the Sabbath) there would have been an **identifying sign** given by the Jewish people. There would have been something written in the Scriptures somewhere. The plain truth is that you can search all the gospel accounts and you will NEVER find where Yeshua said: “You do not have to keep the Sabbath anymore;” or “The Sabbath commandment will be nailed to the cross when I die;” or “After My death you may change the Sabbath from the seventh day of the week to the first day of the week or to any day YOU choose.” It never happened.

### **Is Yeshua Our Sabbath Rest?**

Many self-proclaiming Christians believe Yeshua is somehow a replacement for the Sabbath, that He is our “Sabbath rest.” But nowhere can it be found in Scripture that says Yeshua replaced the Sabbath with anything...especially Himself. This doctrine/teaching that Yeshua is our Sabbath Rest is a man-made teaching and it does not come from His Absolute Written Word. This teaching falls under the category as *“false teachings – traditions of men.”*

For sure Yeshua had MANY opportunities to teach that the seventh-day Sabbath had been done away. Instead, He **emphatically** stated that He was *“Lord of the Sabbath”* (Luke 6:5). His statement confirms that the Sabbath was and still is in force. A good question to ask is *“How could He be the Lord of the Sabbath, if He was doing away with the Sabbath?”* This is all the more reason why we should **be diligent to study His Word** and **follow His Teachings and Instructions** rather than man-made teachings.

### **Did Yeshua Change His Father’s Law?**

Many see Yahweh the Father as a harsh, unforgiving, nit-picking God. Yet His Son, Yeshua, is seen as being gentle, forgiving and tolerant. The Bible tells us that Yeshua and

the Father are the same in character and behavior. One is not harsh and the other gentle. Both the Father and the Son are perfectly balanced in their character. They manifest high standards like forgiveness, love and firmness. They are consistent in character and purpose.

In the book of Malachi Yahweh says, “*For I am the Lord, I do not change*” (Malachi 3:6). Would Yahweh proclaim His Commandments in Exodus Chapter 20 only to do away with them later? Is Yahweh fickle like a human? Absolutely not! With Yahweh there is no double-mindedness, no “*shadow of turning*” (James 1:17). Yahweh is our perfect example of consistency: His character does not change. The Ten Commandments, including the Sabbath, are immutable! Yeshua said to Philip:

“**9** Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you for so long a time, and you do not know Me yet, Philip, *nor* recognize clearly who I am? Anyone who has seen Me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’ **10** Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? **The words I say to you I do not say on My own initiative or authority, but the Father, abiding continually in Me, does His works** [His attesting miracles and acts of power].” ”

(John 14:9-10, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comment added)

Yeshua and the Father are one (Hebrew: *echad*) in character and purpose. Yeshua did not come to do away with His Father’s Commandments! He came to MAGNIFY the Law (Yahweh’s Teachings and Instructions) of His Father. He taught the True intent of the Law. He taught that we should keep the Law physically and SPIRITUALLY. This teaching applied to the Sabbath Day. Yeshua said, “*...as My Father taught Me, I speak these things*” (John 8:28). He did not teach a different set of laws that opposed the teachings of His Father. When a rich young ruler came to Yeshua, he asked:

“**16** And someone came to Him [Yeshua] and said, “Teacher, what [essentially] good thing shall I do to obtain eternal life [that is, eternal salvation in the Messiah’s kingdom]?” **17** Jesus answered, “Why are you asking Me about what is [essentially] good? There is *only* One who is [essentially] good; but **if you wish to enter into eternal life, keep the commandments.**” ”

(Matthew 19:16-17, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Yeshua “*plainly*” stated that those who will be given eternal life must strive to keep the commandments of His Father, all of them. It doesn’t mean that we keep them perfectly but rather that we are **striving** to keep them to the best of our understanding as we seek Him for His Guidance in all things. Also, we need to keep in mind here that the New Testament was not written when He was here. So, what Bible was He using? None other

than the Old Testament. If it had been done away with, then He would have not quoted it.

## Who is our Savior – Yeshua or the Law?

None of the Laws of Yahweh can save you. Only Yeshua fulfills the role of Savior. Does that mean we are now free to break the Law/Torah, including the Sabbath Law? Yahweh forbid! Yeshua said, “*one jot or one tittle will BY NO MEANS pass from the law*” (Matthew 5:18). It is true that we are under grace if we have repented of our sins and accepted Yeshua/Jesus as our personal Savior but grace does not give us permission/license to break Yahweh’s Law’s/Torah. Paul asserts that faith does not abolish the Law/Torah:

“**Do we then nullify the Law by this faith** [making the Law of no effect, overthrowing it]? **Certainly not! On the contrary, we confirm and establish and uphold the Law** [since it convicts us all of sin, pointing to the need for salvation].”

(Romans 3:31, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Some 50 years after Yeshua ascended into heaven, the Apostle John upheld the Law/Torah of Yahweh as a standard of right conduct. He said,

“**For the [true] love of God is this: that we habitually keep His commandments and remain focused on His precepts. And His commandments and His precepts are not difficult** [to obey].”

(1 John 5:3, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

So, why would Yahweh, Who IS perfect, give us a Law/Instruction that men have generally come to believe is burdensome? It is also said by some Christians that those who keep the “Law” are in bondage. What they fail to understand is when Yeshua comes back, He will **require** people to keep/obey His Teachings and Instructions also known as the “Torah” or suffer the consequences while He is on earth Ruling and Reigning from Jerusalem during the Millennium. So, for those who have this mindset of keeping the “Law” is bondage, they will be in bondage for 1,000 years while Yeshua is here on earth. **It is better to be divided by Truth than united with error.** To keep/obey Yahweh’s Laws is not a burden but freedom from bondage.

## Is the Sabbath a Yoke of Bondage?

Yahweh loves mankind – His Creation! He gave us the seventh-day Sabbath for a much-needed day of rest from our labors. To rest is not a burden; rest is pleasurable and restorative. This has been scientifically proven. There is another and even more

important purpose of the Sabbath; it gives true believers in Yeshua/Jesus, the opportunity to worship Yahweh as a family/assembly. The Sabbath is intended to be a delight. In Isaiah Chapter 58, we are told:

**“If you turn back your foot from [unnecessary {The ancient rabbis established strict limits for travel on the Sabbath, excepting unintentional violations and religious errands. This verse became a rabbinic proof text to rule on whether a person who had put one foot beyond the Sabbath limit for his city could reenter the city. But the Hebrew text may not refer to travel at all; turn back your foot from the Sabbath can be interpreted as an idiom referring to keeping oneself from violating the Sabbath in other ways.} travel on] the Sabbath, From doing your own pleasure on My holy day, And call the Sabbath a [spiritual] delight, and the holy day of the Lord [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] honorable, And honor it, not going your own way Or engaging [Literally, *finding*.] in your own pleasure Or speaking your own [idle] words,”**

(Isaiah 58:13, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Many students of the Bible do not realize that it was Sabbath breaking, along with committing idolatry, which caused Yahweh to punish Israel and Judah with war, pestilence, famine and captivity. Yahweh took Sabbath breaking very seriously; so should all of us! The lessons of ancient Israel are not just antiquated stories that have no meaning for us today. What happened to them was written down as a warning for New Testament Christians. Paul makes this very clear in 1 Corinthians:

**“Now these things happened to them as an example and warning [to us]; they were written for our instruction [to admonish and equip us], upon whom the ends of the ages have come.”**

(1 Corinthians 10:11, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

We are wise to “heed” the lessons of why ancient Israel and Judah were punished by Yahweh.

## **The Scribes and Pharisees Distort Sabbath Observance**

In Yeshua’s day the scribes and Pharisees made the Sabbath a burden by imposing *their* MAN-MADE rules on the people. They rebuked Him and His disciples for walking through a field of grain, plucking grain to eat on the Sabbath. Yeshua pointed out to His accusers that David and his men, when fleeing from Saul, ate bread that was only given to the priests to eat. Yeshua said David and his men were blameless in their actions

(Matthew 12:1-8). Why were they blameless? It was because, in such unusual situations, Yahweh's mercy trumps the ceremonial Law. That is why Yeshua said:

**“7 And if you had only known what this statement means, ‘I desire compassion [for those in distress], and [I.e., more than.] not [animal] sacrifice,’ you would not have condemned the innocent.**

### **Lord of the Sabbath**

**8 For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.”**

(Matthew 12:7-8, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

The legalistic approach to keeping the Sabbath that was promulgated by the Pharisees made the Sabbath oppressive, something Yahweh never intended then nor today.

Yeshua rebuked them for teaching the doctrines/dogmas and commandments of men, and for their distorting the True intention of the Law/Torah:

**“They worship Me in vain [their worship is meaningless and worthless, a pretense], Teaching the precepts of men as doctrines [giving their traditions equal weight with the Scriptures].”**

(Mark 7:7, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

The traditions of the elders had clashed with the very Laws given to them by their Creator, their Mighty One/God. Yeshua confronted the Pharisees regarding their perverting of the Sabbath Law; then, He restored the True meaning of the Sabbath. He made it clear how the Sabbath was to be kept: He did NOT do away with the Sabbath.

Yahweh's Sabbath remains permanent; just as the heavens and the earth remain permanent. Yeshua said,

**“17 “Do not think that I came to do away with or undo the Law [of Moses which is the Torah] or the [writings of the] Prophets; I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. 18 For I assure you and most solemnly say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke [of the pen] will pass from the Law until all things [which it foreshadows] are accomplished. 19 So whoever breaks one of the least [important] of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least [important] in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever practices (keeps/obeys) and teaches them, he will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.” ”**

(Matthew 5:17-19, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

There is a definite reward for those who continue to obey/keep and teach the observance of the seventh-day Sabbath!

## **Who Changed the Sabbath to Sunday?**

If Yeshua never changed the Sabbath, who did? Did Yahweh give someone the authority to change the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday? Many would say the Sabbath is still in effect but that it was changed from the seventh day of the week to the first day of the week -- Sunday. The vast majority of Christian churches teach the observance of a Sunday Sabbath. How did this happen? History plainly reveals to us that it happened many years after the death of the Apostles when a newly emerging, politically motivated, apostate religious system attacked the seventh-day Sabbath, changing the Sabbath to Sunday. We know from all the New Testament Scriptures that Yeshua kept the seventh-day Sabbath; the Apostles kept the seventh-day Sabbath and the New Testament Assembly kept the seventh-day Sabbath. It was not until the third century after the death of Yeshua that Emperor Constantine convened the Council of Nicaea in order to work toward abolishing the Saturday Sabbath. The Catholic AND her Protestant-daughter churches recognize that the New Testament Church kept the seventh-day Sabbath.

Notice what mainstream churches teach concerning changing the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday.

## **Why Do Protestants Keep the Sabbath [Sunday]?**

So why do Protestants keep the Sabbath [Sunday]? They do so because their mother church -- the Roman Catholic Church -- changed the Sabbath Saturday to Sunday. The change from the seventh-day Sabbath to the Sunday Sabbath occurred long after the writing of the New Testament. There is no clear reference to Sunday observance occurring in writing until 135 C.E.!

## **The New Testament Church Kept the Sabbath**

If Yeshua/Jesus wanted the Sabbath to be changed from Saturday to Sunday, then He surely would have provided evidence of such a change in the New Testament Scriptures. Abolishing or changing one of Yahweh's Commandments is a very serious matter! Such a change would clearly appear in a multitude of passages in the New Testament and such radical changes in Yahweh's Word would be made crystal clear. If the Apostles had abolished the Sabbath Law, they would have supported their decision with an abundance of Scriptures that demonstrated their authority to make such changes. But there are no such Scriptures that speak of altering Yahweh's Law. Instead, the Bible affirms the Sabbath doctrine and it teaches people how to keep the spirit of the Law as well as the letter of the Law.

## Paul's Custom

Some will argue that the Apostle Paul taught that the Sabbath had been done away. But once again, there is no Scriptural proof Paul released the Church from keeping Yahweh's Holy Sabbath. Yahweh has never given any man, woman or religious organization the authority to make changes to His Absolute Written Word. To the contrary, Scripture tells us plainly that the Apostle Paul was a Sabbath keeper:

**“And Paul entered the synagogue, as was his custom** [Paul had earlier announced that he was turning to the Gentiles (13:46), but he nevertheless kept to his practice of speaking to Jews first while focusing primarily on Gentiles.], **and for three Sabbaths he engaged in discussion and friendly debate with them from the Scriptures,**”

(Acts 17:2, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comment added)

**“Now they went on from Perga and arrived at Antioch in Pisidia, and on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down.”**

(Acts 13:14, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis added)

**“and on the Sabbath day we went outside the city gate to the bank of the [Gangites] river, where we thought there would be a place** [Apparently there were not enough Jews living in Philippi to establish a synagogue.] **of prayer, and we sat down and began speaking to the women who had come there.”**

(Acts 16:13, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

**“And he [Paul] went into the synagogue and for three months spoke boldly, reasoning and arguing and persuading them about the kingdom of God.”**

(Acts 19:8, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

The meeting places most often mentioned in the book of Acts for Christian gatherings are the Temple (Acts 2:46), the synagogue (Acts 9:20), and private homes (Acts 5:42). Yahweh's church frequently met in these places on the Sabbath day. But still, many today will ask: *“But didn't the Resurrection of Yeshua/Jesus validate Sunday observance?”*

## Was the Resurrection on Sunday?

It is commonly *“assumed”* that Yeshua/Jesus died on Friday and that He was resurrected on Sunday morning. The reasoning used today follows that we should now keep the Sabbath on Sunday in honor of His resurrection. It may be shocking for many

Christians to learn that this conclusion is not supported in the New Testament record! In fact, none of the Apostles, including the Apostle Paul, taught that the celebration of the Sabbath was to take place on the first day of the week because of a Sunday resurrection. This reasoning, however sincere it may be, is unscriptural.

To better understand this, it is important to realize that Yeshua said the only sign (supernatural proof if you will) He would give to confirm that He was the Messiah was that He would be three days and three nights in the grave. Yeshua said,

**“39 But He [Yeshua] replied and said to them, “An evil and adulterous generation [that is morally unfaithful to God] craves and demands a [miraculous] sign; but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah; 40 for just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the sea monster, so will the Son of Man be THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS in the heart of the earth.”**

(Matthew 12:39-40, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Can we know for certain, or must we speculate/assume how many hours make up a day and how many hours make up a night? Does the Bible leave this definition open to debate? Yeshua said He would be in the heart of the earth for a specific period of time. Did He fulfill that time period? Jonah 1:17 plainly states: *“And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.”* The Old Testament was written in Hebrew. Scholars acknowledge the phrase *“three days and three nights”* translated from the Hebrew language means a period of seventy-two hours. The Hebrew language does not allow you to waffle, declaring three days and three nights to be a shorter period of time. A day had twelve hours, and a night had twelve hours. For Yeshua to be in the tomb three days and three nights, He had, according to the Hebrew, to be in the tomb a full seventy-two hours. Yeshua, Himself, was quoted as saying:

**“9 Jesus answered, “Are there not TWELVE HOURS [of light] in the day? Anyone who walks in the daytime does not stumble, because he sees [by] the light of this world. 10 But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because there is no light in him.”**”

(John 11:9-10, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

There is a Hebrew idiom where if someone says “three days” that it can mean a partial day is included in the three days rather than a full three days. However, when the term *“three days and three nights”* is used, the Hebrew idiom does not apply. It is clearly understood that they are talking about a full seventy-two hours.

## 72 Hours in the Tomb

As it has already been mentioned, it is commonly supposed that Yeshua/Jesus was crucified on a Friday and His resurrection from the dead occurred at sunrise on “Easter” Sunday. We need to stop here for a moment! There is something wrong with this picture. It is impossible to squeeze three days and three nights into the timeframe from a Friday afternoon death to a Sunday morning resurrection. Let’s look at what the Apostle Mark has to say:

“And He [Yeshua] began to teach them that the Son of Man must [of necessity] suffer many things and be rejected [as the Messiah] by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and must be put to death, and **AFTER THREE DAYS** rise [from death to life].”

(Mark 8:31, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

If Yeshua was not in the grave for three full days and three full nights, He would have contradicted the only sign He gave His followers that He was the Messiah. So, we have to ask the question: “*Do you believe what Yeshua said?*” or “*Do you believe what your church has taught you?*”

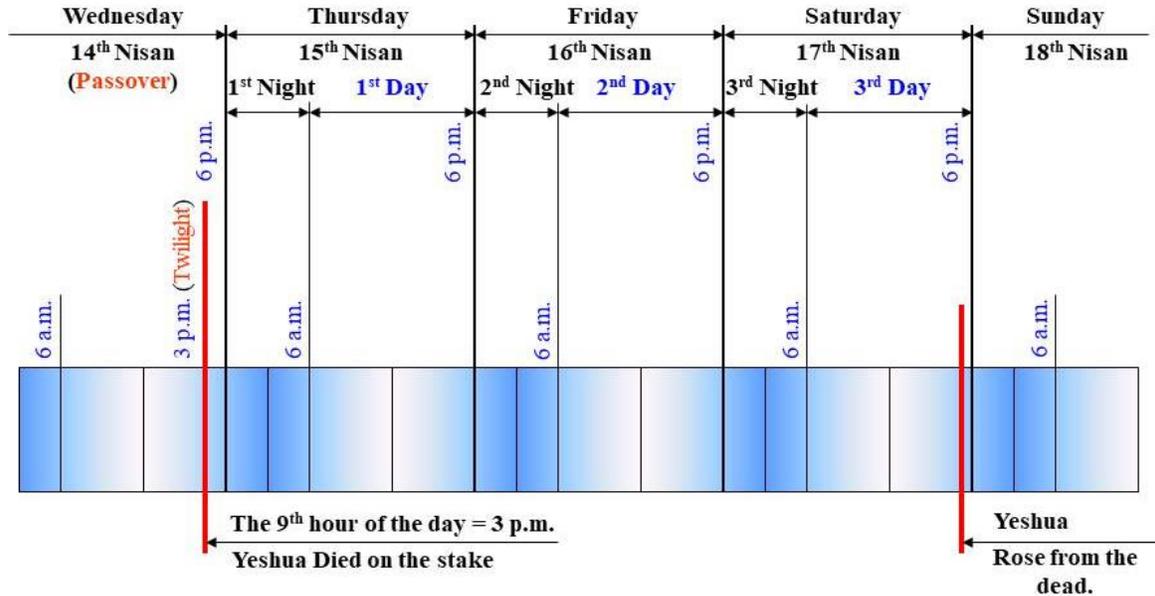
If Yeshua had been killed on a Friday afternoon before sunset and counting three full days and three full nights, He would have risen from the grave on a Monday in the late afternoon. I encourage everyone to read their Bible! Using the process of counting, there is absolutely no way you can squeeze three days and three nights between Friday afternoon and Sunday morning. As stated above, Yeshua said, “**Are there not TWELVE HOURS** [of light] **in the day?... But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles**” (John 11:9-10). Three days (3 x 12 hours) is 36 hours. Three nights (3 x 12 hours) is 36 hours. When you add up three days and three nights you get 72 hours or three complete twenty-four-hour days. One more bit of evidence that Yeshua was in the grave the full length of time (72 hours -- three days and three nights) is found in 1 Corinthians Chapter 15:

“**3** For I passed on to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to [that which] the Scriptures [foretold], **4** and that He [Yeshua] **was buried, and that He was** [bodily] **raised on the third day according to** [that which] **the Scriptures** [foretold],”

(1 Corinthians 15:3-4, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

A late Wednesday afternoon crucifixion and a late day Saturday resurrection fit the biblical narrative, perfectly. The chart below will visually assist you in understanding the timing of His death, burial and resurrection.

## Biblical Understanding of Yeshua's Death, Burial and Resurrection



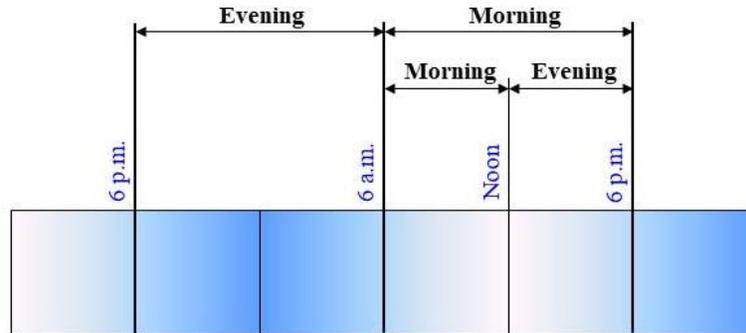
### Crucified in the Middle of the Week

The Bible teaches us plainly that the crucifixion occurred on the *preparation day* before the Sabbath (Matthew 27:62; Mark 15:42). This is where so many people become confused.

The Sabbath spoken of in this context was **NOT** a weekly Saturday Sabbath. It was an annual festival Sabbath [a High Day, (see John 19:31)]. Jews will tell you that there are special days (Sabbaths), to be observed on an annual basis (see Leviticus Chapter 23). These annual days were also called Sabbaths (Leviticus 16:31; Leviticus 23:24, 26-32, 39). The preparation day for this High Sabbath fell on a Wednesday -- the middle of the week -- that year. Yeshua's body was taken down from the stake by Joseph of Arimathea and placed in a tomb...BEFORE Thursday...the High Sabbath Day...began. Please look at the chart below to understand what a Biblical day starts and ends looks like. This is "key" to understanding the timing of Yeshua's death, burial and resurrection.

## The Biblical Day

The biblical day goes from evening to evening, from sundown to sundown, which is roughly 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Genesis 1:5, 8, 13, 19, 23, 31). The day (6:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.) is divided into two 12-hour periods. The evening runs from 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. The morning runs from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Each 12-hour period is divided into two smaller portions. From 6:00 a.m. to noon is the morning part of the day. From noon to 6:00 p.m. is the evening part of the day. The phrase, “between the evening” from Exodus 12:6 refers to the period of the day that goes from noon to 6:00 p.m., which is exactly 3:00 p.m. This would be the ninth hour of the day, counting from 6:00 a.m.



For most of the next three days, Yeshua was in the grave all day Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Then, late in the day of the weekly Sabbath, just before sunset (the time when days end and begin in the Bible) on the regular weekly Sabbath (Saturday), Yeshua came out of His grave. His mission was accomplished. He spent three full days and three full nights in the “*heart of the earth*” (Matthew 12:40), just as He had foretold (Mark 9:31 and John 2:19-21). The Easter myth of a Sunday resurrection collapses in light of these “*facts.*” As further proof of this, it is worthwhile to take a look at the actions of those who were close to Yeshua and wanted to make sure of His proper burial.

According to Mark 15:47, Mary Magdalene and another woman named Mary observed where Joseph of Arimathea laid the body of Yeshua. It was Wednesday and Joseph had gone to Pontius Pilate and asked for the body of Yeshua; then he purchased fine linen, wrapped Yeshua’s body in the linen and placed the body in the tomb, closing it over with a very large stone. All this had to be done before the start of the annual Festival Sabbath – not the weekly Sabbath. The women observed where the body was laid, then left. It was close to sunset and the annual Festival Sabbath was about to begin. In Mark 16:1, we learn that Mary Magdalene did not buy spices to anoint Yeshua’s body until after the High Day (annual Festival Sabbath) had passed. The annual Festival Sabbath mentioned above is the first day of Unleavened Bread. This is a High Sabbath and no work is to be done on this day. Also the last day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread is also a High Sabbath. The Feast of Unleavened Bread is seven days long. You can learn more about the Feast of Yahweh in Leviticus chapter 23. As a side note here, these Feasts are not the

Feast of the Jews as is sometimes taught in Christianity. These Feast (Hebrew: *Mo'edim*) are Yahweh's Feast (See Leviticus 23:2.)

After the annual Sabbath had ended (which had lasted from Wednesday sunset until Thursday sunset), Mary bought and prepared the spices. She did this on Friday, the preparation day for the regular weekly Sabbath. Then she rested on the weekly Sabbath, Saturday, according to the commandment.

### **Not a Sunday Morning Resurrection!**

If you take a careful look at the events of Mark Chapter 16, you will find that Mary Magdalene, along with some other women, arrived at Yeshua's tomb "**AS the sun was rising**, (see Mark 16:2, KJV)" "**When it was yet dark**" (see John 20:1) on Sunday morning, only to find Yeshua's Body was not there. He had ALREADY risen, and an angel, sitting in the tomb, told them He was not there. The very large stone that covered the entrance to the tomb had already been rolled away! The body of Yeshua was gone (Mark 16:6; Matthew 28:5-6). His resurrection from the dead had taken place, as explained earlier, as the seventh-day Sabbath was coming to its close.

A change from Sabbath to Sunday worship cannot be justified by these events. Unfortunately, most Christians do not understand the sequence of events leading up to and following the resurrection because they forget that Yeshua and the disciples kept the annual Sabbaths (Leviticus Chapter 23) as well as the weekly Sabbath (Luke 4:16). A comparison of Luke 23:56 with John 19:31 shows us that there were two Sabbaths that week -- an annual Sabbath [The High Day (Leviticus 23:6-7)] which fell on a Thursday and a weekly Saturday Sabbath. There is nothing in any of these accounts to warrant a change of Sabbath keeping from Saturday to Sunday.

### **Did Paul Keep the Law/Torah?**

Many ministers in this world persist in their argument, saying Paul taught the Sabbath was part of the ceremonial law that was nailed to the cross. Such a conclusion is a distortion of the Truth! Two decades after the death of Yeshua, Paul said:

**"For it is not those who merely hear the Law** [as it is read aloud] **who are just** *or* **righteous before God, but it is those who** [actually] **obey the Law who will be justified** [pronounced free of the guilt of sin and declared acceptable to Him. Because of one's personal faith in Jesus Christ as Savior, God graciously credits His righteousness to the believer. Justification denotes a legal standing with God as designated only by God. God declares a believer to be acquitted or innocent, then designates the believer to be brought into right standing before Him.]"

(Romans 2:13, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

The Apostle Paul taught Gentile Christians it was their duty to keep the commandments of Yahweh. We read in 1 Corinthians 7:19 where Paul tells the members at Corinth (remember Corinth was a predominately Gentile church) “Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but *what matters is keeping the commandments of God.*”

Paul upheld the Law/Torah as a standard of right conduct, saying: “So then, the Law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.” (Romans 7:12). In verse 22 of the same chapter Paul says, “For I joyfully delight in the law of God in my inner self [with my new nature],”

Those who rush to the conclusion that faith in Yeshua annuls the Law are making a grave mistake. Faith in the sacrifice of Yeshua is of the utmost importance but that faith does not abolish the Law of Yahweh. Paul is very clear about the need to keep the Law/Torah, as we continue to live by faith:

“**Do we then nullify the Law by this faith** [making the Law of no effect, overthrowing it]? **Certainly not! On the contrary, we confirm and establish and uphold the Law** [since it convicts us all of sin, pointing to the need for salvation].”

(Romans 3:31, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

In Acts Chapter 21, Paul was greeted by James and the other elders as he came to visit the Jerusalem church. He was accused by non-Christian Jews of teaching against circumcision and the customs of the Jews, James and the elders at Jerusalem encouraged Paul to pay for four men who were just completing the term of their vow. This was done so that the Jews outside the Church would see that Paul walked orderly, and that he kept the Law. James and the elders would not have asked Paul to do something that was hypocritical. Paul did not pretend to keep the Law just to please the Jews. Paul actually kept Yahweh’s Law/Torah in the letter and in the spirit.

Notice this fact as it is revealed in Acts Chapter 21:

“**21** Now they have been told about you [Paul], that you are teaching all the Jews who are *living* among the Gentiles to turn away from [the Law of] Moses, advising them not to circumcise their children or to live according to the [Mosaic] customs. **22** What then should be done? They will certainly hear that you have arrived. **23** Therefore do just what we tell you. We have four men who have taken a vow; **24** take these men and purify yourself along with them, and pay their expenses [for the temple offerings] so that they may shave their heads. Then everyone will know that there is nothing to the things they have been told about you, but that you yourself also follow and **KEEP THE LAW.**”

(Acts 21:21-24, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

## The Jews Never Accused Paul of Breaking the Sabbath

In Acts Chapter 24, we find Paul defending himself before the Roman governor Felix. Many Jews were angry about Paul teaching that Gentiles did not need to be circumcised to receive salvation but they NEVER accused Paul of breaking the Sabbath. Take notice of this important point, it is CRUCIAL!

When defending himself before Felix, Paul stated:

“But I confess this to you, that according to the Way, which they call a [divisive and heretical] sect, **I do worship and serve the God of our fathers**, [confidently] **believing everything that is in accordance with the Law** [of Moses] **and that is written in the Prophets;**”

(Acts 24:14, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

The Law and the Prophets taught seventh-day Sabbath observance. Paul believed that the seventh-day Sabbath was binding on all Christians, Jews and Gentiles alike.

### Is the Sabbath for the Jews Only?

Now we come to a common misconception. Many believe the Sabbath and the annual Sabbaths (or High Holy Days) are Jewish, to be kept by the Jews only. This reasoning concludes with the notion that since many Christians are Gentiles, they do not need to keep the Sabbath. This type of thinking and teaching in the Christian churches is in error!

Yeshua/Jesus claimed He was...

“**27 Jesus said to them, “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. 28 So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath** [and He has authority over it].” ”

(Mark 2:27-28, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Notice what Yeshua did NOT say. He did **not** say,

1. “The Sabbath was made *only* for the Jews.”
2. “The Sabbath will be voided after I die.”
3. “The Sabbath can be kept on any day a person chooses.”

Instead, He said: “**The Sabbath was made FOR MAN.**”

In Leviticus Chapter 23, Yahweh inspired Moses to write about the Feasts of Yahweh. Notice, He does not call them the Feasts of the Jews or the Feasts of the Israelites but rather the Feasts of Yahweh:

“Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, ‘The appointed times (established feasts) of the Lord [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] which you shall proclaim as holy convocations—**My appointed times are these:**”

(Leviticus 23:2, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Yahweh calls them, **MY Feasts**. They belong to Him! They were made for man but they belong to Him. They do not belong only to the Jews. In verse 3 of Leviticus Chapter 23, the first Feast that Yahweh mentions is the weekly Sabbath. Yes, the Sabbath is a *Feast day*. It should be a time of rejoicing! It is Yahweh’s day. He owns that day, and He has designated it as HOLY/DEDICATED. On that day, we do not do our own pleasure. It is a Divinely Appointed Time when we are to honor Yahweh (see Isaiah 58:13). By keeping the weekly Sabbath, we are honoring and acknowledging Yahweh as The Creator of all things.

### **Jews and Gentiles will keep the Sabbath**

Still, some will say that Gentiles do not need to observe the Sabbath. However, when Yeshua returns and He sets up His Father’s Kingdom here on earth, we are told that ALL flesh will worship Yahweh on the Sabbath:

“**“And it shall be that from New Moon to New Moon And from Sabbath to Sabbath, All mankind will come to bow down and worship before Me,”** says the Lord [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text].”

(Isaiah 66:23, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

“**All**” means everybody, both Jews and Gentiles – No Exceptions. What your church teaches or what your friends believe will be of no consequence to Him as you stand before Him to give account of your life:

“**11** For it is written [in Scripture],

“**As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me,  
And every tongue shall give praise to God.**”

**12** So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.”

(Romans 14:11-12, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

So, where will this take place? It will take place in the Millennial Temple where Yeshua will be seated on the Throne of David. The Temple doors will be opened on the weekly Sabbath and on the Annual Feast days of Yahweh.

## The Sabbath and the New Covenant

Some Christian Theologians argue that the weekly Sabbath has been abolished under the terms of what is called the New Covenant. This is a contradiction of what the Bible clearly says. The weekly Sabbath is one of the core commandments of Yahweh. And under the terms of the New Covenant, Yahweh actually writes His Commandments, including the Sabbath command, in our minds and on our hearts. Let's take a look at what the Bible says regarding the New Covenant:

**“For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel**

**After those days, says the Lord:**

**I will imprint My laws upon their minds** [even upon their innermost thoughts and understanding],

**And engrave them upon their hearts** [effecting their regeneration].

**And I will be their God,**

**And they shall be My people.”**

(Hebrews 8:10, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

This means that Yahweh's people will be given both a will and a desire to keep Yahweh's Laws/Torah. Under the New Covenant, the Ten Commandments do not change. There is, however, a change from the Old Covenant to the New Covenant concerning the Law. During the time of the Old Covenant, the Law/Torah of Yahweh was written on two tablets of stone and it was taught to the people (Deuteronomy 6:13). Under the terms of the New Covenant, the Laws are put in the minds and written on the hearts of Yahweh's people:

**“31 “Behold, the days are coming,” says the Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068** **YHWH** in the Hebrew text], **“when I will make a new covenant with the house** [The kingdom was united under David and his successor, Solomon, but split after Solomon's son, Rehoboam became king.] **of Israel** (the Northern Kingdom) **and with the house of Judah** (the Southern Kingdom),”

**33 “But this is the covenant which I [Yahweh] will make with the house of Israel after those days,” says the Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068** **YHWH** in the Hebrew text], **“I will put My law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they will be My people.” ”**

(Jeremiah 31:31 and 33, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

With these scriptures in mind, it is clear that the New Covenant includes the weekly Sabbath observance.

## **Sabbath Observance in the Kingdom of YAHWEH?**

Isaiah 66:22-23 describes the time in the future when Yahweh's Kingdom will be on this earth. Clearly, this passage informs us of what will take place in that coming Kingdom. Notice that the Sabbath will be the official day of worship in Yahweh's Kingdom:

**“22 “For just as the new heavens and the new earth Which I [Yahweh] make will remain and endure before Me,” declares the Lord [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text], “So your offspring and your name will remain and endure. 23 And it shall be that from New Moon to New Moon And from Sabbath to Sabbath, All mankind will come to bow down and worship before Me,” says the Lord [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text]. 24 “Then they will go forth and look Upon the dead bodies of the [rebellious] men Who have transgressed against Me; For their worm (maggot) will not die, And their fire will not go out; And they will be an abhorrence to all mankind.” ”**

(Isaiah 66:22-24, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Those people who are alive when Yeshua/Jesus Rules and Reigns from Jerusalem on the earth will come up to worship Him in Jerusalem on the weekly and annual Sabbaths. Speaking of the relationship Israel will have with Him, Yahweh says,

**“The people of the land shall also worship at the entrance of that gate [the inner court gateway of the newly built Temple] before the Lord [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] on the Sabbaths and on the New Moons.”**

(Ezekiel 46:3, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comment added)

Yahweh is consistent (Malachi 3:6). Moses kept the Sabbath, David observed the Sabbath, Nehemiah observed the Sabbath, Yeshua kept the Sabbath, Paul kept the Sabbath and the people in the Kingdom of Yahweh will also keep the seventh-day Sabbath. There is no escaping keeping His Sabbath in the future. Why wait. Start keeping His weekly Sabbath and His Feast Days described in Leviticus Chapter 23.

## Only YAHWEH Can Make a Day Set-Apart (Holy)

One argument some make regarding Sabbath observance is that Yahweh allows people to unilaterally decide what day they may keep holy to Him, whether that day is Saturday, Sunday, or even Wednesday.

I encourage you to open your Bible and read Genesis 2:2-3:

**“2 And by the seventh day God completed His work which He had done, and He rested (ceased) on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. 3 So God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it [as His own, that is, set it apart as holy from other days], because in it He rested from all His work which He had created and done.”**

Yahweh is our great Creator. He put His presence into the seventh day of the week, making ONLY that day Holy. To sanctify means to Set-Apart to Dedicate for Holy use. It is important to note here that at creation all the other days of the week were simply numbered: the first day, the second day, the third day, etc. Only the seventh day was given a special title (Exodus 20:8-11). It is the *SABBATH DAY*. It is actually blasphemous for humans to say that they can make a day -- or anything else -- holy, simply because they are Christians. Only Yahweh can make a day Holy, by putting His presence into THAT DAY.

## The Identity of the British and American People in Prophecy

It has been said, *“truth is stranger than fiction.”* Certainly, the truth of the identity of the British and American people (those of largely European descent) is an astounding story. If you have not read the free booklet titled [\*\*\*The United States and Britain in Prophecy\*\*\*](#), I recommend you click on the title to take you to the webpage to either read the booklet or download it to your computer. Historians refer to the House of Israel as the “LOST TEN TRIBES” of Israel. Secular history may have lost track of the tribes of Israel, as they were scattered into captivity but Yahweh never has lost track of His people. There are a great many studies and books done on the Lost Tribes of Israel. I encourage you to do your research into this exciting topic. Another great book to check out on this topic is [\*\*\*Who Are You America – Time To Lift Your Prophetic Veil\*\*\*](#) by Stephen J. Spykerman. I know Stephen and I have been working with him for a few years now helping him get his books published here in America. I am also his editor on this new and updated book. It is printed in full color and it is beautiful. You will WANT to buy this book.

The descendants of Yahweh’s people, Israel, are present in the world today. One simply has to **know** how to identify them. The Bible tells us regarding these people:

“For behold, I [Yahweh] am commanding, And I shall shake and sift the house of Israel among all nations [and cause it to tremble] Like grain is shaken in a sieve [removing the chaff], But not a kernel [of the faithful remnant] shall fall to the ground and be lost [from My sight].”

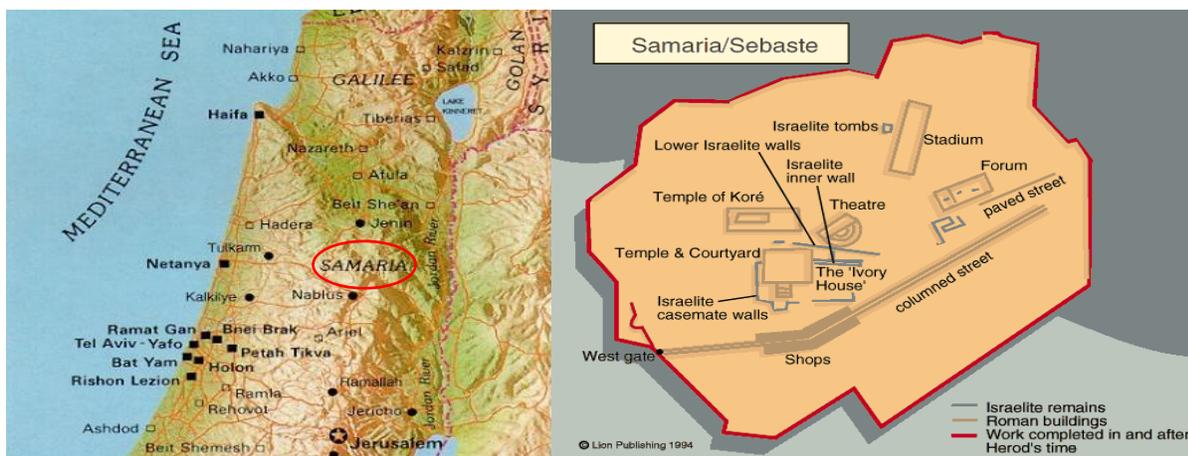
(Amos 9:9, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Please do not make the mistake most people make in **thinking** all Israelites are Jews because this simply is not the Truth. All Jews are Israelites BUT not all Israelites are Jews.

Now let’s briefly take a look at history to discover the Kingdom of Israel was split into two separate kingdoms, *THE HOUSE OF JUDAH* and *THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL*. After the death of King Solomon, the unified nation of Israel (composed of the 12 tribes of Israel) fractured. King Rehoboam, the son of Solomon, continued the high taxation policy of his father Solomon. Most of the tribes of Israel seceded over the matter of this high taxation. You may read the story of this secession in 1 Kings Chapter 12. You will notice that the House of Judah was on the verge of going to war against the House of Israel (1 Kings 12:21). The House of Israel and the house of Judah became two separate people.

### Not All Israelites Are from the Tribe of Judah

The Tribe of Judah, along with the tribes of Benjamin and Levi formed the nation called the HOUSE OF JUDAH. Their capital was Jerusalem. The other tribes -- Ephraim, Manasseh, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar, Zebulun, Reuben, and Simeon -- rebelled against the ruling House of Judah and they became known as the HOUSE OF ISRAEL. Their capital was the city of Samaria in the territory to the north of Judah.



## Sabbath Breaking Leads to National Captivity

History teaches us that Yahweh punished the House of Israel by the hand of their enemy, the Assyrian nation, from 721-718 B.C.E. The people of the northern kingdom of Israel (called the House of Israel) were either killed or deported into slavery (2 Kings 17:20-23). Historians call them the “*lost ten tribes of Israel*.” Between 604 and 585 B.C.E. the nation of Judah suffered captivity at the hands of the Babylonians. You will recall from the Bible that Daniel and the other Hebrew boys were a part of this captivity. Yahweh allowed this as chastisement for their sins. But, why did Yahweh allow such a terrible punishment to fall upon His people? The answer is very simple. It was because He was especially furious with them for their practicing of idolatry and their Sabbath breaking. These two sins, above all others, opened the door to all kinds of depravity and lawlessness/Torahlessness within the nations.

We read in Ezekiel Chapter 20 where Yahweh sent the nation of Israel into captivity because they broke His Sabbaths. The Sabbath of Yahweh is the “*sign*” Yahweh uses to identify Himself as the One and Only True Mighty One/God.

The Sabbath is also a “*sign*” that identifies who Yahweh’s people are. The Prophet Ezekiel was inspired to write:

“**12** Also I [Yahweh] gave them **My Sabbaths** [Weekly Sabbath and Feast Days] **TO BE A SIGN between Me and them**, that they might know [without any doubt] **that I am the Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] **who sanctifies them** (separates and sets them apart). **13** But the house of Israel rebelled against Me in the wilderness. They did not walk in My statutes and they despised *and* rejected My ordinances, which, if a man keeps, he will live; and **they greatly PROFANED MY SABBATHS. Then I decided to pour out My wrath on them** in the wilderness, to annihilate them.”

(Ezekiel 20:12-13, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Yahweh’s punishment for Sabbath breaking was to scatter Israel among the Gentiles and disperse them throughout the different countries (Ezekiel 20:21, 32). Yahweh obviously takes Sabbath observance *VERY seriously!* The so called, “*lost tribes of Israel*” ended up settling in what we know today as Northwest Europe, in countries such as Switzerland, Finland, Norway, Sweden, France, Holland, Belgium and the British Isles. Many of the lost tribes of Israel reside in these western European countries to this day.

There are some who teach that the tribe of Ephraim migrated to the United States and others say it is the tribe of Manasseh that migrated to the United States. Both sides have good arguments to support their positions. As fantastic as this sounds, many of the ancestors of the American people were *sifted* through the nations over the centuries

(Amos 9:9) and they were finally placed by Yahweh in the country we call the United States. But what does this have to do with the Sabbath command?

## Will Yahweh Punish Again for Breaking His Sabbath?

Scripture repeatedly teaches us that shunning idolatry and Sabbath keeping were the two cardinal Commandments of Yahweh that Israel and Judah repeatedly broke over and over again. Yahweh's fury rose with Judah and Israel for their flagrant breaking of His Laws/Torah. Yahweh punished the nations with famine, pestilence, war and eventual captivity at the hands of their enemies. We would be wise to remember the examples of Ancient Israel were written in the Bible for our admonition in these latter days:

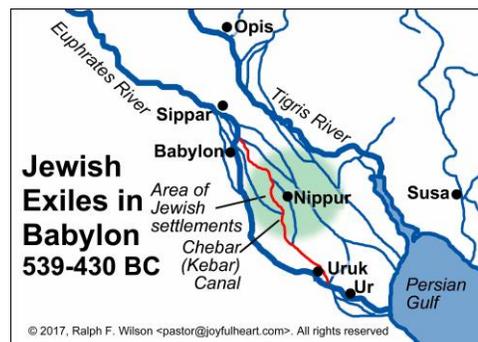
**“Now these things happened to them [the Israelites] as an example and warning [to us]; they were written for our instruction [to admonish and equip us], upon whom the ends of the ages have come.”**

(1 Corinthians 10:11, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Yahweh is warning all nations who **“claim”** they follow Him of what will happen if they do not keep His Laws/Torah. He warns them not to repeat the sins of Ancient Israel and Judah! The book of **Ezekiel shouts out a warning** for modern day Israel. Will we learn from the past mistakes of our ancient ancestors? If we repeat the sins of ancient Israel, Ezekiel tells us we shall also reap ancient Israel's fate -- NATIONAL SUFFERING AND CAPTIVITY! Could this possible be what is happening in America today (2020-2021)?

## Ezekiel Wrote for Us Today!

The Prophet Ezekiel was commissioned to “GO” to the House of Israel and deliver a message: “go, speak to the house of Israel,” Yahweh told him (Ezekiel 3:1). Ezekiel never physically took Yahweh's prophetic message to the House of Israel in his day. He could not leave Babylon because he was living in captivity in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar (Ezekiel 1:3). He did not have the freedom to travel to areas where the lost tribes of Israel had been dispersed. By the time Ezekiel wrote down Yahweh's message on parchment, the captive tribes of Israel had begun migrating from Assyria, traveling north and west across Europe. Remember, Ezekiel was in captivity in Babylon. Yet, he did deliver Yahweh's message to Israel. But how did he do it?



## A Message of Warning

We need to keep firmly in mind here that the northern tribes of Israel, not the House of Judah, had been taken into Assyrian captivity almost 130 years prior to when Ezekiel wrote down the words of Yahweh's prophecy. We must then ask the question, If Ezekiel was to go to the House of Israel (to the ten northern tribes that had been scattered in captivity), how could he carry out that commission if he was in captivity in Babylon? The answer is fascinating! Many of the prophecies regarding the House of Israel speak of a time when the people of Israel will go into captivity...future tense. Jeremiah confirms that Israel, in the end-time, will suffer greatly (See Jeremiah 30:1-12). What is so strange about these prophecies is that Israel had already gone into captivity nearly 130 years prior to the time Ezekiel and Jeremiah wrote them. Obviously, these men were speaking of a FUTURE CAPTIVITY *yet* to come upon the House of Israel.

Yahweh revealed to Ezekiel why he was angry with the ancient House of Israel:

**“13 But the house of Israel rebelled against Me in the wilderness. They did not walk in My statutes and they despised *and* rejected My ordinances, which, if a man keeps, he will live; and **they greatly profaned My Sabbaths**. Then I decided to pour out My wrath on them in the wilderness, to annihilate them.**

**16 because they rejected My ordinances, and as for My statutes, they did not walk in them; **they even profaned My Sabbaths**, for their heart continually went after their [worthless] idols.”**

(Ezekiel 20:13, 16, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comment added)

Because modern-day Israel will not stop stepping upon Yahweh's Holy Sabbath (and His other Righteous Laws/Teachings and Instructions) captivity will fall upon them -- the end-time descendants of the House of Israel which includes the British and American peoples.

## What the Sabbath Foreshadows

Sin and the consequences of sin plague our world today. When we keep the Sabbath, we look forward to a time when we will live in a better world -- a world without war, disease, crime, and broken families. The Sabbath, as a day of rest, pictures the soon-coming Kingdom of Yahweh that is often referred to by Yahweh's people today as *The Wonderful World of Tomorrow*. This period is likened to a rest that prophecies tell us will bring peace to this world (Hebrews 4:9; Isaiah 11:6-9).

The Sabbath reminds us of creation but it also pictures a New World, a time in the very near future, when the Laws of Yahweh will be enforced and respected...a time when the

knowledge of Yahweh will be taught throughout the earth: “**They will not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain, For the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] **As the waters cover the sea.**” (Isaiah 11:9). That’s one of the reasons Yahweh calls the Sabbath a delight and not a burden (See Isaiah 58:13). Without the Sabbath, you cannot understand the plan of Yahweh.

## **The Sabbath Identifies the True Mighty One/God**

The Sabbath Law is more than a physical Law. The Sabbath identifies Who the TRUE Mighty One/God is! Note that the Sabbath was a “**sign**” by which men might know Who Yahweh is:

“**But as for you, say to the Israelites, ‘You [Israel] shall most certainly observe My Sabbaths, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, so that you may know [without any doubt] and acknowledge that I am the Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] **who sanctifies you and sets you apart [for Myself].**”  
(Exodus 31:13, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

“**Also I gave them My Sabbaths to be a sign between Me and them, that they might know [without any doubt] that I am the Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] **who sanctifies them** (separates and sets them apart).”  
(Ezekiel 20:12, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

There was absolutely no question in the minds of the Jews in Yeshua’s day as to what day was the Sabbath. The Sabbath was not an arbitrary doctrine they could toss aside or change on a whim. Changing the Sabbath was tantamount to their worshipping another god. As we have seen, there is nothing in Scripture that states Yeshua/Jesus, Peter, Paul or the New Testament Assembly/Church changed the Sabbath to another day. It simply does not exist.

As has already been written in this teaching, such a change would have inflamed the Pharisees and Sadducees of Yeshua’s day! If there had been such a change, Scriptures would have stated that religious Jews persecuted Yahweh’s Church for changing the Sabbath to Sunday?

## **The Test Commandment**

Many fail to realize that the Sabbath was the “**test commandment**” of Yahweh. In Exodus Chapter 16, we see where Yahweh used the Sabbath command to test the children of Israel to see if they would obey Him:

“4 Then the Lord [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] said to Moses, “Behold, **I will cause bread to rain from heaven for you; the people shall go out and gather a day’s portion every day, so that I may test them** [to determine] **whether or not they will walk** [obediently] **in My instruction** (law). 5 **And it shall be that on the sixth day, they shall prepare to bring in twice as much as they gather daily** [so that they will not need to gather on the seventh day].” ”

(Exodus 16:4-5, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

The Israelites’ keeping of the Sabbath served as a *litmus test* to determine if they would be obedient to the other Laws of Yahweh:

“**that I may test them** [to determine] **whether or not they will walk** [obediently] **in My instruction**”

(Exodus 16:4, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Yahweh promised to provide manna six days of the week but the Israelites were to trust Him to provide enough manna the sixth day of the week to feed them on the seventh day also. This was a test of **faith** and **obedience**. Sadly, some of the people failed the test:

“**26 Six days you shall gather it** [manna], **but on the seventh day, the Sabbath, there will be none** [in the field].

**27 Now on the seventh day some of the people went out to gather, but they found none.** **28 Then the Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] **said to Moses, “How long do you** [people] **refuse to keep My commandments and My instructions** (laws)?”

(Exodus 16:26-28, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Yahweh clearly emphasized the importance of keeping His Sabbath on a weekly basis by giving them a double portion of manna on the sixth day of each week. He did not send manna on the seventh day of the week -- it was the day of rest.

## Conclusion

The Sabbath, as has been shown in this study was established by Yahweh from the time of creation and it is immutable. **The Sabbath identifies Who the True Mighty One/God is** and Who is Holy/Dedicated to Yahweh the Father and His Son, Yeshua! To change the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday would require a decree from Yahweh and no one else. If such a change *had* occurred during the New Testament period, it would have been made clear and it would have created a huge uproar among the Jews of

that day. However, there is absolutely no evidence whatsoever that the Sabbath was ever changed to Sunday. In fact, the early Christian church was considered by the Roman world to be just another sect of the Jews. The obvious identifying mark of the Jews was that they were Sabbath keepers. Both Jews and Christians kept the Sabbath.

Today, many sincere Christians believe that the resurrection of Yeshua/Jesus changed the Sabbath, Saturday, observance to a Sunday observance. When considering this, we must face the plain Truth that the Bible record does not reveal any change of the Sabbath but, in fact, it clearly shows Yeshua was resurrected on the Sabbath just before sunset, not on Sunday as it is commonly taught in Christianity. The complete absence of any debate over the keeping of the Sabbath in the New Testament is proof that the Christian church of the first century continued to observe the seventh-day Sabbath. While it can be said this is an argument from silence, the absence of reference to changing the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday is so profound, it speaks to the Truth that the Apostles never altered the Sabbath command. To do so would over-ride Yahweh's authority. Man has never been given this authority by Yahweh.

If you are a professing Christian, you believe that Yahweh's Truth is precious! What then will you do with this knowledge regarding His Sabbath? Will you be swayed by the world around you – by the modern-day practices of men? Or will you keep Yahweh's Sabbath at the time He has determined it should be kept? Yahweh rewards those who diligently seek Him (Hebrews 11:6). **The Sabbath is a test commandment.** If you choose to truly follow Yahweh by keeping His Sabbath Holy, He will reward you as He has and continues to bless me and my household in ways we could not have ever imagined!

## Questions, Comments and Answers

The following is a list of commonly asked questions and answers regarding Sabbath observance:

### QUESTION:

**I have always been taught that the law of God was done away after Christ died. If the law is done away, then the Sabbath is no longer in force. Isn't that True?**

### ANSWER:

The idea that the Law was somehow done away with in the New Testament is unscriptural. Yeshua/Jesus said: **“if you wish to enter into eternal life, keep the commandments.”** (Matthew 19:17). Yeshua observed the Sabbath (Luke 4:16, 31). The Apostle Paul said in Romans 7:12: **“So then, the Law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.”** This includes the Sabbath command.

The last book written in the New Testament, the book of Revelation in about 95 C.E., reveals that the Commandments of Yahweh, including the Sabbath, will be kept by Yahweh's True Church just before Yeshua's return. Read Revelation 14:12 where the saints of Yahweh are described as, "those who *habitually* keep God's commandments and their faith in Jesus." The Apostle John, at the end of his life, thus verified for us that the Commandments of Yahweh, including the Sabbath, were still in force. Yeshua also informs us that His disciples, at the end time, will be keeping the Sabbath.

Just before Yeshua returns, when armies are surrounding Jerusalem, He warns Christians: "Pray that your flight [from persecution and suffering] will not be in winter, or ON A SABBATH" (Matthew 24:20). Read it in your own Bible! Yeshua said, "Pray that your flight WILL NOT BE ... ON A SABBATH!" Yeshua was a seventh-day Sabbath keeper. He could only have been talking about the seventh day of the week -- the day we call Saturday. This proves that right at the very end of this present evil world, Yahweh's people will be keeping the Sabbath.

#### QUESTION:

**I understand that Christians need only keep the moral laws, such as do not kill and do not commit adultery. The Sabbath law was a physical and ceremonial law only, not a moral law. So, isn't it true that the Sabbath is no longer binding on Christians today?**

#### ANSWER:

Contrary to what many Christians believe, the Sabbath command is very much a MORAL Law and it is not just a physical law. Morality concerns itself with actions that are right and wrong. **The Ten Commandments define right from wrong** and the Sabbath is one of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:10). To work on the Sabbath is a sin. Sin is the violation of the Law of Yahweh (1 John 3:4) -- a transgression of Yahweh's standard of morality.

Six days of the week are common days but the seventh day of the week is Holy/Dedicated. That day is to be hallowed because Yahweh puts His presence in that Day and that day alone. We respect the Holiness of the Sabbath by not working on that day nor seeking our own pleasure -- like playing sports or going to the movies or going shopping. Instead, we are to spend that time honoring Yahweh in prayer, studying His Word and

worshipping Him collectively when we assemble on the Sabbath (Hebrews 10:25).

Honoring Yahweh is a moral issue! Breaking the Sabbath command is dishonoring Yahweh. Dishonoring our Heavenly Father by stepping on His Sabbath is a TERRIBLE breach of morality. Notice Yahweh's emphasis on the Holiness of His Sabbath: "**13 If you turn back your foot from** [unnecessary {The ancient rabbis established strict limits for travel on the Sabbath, excepting unintentional violations and religious errands. This verse became a rabbinic proof text to rule on whether a person who had put one foot beyond the Sabbath limit for his city could reenter the city. But the Hebrew text may not refer to travel at all; turn back your foot from the Sabbath can be interpreted as an idiom referring to keeping oneself from violating the Sabbath in other ways.} travel on] **the Sabbath, From doing your own pleasure on My holy day, And call the Sabbath a** [spiritual] **delight, and the holy day of the Lord** [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] **honorable, And honor it, not going your own way Or engaging** [Literally, *finding*.] **in your own pleasure Or speaking your own** [idle] **words, 14 Then you will take pleasure in the Lord, And I will make you ride on the high places of the earth, And I will feed you with the** [promised] **heritage of Jacob your father; For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.**" (Isaiah 58:13-14) The Promise of Yahweh is very clear. He will bless you for keeping His Sabbath Holy!

### QUESTION:

**Isn't keeping the Sabbath being legalistic, something Christ and the Apostles admonished us not to do?**

### ANSWER:

Yeshua was not a legalist. To Him, keeping the Sabbath was not an act of legalism (Luke 4:16). When asked by a rich young ruler, "**Teacher, what** [essentially] **good thing shall I do to obtain eternal life** [that is, eternal salvation in the Messiah's kingdom]?" Yeshua said, "**if you wish to enter into eternal life, keep the commandments**" (Matthew 19:17). The Commandments, of course, include the Sabbath command. However, you can become a legalist if you think that by Law keeping and good works you can earn your salvation. The most righteous person, the strictest Commandment keeper, cannot earn his/her way into the Kingdom of Yahweh through Commandment keeping. Eternal life is a gift from Yahweh. But it is a gift we cannot have if we do not show respect for the Father's Commandments (Revelation 22:14-15).

## QUESTION:

**The Sabbath is not mentioned in any of the lists of do's or don'ts in the New Testament. Doesn't this imply that the Sabbath command is no longer binding on Christians?**

## ANSWER:

You must remember that the Churches mentioned in the New Testament studied from the Old Testament Scriptures (Acts 17:11; 1 Corinthians 10:11; Luke 16:31). We need to remember to use the Bible that Yeshua and all the Apostles used—the Old Testament. Why? It is because the New Testament was not around when Yeshua was here. The New Testament writings did not come until after He ascended into Heaven. Paul never said the writings of the Law and the Prophets were done away with. To the contrary, he said those writings were “... *profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness*” (2 Timothy 3:16). Paul was referring to what we call the “Old Testament Scriptures” today; at that time there were no other Scriptures.

Since the Old Testament Scriptures teach the absolute importance of Sabbath observance, it was not necessary to continually restate the importance of Sabbath keeping when it was thoroughly emphasized in books like Exodus, Nehemiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel. The limited references concerning the Sabbath in the New Testament simply affirm that the New Testament Church, both Jews and Gentiles, kept the Sabbath. Historical records also reveal the first century church members were Sabbath keepers.

The change from Sabbath to Sunday came long after the writing of the New Testament. Sunday keeping first entered the church during the reign of Emperor Hadrian about 130 C.E.

Also, the Pharisees, who vigorously pressured the Gentiles in the Church to be circumcised (Acts Chapter 15), would have aggressively attacked Paul and the other Apostles if they had taught Sunday observance. Yet, there is no recorded attack upon Paul or the other Apostles by the Pharisees regarding changing the Sabbath to Sunday.

## QUESTION:

**Does 1 Corinthians 16:1-2 tell us to take up a collection at Sunday church services?**

### **ANSWER:**

You need to look closely at these verses. This passage does not say that a church service was being held on the first day of the week (Sunday). The New Testament was written over a period of several decades and nowhere does it say that the Church kept Sunday in place of Saturday as their Sabbath. A collection did take place on the first day of the week but no religious service was held on that particular Sunday. What was taken up was a special collection (not a weekly collection). The collection was for the Saints in Jerusalem (verses 1, 3). Famine had struck Judea and the members in Corinth, Macedonia, and Achaia (Acts 11:28-30; Romans 15:25-26) were asked to lay aside food to be delivered to the members of the Church in Jerusalem. We must be careful not to read into the Scriptures something that is not there. We must always let the Scriptures speak for itself.

To advance the argument that members were to take up a collection every Sunday based on 1 Corinthians 16:1-2 is to falsely interpret the clear meaning of Scripture. We must guard against reading our personal interpretation into the Scriptures.

### **QUESTION:**

**Didn't the New Testament Church break bread every Sunday (Acts 20:7)?**

### **ANSWER:**

It is wrong to assume/assert that every time breaking bread is mentioned in the Bible that it is referring to a religious service like observing the Passover (Luke 24:30, 35; Acts 27:35). "Breaking bread" was an expression that simply meant eating a meal. It is not something that always involves a religious service. Paul had kept the Sabbath with the members at Troas. Paul continued speaking with the people well past midnight into the early hours of Sunday morning. Owing to the lateness, a young man fell asleep and fell out of the balcony to his death. Paul went over to the young man and raised him to life (Acts 20:9-10).

After this healing, Paul stayed with the members until daylight (Sunday morning), eating (breaking bread) and fellowshiping (Acts 20:11). That Sunday morning, just after daybreak, Paul left Troas and he walked twenty miles on foot, crossing the peninsula to the city of Assos. Paul actually walked 20 miles on Sunday, something he would not have done on the Sabbath.

## QUESTION:

**Doesn't John mention Sunday as being the Lord's Day in the Book of Revelation?**

## ANSWER:

John said in Revelation 1:10: “I was in the Spirit {Or spirit. The Greek wording is not decisive, so John could be referring either to being in special communion with the Holy Spirit, or to being in a trance-like state in his own spirit like that experienced by Peter at Joppa (cf Acts 10:10, 11).} [in special communication with the Holy Spirit and empowered to receive and record the revelation from Jesus Christ] on the Lord's Day [The early church used this term to refer to Sunday, the day of Jesus' resurrection. The term Kyriake is also the regular word for Sunday in modern Greek.], and I heard behind me a loud voice like the sound of a trumpet” Actually, John never mentions Sunday as being the Lord's Day in the Book of Revelation at all. The Bible doesn't define the Lord's Day as being the first day of the week. Yeshua tells us plainly that He is the “Lord” of the Sabbath which is the seventh day of the week (Luke 6:5). The expression “the Lord's day” used in Revelation 1:10 is the only time that expression is used in the Bible. The context of John's vision had nothing to do with a particular day in the weekly cycle. It is an expression that references a time yet in the future called “the Day of the Lord” (Jeremiah 46:10; Acts 2:20, 1 Thessalonians 5:2; 2 Thessalonians 2:2). This phrase is not speaking of a single day but rather end-time events just preceding the return of Yeshua as King of kings and Lord of lords. The theme of the book of Revelation deals with the events to occur during the “Day of the Lord.”

## QUESTION:

**Galatians 4:9-10 tells us that we do not need to observe “days and months and seasons and years.” Don't these verses tell us that the Sabbath is no longer to be kept?**

## ANSWER:

The converts to whom Paul was writing in this passage were Gentiles. At one time “strangers to the covenants of promise [with no share in the sacred Messianic promise and without knowledge of God's agreements], having no hope [in His promise] and [living] in the world without God.” (Ephesians 2:12). Hearing the Truth, they repented and became part of the Church. Paul was warning the churches of Galatia that false teachers were perverting the gospel and teaching them to fall back into pagan practices. Paul could not have been talking about the Sabbath when using the

expression “days, months, and years” because the gentiles never kept the Sabbath before they came into Yahweh’s church. How could they go back to something (Sabbath keeping) if they never practiced it in the first place?

What they were going back to was their old pagan religious observances of “days, months, and years.”

Never in the Scriptures will we find Yahweh inspiring the expression “weak and beggarly elements” as a reference to Yahweh’s Holy Sabbath or Festival days. “Weak and beggarly elements” was an expression Paul used to define the false religious practices of the gentile mystics and Jewish astrologers. The gentile Christians were tempted to mix the true teachings of Christianity with false beliefs. Paul was warning them against doing this.

#### **QUESTION:**

**Isn’t it true that Colossians 2:14-17 reminds Christians that the old Mosaic Law was nailed to the Cross. So why do I need to keep the Sabbath?**

#### **ANSWER:**

Satan has deceived this world’s churches into the belief that Yahweh’s Law/Torah was done away -- that Yeshua, rather than paying the price in human stead for transgressing the Law/Torah, did away with it -- “nailing it to His cross.” The expression used by Protestants “nailing the Law to His cross” can mean only one thing: Yeshua abolished the Law, making it possible for humans to sin with impunity. This is Satan’s teaching. What actually was nailed to the cross was Yeshua our sin bearer, Who took on Himself our sins, paying the death penalty in our stead, so that we are freed from the ultimate penalty of sinning...not made free to sin with impunity! Therefore, the Fourth Commandment, which requires all men to observe the Sabbath, was not nailed to the cross.

#### **QUESTION:**

**Romans 14:5-6 seems to say that all days are alike, which means I can keep the Sabbath on any day I choose. Is my understanding of this correct?**

#### **ANSWER:**

Take note that there is no mention of the Sabbath in this passage. It is a mistake to read into this passage that Paul was referring to Sabbath observance. The reference here is simply to “days.” The Sabbath was not the issue at hand.

Rather, Paul was writing to the Church in Rome -- a church that had a composite of Jews and Gentiles as its members. In verses 2, 3 and 6 of Romans Chapter 14, Paul clearly identifies the issue as vegetarianism, not Sabbath observance. Paul was addressing a question of eating or not eating meat on particular days. Certain members in Rome were abstaining from eating meats on certain days as a religious act. This practice was not related to the Sabbath because Yahweh made it clear the Sabbath was a feast day (Leviticus 23:1-3). The word Sabbath was not used in Paul's letter to the Romans. Paul was emphasizing the fact that whatever we do in terms of eating or not eating on a particular day, needs to be handled in a way that does not cause a brother to stumble (Romans 14:21).

### QUESTION:

**Will the Sabbath be kept in the coming Kingdom of God?**

### ANSWER:

Isaiah 66:22-23 clearly informs us of what will take place in the coming Kingdom of Yahweh. Notice that the Sabbath will be the official day of worship in Yahweh's Kingdom:

**“23 “And it shall be that from New Moon to New Moon And from Sabbath to Sabbath, All mankind will come to bow down and worship before Me [Yahweh],” says the Lord.**

**24 “Then they will go forth and look Upon the dead bodies of the [rebellious] men Who have transgressed against Me; For their worm (maggot) will not die, And their fire will not go out; And they will be an abhorrence to all mankind.” ”**

(Isaiah 66:23-24, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

The people who are alive when Yeshua reigns on the earth will come to worship Him in Jerusalem on the weekly and annual Sabbaths. Speaking of the “New Covenant” relationship Israel will have with Yahweh, He says, **“The people of the land shall also worship at the entrance of that gate [inner court gateway of the newly built temple] before the Lord [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] on the Sabbaths and on the New Moons.”** (Ezekiel 46:3)

### QUESTION:

**I believe in a Sabbath Day but does it really matter what day I keep, as long as I worship God on one day of the week, a day of my choosing?**

### ANSWER:

Leviticus 23:2 reveals that the Sabbath is one of Yahweh's appointed feasts: "Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The appointed times (established feasts) of the Lord [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] which you shall proclaim as holy convocations—My appointed times are these:'" (Leviticus 23:2) The Sabbath is Yahweh's Feast and it is to be observed at a very specific time. Think of it this way: If you have an appointment for a job interview, are you not careful to show up at the appointed time? No potential employer wants a job interviewee showing up late. When you attend a wedding or funeral, isn't there an APPOINTED time to be present and seated? To be late or to show up on another day for such an important occasion would be considered rude and dishonoring. We are careful to respect our appointments with humans. Yet many ignore Yahweh's Command to meet with Him on the day He appoints. If we say we respect Yahweh, our actions will follow our words; we will keep Holy the day that Yahweh chooses. In Mark 2:28 Yeshua said, "So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath [and He has authority over it]." Only Yeshua/Jesus and the Father have the authority to fix a particular day of the week as the Holy Sabbath. The Sabbath is mentioned over one hundred times in Scripture and not one single reference reveals the Sabbath can be kept on any day other than the seventh day of the week.

### QUESTION:

**The Gentiles were not required to keep the Sabbath. I am a Gentile; therefore I am not required to keep the Sabbath, correct?**

### ANSWER:

Millions *assume* the Sabbath is only a "Jewish" holy day not binding upon Christians. If this were the case, we would expect the Apostle to the Gentiles, Paul, to advocate doing away with Sabbath observance. Let's read what Paul and Barnabas did when they preached to the Gentiles: "**14 Now they went on from Perga and arrived at Antioch in Pisidia, and on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. 15 After the reading of the Law [the Torah] and the [writings of the] Prophets, the officials of the synagogue sent word to them, saying, 'Brothers (kinsmen), if you have any word of encouragement for the people, say it.'**" (Acts 13:14-15)

Paul then spoke to them about Yeshua. When the Jews left the synagogue, the Gentiles pleaded with them to preach to them again the next Sabbath: “As Paul and Barnabas **were leaving** [the synagogue], **the people kept begging that these things might be spoken to them on the next Sabbath.**” (Acts 13:42). Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles, had a golden opportunity right then and there to tell the Gentiles “you do not need to keep the Sabbath on the seventh day of the week; we can meet together on Sundays.” But Paul never said anything about a Sunday observance!

Many years after the crucifixion of Yeshua, Paul kept the Sabbath on the seventh day of the week: “**And Paul entered the synagogue, as was his custom** (meaning custom or habit), **and for three Sabbaths** [Saturday’s] **he engaged in discussion** *and* **friendly debate with them from the Scriptures,**” (Acts 17:2). Biblical historians believe the time setting of Acts Chapter 17 was somewhere between 59-62 C.E.. This means that Paul and the New Testament church, both Jew and Gentile alike, were still observing the Sabbath many years after Yeshua’s death, burial and resurrection.

### QUESTION:

**Can I stay home and keep the Sabbath?**

### ANSWER:

The Bible clearly tells us we are to gather together with other brethren on the Sabbath, if possible, to hear the Word of Yahweh spoken on that day! We all need the fellowship and support of fellow believers in Yeshua/Jesus. The Bible admonishes Christians to not be “**not forsaking our meeting together** [as believers for worship and instruction], **as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more** [faithfully] **as you see the day** [of Christ’s return] **approaching.**” (Hebrews 10:25)

## Fourth Commandment Statutes

Many Christians are unaware that there are other Sabbaths mentioned in the Bible in addition to the seventh-day Sabbath. The following examples are only two of the numerous instances where multiple Sabbaths are cited:

**“You shall keep My Sabbaths and revere My sanctuary. I am the Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text].”

(Leviticus 19:30, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis added)

**“19 I am the Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] **your God; walk in My statutes and keep My ordinances and**

observe them. **20 Sanctify My Sabbaths** and keep them holy; and they shall be a sign between Me and you, that you may know [without any doubt] **that I am the Lord** [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] **your God.**"

(Ezekiel 20:19-20, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Just over 95% of the material that has been accumulated on the Fourth Commandment for this study is devoted to the timing of the Sabbath; the same is true pertaining to the seventh-day Sabbath. In other words, less than 5% of the material that that is covered here on the Fourth Commandment is dedicated to the other Sabbaths.

There are three other classifications of Sabbaths mentioned in the Bible. The seventh-day Sabbath occurs most frequently. The remaining Sabbaths will be addressed in succession of decreasing frequency.

## The Annual Sabbaths / The Feasts

Although it is not a very well known fact, the seventh-day Sabbath is identified as one of the Feasts:

### Laws of Religious Festivals

**1 The Lord** [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] **spoke again to Moses, saying, 2 "Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The appointed times** (established feasts) **of the Lord** [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] **which you shall proclaim as holy convocations—My appointed times are these:**

### The Sabbath

**3 For six days work may be done, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of complete rest, a holy convocation** (calling together). **You shall not do any work** [on that day]; **it is the Sabbath of the Lord** [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] **wherever** [Literally, *in all your dwellings* and so throughout the chapter.] **you may be.**

### The Passover and Unleavened Bread

**4 These are the appointed times of the Lord** [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text], **holy convocations which you shall proclaim at their appointed times:' "**

(Leviticus 23:1-4, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

The reason that the seventh-day Sabbath is mentioned first in this dialogue concerning the Feasts is because it is the primary commandment upon which the other feasts or Sabbaths or statutes hang. The remainder of Leviticus Chapter 23 is dedicated to the following Feasts or Festivals: **Passover/Unleavened Bread** (verses 4-8), **First Fruits** (verses 9-14), **Weeks/Pentecost** (verses 15-22), **Trumpets** (verse 23-25), **Atonement** (verse 26-32) and **Booths or Tabernacles/Ingathering** (verses 33-36 and 39-44).

Further evidence that the Feasts are Sabbaths is found in the fact that they are identified as “**holy convocations**” like the seventh-day Sabbath. It is also specified that no work or business is to be done on the High Sabbaths of these annual Feasts. Thus, in addition to being festivals or holidays, they are rest periods or Sabbaths unto Yahweh.

Every type and shadow or requirement of these Feasts is not imposed under the New Covenant. For example, Yeshua is our Passover Lamb and He has already been sacrificed for us (1 Corinthians 5:7). Consequently, we are no longer required to sacrifice a literal lamb. Likewise, New Covenant Christians are no longer required to remove literal leaven from their homes during Unleavened Bread. Under the New Covenant, we should observe these Sabbaths in commemoration of Yahweh’s great deliverances and blessings both past, present and future. We should look to the past in celebration of our Israelite history and heritage, to the present in celebration of our redemption and to the future in celebration of our ultimate victory and deliverance in Yeshua. These Feasts are no less important for contemporary Israelites than is the 4th of July for modern Americans.

If America were living under Yahweh’s Law System, in addition to the seventh-day Sabbath, we would commemorate three special national holidays or annual Sabbaths in Holy Convocation. We would celebrate Passover/Unleavened Bread for eight days, Weeks/Pentecost on the fiftieth day, seven weeks after the Feast of First Fruits and Tabernacles/Ingathering for eight days. We would also celebrate First Fruits for one day, Trumpets for one day and Atonement for one day.

## **The Seventh-Year Sabbath / The Land Rest / The Year of Release**

There are three principal elements to the seventh-year Sabbath, also known as the Sabbatical Year – land rest, debt remission and servant release.

### **Land Rest**

The first principle aspect of the seventh-year Sabbath requires that all agricultural land be rested or lay fallow every seventh year:

## The Sabbatic Year and Year of Jubilee

“**1 The Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] spoke to Moses at Mount Sinai, saying, **2 “Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, ‘When you come into the land which I am giving you, then the land shall keep a Sabbath to the Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text]. **3 For six years you shall sow your field, and for six years you shall prune your vineyard and gather in its crop. 4 But in the seventh year there shall be a Sabbath of rest for the land, a Sabbath to the Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text]; **you shall not sow [seed in] your field nor prune your vineyard. 5 Whatever reseeds itself (uncultivated) in your harvest you shall not reap, nor shall you gather the grapes from your uncultivated vine, it shall be a year of sabbatical rest for the land. 6 And all of you shall have for food whatever the [untilled] land produces during its Sabbath year; yourself, and your male and female slaves, your hired servant, and the foreigners who reside among you, 7 even your domestic animals and the [wild] animals that are in your land shall have all its crops to eat.”**

(Leviticus 25:1-7, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

It is a well-established agricultural fact that resting the land every seven years is best for the soil and that much-improved crops result from doing so. This biblical practice also greatly reduces the need for pesticides and herbicides. Yet, today this practice is almost unheard of in America. One of the reasons for this is because America is also transgressing Yahweh’s prohibitions against usury or interest banking:

**“You shall not charge interest to your fellow Israelite—interest on money, food or anything that may be loaned for interest.”**

(Deuteronomy 23:19, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis added)

America’s ungodly economic system alone makes it nearly impossible for most farmers to give their land a one in seven year Sabbath. Any farmer in debt who would let his land lay fallow for one year would be unlikely to make that year’s payment to the usurers and would then lose his/her land to his “friendly” neighborhood banker. Disobedience always has its consequences. In this case, if a farmer obeys Yahweh and His Sabbaths, the farmer risks losing his/her land because of usury. On the other hand, if he/she disobeys Yahweh in order to retain possession of their land, they risks falling under the judgment of Yahweh.

Violation of the Sabbatical Year's land rest is such a serious transgression that it is specifically listed as one of the sins that resulted in the Israelites being conquered and removed from the land:

**“28** then I [Yahweh] will act with hostility against you in wrath, and I also will punish you seven times for your sins. **29** You will eat the flesh of your sons and the flesh of your daughters. **30** I will destroy your high places [devoted to idolatrous worship], and cut down your incense altars, and heap your dead bodies upon the [crushed] bodies of your idols, and My soul will detest you [with deep and unutterable loathing]. **31** I will lay waste your cities as well and will make your sanctuaries desolate, and I will not smell your sweet *and* soothing aromas [of offerings by fire]. **32** I will make the land desolate, and your enemies who settle in it will be appalled at it. **33** I will scatter you among the nations and draw out the sword [of your enemies] after you; your land will become desolate and your cities will become ruins.

**34** Then the land [of Israel] will enjoy its Sabbaths as long as it lies desolate, while you are in your enemies' land; then the land will rest and enjoy its Sabbaths. **35** As long as it lies desolate, it will have rest, the rest it did not have on your Sabbaths, while you were living on it.”

(Leviticus 26:28-35, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

The land Sabbath was disregarded seventy times by the house of Judah. Consequently, those Israelites were sentenced to seventy years in Babylonian captivity:

**“16** But they kept mocking the messengers of God and despising His words and scoffing at His prophets until the wrath of the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068** **YHWH** in the Hebrew text] arose against His people [because of the house of Judah's disobedience], until there was no remedy *or* healing. **17** Therefore He brought [Nebuchadnezzar] the king of the Chaldeans against them, who killed their young men with the sword in the house of their sanctuary, and had no compassion on young man or virgin, old man or infirm; He gave them all into his hand. **18** And as for all the articles of the house of God, great and small, and the treasures of the house of the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068** **YHWH** in the Hebrew text], and the treasures of the king and of his officials, he brought them all to Babylon. **19** Then they burned the house of God and tore down the wall of Jerusalem, and burned all its fortified buildings with fire, and destroyed all its valuable articles. **20** He deported to Babylon those who had escaped from the sword; and **they** [the remnant of the house of

Judah] **were servants to him and to his sons** until the kingdom of Persia was established there, **21** to fulfill the word of the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] by the mouth of Jeremiah, **until the land had restored its Sabbaths; for as long as the land lay desolate it kept Sabbath until seventy years were complete.**"

(2 Chronicles 36:16-21, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

If American farmers would trust Yahweh enough to rest the land in the seventh year as He commanded, Yahweh promises a bumper crop on the sixth year, enough to provide for the seventh, eighth and ninth years:

**"18** Therefore you shall carry out My [Yahweh] statutes and keep My ordinances and do them, so that you may live securely on the land. **19** Then the land will yield its produce, so that you can eat your fill and live securely on it. **20** And if you say, "What are we going to eat in the seventh year if we do not sow [seed] or gather in our crops?" **21** then [this is My answer:] **I will order My [special] blessing for you in the sixth year, so that it will produce [sufficient] crops for three years. 22** When you are sowing the eighth year, you can still eat old things from the crops, eating the old until the ninth year when its crop comes in."

(Leviticus 25:18-22, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

The volunteer crop of the seventh year is to be given to the poor and needy and what remains is to be left for the animals:

### **The Sabbath and Land**

**"10** You shall sow your land six years and harvest its yield, **11** but **the seventh year you shall let it rest and lie uncultivated, so that the poor among your people may eat** [what the land grows naturally]; **whatever they leave the animals of the field may eat. You shall do the same with your vineyard and olive grove.**"

(Exodus 23:10-11, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comment added)

In order for there to be a volunteer crop in the seventh year, farmers must also stop breaking Yahweh's anti-hybridization (the act of mixing different species or varieties of animals or plants and thus to produce hybrids) laws:

**"You are to keep My [Yahweh's] statutes. You shall not breed together two kinds of your cattle; you shall not sow your field with two kinds of seed, nor wear clothing of two kinds of material mixed together."**

(Leviticus 19:19, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comment added)

**“You shall not sow your vineyard with two kinds of seed, or everything produced by the seed which you have sown and the yield of the vineyard will become defiled [and banned for use].”**

(Leviticus 19:19, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comment added)

Only non-hybrid, open-pollinated seed will produce volunteer crops large enough to feed the needy as well as the animals during the seventh, eighth and ninth years. Such seeds will also restore nutritional value to our foods and health to our nation.

### **Debt Remission**

The second principal aspect of the seventh-year Sabbath concerns the remission of debts:

### **The Sabbatical Year**

**“1 At the end of every seven years you shall grant a release (remission, pardon) from debt. 2 This is the regulation for the release: every creditor [Literally, master of a loan.] shall forgive what he has loaned to his neighbor; he shall not require [Literally, collect.] repayment from his neighbor and his brother, because the Lord’s [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] release has been proclaimed. 3 You may require repayment from a foreigner, but whatever of yours is with your brother [Israelite] your hand shall release. 4 However, there will be no poor among you, since the Lord [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] will most certainly bless you in the land which the Lord [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, 5 if only you will listen to and obey the voice of the Lord [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] your God, to observe carefully all these commandments which I am commanding you today. 6 When the Lord [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] your God blesses you [Literally, according to the word to you.] as He has promised you, then you will lend to many nations, but you will not borrow; and you will rule over many nations, but they will not rule over you.**

**7 If there is a poor man among you, one of your fellow Israelites, in any [Literally, one of your gates.] of your cities in the land that the Lord [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] your God is**

giving you, you shall not be [Literally, *harden your heart.*] heartless, nor close-fisted [Literally, *close your hand to.*] with your poor brother; **8** but you shall freely open your hand to him, and shall generously lend to him whatever [Literally, *sufficient for his need.*] he needs. **9** Beware that there is no wicked thought in your heart, saying, ‘The seventh year, the year of release (remission, pardon), is approaching,’ and your eye is hostile (unsympathetic) toward your poor brother, and you give him nothing [since he would not have to repay you]; for he may cry out to the **Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] against you, and it will become a sin for you. **10** You shall freely *and* generously give to him, and your heart shall not be resentful when you give to him, because for this [generous] thing the **Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] your God will bless you in all your work and in all your undertakings. **11** For the poor will never cease to be in the land; therefore I command you, saying, ‘You shall freely open your hand to your brother, to your needy, and to your poor in your land.’ ”

(Deuteronomy 15:1-11, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Some people teach that this is simply a one-year moratorium on debt. In other words, during the Sabbatical Year, collection of debts is suspended until the sabbatical year ends. Those who hold this position maintain that if debt is totally cancelled every seventh year, including the forty-ninth year, there would be no debt to cancel on the fiftieth or jubilee year. However, this argument is based on the assumption that the fiftieth-year release applies to the same type of debt remitted on the seventh year. This is not accurate. In [\*To Heal A Nation\*](#), Dr. J. Franklin Snook commented on the difference between the debts remitted on the seventh and fiftieth years:

“The sabbath principle also applies to the Jubilee year, which occurs after every seventh seven-year period – that is, the fiftieth year. **On the 49th year all debts are cancelled as on each seventh year, but on the 50th, or Jubilee year all land that has been sold (actually leased) during the previous 49 years reverts to the original family who possessed it.** In other words, land is not sold in perpetuity but is leased until the year of Jubilee.”<sup>10</sup>

The correct interpretation for the seventh-year release is a cancellation of all public and private debts with the exception that land could be retained by a person leasing it until the year of Jubilee. If the seventh-year Sabbath required only a moratorium on debt there would then have been no reason for the Jews to have created an unlawful loophole

---

<sup>10</sup> Dr. J. Franklin Snook, *To Heal A Nation* (Salem, OR: J. Franklin Snook, 1977) pg. 46.

for the purpose of getting around this revocation as described in *The Standard Jewish Encyclopedia*:

**“PROSBUL** [Gk. “for the court”]: **A special form of legal document annulling the cancellation of debts during the Sabbatical year enjoyed by biblical precept.** Scripture warns against refusing to lend to the needy because of the approaching Sabbatical year cancellation (Deut. 15). Nevertheless, the tendency prevailed not to make loans as the Sabbatical year approached, and [Rabbi] Hillel therefore issued an enactment whereby a lender would not lose his money despite the Sabbatical year if he made a declaration in writing to the court in the following manner: “I hereby make known to you, judges of this place, that I wish to be able to collect all debts due to me at any time I may desire.”<sup>11</sup>

If today’s politicians were truly sincere about balancing the budget they would champion a return to Yahweh’s Laws including the seventh-year Sabbath and its cancellation of debt. In fact, this is the only way that America’s budget will ever be balanced. As the record demonstrates, all other legislation passed for the purpose of balancing the budget has been but a “*band-aid*” at best. It is interesting that although America’s current legislators do not have the right solution, they often use seven years as their time frame for balancing the budget.

Today’s ungodly, usurious economic system only compounds the problem year after year. Under Yahweh’s system the budget would never be unbalanced for more than six years. Inflation and recessions would all but disappear. A person can only imagine the prosperity that would be enjoyed under such a system. In fact, Yahweh promises that if we obey His Laws that we would never experience a deficit and that rather than being the greatest debtor nation as America is today, we would be the greatest lending nation as America was in the past when she more closely adhered to Yahweh’s Laws:

**“5 if only you will listen to and obey the voice of the Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] **your God, to observe carefully all these commandments which I am commanding you today. 6 When the Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #**H3068 YHWH** in the Hebrew text] **your God blesses you** [Literally, *according to the word to you.*] **as He has promised you, then you will lend to many nations, but you will not borrow; and you will rule over many nations, but they will not rule over you.”**

(Deuteronomy 15:5-6, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

---

<sup>11</sup> “PROSBUL,” *The Standard Jewish Encyclopedia* (Garden City, NY: Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1966) pg. 1547.

Under America's current economic system, the gap between the rich and the poor only widens. In contrast, Yahweh's system reduces the disparity between these two groups:

**“4 However, there will be no poor among you, since the Lord [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] will most certainly bless you in the land which the Lord [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, 5 if only you will listen to and obey the voice of the Lord [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] your God, to observe carefully all these commandments [concerning the Sabbatical Year] which I am commanding you today.”**

(Deuteronomy 15:4-5, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

This is not to say that there will not be any poor in the land:

**“For the poor will never cease to be in the land; therefore I command you, saying, ‘You shall freely open your hand to your brother, to your needy, and to your poor in your land.’ ”**

(Deuteronomy 15:11, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis added)

The poor will not disappear completely; however the needy will be scarcer when Yahweh's monetary laws are followed than when following man's economic system. This same Sabbatical Year principle pertaining to the poor is addressed in the New Testament:

**“But whoever has the world's [Literally, *livelihood of the world.*] goods (adequate resources), and sees his brother in need, but has no compassion for him, how does the love of God live in him?”**

(1 John 3:17, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

The year of release is specifically for the poor in the land. It does not apply to financial penalties incurred by criminals as the result of judgment for crime. It also does not apply to loans to foreigners:

**“2 This is the regulation for the release: every creditor [Literally, *master of a loan.*] shall forgive what he has loaned to his neighbor; he shall not require [Literally, *collect.*] repayment from his neighbor and his brother, because the Lord's [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] release has been proclaimed. 3 You may require repayment from a foreigner, but whatever of yours is with your brother [Israelite] your hand shall release.”**

(Deuteronomy 15:2-3, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

The same exception is made for usury:

**“19 You shall not charge interest to your fellow Israelite—interest on money, food or anything that may be loaned for interest. 20 You may charge interest to a foreigner, but to your fellow Israelite you shall not charge interest, so that the Lord [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] your God may bless you in all [Literally, *all to which your hand is put.*] that you undertake in the land which you are about to enter to possess.”**

(Deuteronomy 23:19-20, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comment added)

### Servant Release

The third principal aspect of the Sabbatical Year concerns the release of indentured servants:

**“12 If your fellow Israelite, a Hebrew man or woman, is sold to you, and serves you for six years, then in the seventh year you shall set him free [from your service]. 13 When you set him free, you shall not let him go away empty-handed. 14 You shall give him generous provisions from your flock, from your threshing floor and from your wine press; you shall give to him as the Lord [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] your God has blessed you. 15 And you shall remember *and* thoughtfully consider that you were [once] a slave in the land of Egypt, and the Lord [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] your God redeemed you; therefore, I am commanding you these things today. 16 Now if the servant says to you, ‘I will not leave you,’ because he loves you and your household, since he is doing well with you; 17 then take an awl and pierce it through his ear into the door, and he shall [willingly] be your servant always. Also you shall do the same for your maidservant.**

**18 It shall not seem hard to you when you set him free, for he has served you six years *with* double the service of a hired man; so the Lord [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] your God will bless you in everything you do.”**

(Deuteronomy 15:12-18, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comment added)

This further demonstrates that the seventh-year Sabbath is a cancellation of debt rather than simply a suspension of debt. If servants were to be set totally free only every fifty

years, many servants would never experience freedom because many would die before experiencing this opportunity.

Indentureship is for the purpose of assisting someone who has no other way of surviving than to sell himself/herself into temporary servitude. One or two years of such service will not always suffice to alleviate someone's financial plight. Consequently, an indentured servant is to be released at the end of the seventh year of his or her service rather than during the Sabbatical Year, unless, of course, they occur at the same time. Deuteronomy 15:12-18 is essentially a repeat of what is stated in Exodus 21:2-6. However, Exodus Chapter 21 does not say anything about the Sabbatical Year.

Severance pay was probably derived from the practice described in Deuteronomy Chapter 15. Servants are not to be sent away empty-handed but rather the landowner or employer is to give them a generous gift upon their release in the seventh year of their service. In other words, this is to be a bonus according to the bounty that the landowner or employer reaped as a result of his or her servant's assistance. This relationship between master and servant is briefly addressed in the New Testament:

**“Masters, [on your part] deal with your slaves justly and fairly, knowing that you also have a Master in heaven.”**

(Colossians 4:1, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comment added)

**“Those [servants] who have believing masters are not to be disrespectful toward them because they are brothers [in Christ], but they should serve them even better, because those who benefit from their kindly service are believers and beloved. Teach and urge these [duties and principles].”**

(1 Timothy 6:2, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

As a part of the seventh-year Sabbath, a Holy Convocation is to be observed during the Feast of Sukkot (Tabernacles) at which time the Law of Yahweh is to be read to the people:

### **The Reading of the Law**

**“10 Then Moses commanded them, saying, “At the end of every seven years, at the time of year when debts are forgiven, at the Feast of Booths (Tabernacles), 11 when all Israel comes to appear before the Lord [Strong's Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] your God in the place which He chooses, you shall read this law before all [the people of] Israel so [Literally, in their hearing.] that they may hear. 12 Assemble the people, the men and the women and children and the stranger (resident alien, foreigner) within your cities, so that they may**

hear and learn and fear the **Lord** [Strong's Concordance #**H3068** **YHWH** in the Hebrew text] your God [with awe-filled reverence and profound respect], and be careful to obey all the words of this law.”

(Deuteronomy 31:10-12, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

In other words, in order to properly observe the Sabbatical Year the Feast of Sukkot (Tabernacles) must likewise be celebrated.

## **The Fiftieth-Year Sabbath The Land Reversion The Year of Jubilee**

Every fiftieth year is also to be a one-year Sabbath. This is known as the year of Jubilee:

### **The Year of Jubilee**

“**8** You are also to count off seven Sabbaths of years for yourself, seven times seven years, so that you have the time of the seven Sabbaths of years, namely, forty-nine years. **9** Then you shall sound the ram's horn everywhere on the tenth day of the seventh month (almost October); on the Day of Atonement you shall sound the trumpet throughout your land. **10** And you shall consecrate the fiftieth year and proclaim [The quote on the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia is from this verse and reads, “Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof.”] **freedom** [for the slaves] **throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a Jubilee** (year of remission) **for you**, and each of you shall return to his own [ancestral] **property** [that was sold to another because of poverty], and each of you shall return to his family [from whom he was separated by bondage].”

(Leviticus 25:8-10, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

The Jubilee year is to commence with the blowing of the trumpet on the Day of Atonement which is one of Yahweh's Appointed Times. Therefore, when the fiftieth-year Sabbath is reinstated, the Feasts must be restored as well.

In addition to letting the land lay fallow during the fiftieth year,<sup>12</sup> all land is to be returned to the family of its original owner. In other words, land is never to be permanently sold:

---

<sup>12</sup> Because the forty-ninth year is to be a seventh-year Sabbath, the land would actually lay fallow for two consecutive years every forty-ninth and fiftieth year.

**“In this Year of Jubilee each of you shall return to his own [ancestral] property.”**

(Leviticus 25:13, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comment added)

Under America’s current form of government, if you are either unable to make your usurious loan payment or pay your taxes, your “friendly” banker or “Big Brother” confiscates your property. Under Yahweh’s Law system such theft would never occur because Yahweh owns all of the land:

### **The Law of Redemption**

**“The land shall not be sold [or confiscated] permanently, for the land is Mine [Yahweh’s]; you are [only] foreigners and temporary residents with Me.”**

(Leviticus 25:23, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Therein is found the reason why the land is not to be taxed. **The power to tax something proves ownership. Land does not rightfully belong to any government but rather to Yahweh and to whom Yahweh or His government apportions it.**

Most farmers and landowners are under the mistaken notion that the government steals their land when the sheriff and his deputies show up and physically removes them from their homesteads. However, the land was initially stolen from them when the government fraudulently legislated to tax their land and the people unwittingly or under duress, allowed the government to get away with it. Current “owners” are only temporary tenants to be extricated at the whim of the government. The response to our legislators should have been the same as Naboth’s when King Ahab wanted to confiscate his vineyard:

**“But Naboth said to Ahab, “The Lord [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] forbid me that I should give the inheritance of my fathers to you.” ”**

(1 Kings 21:3, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Yahweh neither abandoned His ownership nor His eminent domain. Consequently, such governments are thieves and they are stealing from Yahweh. He never intended governments to be landowners. Under the Mosaic Covenant which is not done away with, the Levites were the government administrators and as such they were not permitted to own land, except for homes within their cities and the attached land or suburbs:

**“2** Command the Israelites to **give to the Levites cities to live in** from the inheritance of their possession; and **you shall give to the Levites pasture lands around the cities.** **3** **The cities shall be theirs to live in; and their pasture lands shall be for their cattle and for their herds and for all their livestock.**

**4** **The pasture lands around the cities which you shall give to the Levites shall reach from the wall of the city and outward a thousand cubits (1,500 feet/457.2 meters) around.** **5** You shall also measure outside the city on the east, south, west, and north sides two thousand cubits (3,000 feet/914.4 meters), with the city in the center. This shall belong to the Levites as pasture lands for the cities.

### **Cities of Refuge**

**6** [Among] the cities which you give to the Levites shall be the six cities of refuge, which you shall provide for the one who commits manslaughter to flee to; and in addition to them you shall give forty-two cities [to the Levites]. **7** So you shall give to the Levites forty-eight cities in all, together with their pasture lands.”

(Numbers 35:2-7, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Government has the duty of protecting the public and their property instead of taxing them and confiscating their possessions.

The land ultimately belongs to Yahweh. It is never to permanently change hands and in the year of Jubilee. It is to return to the family of the original occupants with the exception of houses or lands within city limits:

### **Redemption of Property**

**“29** If a man sells a house in a walled city, then his right of redemption remains valid for a full year after its sale; his right of redemption lasts a full year. **30** But **if it is not redeemed for him within a full year, then the house that is in the walled city passes permanently and irrevocably to the purchaser throughout his generations. It does not revert back in the Year of Jubilee.**”

(Leviticus 25:29-30, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis added)

This exception, however, did not apply to properties within city limits that belonged to the Levites:

**“32 As for the cities of the Levites, the Levites have a permanent right of redemption for the houses in the cities which they possess. 33 Therefore, what is [purchased] from the Levites may be redeemed [by a Levite], and the house that was sold in the city they possess reverts in the Year of Jubilee, for the houses in the Levite cities are their [ancestral] property among the Israelites. 34 But the pasture lands of their cities may not be sold, for that is their permanent possession.”**

(Leviticus 25:32-34, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

The year of Jubilee is also a year of family reunions in which every man is to return to his family on the homestead:

**“And you shall consecrate the fiftieth year and proclaim [The quote on the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia is from this verse and reads, “Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof.”] freedom [for the slaves] throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It [the fiftieth year] shall be a Jubilee (year of remission) for you, and each of you shall return to his own [ancestral] property [that was sold to another because of poverty], and each of you shall return to his family [from whom he was separated by bondage].”**

(Leviticus 25:10, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

During each Jubilee year on the Day of Atonement each of us should be reminded of our own atonement or release from our debts owed to Yahweh. Thus, we should also forgive those whom we have anything against. C. D. Gingsburg takes us back in time concerning this Jubilee annulment of debts:

**“On the close of the great Day of Atonement, when the Hebrews realised [sic] that they had peace of mind, that their heavenly Father had annulled their sins, and that they had become reunited to Him through His forgiving mercy, every Israelite was called upon to proclaim throughout the land, by nine blasts of the cornet, that he too had given the soil rest, [and] that he had freed every encumbered family estate, and that he had given liberty to every slave, who was now to rejoin his kindred.**

**Inasmuch as God has forgiven his debts, he also is to forgive his debtors.**<sup>13</sup>

Yahweh's Law system promotes freedom and prosperity for all and the Fourth Commandment plays an integral part in accomplishing this.

## Fourth Commandment Judgment

Blatant Fourth Commandment transgression demands the [death penalty](#):

**“13** But as for you, say to the Israelites, ‘You shall most certainly observe My Sabbaths, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, so that you may know [without any doubt] *and* acknowledge that I am the **Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text] *who sanctifies you and sets you apart* [for Myself]. **14** Therefore, you shall keep the Sabbath, for it is holy to you. **Everyone who profanes it must be put to death; for whoever does work on the Sabbath, that person** (soul) **shall be cut off from among his people** [excluding him from the atonement made for them]. **15** For six days work may be done, but the seventh is the Sabbath of complete rest, sacred to the **Lord** [Strong’s Concordance #H3068 YHWH in the Hebrew text]; **whoever does work on the Sabbath day must be put to death.**”

(Exodus 31:13-15, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

### Sabbath-breaking Punished

**“32** Now while the Israelites were in the wilderness, they found a man who was gathering wood on the Sabbath day. **33** Those who found him gathering wood brought him to Moses and Aaron and to all the congregation; **34** and they put him in custody, because it had not been explained [by God] what should be done to him. **35** Then the Lord said to Moses, **“The man shall certainly be put to death. All the congregation shall stone him with stones outside the camp.”** **36** So all the congregation brought him outside the camp and stoned him to death with stones, just as the Lord had commanded Moses.”

(Numbers 15:32-36, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comment added)

---

<sup>13</sup> C. D. Ginsburg, “Leviticus,” Ellicott’s Commentary on the Whole Bible (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan) Volume I, pg. 454, quoted by Rousas John Rushdoony, The Institutes of Biblical Law (Vallecito, CA: Ross House Books, 1973) Volume 1, pg. 141.

Because the Sabbath is important enough to Yahweh to make transgression of the Fourth Commandment a capital crime, it should likewise be important enough to Yahweh's people to hallow His Sabbath.

## The Kingdom Sabbath

Anything written on the Sabbath would be grossly incomplete that did not mention the ultimate Sabbath made possible through Yeshua the Messiah and His atoning blood sacrifice and resurrection from the grave:

**“8** For if Joshua had given them [the nation of Israel] rest [in Canaan], God would not speak about another day [of opportunity] after that. **9** So **there remains a** [full and complete] **Sabbath rest for the people of God.** **10** For the one who has once entered His rest has also **rested from** [the weariness and pain of] **his** [human] **labors**, just as God rested from [those labors uniquely] His own. **11** Let us therefore **make every effort to enter that rest** [of God, to know and experience it for ourselves], so that no one will fall by *following* the same example of **disobedience** [as those who died in the wilderness].”

(Hebrews 4:8-11, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Although, neither the Sabbath nor rest is mentioned, this is the same thing that the author of Hebrews addressed in chapters 11 and 12:

**“8** By faith **Abraham**, when he was called [by God], obeyed by going to a place which he was to receive as an inheritance; and he went, not knowing where he was going. **9** By faith he lived as a foreigner in the promised land, as in a strange *land*, living in tents [as nomads] with Isaac and Jacob, who were fellow heirs of the same promise. **10** For he was [waiting expectantly and confidently] **looking forward to the city which has foundations**, [an eternal, heavenly city] **whose architect and builder is God.** **11** By faith even Sarah herself received the ability to conceive [a child], even [when she was long] past the normal age for it, because she considered Him who had given her the promise to be reliable *and* true [to His word]. **12** So from one man, though he was [physically] as good as dead, were born as *many descendants* as the stars of heaven in number, and innumerable as the sand on the seashore.

**13** All these died in faith [guided and sustained by it], **without receiving the** [tangible fulfillment of God's] **promises**, only having seen (anticipated) them and having welcomed them from a distance, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. **14**

Now those who say such things make it clear that they are looking for a country of their own. **15** And if they had been thinking of that *country* from which they departed [as their true home], they would have had [a continuing] opportunity to return. **16** But the truth is that **they were longing for a better country, that is, a heavenly one.** For that reason God is not ashamed [of them or] to be called their God [even to be surnamed their God—the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob]; **for He has prepared a city for them.”**

(Hebrews 11:8-16, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

**“22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem,** and to myriads of angels [in festive gathering], **23 and to the general assembly and assembly of the firstborn** who are registered [as citizens] in heaven, and to God, who is Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous (the redeemed in heaven) who have been made perfect [bringing them to their final glory], **24 and to Jesus, the Mediator of a new covenant** [uniting God and man], **and to the sprinkled blood,** which speaks [of mercy], a better *and nobler and more gracious message than the blood of Abel* [which cried out for vengeance].”

(Hebrews 12:22-24, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Mount Zion, the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem and the church of the firstborn, among other things; they are all referring to essentially the same thing, the kingdom of Yahweh:

**“Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken,** let us show gratitude, and offer to God pleasing service *and acceptable worship with reverence and awe;*”

(Hebrews 12:28, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis added)

It is in the kingdom of Yahweh here on earth, made possible through Yeshua, that our final and complete rest is to be found. The present state of affairs here in America demonstrates that a new land in and of itself does not make this possible. There is only true peace and true rest for the people of Yahweh when they are resting in Yeshua in His Kingdom which will be made possible by the implementation of Yahweh's commandments, statutes and judgments:

**“28 Come to Me** [Yeshua/Jesus], **all who are weary and heavily burdened** [by religious rituals that provide no peace], **and I** [Yeshua/Jesus] **will give you rest** [refreshing your souls with salvation]. **29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me** [following Me as My disciple], **for I am gentle**

**and humble in heart, and you will find rest** (renewal, blessed quiet) **for your souls. 30 For My yoke is easy** [to bear] **and My burden is light.**”  
(Matthew 11:28-30, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Rousas J. Rushdoony made the following Sabbath comparison:

**“The pattern of the sabbath is God’s creation rest; the goal of the sabbath is man’s redemption rest.”<sup>14</sup>**

Our individual rest or Sabbath in Yeshua can and should be experienced corporately when as a nation; we apply Yahweh’s Laws to every sphere of our life here on earth, which will result in His will being done here on earth as it is in heaven. It is in this corporate relationship with Yahweh that His rest or His Sabbath is enjoyed in the optimum and it is in this Kingdom experience that the yoke of oppression is completely eliminated:

**“2 The people who walk in** [spiritual] **darkness will** [Or have seen, Hebrew perfect tense. The perfect tense is used frequently in this passage and should probably be interpreted as the prophetic future, that is, the use of the perfect (past) tense to describe a future event as a certainty.] **see a great Light; those who live in the dark land, the Light will shine on them.**

**3 You** [O God] **will increase the nation, You will multiply their joy; They will rejoice before You like the joy and jubilation of the harvest, As men rejoice when they divide the spoil** [of victory].

**4 For You will break the yoke of Israel’s burden and the staff** (goad) **on their shoulders, The rod of their oppressor,** as at the **battle** [A reference to Gideon’s great victory over the Midianites (Judges 7:22-25).] **of Midian.**

**5 For every boot of the marching warrior in the battle tumult, And** [every soldier’s] **garment rolled in blood, will be used for burning, fuel for the fire.**

**6 For to us a Child shall be born,** to us a Son shall be given; **And the government shall be upon His shoulder,** And His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

**7 There shall be no end to the increase of His government and of peace,** [He shall rule] **on the throne of David and over his kingdom, To**

---

<sup>14</sup> Rousas John Rushdoony, The Institutes of Biblical Law (Vallecito, CA: Ross House Books, 1973) Volume 1, pg. 128.

**establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness From that time forward and forevermore.** The zeal of the Lord of hosts will accomplish this.”

(Isaiah 9:2-7, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

Unfortunately, the Sabbath can only be observed in a limited fashion individually or as a church body. Many aspects of the Sabbath can never be fully experienced and the blessings cannot be fully realized until we implement the Fourth Commandment and its statutes on a national basis. However, for this national Kingdom Sabbath to be finally experienced, it must begin with individual commitments wherein we make Yeshua our Lord, Savior and King of our lives:

### **The Believer’s Rest**

“**1** Therefore, while the promise of entering His rest still remains *and* is freely offered today, let us fear, in case any one of you may seem to come short of reaching it *or* think he has come too late. **2** For indeed we have had the good news [of salvation] preached to us, just as the Israelites also [when the good news of the promised land came to them]; but the message they heard did not benefit them, because it was not united with faith [in God] by those who heard. **3** **For we who believe** [that is, we who personally trust and confidently rely on God. Who have repented and been baptized for the remission of our sins – Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:36-41.] **enter that rest** [so we have His inner peace now because we are confident in our salvation, and assured of His power], **just as He has said,**

“**As I swore** [an oath] **in My wrath,**

**They shall not enter My** [Yahweh’s] **rest,”**

[this He said] **although His works were completed** [God “rested” because everything that needed to be done was done—everything was complete, fully accomplished. In human terms this expression is used when a lawyer completes his presentation in a court of law; he “rests” his case—everything is in evidence, there is nothing left to present.] **from the foundation of the world** [waiting for all who would believe].

**4** For somewhere [in Scripture] **He has said this about the seventh day:** “And God rested on the seventh day from all His works”; **5** and again in this, “**They shall not enter My** [Yahweh’s] **rest.”** **6** Therefore, since the promise remains for some to enter His rest, and those who formerly had the good news preached to them failed to [grasp it and did not] enter because of [their unbelief evidenced by] **disobedience,** **7** **He again sets a definite day,** [a new] “**Today,**” [providing another opportunity to enter that

rest by] saying through David after so long a time, just as has been said before [in the words already quoted],

**“Today if you hear His voice,  
Do not harden your hearts.”**

**8** For if Joshua had given them [the nation of Israel] rest [in Canaan], God would not speak about another day [of opportunity] after that. **9** So there remains a [full and complete] Sabbath rest for the people of God. **10** For the one who has once entered His rest has also rested from [the weariness and pain of] his [human] labors, just as God rested from [those labors uniquely] His own. **11** **Let us therefore make every effort to enter that rest** [of God, to know and experience it for ourselves], **so that no one will fall by following the same example of disobedience** [as those who died in the wilderness].”

(Hebrews 4:1-11, Amplified Bible (AMP), emphasis and comments added)

I hope this study on the Fourth Commandment has been helpful and instructional. The main purpose of studying the Commandments is to better understand what our Creator expects of those whom He has called to be His children. Let all of His children seek Him and repent of their sins and draw close to Him because He wants a one-on-one personal relationship with all of His children.

Continue to test all things and may Almighty YHWH bless all who study His Absolute Written Word.

Shalom,

I am One Crying In The Wilderness!

### **Sources:**

John Calvin, [\*Commentaries on the Four Last Books of Moses in the Form of a Harmony\*](#) (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1981) Volume II, pg. 435.

James Strong, “[\*Dictionary of the Hebrew Bible\*](#),” The New Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible (Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1990) pg. 112.

James Strong, “Dictionary of the Hebrew Bible,” The New Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible (Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1990) pg. 102.

James Strong, “Dictionary of the Hebrew Bible,” The New Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible (Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1990) pg. 71.

[\*John Calvin, Commentaries on the Four Last Books of Moses in the Form of a Harmony\*](#) (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1950) Volume II, pg. 436, quoted by Rousas

John Rushdoony, [\*The Institutes of Biblical Law\*](#) (Vallecito, CA: Ross House Books, 1973) Volume 1, pg. 153.

Samuel Fallows, editor, [\*The Popular and Critical Bible Encyclopedia and Scriptural Dictionary\*](#) (Chicago, IL: Howard-Severance Company, 1909) Volume II, pg. 931.

1 Maccabees 2:31-38.

1 Maccabees 2:41.

Noah Webster, “LICENTIOUS” and “LICENTIOUSNESS,” [\*American Dictionary of the English Language\*](#), 1828 edition reprinted (San Francisco, CA: The Foundation for American Christian Education, 1967).

Dr. Layman Abbot, in the Christian Union, June 26, 1890

Dr. R. W. Dale, *The Ten Commandments* (New York: Eaton & Mains), pages 127-129

Timothy Dwight, *Theology: Explained and Defended* (1823), Sermon 107, volume 3, page 258

Isaac Williams, *Plain Sermons on the Catechism*, pages 334 and 336

Dr. E. T. Hiscox, author of the ‘Baptist Manual’

[Dr. Edward T. Hiscox, a paper read before a New York Baptist Minister’s Convention, November 13, 1893, reported in New York Examiner, November 16, 1893](#)

The Watchman

Baptist Church Manual, Article 12

WILLIAM OWEN CARVER, *The Lord’s Day in Our Day*, page 49

Harold Lindsell (editor), *Christianity Today*, November 5, 1976

O. C. S. WALLACE. “What Baptists Believe,” page 167

*Words of Truth and Grace*, page 281

Priest Brady, in an address, reported in the Elizabeth, New Jersey ‘News’ on March 18, 1903

*Our Sunday Visitor*, February 5th, 1950

*Our Sunday Visitor*, October 7, 1951

*This Rock*, *The Magazine of Catholic Apologetics and Evangelization*, page 8, June 1997

Rev. Stephen Keenan, *A Doctrinal Catechism; New York in 1857*, page 101 Imprimatur

Rev. Stephen Keenan, *A Doctrinal Catechism; New York in 1857*, page 174

Rev. Stephen Keenan, *A Doctrinal Catechism; New York in 1857*, page 181

Controversial Catechism by Stephen Keenan, New Edition, revised by Rev. George Cormack, published in London by Burns & Oates, Limited - New York, Cincinnati and Chicago: Benzinger Brothers, 1896, pages 6 and 7

Rev. Peter Geiermann C.S.S.R., The Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine (1957), page 50

The Catholic Encyclopedia, Commandments of God, Volume IV, © 1908 by Robert Appleton Company, Online Edition © 1999 by Kevin Knight, Nihil Obstat - Remy Lafort, Censor Imprimatur - +John M. Farley, Archbishop of New York, page 153

The Catholic Universe Bulletin, August 14, 1942, page 4

The Catholic Virginian, To Tell You The Truth," Volume 22, No. 49, page 9 (October 3, 1947)

The Faith of Our Fathers, by James Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop of Baltimore, 88th edition, page 89. Originally published in 1876, republished and Copyright 1980 by TAN Books and Publishers, Inc., pages 72-73

[James Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop of Baltimore \(1877-1921\), in a signed letter](#)

John Cardinal Gibbons, The Catholic Mirror, December 23, 1893

[The Catholic Mirror, official publication of James Cardinal Gibbons, September 23, 1893](#)

C. F. Thomas, Chancellor of Cardinal Gibbons, in answer to a letter regarding the change of the Sabbath, November 11, 1895

Catholic Record, September 1, 1923

The Faith of Millions

Sentinel, Pastor's page, Saint Catherine Catholic Church, Algonac, Michigan, May 21, 1995

Albert Smith, Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, replying for the Cardinal, in a letter dated February 10, 1920

Monsignor Louis Segur, 'Plain Talk about the Protestantism of Today,' page 213

Library of Christian Doctrine: Why Don't You Keep Holy the Sabbath-Day? (London: Burns and Oates, Ltd.), pages 3 and 4

T. Enright, C.S.S.R., in a lecture at Hartford, Kansas, February 18, 1884

T. Enright, C.S.S.R., in a lecture delivered in 1893

["Yes, I Condemned the Catholic Church" \(Supreme Council, Knights of Columbus\), page 4](#)

[Peter R. Kraemer, Catholic Church Extension Society \(1975\), Chicago, Illinois](#)

Adrien Nampon, Catholic Doctrine as Defined by the Council of Trent, page 157

Lucius Ferraris, Prompta Bibliotheca, art. Papa, II, Volume VI, page 29

John Paul II, Crossing the Threshold of Hope, page 3, 1994

John Paul II, Dies Domini, 27. The day of Christ-Light, 1998 (Prominent protestant leaders agree with this statement - See here for a statement by Dr. E. T. Hiscox, author of the 'Baptist Manual')

William Gildea, Doctor of Divinity, The Catholic World, March, 1894, page 809

Arthur P. Stanley, History of the Eastern Church, page 184

Henry Tuberville, An Abridgment of the Christian Doctrine (1833 approbation), page 58 (Same statement in Manual of Christian Doctrine, ed. by Daniel Ferris [1916 ed.], page 67)

Vincent J. Kelly, Forbidden Sunday and Feast-Day Occupations, Washington, DC, Catholic University of America Press, Studies in Sacred Theology, No. 70, 1943, page 2

A Course in Religion for Catholic High Schools and Academies, by Rev. John Laux M.A., Benzinger Brothers, 1936 edition, Part 1

[John Laux, A Course in Religion for Catholic High Schools and Academies \(1936\), volume 1, page 51](#)

Catholic Press, August 25, 1900

Canon Cafferata, The Catechism Explained, page 89

[Vincenzo Monachino, S.J., Chairman of the Church History Department, Pontifical Gregorian University, June 29, 1977](#)

[Daniel Ferres, ed., Manual of Christian Doctrine \(1916\), page 67](#)

Manual of Christian Doctrine, page 127

[Martin J. Scott, Things Catholics Are Asked About \(1927\), page 136](#)

Alexander Campbell, The Christian Baptist, February 2, 1824, volume 1, No. 7, page 164

Alexander Campbell, in The Reporter, October 8, 1921

ALEXANDER CAMPBELL, Debate With Purcell, page 214

Dr. N. Summerbell, History of the Christian Church, Third Edition, page 415

Dr. D. H. Lucas, Christian Oracle, January 23, 1890

First-Day Observance, pages 17 and 19

Bible Standard, May, 1916, Auckland, New Zealand

G. Alridge, Editor, The Bible Standard, April, 1916

Rev. Lionel Beere, All-Saints Church, Ponsonby, N.Z. in Church and People, September 1, 1947

Phillip Carrington, quoted in Toronto Daily Star, October 26, 1949 [Carrington (1892), Anglican archbishop of Quebec, spoke the above in a message on this subject delivered to a packed assembly of clergymen. It was widely reported at the time in the news media].

Phillip. Carrington, Archbishop of Quebec, October 27, 1949; cited in Prophetic Signs, page 12

Hobart Church News, July 2, 1894; cited in Prophetic Signs, page 14

Rev. Geo. Hodges

SIR WILLIAM DOMVILLE, Examination of the Six Texts, pages 6 and 7. (Supplement)

CANON EYTON, The Ten Commandments, pages 52, 63 and 65

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR, Ductor Dubitantium, Part I, Book II, Chapter 2, Rule 6. Section 51 and 59

T. M. MORER, Dialogues on the Lord's Day, pages 22 and 23

D. MORSE-BOYCOTT, Daily Herald, London, February 26, 1931

F.W. FARRAR, D.D., The Voice From Sinai, page 167

PETER HEYLYN, History of the Sabbath, page 410

DR. STEPHEN, Bishop of Newcastle, N.S.W., in an address reported in the Newcastle Morning Herald, May 14, 1924

Bishop Symour, Why We keep Sunday

HENRY M. TABER. Faith or Fact (preface by Robert G. Ingersoll), page 112

HENRY M. TABER. Faith or Fact (preface by Robert G. Ingersoll), page 33

HENRY M. TABER. Faith or Fact (preface by Robert G. Ingersoll), page 46

HENRY M. TABER. Faith or Fact (preface by Robert G. Ingersoll), pages 114 and 116

HENRY M. TABER. Faith or Fact (preface by Robert G. Ingersoll), pages 124

The Augsburg Confession, 1530 A.D. (Lutheran), part 2, article 7, in Philip Schaff, the Creeds of Christendom, 4th Edition, volume 3, page 64 [this important statement was made by the Lutherans and written by Melanchthon, only thirteen years after Luther nailed his theses to the door and began the Reformation]

Crown Theological Library, page 178

Bishop GRIMELUND, History of the Sabbath, page 60

Dr. Augustus Neander, The History of the Christian Religion and Church Henry John Rose, tr. (1843), page 186

MARTIN LUTHER, Spiritual Antichrist, pages 71 and 72

The Sunday Problem, a study book by the Lutheran Church (1923), page 36

John Theodore Mueller, Sabbath or Sunday, pages 15 and 16

George Sverdrup, 'A New Day'

JOHN WESLEY, Sermons on Several Occasions, 2-Volume Edition, Volume I, Sermon XXV, pages 221 and 222

Methodist Church Discipline, (1904), page 23

E.O. HAVEN, Pillars of Truth, page 88

CLOVIS G. CHAPPELL, Ten Rules for Living, page 61

Charles Buck, A Theological Dictionary, Sabbath

Sunday School Advocate, December 31, 1921

New York Herald 1874, on the Methodist Episcopal Bishops Pastoral 1874

Harris Franklin Rall, Christian Advocate, July 2, 1942, page 26

The Library of Christian Doctrine, pages 3 and 4

JOHN MILNER, The End of Religious Controversy, page 71

FULTON OURSLER. Cosmopolitan, September 1951, pages 34 and 35

H. J. FLOWERS, B.A., B.D., The Permanent Value of the Ten Commandments, page 13

F. M. SETZLER, Head Curator, Department of Anthropology, Smithsonian Institute, from a letter dated September 1, 1949

JAMES G. MURPHY, Commentary on the Book of Exodus, comments on Exodus 20:8-11

D.L. MOODY, Weighed and Wanting, page 47

D.L. Moody, at San Francisco, January 1st, 1881

Dwight's Theology, Volume 14, page 401

Works of Jonathon Edwards, (Presby.) Volume 4, page 621

JOHN CALVIN, Commentary on a Harmony of the Gospels, Volume 1, page 277

American Presbyterian Board of Publication, Tract No. 175

American Presbyterian Board of Publication, Tract No. 118

Westminster Confession of Faith, Chapter 19, Article 5

T.C. BLAKE, D.D., *Theology Condensed*, pages 474 and 475

*The Christian at Work*, April 19, 1883, and January 1884

‘Explanation of Catechism’

Joseph Hudson Taylor, ‘The Sabbath Question,’ pages 14-17 and 41

*Adult Quarterly*, Southern Baptist Convention series, August 15, 1937

Dr. J. Franklin Snook, *To Heal A Nation* (Salem, OR: J. Franklin Snook, 1977) pg. 46.

“PROSBUL,” *The Standard Jewish Encyclopedia* (Garden City, NY: Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1966) pg. 1547.

Because the forty-ninth year is to be a seventh-year Sabbath, the land would actually lay fallow for two consecutive years every forty-ninth and fiftieth year.

C. D. Ginsburg, “Leviticus,” *Ellicott’s Commentary on the Whole Bible* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan) Volume I, pg. 454, quoted by Rousas John Rushdoony, *The Institutes of Biblical Law* (Vallecito, CA: Ross House Books, 1973) Volume 1, pg. 141.

Rousas John Rushdoony, *The Institutes of Biblical Law* (Vallecito, CA: Ross House Books, 1973) Volume 1, pg. 128.