



1. Revelation's Worship War, Part 2

Before we begin tonight, I want to make a special offer. When you came in tonight, you should have received a flyer offering a free book. I want to take a moment to explain that. If you received a paper that offers a book called When God Said Remember, please hold it up for me. (Hold up a copy of the flyer so they can see)



2. Last night, we studied a beautiful topic that many people have questions about—the seventh-day Sabbath of the Bible. We saw how God set this day aside as a special, holy time where we could grow in our relationship with Jesus and worship Him as the Creator. We also studied what this has to do with Bible prophecy and how the book of Revelation points the end time people back to the blessings of the Sabbath.



3. This might have been a new topic for some of you, and you may wish to study it further at home. So, I'd like to offer this book as an extra resource. It answers many of the questions people have about the Sabbath and contains many Bible verses you can study for yourself. What I really like about this book is that it's clear, straightforward, and practical. It even contains a chapter suggesting practical ways that you can experience the Sabbath as a day of joy, a day of rest, and a day of great blessing for you and your family.



4. If you'd like to receive this book, free of charge, please fill out the form and hand it in at the registration table. When we see how many are interested in the book, we'll be sure to get it for you.

**(Have prayer and begin your message)**

REVELATION'S  
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HOPE



5. A young Russian czar was taking a walk in the royal gardens one day. As he was walking, he was admiring the exquisite flowers and beautiful shrubbery that were there. Eventually, he looked beyond the wall into a vacant field far in the distance. He noticed a lone soldier standing all by himself. The soldier appeared to be guarding something.

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6. The Russian czar was curious, so he walked out to the empty field and asked the soldier what he was doing. The soldier looked at the Russian czar and said, *"I'm just guarding this spot, sir."* The Russian czar said, *"What do you mean? There's nothing here to guard. You're in an empty field. What are you doing here?"* "I'm just guarding this spot, sir," the soldier replied. *"But there's nothing here to guard. Why are you doing this?"* "I'm just following orders, sir."

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7. So, the Russian czar went and found the commanding officer and asked, *"Did you send that soldier out there?"* "Yes, sir, I did." *"Well, what's he supposed to be doing?"* "He's guarding that spot, sir." The czar said, *"I know that. That's what he told me, but there's nothing there. It's an empty field. What's he supposed to be guarding?"* "I don't know, sir. I'm just following orders."

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8. Now the Russian czar is going crazy. He's trying to figure out, why is an intelligent empire such as his sending a soldier out to an empty field to guard absolutely nothing? So, the czar decided to research this in the royal archives. What he discovered shocked him. Indeed, there was a decree to send a soldier out to this empty field. It went back hundreds of years to the time of Catherine the Great.

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9. At that time, Catherine the Great had a beautiful rose garden that she opened up to the subjects of her kingdom. In that rose garden—which was situated in that vacant field—she had a very rare and special rosebush. Catherine the Great had commissioned a soldier to stand guard over that rosebush to make sure nobody destroyed it.

Centuries passed. Catherine the Great died—so did the rosebush—and the garden was no more. But no one ever bothered to change the order. For years after, a soldier was sent out to guard that spot—even though nothing was there.

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10. We may chuckle and say, “How could someone do such a thing?” But the truth is, you and I may be doing the same thing. There’s a spot that you or I might be guarding right now. We are so content to follow something that someone says simply because it’s a tradition—it’s been handed down for generations—or it’s been repeated over and over—but we have never bothered to check to see where it came from—or if it is even founded on the Word of God.

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11. **I have made a promise to you that this would be a Bible-based seminar and that we would follow the Bible and the Bible alone.** I hope you feel that promise has been kept. Last night, we started to take a look at what the Bible teaches about the seventh day Sabbath and Bible prophecy. We looked at this special time that helps us to remember God is the Creator, time set aside to specifically grow in our relationship with Jesus Christ.

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12. Let’s take a few minutes and review some of those verses we looked at last night before we move into part two. If you were here last night, this will be a quick review. If you were not here last night, we are going to review in 10-15 minutes what we took an hour to cover last night. So, if you missed part one, please be sure to get the handout. Are you ready for the review? Let’s go.



**REVELATION 14:6**

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

- 13.** We began in Revelation chapter 14 and verse six. 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."

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



**REVELATION 14:7**

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

- 15.** *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.' "

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

We noticed that here in Revelation—in this first angel's message that is supposed to go to every living person on the face of the earth—it specifically quotes from the fourth commandment about the Sabbath. It is directing us to go back to creation and remember the One who made the heavens, the earth, the sea, and the springs of water. That took us back to Genesis.

**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



- 17.** In Genesis 2:1, the Bible says: *"Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. And on the seventh day God ended*

**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.



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

**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."



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

**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."



- 20.** We noticed that way back in the beginning of time, during the week of creation, God sets aside this seventh day, and He specifically says it is blessed and it is sanctified. He declares that He would set it apart for special use and He announces that Adam and Eve and all of creation could set their work aside and grow in their relationship with their Creator. Sabbath, then, is about knowing God in a personal way.

**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."



- 21.** We noticed that all of this was long before there was ever a Jewish nation on the face of the earth. Long before there were different nationalities and long before there were different denominations. We realized that God meant the Sabbath to be a blessing to all of humankind and for all of time. We understood that God considered it so important that He included it in His 10-Commandment holy law.



**EXODUS 20:8-11**

"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

- 22.** We saw this in Exodus 20:8, where 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 20:8-11**

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

- 23.** *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 20:8-11**

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

- 24.** *servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates.*



**EXODUS 20:8-11**

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

**25.** *For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them,*



**EXODUS 20:8-11**

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

**26.** *and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it."*

Notice how God repeats Himself. The Bible says He blessed this special day and made it holy. We also noticed something that is unique to this commandment. What word did this commandment begin with? Remember. And what do most of the other commandments begin with? Thou shall not.



**EXODUS 20:8-11**

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

**27.** But isn't it interesting that the very commandment that begins with the word "remember" is the one that most of the world has forgotten? It's the one commandment that even most of the religious world says isn't important anymore. No problems with the other nine, but not the one about the Sabbath. Is it by coincidence that God said, Remember?

**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."

**28.** Then something that really caught our attention last night was when we read Revelation 14:7. You can see that it is a direct reference to that same fourth commandment. What does it say in Revelation 14:7? "Worship Him who made heavens 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."

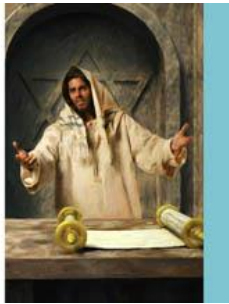
**REVELATION 14:7**

"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."

- 29. Compare it to Exodus 20:11. "For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them." It's almost a direct quote. Do you see that? Revelation is clearly pointing us back to the fourth commandment, the one about the Sabbath. God is pointing His people, in the time of the end, to rediscover the blessings of the Sabbath that have been lost sight of.

**LUKE 4:16**

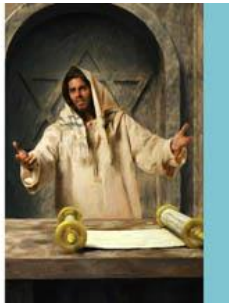
"So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read."



- 30. In Luke 4:16, the Bible said: "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."

**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."



- 31. We asked the question, if it's your custom, how often do you do it? That's right, on a regular basis. It was Jesus' regular habit to be honoring the Sabbath day because He knew it honored His Father as the Creator.

We thought, "If Jesus did away with the Sabbath, then we should not be able to find it in the early New Testament church." But we found the opposite. We found the Sabbath mentioned all throughout the book of Acts.



**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..."

- 32. One of the verses we looked at was Acts 13:42, where the Bible said: "The Gentiles begged that these words might be preached to them the next. . ." What? ". . .Sabbath."



**ACTS 13:44**

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

**33.** And then verse 44: *"On the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God."*

Here you have New Testament Christians honoring the Sabbath, using it as an opportunity to preach the gospel of Jesus to other people.

So, we asked ourselves, if the Bible is so clear about the Sabbath, how in the world did we lose sight of it through the centuries? This is where we came to the dynamic prophecy in Daniel 7 that we've read quite a few times now.

**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 laws."



**34.** Daniel 7 describes the work of Antichrist in this world. Now we're going to spend a whole night on this chapter later in the seminar. But for our subject tonight, notice what it says in verse 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 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 laws."



**35.** In other words, the spirit of Antichrist will be working, especially in the last days, to do away with God's times and God's laws because he works against the Most High. We have already seen how Antichrist has been working to the point where this world has rejected God's 10-Commandment law, saying, "It's archaic. It's irrelevant. We don't need it anymore."

**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 laws."



**36.** But what about God's "times"? Isn't it interesting that the Sabbath is found in the heart of God's law? It's God's special time that is meant to honor Him as the Creator and it's about worship. The devil would like nothing more than to cover up the symbol that points to God as our Creator.

**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 laws."



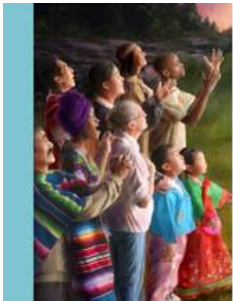
- 37.** That's what we studied last night and, if you remember, I gave you a loving challenge that you were to do at home. Do you remember? Yes, search the Scriptures for yourself and find one verse anywhere from Genesis to Revelation that says that the Sabbath is done away with and changed to the first day of the week. If you decided to do that, you probably discovered that verse does not exist.

**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 laws."



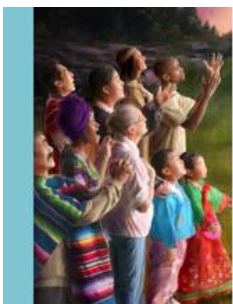
- 38.** For those who didn't get a chance to do it, tonight we're going to look up every single verse in the New Testament that mentions the first day of the week. There are only eight of them. You might ask, "Why are we doing this? Why spend so much time on God's Law and the Sabbath in a prophecy seminar?" Two reasons. Number one, because God's Law is a central focus in the book of Revelation.



**REVELATION 14:12**

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

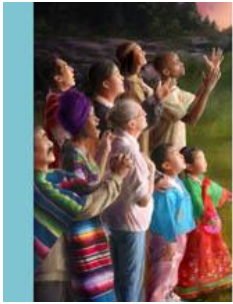
- 39.** Notice what it says in Revelation 14:12: "Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus." Revelation describes God's end time people, those who don't worship or follow the beast, as "those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus." So, if I want to properly understand Bible prophecy, I need to be clear about what the Bible teaches concerning God's commandments, and specifically the Sabbath.



**REVELATION 14:12**

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

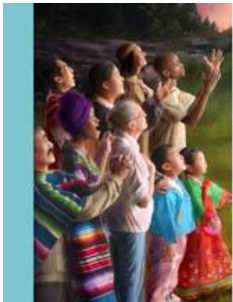
- 40.** Reason number two, because we've got to be fair. When you study a subject in the Bible, it's not right to just study one side of the subject and ignore the other. You've got to look at both sides. Put all the verses of the Bible together, and then the Holy spirit will lead us into all truth.



**REVELATION 14:12**

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

- 41.** So, since we looked up many of the texts about Sabbath, we need to look up the texts about the first day of the week—all eight of them. If the Sabbath was ever changed to the first day of the week, we should be able to find it in one of those eight texts. If it's not in one of those eight texts, that means it's not in the Bible.

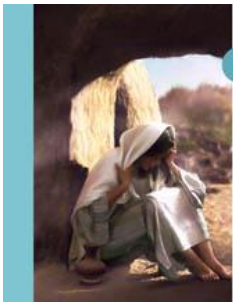


**REVELATION 14:12**

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

- 42.** So, let's begin this journey. You might as well get out your Bible, because I'm going to have you look up each one with me. You see, it's not important what I say. It's not even important what a church says. What's important is, what does the Word of God say? That's where we're going tonight.

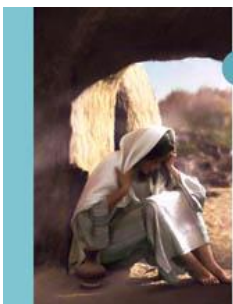
So, let's go to the first text, which is in Matthew 28:1. Now, many of these texts have to do with both the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ.



**MATTHEW 28:1**

"Now after the Sabbath, as the first day of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb."

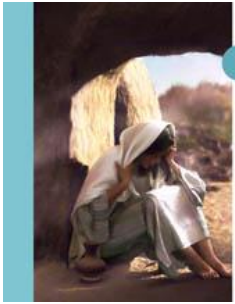
- 43.** Matthew 28:1. The Bible says: *"Now after the Sabbath, as the first day of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb."*



**MATTHEW 28:1**

"Now after the Sabbath, as the first day of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb."

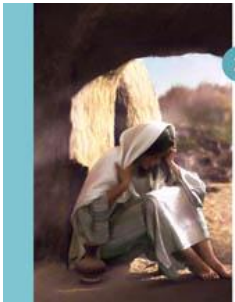
- 44.** That's the first text that mentions the first day of the week in the New Testament. We now have to ask a question. Is there anything in that verse that says God's special Sabbath was changed to the first day of the week? Nothing. In fact, it actually gives us a clue as to which day is the Sabbath. We don't even need the calendar for that. Notice it says, "after the Sabbath" what day came next? "The first day of the week," when Jesus rose.



**MATTHEW 28:1**

"Now after the Sabbath, as the first day of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb."

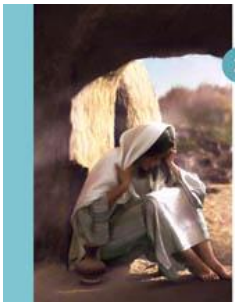
- 45.** So, the Sabbath is the day before the resurrection, the day before the first day of the week. Well, what's the first day of the week when the resurrection occurred? Sunday. So according to the Bible, the Sabbath is the day before Sunday. We would call it Saturday. So, Saturday is the Bible Sabbath. In addition to that, this verse says nothing about the Sabbath being changed.



**MARK 16:1**

"Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might

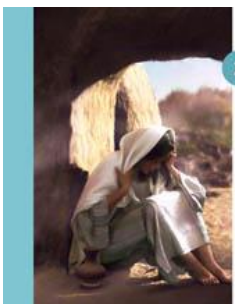
- 46.** This one is in Mark 16:1. We're going to be looking at all four synoptic gospels. Mark 16, and we're going to verse one. The Bible says: *"Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might*



**MARK 16:1**

come and anoint Him. Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen."

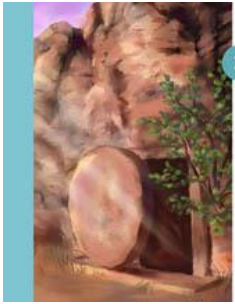
- 47.** *come and anoint Him. Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen."*



**MARK 16:1**

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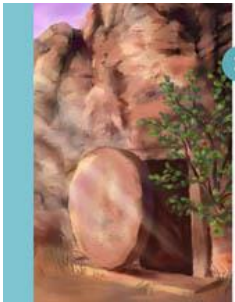
- 48.** Now, in that reference, does it say anything there about the Sabbath being changed to the first day of the week? Yes or no? No. Does it say anything about honoring Sunday because of the resurrection in that verse? Nothing. In fact, it says that after the Sabbath was passed, then came the first day of the week. The Sabbath was the day before Sunday. That's what we would call Saturday. So far, we've looked up two texts. We haven't found anything yet about a change, but there are six more texts to go.



**MARK 16:9**

"Now when He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons."

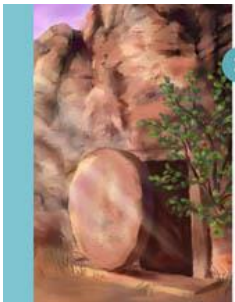
- 49.** Let's look at the third one, which is actually in the same chapter. Just go to verse nine. The Bible says: "*Now when He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons.*"



**MARK 16:9**

"Now when He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons."

- 50.** Now, does it say anything in there about a change in the Sabbath? Nothing. However, I can't help but notice that Mary Magdalene seems to be quite involved in the resurrection in these verses, isn't she? Because you see, Mary Magdalene understood what it meant to be changed. Mary Magdalene's life was basically in the gutter. She was separated from God. She was on a path where she was making wrong choices. The Pharisees wanted nothing to do with her. They considered her to be a lost and a condemned soul.



**MARK 16:9**

"Now when He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons."

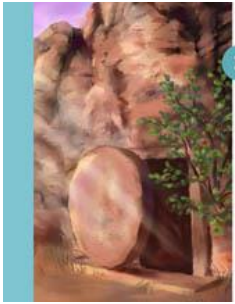
- 51.** But Jesus Christ spent time with Mary Magdalene because Jesus ministered to those that other people considered to be worthless. The love and mercy and acceptance that she experienced from Jesus changed her life. Mary Magdalene is one of the first ones who is at that tomb. She's the first one, besides the angels, who proclaimed a living Savior. Can you say, Amen?



**MARK 16:9**

"Now when He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons."

- 52.** People don't change until they know that we love them. In fact, people don't care what you know unless they know that you care. That's a good lesson for families. That's a good lesson for churches.



3

**MARK 16:9**

"Now when He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons."

- 53.** I want you to know that if you feel like your life is in the gutter, Jesus can put you on a different path. Just like He did for Mary Magdalene. That's why the Bible says, "He is able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him." (Hebrews 7:25). We just need to surrender our hearts and put our lives in His hands.

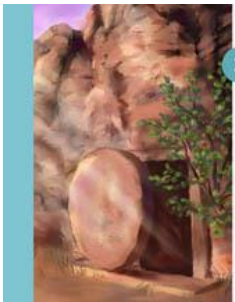


3

**MARK 16:9**

"Now when He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons."

- 54.** Let's go to the fourth text regarding the first day of the week. That would be in Luke 23. We're going to start in verse 52. Now, I'm purposely looking up all these texts, even though many of them say the same thing, because I want us to feel that we have done a thorough study of the Bible on this subject. Let's be honest, popular theology says Sabbath isn't important, but I don't want to go with popular theology, I want to go with God's theology. Do you agree?



3

**MARK 16:9**

"Now when He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons."

- 55.** Now, this passage is describing when Joseph of Arimathea asked if he could take down the body of Jesus from the cross on Friday afternoon, when Jesus was crucified. Let's pick it up in Luke 23:52-56.



4

**LUKE 23:52-56**

"This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a tomb that was hewn

- 56.** The Bible says: *"This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a tomb that was hewn*



4

LUKE 23:52-56

out of the rock, where no one had ever lain before. That day was the Preparation, and the Sabbath drew near. And the women who

57. *out of the rock, where no one had ever lain before. That day was the Preparation, and the Sabbath drew near. And the women who*



4

LUKE 23:52-56

had come with Him from Galilee followed after, and they observed the tomb and how His body was laid. Then they returned and

58. *had come with Him from Galilee followed after, and they observed the tomb and how His body was laid. Then they returned and*



4

LUKE 23:52-56

prepared spices and fragrant oils. And they rested on the Sabbath according to the commandment."

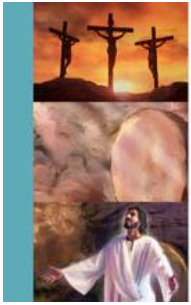
59. *prepared spices and fragrant oils. And they rested on the Sabbath according to the commandment."*



LUKE 24:1

"Now on the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they, and certain other women with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared."

60. *And then verse one of Luke chapter 24: "Now on the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they, and certain other women with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared."*

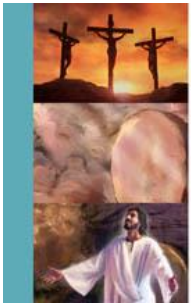


**SIXTH DAY = PREPARATION DAY**  
The day Jesus died and laid in tomb,  
called **Friday**

**SEVENTH DAY = SABBATH**  
The day He rested in the tomb,  
called **Saturday**

**FIRST DAY = RESURRECTION DAY**  
Called **Sunday**

61. That was quite a few verses, but they're very important. Here we see the order of events and the order of days. The preparation day was always Friday. That's when you prepared for the Sabbath. That's when Jesus was crucified on the cross. That's when Joseph asked to take the body of Jesus down and put it in the tomb.

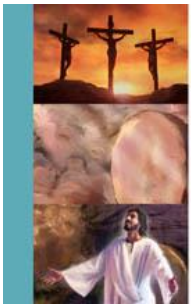


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Called **Sunday**

62. The Bible says the next day was the Sabbath, and they rested according to the commandment. After the Sabbath was over, then came the first day of the week, Sunday, when Jesus resurrected. So, the Sabbath is the day in between Friday when He died and Sunday when He rose. That would be what we call Saturday.



**SIXTH DAY = PREPARATION DAY**  
The day Jesus died and laid in tomb,  
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**SEVENTH DAY = SABBATH**  
The day He rested in the tomb,  
called **Saturday**

**FIRST DAY = RESURRECTION DAY**  
Called **Sunday**

63. Notice, the ladies were going down to that tomb on Sunday not because they expected to see Him resurrected. They were going down to the tomb because they hadn't had enough time before the Sabbath to buy all their spices and ointments. They were going to finish anointing Jesus for burial—but when they got there, they found out that wasn't necessary! He had risen! Can you say, Amen?



**5 JOHN 20:1**

"Now, the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb."

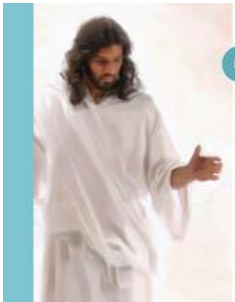
64. Let's go to the fifth text in the New Testament that mentions that first day of the week. It's John 20:1. This also speaks about the resurrection. The Bible describes it in this way: "Now, the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb." Is there anything in there that says that the Sabbath was changed to Sunday and God's holy law has been done away with? Nothing.



JOHN 20:1

"Now, the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb."

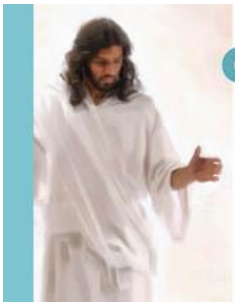
65. So far, we've gone through five texts and now we're going to text number six. This is one we need to slow down on because if we just read it on the surface level, it's quite possible to misunderstand something. The sixth text we want to go to about the first day of the week is John 20:19.



JOHN 20:19

"Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples

66. The Bible says: *"Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples*



JOHN 20:19

were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'"

67. *were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you."*



JOHN 20:19

were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'"

68. We must be honest with Scripture. What day is this happening on? The first day of the week. It does say that they were assembled together in a place. I ought not to act as if the Bible doesn't say that. That's not fair. But before I jump to conclusions, as some may do, and say, "See, they were assembled together. They must have been having a formal worship service. That shows the Sabbath was changed and God's holy law was done away with." That's reading into that verse so much of what it doesn't actually say.



JOHN 20:19

were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'

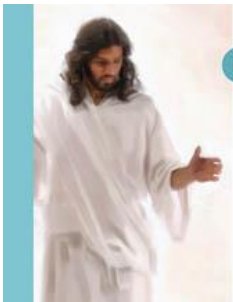
69. We have to be careful not to come to the Bible with our preconceived ideas. That's a hard thing to do. That's why we need to ask the Holy Spirit to guide our study because, depending on what we've heard throughout our lives, we go to the Bible expecting it to say certain things and, without realizing it, maybe even unconsciously, we make the Bible say what it doesn't actually say.



JOHN 20:19

were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'

70. The text doesn't say anything here about one of God's commandments being changed and done away with. Neither does the text say anything about this gathering being a formal worship service. In fact, when you read a little closer, the verse actually tells you why they were assembled together. It had nothing to do with worship.



JOHN 20:19

were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'

71. There is one phrase in verse 19 that is absolutely key. It says, "**when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled,**" and what does the next phrase say? "**For fear of the Jews.**"



JOHN 20:19

were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'

72. They weren't assembling to worship a risen Savior. They didn't even believe He was risen at that point! Mary Magdalene and the women had come back to try to tell them and they said, "You're crazy. You're imagining things." That's why Jesus had to appear and say, "Peace be with you", because they didn't believe it.



**JOHN 20:19**  
were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'"

**73.** The reason they were meeting together was for fear of the Jews. They were scared to death. They had just seen their Savior cruelly crucified on Friday, and they figured the authorities were going to come after them next. They were assembled behind closed doors for fear of the Jews. It had nothing to do with the Sabbath being changed.



**JOHN 20:19**  
were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'"

**74.** This is an example of why it's important not just to read things on a surface level. I can't take one text in the Bible and build a doctrine around it while ignoring many other clear texts that are in the Word of God. You have to put everything together. If that makes sense, can you say, Amen?



**JOHN 20:19**  
were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'"

**75.** Let's go to the seventh text. This is another one where we'll have to slow down just a little bit. This is Acts 20:7. Now, if you were here last night, we did a study of the early Christian Church there in the Book of Acts. There were so many texts that made clear the Sabbath was still an important part of the Christian walk. And why shouldn't it be? In the New Testament, is God still our Creator? Yes! Is Jesus Christ still our Savior? Absolutely! So, Sabbath time would be important in the New Testament and beyond, even as it was in the Old Testament.



**JOHN 20:19**  
were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'"

**76.** But now, let's go to Acts 20:7 and take an honest look at what is sometimes seen as a difficult passage. I love this passage because there's actually something in it that I find quite humorous. You'll see in a moment. Let's read it through first. Use your imagination as this is described by Luke, the author of Acts.



7

ACTS 20:7-8

"Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them

77. The Bible says: *"Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them*



7

ACTS 20:7-8

and continued his message until **midnight**. There were many **lamps** in the upper room where they were gathered together."

78. *and continued his message until..." when? "... midnight. There were many lamps in the upper room where they were gathered together."*



7

ACTS 20:7-8

and continued his message until **midnight**. There were many **lamps** in the upper room where they were gathered together."

79. There are two words I want you to remember. I want you to remember the word "midnight"—and the word "lamps." What were the two words? "Midnight" and "lamps". This is going to become important in just a few minutes.



ACTS 20:9-11

"And in a window sat a certain young man named Eutychus, who was sinking into a deep sleep. He was overcome by sleep; and as Paul continued speaking,

80. Let's read verse nine: *"And in a window sat a certain young man named Eutychus, who was sinking into a deep sleep. He was overcome by sleep; and as Paul continued speaking,*



**ACTS 20:9-11**

he fell down from the third story and was taken up dead. But Paul went down, fell on him, and embracing him said, 'Do not trouble yourselves,

- 81.** *he fell down from the third story and was taken up dead. But Paul went down, fell on him, and embracing him said, 'Do not trouble yourselves,*



**ACTS 20:9-11**

for his life is in him.' Now when he had come up, had broken bread and eaten, and talked a long while, even till daybreak, he departed."

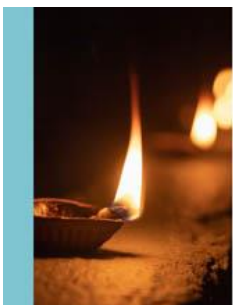
- 82.** *for his life is in him.' Now when he had come up, had broken bread and eaten, and talked a long while, even till daybreak, he departed."*



**ACTS 20:9-11**

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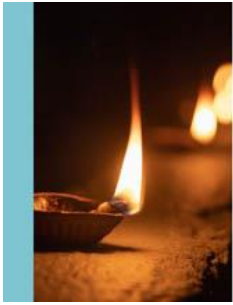
- 83.** Let's pause here. If I read this on the surface, I might misunderstand because, let's be honest, what day is this happening on? The first day of the week. The disciples are together, and what is Paul doing? He's preaching a message.



**ACTS 20:9-11**

for his life is in him.' Now when he had come up, had broken bread and eaten, and talked a long while, even till daybreak, he departed."

- 84.** On the surface, I see where a person might look at this say, "I assume they must have begun to keep Sunday holy." But is that what the verse says? Does the verse specifically say that God's Sabbath is changed to the first day of the week and His holy law has been done away with? Or am I reading something into it with preconceived ideas? If God was going to change one of his eternal 10 Commandments, don't you think He would make it so absolutely clear that it would scream out to us from the Bible? He wouldn't make it something hidden that we have to find indirectly.



**ACTS 20:9-11**

for his life is in him.  
Now when he had come up, had broken bread and eaten, and talked a long while, even till daybreak, he departed."

- 85.** But see, as you read this verse, you find out very quickly that this is not a Sunday morning worship service, it's a Saturday night meeting. You say, "How do you know that?" We know it was evening for two reasons.

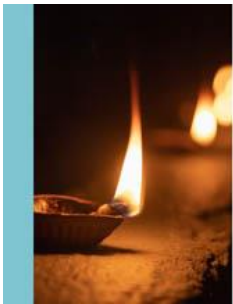


**ACTS 20:9-11**

for his life is in him.  
Now when he had come up, had broken bread and eaten, and talked a long while, even till daybreak, he departed."

- 86.** Reason number one, what were the words I told you to remember? Midnight and lamps. If this was a Sunday morning gathering—and Paul preached till midnight—then Paul would have preached for a long, long, long time. He would have been the most long-winded preacher ever!

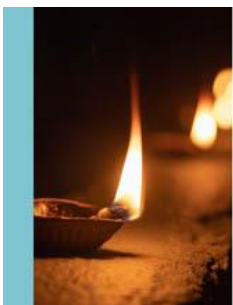
Reason number two: what does the Bible say was burning in the upper room? Lamps. Question: why do you burn lamps? Answer: because it's dark outside. It's Saturday evening. That's why poor Eutychus fell asleep!



**ACTS 20:9-11**

for his life is in him.  
Now when he had come up, had broken bread and eaten, and talked a long while, even till daybreak, he departed."

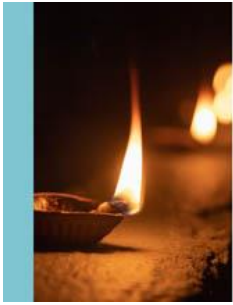
- 87.** I don't know why Eutychus was sitting in the window, but Paul is preaching on and on. Lamps are burning. It's close to midnight. The poor guy falls asleep, falls out the window, and the Bible says he dies. I think there's another lesson here. You should never fall asleep when the preacher is preaching. Amen? You never know what could happen. I'm sorry, I couldn't resist that. It's a preacher joke. (Smile).



**ACTS 20:9-11**

for his life is in him.  
Now when he had come up, had broken bread and eaten, and talked a long while, even till daybreak, he departed."

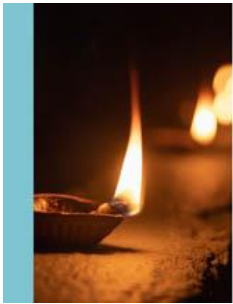
- 88.** Eutychus's death could have put a damper on things. But Paul went down and prayed for Eutychus and, through the mercy of God, this man's life was brought back to him. Do you know what I've discovered? It's wrong to judge people by what you see on the outside. Somebody might look like they're sleeping in church, but they are listening. Their eyes are closed, but they can tell you everything you said. That's really a lesson for us preachers too.



**ACTS 20:9-11**

for his life is in him.'  
Now when he had come up, had broken bread and eaten, and talked a long while, even till daybreak, he departed."

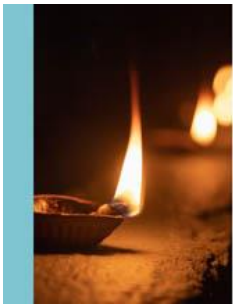
- 89.** Nevertheless, Paul was getting ready to leave the next day because the Bible says he left at daybreak on Sunday morning. He took a ship to a place called Assos, and continued his missionary journey. He treated Sunday like an ordinary day of the week. The reason he preached till midnight is because he knows he's probably not going to see these people again, and he had a hard time saying goodbye. That's why Eutychus fell asleep.



**ACTS 20:9-11**

for his life is in him.'  
Now when he had come up, had broken bread and eaten, and talked a long while, even till daybreak, he departed."

- 90.** In any case, it was Saturday evening. You might ask, "Then why does it say 'the first day of the week'?" The answer is very simple. In the Bible, a day goes from sundown to sundown. In the Bible, a new day begins at sundown. In the secular world, we say a new day begins at midnight. But in the Bible, a new day begins at sundown. So, when the sun went down on Saturday evening, according to the Bible the first day of the week had already begun. But technically it was Saturday night.



**ACTS 20:9-11**

for his life is in him.'  
Now when he had come up, had broken bread and eaten, and talked a long while, even till daybreak, he departed."

- 91.** In fact, some modern translations of the Bible specifically say it was Saturday night and some include it in the footnotes.



**ACTS 20:7 GNT**

"On Saturday evening we gathered together for the fellowship meal. Paul spoke to the people and kept on speaking until midnight, since he was going to leave the next day."

- 92.** Here's how the Good News Translation puts it: "On Saturday evening we gathered together for the fellowship meal. Paul spoke to the people and kept on speaking until midnight, since he was going to leave the next day."

So, when you put the verses of the Bible together and don't just read them on the surface, the Bible becomes very, very clear.



**ACTS 20:7 GNT**

"On Saturday evening we gathered together for the fellowship meal. Paul spoke to the people and kept on speaking until midnight, since he was going to leave the next day."

**93.** So far, we've looked up seven of the eight texts that mention Sunday, or the first day of the week. We've only got one more. If a change of the Sabbath—from the seventh day of the week to the first day of the week—is not in the next text, that means it's not in the Bible.

Let's go to the eighth text. 1 Corinthians 16:1-2. This is another text where we must be careful not to do a quick or cursory reading.



**8**

**I CORINTHIANS 16:1-2**

"Now, concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given orders to the churches of Galatia, so you must do also. On the first

**94.** The Bible says: *"Now, concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given orders to the churches of Galatia, so you must do also. On the first*



**8**

**I CORINTHIANS 16:1-2**

day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come."

**95.** *day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come."*

From time to time, I come across books or commentaries that say, "This is like a Sunday school offering. This shows that the Sabbath was changed to the first day. It is proof that God's holy law was changed and has been done away with." But does the text actually say that?



**8**

**I CORINTHIANS 16:1-2**

day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come."

**96.** What Paul is saying is, *"On the first day of the week—the beginning of your work week—I want you to lay something aside at home. Lay something aside so that when I, or the other apostles have come, we can collect it."* Because if they don't lay it aside, they will spend it. Who were they collecting for? The poor Christians in Jerusalem. This is not the first time they collected funds like this. Christians in Jerusalem were being persecuted because the Jewish nation totally rejected Christ and His message. They were losing their homes and all the basic necessities of life.

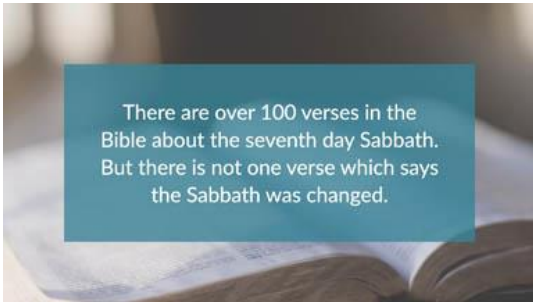


8

1 CORINTHIANS 16:1-2

day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come."

97. Some of these Christians who came from paganism would actually give of their funds so that the apostles could take back to Jerusalem and support brothers and sisters that they had never met or even laid eyes on before. This text tells us something about the level of love and compassion of the early Christian Church. It tells us that the early church changed the world, but it doesn't tell us that God changed the Sabbath. It doesn't tell us that God's holy law been done away with.



There are over 100 verses in the Bible about the seventh day Sabbath. But there is not one verse which says the Sabbath was changed.

98. We've taken the time to look up all eight texts about the first day of the week—and we found nothing about a change. There are over a hundred verses in the Bible about the seventh day Sabbath—and again, nothing about a change. That would make the Sabbath one of the clearest, most indisputable teachings based on the Bible and the Bible alone.



WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE?

99. Now that we have done a thorough study of the Bible, let's address some practical questions that no doubt will cross our minds. One question we may be asking right now is this, "So what? What difference does it make? Does it really matter which day Sabbath is, Saturday or Sunday?" On the surface, it may not seem as though it matters very much—but let's look a little deeper.

SABBATH	SUNDAY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commandments of God</li> <li>Truth of the Bible</li> <li>Authority of God</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commandments of Men</li> <li>Tradition of a Church</li> <li>Authority of Men</li> </ul>

100. Sabbath is about the commandments of God. Sabbath is about the truth of the Bible. Sabbath is about the authority of God being above everything else. Sunday is about the commandments of men. Sunday is about the tradition of a church. Sunday is about the authority of men. The real issue is this. **Do I believe the commandments of men above the commandments of God? Do I follow truth, or do I follow tradition? Whose authority will I choose?**

SABBATH	SUNDAY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Commandments of God</li> <li>▪ Truth of the Bible</li> <li>▪ Authority of God</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Commandments of Men</li> <li>▪ Tradition of a Church</li> <li>▪ Authority of Men</li> </ul>

**101.** That’s the deeper issue. Because if I look at the Word of God and say, *“Lord, I know what the Bible says, but I don’t think it matters. Lord, I know what the Bible says, but this church over here doesn’t think it’s important. Lord, I know what Your Word teaches, but this pastor says I don’t have to worry about it”*—then what I’m really doing is, I’m putting the authority of someone else’s word above the authority of God’s Word.

SABBATH	SUNDAY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Commandments of God</li> <li>▪ Truth of the Bible</li> <li>▪ Authority of God</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Commandments of Men</li> <li>▪ Tradition of a Church</li> <li>▪ Authority of Men</li> </ul>

**102.** If I say, *“It doesn’t really matter,”* then I’m actually breaking the first commandment because I’m placing myself above God. I’m saying that my opinion is more important than what God says. That’s not just relevant to the Sabbath, we can do that with any issue in the Word of God, can’t we? That’s where we have to learn to surrender the heart—and that’s not easy for us.

SABBATH	SUNDAY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Commandments of God</li> <li>▪ Truth of the Bible</li> <li>▪ Authority of God</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Commandments of Men</li> <li>▪ Tradition of a Church</li> <li>▪ Authority of Men</li> </ul>

**103.** The Word of God says I’m to be faithful to my wife. How would it sound if I say, *“Lord, can’t I have a little fun on the side? What does it really matter?”* I may come up with all sorts of explanations that may sound good to me, but it doesn’t change the fact that I’m trying to put what I think above what God says.

SABBATH	SUNDAY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Commandments of God</li> <li>▪ Truth of the Bible</li> <li>▪ Authority of God</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Commandments of Men</li> <li>▪ Tradition of a Church</li> <li>▪ Authority of Men</li> </ul>

**104.** The most basic, foundational principle of Christianity is this: will I follow Jesus as my Savior? Then the next question is this: do I believe that this is the Word of God or not? Do I believe that God’s Word is the highest authority on the earth? Or am I willing to say that a church’s tradition can be placed above the Bible? Do you understand where the deeper issue comes in? It’s far more than just about two days. The same thing was true in the garden of Eden.



**105.** What was the sin of Adam and Eve on the surface? They took what? A piece of fruit. Is there anything sinful about eating fruit in and of itself? No. It's the deeper issue. They chose to ignore what God said and they believed someone else. The deeper issue was that they ignored the commands that God had given them. When I do that, I begin to compromise God's Word—and I open the door to believe other voices.

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**106.** If I compromise in the area of Sabbath—or any other Bible teaching—I'm in danger of getting on the slippery slope of compromise. I may come to another Bible teaching that's looks like a challenge and I say, *“Lord, I know what it says, but that's inconvenient for me. Lord, I know what it says, but that's not what I've believed all my life. Lord, I know what You're saying, but I don't think it really matters.”*

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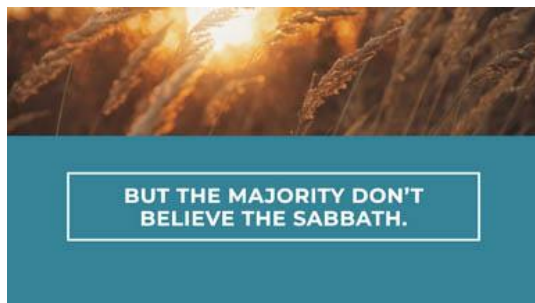


**107.** We start to pick and choose and compromise things in the Word of God. God says He wants all of our hearts, all of our souls, and all of our minds, because Jesus did not do any less for us on the cross of Calvary. When Jesus went to the cross, He gave everything. He gave all that He had, and He tells me, *“Take up your cross and follow Me.”* And though there may be challenges, there will be blessings in store.

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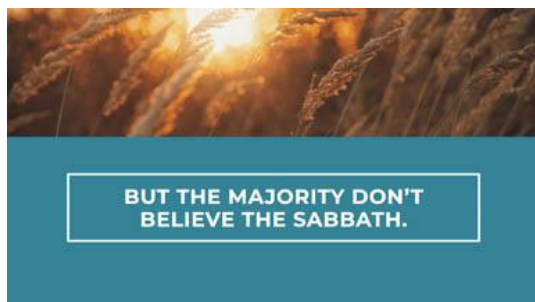


**108.** It all comes down to surrender. Am I willing to surrender my whole heart to Jesus and His Word? Or does my surrender come with strings attached? Do I only surrender my heart when it's convenient for me? When it's easy for me? When it makes me popular? Jesus gave everything to save me. Will I follow Jesus with all my heart? Or will I say, *“I'm sorry, Lord. I'll follow You this far, but no farther”?*



BUT THE MAJORITY DON'T  
BELIEVE THE SABBATH.

**109.** You may say, “*Well, pastor, the majority don’t believe in the Sabbath or understand it this way.*” That is true. And if I didn’t talk about Sabbath, I know my audience would be bigger. If I didn’t talk about Sabbath, I know I might be more popular. The offerings might be bigger. Though I may be tempted, I’m not willing to compromise Scripture’s authenticity for society’s popularity. It’s not about what the majority thinks.



BUT THE MAJORITY DON'T  
BELIEVE THE SABBATH.

**110.** If I had gone with the majority, I would have been in trouble in Noah’s day. Only Noah’s family obeyed God and went into the ark. If I had gone with the majority, I would have been in trouble in Lot’s day. Very few fled Sodom and Gomorrah and even Lot’s wife looked back at the majority. If I had gone with the majority, I would have been in trouble in Jesus’ day. Only some lowly shepherds and a few wise men from the east came to meet Jesus when He was born. That’s why Jesus always tells us to go to the Word of God, because this is where we find truth. It is our foundation.



HOW DO WE KNOW SATURDAY  
IS THE SEVENTH DAY?

**111.** There are a couple other sincere questions that people ask. One is, how do we know that Saturday is still the seventh day? Hasn’t the calendar changed through the ages? That’s actually a very good question. It’s funny, though, the only time I ever hear that question is when I talk about the Sabbath.



HOW DO WE KNOW SATURDAY  
IS THE SEVENTH DAY?

**112.** I could stand up and say, “*You know what? It doesn’t matter. Sunday is good enough. That’s first day of the week.*” And nobody would ever ask me, “How do we know Sunday is the first day of the week?” I only get this question when it comes to Sabbath!

## DICTIONARY DEFINITION

### Saturday

/ˈsæt.ə.deɪ/

Noun

the seventh day of the week

- 113.** You can look this up in any dictionary or encyclopedia and it will tell you the seventh day is Saturday.

### OCTOBER 1582

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

- 114.** The only major calendar change in the Gregorian calendar came in October of 1582. They discovered that on October 4th of that year, they were 10 days out of harmony with the solar system, and they had to add 10 days.

### OCTOBER 1582

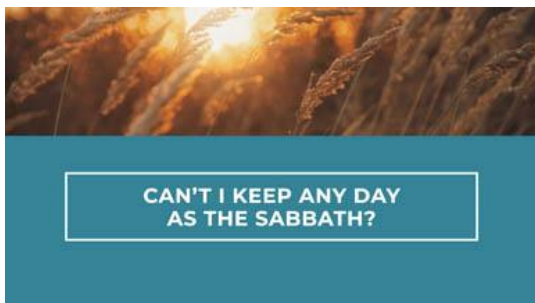
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

- 115.** So, the next day—which should have been Friday, October 5—became what? Friday, October 15. Watch this, the number of the date changed, but the weekly cycle never changed. The next day was still Friday. The same seventh day we had in Jesus' day is the same seventh day we have today.



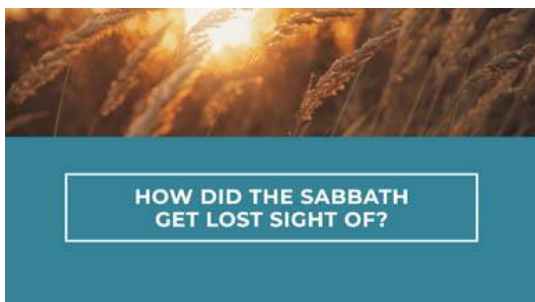
CAN'T I KEEP ANY DAY  
AS THE SABBATH?

- 116.** Another question often asked is, “*Can’t I keep any day as the Sabbath?*” That might be all right—except for one thing. God said the seventh day is the Sabbath. It’s one way that He tests our loyalty. “*What about if I keep every day holy?*” That’s rather impossible.



CAN'T I KEEP ANY DAY  
AS THE SABBATH?

**117.** You can live a holy life every day but keeping a day holy means setting aside secular labors to be close to God. You can't keep every day holy or you'll soon starve. Jesus said we have six days to labor. He wants us to work on those six days so we can make a living. It is the seventh day that is holy—the Sabbath of the Lord, thy God.



HOW DID THE SABBATH  
GET LOST SIGHT OF?

**118.** But now the big question comes, how did the Sabbath get lost sight of? How then did the change from Sabbath to Sunday actually happen? If it didn't come from God, what happened in this world to constitute the shift?

We touched on this last night. Let's see if we can go into a little more detail with the time that remains. Let's start with something Paul wrote in 2 Timothy 4:3.

**2 TIMOTHY 4:3**

"For the time will come when they will not endure **sound doctrine**, and they will turn their ears from the truth and be turned aside to fables."



**119.** The Bible says: *"For the time will come when they will not endure..." what kind of doctrine? ". . .sound doctrine, and they will turn their ears from the truth and be turned aside to fables."*

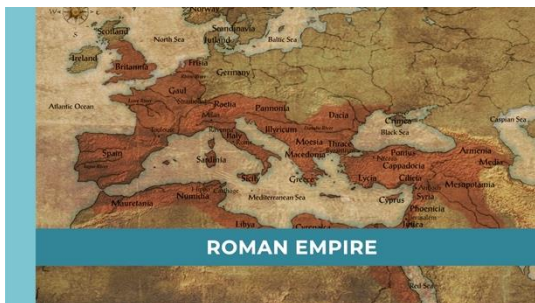
Paul knew that when the original twelve apostles would pass away, false teachings would come into the church. Paul understood that people would turn away from sound doctrine—and you see that in the Middle Ages.

**2 TIMOTHY 4:3**

"For the time will come when they will not endure **sound doctrine**, and they will turn their ears from the truth and be turned aside to fables."



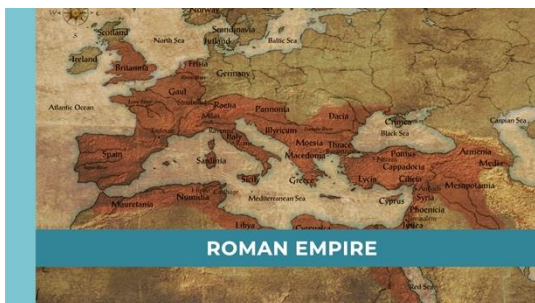
**120.** It's what Christian history calls the Great Apostasy. We'll talk more about that later in the seminar. Slowly but surely, the church began to fall away from the pure truth of God's Word and Christ's teachings. The church began to follow some of the traditions and customs of society, and eventually this affected the Sabbath. There was a shift towards Sunday observance—how did it happen?



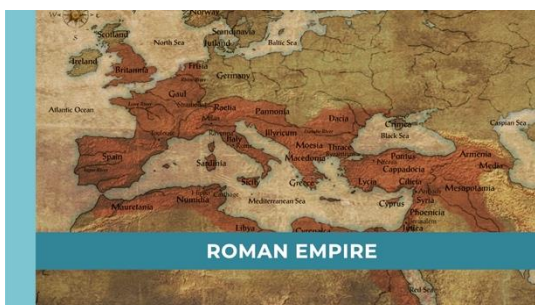
**121.** Do you remember which empire ruled the world during the first couple centuries of early church history? The Roman Empire. Did Rome like the Jews? No. Did Rome like Christians? Definitely not. At least, not in the beginning. They hated them. Christians were regarded as a sect of Judaism because they shared the seventh day Sabbath—and they were persecuted.



**122.** Some Christians thought, *“Maybe if we shift towards Sunday, we can accomplish a couple things.”* Number one, they would differentiate themselves from the Jewish nation and maybe Rome would see them as different. Number two, they could win the pagans to Christ. The pagans worshiped the Sun God—and of course, you can imagine what day they did that—on the Sun-day.



**123.** Some Christian leaders reasoned, *“If we switch to making Sunday our holy day, pagans don’t have to change much. Instead of worshipping the Sun God, we’ll just get them to worship the Son of God.”* On the surface, that may seem innocent—but it was the first step on the slippery slope of falling away from the pure truth of God’s Word.



**124.** Then Constantine came on the scene in A.D. 321. He had become a Christian a few years before that. Christianity now goes from being an illegal religion to becoming the state religion and persecution stops. This is wonderful! Right? Wrong! Constantine became a force in bringing many pagan teachings into the church—and Sunday observance was one of them.



**125.** In 321, Constantine made one of the first and earliest Sunday laws. It says, *“On the venerable day of the sun, let the magistrates and people residing in cities rest. Let all the shops be closed.”* Now, when the emperor of the world says that, how many people do you think listen? The majority— just like today.



**126.** This just added momentum to the Sabbath being lost sight of. We’ll talk later in the seminar about how church and state came together and out of Rome came a religious system known as the papacy. When the papacy and Roman Catholicism was formed, Sunday was included in the catechism.



**127.** Now please understand, this is not meant to be derogatory towards any faith group. God is not honored when we speak negatively of others. But we have to show how this happened in history, because it’s a very important way of understanding how we lost sight of the Sabbath.

In papal Rome, there is something called the catechism. If anyone has a Catholic background, you know you have to go through catechism. In catechism, you are taught the doctrines of the Roman church.



**128.** One catechism poses this question—this is word for word from the catechism. *“Q. Which is the Sabbath day? A. Saturday is the Sabbath day.”*



#### QUESTION

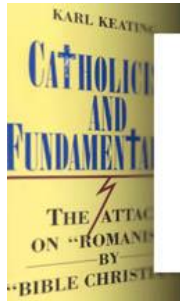
Why do we observe Sunday instead of Sabbath?

#### ANSWER

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

**129.** Q. Why do we observe Sunday instead of Sabbath? A. We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday.”

That tells me that Sunday is not about the Bible. It's not about what God says. It's about tradition above God's Word. **The underlying issue is: who has the most authority? God's Word or the tradition of men?**

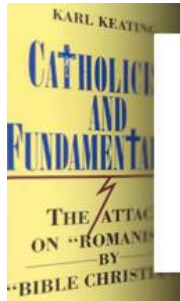


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“... Fundamentalists meet for worship on Sunday, yet there is no evidence in the Bible that corporate worship was to be made on Sundays. The Jewish Sabbath, or day of rest,

KARL KEATING  
CATHOLICISM AND FUNDAMENTALISM, P. 38

**130.** There are other historical quotes from this time and I'm going to put a few on the screen to show how the change happened in history. In a book called Catholicism and Fundamentalism by Karl Keating, a well-known Catholic apologist, he writes, “. . . *Fundamentalists meet for worship on Sunday, yet there is no evidence in the Bible that corporate worship was to be made on Sundays. The Jewish Sabbath, or day of rest,*



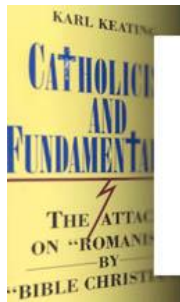
“

was, of course, Saturday. It was the Catholic church that decided Sunday should be the day of worship for Christians, in honor of the resurrection.”

KARL KEATING  
CATHOLICISM AND FUNDAMENTALISM, P. 38

**131.** *was, of course, Saturday. It was the Catholic church that decided Sunday should be the day of worship for Christians, in honor of the resurrection.”*

One of the doctrines that comes from Papal Rome is that the church is equal to or above the Bible, that the church has the power to change or modify what the Bible says and put their authority above it.

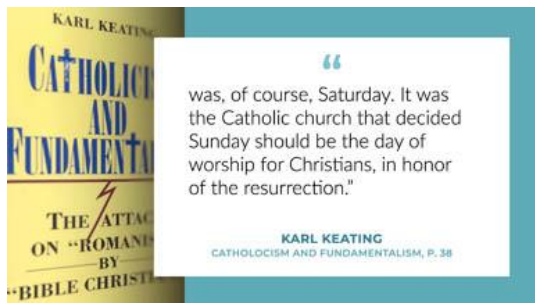


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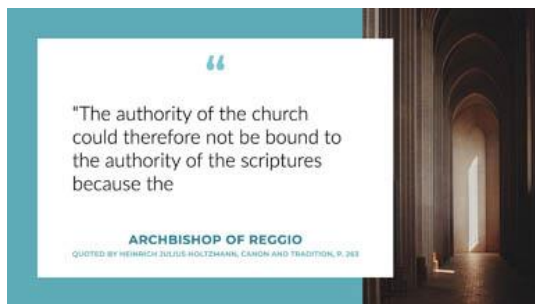
was, of course, Saturday. It was the Catholic church that decided Sunday should be the day of worship for Christians, in honor of the resurrection.”

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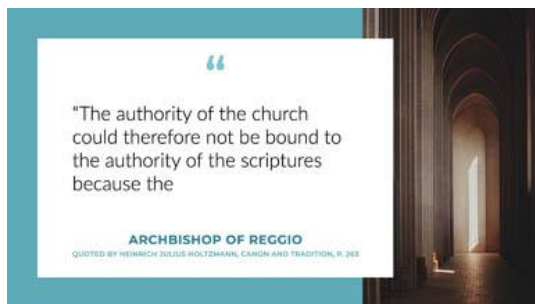
**132.** You and I have to ask ourselves, am I willing to go along with that, even with the issue of the Sabbath? Who has the highest authority? Protestants say, “We go by the Bible and the Bible alone. The Bible is God's highest authority, not the church. The church can't change what the Bible says.” Rome comes back at them and says, “Really? Is that what you believe? But you follow our Sunday. Sunday is nowhere taught in the Bible, but yet you honor it and ignore the direct command of Scripture.”



**133.** Rome uses that as a way to say, *“See, you are still following our tradition. You are the lost little children who should come back to the mother church.”* And I have to admit they make a good point. If I follow the Bible and the Bible alone, that doesn’t mean I keep eight out of ten commandments. That doesn’t mean I keep nine out of ten commandments. That means God wants me to follow all of His commandments, with all my heart and all my soul. This means I invite the Holy Spirit to live in me, help me surrender my heart, and empower me to follow Jesus wholeheartedly.



**134.** There’s one more quote that comes from a book called Canon and Tradition by Heinrich Julius Holtzmann, where he quotes the archbishop of Reggio: *“The authority of the church could therefore not be bound to the authority of the scriptures because the*



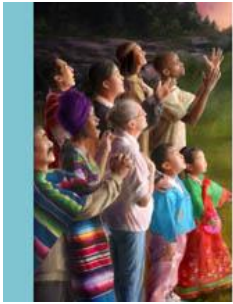
**135.** *church had changed. . . the Sabbath to Sunday, not by the command of Christ, but by its own authority.”*

When I understand how this change occurred, I begin to realize that it’s not about whether I think the difference between the two days matters or not. It’s about much deeper issues.



**136.** I’m choosing between what the Bible says and what tradition says. I’m choosing between Jesus and religious leaders. I’m choosing between God’s law and man-made law. Whenever we have to make that choice, no matter what the teaching may be, no matter what the issue may be, it matters and it’s important.

That’s why Revelation describes God’s church at the end of time in this way:

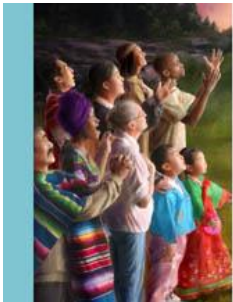


**REVELATION 14:12**

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

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

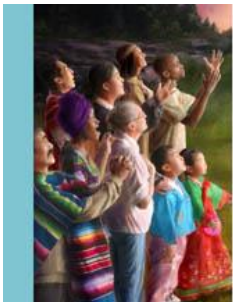
They've been born again and they choose to follow His law.



**REVELATION 14:12**

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

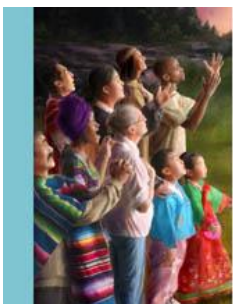
**138.** In these last days, God is looking for people who will say, *"Heavenly Father, I want you to write Your law upon my heart. Lord, I want to follow You all the way. I want to hold nothing back. Lord, I want to keep your commandments."*



**REVELATION 14:12**

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

**139.** As we close tonight, I recognize that when you hear this for the first time, it can be a jolt to your Christian walk. You start to wonder in your mind, *"If this is so clear from the Bible, why didn't I see it before?"* And then you start to wonder, *"What else haven't I noticed from the Bible?"*



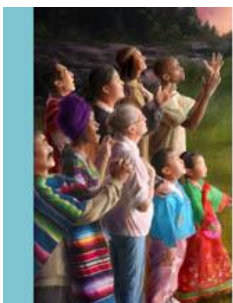
**REVELATION 14:12**

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

**140.** (You can share your own brief testimony here).

My wife went through this. When she first learned about the Sabbath, it was so new to her. But she determined she would go home and study the Word of God and she found it to be true.

As you study this, you may be thinking, *"This might very well require a change of behavior. This might affect my job. This could affect my family. This could affect choices that I make each day. This could change my life."*



**REVELATION 14:12**

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

- 141.** But God gives us a promise. When we choose to follow the will of God, blessings come with it. Peace comes with it. Confidence comes with it. Assurance comes with it. When we are right with Jesus, when we put His Word above everything else, when we trust completely in Him, Jesus will give us just what we need.

**MATTHEW 6:33**

"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."

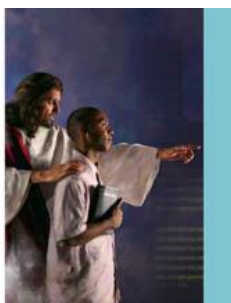


- 142.** Jesus gives us a special promise in Matthew 6:33: *"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."*

This promise tells me to seek Jesus and His truth first. Am I willing to put Jesus first? Am I willing to surrender my heart to Him in any subject? Am I willing to put Jesus and His Word above everything else?

**MATTHEW 6:33**

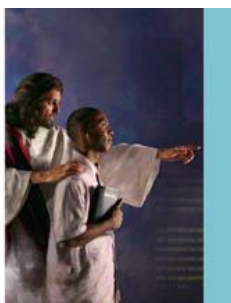
"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."



- 143.** Would you pray with me? Heavenly Father, it's powerful to see what Your Word says—to understand what a blessing You give us in the Sabbath. Lord, it's scary to see how throughout history this blessing was lost sight of it. It's frightening to see how humankind could cover this blessing up. Lord, we're searching for Your light and Your truth. Just now, Father, we give ourselves to You.

**MATTHEW 6:33**

"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."



- 144.** Lord, if there's someone here who is wanting to know what Your light is, bless them as they open Your Word. Please bless them as they go home tonight. In fact, with every head bowed and every eye closed, perhaps there's someone here who wants to say, *"Lord Jesus, I just want You to know that I'm willing to honestly search this out from the Bible and I'm simply asking You to lead me."*

**MATTHEW 6:33**

"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."



**145.** If that's the desire of your heart, I'd like to invite you to raise your hand just now. Every head is bowed, every eye is closed. You're simply saying, "*Lord, I want to search this out from the Bible. I want to know Your will. Lord, please guide me to Your truth.*"  
Father, You see any hands that are raised. We know that You will answer that prayer and You will fill hearts with joy as they search Your Word. This we pray and ask in Jesus' name. Amen.



**146.**