

REVELATION'S
WORSHIP WAR
PART 1



FORECASTING
HOPE

1. Revelation's Worship War—Part 1



2. Tonight, I want to begin by sharing with you an allegory. Now an allegory is a fictional story that has a powerful lesson to it. It goes like this. It is said that Truth had an appointment in a certain town one day, and the people were eagerly waiting for him to come and to tell them the truth. So, Truth was traveling along a hot, dusty road in the middle of a summer day.



3. The afternoon sun was beating down upon his back and he was sweating profusely. In the distance, he saw a nice, cool pond of water. He thought how wonderful it would be to stop and take a break and jump into those waters. So that's what he did. Truth took off his lovely white garments, hung them on a nearby branch, and jumped into the water, refreshing himself on a blistering summer day.



4. But wherever Truth goes, Lie follows close behind. And Lie was traveling along the same hot, dusty road. He too was sweating profusely. But eventually, he saw that same pond of water in the distance and the same thought crossed his mind, "I'm going to take a nice, cool swim." As he neared the water's edge, there he saw that Truth was already swimming in the water. He looked around and saw Truth's lovely white garments hanging on that nearby branch. Lie got a sneaky idea. "Forget the swim," he said to himself. "I'm going to steal Truth's clothes!"



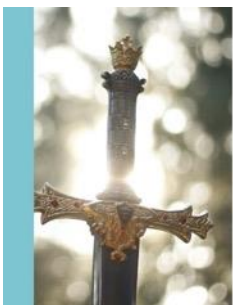
5. And he did. Lie quickly took off his old, ragged garments, threw them on the ground, put on Truth's lovely white garments, and made his way into town. As he neared the city gate, the people looked out and began to get excited. "Look, everybody," they said. "Here comes Truth! Here comes Truth!" But one perceptive person looked a little closer and said, "Now, wait a minute everyone, that's not Truth. That's a Lie with Truth's clothes on!" And so it was. The people were very disappointed.



6. Meanwhile, back at the pond, Truth had gotten out of the water and noticed that his clothes were nowhere to be found. As he looked around, he saw the old, ragged garments of Lie right there on the ground. He realized what had happened. Lie had stolen his clothes! Now, Truth had an awesome decision to make. He could put on Lie's old, ragged garments—or he could go into town—just as he was. He said to himself, "People may make fun of me, but before I wear Lie's old, ragged garments, I'd rather wear nothing at all!" So, that's what he did.



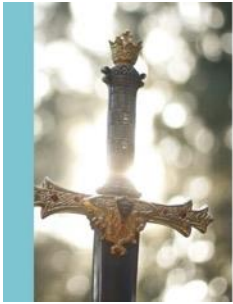
7. As he traveled into town, he neared the city gate. All the people looked out and they got excited. "Look, everybody," they said. "Here comes Truth! Here comes the Truth! Look! It's the naked Truth!" And so it was. Now, we may chuckle at a story like that, but tonight's subject is much like that story because tonight, here comes the naked truth. Now truth is an interesting thing. Some people love the truth and they will embrace it. Others laugh at truth. And still others prefer to believe a lie.



HEBREWS 4:12

"For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit."

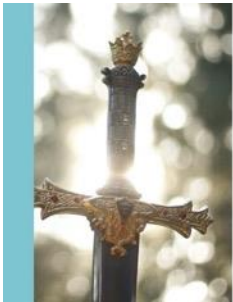
8. In Hebrews 4:12, the Bible says: "For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit"



HEBREWS 4:12

"For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit."

9. God says His Word is like a what? A sharp two-edged sword, and it will pierce us with the truth. Whether in the religious world or in the secular world, sometimes the truth hurts, doesn't it? But lies and deceptions hurt much more. And God loves us too much to let us be deceived, therefore in His mercy He brings us the truth to guide us.

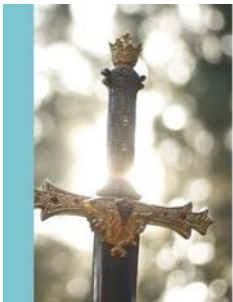


HEBREWS 4:12

"For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit."

10. But Bible prophecy tells us about a power that doesn't like truth. A power that would seek to distort God's truth and lead us away from the Word of God. The Bible prophecy calls it the Antichrist power.

I want you to take your Bibles and we're going to review one verse before we go into Revelation tonight. I want you to go to Daniel 7:25, and I want to read something we studied last time we were together.



HEBREWS 4:12

"For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit."

11. This entire chapter 7 describes the work of Antichrist. It reveals what activities he will seek to do on this earth. We're going to spend a whole night on this chapter, a little later in the seminar. But for tonight's subject, I just want us to notice what verse 25 says because it will be a springboard into our topic tonight.

DANIEL 7:25

"He shall speak pompous words against the most high, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to change times and law."



12. In Daniel 7:25, the Bible says: "He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to change times and law." Or, as the King James version says, "He shall think to change times and laws."

DANIEL 7:25

"He shall speak pompous words against the most high, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to change times and law."



- 13.** In the context of this verse, when it says “he shall intend to change times and law”, it’s talking about God’s times and law. In other words, Antichrist will think to change or to do away with God’s times and God’s law. We studied the other night how the spirit of Antichrist is working to try to cover up the principles of God’s holy law, His ten commandments. We live in a world now that says God’s law is ancient, that it is outdated, that it is archaic and irrelevant, that modern people do not need the principles of those Ten Commandments.
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DANIEL 7:25

"He shall speak pompous words against the most high, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to change times and law."



- 14.** So today, God’s law is no longer taught in our homes. It’s not taught in our school systems. You can’t display it in government buildings. And so many times from religious pulpits today, we hear, “That law is done away with” and “It’s not important anymore.” The spirit of Antichrist is already at work trying to do away with God’s law, trying to do away with the principles of happiness this world so desperately needs. We learned that in our last session together.
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DANIEL 7:25

"He shall speak pompous words against the most high, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to change times and law."



- 15.** But this verse also talks about God’s times. We’re going to discover that the spirit of Antichrist has attacked a very specific part of God’s law, and it’s the part that deals with time and worship.
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DANIEL 7:25

"He shall speak pompous words against the most high, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to change times and law."



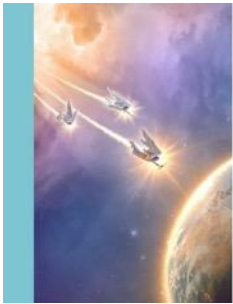
- 16.** And so, with that background information, we can now launch into our subject tonight. Let’s go to Revelation 14. Chapter 14 of Revelation is the key chapter in this apocalyptic book. Many of the prophecies you find in Revelation point to this chapter because verses 6 through 12 give us the picture of a proclamation by how many angels? Can you tell me? Three angels.

DANIEL 7:25

"He shall speak pompous words against the most high, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to change times and law."



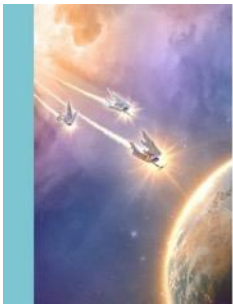
17. And these three angels have three essential messages for the people of the world who are living in the final generations of Earth's history. We won't present everything at once, but during this seminar we are going to cover the messages of all three of those angels. For tonight, we're going to focus on the message of that first angel. Why is this important to me today? Revelation 14 will tell us. Let's start at verse six.



REVELATION 14:6

"Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those

18. The Bible says: *"Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those*



REVELATION 14:6

who dwell on the earth —to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people."

19. *who dwell on the earth—to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people."*

Now, let's stop here. According to Revelation, how many people must this message go to? Everyone. It basically says every people group. So, whatever the message is, it's telling us that it's for everyone. It crosses geographical lines. That means it doesn't matter whether I'm American or Russian, Chinese or Norwegian, this message is for me. It also crosses racial lines.



REVELATION 14:6

who dwell on the earth —to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people."

20. It doesn't matter whether I'm brown, black, or white, this message is for me. In fact, it crosses denominational lines, which means it doesn't matter if I'm Protestant or Catholic, Muslim or atheist. Whatever I am, God says these three messages are for every single person that's living in the world. So that ought to give us a clue as to how important the book of Revelation considers these messages to be.



REVELATION 14:7

"...saying with a loud voice, 'Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come;

- 21.** So, what's this all-important message? Let's read it in verse seven. The Bible continues: "*. . . saying with a loud voice, Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come;*



REVELATION 14:7

and worship Him, who made the heavens and the earth, and the sea and springs of water.' "

- 22.** *and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."*



REVELATION 14:7

and worship Him, who made the heavens and the earth, and the sea and springs of water.' "

- 23.** The beginning of this message says we should fear God and give glory to Him. Why? Because the hour of His judgment is come. In other words, the angel is telling people who live on earth in these last days, people who are distracted, people who are caught up in this secular world, people like you and me who might be neglecting our relationship with Jesus, the angel is warning us and saying, "Listen, the hour of God's judgement has come. Jesus is coming soon." God is preparing to look over the record of our lives and come to save His people. It's time to turn our eyes upon Jesus.



REVELATION 14:7

and worship Him, who made the heavens and the earth, and the sea and springs of water.' "

- 24.** But notice the second part of this message. The angel goes on to say, "Worship him, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and springs of water." In other words, the angel is directing people back to worshipping the true God and honoring Him as the Creator of all things.



REVELATION 14:7

and worship Him, who made the heavens and the earth, and the sea and springs of water.' "

- 25.** In a world where almost every educational institution teaches and promotes the theory of evolution and rejects God as the Creator of heaven, that is a relevant message. So that brings us to the question: How do we honor God as the Creator? How are we supposed to remember Him as the Creator of heaven, the earth, the sea, and the springs of water? Can I do that however I want, or has God given us a specific way that's meant to be a blessing?
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REVELATION 14:7

and worship Him, who made the heavens and the earth, and the sea and springs of water.' "

- 26.** What we're going to discover is that this first angel is partially quoting from the fourth commandment of God's law. But before we get there, let me ask you a question. Here on earth—when we want to honor someone or remember an event—what do we do? We erect memorials. For example, when the tragedy of 9/11 happened and those Twin Towers came down, it was suggested that we build a memorial on that site. The purpose of that memorial is to honor those who have lost their lives and to always remember what happened there so that we never forget.
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- 27.** If you go to many cities across this nation, you will see memorials erected to honor those who fought in the wars for our freedom. In fact, this country has set aside at least one day where those war heroes are to be honored. What day is that? Well, one of them is Memorial Day.
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- 28.** As we go back to Genesis, we are going to discover that God gave us His own memorial day in which to honor and remember Him as the Creator. This is what the first angel is referring to in Revelation 14. Since Revelation talks about honoring God as the creator, let's go all the way back to the week of creation in Genesis 2. I'm going to read the first three verses. I want you to try to picture this in your mind.

GENESIS 2:1-3

"Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. And on the seventh day God ended



- 29.** Genesis 2, verse one. The Bible says: *"Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. And on the seventh day God ended*
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GENESIS 2:1-3

His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done.



- 30.** *His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done.*
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GENESIS 2:1-3

Then God blessed the seventh day and **sanctified** it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made."



- 31.** *Then God blessed the seventh day and ..." what's that next word? "... sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made."*
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GENESIS 2:1-3

Then God blessed the seventh day and **sanctified** it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made."



- 32.** Let's stop there. Here the Bible says that after God creates life on this earth, then comes the seventh day. And Genesis 2 uses very particular words to describe the seventh day. What are the words? Blessed and sanctified. Now, if you were to look up the word "sanctified" in the Hebrew, do you know what it means? It means to set aside for special use or a holy purpose. In other words, from the beginning God is saying that this seventh day is supposed to be set aside as a holy time for humankind to honor God as their Creator.

GENESIS 2:1-3

Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made."



33. It's a special day to remember that He's the One who made life, along with the heavens and the earth, the sea and the springs of water.

Revelation is pointing us back to the beginning where God gives mankind what would be called the seventh-day Sabbath. And the sincere question that sometimes crosses our mind is, *"I've always heard that the seventh-day Sabbath was the Jewish Sabbath, that it was just for the Jews."*

GENESIS 2:1-3

Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made."



34. But let's ask an honest question. Genesis 2 is the week of creation. How many people are alive on the face of the earth? Two. What were their names? Adam and Eve. Were they Jews? No. The Jewish nation did not exist until hundreds and hundreds of years into the future.

GENESIS 2:1-3

Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made."



35. In fact, Genesis 2 is speaking of the time before there were different races, different ethnicities, different nationalities, long before they were even different denominations. So apparently, all the way back at creation, God meant this seventh-day Sabbath to be a blessing for all of humanity throughout all time. You say, *"Why did God consider this seventh day to be so special?"*



36. Well, let's think about it for a little. God created life, Adam and Eve, man and woman on what day? The sixth day, which we would call Friday. Then the very next day God creates the Sabbath. The Sabbath, the seventh day, would have been Adam and Eve's very first full day with God.



37. You see, in a sense, God is saying that He is a relational God. He wants to know us in a very personal and a very intimate way. He didn't just create Adam and Eve and say, "I gave you life, now I'm going off into the distant universe, you're on your own." No, that's not how the Bible describes our Creator.



38. Because He wants to have a personal relationship with us, God now creates the seventh-day Sabbath. He says to Adam and Eve, and through them to us, "Every seventh day, I want you to rest from your labors." And it says God's going to rest from His! And they're going to come together in holy communion on holy time to grow their relationship with their Creator.



39. Stop and think about this for a second. When Adam and Eve were created, were they created already knowing everything about the character of God, yes or no? No. They didn't know everything about His character. That's why they were to spend time with Him to grow in that relationship. That's why God gave them the Sabbath. Because when you're remembering Him as the Creator every week, it's very hard to forget Him.



40. That seventh-day Sabbath time was about a relationship—being intimate with the ones that you created. That shows us how much God must indeed love us. And what we're going to discover is that right from the beginning of time, the devil has unleashed a ferocious attack through the spirit of Antichrist against that day. Why? Because if it's a day set aside to honor God as the Creator, the devil would like nothing more than to destroy that special time.



- 41.** He would like nothing more than to destroy that special time which affords mankind the opportunity to develop a personal relationship with their Creator and Redeemer.

And that's why Daniel wrote, "He would think to change God's times and God's law." The Sabbath is God's special time found in the very heart of His law—and it has to do with worship. In fact, God considered that seventh day to be so sacred that He included it in His 10-commandment law.



- 42.** Let's go to the Ten Commandments. Let's take a look at Exodus 20, verses 8 through 11. If Revelation is directing us back worship and the Sabbath, then I need to be sure to understand why.



EXODUS 20:8-10

"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of

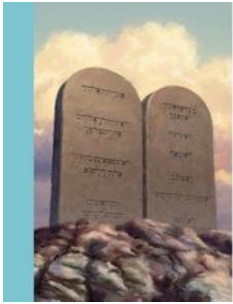
- 43.** The Bible says; "*Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of*



EXODUS 20:8-10

the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female

- 44.** *the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female*



EXODUS 20:8-10

servant, nor your cattle,
nor your stranger who
is within your gates.”

45. *servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates.”*

Then verse 11 tells us why. What’s the reason for this? What’s the purpose of setting aside secular labor, Lord? God answers the question.



EXODUS 20:11

“For in six days the
LORD made the
heavens and the
earth, the sea, and
all that is in them,

46. He says: *“For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them,*



EXODUS 20:11

and rested the
seventh day.
Therefore the LORD
blessed the Sabbath
day and hallowed it.”

47. *and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.”*



EXODUS 20:11

and rested the
seventh day.
Therefore the LORD
blessed the Sabbath
day and hallowed it.”

48. There are those words again that we saw in Genesis at the end of creation week. The Bible says that God blessed the Sabbath day, hallowed it or made it holy, and set it aside for special use. God considered it to be that important. Then if you look a little bit closer, notice God specifically says here in Exodus, “The seventh day is the Sabbath”—which we would expect, because that’s what we just read in Genesis. God is not going to contradict His Word.



EXODUS 20:11

and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it."

- 49.** But you notice something unique in this particular commandment. The majority of all the other commandments begin with what phrase? Yes, that's right. "Thou shall not." But this commandment is different. What word does it begin with?
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EXODUS 20:11

and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it."

- 50.** "*Remember.*" Now, think about it. Isn't it interesting? The very commandment that begins with the word "remember" is the one that most of the world has forgotten? The very commandment that begins with the word "remember" is the one the majority of the religious world says isn't important anymore. Already we are hearing two different voices. God says, "remember". The world says, "forget."
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EXODUS 20:11

and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it."

- 51.** Maybe that's why Revelation is specifically pointing us back to that time. Because God knows, if there is any generation in history that needs Sabbath rest—if there's any generation that needs to set aside secular labors so that they can connect in their relationship with God—if there's any generation in history that is so distracted, so caught up in this world that they're neglecting their spiritual life—it's us!
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EXODUS 20:11

and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it."

- 52.** God knows that those final generations are probably going to need the Sabbath more than anyone because it gives them time to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ. The Sabbath actually points me to Jesus.

EXODUS 20:11

"For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it."

REVELATION 14:7

"Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."

53. But would you do something for me right now? I want you to compare what we just read in the fourth commandment to what we just read in Revelation 14:7. I want to see if you can find any similarities here. I'm going to put it on the screen. In Revelation 14:7, this first angel has a message that must go to all the world. He said this, "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come." And notice the second part: "and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."

EXODUS 20:11

"For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it."

REVELATION 14:7

"Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."

54. Do you know that the second part of that verse comes directly from the fourth commandment in Exodus 20:11? There is no doubt about it. Revelation is pointing the final generations back to rediscovering the fourth commandment. Would it be easier for me to just skip over it and act like it's not there? It might be, but if God put it there, that means there must be a blessing in store. Does anybody here need rest in this crazy, chaotic world?

EXODUS 20:11

"For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it."

REVELATION 14:7

"Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."

55. That special time of the Sabbath is how I can connect with Jesus Christ. It is meant to be a blessing given by God to humankind from the beginning of time. Ezekiel also talks about this.

EZEKIEL 20:20

"Hallow My Sabbaths, and they will be a sign between Me and you, that you may know that I am the Lord your God."



56. In Ezekiel 20:20, the Bible says: *Hallow My Sabbaths, and they will be a sign between Me and you, that you may know that I am the Lord your God.*"

Notice, God said it's going to be a special sign. See, when I honor the Sabbath in my life, that's a sign that says, "I acknowledge God as the Creator of the universe. I acknowledge that He is the supreme authority in my life." That's God's special sign, according to Ezekiel.

EZEKIEL 20:20

"Hallow My Sabbaths, and they will be a sign between Me and you, that you may know that I am the Lord your God."



- 57.** Now, let's understand the relational aspect of the Sabbath. We can get caught up making a list of do's and don'ts, and we can make Sabbath-keeping so legalistic. The point of the Sabbath is carving out that special time on the seventh day where I'm putting aside my secular labors, my errands, my grocery shopping, etc., for what purpose? So that I can show God I'm serious, and I deserve to go to heaven? No.

EZEKIEL 20:20

"Hallow My Sabbaths, and they will be a sign between Me and you, that you may know that I am the Lord your God."



- 58.** The purpose of setting God's day aside, is so that now I have this special holy time where I can connect with the One who created me. Where I can purposely and specifically worship Him and grow my spiritual life, because the only way we can be saved is to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. The Sabbath is an avenue that helps us to grow in that relationship and to get to know Him better.



- 59. [Slides 59-67 provide duplicate slides/notes for both gender speakers. Delete what you don't need]**
Now, I want to illustrate this using earthly relationships. It's not a perfect illustration, but I think we'll get the point. Ladies, I want to use you as an example. How would you feel if your husband—or your boyfriend—came to you and said, "Honey, I love you."



- 60.** *I value our relationship so much that I'm going to set aside this day every week. I'm going to put everything else aside, and I'm just going to spend the time with you.."*
Ladies, how would that make you feel? Oh, awesome, wonderful. Because you know what it would be saying? It would be saying this man values the relationship.



61. Here's the point. God has done the same thing for us! He values His personal relationship with you and me. He says, "I am giving you the gift of the seventh-day Sabbath, not as a burden, but as a time for you to grow to know Me better. Because I want to know you and I want you to know Me." You know how easy it is to get caught up in this world, running like chickens with our heads cut off, seven days a week, 24 hours a day. God says, "I'm giving you permission to rest. I'm giving you the Sabbath time so you can know Me."



62. Allow me to use me and my wife for an example. Suppose I said to my wife, "Honey, I'm going to set aside this special day just for you." On that day, we go out to a nice restaurant—or maybe we walk along the lake side and have a romantic day together. Then how do you think it would go over if on that day I just started reading my books at the table— talking on the phone—or checking the basketball scores on my iPhone?



63. How well do you think that would go over with my wife? Not well at all. Because what would I be saying? I would be saying that these other things are more important to me than my relationship with her.



64. *[Use this illustration for a female speaker]*-- Allow me to use me and my husband for an example. Suppose my husband said to me, "Honey, I'm going to set aside this special day just for you." On that day, we go out to a nice restaurant—or maybe we walk along the lake side and have a romantic day together.



65. Then how do you think it would go over if on that day he just started reading the paper at the table at the restaurant instead of paying attention to me— or talking on the phone to his buddies—or checking the latest basketball scores on his iPhone? How well do you think that would go over with me? Not well at all. Because what would it be saying? It would be saying that these other things are more important than his relationship with me.



66. God gives us His Sabbath as a relational blessing. In fact, let's put it in perspective. Why would the devil, through the spirit of the Antichrist, want to do away with that special time?



67. Let me ask you a question. What is the easiest way to destroy a relationship between two people? Some might say, "Just throw another man or woman into the picture." That's certainly one way, but it's not the easiest way. The easiest way to destroy a relationship is simply to take away the time they spend together. They don't have to get into a big argument. They don't necessarily have to find someone else and commit adultery. If you take away the time they spend together, the relationship will eventually deteriorate.



68. (YOU SKIP THIS ILLUSTRATION IF YOU'RE SHORT ON TIME)
Let me give you one more illustration to show how deceptive the devil is. Let me use the marriage relationship again. Ladies, let's say you have a good relationship with your husband. You love each other. You're close. You spend time together. At your husband's job, his boss is a woman who envies the relationship you both have. It gets to her. She has her eyes on him, now. She wants him for herself. Envy becomes jealousy, and jealousy turns to scheming. She comes up with a sinister plan. She keeps him at work for many long hours.



69. She has him working on numerous projects which require him to work overtime for extended periods of time. Day after day. Week after week. He's staying late at the office pretty much all the time, now. He's not home much at all.

Now your togetherness time has gone. You gradually become distant from each other. Your closeness drops from a ten down to a one. His boss has made him so busy that he no longer has time for you.



70. As the relationship goes down, the boss steps in. She now gives him increased attention. They work late at the office together. She begins spending all the time with him that you used to. Eventually, your relationship falls apart. Now she has him all to herself. The competition has gone. And how did this happen? Because the boss took away the time you spent with the person that loves you, and the person you claim to love.



71. That is exactly what the devil has done with the blessings of the seventh-day Sabbath. That's why he attacks it, because it means special time to grow in our relationship with Jesus. The devil hates that, and so he'll take away that time we have with the Creator. That's why Daniel said, He will think to change God's times and God's law. The Sabbath is in the heart of God's law. It deals with holy time and it's about worship. All these are mentioned in the message of the first angel in Revelation 14:7. God wants the final generations to rediscover the blessing of the Sabbath.

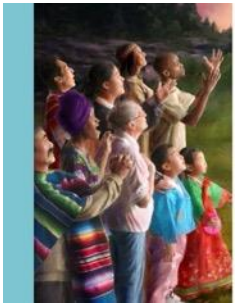


72. So far, we've really only looked at Old Testament texts. Sometimes you may hear people say, "Well, wasn't the Sabbath done away with in the New Testament?" So, let's go into the New Testament and get a clearer understanding of this. You may wonder, "Why do we need to study this? Is this just something Pastor (your name) made up?"



73. Think about it. If Revelation 14:7 is speaking about a message to the final generations and makes reference to the fourth commandment, that means Revelation wants me to understand it.

And if Revelation 14:12 describes God's people at the end of time as keeping His commandments, isn't the Sabbath part of that? Let' read that text again.

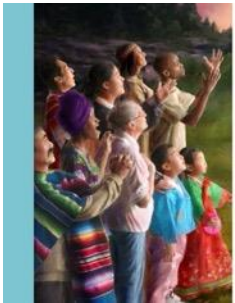


REVELATION 14:12

"Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus."

74. *"Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus."*

That's describing God's end time people. They honor God's commandments. If you look at verses 9-11 that's the passage warning us about the beast, or anti-christ. Notice how God's people respond to the beast here in verse 12. They keep God's commandments.



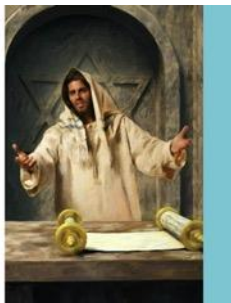
REVELATION 14:12

"Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus."

75. It doesn't mean just eight or just nine of the commandments, or that we can pick out the ones we like. It means that God's end-time people will love Him enough to honor His commandments—not as a way to get saved, but because they're already saved—and they're thankful for what Jesus has done for them.

LUKE 4:16

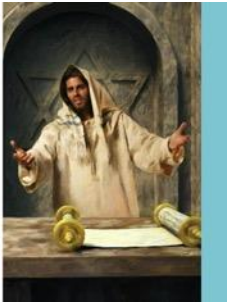
"So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read."



76. Let's go to Luke 4:16 and take a look at the example of Jesus. Did he consider the Sabbath important? The Bible says: "So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His ..." what's the next word? "... custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read."

LUKE 4:16

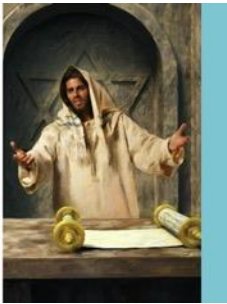
"So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His **custom was**, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read."



77. Notice the text talks about Jesus' custom. What does that word "custom" mean? Is a custom something you do every once in a while? No, custom means that it's your regular habit. Something you do on a regular basis. I'm going to guess that each of us have a custom that we do every morning. What is something that you do on a regular basis every single morning? Shout it out.

LUKE 4:16

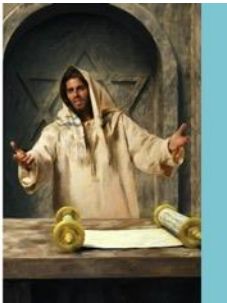
"So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His **custom was**, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read."



78. Eat breakfast? Take a shower? Or brush your teeth? At least, I hope you do. Your co-workers would greatly appreciate that. You don't do it every once in a while, you do it regularly—daily. So, the Scriptures say that Jesus had the custom of honoring the Sabbath day—that He used it as an opportunity for worshiping in the synagogue, as an example to us.

LUKE 4:16

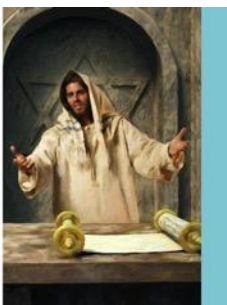
"So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His **custom was**, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read."



79. And actually, if you keep reading in verse 18, He used Sabbath as an opportunity to proclaim the gospel, and that He was the Messiah, the son of God. So, Jesus gave that as an example to us, not because He was a Jew, because we already read in Genesis that the Sabbath was given to humankind long before there was ever a Jew on the face of the earth. It's a blessing to all persons.

LUKE 4:16

"So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His **custom was**, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read."

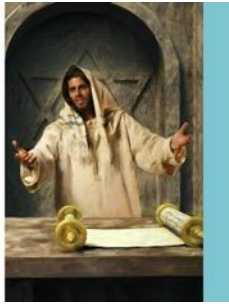


80. (YOU CAN SKIP THE SECTION ON MATTHEW 24:20 IF YOU'RE SHORT ON TIME)
So, the next question is, did Jesus say anything else about the Sabbath? I want you to go to Matthew 24:20. Do you know what this verse is going to do? It's going to answer the question as to whether Jesus considered the Sabbath to be obsolete after the cross.

In Matthew 24:20, Jesus is talking about the abomination of desolation

LUKE 4:16

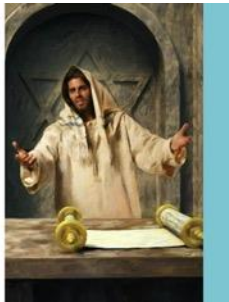
"So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His **custom was**, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read."



- 81.** He's referring to the destruction of Jerusalem, which would happen in 70 A.D. In 70 A.D., the Roman armies came into Jerusalem, destroyed the city and the temple, which the Jewish nation thought would never happen. Remember what Jesus said during the last week of His life? He told the Jewish leaders, Your house is left to you desolate. Then he told His disciples, "You see this great temple that you think is so awesome? There will come a time when not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down.

LUKE 4:16

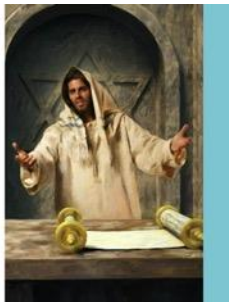
"So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His **custom was**, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read."



- 82.** That happened in 70 A.D. The Romans attacked Jerusalem because the Jewish nation was always rebelling against them. They despised the Jews and burned that temple down. When they did, do you remember what was inside that temple? Gold—lots of gold and precious metals.

LUKE 4:16

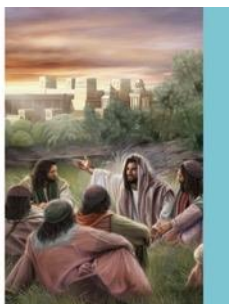
"So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His **custom was**, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read."



- 83.** The heat of the fire caused to melt in between the cracks of the stones. The Roman soldiers—because they wanted that gold—literally threw every stone down upon another so that there was not one left standing on top of another. This is what Jesus is referring to in the destruction of Jerusalem when He makes this statement.

MATTHEW 24:20

"And pray that your flight may not be in winter or **on the Sabbath.**"



- 84.** Matthew 24:20, Jesus says: "And pray that your flight may not be in winter. . . ." Why do you think Jesus said, "I hope it's not in the winter"? Well, if you're running away from Jerusalem because your city is being destroyed, then winter's going to be a pretty hard time to survive. But then Jesus goes on to say, "And pray that your flight may not be in winter or . . ." when? ". . . on the Sabbath."

MATTHEW 24:20

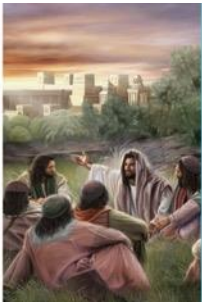
"And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath."



- 85.** Why not on the Sabbath? Because obviously, you're not going to be resting and worshipping your Creator when you're running for your life. Jesus was crucified around 31 A.D. So here He is, looking 40 years into the future, expecting that His people are still honoring the blessings of the Sabbath. If He intended for the Sabbath to be obsolete after the cross, He would never have made such a statement.

MATTHEW 24:20

"And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath."



- 86.** You say, "Well, that makes sense, but then if the Sabbath is meant for all humankind, for all time, shouldn't we find records of it in the early New Testament church?" And the answer is, you're absolutely right. Let's go to the book of Acts, because what we'll discover is the Sabbath is all throughout the book of Acts.



ACTS 13:14-15

"But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day and sat down. And after the reading of the Law

- 87.** Acts 13:14-15 describes Paul and Barnabas in the city of Antioch. The Bible says; "But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on. . ." what day? ". . .the Sabbath day and sat down. And after the reading of the Law



ACTS 13:14-15

and the Prophets, the rulers of the synagogue sent to them, saying, 'Men and brethren, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, say on.'"

- 88.** *and the Prophets, the rulers of the synagogue sent to them, saying, "Men and brethren, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, say on."*

That's using old English there. What are they really saying? Do you want me to put it in modern vernacular? They're saying, "Preach it, brother!"



ACTS 13:14-15

and the Prophets, the rulers of the synagogue sent to them, saying, 'Men and brethren, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, say on.'

- 89.** Paul and Barnabas are keeping the Sabbath holy, as the commandment said, as they saw their Savior do, and they're using it as an opportunity to teach people about Jesus. Think about that. They're resting physically on the Sabbath from secular labors and using it to teach people how to put their faith in Jesus, how to rest in Him spiritually. And they don't just do this with Jews.



ACTS 13:42

"So when the Jews went out of the synagogue the Gentiles begged that these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath. Now when the congregation had broken up,

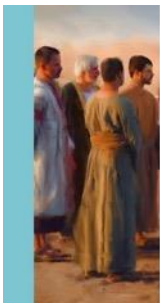
- 90.** Look at verse 42. The Bible says, *"So when the Jews went out of the synagogue the Gentiles begged that these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath. Now when the congregation had broken up,*



ACTS 13:42

many of the Jews and devout proselytes, followed Paul and Barnabas, who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God."

- 91.** *many of the Jews and devout proselytes, followed Paul and Barnabas, who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God."*



ACTS 13:44

"On the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God."

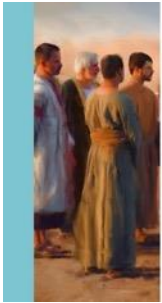
- 92.** And then verse 44 says: *"On the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God."* And you say, "Now, why is that significant?" Notice, they're not just doing this when they're in a Jewish town or city, because it says the Gentiles came next. So, regardless of whether they were in a Jewish city, a Gentile city, or a pagan city, it didn't make any difference. Here are New Testament Christians honoring the Sabbath, living in the grace of God, and preaching about Jesus.



ACTS 13:44

"On the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God."

93. And verse 44 says that on the next Sabbath, how much of the city came together? The whole city. What would it be like if this whole city came together to hear the Word of God? That would be an absolute miracle. A great revival. And I believe, someday the Holy Spirit is going to do that.



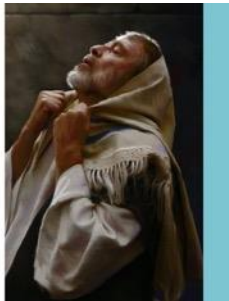
ACTS 13:44

"On the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God."

94. Now, this is just one example. We don't have time to go to all the references about Sabbath in the book of Acts, but let's go to chapter 18 and verse 4. This also speaks of Paul's example.

ACTS 18:4

"And he reasoned in the synagogue **every Sabbath** and persuaded both Jews and Greeks."

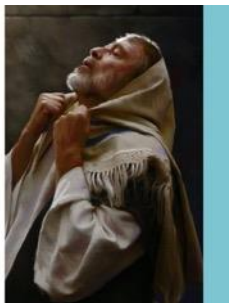


95. The Bible says: "*And he reasoned in the synagogue ... when? ... every Sabbath and persuaded both Jews and Greeks.*"

Paul was bold. He's doing this in a pagan city. The New Testament says he spent 18 months in Corinth. And Acts tells us that every week he was honoring the Sabbath, worshiping the Creator, and using it as a chance to teach people about Jesus. When Paul physically rested on Sabbath, he was teaching people how to rest their faith in Jesus as their Savior.

ACTS 18:4

"And he reasoned in the synagogue **every Sabbath** and persuaded both Jews and Greeks."



96. In fact, since we're already there in the book of Acts, let's go to another verse. Because even when they didn't have a building to go to, I want you to notice what happens. This is going to describe Paul and Silas when they were in Philippi.



ACTS 16:13

"And on the Sabbath day we went out of the city to the riverside, where prayer was customarily made; and we sat down and spoke to the women who met there."

- 97.** In Acts 16:13, the Bible says: "And on . . ." what day? ". . . the Sabbath day we went out of the city to the riverside, where prayer was customarily made; and we sat down and spoke to the women who met there."

So even in Philippi—when they didn't even have a building to worship in— they went to the riverside. They went in nature on the Sabbath for prayer and communion with God, their Creator, and Jesus Christ, their Savior.



HEBREWS 4:4

"For He has spoken in a certain place of the seventh day in this way: 'And God rested on the seventh day from all His works.'"

- 98.** ((YOU CAN SKIP THE SECTION ON HEBREWS 4:4, 9-10 IF YOU'RE SHORT ON TIME)

But there is another verse in the Bible that I'd like to take you to. It's in Hebrews 4. This is sometimes a misunderstood verse, but it's very important. In Hebrews 4:4, the Bible says: "For He has spoken in a certain place of the seventh day in this way: 'And God rested on the seventh day from all His works.'" Okay, right here, Paul is quoting from Genesis 2. Paul brings up the seventh-day Sabbath.



HEBREWS 4:9-10

"There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. For he who has entered His rest [meaning God's rest] has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His."

- 99.** Then, at the end of the passage, notice what he writes in verses 9 and 10. The Bible goes on to say: "There remains therefore a rest for the people of God." And in the Greek it actually says "Sabbath rest". "For he who has entered His rest [meaning God's rest] has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His."



HEBREWS 4:9-10

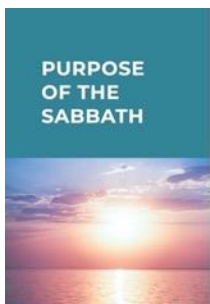
"There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. For he who has entered His rest [meaning God's rest] has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His."

- 100.** You say, "What exactly is that saying?" Paul is comparing the physical rest of the Sabbath with spiritually resting in Jesus. What Paul is telling me is that when I physically rest from my secular labors on Sabbath, that is a sign that says, "I spiritually rest my faith in Jesus." It's a symbol that I have stopped trying to earn salvation by my works. I'm resting my faith in the completed work of Jesus on the cross.



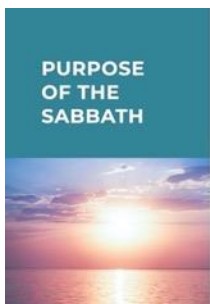
**SABBATH POINTS ME TO
JESUS AND THE CROSS**

101. So, the physical rest of the Sabbath points me to the cross. It points me to the spiritual rest in Jesus, which makes the Sabbath one of the most important symbols of grace that you find in the New Testament. That's why the devil hates it.



1. Spending Time With Jesus
2. Developing a Personal Relationship With Christ
3. Honor Christ as the Creator
4. Resting in Jesus as our Savior

102. So thus far, the Bible teaches us at least four things about that special time. One, the Sabbath is about spending time with Jesus. Two, it's about developing the personal relationship with Him. Three, it's about honoring Him as Creator. And four, it's about resting in Him as our Savior.



1. Spending Time With Jesus
2. Developing a Personal Relationship With Christ
3. Honor Christ as the Creator
4. Resting in Jesus as our Savior

103. Is it any wonder that the devil would like to obliterate that day, that special time? Remember, that's why Daniel said, he shall think to change God's times and God's law. The Sabbath is in the heart of God's law. It's about holy time—and it's about worship. All three are mentioned in the book of Revelation.



**HOW DID THE SABBATH GET
LOST SIGHT OF?**

104. When I study the Bible and see there are many, many verses about the seventh-day Sabbath, and then I see there's not one verse in the Bible that says the Sabbath was changed to Sunday or any other day, it makes me ask a question. And it's probably a question that has gone through all of our minds at some point. "If the Bible mentions the Sabbath over and over, how did we get to a point where the seventh-day Sabbath has been totally lost sight of?"



HOW DID THE SABBATH GET LOST SIGHT OF?

105. That's what we're going to talk about tomorrow night in part two. In fact, tomorrow, we're going to go through history and find out how in the world did we lose sight of the Sabbath? How in the world did it get changed? And to be fair, we're going to look up all the texts in the New Testament that mentioned the first day of the week. So, if there was ever a change to the first day of the week, we should find it in one of those texts.



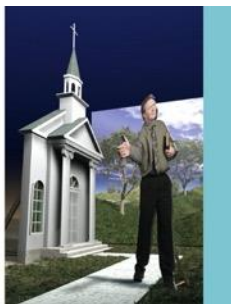
HOW DID THE SABBATH GET LOST SIGHT OF?

106. Now, in case you're thinking, "*We'll be here all night if we're going to look up all of them,*" don't worry. There are only eight texts in the New Testament that mention the first day of the week.

Now, because I know you're curious, I won't leave you hanging. I will give you a brief summary of how the Sabbath was lost sight of, then we'll go into more detail tomorrow night. Here's basically how it happened throughout history.

2 THESSALONIANS 2:3

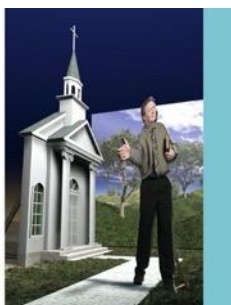
"Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition."



107. I'm going to springboard from something Paul wrote in 2 Thessalonians 2:3. Paul made this statement. He said: "Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day... [He's speaking of the second coming] will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition."

2 THESSALONIANS 2:3

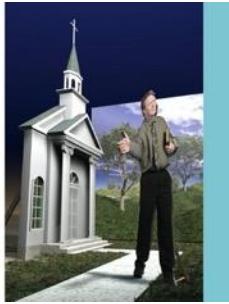
"Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition."



108. Paul knew that, after the death of the apostles, false teaching would come into the church, because even while they were alive, they had to battle against that, didn't they? That's why you have all these epistles or letters in the New Testament. Many of them are fighting against false teachings.

2 THESSALONIANS 2:3

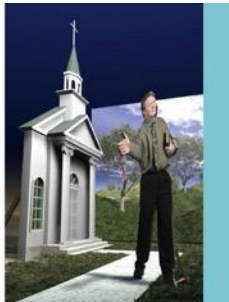
"Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition."



109. Paul said that before Jesus comes back to this earth, the church is going to fall away from truth. And one night we're going to see how that happened, little by little, through the Middle Ages. Unfortunately, that's what happened with the Sabbath. Christianity started to fall away from the pure Word of God.

2 THESSALONIANS 2:3

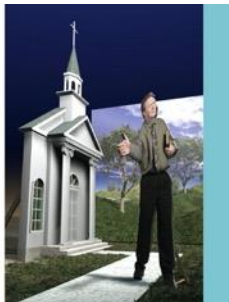
"Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition."



110. In those early first centuries, who was it that dominated the earth? What world power? Rome. Did Rome like the Jewish nation? They did not. They hated the Jews. They viewed Christianity as a sect of Judaism because one of the things they held in common was the seventh-day Sabbath. Remember all those verse we read in the book of Acts about the Sabbath?

2 THESSALONIANS 2:3

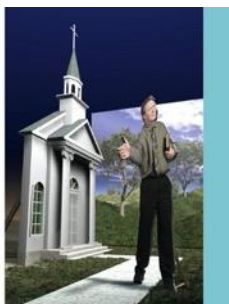
"Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition."



111. And so, Christianity was illegal in Rome and they were persecuting Christians. Some Christians thought, "We need to differentiate ourselves from the Jewish nation." And they thought, "What about Sunday? Jesus resurrected on a Sunday. What if we simply started making that the holy day? Then we would be different from the Jews. And after all, we're trying to win all these pagans to Christ. These pagans who worship the sun god." And guess what day they did that? On the sun day.

2 THESSALONIANS 2:3

"Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition."



112. That's why it's called Sunday. And they thought, *"If we made Sunday the holy day, then the pagans wouldn't really have to change anything, except, instead of worshiping the sun god, they could worship the Son of God."*

So, over the centuries little by little, more emphasis was placed on Sunday and less emphasis was placed on the true seventh-day Sabbath of the Bible.




CONSTANTINE

113. But what eventually gave momentum to this was a man named Constantine. Have you ever heard of him? Most likely. He was a Roman emperor. Constantine in 313 A.D. converted to Christianity. Many believe it was not a true conversion but that he was just trying to unite his empire. When that happened, Christianity went from being an illegal religion to being a legitimate religion.



CONSTANTINE


114. At first that might sound like a good thing. But it wasn't. Because Constantine began to bring in to the Christian faith some of the pagan traditions he had been brought up with. Error began to co-mingle with truth.



“
“On the venerable Day of the Sun, let the magistrates and people residing in cities rest, and let all the shops be closed.”

CONSTANTINE
321 AD - CODEX JUSTINIANUS

115. Eventually, Constantine issued one of the first Sunday laws where he said this: “On the venerable Day of the Sun, let the magistrates and people residing in cities rest, and let all the shops be closed.” Now, when the emperor says that, many people listened? So, the new day of worship started to spread even more.



“
“On the venerable Day of the Sun, let the magistrates and people residing in cities rest, and let all the shops be closed.”

CONSTANTINE
321 AD - CODEX JUSTINIANUS

116. As centuries went by, eventually a religious system came out of Rome, known as papal Rome, or Roman Catholicism. That's when church and state united and had great world-wide power during the Middle Ages. Papal Rome then included the Sunday in its catechism. Understand, I'm not saying this to be negative towards any particular faith group. I don't believe God is honored when we do that. This is simply to show the facts of history and how the Sabbath was forgotten.



QUESTION

Which is the Sabbath day?

ANSWER

Saturday is the Sabbath day.

- 117.** If you grew up Catholic, you know everyone has to go through catechism classes. In the Convert's Catechism, it says this:
"Question: 'Which is the Sabbath day?'"
Answer, "Saturday is the Sabbath day.'
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QUESTION

Why do we observe Sunday instead of Sabbath?

ANSWER

Because the Catholic church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday.

- 118.** 'Why do we observe Sunday instead of Sabbath? Because the Catholic church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday.'" And that happened at the council of Laodicea in 336 A.D.
- Since Rome had the power of church and state for over 1,000 years, and not many actually read their Bibles because it was forbidden to own one, this new understanding—that Sunday was the Sabbath—spread throughout the world.
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QUESTION

Why do we observe Sunday instead of Sabbath?

ANSWER

Because the Catholic church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday.

- 119.** In other words, Sunday simply comes from a man-made law being placed above God's law. Human authority above God's authority. So I have to ask myself a very important question: "What do I consider to be the highest authority? Is it the Word of God or is it the traditions of men?" That's a serious question to ask about any teaching in the Bible. Do I follow what God says, or do I follow what man says?
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QUESTION

Why do we observe Sunday instead of Sabbath?

ANSWER

Because the Catholic church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday.

- 120.** Now this is what I'm going to invite you to do. I recognize if you're hearing this for the first time, it can be a little disturbing. So, I'm going to give you a little homework. Is that alright? Here's what I want to invite you to do. Don't take my word for it. Don't ever take my word for it. I want you to go home, and I want you to study these verses from the Bible. In fact, I want to give you a fun assignment. Even though it's a serious subject, we can have fun, can't we? Okay, here's your assignment.



QUESTION

Why do we observe Sunday instead of Sabbath?

ANSWER

Because the Catholic church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday.

121. Find just one verse in the entire Bible that says the seventh-day Sabbath is not important, and it was changed to Sunday. Search from Genesis to Revelation to find one verse that says the Sabbath was changed to Sunday. In fact, you might want to get some friends to help you—maybe some family members. Just make a little game of it, even though it's a serious thing. But as you do, I'm just going to let you know ahead of time that you're going to hear people say the following five things. I can almost guarantee it.

FIVE THINGS YOU WILL HEAR

1. The Sabbath is just for the Jew.
2. The Law was nailed to the cross.
3. You can keep any day as Sabbath.
4. We keep Sunday in honor of the resurrection.
5. Don't go back to those meetings.

122. Number one, someone's going to say, "The Sabbath is just for the Jews." But we already learned in Genesis that God gave the Sabbath from the beginning of time, before the Jewish nation ever came into existence.

FIVE THINGS YOU WILL HEAR

1. The Sabbath is just for the Jew.
2. The Law was nailed to the cross.
3. You can keep any day as Sabbath.
4. We keep Sunday in honor of the resurrection.
5. Don't go back to those meetings.

123. Number two, someone's going to say, "The law has been done away with. It was nailed to the cross." We already learned that Moses' law of ceremonies, sacrificing lambs and goats, was nailed to the cross. But God's Ten commandments were not done away with, because Jesus said, "If you love Me, keep My commandments."

FIVE THINGS YOU WILL HEAR

1. The Sabbath is just for the Jew.
2. The Law was nailed to the cross.
3. You can keep any day as Sabbath.
4. We keep Sunday in honor of the resurrection.
5. Don't go back to those meetings.

124. Number three, someone will say, "You can keep any day as the Sabbath." That would be true except for one thing. God said the seventh day is the Sabbath. He didn't give me the right to change His Word. Even birthdays and anniversaries are celebrated on particular days, not on just any days.

FIVE THINGS YOU WILL HEAR

1. The Sabbath is just for the Jew.
2. The Law was nailed to the cross.
3. You can keep any day as Sabbath.
4. We keep Sunday in honor of the resurrection.
5. Don't go back to those meetings.

125. Number four, someone may say, “We keep Sunday in honor of the resurrection.” That’s a nice idea, but the Bible doesn’t tell us to do that. He has already given us a memorial for that. It’s called baptism.

FIVE THINGS YOU WILL HEAR

1. The Sabbath is just for the Jew.
2. The Law was nailed to the cross.
3. You can keep any day as Sabbath.
4. We keep Sunday in honor of the resurrection.
5. Don't go back to those meetings.

126. And number five, you’ll hear somebody say, “Don’t go back to those meetings.” I’ve had that happen. On the other hand, people who are into the Word of God say, “I’ve learned more here than I ever have before.” But you know what the test is for us? When I come to something in the Word of God that goes against what I previously thought, sometimes it’s hard for me to give up the way I’ve always done things and surrender to the Word of God.

FIVE THINGS YOU WILL HEAR

1. The Sabbath is just for the Jew.
2. The Law was nailed to the cross.
3. You can keep any day as Sabbath.
4. We keep Sunday in honor of the resurrection.
5. Don't go back to those meetings.

127. Sometimes I’m tempted to say, “Lord, that’s not convenient for me. That’s different from what I want to hear. I don’t want to hear anymore.” But no matter what the subject is, we must always pray, “Lord, help me to fully surrender to Your Word.”

FIVE THINGS YOU WILL HEAR

1. The Sabbath is just for the Jew.
2. The Law was nailed to the cross.
3. You can keep any day as Sabbath.
4. We keep Sunday in honor of the resurrection.
5. Don't go back to those meetings.

128. Somebody may say to you, “Don’t go back to those meetings. He’s not preaching what everybody else is preaching.” Well, I confess, I don’t preach what’s popular. I made a commitment ever since I became a minister that I would only preach what the Word of God says. If that makes me popular, fine. If it doesn’t, I can live with it because the person I want to be popular with is Jesus. If it’s in the Book, we’re going to take a look. And if it’s in the Word, it deserves to be heard. Can you say, Amen?

QUESTIONS
TO ASK
OURSELVES



1. Do I value my relationship with Jesus?
2. Would I like to experience the gift of Sabbath?
3. Would I like to experience the joy of spending holy time with Jesus?

129. So, here is the question for us to ask ourselves: Do I value my relationship with Jesus? Would I like to experience the gift of Sabbath? Would I like to experience the joy of spending holy time with Jesus? Man might say, “Don’t worry about it.” But Jesus says, If you love Me, keep My commandments.

QUESTIONS
TO ASK
OURSELVES



1. Do I value my relationship with Jesus?
2. Would I like to experience the gift of Sabbath?
3. Would I like to experience the joy of spending holy time with Jesus?

130. As I see it, I have two choices. I can say, “Thank you, Lord that You love me so much as to give me special time to know You. I accept your gift of the Sabbath. Help me to find a blessing in it and surrender my heart to You.” Or I can say, “Lord—it’s too different. Lord—I’m too busy. Lord—it’s just too inconvenient.” And I can turn my face the other way.

QUESTIONS
TO ASK
OURSELVES



1. Do I value my relationship with Jesus?
2. Would I like to experience the gift of Sabbath?
3. Would I like to experience the joy of spending holy time with Jesus?

131. My prayer is that when it comes to the Word of God, we would always pray as Jesus did, “Nevertheless, not my will, but Thine be done.” Tonight, would you be willing to say, “Lord, show me Your truth. And whatever that may be, help me to surrender to it with all my heart, with all my soul, and with all my mind.” Let’s pray.

QUESTIONS
TO ASK
OURSELVES



1. Do I value my relationship with Jesus?
2. Would I like to experience the gift of Sabbath?
3. Would I like to experience the joy of spending holy time with Jesus?

132. Heavenly Father, thank you loving us enough to give us the gift of the Sabbath. Thank you for being a God who loves us, who wants to have a personal relationship with us, who wants to spend time with us. The Sabbath is a new discovery for some of us. As we go home and search the Scriptures, we simply ask that You guide us and lead us into truth.

QUESTIONS
TO ASK
OURSELVES



1. Do I value my relationship with Jesus?
2. Would I like to experience the gift of Sabbath?
3. Would I like to experience the joy of spending holy time with Jesus?

133. Now, with every head bowed and every eye closed, I want to ask you a question. Is it your desire to say, “Lord, show me Your truth? Is it your desire to say, “Lord, show me Your will? If you would like to say, “Yes, Lord, show me Your truth,” then I invite you to raise your hand just now. By raising your hand, you’re giving God permission to show you His truth. Lord, you see every hand that is raised. Bless their family. Bless their home. Bless them as they search the Scriptures. Shine Your light upon us and draw us close to You. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.”



134.