

THE SABBATH COMMANDMENT

The whole truth

God's Fourth Commandment of Sabbath

Should You Keep the 7th day Sabbath?

“For Whoever Shall Keep the Whole Law,
And Yet Stumble in One Point
He is Guilty of All”
(James 2:9 -11)

All the Glory and Credit Belongs to God.
He Alone is the True Author.

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Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. (Proverbs 11:14)

The Uniqueness of the Sabbath Commandment

The Sabbath commandment is the most powerful and unique among the 10 commandments. It is the Commandment that serves as a seal and mark, authenticating the law and the authority of the true God. Sabbath is a sign that has two preconditions; “Remember” and “Keep”. It was set by God for the man He created in order for him and his generations to commemorate and worship a Supreme, Almighty God, who identifies Himself as the Creator of heavens, earth, sea, and everything in them.

The Sabbath is therefore a mark (a sign, an agreement, a covenant, a treaty, a pact) of the covenant between man and God. The covenant is this; remember to keep My Sabbath day Holy, and have a solemn rest, just as I did, and as long as you commit to keep and observe, God promises this; “I will be your God, and you shall be My people” (Ezekiel 11:20, Exodus 29:45).

This Law cannot be modified, it’s an everlasting covenant. It was not initiated by man, since it was established at the creation by the Almighty God and repeated to the children of Israel before the law was given to Moses in Mt Sinai (Exodus 16). Man can only accept or reject it. To reject the Holy Sabbath is to reject the divine authority of Almighty God. Setting any other day as holy, apart from Saturday, is to reject God and therefore to accept other gods. God has said: “If your heart turns away so that you do not hear, and are drawn away, and worship other gods and serve them, I announce you today that you shall surely perish” (Deuteronomy 30:17-18).

The Sabbath is a covenant made by God, between HIM and the person with the following clauses;

1. A sign between God and a person that ‘I am the Lord your God’.
2. A sign to remind a person that ‘I am God who sanctifies you’.
3. A sign to remind a person that true Almighty God is the Creator of everything.
4. A sign to remind a person that God rested the seventh day of the week (Saturday).
5. A sign to remind a person that he should set aside Sabbath (Saturday) as a holy day.
6. A sign to remind a person that Sabbath, is a day of solemn rest.
7. A sign to remind a person that Sabbath is a day for a holy convocation (assembly).
8. A sign that Sabbath is a perpetual covenant, to be kept and observed throughout generations.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THIS BOOK

The Whole Truth

Among the 10 divine Laws that God wrote with His finger on two tablets of stone, the Fourth command of Sabbath is the most widely violated. Is it a lesser commandment of the Ten? No. The Almighty God who gave the 10 commandments that you should not murder, commit adultery, steal, covet, etc. is the same God who said "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it Holy". If the Fourth commandment should not be applicable to us, as many have been deceived, should all the other 9 be applicable to us as well? Why should they keep 9 out of 10 laws? Why would they say one law (sabbath) was abolished while the other 9 did not? Why would Jesus, the giver of the law abolishes just one while He clearly said He did not come to abolish but to fulfil the law? Was He contradicting himself?

The Sabbath law is as important and sacred as all others. For God says: "All His commandments are trustworthy; they are established forever and ever (Psalms 111:7). The Almighty GOD vowed that "It is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle (iota) of the law to fail" (Luke 16:17). Is there then an escape for those who do not fulfil this commandment of Sabbath? It is written, "Whoever keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all" [James 2:8-10]. Blessed are those who keep the commandments of God and seek Him with all their heart (Psalm 119:2).

All the religions of the world (Judaism, Roman Catholic, Islam, Protestants, etc.) perfectly know and attest that Sabbath commandment is to be fulfilled on Saturday, not any other day. However, Roman Catholic religious authorities changed the sabbath day from Saturday to Sunday in about 290 years after Christ crucifixion. Ever since, all Christian churches have been following Roman catholic church, knowingly or unknowingly. Roman catholic system is the great Babylon and mother of all harlots. They have been deceived in observing Sunday as a holy day of worship, that is the greatest religious deception by satan. God warns us "And I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues" (Rev 18:4).

Main Summary Points of this Book

1. Sabbath law is the oldest law of GOD among the 10 commandments. It was made on the seventh day of the first week of Earth's creation.
2. Sabbath day was set by GOD for people to rest, and to remember Him, as their Creator.
3. Sabbath occurs on Saturday, the seventh day of the week and NOT Sunday (which is the 1st day of the week).
4. The Sabbath begins at sunset on Friday and lasts until sunset on Saturday.
5. Sabbath Law is eternal and permanent. It cannot be changed.
6. Sabbath law is the only Law fulfilled by the DIVINITY (Godhead). God himself rested and was replenished on the Sabbath day. Jesus, the son of God is Lord of Sabbath. The apostles observed and kept Sabbath day on Saturday. All believers of Christ, kept this command, even in Jesus' time.
7. The catholic church confirms that sabbath is on Saturday, but they blatantly refuse to keep it.
8. The Roman Catholic changed Sabbath day from Saturday on 7th March, 321 A.D. when Roman Emperor Constantine I decreed that 'dies Solis Invicti ('sun-day) would be the Roman day of rest throughout the Roman Empire.
9. Most of the Christian religious churches blindly follow the Romans catholic church traditions in adopting Sunday worship to this day, instead of Saturday.

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PART 1

“Remember the Sabbath day, to Keep it Holy...
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”

(Exodus 20:8- 11).

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PART 1: THE DIVINE, EVERLASTING LAWS OF GOD

The Kingdom of God is laid upon **a foundation of divine Laws** given by the Almighty God. Both the Laws in the 10 Commandments of God and Ceremonial Laws were given to Moses on Mount Sinai. Both sets of instructions are called the Laws of God, but are different in that the law of Ten Commandments defined what sin was, whereas the ceremonial law contained the solution to the sin problem. God wrote the Ten Commandments in a stone tablet, and Moses wrote the ceremonial laws in a book.

1.1. The Divine Laws of God

The Ten Commandments, are the **divine** (supreme, sacred and everlasting) **laws of God**. They are heart and core of God's divine law for mankind, were written by GOD Himself in two tablets of stone, and kept inside the Holy of Holies place inside the Ark of the covenant. They explicitly detail how people are to worship God, and how they are to relate with their families, and with their fellow men. Since they are commanded by God, they are to be fulfilled in not how people want, but how God wants.

“And when He (God) had made an end of speaking with him on Mount Sinai, He gave Moses two tablets of the Testimony, tablets of stone, written with the finger of God” (Exodus 31: 18)

“And the tables were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, graven upon the tables” (Exodus 32:16).

“At that time the LORD said to me, ‘Hew for yourself two tablets of stone like the first, and come up to Me on the mountain and make yourself an Ark of wood. And i will write on the tablets the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke; and you shall put them in the ark. And He (God) wrote on the tablets according to the first writing, the Ten Commandments” (Deuteronomy 10:1-2)

When Moses broke the first tablets, it symbolized the law of God that had been broken by God’s people when they served the golden calf. The law did not change as a result of the people’s sin. Rather, God wrote the law again onto the new tables of stone that Moses fashioned, symbolizing that we have to be co-workers together with God in upholding His law. Only in God’s strength can we uphold the law, but we must cooperate with Him in this regard.

And God spoke all these words, saying: (Exodus 20: 2-17)

1. You shall have no other gods before Me.
2. You shall not make carved image; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them.
3. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.
4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you.
5. Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long.
6. You shall not murder.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
10. You shall not covet.

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The first four commandments pertain to our relationship with God and the last six commandments pertain to our relationship with people.

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, summed up the 10 commandments with:

“You shall love the Lord your God with all thy heart, and with all you soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it, ‘You shalt love thy neighbor as yourself’. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets” (Matthew 22:37-40)

“Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law”. (Romans 13:8)

“Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfillment of the law”. (Romans 13:8)

Does this mean Jesus abolished or replaced all the 10 commandments with only 2 commandments? The answer is No. What this means is that Jesus tied together all the 10 commandments with Love, so that anyone fulfilling them must fulfil them in love and with love. For example, In *the first four commandments*: If a person truly and honestly love GOD with our heart, soul, mind one cannot worship earthly gods, or have carved images, or take God’s name in vain or break His sabbath command. In *the last six commandments*: if one truly loves God, then one must love (by honoring) his parents. If one truly loves his neighbor, then one cannot murder him, commit adultery with his wife, steal his things, covet his wife or house, or bear false witness against him.

This proves that he did not add or subtract anything from the law, but strengthened them, just as He said

“Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets, I did not come to destroy but to fulfill” (Matthew 5:17)

1.2. The Ceremonial laws (Law of Moses)

In addition to the 10 commandments, God orally told Moses additional decrees, statutes instructions, and ordinances which Moses wrote in the Book of the Law. This law of types and ceremonies was written by Moses in the book of the law, and was placed *beside* the Ark.

“Take this Book of the Law, and put it beside the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, that it may be there as a witness against you” (Deuteronomy 31:26)

“And it came to pass, when Moses had made an end of writing the words of this law in a book, until they were finished, That Moses commanded the Levites, which bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD, saying, Take this Book of the Law, and put it in the side of the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, that it may be there for a witness against thee” (Deuteronomy 31:24-26).

“I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in his ways, and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments, that you may live and multiply, and the lord your God will bless you” (Deuteronomy 30: 15)

“If you obey the voice of the LORD your God, to keep His commandments and statutes which are written in this Book of the Law (Deuteronomy 30: 10)

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"You commanded them, through Moses your servant, to obey all your commands, decrees, and instructions" (Nehemiah 9:14)

"I gave them My statutes and showed them My judgments, 'which, if a man does, he shall live by them'" (Ezekiel 20:11-12)

"¹These are the statutes and judgements which you shall be careful to observe in the land which the Lord God of your fathers is giving you to possess, all the days that you live on the earth...³²Whatever I command you, be careful to observe it; you shall not add to it or take away from it (Deuteronomy 12:1,32)

For more details on ceremonial laws, see Part 3 on "*which law was abolished*" in this document.

1.3. Should we Keep all the 10 Commandments

God's law is a transcript of His character. It cannot change, just as God does not change. Each and every word in the 10 commandments is unchangeable, since they are permanent and eternal.

Jesus said, "For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle (iota) will by no means pass from the Law till all is fulfilled" (Matthew 5:18)

Jesus said, "It is easier for heaven and earth to pass away, than for one tittle of the Law to fail" (Luke 16:17)

"You must not add to or subtract from what I command you, so that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God that I am giving you" (Deuteronomy 4:2)

"See that you do everything I command you; do not add to it or subtract from it". (Deuteronomy 12:32)

"Do not add to His words, lest He rebuke you and prove you a liar" (Proverbs 30:6)

"the scripture cannot be broken" (John 10:33-35).

We are thus commanded to keep, preserve, obey, and never to forget each of the 10 commandments of God and fulfil them as they are.

"For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome for whatever is born of God overcomes the world (1 John 5:3)

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and Keep His Commandments, for this is man's all" (Ecclesiastes 12:13)

My son, do not forget my law, but let your heart Keep my Commands; For length of days and long life and peace they will add to you" (Proverbs 3: 1-2)

My son, keep my words, and treasure my commands within you. Keep My Commands and live, And my law as the apple of your eye. Bind them on your fingers; Write them on the tablet of your heart (Proverbs 7:1-3)

"His commandments are not burdensome" (1 John 5:3)

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1.4. What is the Punishment for Disobeying the 10 Commandments?

Those who do not keep all the 10 commandments are labeled as liars, sinners, and are guilty.

“He who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him” (1 John 2:4)

For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all” (James 2:8-10). “the wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23)

“Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 5:19)

To sin is to break Gods commandment; “through the law we become conscious of our sin” (Romans 3:20), and “whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness” (1 John 3:4).

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PART 2

“Everyone who Keeps from Defiling the Sabbath, and Holds Fast My Covenant, I will bring to My Holy Mountain, and Make them Joyful in My House of Prayer. For My House Shall be called a House of Prayer for All Nations”

(Isaiah 56:6-9)

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PART 2: THE TRUTH ABOUT THE SABBATH COMMANDMENT

The truth about the Law of Sabbath and whether we should observe and keep it as directed by God can only be answered from the bible. In this section, we let the bible interpret itself in answering these questions: What is Sabbath, which day should Sabbath be observed, Is Sabbath observance relevant? Is it really practical to keep the Sabbath in today's world? How should it be observed today? To answer these questions, let's consider what the Bible, God's own inspired Words, reveals.

2.1. The Commandment of Sabbath

God's Law concerning Sabbath is very clearly stated in the Fourth Commandment.

“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 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 servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. 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”
(Exodus 20: 8-11)

The Fourth Commandment of Sabbath, is different from the other nine. It is the oldest Law since it was established at Creation (Genesis 2:1-3). The Sabbath commandment contains elements not contained in any of the other commandments. It states the name of the Lawgiver (LORD), His territory (heaven and Earth), and His title (Creator). These three components comprise what is known as a seal, and give authority to the law. The Ten Commandments gain their validity only from the royal seal of the Creator God embodied in the Sabbath commandment.

It is the only command that begins with the word '**Remember**'. To remember is to recall, recollect or reminisce. The word “remember” can be *prospective*: - looking ahead to the continued celebration of the Sabbath or it can be *retrospective*: - looking back to the institution of the Sabbath (observed earlier than rest of the Laws). This clearly shows that the Sabbath already existed when God gave the 10 commandments to Moses and to the children of Israel in Mt. Sinai and continues indefinitely. They are told to remember because the Sabbath was established by God in the seventh day, of the first week, of the first month, of the first year of earth's creation.

To “**Keep**” is to preserve, or retain something as it is. “Keep” the Sabbath puts more emphasis on guarding or preserving the holy command observance and the designated day. The Sabbath already existed and thus had to be kept as it is, without changing or disobeying it, the children of Israel were just told to continue observing it.

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2.2. What is Sabbath?

The Bible defines Sabbath as a sign of the covenant between man and God;

"It is a sign between me and the children of Israel forever; for in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed (Exodus 31:17)

"Moreover, I also gave them My Sabbaths, to be a sign between them and Me, that they might know that I am the LORD who sanctifies them" (Ezekiel 20:11-12)

"I am the Lord your God: Walk in My statutes, keep My judgments, and do them; hallow My Sabbaths, and they will be a sign between Me and you, that you may know that I am the Lord your God" (Ezekiel 20" 19-20)

Now that the Sabbath is a sign between two parties, what purpose is it? it is a sign that God instituted for man to commemorate and worship a supreme, Almighty God – who identifies Himself as the Creator of heavens, earth, sea, and everything in them. Sabbath is the only command that creates this a sign or (agreement, covenant, treaty, pact) between man and God: "You will be My people, and I will be your God" (Jeremiah 30:22). Without this Treaty, man would have no God. The treaty is, remember and keep the sabbath day by resting in it, just as I, your God Did. This treaty cannot be broken or modified since it's an eternal treaty, as long as any man keep his side of the treaty. God cannot break his side.

2.3. Is Sabbath an Everlasting Law?

The sabbath was specifically made for man (people) and it's a perpetual covenant. It is thus their obligation of all-time, as long as they live, and their generations, to fulfil this command of God.

"Surely my Sabbaths you shall keep, for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am the LORD, who sanctifies you" (Exodus 31:13)

"The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath" (Mark 2:27)

"Therefore, the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant. It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever; for in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed" (Exodus 31:16-17)

You shall do no manner of work; it shall be a statute forever throughout your generations in all your dwellings. It shall be to you a sabbath of solemn rest" (Leviticus 23: 31-32)

2.4. What Should People do on Sabbath Day?

Unless God reveals to us, how would we know how He wants us to observe and keep Sabbath day? Thankfully, He has revealed it, though so few today "remember" and "keep" the Sabbath day.

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"It is a Sabbath of solemn rest for you, and you shall afflict your souls". It is a statute forever (Levi 16:31) ... "You shall keep the Sabbath, therefore, for it is holy to you" (exodus 31:14)

"these are the feasts of the lord, holy convocations which you shall proclaim at their appointed times, six days shall work be done, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of solemn rest, a holy convocation (Assembly)" it is the Sabbath of the LORD in all your dwellings" (Leviticus 23:3-4)

"If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on My holy day, And call the Sabbath a delight, The holy day of the Lord honorable, And shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, Nor finding your own pleasure, Nor speaking your own words" (Isaiah 58:13)

"A song for the Sabbath Day. It is good to give thanks to the LORD, and to sing praises to Your name, O Most High, to declare your lovingkindness in the morning, And Your faithfulness every night (Psalm 92:1-2)

"Blessed are all those who are careful to do this. Blessed are those who honor my Sabbath days of rest and keep themselves from doing wrong" (Isaiah 56:2)

The basic rule that the commandment lays down is that God requires that each person set aside this day for the worship and service of Him. God says His Sabbath is a holy appointed time when people make holy assembly before Him to remember Him as their Creator and deliverer. He commands all His people to keep it in all their dwellings. God made it clear that our ordinary, routine work was unacceptable on that day. The Sabbath was to be different. No other day is hallowed as the Sabbath is: It is set aside as holy to God. It belongs to Him. It is time for Him.

The Sabbath is a day for refocusing on God, worshipping and fellowshiping praying, studying the Bible and meditating (see also Hebrews 10:25). The Sabbath was given so people would know the true God, so that they could fulfill their purpose, which was to witness for God before the world, learn more of His purpose, and work to build character so that they could inherit God's Kingdom. It's a day of honoring God and seeking to please Him by doing good work. like visiting the widows and orphans-James 1:27).

"Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and windows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unstained from the world" (James 1:27)

The Sabbath should be a delight, not by doing our own hobbies, interests and pleasures. God does not command a day of rest to promote idleness, or sleeping or doing nothing. Sabbath is also a day to bond with family, appreciate the creation of God and do good work like visit the poor. Nothing in the command suggests that this commandment is merely ceremonial in nature - certainly not in the commandment itself.

2.5. Which Day is the Biblical Sabbath Day?

God blessed seventh day of the week, (not any other day), and declared it sabbath. He then sanctified it, blessed it, hallowed it, and set it apart as a holy day.

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"In six days, the LORD made the heavens, the earth, the sea, and everything in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore, the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it" (Exodus 20:11)

"And on the seventh day, God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. 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 2:2-3)

2.6. What Time Should Sabbath Day Begin and End?

The Sabbath observance is the only Law with specific timelines given on when it should start and end. The Sabbath day starts from Friday evening at sunset and end on Saturday evening at sunset, around when the evenings stars are visible in the twilight sky.

"It shall be to you a sabbath of solemn rest, and you shall afflict your souls; on the ninth day of the month at evening, from evening to evening, you shall celebrate your sabbath." (Leviticus 23:32)

"And now you are rekindling His wrath against Israel by profaning the Sabbath!" When the evening shadows began to fall on the gates of Jerusalem, just before the Sabbath, I ordered that the gates be shut and not opened until after the Sabbath. I posted some of my servants at the gates so that no load could enter on the Sabbath day" (Nehemiah 13:18-19)

"On the fourteenth day of the first month at twilight is the lord Passover" (Levi 23:5)

2.7. When does a Day Start and End, biblically?

A day in God starts in the evening and end the following day evening. This is in contrary to man who has set his day to start at midnight and end at midnight. In the old testament creation account in Genesis, each God's day starts in the evening and ends in the following evening. After dividing day from night, God tells us that "the evening and the morning were the first day" (Genesis 1:5). "Evening" is mentioned first, followed by "morning". God describes each day's creation in similar terms (Genesis verses 8, 13, 19, 23, 31).

"And the evening and the morning were the first day...the evening and the morning were the second day" (Genesis 1:5,8)

Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world" (John 11:9)

In the traditional Hebrew calendar, The Jewish day begins at sunset (the start of "the evening") to the next sunset. In Jews law, a day ends and a new one starts in the evening, when three stars are visible in the sky. This is based on the classic rabbinic interpretation of Genesis 1:5 "There was evening and there was morning, "one day". The same definition appears in the Bible in Leviticus 23:32, where the holiday of Yom Kippur is defined as lasting "from evening to evening".

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In the New Testament times, days were calculated the same way. Mark 1:32 records that, “at evening, when the sun had set” (marking the end of one Sabbath), the crowds brought many ailing people to Jesus to be healed, having waited until after the Sabbath to come to Him. Likewise, the Gospel accounts also record that Joseph of Arimathea entombed Jesus' body before evening to keep from working on an approaching Sabbath “Now when evening had come, because it was the Preparation Day, that is, the day before the Sabbath” (Mark 15:42)

In our human devised day system, a day start at midnight (12:00 am) and ends the following day at midnight (11:59 pm). Our convention of starting a new day at midnight is an arbitrary, humanly devised practice, and contradict that of God. It was prophesied by prophet Daniel that man (Antichrist) shall “think to change times and laws” (Daniel: 7:25). This is self-evident here.

2.8. Can Any Day of the Week be a Sabbath Day?

Some people claim that Sabbath day can be any day of the week. However, we cannot contradict God, who in His mighty wisdom so it good to select a single day, out of seven in a week as his Sabbath day. Likewise, God only rested on a single day, since all other six days He was busy in His creation work. God did not bless any day, rather, only a single day was blessed, sanctified and designated as the Sabbath day. Notice that God is the one who sets His appointed times, not people. He is the one who determined the times of His HOLY convocations (assemblies).

“Work shall be done for six days, but the seventh is the Sabbath day of rest, holy to the LORD” (Exodus 31:15)

"Speak to the children of Israel and say to them: These are the feasts of the LORD, holy convocations which you shall proclaim at their appointed times (Leviticus 23: 4)

2.9. Which is the Seventh Day of the Week?

Many are confused over the issue, but such confusion is unnecessary. A clear answer is gotten from the Bible and from the human history to prove that Saturday is the seventh day of the week. Remember the bible is a true, accurate, chorological history of mankind.

We see in Genesis that God’s week is composed of 7 days cycle. The last day – the seventh, is the Sabbath day and corresponds to today’s ‘Saturday’. Jesus Christ is God, the master time keeper. He observed the Sabbath day, on the same day as the Jewish people of that time and if Saturday was not a correct day, surely, He would have known and rectified- evidently, they had the correct day. From the meticulous observance and historical records of the Jewish, who have tracked and kept the seventh-day Sabbath for millennia, we can know confidently that Saturday is indeed the very same day of the week that Jesus Christ observed and worshiped on.

According to the Jewish (Hebrew) calendar;

- The Hebrew calendar, also called Jewish calendar, is a lunisolar calendar used today predominantly for Jewish religious observances. It determines the dates for Jewish holidays and the appropriate public reading of Torah portions, yahrzeits, and daily Psalm readings, among many ceremonials uses.

.....
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- the weekdays start with Sunday (day 1) and proceed to Saturday, the seventh day (Shabbat) of the week. Jewish calendar puts Sunday as the first day of the week.
- The Hebrew week (Shavua) is a cycle of seven days, mirroring the seven-day period of the Book of Genesis in which the world is created. Each day of the week runs from sunset to the following sunset. We can be confident that our current Saturday is the seventh day of the week, on the same weekly cycle that has been in place since the beginning of creation—a cycle established and confirmed by God Himself.-

According to the **International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 8601** and **Gregorian calendar system we use today**;

- Sunday (or Sun's Day), is the seventh day of the week. Saturday is put as the 6th day of the week.
- The Gregorian calendar was introduced in October, 1582 AD by Roman Pope Gregory XIII. It is the most widely used calendar in the world today. Before it was the Julian calendar which was introduced by a Roman general called Julius Caesar in 46 B.C. The Julian calendar was replaced by the current Gregorian calendar in 1582. The calendar shows Sunday is the seventh and last day of the week. NB: Keep in mind these calendars were instituted by Romans catholic religious authorities. In part 3 we shall see that they intentionally changed Saturday Sabbath to Sunday
- The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 8601 uses the Gregorian calendar, which "serves as an international standard for civil use". The first ISO was published as *ISO 8601* in 1988. The ISO counts Sunday as the seventh day of the week and start the week on Monday. However, several countries, including the US and Canada, count Sunday as the first day of the week.

The Meaning of the Day "Saturday" is SABBATH in Over 100 Languages

In many ancient and modern languages, especially around Europe and Israel where early Christian gospel spread, the seventh day of the week is referred as "Sabbath" or an equivalent name. For example, Saturday in Italian: *Sabato*; Latin: *Sabbatum*; Maltese: *is-Sibt*; Polish: *Sobota*; Portuguese: *Sábado*; Romanian: *Sambata*; Russian: *Subbota*; Serbian: *Subota*; Slovak: *Sobota*; Iovene: *Sobota*; Somali: *Sabti*; Spanish: *Sábado*; Sudanese: *Saptu*; Ukranian: *Subota*; Arabic: *Sabet*; Armenian: *Shabat*; Bosnian: *Subota*; Bulgarian: *Sabota*; Corsican: *Sàbatu*; Croatian: *Subota*; Czech: *Sobota*; Georgian: *Sabati*; Greek: *Savvato*; Indonesian: *Sabtu*. Such widespread use of forms of the word *Sabbat* for the seventh day of the week, is clear evidence that speakers of these languages understood which day is the Sabbath. Likewise, the fact that in no language do we see "Sabbath" similarly linked with Sunday (the first day of the week), is an obvious confirmation that this day never was considered the biblical Sabbath until later religious leaders tried to substitute Sunday for the true Sabbath day.

2.10. How can we Confirm Biblically that Saturday is indeed Sabbath day?

The knowledge of the seventh-day Sabbath has been preserved by God through the centuries since the days of Jesus and has been observed in many areas around the world. Never has there been a time in which God's people somewhere did not observe the seventh-day Sabbath. There isn't any historical record of any dispute among any Jew (Gods chosen people) or other religious churches (Roman catholic and protestant Christian churches) that the day we call Saturday is the seventh day of the weekly cycle, God's

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Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. (Proverbs 11:14)

day of rest. The Jewish people who have been following Gods traditions and customs for millennia have successfully kept the original seven-day weekly cycle intact. Even the Roman catholic, who changed the sabbath worship to Sunday, do not dispute at all that Saturday is sabbath day (more discussion on this on this, see the section “who changed sabbath day and why”).

God’s Seventh Day Week Cycle - The Original Week

the week had its origin more than 2500 years before Moses’ day, at the very beginning of time. When God created the heavens and the earth, He created it all in six days, then rested on the seventh. In both Exodus chapters 20 and 31, we find God giving the reason for the week as the pattern He set in creation (Exodus 20:11 and Exodus 31:17). He took seven days in creation specifically to set a precedent for man, who is the pinnacle of His creation and indeed the very reason for the whole creation. Genesis chapter 1 is specific that God took six actual days to complete the Creation. The writer of Genesis couldn’t say a 24-hour day because hours apparently were not reckoned until a few thousand years later. ‘The evening and the morning’ indicate a normal 24-hour day with a light half and a dark half. Where else could the week come from? It is not related to any astronomical observations, as are the day, the month and the year. It exists because God specified it. He clearly tells us it reflects what He did in the Creation week. Who is able to contradict Him? We weren’t there. No historian was there. Nor was Adam, the first man, until the sixth day of the Creation week. This makes it impossible to argue with the historical facts that God Himself gives us.

The Bible is most reliable source of history we have—history concerning God’s dealing with man, and His chosen people. In biblical account, we find the Jewish people kept the Sabbath well before historical references to the Roman or Babylonian weeks. At the very commencement of Israel as a nation, we find God revealing the sabbatical week to His people. The seventh day weekly cycle that has been in place since the beginning of creation. Scripture tells us the cycle was established by God. The seven-day weekly cycle is not tied to any patterns or alignments of the sun, moon or stars. It’s a non-stop serial counting of days, one after the other. After six days of creation, God rested on the seventh day (Genesis 2:1-2). Since then, the counting off of days in groups of sevens—with each group called a week and every seventh day designated as a day of rest—has continued unbroken up to our own time.

The Manna Would Mysterious Not Fall on Sabbath Day

Even before the giving of the Law, when God provided the manna miraculously, He gave it in such a way as to teach His people about the sabbath day. On the sixth day, God provided them with sufficient manna for two days, so the people did not need to gather any on the seventh day of the week— Sabbath day when none would fall from the sky. If they gathered more than they needed on other days, it would spoil. But not on the sixth day (Exodus 16), a miraculous provision that show God as the ultimate keeper of Sabbath day! This, like the Sabbath day itself, was to emphasize man’s utter dependence on his Creator.

The lesson of the manna, which demonstrated the difference in the days of the week happened before the rest of the law was given via the Old Covenant. Even though the Old Covenant has passed away, that does not mean that the eternal code of conduct on which the agreement was based has passed away.

When Moses received the Law at Mount Sinai, the first thing God revealed to him was the Ten Commandments, which of course included the command about the Sabbath (Exodus 20:8-11). After that

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God gave Moses the other instructions. And the last thing God said to him before he came down the mountain with the tablets, was to keep the Sabbath (Exodus 31:12-17). Keeping the Sabbath was a sign of the covenant between God and the nation of Israel—a testimony to an unbelieving world that this people were sanctified by God (Exodus 31:13).

Jews Traditions Observance of Seven-Day Week

The book of Genesis (and hence the seven-day account of creation) was likely written around 500 B.C. during the Jewish exile to Babylon. In the wilderness, God fed the people of Israel with manna. The manna would appear on the ground every day except the seventh day, the day of rest (Exodus 16:14-30). This sequence would repeat every seven days, over and over for 40 years. The weekly cycle of manna only stopped when Israel entered the promised land. Did Israel ever lose track of the seventh day? Four decades of repetition is plenty of time to clearly establish which day was the day of rest. If the Sabbath had somehow been lost between creation and the exodus, 40 years of weekly miracles would have definitely reestablished it. We can conclude confidently that our current Saturday is the seventh day of the week, on the same weekly cycle that has been in place since the beginning of creation a cycle established and confirmed by God Himself.

God confirms this calendar in the bible when he tells us that **each month** must start at the sighting of the new moon. Each **new year** must start at the sighting of the new moon after Aviv, the barely ripeness, and the Passover must start on the 14th day after Aviv. We can know for sure that the seventh-day Sabbath, being sunset Friday to sunset Saturday, has not changed because the Jewish people have tracked and continuously keeping the seventh-day Sabbath cycle unbroken since the time of Jesus Christ, who also kept the Sabbath on the correct day.

2.11. Should we do Work on Saturday - Sabbath Day?

The Sabbath commandment was explicitly clear that no work at all was to be done on Sabbath day. It makes it pretty clear that God prioritized the Sabbath by resting and so should we. God is crystal clear in His commandment.

“Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of 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 servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates”. (Exodus 20: 8-10)

“On the seventh day shall be a holy convocation; you shall do no customary work on it”. It shall be a statute forever, in all your dwellings throughout your generations” (Leviticus 23:8, 21)

2.12. Should we do Good on Sabbath day

Jesus said; “therefore, it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath.” (Matthew 12:12)

.....
Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. (Proverbs 11:14)

But we find Jesus and his disciples being accused of doing unlawful work on Saturday. Was this a contradiction?

And when the Pharisees saw it, they said to Him, "Look, your disciples are doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath!" (Matthew 12:2)

Pharisees asked "Wanting to bring charges against Jesus, they asked, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?"—that they might accuse Him" (Matthew 12:10)

According Jewish religious leaders in Jesus times, work was labeled as "anything that a person broke into a sweat to accomplish". Jewish people had very stringent laws governing what could and could not be done on the Sabbath. They set about the task of defining work rather than focusing on keeping the Sabbath holy. In fact, much of their groaning against Jesus was because Jesus disregarded their extra-biblical Sabbath laws by doing good on Sabbath.

The biggest accusation of Jesus by Jewish religious leaders, Pharisees and Scribes was that he worked on sabbath day. But what was the basis of pharisee accusation? First, we note that Jesus' confrontations with the Pharisees and scribes were over 'how to' observe the Sabbath, never over 'whether to' observe it. The reason why they accused Jesus and the disciples of "doing what is not lawful on the Sabbath is because, they and their ancestors had added many **stricter-than-Scripture religious requirements** (extra-biblical sabbatical laws, or human-devised rules and instructions) as a hedge around the divine Sabbath law.

They were using their stricter-than-Scripture religious requirements and religious hypocrisy to misinterpret the divine law in accusing Jesus of breaking the Sabbath. This made Sabbath law to become a heavy burden as Sabbath-keeping degenerated into the bondage of legalism, perpetuated by the narrow-minded scribes and Pharisees. Jesus Christ condemned these human traditions and set the example of how to keep the Sabbath as God's gift to mankind.

Jesus said: "The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat...and bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers. "But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut up the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither go in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in (Matthew 23: 2, 4, 13)

"Looking for a reason to bring charges against Jesus, they asked him, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?" (Matthew 12:10)

"Now it happened on another Sabbath, also, that He entered the synagogue and taught. And a man was there whose right hand was withered. So, the scribes and Pharisees watched Him closely, whether He would heal on the Sabbath, that they might find an accusation against Him" (Mark 3:1-6)

"Woman, you are freed from your disability." But the ruler of the synagogue, outraged because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath (Luke 13:11-12)

Now it happened on the second Sabbath after the first that He went through the grainfields. And His disciples plucked the heads of grain and ate them, rubbing them in their hands. And some of the Pharisees said to them, "Why are you doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath?" (Mark 2:23-28)

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Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. (Proverbs 11:14)

“When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that he was eating with sinners and tax-collectors, they said to his disciples, ‘Why does he eat with tax-collectors and sinners?’ (Mark 2:13-17)

The Pharisees interpreted healing people, rubbing grains on the hands, healed people carrying their belongings, feeding the hungry, as unlawful work that should not be done on Sabbath. When Jesus removed the suffering of the sickly man, “the pharisees were filled with rage, and discussed with one another what they might do to Jesus”. This clearly demonstrate they were hypocrites and not genuine law keepers.

2.13. What is “Good” and “Lawful” Work that should be done on Sabbath?

Jesus said, “it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath” (Matthew 12:11)”

We interrogate “what type good and lawful work” Jesus did on sabbath. Jesus first responded by asking Pharisees and Scribes questions, even asking them if they have read the Old Testament law which the pharisees and scribes themselves so strictly enforced to their followers.

“But Jesus answering them said, “Have you not even read this, what David did when he was hungry, he and those who were with him: how he went into the house of God, took and ate the showbread, and also gave some to those with him, which is not lawful for any but the priests to eat?” And He said to them, “The Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath” (Mark 3:3-6)

“Then Jesus said to them, “I will ask you one thing: Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save life or to destroy?” But they were silent. And when He had looked around at them all, He said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” And he did so, and his hand was restored as whole as the other” (Luke: 6:9-10)

“Jesus answered them, saying, “Which of you, having a donkey or an ox that has fallen into a pit, will not immediately pull him out on the Sabbath day?” And they could not answer Him regarding these things” (Luke 14:5-6)

“Jesus said to them, “If any of you has a sheep and it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will you not take hold of it and lift it out? How much more valuable is a person than a sheep! Therefore, it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath” (Matthew 12:1-12)

“Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And behold, there was a woman who had had a disabling spirit for eighteen years. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said to her, “Woman, you are freed from your disability.” But the ruler of the synagogue, outraged because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath (Luke 13:11-12)

Jesus asked, “Ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?” (Luke 13:16)

.....
Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. (Proverbs 11:14)

Jesus clarified that it is not wrong to do good on the Sabbath, giving examples of emergencies (healing sick, caring for the sick and injured, feeding the hungry like David did. Jesus likened the healing of the man with dropsy to pulling an animal out of a well. If the animal isn't pulled out of the well, it will surely die. If saving the life of an animal is something worth "breaking a sweat over" on the Sabbath, how much more should we care for a person. Bringing healing to a person from any condition that diminishes their quality of life is not only permissible on the Sabbath but honors the Sabbath in the direct way God intends.

Jesus said the greatest commandment is love. He therefore intends us fulfil the sabbath commandment within the context of love of God and neighbor. Good work shall be done in His name and in His honor on the Sabbath as a way of setting the day apart for the purposes of God.

"By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome" (1 John 5:2-3).

Lessons of good work we can learn from the activities that Jesus did on the Sabbath day, since He is our 'Teacher' and 'Lord', and He says *"I have set you an example that you should do as I have done to you"* (John 13:13)

1. Doing good on the Sabbath honors God's holy intentions for our lives and fulfills God's purposes
2. Jesus was discussing '**what is lawful to do on the Sabbath**'. People should also discuss what activities are lawful-which are pleasing to God on Sabbath. Once any activity qualifies as 'good' and 'lawful', in the eyes of God, then do it.
3. Do everything that can be done for relieving human suffering e.g., lifesaving activities, visiting the sick, feeding the hungry, emergency activities etc.
4. Sometimes on a Sabbath Jesus was in the field and other times he in was in the synagogue preaching the gospel. Jesus travels were not for his own self gain but travelling in fulfilling the work of His Father.
5. Jesus went to a Pharisee's house (Who was a tax collector and a sinner) for a Sabbath meal. Here we see the other side of Jesus reaching out to the sinners and them responding and inviting him into their homes.

2.14. Which People is Sabbath Law Meant for?

The Sabbath was made for man, not for Jews or any particular group of people at any specific time in history. It was made *"for all mankind of all times"*. In the context of the ancient world, the Sabbath was unique to Israel. But God extended its observance to everyone who would commit to Him. The bible is clear Sabbath observance is for everyone who believe and serve in Him.

1. *The children of Israel (Jews)*

"Tell the people of Israel: 'Be careful to keep my Sabbaths (Exodus 31:13)

"The children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual (everlasting) covenant. (Exodus 31:16)

2. *The non-Jewish people (Gentiles)*

.....
Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. (Proverbs 11:14)

"I will also bless the foreigners who commit themselves to the LORD, who serve him and love his name, who worship him and do not desecrate the Sabbath day of rest, and who hold fast to my covenant" (Isaiah 56:6)

3. *All mankind for all time, who commit to the Lord*

"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise" (Galatians 3: 28-29)

"Blessed are all those who are careful to do this. Blessed are those who honor my Sabbath days of rest and keep themselves from doing wrong." (Isaiah 56:2)

"Blessed is the man who does this, And the son of man who lays hold on it; Who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, And keeps his hand from doing any evil" (Isaiah 56:2)

"Each of you...must always observe my Sabbaths. I am the LORD your God. (Leviticus 19:3)

"To the eunuchs who keep My Sabbaths, And choose what pleases Me, And hold fast My covenant, Even to them I will give in My house And within My walls a place and a name Better than that of sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name That shall not be cut off" (Isaiah 56:4-5)

"The sons of the foreigner Who join themselves to the Lord, to serve Him, and to love the name of the Lord, to be His servants—Everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, And holds fast My covenant—Even them I will bring to My holy mountain, And make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices Will be accepted on My altar; For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations." The Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, says, "Yet I will gather to him Others besides those who are gathered to him" (Isaiah 56:6-8)

2.15. Did Jesus Observe Sabbath day?

Jesus did not abolish any of the 10 commandments. The Bible makes it clear that Jesus Christ observed the Saturday Sabbath. He strengthened it by commanding all those who love Him to abide and keep the commandment of His Father, just as He did. The record of Jesus' life shows He rested on the seventh day in obedience to the commandment. Jesus observed the day of rest on the same day of the week as His fellow Jews. In addition, Jesus' obedience to the Fourth Commandment confirmed the seventh day as kept by the Jews was the correct day.

"And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read." (Luke 4:16)

Jesus said, "The Son of man is Lord even of the Sabbath" (Matthew 12:8, Mark 2:27-28)

"And He (Jesus) came down to Capernaum, a city in Galilee, and He was teaching them on the Sabbath" (Luke 4:31)

Jesus said, "If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love; just as I have kept my Father's commandment and abide in His love" (John 15:10)

.....

Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. (Proverbs 11:14)

Jesus used the Sabbath day to announce His mission on Earth (Luke 4:16-19). In Isaiah 42:21, the prophet predicts that the Messiah would come to magnify the law, not to change it. In Matthew 24:20, Jesus alludes to the Sabbath in connection with future generations. Jesus also told his followers that He did not abolish that law (Matthew 5:17)

2.16. Did the Apostles and Early Church Observe Sabbath Law?

The Bible shows the New Testament church, apostles included, clearly observing the Saturday Sabbath and not Sunday-the first day of the week as some Christian and their churches leaders tend deceive people. The Bible shows no evidence of any change at Christ's death and resurrection concerning God's Sabbaths. We only see a continuation of Christ's followers observing Sabbath just as their Messiah did.

"And the women who had come with Him from Galilee followed after, and they observed the tomb and how His body was laid. Then they returned and...rested on the Sabbath according to the commandment" (Luke 23: 55-56).

"As was his custom, Paul went into the synagogue, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures" (Acts 17:2)

(Paul)... " And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and persuaded both Jews and Greeks" (Acts 18:4)

"Paul and his companions sailed to Perga in Pamphylia, where John left them to return to Jerusalem. From Perga they went to Pisidian Antioch. On the sabbath they entered the synagogue and sat down" (Acts 13: 13-14)

"on the Sabbath we (Paul and others) went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there" (Acts 16"13)

"But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the Sabbath day" (Matthew 24:20)

"And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath...And the next Sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the Word of God." (Acts 13:42, 44)

Jesus asked His disciples to pray that in the flight from the doomed city of Jerusalem they would not have to flee on the Sabbath day. This flight took place in 70 A.D., (forty years after the Cross).

Some people say that the gathering of 12 apostles on Sunday, the first day of the week when Jesus rose from the dead interpret to mean they were gathered to worship on a Sunday. However, the verse clearly state that the apostles were assembled for fearing the Jewish authorities who, had 3 days ago crucified their Messiah. Jesus had even to assure them when He appeared to them by giving them His peace.

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

.....
Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. (Proverbs 11:14)

2.17. What is the Punishment for Disobeying the Sabbath Law?

Disobeying Sabbath command attracted a curse, being cut off from among the people. God says those who violate Sabbath shall be put to death (new covenant talks of spiritual death). And being cut off means being removed from inheriting Gods Kingdom to come; “And if anyone removes any of the words from this book of prophecy, God will remove that person’s share in the tree of life and in the holy city that are described in this book” (Rev 22:19).

“on the seventh day some of the people went out to gather, but they did not find anything. Then the LORD said to Moses, “How long will you refuse to keep My commandments and instructions? Understand that the LORD has given you the Sabbath; that is why on the sixth day He will give you bread for two days. On the seventh day, everyone must stay where he is; no one may leave his place” (Exodus 16:28-29)

“Everyone who profanes Sabbath shall surely be put to death, for whoever does any work on it, that person shall be cut off from among his people” (Exodus 31:14-15)

“Behold, I set before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you today; and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the LORD your God (Deuteronomy 11:26-28)

The children of Israel were Severely Punished for Breaking the Sabbath Law.

As a punishment, God rejected their futile sacrifices and their sacred assemblies. In addition, as God had promised that He would exile them if they did not also land to have sabbath rest after every 7 years, He exiled them from their own land for 70 years for the land to enjoy its Sabbath. As long the land lay desolate, it kept Sabbath, to fulfill seventy years, because this was the amount of time that the Sabbath rest for the land had been disobeyed.

“For the LORD has spoken: “I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against Me; ...They have forsaken the LORD, “To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices to Me?” Says the LORD. Bring no more futile sacrifices; Incense is an abomination to Me. The New Moons, the Sabbaths, and the calling of assemblies - I cannot endure iniquity and the sacred meeting. Your New Moons and your appointed feasts My soul hates” (Isaiah 1:2-14)

“He brought up against them the king of the Babylonians, who killed their young men with the sword in the sanctuary, and did not spare young men or young women, the elderly or the infirm. He carried into exile to Babylon the remnant, who escaped from the sword, and they became servants to him and his successors until the kingdom of Persia came to power” The land enjoyed its sabbath rests; all the time of its desolation it rested, until the seventy years were completed in fulfillment of the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah” (2 Chronicles 36:17-21)

“I gave them my Sabbaths as a sign between us, so they would know that I the LORD made them holy. The people of Israel rebelled against me in the wilderness. They did not follow my decrees but rejected my laws—by which the person who obeys them will live—and they utterly desecrated my Sabbaths. Because they had not obeyed my

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laws but had rejected my decrees and desecrated my Sabbaths, and their eyes lusted after their parents' idols. ²⁵ So I gave them other statutes that were not good and laws through which they could not live; ²⁶ I defiled them through their gifts—the sacrifice of every firstborn—that I might fill them with horror so they would know that I am the LORD..... As I live," says the Lord GOD, "I will not be inquired of by you..." ³⁸ I will purge the rebels from among you, and those who transgress against Me; I will bring them out of the country where they dwell, but they shall not enter the land of Israel. Then you will know that I *am* the LORD" (Ezekiel chapter 20)

2.18. Should we Worship on Sunday as God's appointed holy day?

"Though shall not follow a multitude to do evil" (exodus 23: 2)

"the seventh day is a Sabbath of solemn rest, a holy convocation" it is the Sabbath of the LORD in all your dwellings" (Leviticus 23:3-4)

A **convocation** is defined as "a large formal assembly of people". It is also defined as "the action of calling people together for a large formal assembly".

"For in every city, for generations past, Moses has had those who proclaim him, for he has been read aloud every sabbath in the synagogues." (Acts 15:21)

The bible is very clear; resting and a holy convocation should be held on the seventh day (Saturday) and not the first day (Sunday). Sunday is NOT a holy day of assembly that God designated. God does not give us the choice of 'how to' worship Him—only 'whether we will' worship Him according to His instructions or not. What, then, must He think of those who ignore His commands regarding the Sabbath, substituting instead a different day? According to Christ's own statements, we should not engage in worshipping him in vain - that is, useless worship. Such worship is described by Jesus as that which follows the commandment of men and not the commandment of God. Jesus Christ condemned the practices of the religious leaders for deceiving people. Today, the world has been deceived by hypocritical religious leader to follow blindly the wrong day of worship.

"And with all unrighteous deception among *those* who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved" (2 Thessalonians 2: 10)

"In vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.' For laying aside the commandment of God, you hold the tradition of men . . . All too well you reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition" (Mark 7:7-9).

"But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies" (2 Peter 2:1-3).
[NB: *Heresies is corrupt doctrines*]

Most Christians assume that Sunday is the Biblically-approved day of worship. The Roman Catholic Church says that it transferred Christian worship from the biblical Sabbath (Saturday) to Sunday, and that to try to argue that the change was made in the Bible is both dishonest and a denial of Catholic authority. Should we suppress the truth of Saturday worship, by following the religious authorities, priests and church ministers who show partiality in fulfilling the law? The true worshippers seeking the Kingdom of God to must not conform to human deception and doctrines. We should "NOT conform to the pattern of this

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world" (Romans 12:1-2). Strictly we should observe and obey each and every truth written in the Laws of God.

"For the lips of a priest should keep knowledge, and people should seek the law from his mouth; For he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts. But you have departed from the way; You have caused many to stumble at the law" (Malachi 2:7-9)

"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness" (Romans 1:18)

"If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you do well; but if you show partiality, you commit sin, and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all" (James 2:8-10)

2.19. Is there anywhere in the bible that says Sabbath is not for Christians?

There is not a single verse whatsoever in the New Testament that says sabbath was abolished or changed, or is exclusive for Jews. In fact, Apostle Paul (Himself a Jew) was sent to preach for none Jews-Gentiles (Acts 22:21). There is nowhere he taught them not to observe sabbath.

According to the bible, all believers are one and the same in Christ. There is neither a Jews nor a Gentiles. so sabbath worship should be for all who believe in Jesus Christ.

"Or is He the God of the Jews only? Is He not also the God of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also" (Romans 3:29)

"There is neither Jew nor Greek (Gentiles), ...for you are all one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:28).

"So, in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others." (Romans 12:5)

"For in one spirit we were all baptized in one body-Jews or Greeks, slaves or free- and all were made to drink of one Spirit" (1 Cori 12:12-13)

"For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him." (Romans 10:12)

2.20. Why do many people and churches worship on Sunday?

The vast majority of Christian churches today teach the observance of Sunday, the first day of the week, as a time for rest and worship. They thus are under authority of an earthly god, serving him on Sunday, his day of worship, and not on Saturday, the holy day set by the true GOD, the Creator of the universe. The catholic church which changed the 4th commandment day of worship to Sunday (Lord's day) acknowledge this

"The Sun was a foremost god with heathen-dom...The sun has worshippers at this hour in Persia and other lands.... There is, in truth, something royal, kingly about the sun, making it a fit emblem of Jesus, the Sun of Justice. Hence the church in these countries would seem

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to have said, to 'Keep that old pagan name [Sunday]. It shall remain consecrated, sanctified.' And thus, the pagan Sunday, dedicated to Balder, became the Christian Sunday, sacred to Jesus”.

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

Many Christians defend that Sunday is the day for worship on the grounds that they are celebrating Christ's resurrection from the grave after His death on the cross which occurred on Sunday. But nowhere does the Bible tell us that we should modify the Sabbath. Saturday Sabbath day is the only appointed day God designed to honor His creative work both in the world and in our lives. In fact, honoring the seventh-day Sabbath is actually a sign that we do not believe in righteousness by works, but rather in the saving grace of Jesus to cleanse us from all sin and to make us right with Him.

Catholic church and some Christians churches, who are determined to prove that the Saturday Sabbath day has been transferred from to Sunday, **use these eight Gospel verses texts in the Bible** to legalize the Sunday Sabbath worship. Many of these verses in fact support and promote the seventh-day Sabbath rather than deny it.

Catholic church has used some of these verses to sanctify Sunday holy communion. The fact that the disciples' broke bread together on the Sunday is often used as a support of Sunday worship. This is however not the case, as the disciples ate together every day of the week. The partaking of communion is not limited to Sunday: *“And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their food with gladness and singleness of heart” (Acts 2:46). Communion is eaten as often as one wishes, “For as often as you eat this bread, and drink this cup, you do proclaim the Lord’s death till he comes” (1 Corinthians 11:26).*

Here are the Eight bible verses that are commonly quoted to falsely justify Sunday Worship

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” (Matthew 28:1).***

Two days are mentioned in this verse. One is given a sacred title, “after the Sabbath,” and the other numerical value, “first day of the week.” Note also the first day did not begin until “the end of the Sabbath.” There is no transfer of the Sabbath day here. Sunday sanctity is missing here, and it is not explained in the surrounding verses either. In fact, a verse in Luke states that Mary did not attend to Jesus on the Sabbath day, because she rested in accordance with the commandment: *“Then they returned and prepared spices and fragrant oils. And they rested on the Sabbath, according to the commandment” (Luke 23:56).*

2. ***“And when the sabbath was passed, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might 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 16:1-2).***

Mark’s record was, according to some scholars, written approximately ten years after the resurrection. Mark refers to the same event as was described by Matthew, and he agrees with Matthew that the

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Sabbath was passed. Again, we have Biblical evidence that the Sabbath and the “first day” are two distinct and separate days. Certainly, Mark places no sacredness on the first day in this reference. Jesus’ followers had come on Sunday to engage in labor the customary “embalming” of the body of the crucified Christ. They knew no sacredness attached to the day and were prepared to toil at a very unpleasant task.

3. ***"Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene out of whom He had cast seven devils" (Mark 16:9).***

There is not a word in this verse indicating that Sunday should be the new Christian Sabbath.

4. ***"And that day was the preparation, and the sabbath drew on. And the women also, which came with Him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulcher, and how His body was laid. And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment. Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the tomb, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them" (Luke 23:54-24:1).***

Christ was crucified on Thursday afternoon before sunset and “that day was the preparation, and the Sabbath drew on.” Friday was called “the preparation,” implying preparation for the Sabbath. The Sabbath began at sunset. The Sabbath was observed from Friday evening until Saturday evening.

NB: Many people believe Christ was crucified on Friday. Further research on this subject will reveal he was indeed crucified on Thursday. A point to note is that there was a normal sabbath of Saturday and a Passover sabbath on the same week. Remember Jesus said he would be on the rave for 3 days and three nights.

5. ***" 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" (John 20:1).***

The Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John each give parallel accounts of the work of Christ on Earth. This is the reason for the repetition in the above verses quoted. Nothing is said about Sunday sacredness, nothing to suggest that Sunday should be kept as the Sabbath.

6. ***"Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and said to them, Peace be with you" (John 20:19).***

The text says nothing about the disciples holding a meeting in honor of Christ’s resurrection. In fact, they took the resurrection report of Luke as “idle tales, and they believed them not” (Luke 24:11). As is stated clearly in John 20:19, “the doors were shut” not for a meeting or celebration of the resurrection, but “for fear of the Jews.” The disciples were hiding from the Jewish persecutors. They assembled from fear, not for worship. While it is true that Christ rose from the grave on Easter Sunday, there is no evidence for keeping Sunday in honor of the resurrection. The Bible teaches that baptism, rather than Sunday, is the memorial to the resurrection of Christ.

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7. ***“And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight” (Acts 20:7).***

An evening meeting is recorded on the first day of the week. This means that since the Sabbath ended at sunset, the first day of the week began according to Bible reckoning. It is recorded that Paul continued his speech until midnight on Saturday. Evidently, Paul had visited all day Sabbath with them, and was persuaded to stay on that night and speak further. According to Acts 20:11, “talked a long while, even till break of day, so he departed.” Paul did not stay on the Sunday, which would have been the case if Sunday was the new Sabbath. Indeed, it was only after the Sabbath that the disciples came together to have a meal together, and Paul spoke to them until daybreak on Sunday morning, and then left on a long journey by foot, an act that would never have been sanctioned on the Sabbath day. The fact that Paul undertook a long journey by foot alone shows that the first day of the week—Sunday was not held in any special regard. The text is thus in support of Sabbath sanctity, rather than Sunday sanctity.

8. ***“Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given orders to the churches of Galatia, so you must do also: Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come” (1 Corinthians 16:1-2).***

Paul is referring to tithes and offerings set aside for God's work. This was to be done on the first day of the week. Paul regarded the sanctity of the Sabbath so highly that he suggested that the calculating of tithes and offerings should not be carried out until after the preparation day and the Sabbath. He suggested rather that this work be done on the first day of the week, so that it wouldn't be spent on other less necessary items in the course of the subsequent week. Rather than to detract from the Saturday Sabbath, this verse supports it.

2.21. Did Gregorian calendar lose the seventh-day weekly cycle of God

The Gregorian **Calendar** is the most widely **used calendar** in the world **today**. It is the **calendar used** in the international standard for Representation of dates and times: ISO 8601:2004. It is a solar **calendar** based on a 365-day common year divided into 12 months of irregular lengths.

Before the Gregorian calendar, from 46 B.C. up to A.D. 1582, the Western world used what is called the Julian calendar. It was a vast improvement over the previous Roman calendars used because it finally kept the months in sync with the seasons. However, after many centuries even the Julian calendar was about 10 days out of sync with the solar system. In 1582 the old Julian calendar was replaced with the new, improved Gregorian calendar, which is the calendar system we still use today.

Did this change of the Gregorian calendar in 1582 lose track of the seventh day? At the time of the change to the new calendar system, those 10 days were simply dropped out of the calendar to get the dating system of the calendar back in sync with the solar system. It was **Thursday, Oct. 4, 1582, and the next day, Friday, should have been Oct. 5. However, the new calendar made the next day Oct. 15 instead. That change had no impact on the seven-day weekly cycle.** Whether that following Friday was numbered as the 5th of the month or the 15th of the month, it was still the sixth day of the week, and the day that

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followed was still the seventh day of the week. Even today we regularly add a day into our calendar every four years. We call it a “leap year.” Changing the number of days in a calendar month does not alter the weekly cycle—there is no six-day week, or eight-day week.

So, we can conclude confidently that our current Saturday is the seventh day of the week, on the same weekly cycle that has been in place since the beginning of creation—a cycle established and confirmed by God Himself.

2.22. Why does the bible not use current names of the days of the week?

The origin of the names of the days of the week we use today are identified with seven pagan gods associated with the five major planets, plus the sun and moon. This planetary week was popularized by the Romans, and spread at the same time as Christianity. Names of Germanic gods eventually replaced the names of Roman gods as the basis for our English week day names.

The early Christian church numbered the days of the week, following Jewish practice, to avoid using the names of pagan gods. Interestingly, the Greek Orthodox Church still follows this practice, except that the first day of the week is called the ‘Lord’s day’. The names of the days of the week in many languages are derived from the names of the classical planets in Hellenistic astrology, which were in turn named after contemporary deities, a system introduced by the Roman Empire during Late Antiquity. In some other languages, the days are named after corresponding deities of the regional culture, either beginning with Sunday or with Monday. The Babylonians named the days after the five planetary bodies known to them (Tuesday through Saturday) and after the Sun and Moon (Sunday and Monday). This custom was later adopted by the Romans.

Name of days according to pagan gods		Name of days according to Hebrew God	
<i>Monday</i>	Named after <i>moon</i> god [corresponds to 1 st day]	<i>Yom Rishon</i>	Meaning "first day" [corresponds to Sunday]
<i>Tuesday:</i>	Named from <i>Tiu</i> , the Norse god of war. [corresponds to 2 nd day]	<i>Yom Sheni</i>	Meaning "second day" [corresponds to Monday]
<i>Wednesday</i>	Named after one of the sons of <i>Woden</i> , the supreme god [corresponds to 3 rd day]	<i>Yom Shlishi</i>	Meaning "third day" [corresponds to Tuesday]
<i>Thursday</i>	Named from <i>Thor</i> , the god of thunder [corresponds to 4 th day]	<i>Yom Revi'i</i>	Meaning "fourth day" [corresponds to Wednesday]
<i>Friday</i>	Named from <i>Frigga</i> , the wife of Odin, representing love and beauty [corresponds to 5 th day]	<i>Yom Chamishi</i>	Meaning "fifth day" [corresponds to Thursday]
<i>Saturday</i>	Named after <i>Saturn</i> , the ancient Roman god of fun and feasting [corresponds to 6 th day]	<i>Yom Shishi</i>	Meaning "sixth day" [corresponds to Friday]
<i>Sunday:</i>	Named after Roman <i>sun-god</i> corresponds to 7 th day]	<i>Yom Shabbat</i>	Meaning "rest day" [corresponds to Saturday, the 7 th day]

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PART 3

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. **I have not come to abolish them, but to fulfill them.** For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished”

(Matthew 5:17-18)

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PART 3: WAS THE SABBATH LAW ABOLISHED BY THE NEW COVENANT?

3.1. Did Jesus Abolish Sabbath Law?

Jesus said He came to fulfil the law, the new covenant affirms that Sabbath observance is permanent and perpetual (everlasting), because Jesus has become our sabbath lamb sacrifice forever, sabbath worship is now everlasting, a Sabbath millennia rest in the kingdom of GOD await. Sabbath day will prolong to eternity.

Jesus Himself Confirmed the Sabbath Day Would Still Stand After His Resurrection and at the end times.

“But pray that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day.’ (Matthew 24:20”

This verse has a double application. The first application is to the time in year 70 AD when Jerusalem was destroyed. And the second application is for Christians during the end times, when they would need to flee to the mountains away from the antichrist of Revelation 13. And Jesus confirms that the Sabbath will still be binding.

“Therefore, the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant” (Exodus 31:16)

“The Law of the Lord is perfect...The testimony of the Lord is sure...The teachings of the Lord are right...The commandment of the Lord is pure (Psalms 19:7-8)

“All His commandments are trustworthy, they are established forever and ever, enacted in faithfulness and uprightness” He has guaranteed his covenant with them forever” (Psalms 111:7-9)

Jesus Christ, the mediator of the new covenant, being in the very form of God (Philippians 2:6), built on top of the foundation of the supreme Laws given by His Father in the new testament. Jesus expressed the essential unity of the Ten Commandments with the rest of the law when he summarized the law in two commandments. He tied all the 10 commandments with LOVE. With true love of God, one cannot break any commandment of God. Rather, one will be fulfilling them joyfully, out of own free will, not being dictated by law. Jesus plainly stated that He loved keeping his Father’s commandments.

Jesus said, “You shall LOVE the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall LOVE your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang All the Law and the Prophets” (Matt. 22:37-40)

“This is love, that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, that as you have heard from the beginning, you should walk in it” (2 John 1:6)

“If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love; just as I have kept my Father’s commandment and abide in His love” (John 15:10)

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"Jesus said, "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have not come to abolish them, but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished" (Matthew 5:17-18)

Jesus said, "If you love Me, Keep My commandments (John 14:15)

Jesus tied all the 10 commandments with love, meaning that, each commandment was to be fulfilled with love, and not with strictness of the physical law, as Pharisees did. Throughout His ministry and His actions, He showed the true purpose and meaning of love. For example, when a young man asked Jesus; "what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?" Christ told him; "if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments" (Mathew 19:16). That was all that was necessary in the strict sense of the Word, and by thus keeping the commands which God had given eternal life could be obtained. But when the young man pressed further, "**All these commandments I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?**" Christ told him: "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me" (Mathew 19:21). Jesus thus added Love of one another and removed religious dogmas and burdensome of the law.

So, did Jesus abolish Sabbath? Jesus could not abolish Sabbath Law, He loved doing His Father's will so much, that out of immense love for the people to be reconciled with His Father God, He sacrificed Himself up, for their sake. It's the Sabbath – Remembering God and doing good – that could bring those he redeemed closer to God. He taught people to do good on sabbath. He removed the yoke of the law that bound people from doing good, so that people could enjoy holy independence of observing and keeping sabbath and do good deeds in it. Jesus Christ's earthly ministry was to "fulfill" the law, and not to destroy it (Matthew 5:17-18). Matthew 5 shows Him magnifying various points of law to reveal the true intent behind them. Jesus often showed that the Sabbath, and particularly His teachings and actions on that day, anticipated the coming of millennia sabbath—the time of the Kingdom of God—as one of healing, freedom and restoration for all humanity.

The New Covenant that Jesus introduced does not cancel the divine laws in the Old Testament, but only relates to the temporary covenant with Moses, which was very much conditional. Moses himself prophesied that it was just a matter of time before it would disappear. Moses prophesied of the coming of the messiah who will come with a new covenant

"The Lord your God will raise up for you a Prophet like unto me from the midst, of your brethren. Him you shall hear" (Deuteronomy 18:15)

"And this I say, that the Law, which was 430 years later, cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by God in Christ, that it should make the promise of no effect." (Galatians 3:17)

Apostle Paul wrote, "Is the Law then against the promises of God? Certainly not" (Galatians 3: 21)

"My covenant I will not break, nor alter the word that has gone out of My lips" (Psalms 89:34)

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3.2. Did Apostle Paul Abolish Sabbath law?

What does Apostle Paul about the 10 commandments of God?

"What shall we say then? Is the Law sin? May it never be! So then, the Law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good" (Romans 7:7-13)

"Therefore, the Law is holy, and the commandment holy and just and good" (Romans 7:12)

"I agree with the Law that it is good" ...For we know that the law is spiritual" ...For I delight in the Law of God according to the inward man (Romans 7:16, 14, 22)

"with the mind I myself serve the Law of God, but with the *flesh* the law of sin" (Romans 7:24)

The Jews and Pharisees regard the sabbath as a very important law and observed it religiously, so much so that even when Jesus healed people on the sabbath, they rose up against Him and accused him of breaking sabbath law. Now, if the apostles Paul changed the Sabbath observance from Saturday to Sunday-the first day of the week, would the pharisees say they find no evil in Paul;

"And there arose a great cry: and the scribes that were of the Pharisees' part arose, and strove, saying, we find no evil in this man" (Acts 23:9)

If Paul was actually guilty of sabbath breaking, how could the Pharisees say they could find no evil in Him, when we know all too well, they accused Jesus of healing the sick on the seventh day sabbath?

3.3. "Let No One Judge you... regarding a festival or a new moon or Sabbaths"

Colossians 2:16 is the one particular verse in the Bible that many Christians who don't observe the seventh day sabbath like to quote, to suggest that the sabbath day is no longer binding and that you can keep any day you like. The problem is that many sincere Christians forget to look at the whole context of Bible verses and miss the true meaning of what God is saying.

"let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or Sabbaths, which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ" ...Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in *false* humility and worship of angels (Colossians 2:16-18)

Now taken on their own, these verses could well suggest that the sabbath day may no longer be important for us to keep. But when we look at the whole context of what is being said, then new light is shed upon the Word of God. Notice that the verses above start with, "let no man THEREFORE judge you..." That word "therefore" connects this verse to the previous ones. So, let's look at the previous verses (Colossians 2):

"⁴ Now this I say lest anyone should deceive you with persuasive words. ⁸ "Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.

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²⁰ Therefore, if you died with Christ from the basic principles of the world, why, as *though* living in the world, do you subject yourselves to regulations— ²¹ “Do not touch, do not taste, do not handle,”²² which all concern things which perish with the using—according to the commandments and doctrines of men? ²³ These things indeed have an appearance of wisdom in self-imposed religion, false humility, and neglect of the body, *but are* of no value against the indulgence of the flesh?

Paul warns and lists false doctrines that corrupt the Perfect law of God: traditions of men, philosophy and empty deceit, basic principles of the world, Handwriting requirement and regulations (Law of Moses that was nailed on the cross), the doctrine of men and self-imposed religion. Are the ten commandments the 'tradition of men'? Of course not. What system did Paul come out of? He came out of the 'traditions of men', specifically the traditions that the Jewish leaders imposed upon people. Paul evidently defended the 10 commandments of God, and rebuked the false laws of men.

“It was symbolic for the present time in which both gifts and sacrifices are offered which cannot make him who performed the service perfect in regard to the conscience— concerned only with foods and drinks, various washings, and fleshly ordinances imposed until the time of reformation” (*Hebrews 9: 9-10*)

The ordinances that Paul is talking about were to do with the priestly service with the sacrifices of animals and meat and drink offerings, etc.

After looking at above key words usage in the Old Testament, there is one scripture (Ezekiel 45:17) where all five words; grain, drink, feast, new moon, and Sabbaths are all mentioned together. Look at the order of these underlined words. They are in exactly the same order as Paul quoted them in Colossians 2:16, making it obvious that this was exactly what Paul was referring to.

New Testament	Old Testament
<p>Colossians 2:16.</p> <p>“Let no man judge you in <u>food</u> or in <u>drink</u> or regarding a <u>festival</u> or a <u>new moon</u> or sabbaths” (<i>New King James Version</i>)</p> <p>“Let no man therefore judge you in <u>meat</u>, or in <u>drink</u>, or in respect of an <u>holyday</u>, or of the <u>new moon</u>, or of the <u>sabbath days</u>” (<i>King James Version</i>)</p>	<p>Ezekiel 45:17</p> <p>Then it shall be the prince’s part to give <u>burnt offerings</u>, <u>grain offerings</u>, and <u>drink offerings</u>, at <u>the feasts</u>, the <u>New Moons</u>, the <u>Sabbaths</u>, and at all the appointed seasons of the house of Israel.</p> <p>He shall prepare the sin offering, the grain offering, the burnt offering, and the peace offerings <u>to make atonement for the house of Israel.</u>”</p>

So, Apostle Paul must have been talking of another law, a law that enjoined food offerings, drink offerings, and offerings in the observance of festivals, new moons, and yearly sabbaths.

Paul knew these scriptures, and he was referring to these Old Testament daily sacrifices and offerings in Colossians 2:16. These sacrifices were made daily and on the appointed feast days for the atonement of sins and for the works of the house of God. But as is with New Testament Greek, he probably could have missed out a word: "**offerings**" in Colossians 2: 16. Or maybe it would be God’s design and will for the

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word not to be inserted at all. However, this would not confuse the Christians in those days, because the Old Testament was their bible, and they would know where to look for in their Old Testament bible to see what Paul was writing about, but it has allowed many to misinterpret what Paul was saying here.

If we could **rewrite Colossian 2:16** within the contextual knowledge of this bible study, then it would be rewritten like this;

“Let no man judge you in food offerings or in drink offerings or offerings regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths”

(NB: The Italic word “offerings” are my own insertion, which I have used to reinforce and to contextualize the true interpretation of this verse. These insertions are for learning purposes, in clarifying the deeper meaning. They should in no way whatsoever be added to the words of God in the bible)

3.4. Were Burnt Sacrifices and Offerings Abolished?

All the burnt offerings were abolished, because of the repetitive sinful nature of the children of Israel. The Law of Moses that contained these ordinances and statutes could not wipe out their sins, and was done away with by Jesus on the cross.

“I will also cause all her mirth to **cease**, Her feast days, Her New Moons, Her Sabbaths— All her appointed feasts. (Hosea 2:11)

“Bring your worthless offerings no longer, Incense is an abomination to Me. New moon and sabbath, the calling of assemblies— I cannot endure iniquity and the solemn assembly” (Isaiah 1:13)

“Because they had not obeyed my laws but had rejected my decrees and desecrated my Sabbaths. ²⁵So I gave them other statutes that were not good and laws through which **they could not live**” (Ezekiel chapter 20:24-25)

3.5. So, Should Anyone Judge You Concerning Sabbaths Offerings?

No. No one should judge you at all. On what basis should you not be judged? Because all these types of offerings and sacrifices were made for one purpose: to make physical atonement for sins of Israel. Seeing that Jesus has become our sin offering once and for all, we no longer offer physical burnt offering. He has abolished all of them and nailed the ordinances(statutes) that guided these offerings on the cross. As such, no one should judge you if you do not offer burnt offerings like the children of Israel were commanded to do.

When Jesus died on the cross, he fulfilled all the Old Testament **offerings and sacrifices**. His physical body, and His Soul became the ultimate sacrifice which was acceptable to God. Since then, none of the Old Testament **sacrifices or offerings** under the Moses law, or the ordinances that go with them, are necessary

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any more. Since, they were only a type or shadow of the body of Jesus Christ. This is what Paul is saying in this scripture (Colossians 2:14-17).

"Indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us" (1 Corinthians 5:7).

Thus, to keep offering burnt sacrifices after Christ's death would be to imply that Jesus had not accomplished atonement. Such an observance would be contrary to the teachings of Christianity.

3.6. What Sacrifices and Offerings Should we Believers Offer Today?

While the grain and burnt offering are no longer required, we cannot stop offering spiritual offerings; like prayers offerings and our bodies as living sacrifices to God on holy convocation days of sabbath.

Every day, including in the appointed holy convocation (assembly) day of seventh day sabbath, we should offer ourselves as living sacrifices.

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you **present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy**, acceptable to God, *which is your reasonable service*" (Romans 12:1)

Now interpreting the Colossians 2:16 verse, 6 points are to be noted,

First, there is nothing in the Ten Commandment law about food, drink, festivals, new moons, or sabbath days (plural). The King James uses the word "holyday," and some will contend that it refers to the weekly Sabbath, while the expression "sabbath days" refers to yearly sabbaths. The American Standard Version uses "feast day" instead of "holyday," and this likely a clearer translation. All these were actually separate laws that God gave for the physical and spiritual health of His Old Testament people; these were called ceremonial laws. Paul wrote plainly that he was speaking of "sabbaths, which are a shadow of things to come," and not of the weekly Sabbath. which is a memorial of something that happened in the past, at the creation. The contrast between a shadow and a memorial is quite clear.

Second, we note that these festivals that God himself had appointed in were symbolizing a shadow of things to come. He does not state they are bad or should be abolished. For in Lord's prayer, we say "thy kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven". So sabbath keeping preempts what is done in heaven now in the kingdom of God, and what will be done later when Jesus returns with glory

For if He were on earth, He would not be a priest, since there are priests who offer the gifts according to the law; who serve the copy and shadow of the heavenly things, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle., he was instructed by God, saying, "See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain" (Hebrews 8:5)

Saints will be priest in the millennial kingdom. One of the priestly duties in yet to come kingdom of God is to administer heavenly kingdom duties. So sabbath shall continue in the millennial kingdom, for now it can be seen as just a shadow of the reality of the main sabbath to come.

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“they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years. (Revelation 20:6)

Thirdly, the “shadows” Paul mentions also pointed to Jesus as a Savior from sin and were observed with that in mind. But the weekly Sabbath was made for man before sin entered into the world, before man would need atonement. The shadows pointing forward to His death as an atonement for sin certainly were not instituted until after sin. Therefore, since the weekly Sabbath was instituted before sin, just as was the marriage institution, it was not a shadow of Christ’s death as a Savior from sin; and His death did not end the Sabbath day any more than it brought marriage to an end. Both the Sabbath and marriage came to us in a perfect world

Fourth, the phrase “let no one judge you” cannot mean to change or to abolish Sabbath law. In fact, Apostle Paul means those fulfilling Sabbaths or any other appointed holy days of God, should not to be judged and deceived by people with self-imposed religion in not fulfilling the law of Sabbath and appointed holy assemblies. He encourages those who are fulfilling the commandment of God to continue doing so and not to let people who don’t obey God to deceive them. Paul advises the church of Laodicea this way: “*As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught*”, (Col 2:6-7). He does not advise them to disregard the Sabbath.

Fifth, Paul’s language shows he was referencing the shadowy ceremonies of ceremonial laws that pointed forward to and ended at the cross. Notice again, carefully, his words in Colossians 2:14:

“Having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.”

Six, Paul mentions that these laws were “against us” and “contrary” to us. Would it be contrary to Christians to refrain from idolatry, using God’s name in vain, dishonoring parents, murder, theft, adultery, lying, and coveting—the sins rebuked by the Ten Commandments? Thus, the apostle must have been talking of another law—a law that enjoined food offerings, drink offerings, the observance of festivals, new moons, and yearly sabbaths.

Why would the observance of these ceremonies after the death of Christ be contrary to the Christian faith? The yearly sabbath of the Passover involved killing a lamb that represented Jesus, the Lamb of God. The apostle Paul taught directly, “Indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us” (1 Corinthians 5:7). Thus, to keep offering a sacrificial lamb after His death would be to imply that Jesus had not accomplished atonement. Such an observance would be contrary to the teachings of New Testament.

3.7. Which are the Ceremonial laws?

The ceremonial laws are set of instructions, decrees and ordinances that God verbally gave Moses on Mt Sinai.

“You commanded them, through Moses your servant, to obey all your commands, decrees, and instructions” (Nehemiah 9:14), ...so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the LORD your God as long as you live by keeping all his

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decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life” (Deuteronomy 6: 1-2)

“So it was, when Moses had completed writing the words of this law in a book, when they were finished, that Moses commanded the Levites, who bore the ark of the covenant of the Lord, saying: “Take this Book of the Law, and put it beside the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, that it may be there as a witness against you” (Deut. 31: 24-26)

“as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded the children of Israel, as it is written in the Book of the Law of Moses...And there, in the presence of the children of Israel, he wrote on the stones a copy of the law of Moses, which he had written...._And afterward he read all the words of the law, the blessings and the cursing, according to all that is written in the Book of the Law.... There was not a word of all that Moses had commanded which Joshua did not read before all the assembly of Israel, with the women, the little ones, and the strangers who were living among them” (Joshua 8: 31-35)

“Moses wrote this law and delivered it to the priests, the sons of Levi, who bore the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and to all the elders of Israel. And Moses commanded them, saying: “At the end of every seven years, at the appointed time in the year of release, at the Feast of Tabernacles, when all Israel comes to appear before the Lord your God in the place which He chooses, you shall read this law before all Israel in their hearing (Deut 31: 9-11)

The bible refers to ceremonial laws (Mosaic laws) as ‘**Law of fleshly commandments, law of physical requirement**’. Notice Jesus referred to them as “**your written law**”, creating a distinction between Mosaic law and the 10 commandments.

“For it is evident that our Lord arose from Judah, of which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood, who has come, not according to a ‘Law of fleshly commandment’, but according to the power of an indestructible life” (Hebrew 7: 16)

“The Jews answered Him, saying, “For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God.” Jesus answered them, “Is it not written in your law (John 10:33-35)

“another priest arises according to the order of Melchizedek-Jesus who has become a priest not on the basis of a law of physical requirement, but according to the power of an indestructible life” (Hebrews 7:15-17)

The instructions in the Mosaic Law helped Israel to interpret the divine laws (God constitution), by teaching them how to “learn to fear the Lord their God” (Deut 31: 12-13). They also gave further guidelines on the methods “how” the 10 commandments were to be interpreted and actualized by the people. For example, instruction on how to conduct sacrifices and holy assemblies. Moses law Included;

- **Social laws** - on property, inheritance, marriage and divorce,
- **Food laws** - on what is clean and unclean, on cooking and storing food.
- **Purity laws** - on menstruation, seminal emissions, skin disease and mildew, etc.
- **Law of Feasts** - the Day of Atonement, Passover, Feast of Tabernacles, Feast of Unleavened Bread, Feast of Weeks etc.

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Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. (Proverbs 11:14)

- **Sacrifices and offerings** - the sin offering, burnt offering, whole offering, heave offering, Passover sacrifice, meal offering, wave offering, peace offering, drink offering, thank offering, dough offering, incense offering, red heifer, scapegoat, first fruits, etc.
- **Instructions for the priesthood** and the high priest including tithes.
- **Instructions regarding the Tabernacle**, and which were later applied to the Temple in Jerusalem, including those concerning the Holy of Holies containing the Ark of the Covenant (in which were the tablets of the law, Aaron's rod, the manna). Instructions and for the construction of various altars.
- **Forward looking instructions** for time when Israel would demand a king.

Ceremonial Laws were to await us to Christ

The Mosaic Law was a shadow pointing to the reality of Christ. It became a schoolmaster or tutor to bring us to Christ. Now that Christ came to fulfil the Law, He became once and for all a living sacrificial Lamb to atone our sins. We're no longer under the shadow because we have the substance:

"For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect" (Hebrews 10:1)

"And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, "In you all the nations shall be blessed" (Galatians 3:8,19)

"Before faith came, we were kept under guard by the Law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed. Therefore, the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith" But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor." (Galatians 3:23-24)

The ceremonial law prefigured (anticipated, foreshadowed) the ministry of Christ. We can see this by studying the ancient sanctuary. Moses had to construct the sanctuary exactly according to the pattern shown him on mount Sinai:

"And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them" (Exodus 25:8).

"...as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, "See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain." (Hebrews 8:5).

The earthly Old Testament sanctuary, and the entire ministry associated with it, reflects the ministry of Christ on our behalf. It is also a miniature enactment of the much greater ministry of Christ in the heavenly sanctuary, of which the earthly sanctuary was merely "a figure for the time then present" (Hebrews 9:9). The earthly was a copy of the heavenly.

"Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle" (Hebrews 8:5)

Christ entered the heavenly sanctuary that was not built by human hands after His resurrection and ascension into heaven.

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Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. (Proverbs 11:14)

“For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us” (Hebrews 9:24).

The divine laws that God Himself was wrote in the tablets of stone, during the time of Moses, they were kept inside the Ark of the covenant, at the Holy of Holies place in the inner tabernacle of an Earthly Sanctuary. Today, the commandments (Jesus being the true Word) are kept in the Ark of the covenant, in the Heavenly Sanctuary.

In the Earthly Sanctuary: “behind the second veil, the part of the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of All, in which had the golden censer and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, inside which were the golden pot that had the manna, Aaron’s rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant; and above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat” (Hebrews 9:3-5)

In the Heavenly Sanctuary: Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple” (Revelation 11:19)

The difference between the Laws of Moses and Law of God

Law of God in the book of Moses (Luke 2:22)	Law of God in the tablets of stone (Isaiah 5:24)
Instructions orally given by God and written by Moses in a Book (2 Chron. 35:12)	10 commandments written on tablets of stone by finger of God (Exodus 31:18)
Stored on the side of Ark (Deut. 31:26)	Stored inside of Ark (Exodus 40:20)
Contrary to, or Against us (Col 2:14)	Not burdensome (1 John 5:3)
Physical Law - Fleshly (Hebrews 7:16)	Spiritual and Holy (Romans 7:14, Luke 2: 23)
Made nothing perfect. Abolished at the cross (Heb 7: 19)	Perpetual, Will last forever (Exodus 31:16)
Men who had weakness: “Served by many priests because they were prevented by death from continuing” (Heb 7:23, 28)	Perfect forever, Divine, Holy, Harmless, High priest- JESUS (Hebrew 7: 15-17, 26, 28)
Daily animal sacrifices for sin offered (Heb 7:27)	Once and for all sacrifice for sins- Himself (Heb 7:27)
Tabernacle made with hands (Heb 9: 11-15)	Perfect Tabernacle not made with hands, (Heb 9: 11-15)
Continuous daily and yearly sacrifices to atone sins with bloods of goats and calves	He entered the Most Holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption Heb 9: 11-15

3.8. Why were Ceremonial Law abolished?

Moses commanded the Levites, who bore the ark of the covenant of the Lord, saying

“Take this Book of the Law, and put it beside the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, that it may be there as a witness against you, for I know your rebellion and your stiff neck” (Deuteronomy 31:26-27)

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Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. (Proverbs 11:14)

This "book of the law" contained the carnal ordinances of the priestly service. Now the ten commandments, written on stone were placed INSIDE the ark, and yet this book of the law, containing the carnal ordinances was placed BESIDE (outside) the ark, and note, as a witness against thee. So, it was the ceremonial laws - ordinances of sacrifices, offerings, washings etc., that were against us, not the ten commandments. It becomes so clear if we just use the Bible to interpret itself, rather than take verses out of context. Jesus said the Sabbath was made 'FOR' man (Mark 2:27), not against man. This means the ordinances Paul said were 'AGAINST US' in Colossians 2, cannot include the 7th day Sabbath, which is 'FOR' us.

When people disobeyed God's commandment, and specifically the observance of sabbath, God gave them "other statutes that were not good and laws through which **they could not live**". Thus, all those who were under the we bound to die, because of sin.

"I gave them my Sabbaths as a sign between us, so they would know that I the LORD made them holy. They did not follow my decrees but rejected my laws—by which the person who obeys them will live—and they utterly desecrated my Sabbaths. Because they had not obeyed my laws but had rejected my decrees and desecrated my Sabbaths. ²⁵ So I gave them other statutes that were not good and laws through which they could not live" (Ezekiel chapter 20)

People utterly dishonored God Sabbaths and no longer served God under Mosaic Law. God had told them whoever should defile sabbath shall surely die. And so they died. The weakness of mosaic laws was that, because they were a law of carnal (fleshly) commandment or law of physical requirement, these laws could not eradicate sin in the people, and they died.

"Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross" (Colossians 2:14).

This verse refers to only one law: the handwritten laws written in a Book by Moses that was against us, that showed us our transgressions. These were not the Ten Commandments. Remember the 10 commandments were permanently engraved in a stone tablet.

When Christ died, he satisfied the demands of justice in the law of ceremonies and blotted it out. Jesus became the true sacrificial lamb to atone our sins—not the animal sacrifices under the Mosaic Law – which was the shadow pointing to Messiah. Jesus sacrifice and work as our high priest were not part of the Mosaic covenant. Jesus became the guarantee of this better, everlasting covenant. The coming of Jesus and His crucifixion fulfilled the old law and thus made it obsolete.

Mosaic laws were burdensome (about 613 commandments, according Jews religious book). They were "very strict law" of "performances and ordinances". God found fault with the people (not with His commandments or His covenant) who did not follow the stipulations of these laws. Since, THE SON OF GOD, became a better, permanent sacrifice for sins, the laws detailing how goats and calves' sacrifices were to be made became useless and no longer need. They were abolished.

"There is an annulling of the former commandment because of its weakness unprofitableness (useless)", for the law made nothing perfect" (Hebrews 7:18-19)

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Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. (Proverbs 11:14)

“For if that first covenant had been without fault, then no place would have been sought for a second”, but because finding fault with them (people)” (Hebrews 8:7-8)

“What purpose then does the law serve? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator” (Galatians 3:19)

Apostle Paul also explains that the weakness lies in the sinfulness of the flesh, and not with the morality of that sacred Law.

“I was once alive apart from the Law; but when the commandment came, sin became alive and I died; and this commandment, which was to result in life, proved to result in death for me; for sin, taking an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. So then, the Law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good” (Romans 7:7–13)

“God found fault with the people and said: “Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah” (Hebrews 8:7-8)

According to this passage, the “fault” referred to in Hebrews 8:7–13 did not lie with any lack of goodness in the Law—on the contrary, the “fault” was in the fact that the Law was unable to impart righteousness, change hearts, or empower the people to “bear fruit for God”.

The reason why we need a new covenant is not that Jesus has a better *commandment* for us now; the reason is that the Law only has the power to reveal and condemn our sin, not to make us holy. The fault lies with *us*, with *our* sin and inability to follow the Law. Thus, when Christ came with a new everlasting covenant, it had to be abolished.

3.9. The Laws of ‘Creeds’ - Are church leaders of today like the Pharisees and scribes?

The Pharisees were trying to follow rules, but they were constantly breaking the deeper spirit of the Law (as everyone does). They didn’t realize how far short they fell of fulfilling the Law, which is why Jesus kept pointing out that their actions (such as divorce, lust, and anger) were breaking the spirit of the Law. There was no hope for them in following the Law because it was too high of a standard and there would be no leniency. As Jesus said, He didn’t come to lessen the requirements of the Law (which was how the Pharisees were attempting to fulfill the Law and attain righteousness—that is, by lessening the requirements, ignoring the spirit of the Law and annulling commandments). Rather, He came to fulfill the requirements perfectly—in spirit as well as letter. He’s the only person who could!

“But some believers who belonged to the sect of the Pharisees stood up and said, ‘It is necessary for them to be circumcised and ordered to keep the law of Moses.’ (Acts 15:5)

The law of Moses was burdensome, a heavy yoke

“Now therefore why are you putting God to the test by placing on the neck of the disciples a yoke that neither our ancestors nor we have been able to bear? On the contrary, we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will.” (Acts 15 10-11)

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Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. (Proverbs 11:14)

The Pharisees who were attempting to obtain righteousness through the Law had no hope because no aspect of the Law would be lessened for anyone attempting to obtain righteousness in that way. "For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all" (James 2:10). The Jewish people were under the restrictions of the law, under its temporary jurisdiction or custody. Paul writes:

"Before faith came" [that is, before Christ], "we [the Jews] were held captive under the law, for the faith which would afterward be revealed" (Gal. 3:23)

The law gave requirements, but never rescued anyone from their tendency to sin, and this confinement lasted only until Christ came. "So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith"

"But after the faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. For you are all sons of god through faith in Christ" (Gal. 3:26)

"we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will." (Acts 15 10-11)

The law had authority from Moses until Christ. It showed that humans are prisoners of sin, unable to save themselves through human effort. It showed that salvation can be received only through faith, not by law. Now that the Law of Moses has fulfilled its purpose, it has become obsolete: "But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian" (Gal 3:25). The law had power in the time before Christ, showing that humans are transgressors, prisoners of sin, unable to be justified by works. But now, the law no longer has authority over us; it cannot condemn us.

3.10. The new Covenant did not abolish the 10 Commandments

. Jesus fulfilled the obligation of the law of Ten Commandments by His perfect obedience to its precepts. Thus, the law of Ten Commandments did not change, nor was it done away with. The same law is still to be found in the New Testament and in the book of revelation Jesus gave. those who follow Christ must continue to live by this law.

"This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds, I will write them," (Hebrews 10:16)

In the book of Revelation, divinely inspired by Jesus Christ Himself, he says that the saints are those who upholds on keeping God's commandments.

"describing events shortly before Jesus' return, Satan attempts to destroy members of God's Church, "who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ" (Revelation 12:17)

the saints are described as "those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus" (Revelation 14:12)

"Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work... 'Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the

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right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city" (Revelation 22:12, 14)

On the other hand, Christ fulfilled the obligations of the ceremonial law by becoming the Lamb slain for the sins of the world. After His death, the law of ceremonies was discontinued because it foreshadowed the cross,

"there is the nullification of a former commandment because of its weakness and uselessness (for the Law made nothing perfect); on the other hand, there is the introduction of a better hope, through which we come near to God" (Hebrews 7:18-19)

"By calling this covenant 'new,' he has made the first one obsolete; and what is obsolete and outdated will soon disappear." (Hebrews 8:13)

The only way to have a righteousness that "surpasses that of the Pharisees" (Matt. 5:17–20)—the kind required to "enter the kingdom of heaven," according to Jesus—is to be joined to Christ, who fulfilled "the smallest letter of the Law," so that He stands with His righteousness in our place. The new covenant introduced a better, indestructible covenant based on faith in Jesus and not of law. This strengthened the fulfillment of God's commandment, thereby removing the weakness and uselessness of the physical law of Moses that made sin to take advantage. Mosaic Physical laws replaced with 'heart, mind' written laws. Mosaic written law with its system of sacrifices was replaced by the ultimate, permanent sacrifice of the Messiah, once and for all. A "new and better way" to God was carved out for us in the Messiah's blood. The instructions to live in a God-honoring way were replaced by an even higher standard, with the law written in our hearts and the Holy Spirit given to help us live in the holy way of the Messiah.

Jesus still has many roles to fulfill before the sin problem can be fully eradicated from us and this world forever. We serve a risen Saviour, who is our High Priest, our Advocate, our Judge, and our King who is interceding in our behalf in the heavenly sanctuary.

"We have such a high priest...in the heavens; A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man" (Hebrews 8:1-2)

The New Covenant is "a better covenant, which has been enacted on better promises" (Heb. 8:6) not because the commandments are better, but because it isn't weakened by our frailty. It's secure because "we have been sanctified by the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all" and because Jesus is a better priest, who is able "to save forever those who draw near to God through Him" because He lives. This power to overcome our sin and "bear fruit for God" (Rom. 7:4) is something the Law could never give us (as Rom. 8:1–17 explains).

The change in covenants is not about creating a new and better ethic; it's about a new source of perfect, imperishable righteousness (the righteousness of God received through faith in Jesus, apart from the Law (Rom. 3:21–22) .

"Jesus has received a much more excellent ministry, just as the covenant He mediates is better and is founded on better promises.

.....
Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. (Proverbs 11:14)

The Sabbath Commandment

THE LAW OF GOD IN OLD TESTAMENT (Exodus 20:3-17)		THE LAW OF GOD IN THE NEW TESTAMENT
Thou shalt have no other gods before Me	I	"Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve."—Matthew 4:10.
Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me; and showing mercy unto the thousands of them that love Me, and keep My commandments	II	"Little children, keep yourselves from idols." "Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's devices."—1 John 5:21; Acts 17:29.
Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh His name in vain.	III	"do they not blaspheme that noble name by which you are called?" "That the name of God and His doctrine be not blasphemed." "And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men" —1 Timothy 6:1; 2 Cor 15:58; Mat 15:9; James 2:7
Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work; but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God. In it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it	IV	"The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath: therefore, the Son of man is Lord also of the Sabbath." "For He spake in a certain place of the seventh day on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all His works." "There remaineth therefore a keeping of a Sabbath to the people of God. For he that is entered into His rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from His." "For by Him were all things created that are in heaven, and that are in earth."—Matthew 24:20; Mark 2:27-28; Hebrews 4:4, 9, 10; Colossians 1:16.
Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.	V	"Honor thy father and thy mother."—Matthew 19:19.
Thou shalt not kill.	VI	"Thou shalt not kill."—Romans 13:9.
Thou shalt not commit adultery	VII	"Thou shalt not commit adultery."—Matthew 19:18
Thou shalt not steal.	VIII	"Thou shalt not steal."—Romans 13:9

.....
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The Sabbath Commandment

<p>Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.</p>	<p>IX</p>	<p>“Thou shalt not bear false witness.”—Romans 13:9</p>
<p>Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor’s house; thou shalt not covet thy neighbor’s wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbor’s.</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>“Thou shalt not covet.”—Romans 7:7</p> <p>Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have (Hebrews 13.5)</p>

.....
Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. (Proverbs 11:14)

PART 4

“Who Changed the Truth of God into a Lie?

and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator”

(Romans 1:25)

.....
Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. (Proverbs 11:14)

PART 4: WHO CHANGED SABBATH DAY FROM SATURDAY TO SUNDAY AND WHY?

First and foremost, there is no single evidence in the old and New Testament bible that Sabbath day was abolished or changed from Saturday to Sunday. God did not change, or Jesus, or the Apostles, or even the early New Testament Churches that apostles left.

Leaders and authorities of many religious denominations candidly acknowledge that Saturday is the biblical Sabbath day, not Sunday. Equally, from the very ancient day of the old covenant, to the Moses time, to the time of Jesus and apostles and unto the present times, everybody acknowledge that God set the seventh day of the week - Saturday, as the holy day of rest for the Jewish people. In fact, Saturday have variously been referred to by name 'Sabbath' or its equivalent, in hundreds of ancient and modern languages.

However, as a blatant denial of biblical doctrines truth, many people and religions worldwide observe and keep Sunday as a holy day of worship and rest. Who then deceived the world not to follow God's truth?

"Who changed the truth of God into a lie?" and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator" (Rom 1:25)

In answering this question, we do not use our own words to explain, but rather, we quote directly from the texts of major religious doctrines to investigate their view on the Saturday Sabbath law of God.

4.1. Who abolished the holy day of Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday?

The earliest officially recoded history on the change of sabbath day from Saturday to Sunday indicate that Roman catholic papacy changed the law of Sabbath.

On March 7, 321 AD, Roman Emperor Constantine I decreed that *dies Solis Invicti* ('sun-day,' or *Day of Sol Invictus*), Roman pagan god of the Sun would be the Roman day to honor God and of rest throughout the Roman Empire.

As the Roman Empire gradually converted to Christianity, Sunday became the natural day for the Sabbath and rest since Romans were already accustomed to Sunday as their day off. Constantine was emperor of Rome from year AD 306 to 337 AD. He was a sun worshiper during the first years of his reign. Later, he professed conversion to Christianity, but at heart remained a devotee of the sun. Edward Gibbon says, "The Sun was universally celebrated as the invincible guide and protector of Constantine. He issued a decree that created the earliest Sunday Law known to history in year 321 AD. It says:

On the venerable Day of the sun (Sunday) let the magistrates and people residing in cities rest, and let all workshops be closed. In the country, however, persons engaged in agriculture may freely and lawfully continue their pursuits: because it often happens that another Day is not so suitable for grain sowing or for vine planting: lest by neglecting the proper moment for such operations the bounty of heaven should be lost.

.....
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Following this initial legislation, both emperors and catholic church Popes in succeeding centuries added other laws to strengthen Sunday observance. What began as a pagan ordinance ended as a Christian regulation!

Close on the heels of the decree of Constantine followed the Catholic Church Council of Laodicea In Phrygia Pacatiana (year 364 A.D.) In the council of Laodicea, they published, in total, 60 cannons at this council, thus codifying church doctrine. nThe Catholic Church fathers at the Council of Laodicea were not opposed to Sunday services but were opposed to Christians Judaizing the Sabbath (see 29th Canon), Judaizing is what they labeled Christians resting on the Sabbath day.

At the Council of Laodicea, they published as doctrine that the practice of staying at home and resting on the Sabbath was sinful and anathema to Christ

Canon 29: The Council of Laodicea in A.D. 365 decided: "Christians must not Judaize by resting on the Sabbath, but must work on that day, rather honoring the Lord's Day, and, if they can, resting then as Christians. But if any shall be found to be Judaizers, let them be shut out from Christ". Source: <https://www.newadvent.org/fathers/3806.htm/>

During the 2nd and 3rd centuries, Christians were in the habit of keeping both Saturday and Sunday. During that time, Christians rested on the Sabbath (in the Lord) and had communion or fellowship on Sundays.

4.2. Did Roman Catholic change the fourth Commandment of Sabbath?

The Catholic church, along with most Christians, observe Sunday as a holy day, "Lord's Day". This practice dates to the first century, arising from their belief that Jesus rose from the dead on the first day of the week.

Official position of Roman catholic concerning the Sabbath commandment is recorded in "Catechism of the Catholic Church. The Catechism of the Catholic Church is an official catechism book promulgated for the Catholic Church by Pope John Paul II in 1992. The book explains the official stand and beliefs of the Catholic faithful. Click the link of the official website of the Vatican "the holy see" here https://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p3s2c1a3.htm/ to see the official position of catholic on the Sabbath commandment from the catechism of the catholic church book.

The sabbath commandment according traditions catholic catechism

2189 "Observe the sabbath day, to keep it holy" (Deut 5:12). "The seventh day is a sabbath of solemn rest, holy to the Lord" (Ex 31:15).

2190 The sabbath, which represented the completion of the first creation, has been replaced by Sunday which recalls the new creation inaugurated by the Resurrection of Christ.

2191 The Church celebrates the day of Christ's Resurrection on the "eighth day," Sunday, which is rightly called the Lord's Day (cf. SC 106).

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2192 "Sunday . . . is to be observed as the foremost holy day of obligation in the universal Church" (CIC, can. 1246 § 1). "On Sundays and other holy days of obligation the faithful are bound to participate in the Mass" (CIC, can. 1247).

2193 "On Sundays and other holy days of obligation the faithful are bound . . . to abstain from those labors and business concerns which impede the worship to be rendered to God, the joy which is proper to the Lord's Day, or the proper relaxation of mind and body" (CIC, can. 1247).

2194 The institution of Sunday helps all "to be allowed sufficient rest and leisure to cultivate their familial, cultural, social, and religious lives" (GS 67 & 3).

2195 Every Christian should avoid making unnecessary demands on others that would hinder them from observing the Lord's Day.

Information source: The Catechism of the Catholic Church. Copied from the Official Vatican website https://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p3s2c1a3.htm

In the Roman Catholic official constitutional books of church authority (The Catholic Catechism, The Ecumenical Councils of the Catholic Church, and The Catholic Encyclopedia) and their official website, <https://www.vatican.va> and <https://www.newadvent.org/cathen/04153a.htm/>

The Ecclesiastical church constitutions are the ordinances emanating from general councils (see GENERAL COUNCILS, X, XI) and from the Apostolic See (see PAPAL CONSTITUTIONS)

From the Vatican website, they first write the 10 commandments (as they are fully written in Hebrew bible in both Exodus 20 2-17 and in Deuteronomy 5:6-21). However, the introduced changes are noted in the third column titled "A Traditional Catechetical Formula". Wikipedia states that A Catechetical Formula is reliable or time-tested or traditional way of explaining some aspect of faith. This means that the commandments are changed from a human-devised tradition, not divinely.

The present catechism follows the division of the Commandments established by St. Augustine, which has become traditional in the Catholic Church. In the present catechism of the catholic church, the second commandment is deleted, and the fourth commandment is changed to be the third commandment and its texts altered to read "Remember to observe and keep the **Lords day holy**". By replacing the word 'sabbath day' with 'Lord's day', they command authority to make Sunday, as a holy day of rest, instead of Saturday that God established.

In its section on the "Ten Commandments," the Catholic Encyclopedia says: "The Church, on the other hand, after changing the day of rest from the Jewish Sabbath, or seventh day of the week, to the first, made the Third Commandment [we count it as the Fourth] refer to Sunday as the day to be kept holy as the Lord's Day. The Council of Trent (Sess. VI, can. xix) condemns those who deny that the Ten Commandments are binding on Christians." (Seventh Ecumenical Council: Nicaea II, 787)

Source (<https://www.newadvent.org/cathen/04153a.htm>)

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Changes made to the 10 commandments: As listed in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

(According to Traditional Catechetical Formula)

Catholic catechism (Traditional Christian formula)	Changes made
1. I am the LORD your God: you shall not have strange Gods before me.	
_____ command deleted _____	The 2 nd commandment is deleted "You shall not make for yourself a graven image"
2. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.	
3. Remember to keep holy the LORD's Day	changed from originally Sabbath day to Lord's Day
4. Honor your father and mother	
5. You shall not kill.	
6. You shall not commit adultery.	
7. You shall not steal.	
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.	
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.	9 th Commandment split into two (9 th and 10 th)
10. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.	...part of the 9 th commandment
Source: Catechism of the Catholic Church. Copied from official Vatican website. Link: https://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/command.htm	

Quoted from *CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, PART THREE LIFE IN CHRIST; SECTION TWO THE TEN COMMANDMENTS, ARTICLE 3 THE THIRD COMMANDMENT*

https://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p3s2c1a3.htm.

II. THE LORD'S DAY

This is the day which the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Ps 118:24)

The day of the Resurrection: the new creation

2174 Jesus rose from the dead "on the first day of the week. "Because it is the "first day," the day of Christ's Resurrection recalls the first creation. Because it is the "eighth day" following the sabbath (Mk 16:1; Mt 28:1), it symbolizes the new creation ushered in by Christ's

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Resurrection. For Christians it has become the first of all days, the first of all feasts, the Lord's Day (*he kuriake hemera, dies dominica*) Sunday:

We all gather on the day of the sun, for it is the first day [after the Jewish sabbath, but also the first day] when God, separating matter from darkness, made the world; and on this same day Jesus Christ our Savior rose from the dead. (*St. Justin, I Apol. 67:PG 6,429 and 432*)

Sunday - fulfillment of the sabbath

2175 Sunday is expressly distinguished from the sabbath which it follows chronologically every week; for Christians its ceremonial observance replaces that of the sabbath. In Christ's Passover, Sunday fulfills the spiritual truth of the Jewish sabbath and announces man's eternal rest in God. For worship under the Law prepared for the mystery of Christ, and what was done there prefigured some aspects of Christ:

Those who lived according to the old order of things have come to a new hope, no longer keeping the sabbath, but the Lord's Day, in which our life is blessed by him and by his death. (*St. Ignatius of Antioch, Ad Magn. 9,1: Sch 10,88*)

2176 The celebration of Sunday observes the moral commandment inscribed by nature in the human heart to render to God an outward, visible, public, and regular worship "as a sign of his universal beneficence to all."(*St. Thomas Aquinas, STh II-II,122,4.*) Sunday worship fulfills the moral command of the Old Covenant, taking up its rhythm and spirit in the weekly celebration of the Creator and Redeemer of his people.

The Sunday Eucharist

2177 The Sunday celebration of the Lord's Day and his Eucharist is at the heart of the Church's life. "Sunday is the day on which the paschal mystery is celebrated in light of the apostolic tradition and is to be observed as the foremost holy day of obligation in the universal Church."(*CIC, can. 1246 § 1.*)

The Catholic Church sees Sunday as its mark of authority. Rome freely admits and even proudly proclaims that it is responsible for Sunday worship, asserting that all other Protestants who worship on Sunday are under Rome's authority whether or not they consider it so.

4.3. Jesus was raised on the 1st day of the week

Jesus replied, "A wicked and adulterous generation demands a sign, but none will be given it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. "For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be **three days and three nights** in the heart of the earth" (Matthew 12:39-40)

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Jesus was already risen by early Sunday morning when Mary when to look for him. Jew's day start at evening sundown. Saturday sabbath was over on Saturday evening at sunset. But since it was dark, Mary had to wait until very early morning but she found Jesus was already risen. So, Jesus rose on Sunday morning (hours between 6pm to 6 am) but before sunrise.

"When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?" But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. "Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here." (Mark 16:1-6)

From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day" (Matt 16:21)

"For He taught His disciples and said to them, "The Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him. And after He is killed, He will rise the third day." (Mark 9:31)

"The Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day." (Luke 24:21)

"And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again" (Mark 8:31)

4.4. Is the Lord's Day Sunday as Catholic Church presume?

Sabbath day (Saturday) is the Lord's day.

Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it. (Exodus 2:8-11)

⁶Yet I (*Jesus*) say to you that in this place there is One greater than the temple. ⁷But if you had known what this means, 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned the guiltless. ⁸**For the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.**" (Matthew 12:6-8)

⁵ And He (*Jesus*) said to them, "**The Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath.**" (Luke 6:5)

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The catholic church uses psalm 118: 24 (*"This is **the day the Lord has made**; We will rejoice and be glad in it"*) to justify Sunday as Lord's Day of worship. However, the whole of Psalms does not mention anything to do with the Sabbath day, or Sunday. The whole verse is simply telling people to give thanks and trust God every day for His everlasting Mercy.

The lord's day also represent the day of Lord wrath

A deeper analysis of this verse reveals that there will be a certain day the Lord will descend from heaven to save His saints. The bible clearly show that the day of the Lord will be the day Christ Jesus will descend with glory and might to punish the world. Various bible verses below confirm;

"For you yourself know perfectly that The Day of the Lord comes as a thief in the night, for when they say "peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape" (1 Thess 5: 2-3)

"Alas, you who are longing for The Day of the Lord, for what purpose will the day of the Lord be to you? It will be darkness and not light" (Amos 5:18-20)

"Alas for the day! For the Day of the Lord is near, and it will come as destruction from the Almighty" (Joel 1:15)

"Blow a trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm on My holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, For the Day of the Lord is coming" (Joel 2:1-2)

"The Day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up" (II Peter 3:10-13)

"Near is the great Day of the Lord, Near and coming very quickly; Listen, the Day of the Lord! In it the warrior cries out bitterly. A day of wrath is that day, A day of trouble and distress, A day of destruction and desolation, A day of darkness and gloom, A day of clouds and thick darkness" (Zephaniah 1:14-18)

"Behold, the Day of the Lord is coming, cruel, with fury and burning anger, To make the land a desolation; And He will exterminate its sinners from it" (Isaiah 13:9-11)

"For the day is near, Even the Day of the Lord is near; It will be a day of clouds, A time of doom for the nations" (Ezekiel 30:3-4)

"For the Day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision" (Joel 3:12-14)

4.5. Other World Main Religions interpretations of Sabbath Commandment

1. Judaism Interpretation on Sabbath law

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Judaism is a monotheistic (one God) religion developed among the ancient Hebrews. Judaism is characterized by a belief in one transcendent God who revealed himself to Abraham, Moses, and the Hebrew prophets and by a religious life in accordance with Scriptures and rabbinic traditions. Judaism is the complex phenomenon of a total way of life for the Jewish people, comprising theology, law, and innumerable cultural traditions. The Jewish Sabbath (from Hebrew *shavat*, “to rest”) is observed throughout the year on the seventh day of the week—Saturday. According to biblical tradition, it commemorates the original seventh day on which God rested after completing the creation. Shabbat is the most important ritual observance in Judaism. It is the only ritual observance instituted in the Ten Commandments. It is also the most important special day. Shabbat is primarily a day of rest and spiritual enrichment. The word "Shabbat" comes from the root Shin-Beit-Tav, meaning to cease, to end, or to rest. Shabbat involves two interrelated commandments: ***to remember*** (zakhor) Shabbat, and ***to observe*** (shamor) Shabbat. Remember the Sabbath day to sanctify it (Hebrew: Zakhor et yom ha-Shabbat l'kad'sho) – (see Exodus 20:8). And to Observe; Observe the Sabbath day to sanctify it (Hebrew: Shamor et yom ha-Shabbat l'kad'sho) – (see Deuteronomy 5:12).

Information Source: Encyclopedia Britannica. <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Judaism>

2. Seventh day Adventist’s interpretation on Sabbath Law

According to official website of Adventist Seventh-day Adventist’s church (<https://www.adventist.org>), it states that they accept the Bible as their only creed and hold certain fundamental beliefs to be the teaching of the Holy Scriptures. These beliefs, as set forth here, constitute the church’s understanding and expression of the teaching of Scripture. They say that the sabbath is God’s gift to the believers, a time for rest and restoration of people connection to God and others. It reminds them of God’s creation and Jesus’ grace. “We, the members of the General Conference Executive Committee at the 2004 Annual Council, state the following” 1). We strongly endorse the document’s affirmation of our historic, biblical position of belief in a literal, recent, six-day Creation. 2). We reaffirm the Seventh-day Adventist understanding of the historicity of Genesis 1-11: that the seven days of the Creation account were literal 24-hour days forming a week identical in time to what we now experience as a week. 3) We affirm the primacy of Scripture in the Seventh-day Adventist understanding of origins.

Information Source: <https://www.adventist.org/>

3. Islam Interpretation on Sabbath Law

According to Islam, the Quran confirms that Jews are supposed to observe the Sabbath on Saturday. The quran book also states that Muslims day of worship is Friday (see [Translation of Sahih Muslim, Book : 4](#)). The Quran acknowledges a six-part Creation period (32:4, 50:38) and the Biblical Sabbath as the seventh-day, but Allah's mounting the throne after Creation is taken in contradistinction to Elohim's concluding and resting from his labors, and so Muslims replace Sabbath rest with jumu'ah (Friday prayer).

Quotations from Qur’an (*Islamic holy book)

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According to Quran; Book 4, Number 1857: *"The best day on which the sun has risen is Friday; on it Adam was created, on it he was made to enter Paradise, on it he was expelled from it. And the last hour will take place on no day other than Friday"* (Book 4, Number 1857). The Muslims have Friday as the day of worship, but Jews observe the Sabbath (Saturday in Arabic and Hebrew). However, A hadith claims that the Jews were diverted from Friday into Saturday. So, Friday was the original correct day (It is narrated by Abu Huraira and Huraira that the Messenger of Allah said: *"It was Friday from which Allah diverted those who were before us. For the Jews (the day set aside for prayer) was Sabt (Saturday), and for the Christians it was Sunday. And Allah turned towards us and guided us to Friday (as the day of prayer) for us. In fact, He (Allah) made Friday, Saturday and Sunday (as days of prayer). In this order would they (Jews and Christians) come after us on the Day of Resurrection. We are the last of (the Ummahs) among the people in this world and the first among the created to be judged on the Day of Resurrection. In one narration it is: ', to be judged among them"* (Sahih Muslim: Book 4, Hadith 1862: Book 7, Hadith 32: Sahih Muslim 856 a:).

Quran affirms that Jews are supposed to observe the Sabbath: *"And We raised over them the mount for [refusal of] their covenant; and We said to them, "Enter the gate bowing humbly", and We said to them, "Do not transgress on the sabbath", and We took from them a solemn covenant"* (Quran 4:154 Sahih International).

It further says: *"We are the last (but) we would be the first on the Day of Resurrection, and we would be the first to enter Paradise, but that they were given the Book before us and we were given after them. They disagreed and Allah guided us aright on whatever they disagreed regarding the truth. And it was this day of theirs about which they disagreed, but Allah guided us to it, and that is Friday for us; the next day is for the Jews and the day following for the Christians"* (Book 4, Number 1860). In Quran 2:65 we read that Allah transformed Jews into apes because they didn't observe the Sabbath (Saturday): *"And you had already known about those who transgressed among you concerning the sabbath, and We said to them, "Be apes, despised."*(Quran 2:65 (Sahih International).

However, the traditional Islamic commentariat has been even more explicit in its rejection of the idea that God would have need for rest: Qatadah said, *"The Jews, may Allah's curses descend on them, said that Allah created the heavens and earth in six days and then rested on the seventh day, which was the Sabbath. This is why they call it a holiday. Allah the Exalted then sent down denial of their statement and false opinion"* (From Tafsir Ibn Kathir on 50:38).

Rather than the certainty around the question found in the traditional Jewish and Christian commentariats around the question, to this very day the Islamic clerical community remains undecided on the divine origin of the seven-day week *"We cannot be certain about anything with regard of the division of the week into seven days, or the time when this division began – was it before the creation of the heavens and the earth, or was the creation of the heavens and the earth what led to this division? The reason for that is that we have no clear evidence which states anything certain to that effect"* (<https://islamqa.info/en/answers/110226/why-is-the-week-seven-days>)

Additional Sources:

KITAB AL-SALAT (THE BOOK OF PRAYERS: [Translation of Sahih Muslim, Book : 4](#)). Sahih Muslim 1862: Hadith on Merit Of The Holy Quran of Sahih Muslim 1862 is about The Book Of The Merit Of The Holy Quran as written by Imam Muslim. The original Hadith is written in Arabic and translated in English and Urdu. Source Link: https://www.iium.edu.my/deed/hadith/muslim/004c_smt.html

Information source: [Translation of Sahih Muslim, Book: 4/](#)

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4. Protestant Christian denominations Interpretations of Sabbath Law

What made the mainstream Christian church change the day of rest and worship from Saturday to Sunday so long ago? The major causes seem to be a combination of church authority overriding scriptural principles and the influences of sun worship. These changes were accepted by what had become the majority of Christianity, but scattered and persecuted groups of Christians continued to observe the seventh-day Sabbath and other teachings of the early New Testament Church.

Few Christian denominations follow the Judaic practice of observing the Sabbath day on Saturday. Most Christians churches worldwide, observe Sunday as a special day, which they call the "Lord's Day". This practice dates to the first century, arising from their belief that Jesus rose from the dead on the first day of the week (that is Sunday). As such, Sunday is set aside for rest and worship, imitating the sabbath day of rest commanded by God,

Early Christians were deceived to believe, that the first day of the week (Sunday) - the day of the week on which Jesus had risen from the dead and also on which the Holy Spirit had come to the apostles as a holy day of the Lord and worship on it. Early Christians, at first, largely continued to pray and rest on the seventh day, but soon also observed Sunday. The Lord's Day observance resurrection of messiah was established separately from the Jewish Shabbat. They saw sabbath law as one of the many Jewish rules and not as a Christian rule (Colossians 2:16). At the beginning of the second century Ignatius of Antioch approved non-observance of the Sabbath. But during the reign of Roman emperor Constantine, Sunday worship became official in catholic church, the largest church at the time. Christian churches copied what Roman catholic was doing.

Today, the majority practice of Christians is to observe Sunday, called the Lord's Day, rather than the Jewish seventh-day Sabbath as a day of rest and worship. The transition from the Saturday Sabbath to Sunday in the early Christian church was due to pagan worship and political factors, and the decline of standards for the Sabbath day.

Among many Christian protestant churches, the centrality of the observance of the resurrection of the Lord made it the commonest early observance whenever Christians gathered for worship on Sunday. Since catholic was celebrating the Eucharist on the same day as Christians, Sunday became more universally accepted as the Lords worship day.

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Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. (Proverbs 11:14)

PART 5

And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion,
that they should believe a lie:

(2 Thessalonians 2: 11)

[**Delusion:** Misunderstanding, Misapprehension, Misconception, Misbelief]

Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. (Proverbs 11:14)

PART 5: THE WORLD GREATEST RELIGIOUS DECEPTION – ASTONISHING CONFESSIONS

5.1. Who changed the truth of God into a lie?

In the Ten Commandments, the Sabbath commandment emphasizes the authority of the supreme and divine lawgiver—God. A change in the Sabbath means a change in authority. When we use another Sabbath day apart from the one God gave, we give the authority to another substitute—a counterfeit god entity, and reject that God is no longer the authority. Another god on Earth has attempted to replace the true God.

Apostle Paul in the holy bible asks:

“Who changed the truth of God into a lie, **and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator**, who is blessed forever? (Romans 1:25)

The Catechism of Catholic Church states;

"The conference of bishops can abolish certain holy days of obligation or transfer them to a Sunday with prior approval of the Apostolic See." (111 CIC, can. 1246 § 2)

See this quote from the Vatican official website here:

https://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p3s2c1a3.htm

The biggest world religious deception concerning change of Saturday Sabbath law was introduced by Roman catholic religious authorities. History reveals that it was decades after the death of the apostles that a Roman catholic politico-religious Authority, led by papacy rejected the Sabbath day of bible scripture and substituted Saturday observance with the first day of the week (Sunday). "From the apostles' time until the council of Laodicea, which was about the year 364, the holy observation of the Jew's Sabbath continued, as may be proved out of many authors. Until the Catholic council that changed the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday, early Christians all worshiped on the seventh day.

Behind the papal authority that changed the Sabbath is an even higher authority that wants to steal Christ's claim on our lives. Satan was worshiped in pagan traditions under the symbol of the sun. He was the hidden one, the god behind the scenes. Sunday was the day dedicated to sun worship, but Christianity still adopted Sunday as the holy day. Through the influence of Persian sun worship in the Roman Empire and the heathen festival of Sunday, the pure Church of Christ gradually fell into apostasy. Even in the days of the apostles, the great religious deception had begun to develop, “For the mystery of iniquity doth already work” (2 Thessalonians 2:7).

The Prophecy of the change of Sabbath Law is in the bible. It was made by Prophet Daniel about 800 year before it happened. The Sabbath commandment is the only commandment with both time and law

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element hence directly fulfils Daniel prophesy. The Law element (remember to keep) and time element (The Sabbath day started precisely from Friday evening and ended Saturday evening).

“And he shall speak great words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and think to change times and laws: And they shall be given into his hand for a time, and times, and half a time” (Daniel 7:25)

This fulfilled the prophesy made by Prophet Daniel “He (Antichrist) shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and think to change Times and Laws”. Sabbath law is the only command with both “Time and Law” element that has been changed. Confirming lineage and role of Roman catholic as Antichrist As we have seen, this prophesy was fulfilled On March 7, 321, when Roman Emperor Constantine I decreed that *dies Solis Invicti* (‘sun-day,’ or *Day of Sol Invictus*, Roman God of the Sun) would be the Roman day of rest throughout the Roman Empire.

the “he” that is referred in above verse is the antichrist. Elsewhere, the bible clearly connects antichrist with Roman catholic religious authorities.

“For many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist” (2 John 1:7)

“The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan” (2 Thessalonians 2:6-12)

“that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God” (2 Thessalonians 2:1-4)

5.2. Confessions of Protestants churches that Sunday worship is not biblical

There are many confessions from catholic church and many various religious denominations that Saturday is the true Holy Sabbath day instituted by God, and Not Sunday. Yet, with this knowledge in truth, many churches continue to follow the deception and worship on Sunday. Members of many Protestant denominations recognize that choosing Sunday as the day of rest is un-Biblical. Undoubtedly all of these noted clergymen, scholars, and writers kept Sunday, but they all frankly admit that there is no Biblical authority for Sunday Sabbath.

“And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie” (2 Thessalonians 2: 11)

By many Christian churches accepting Sunday rather than Saturday as the day for public worship after the Catholic Church, and In observing Sunday, they are accepting the authority of the spokesman for the Church, the pope and the power behind him, the beast or the antichrist.

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Confessions of various religious authorities that they have been deceived

Anglican

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

“Many people think that Sunday is the Sabbath, but neither in the New Testament nor in the early church, is there anything to suggest that we have any right to transfer the observance of the seventh day of the week to the first. The Sabbath was and is Saturday and not Sunday.”

Isaac Williams, **Plain Sermons on the Catechism** Volume 1: 334, 336:
Rev. Lionel Beere, **Church and People** (September 1, 1947):

Church of England

"Nowhere in the Bible is it laid down that worship should be done on Sunday. Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy".

That is Saturday." P. Carrington, Archbishop of Quebec, Oct. 27, 1949.

Church of Christ

"But we do not find any direct command from God, or instruction from the risen Christ, or admonition from the early apostles, that the first day is to be substituted for the seventh day Sabbath." "Let us be clear on this point. Though to the Christian 'that day, the first day of the week' is the most memorable of all days ... there is no command or warrant in the New Testament for observing it as a holy day." "The Roman Church selected the first day of the week in honour of the resurrection of Christ".

Bible Standard, May, 1916, Auckland, New Zealand.

Baptist church

"There was and is a commandment to keep holy the Sabbath day, but the Sabbath day was not Sunday. It will, however, be readily said, and with some show of triumph, that the Sabbath was transferred from the seventh to the first day of the week, with all its duties, privileges and sanctions...Where can the record of such a transaction be found? Not in the New Testament—absolutely not. There is no scriptural evidence of the change of the Sabbath institution from the seventh to the first day of the week...What a pity that it [Sunday] comes branded with the mark of paganism and christened with the name of the sun-god, then adopted and sanctified by the papal apostasy and bequeathed as a sacred legacy to Protestantism.”

Dr. Edward T. Hiscox, sermon at Baptist Ministers' Convention (Saratoga, NY. August 20, 1893), as quoted in Charlene R. Fortsch, **Daniel: Understanding the Dreams and Visions** (British Columbia: Prophecy Song, 2006): 363:

Congregationalist churches

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Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. (Proverbs 11:14)

"It is quite clear that however rigidly or devoutly we spend Sunday, we are not keeping the Sabbath... The Sabbath was founded on a specific Divine Command. We can plead no such command for the obligation to observe Sunday ...There is not a single sentence in the New Testament to suggest that we incur any penalty by violating the supposed sanctity of Sunday."

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

Robert William Dale, **The Ten Commandments** (London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1884): 100-101:
Dr. Lyman Abbot, **Christian Union** June 26, 1890):

Baptist Convention

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

Adult Quarterly, Southern Baptist Convention series, Aug. 15, 1937.

Southern Baptist Church

"The sacred name of the seventh day is Sabbath. This fact is too clear to require argument...Not once did the disciples apply the Sabbath law to the first day or the week—that folly was left for later ages, nor did they pretend that the first day supplanted the seventh".

Joseph J. Taylor, *The Sabbath Question* (F.H. Revell Co., 1914): 14-17, 41

Presbyterian church

"A change of the day to be observed, from the last day of the week to the first. There is no record, no express command, authorizing this change."

Nathan L Rice et al., *The Christian Sabbath* (New York: Robert Carter & Brothers, 1863)
Canon Eyton, **The Ten Commandments**: 63, 65:

Methodist Church

"It is true there is no positive command for infant baptism. Nor is there any for keeping holy the first day of the week. Many believe that Christ changed the Sabbath. But, from His own words, we see that He came for no such purpose."

"Take the matter of Sunday...there is no passage telling Christians to keep that day, or to transfer the Jewish Sabbath to that day".

Harris F. Rall, *Christian Advocate* (July 2, 1942): 26:
Amos Binney, *The Methodist Book Concern* (New York, 1902):

Lutheran church

"We have seen how gradually the impression of the Jewish Sabbath faded from the mind of the Christian church, and how completely the newer thought underlying the observance of the first day took possession of

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the church. We have seen that the Christian of the first three centuries never confused one with the other, but for a time celebrated both."

The Sunday Problem, a study book by the Lutheran Church (1923) p.36

"The festival of Sunday, like all other festivals, was always only a human ordinance, and it was far from the intentions of the apostles to establish a Divine command in this respect, far from them, and from the early apostolic Church, to transfer the laws of the Sabbath to Sunday. We have seen how gradually the impression of the Jewish [not exclusively Jewish, but given to all God's people] Sabbath faded from the mind of the Christian Church, and how completely the newer thought underlying observance of the first day took possession of the church. We have seen that the Christians of the first 3 centuries never confused one with the other."

The Sunday Problem (1923): 36, as quoted in Kevin Morgan, Sabbath Rest (TEACH Services, 2002): 45:
Augustus Neander and Henry John Rose, The History of the Christian Religion and Church (New York: Stanford and Swords, 1848): 186:

Episcopalian

"The Bible commandment says on the **Seventh-day** thou shalt rest. That is **Saturday**. Nowhere in the Bible is it laid down that worship should be done on **Sunday**."

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

"We have made the change from the seventh day to the first day, from Saturday to Sunday, on the authority of the one holy catholic apostolic church." Is there any command in the New Testament to change the day of weekly rest from Saturday to Sunday? None."

Bishop Seymour as quoted in Kevin Morgan, Sabbath Rest (TEACH Services, 2002): 13:
Manual of Christian Doctrine: **127**:

Disciples of Christ

There's no direct Scriptural authority for designating the first day "the Lord's Day."

Dr. D. H. Lucas, Christian Oracle (January 23, 1890):

Smithsonian Institute

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

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

Additional sources:

1. This article is adapted from Truth Matters by Professor Walter J. Veith, an international speaker who has studied Biblical issues in-depth in his quest for truth. His popular series Genesis Conflict brings the debate between Creation and evolution to a new climax as he dissects the

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arguments with a scientific eye. His highly-acclaimed series Total Onslaught sheds light on the state of the world today as we move to a one-world government and an anticipated apocalypse.
2. <https://www.sabbathtruth.com/sabbath-history/sabbath-through-the-centuries/id/20th-century>

5.3. Confessions of Catholic Church that Sunday worship is not biblical

“And he shall speak great words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and think *to change times and laws*: And they shall be given into his hand for a time, and times, and half a time” (*Daniel 7:25*)

Catholic writers made it clear that Sunday services and worship are not endorsed by biblical teachings, but only by their church’s authority. The below examples make it clear that the Sabbath was not changed to Sunday by Jesus Christ or the apostles, but rather by those who believed they had the authority to change biblical principles. Since Hebrews 13:8 says, “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever,” it is not hard to understand why a change Christ never authorized was made.

The following quotations, all from Roman Catholic sources, freely acknowledge that bible clearly indicate Saturday is sabbath day. They also confess that sabbath change was made by Roman Church to first day of the week, Sunday. This list is compiled by: Denominational Statements on the Sabbath

Website source LINK: <https://www.sabbathtruth.com/sabbath-history/denominational-statements-on-the-sabbath/id/catholic/>

CATHOLIC QUOTES ABOUT THE SABBATH

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

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

Of course, these two old quotations are exactly correct. The Catholic Church designated Sunday as the day for corporate worship and gets full credit – or blame – for the change.

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

Q. Have you any other proofs that they (Protestants) are not guided by the Scripture?

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

Q. Give some examples of both?

A. They should, if the Scripture were their only rule, wash the feet of one another, according to the command of Christ, in the 13th chap. of St. John; —they should keep, not the Sunday, but the Saturday, according to the commandment, "Remember thou keep holy the Sabbath-day;" for this commandment has not, in Scripture, been changed or abrogated;...

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

Q. Have you any other way of proving that the Church has power to institute festivals of precept?

.....

Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. (Proverbs 11:14)

A. Had she not such power, she could not have done that in which all modern religionists agree with her; —she could not have substituted the observance of Sunday the first day of the week, for the observance of Saturday the Seventh day, a change for which there is no Scriptural authority.

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

Q. In what manner can we show a Protestant, that he speaks unreasonably against fasts and abstinences?

A. Ask him why he keeps Sunday, and not Saturday, as his day of rest, since he is unwilling either to fast or to abstain. If he reply, that the Scripture orders him to keep the Sunday, but says nothing as to fasting and abstinence, tell him the Scripture speaks of Saturday or the Sabbath, but gives no command anywhere regarding Sunday or the first day of the week. If, then he neglects Saturday as a day of rest and holiness, and substitutes Sunday in its place, and this merely because such was the usage of the ancient Church, should he not, if he wishes to act consistently, observe fasting and abstinence, because the ancient Church so ordained?

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

Question: Which is the Sabbath day?

Answer: Saturday is the Sabbath day.

Question: Why do we observe Sunday instead of Saturday?

Answer: We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because, in the Council of Laodicea, the Catholic Church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday.

—Rev. Peter Geiermann C.S.S.R., *The Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine*, p. 50

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

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

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

Answer. Yes, if he would but reflect that he has nothing but Catholic Tradition for keeping the Sunday holy;

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

The Church, on the other hand, after changing the day of rest from the Jewish Sabbath, or Seventh day of the week, to the first, made the Third Commandment refer to Sunday as the day to be kept holy as the Lord's Day. The Council of Trent (Sess. VI, can. xix) condemns those who deny that the Ten Commandments are binding on Christians.

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

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

—*The Catholic Universe Bulletin, August 14, 1942, p. 4.*

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Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. (Proverbs 11:14)

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

—**The Catholic Virginian, To Tell You The Truth," Vol. 22, No. 49 (Oct. 3, 1947).**

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

—**The Faith of Our Fathers, by James Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop of Baltimore, 88th edition, page 89.**

Originally published in 1876, republished and Copyright 1980 by TAN Books and Publishers, Inc., pages 72-73.

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

—**Catholic Record, September 1, 1923.**

But since Saturday, not Sunday, is specified in the Bible, isn't it curious that non-Catholics who profess to take their religion directly from the Bible and not the Church, observe Sunday instead of Saturday? Yes, of course, it is inconsistent; but this change was made about fifteen centuries before Protestantism was born, and by that time the custom was universally observed. They have continued the custom, even though it rests upon the authority of the Catholic Church and not upon an explicit text in the Bible. That observance remains as a reminder of the Mother Church from which the non-Catholic sects broke away - like a boy running away from home but still carrying in his pocket a picture of his mother or a lock of her hair.

— **Dr. John O'Brien, Faith of Millions, pp. 543-544)**

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

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

If Protestants would follow the Bible, they would worship God on the Sabbath day. In keeping the Sunday they are following a law of the Catholic Church.

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

What Important Question Does the Papacy Ask Protestants?

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

Here it is officially: You will tell me that Saturday was the Jewish Sabbath, but that the Christian Sabbath has been changed to Sunday. Changed! but by whom? Who has authority to change an express commandment of Almighty God? When God has spoken and said, Thou shalt keep holy the Seventh day, who shall dare to say, Nay, thou mayest work and do all manner of worldly business on the Seventh day; but thou shalt keep holy the first day in its stead? This is a most important question; which I know not how you can answer. You are a Protestant, and you profess to go by the Bible and the Bible only; and yet in so important a matter as the observance of one day in seven as a holy day, you go against

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the plain letter of the Bible, and put another day in the place of that day which the Bible has commanded.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

—**Lucius Ferraris, Prompta Bibliotheca, art. Papa, II, Vol. VI, p. 29.**

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

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

...pastoral intuition suggested to the Church the Christianization of the notion of Sunday as "the day of the sun", which was the Roman name for the day and which is retained in some modern languages.(29) This was in order to draw the faithful away from the seduction of cults which worshipped the sun, and to direct the celebration of the day to Christ, humanity's true 'sun'.

—**John Paul II, Dies Domini, 27. The day of Christ-Light, 1998 (Prominent protestant leaders agree with this statement**

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

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

.....
Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. (Proverbs 11:14)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

If we consulted the Bible only, we should still have to keep holy the Sabbath day, that is, Saturday, with the Jews, instead of Sunday; ...

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

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

—Catholic Press, Aug. 25, 1900

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

—Canon Cafferata, *The Catechism Explained*, p. 89.

Reason and sense demand the acceptance of one or the other of these alternatives: either Protestantism and the keeping holy of Saturday, or Catholicity and the keeping holy of Sunday. Compromise is impossible.

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

The Church changed the observance of the Sabbath to Sunday by right of the divine, infallible authority given to her by her Founder, Jesus Christ. The Protestant, claiming the Bible to be the only guide of faith, has no warrant for observing Sunday. In this matter the Seventh Day Adventist is the only consistent Protestant.”

The Catholic Universe Bulletin in 1942 “

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

The Catholic Virginian in 1947

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PART 6

“There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; for anyone who enters God’s rest also rests from their works, just as God did from His. Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will perish by following their example of disobedience”

(Hebrews 4: 4, 9-11)

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PART 6: SABBATH DAY OF REST REMAINS

Two Sabbath rests still remain; one is continuous and the other is a future event.

5.1. A Continuous Weekly Sabbath Rest Remains

⁴“For somewhere he has spoken about the seventh day in these words: “On the seventh day God rested from all his works.” and in this place again, If they shall enter into my rest...⁹There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; ¹⁰for anyone who enters God’s rest also rests from their works, just as God did from his. ¹¹Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will perish by following their example of disobedience” (Hebrews 4: 4, 9-11)

This verse talks in a present continuous tense “anyone who enters rest” – is an ongoing repetitive activity, meaning the people of God should still enjoys rests on Sabbath days. The original Greek for 'a rest' in the verse 'There remains therefore a rest to the people of God', actually means a 'sabbath rest'. So, this verse is saying ... There remains therefore a Sabbath rest for the people of God. And that 'Sabbath rest' is the 7th day Sabbath, as per the 4th commandment. It gives us some clues about what the rest of God is. And what it means is it is a time of the cessation of certain activities, as we do every week, we stop doing certain activities.

5.2. A 1000 years Sabbath rest for the people of God remains

⁶“Therefore since it still remains for some to enter that rest, and since those who formerly had the good news proclaimed to them did not go in because of their disobedience, ⁷God again set a certain day, calling it “Today.” This he did when a long time later he spoke through David, as in the passage already quoted: “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.” ⁸For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken later about another day” (Hebrews 4: 6-8)

“... Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: “Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, in the day of trial in the wilderness, where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, and saw My works forty years. Therefore, I was angry with that generation, and said, 'They always go astray in their heart, and they have not known My ways.' So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest’” (Hebrews 3:7-11)

God rested on the seventh day. A day is likened to 1000 years.

⁸“But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. ⁹That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. ¹³But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells” (2 Peter 3:8-9,13)

“For a thousand years in Your sight Are like yesterday when it passes by, Or as a watch in the night” (Psalm 90:4)

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So, the 7th day (i.e., 7000th - 8000th year) is the yet remaining promised Sabbath day of rest for the children of God, the same seventh day of creation God rested. The Sabbath is a spiritual picture of the 1,000-year Messianic Age when all the earth and its inhabitants will enter into His Sabbath rest. The Apostle Peter associates the 7000th – 8000th year to a day of the Lord and coming of the Messiah and the 1000 millenia kingdom

God intends for us to think of the Millennium as a 1,000-year "Sabbath of rest" from the evils, stresses and suffering of the previous 6,000 years. The Bible foretells a 1,000-year period when Jesus Christ will create on earth a world of peace and justice without war and suffering. There Remains a Sabbath-Rest for the People of God in the Jesus Christ's 1,000-Year Reign on Earth. In the book of Revelation, the apostle John records that after the second coming of Jesus Christ, the saints will reign with Him for 1,000 years.

"I also saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their testimony to Jesus and for the word of God. They had not worshipped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for 1000 years. 5 (The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.) (Revelation 20:4-6)

"they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years. (Revelation 20:6)

When one adds up the biblical chronology and historic records, it's clear that the lapsed time since Adam and Eve has been almost 6,000 years, which is six millenniums. If Christ returns at the end of 6,000 years, His reign will start on the 7th millennium until 8th millennium where eternity begins.

As God finished his work, and then rested from it, so he will cause those who believe, to finish their work, and then to enjoy their rest. It is evident, that there is a more spiritual and excellent sabbath remaining for the people of God, than that into which Joshua led the Jews. This sabbath rest is, a rest of grace, and comfort, and holiness in glory, where the people of God shall enjoy the end of their faith, and the object of all their desires in the 7000th year, that is 1000 Millenia kingdom reign of Jesus here on earth. Apostle Paul concludes that this sabbath rest remains to be enjoyed, is undoubtedly the heavenly rest, which remains to the people of God, and is opposed to a state of labour and trouble in this world. It is the rest they shall obtain when the Lord Jesus shall appear from heaven. But those who do not believe, shall never enter into that spiritual rest, either of grace here or glory hereafter.

If today we hear the words of God and do as commanded, God is merciful, He will give us the chance to recommit to the covenant of the Sabbath. If today we obey Gods commandment, and continue keeping and observing His weekly Sabbaths, just as instructed, then we have a hope of entering the final millennial Sabbath rest. We still have the chance.

"Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin" (Hebrews 3:12-13)

The people of Israel did not enter that rest. But we have taken their place, as it were, and are in the process of entering that rest. That is why it uses the phrase, "do enter," because it is talking about a process that is ongoing. We are a part of it now, and it will continue on if we hold fast the beginning of our confidence to the end. if Joshua had given them rest, Gods plan would have been fulfilled. The rest of

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God would have occurred, and that would have been it. But it did not happen then! So, there is still a future rest. And, we are a part of it. There remains therefore a rest for the people of God (You and me).

For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His. "For he who has entered His rest" - God's rest is what he is saying here. You who have entered God's rest have also ceased from your works. God's rest is the future time of the thousand-year reign of Christ. And when we enter that rest, **we will have ceased from our works**, as God ceased from his works. When God stopped His creative efforts in making the physical earth, and all that is in it, He rested. He stopped. He ceased working. And what that did was it set us an example, as it said in Exodus 20:11, that we are to cease working, just as God ceased from working. He was telling us in His own actions how we are to keep the Sabbath day. Paul is saying that the future rest of God is a lot like the Sabbath. There is a link here between God's rest, and the Sabbath day and the example God set at creation. There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. there remains a stoppage - **a cessation** - for the people of God. It links the weekly Sabbath with the future rest of God, and it also characterizes the future rest of God. But it also implies the beginning Godly activities. Because, we all know that God did not stop creating there at the end of the sixth day of creation. All He stopped was His physical work. The spiritual work has gone on ever since, and is still going on, and will continue to go on, as long as there are human beings to convert. And that is what Paul does here. He clues us in on what the goal of the millennial period is. The goal of the millennial period is a goal of the Sabbath day: To change the focus of the entire world from doing its own ungodly, carnal activities - sometimes done in rebellion against God, as the Israelites did - to doing Godly things forever and ever in love toward God and fellow man.

First, we read in Peter "But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells" (2 Peter 3:13) This expression "new heavens and earth" has to be defined by the context in which it is found. The usage of it is clear that it is referring to the next era of time in heaven where there is absolutely nothing that exists as sinful. Now looking at verses below we will understand more on what shall be done during Jesus 1000-year millennial kingdom's "new heavens and new earth"

"For as the new heavens and the new earth Which I will make shall remain before Me," says the Lord, "So shall your descendants and your name remain. And it shall come to pass That from one New Moon to another, And from one Sabbath to another, All flesh shall come to worship before Me," says the Lord." (Isaiah 66:22-23)

5.3. Is there hope today for entering the promised Millennial Sabbath rest

Are we forever doomed generation for not obeying the sabbath commandment or is there is a hope for continuation of Sabbath if people would cleanse themselves? Note that the Sabbaths are not scrapped by the rebellions of Israel. Its them who are punished because of their sins. But Lord offers them hope;

Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; Put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; I will restore your judges as at the first, And your counselors as at the beginning. Afterward you shall be called the city of righteousness, the faithful city." (Isaiah 1:2-14)

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But beware, those who do not know the law will be judged by their conscience

"In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, the Gentiles who have not the law, shall be judged by their conscience" (Romans 2:14-16)

There is no partiality with God.¹² For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law ¹³(for not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified; ¹⁴for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves" (Romans 2: 11-16)

5.4. Which is the True Church of God? And who are the true Israel of God?

"And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the Testimony of Jesus Christ" (Rev 12:17).

What is testimony of Jesus? "And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "See *that you do not do that!* I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy." (Revelation 19:10)

"Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus" (revelation 14:12)

"Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city" (Revelation 22:14).

"I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the Pillar and Ground of the Truth" (1 Timothy 3:15)

"the true worshippers must worship Him in Spirit and Truth, for such people the Father seeks to be his worshippers" (John 4:24)

Jesus said, "If you love Me, Keep My Commandments" (John 14:15)

"Who is the man who fears the Lord? Him will he instruct in the way that he should choose" (Psalm 25:12)

"the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot" (Romans 8:7)

"Though shall not follow a multitude to do evil" (exodus 23: 2)

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PART 7

“You shall Not Add to the word which I command you, **nor take from it**, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you”

(Deuteronomy 4:2)

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PART 7: CONCLUSION

Sabbath was made for man. Jesus Himself is Lord even of Sabbath (Mark 2:27). The Sabbath day is a sign of God's to know and worship Him, the true Creator of the universe. The Sabbath belongs to God. He is the one who designed it as holy. The Sabbath sanctifies. It sets apart the man who keeps it by showing him to be different from the rest. Sabbath-breaking incurs the death penalty. The Sabbath is a perpetual covenant. The Old Covenant was not a perpetual covenant; it has been replaced by the New covenant. The Sabbath covenant is separate and distinct from the Old Covenant given at Mt. Sinai. The seventh-day-Saturday Sabbath is taught throughout the Bible, while Sunday sacredness is not mentioned at all.

There is no conflict whatsoever in the entire humankind history on what and when the Sabbath day should be. From ancient day, to times of old covenant, to the new covenant, up to the present time, all the religions know **that Sabbath observance and holy convocations should be on Saturday, not Sunday**. The Sabbath was never changed from Saturday to Sunday by Jesus Christ or the apostles. Sunday became the day of rest and worship for mainstream Christianity through the Catholic Church claiming authority to overrule Scripture, through pagan influences and through anti-Semitism. Those who try to base their Christianity upon the teachings of Christ and the apostles should know the history behind what happened to Saturday and then ask themselves these questions Jesus asked the hypocritical Pharisees and scribes:

1. "Am I worshipping God in vain by following manmade doctrines as commands from God?" (Mark 7:7)
2. "Have I laid aside the commandments of God, and instead substituted with the tradition of men?" (Mark 7:8)
3. "Have I rejected the commandment of God, for the sake of my tradition?" (Mark 7:9)

5.1. The Final Choice is yours

"Behold, I set before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you today; and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the LORD your God (Deuteronomy 11:26-28)

- ❖ Should you decide to Keep Sabbath day on Saturday (Holy day of rest and Worship) - Then know the Day was Set Apart by **The Almighty God**.
- ❖ Should you decide to disregard Sabbath day and keep Sunday as day of rest and Worship – Then know the day was set apart by earthly men, **Roman Catholic Religious Authorities**.

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The ultimate choice is yours

“Surely my Sabbaths you shall keep, for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that
I am the LORD,
Who Sanctifies You”
(Exodus 31:13)

“Set your hearts on all the words which I testify among you today, which you shall command your children to be careful to observe—**All the Words of this Law. For they are not just empty words to you—They are your life**”
(Deuteronomy 32:46)

“He who rejects Me and does not receive My words, has a judge - **The Words that I have spoken will judge him on The Last Day**”
(John 12:48).

“Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter:
Fear God, and keep His Commandments: for this is the whole duty of man”
(Ecclesiastes 12:13)

“I Am The LORD, I Change Not” (Malachi 3:6)

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For Clarifications and further Truths

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