

Sabbath and Antichrist Truth Revealed

After years of attending Church and believing Sunday was the Sabbath, I was astounded to find out I had the wrong day and that it was God's desire for me to keep the Sabbath and on the day He blessed and sanctified. This grieved me greatly. Not only that, but as I researched this further I found it had a major link with Bible prophecy and the first Beast and the Little Horn power described in Daniel 7 and Revelation 13. I was both astonished and angry to find out how the Sabbath got changed to Sunday and that the Bible even tells us that this antichrist power would change God's laws and spread false prophecy. Like many, I had also been taught it was acceptable to keep any day and anything else was legalism or we are under grace now not law. I never could understand the reasoning of those who taught or thought that. I considered the Commandments and contemplated whether God would really be pleased with me worshiping idols or having other gods before Him. I could only conclude that it made no sense. Surely God would not allow lying, stealing, murder or blasphemy. I know Jesus once summed up the last six Commandments as to love your neighbour as yourself, but I am certain he could not have meant love your neighbour as in adultery.

When I asked why it was legalism to keep God's Commandments. Some said, "It's not legalism to keep the other nine, its just legalism to keep the fourth Commandment." This never made any sense to me either. I thought about the many scriptures where Jesus points out that if we love Him we will keep His Commandments. These are just some of the scriptures I considered; [1 John 2:4](#) "He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his Commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him." [John 15:10](#) "If ye keep my Commandments, ye shall abide in my love even as I have kept my Father's Commandments, and abide in his love." [1 John 5:3](#) "For this is the love of God, that we keep his Commandments: and his Commandments are not grievous." [John 14:15](#) "If ye love me, keep my Commandments." No matter how hard I searched, I could never find a legitimate reason for excluding the fourth. Something was screaming out inside me that something was very wrong but I thought, "How could so many Churches have it wrong?" There must be something I am missing. Bewildered, I continued to keep Sunday with no clear answers.

One scripture I found and did not understand was [Revelation 12:17](#) which says, "And the dragon (Satan) was wroth with the woman (The Church), and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the Commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." I found through studying Bible prophecy, that this refers to a Church God would raise up after the dark ages to restore His Church as in the book of Acts and the Sabbath before Satan changed it by the death and torture of millions over the centuries. For reasons now obvious, Satan would hate and make war with this Church and try to keep people from it. This now left me with the question of which Church keeps all God's Commandments? I was surprised to find more than [500 denominations](#) but none that we attended. How sad I now felt. God loves me so much that He sent His only son to die for me and with His love being totally unconditional there was no way in the world I was going to look for excuses not to spend this time with God because it might cause some inconvenience to my lifestyle. We should desire to return the same unconditional love and not grieve God by calling spending a day with Him legalism. If we truly love God how could we possibly do that? Below is the result of research on every excuse we have heard regarding the Sabbath. The real eye opener was how it got changed to Sunday. I encourage you to read on and find out truths about what many call Histories Greatest Hoax.

Should we keep Sunday in honour of the resurrection?

Jesus did rise on the first day of the week, but nowhere is there the slightest legitimate hint in the Bible for us to keep this day holy. See also [the Sabbath to Sunday change](#) or [what day is the Sabbath](#) for the first day of the week misunderstandings. History confirms that some Christians around 90-120 A.D. changed to Sunday to avoid the intense persecution for Judaism using the resurrection as their excuse, and there are always those who will do their own thing contrary to God's Word, but obviously it is not man's prerogative to change God's law for any reason. Jesus said, "...Full well you reject the Commandment of God, that you may keep your own tradition." [Mark 7:9](#)

Many honourable events occurred on certain days of the week, but we have no command to keep them Holy. Jesus died for our sins on Friday. But not one Bible text hints that we should observe this day of such great significance that is probably the most significant event recorded in all history. It marks the moment our death sentence was commuted and our salvation assured. So how do we honour the crucifixion? Do we worship on Friday to honour the crucifixion? No! As long as you break the bread and drink the cup of communion you show the Lord's death till He comes. Communion is what commemorates the crucifixion on Friday. It was a dramatic moment when Jesus rose from the grave on that Sunday morning, but again there is no biblical evidence whatsoever that we should observe it in honour of the resurrection. Not one instance of Sunday observance has been found in the recorded Scriptures. As with communion, honouring the resurrection should be done how God instructs us, not how man decides. This of course is done through Baptism which is a memorial of the resurrection commanded in the Bible, but it is not Sunday keeping. Paul wrote in [Romans 6:4](#) "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." Communion commemorates the Friday crucifixion and Baptism commemorates Christ's death, burial and Sunday resurrection.

Those who believe that Sunday observance honours His resurrection cite the upper room meeting of the disciples on the same day He arose from the grave. To them that gathering was to celebrate His resurrection. But when we read the Bible record of the event, we discover that the circumstances were quite different. Luke tells us that, even though the disciples were confronted with the eyewitness story of Mary Magdalene, they "believed not." [Mark 16:12-14](#) states, "After that he appeared in another form unto two of them, as they walked, and went into the country. And they went and told it unto the residue: neither believed they them. Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen." Obviously, none of those disciples believed He was raised, so they could not have been joyously celebrating His resurrection. John explains their reason for being together, "...the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews..." [John 20:19](#). See also "Sunday Keeping in Corinth."

The Sabbath from Creation to Eternity

The Sabbath was established at creation *before* sin and was therefore part of God's perfect plan from the very beginning. God also blessed and sanctified this day for Holy use at creation. This is the *only* reason we have a seven day week. If God did not want a seventh day Sabbath, then the whole world would only have a six day week. Most Christians do not know that the word translated "*rested*" in our English Bibles in Genesis 2:3 is actually "*shabath*" in the Hebrew and means Sabbath. So here we find the word Sabbath and it is being used directly in regards to the Sabbath being made at creation. Since the Sabbath was made at creation, it has to be for all man as are all Ten Commandments that also had to exist from the beginning. We know this for the following reasons.

In Genesis 4:3-7, Cain brings an offering from the ground which represented righteousness by works and so God was angry with him but Abel brought the firstborn of his flock as a sin offering which represents righteousness by faith. You cannot have a sin offering unless there is a law. (1 John 3:4) In verse 7, we also see God speak to Cain about sin lying at the door. The Bible also says where there is no law there is no transgression (Romans 4:15) so the Commandments although not yet codified had to exist from the very beginning or Cain could not have been guilty of murder. Besides the Seventh day being called the Sabbath in the Hebrew in Genesis 2:3, God also said the Sabbath "*is a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever*" because "*in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed.*" Exodus 31:17. Here God further confirms that the Sabbath existed from the beginning when it was added as the Seventh day of the week at creation. Saturday is also called the Sabbath in over 105 languages just as it was named at creation. This dates right back to Babel in Genesis 11 where Saturday was recognized as the Sabbath day and was incorporated into the very name of the day. In English we have the Pagan name Saturday. Since the Sabbath was sanctified and made Holy before sin at creation and the Sabbath is one of the Ten Commandments which is also seen being kept before the giving of the Commandments, (Exodus 16) it had to be kept by Adam and Eve. So we have now seen that the Ten Commandments though not yet codified, existed from the beginning and the sacrificial law came in right after Adam and Eve sinned shown by the sin offering by Abel. This is confirmed many times in Genesis but one of the clearest verses is found right in the first book of the Bible which tells us that Abraham kept all the Commandments, Statutes and Laws. Genesis 26:5 says, "*Because that Abraham obeyed my voice, and kept my charge, my Commandments, my Statutes, and my Laws.*"

Since the Sabbath was made at creation *before* sin, it cannot be a sacrificial ceremonial law that was just for the Jews as some foolishly claim. None of the Ten Commandments are temporary as they relate to loving God with all your heart, might and soul and loving your neighbour as yourself. The Sabbath is not misplaced in God's law as it is also a love Commandment which we will explain soon. The ceremonial law existed because of sin as sin is breaking the Ten Commandments (1 John 3:4). It is part of what is called the "Book of the Law," "Law of Moses," "Mosaic Law" and the "Ordinances." The "Book of the law" was a temporary law and was for the Israel of the flesh only and ended at the cross. It contained seven temporary sabbaths such as Passover, which was a sabbath that ended at the cross when Jesus became our Passover Lamb. If the Sabbath of the Lord (fourth Commandment) was for the Jews only, God would have placed it in the "Book of the law" along with the other temporary laws that ended at the cross but He did not because it belongs with the other nine Commandments and is a law of love as they all are.

Why is the Sabbath a love Commandment? Most Christians think that the Sabbath is just about resting but it goes far deeper than that. The Bible tells us that the Sabbath is a perpetual Sign that lasts forever and when we keep the seventh day Sabbath of the Lord, it is a SIGN that we are God's children and hence is also a SIGN that God is our Heavenly Father that we love and worship. When we keep the seventh day Holy as it was made at creation, it is also a SIGN that it is God that sanctifies us and makes us His Holy children. This is why it is part of the Ten Commandments. If you love God with all your heart, might and soul then you will also place yourself under this SIGN which defines it is God alone who you belong to and love and worship. This is very important to God and we need to have an understanding of this. So as you can see, our all wise Creator God did not make a blunder when He placed the fourth Commandment in His eternal law of love instead of the "Book of the Law", which was temporary and ended at the cross. We should therefore expect to find in the Bible that the Sabbath has been kept from creation and will go to eternity and we can. I am sure we all agree we can certainly trust the example given by Jesus and Paul.

What day have the Jews always worshiped on? Always Saturday and that has never changed. Paul was a Pharisee and hence a Jew and followed the Jewish ways to the strictest letter. Acts 26:3-5 "*The Jews all know the way I have lived ever since I was a child, from the beginning of my life in my own country, and also in Jerusalem. They have known me for a long time and can testify, if they are willing, that according to the strictest sect of our religion, I lived as a Pharisee.*" A custom is something one does religiously and without failure. What was Paul's custom while establishing the early Christian Church? Notice in the following verse that this is a JEWISH synagogue and that Jews have all through history, without change, worshipped on Saturday as they still do today. Acts 17:2 "*...they came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue. As his CUSTOM was, Paul went into the synagogue, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures.*" Paul's custom and example to the early Church was to always worship on the Seventh day Sabbath. It was also the CUSTOM of Jesus and if it were not then Jesus would have been guilty of breaking the fourth Commandment which would have been sin, and He could not have died on the cross for us as a sinner. Luke 4:16 "*And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up for to read.*"

Some still exhort that the Sabbath ended at the cross (*none of the Ten Commandments would as love is eternal*) and so Jesus is not a valid example, but as we have seen, Paul kept it after the cross and it was His example to the New Testament Church. Despite all the proof that the Sabbath was made for all man for all time, some still say, "*but it was only the Jews that kept the Sabbath*", but still even more scriptures prove otherwise. You will note that in both the following scriptures that these are Jewish synagogues but the Gentiles are keeping the Seventh day Sabbath as the example Paul set for them and there is also no clash between the Jews and Gentiles in regards to the day.

Acts 13:42-43 "And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath. **43** Now when the congregation was broken up, many of the Jews and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas: who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God." And **Acts 18:4** "And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks."

We have already seen that Paul and the Apostles undoubtedly kept the Seventh Day Sabbath but some ask is there any specific reference to keeping the Sabbath after the cross, and the answer is yes. Here are three indisputable proofs. In reference to the future destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. Jesus states in **Matthew 24:20**, "And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath." Why would Jesus say pray that you don't have to flee on the Sabbath day if we are not keeping the Sabbath anymore? There is NO way Jesus would say this unless the Sabbath was still going to be kept subsequent to His death. This is solid proof on its own that the Sabbath existed after the cross. The gospel of Luke states in **Luke 23:56** that when the body of Christ was being prepared by His followers, "they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the Sabbath day according to the Commandment." Luke's gospel was written 30 to 50 years after the cross and there is no way he would make a statement like this without telling us of a change on something as important as the Ten Commandments. This would have been the perfect opportunity for Luke to say something like, "they rested on the Sabbath day that ended at the cross" or "they rested on the Old Sabbath day, which is now the first day of the week", but Luke still clearly states "they rested on the Sabbath according to the Commandment" which directly implies it was still the Commandment at this future time and again matches the statement of Jesus and Paul's example and that all the law is eternal. Isaiah also prophesied in **Isaiah 66:22-23** that, "For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make ... and from one Sabbath to another, shall ALL flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD." Here is the Sabbath in the future. But there is still even more proof in Hebrews 4:8-11 that shows directly that the Sabbath does remain a Christian Holy Day.

While an extremely clear directive is given for Sabbath keeping in Exodus 20:8-11 and Deuteronomy 5:12-15, the next closest passage to a command for Sabbath-keeping in the New Testament is found in Hebrews 4:9. In this verse we find the Greek word "sabbatismos." The King James and New King James Version and a few other Bibles render the word as "rest" while the Amplified Bible the ASV, NASB, NIV, RSV and NRSV and several other translations somewhat more correctly render that word as "Sabbath rest." A few Bibles such as the Darby translation transliterate the word as "Sabbatism." Its literal translation however, is "Sabbath observance" and "The Scriptures" translated by The Institute for Scripture Research render it as such while the Thayer dictionary and the Bible in Basic English give the equally literal phrase "Sabbath keeping." In regard to taking "Sabbatismos" literally, Professor Andrew T. Lincoln, on page 213 in his symposium From Sabbath To The Lord's Day states, "The use of sabbatismos elsewhere in extant Greek literature gives an indication of its more exact shade of meaning. It is used in Plutarch, De Superstitione 3 (Moralia 166A) of Sabbath observance. There are also four occurrences in post canonical literature that are independent of Hebrews 4:9. They are Justin, Dialogue with Trypho 23:3; Epiphanius, Adversus Haereses 30:2:2; Martyrium Petri et Pauli 1; Apostolic Constitutions 2:36:2. In each of these places the term denotes the observance or celebration of the Sabbath. This usage corresponds to the Septuagint usage of the cognate verb sabbatizo (cf. Exodus 16:30; Leviticus. 23:32; 26:34; 2 Chronicles. 36:21). Thus the writer to the Hebrews is saying that since the time of Joshua an observance of the Sabbath rest has been outstanding." The literal translation then of Hebrews 4:9 is, "Therefore a Sabbath observance has been left behind for the people of God." The internal evidence of the preceding verses would also indicate that the Sabbath observance mentioned in this verse has to be the Seventh day Sabbath and not Sunday, which was officially named the Lord's Day in the fourth century. In verse 8, the author of Hebrews states, "For if Joshua had given them rest, he would not afterward have spoken of another day." On first glance in our English translations, the word "another" might give the appearance of a different day. However, in the Greek, there are two words for "another." "Heteros" means "another of a different kind", while "allos" means "another of the same kind." The word used in Hebrews 4:8 is "allos", indicating a Sabbath day of the same kind as referred to in Hebrews 4:5-8, that is, the seventh-day Sabbath. In verse 7, the author of Hebrews uses the term "certain day." The Greek word for "certain" is "tis." It is undoubtedly referencing a specific day and not the general thought of an eternal rest. The force of Hebrews 3:11-4:11 then must be saying that because Christians look toward the eternal rest of heaven, the type or shadow of the earthly Sabbath rest still remains or is "left behind", literally for Christians to observe. This is very significant in light of the greater context of the book of Hebrews which deals with the entire Aaronic priesthood and its methods of worship as found in the Old Covenant being supplanted by the Melchizedek priesthood of Jesus Christ. As the author states in **Hebrews 12:27**, "And this word, Yet once more, signifies the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things which have been made, that those things which are not shaken may remain."

So the Sabbath was kept by Adam and Eve. It was kept by Abraham, it was kept in the exodus from Egypt before God's Ten Commandments were given when God tested to see if His children (Jews did not exist yet) would keep all the Ten Commandments by seeing if they would keep THE Seventh day as per the Commandment. It was kept by Jesus, it was kept by Paul, it was kept by the Apostles, it was kept by the early Church by both Jews and Gentiles and this is also verified by Jesus who showed it still kept in 70 A.D. when the temple was destroyed. Reliable unbiased history sources show that it was still being kept till 90-120 A.D. when some Christians first changed to Sunday saying it was in honour of the resurrection, to avoid persecution for Judaism. History shows the official day change began with Constantine in 321 A.D. in favour of Sun worship and was finalized by the Papacy. The Sabbath was almost murdered out of existence through the dark ages when the Catholic Church ruled as Church and state for those terrible 1260 dark years. Revelation 12:17 speaks of a remnant of God's original Church that would then arise, which Satan would hate and make war with because it would keep all of the Ten Commandments of God once again. And finally, God showed Isaiah that we will still be keeping the Sabbath in the new Heaven and the New Earth. Here is the Sabbath being kept from creation and throughout all eternity and of course that also includes now!

Who is Israel today and the New Covenant

You often hear it said that the New Covenant ends the Ten Commandments or it is said that the New Covenant ends just one Commandment somehow. What was said in regards to the New Covenant and did the law change? It is worth noting that the Old Testament always informs us through the prophets what changes are coming in the future. Note the following scripture. [Amos 3:7](#) "Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets." So what did the Old Testament say about the New Covenant? [Jeremiah 31:33](#) "But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people."

And here we find the fulfilment of Jeremiah 31:33 in the book of Hebrews.

[Hebrews 8:6-10](#) "But now has he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises. **7** For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. **8** For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: **9** Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. **10** For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people."

The Bible tells us that Christ came as the Mediator of a new covenant ([verse 6](#)). The belief that the New Covenant abolishes the Ten Commandments reflects a misunderstanding of both covenants. God tells us that He altered the original covenant and made "a better covenant, which was established upon better promises" ([verse 6](#)). But it was not established on different laws. The law stayed the same. There was however a weakness or fault in the original covenant. That fault was with the people, NOT with the law. "For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah." ([verse 8](#)). It was "because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord." ([verse 9](#)).

In the Old Covenant God wrote His Ten Commandments on tablets of stone. It was external and not part of the thinking and motives of the people. It was in their literature but NOT in their hearts. In the New Covenant God writes His law "into their minds, and writes them in their hearts." ([verse 10](#)).

To enable people to internalise His law, to love it and obey it eagerly and willingly, God makes this promise, [Ezekiel 36:26-27](#) "A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. **27** And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and you shall keep my judgments, and do them."

So the New Covenant does not change the Ten Commandment law. We also find that Exodus 31:13-17 says the Sabbath is a special sign and a perpetual never ending covenant between God and the children of Israel forever. But some will say, that does not apply to us because we are not Israel. But the question is; who is Israel today?

[Exodus 31:13-17](#) "Speak you also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily 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 that does sanctify you. ... **16** Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant. **17** It is a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever: for in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed."

What I am about to share is one of the most misunderstood facts in the Bible, and causes confusion in many places including Bible prophecy. Very rarely is this taught and very rarely is this understood. An obvious question I know, but who was the Old Covenant made with? If you said Israel you would be correct. If I asked were you under the Old or New Covenant what would you say? I am sure you said the New Covenant. But the final question I want to ask you, is who was the New Covenant made with? How many have actually stopped and thought about his question or even bothered to look. Go and have another read of Jeremiah 31:33 and Hebrews 8:6-10. So who was the New Covenant made with? Are you surprised to see that it was *only* made with Israel? So now things get interesting. If we are not Israel then we cannot be under the New Covenant and if we are Israel, then this perpetual never ending Sabbath Covenant does apply to us. Note in the following passage Paul speaks of two Israels and states that the literal seed of Abraham is no longer the Israel of God today. Read [Daniel's 70 weeks and 2300 days](#) to find out why.

[Romans 9:6-8](#) "Not as though the word of God has taken none effect. For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel: **7** Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children: but, In Isaac shall your seed be called. **8** That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed."

Paul further explains that the children of the flesh (Jews by birth) are NOT the children of God but the children of the promise are. So who are the children of the promise now? Galatians 3:28-29 explains this in a manner that cannot possibly be misunderstood. See also Romans 2:28-29.

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

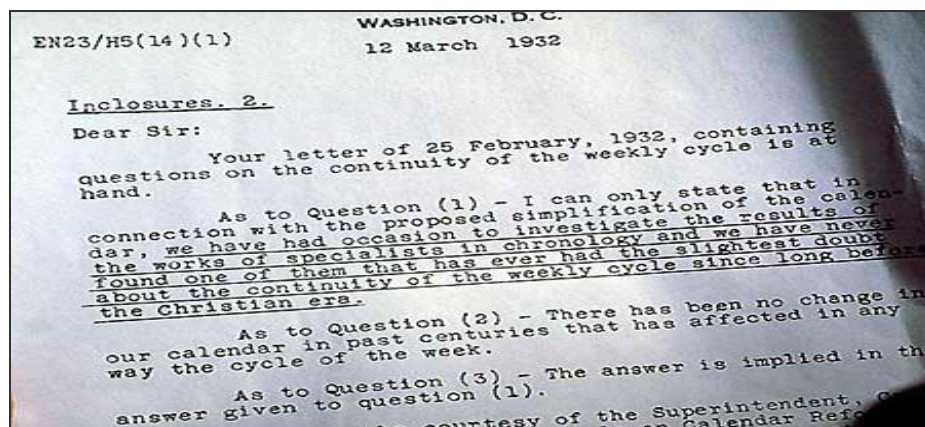
So today there is the Israel of God ([Galatians 6:16](#)) and the Israel after the flesh. ([1 Corinthians 10:18](#)) The Israel of the flesh are those that are Jews by birth while the Israel of God is anyone who belongs to Christ and is under the New Covenant. This occurred after the Jews rejected God's message from Stephen and stoned him. [Acts 6:8-7:60](#).

Has the Calendar changed the Sabbath day?

The calendar has been changed but it was never changed so as to affect the weekly cycle of days or confuse the days of the week. We can be one hundred percent positive that our seventh day is the same day Jesus observed when He was here. Pope Gregory XIII was responsible for a calendar change in 1582, but it did not interfere with the weekly cycle. Our present Gregorian calendar was named after him when he made that small change in 1582.

What did Pope Gregory XIII do to the calendar? Before 1582 the Julian calendar had been in effect instituted by Julius Caesar about 46 B.C. and named after him. But the Julian calendar had calculated the length of the year as 365 1/4 days, which was incorrect as the length of a year was actually eleven minutes less than 365 1/4 days. Those eleven minutes accumulated, and by 1582 the numbering of the calendar was ten days out of harmony with the solar system. Pope Gregory fixed the problem by simply dropping those ten days out of the numbering of the calendar. It was Thursday, October 4, 1582, and the next day, Friday, should have been October 5. But Gregory made it October 15 instead, dropping exactly ten days to bring the calendar back into harmony with the heavenly bodies. Were the days of the week confused? No. Friday still followed Thursday, and Saturday still followed Friday etc. The same seventh day remained and the weekly cycle was not disturbed in the least. When we keep the seventh day on Saturday, we observe the same day Jesus kept, and Luke 4:16 tells us Jesus did this every week.

Ten days were omitted from the calendar following October 4, 1582. What would have been Friday, October 5, became Friday, October 15. A new system of leap years was inaugurated after this change. The U.S. Naval Observatory has also reported that there has never been any change in the continuity of the weekly cycle.



How do we know which day is the Sabbath?

This is a fallacy that has comforted many in their disobedience to the fourth Commandment. Beside the fact that God would not allow the day to be lost, here are four other proofs that identify we still have the correct Sabbath day:

1. Many people today have never given much thought to which is the seventh day of the week. I assumed for many years that Sunday was the seventh day and Monday was the first day. You can imagine my surprise when I found out this was incorrect. An easy way to confirm this is to just look up Saturday in any normal dictionary. Here are two.

Saturday *n.* the seventh day of the week; day after Friday; day of worship among Jews and some Christians. Saturday *n.* the seventh and last day of the week: the Sabbath.

2. The Scriptures say Christ died on Friday and rose on Sunday, the first day of the week. Practically all churches acknowledge this fact by observing Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Here is the Bible evidence: "This man went unto Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. And he took it down, and wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a sepulchre that was hewn in stone, wherein never man before was laid. And that day was the preparation, and the Sabbath drew on." [Luke 23:52-54](#). This clearly shows Jesus died the day before the Sabbath. It was called "the preparation day" because it was the time to get ready (to prepare) for the Sabbath. Verses 55 and 56 go on to say, "And the women also, which came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulchre, and how his body was laid. And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the Sabbath day according to the Commandment." Note that the women rested over the Sabbath "according to the Commandment" and that the book of Luke was written decades after the cross showing the Sabbath unquestionably remained unchanged. The Commandment says, "The seventh day is the Sabbath," so we know they were observing Saturday. The very next verse says; "Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared... And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre." [Luke 24:1-2](#). How clearly these three consecutive days are described for us. He died Friday, the preparation day, commonly called Good Friday. He rested in the tomb on the seventh day, Sabbath, "according to the Commandment." That was Saturday. Then on Sunday, the first day of the week, Easter Sunday to many, Jesus arose from the grave. Anyone who can locate Good Friday or Easter Sunday will have absolutely no difficulty finding the true Sabbath day.

3. The third proof lies in the fact that in over 100 languages of the world, the seventh day Saturday is still called the Sabbath. In Italy it is called Sabato, in Spain Sabado, in Portugal Sabbado, in Russia Subbota and Poland Sobota. All of these names mean "Sabbath" or "rest day" in their various languages. What does this prove? It proves that when those 100 languages originated at Babel in Genesis 11, Saturday was recognized as the Sabbath day and was incorporated into the very name of the day. Except for those languages that have adopted the pagan names for the days of the week, the seventh day is still called the Sabbath as the Lord named it at the time of creation. Strong's dictionary shows the word translated "rest" in our English Bibles in Genesis 2:3, is actually "Sabbath" in the Hebrew.

4. Here is the most conclusive proof of all for the true Sabbath. The Jewish people have been observing the seventh day from the time of Abraham, and they still keep it today. Here is a whole nation, millions of individuals who have been counting off time meticulously, week after week, calendar or no calendar, for thousands of years. Could they have lost track of days? That would be impossible! The only way they could have lost a day would have been for the entire nation to have slept over an extra day and for no one ever to tell them about it afterwards. There is no scientific or astronomical reason for measuring time in cycles of seven days. The origin of the week is found in the creation story and it is an arbitrary arrangement of God and has been miraculously preserved for one reason, which is because the holy Sabbath day points to the creative power of the only true God. It is a sign of His sovereignty over the world and over human life, a sign of creation and redemption. Is this not the reason God will preserve Sabbath keeping throughout eternity? We read in [Isaiah 66:22-23](#) *“For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the Lord, so shall your seed and your name remain. And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the Lord.”* The Sabbath is so precious to God that His true Children will observe it throughout all time to see in the beautiful *new heavens and the new earth*. If the Sabbath is so precious to God then why isn't it precious to us? If it was made and kept since creation and we keep it for all eternity, then why isn't everyone keeping it now?

Can we keep any day as the Sabbath?

By this argument Satan prepared the world to accept a substitute in place of the Sabbath which God had specifically commanded. Upon the tables of stone God wrote the great unchanging law of the ages with His own finger. Every word was serious and meaningful. Not one line was ambiguous or mysterious. Sinners and Christians, educated and uneducated, have no problem understanding the simple, clear words of the Ten Commandments. So does God mean what he says or not? God does mean what He says and He says what He means. He said unmistakably to keep the seventh day, not any day in seven. No one has tried to void that law as too complicated to comprehend. Some say they keep the Sabbath every day of the week. Is this what God said to do? My Bible says *“Six days you shall work but the Seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord.”* Can we just respond to God by saying, *“You got it wrong God, the Seventh day is not your Sabbath we can keep any or every day.”* Isn't that dangerous to mock God and His Commandment like that? God desires us to worship Him every day, doing everything at all times to His glory, however, as to a Holy day of worship, God has commanded only one and has set apart no other day. We worship God seven days a week but if we kept the Sabbath seven days a week, we would not be Holy, we would be lazy.

Most of the big Ten begin with the same words: *“Thou shalt not,”* but right in the heart of the law we find the fourth Commandment which is introduced with the word, *“Remember.”* Why is this one different? Because God was commanding them to call something to memory which already existed but had been forgotten. Genesis describes the origin of the Sabbath in these words, *“Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made...And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.”* [Genesis 2:1-3](#). Which day did God bless and sanctify? The seventh day. How was it to be kept holy? By resting. Could any of the other six be kept holy? No. Why? Because God commanded not to rest those days but to work. In [Leviticus 10](#), Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron were supposed to bring Holy fire from the altar but instead brought, as the Bible phrases it, strange fire. Did the Holy fire and the secular fire look the same? Yes. Were they chemically the same? Yes. Was God happy with the secular fire instead of Holy fire? [Leviticus 10:2](#) says, *“And there went out fire from the LORD, and devoured them, and they died before the LORD.”* God was definitely not happy with their strange fire. So how does God feel when we offer Him a secular day instead of His Holy day? How does God feel when we offer a day used for sun worship (Sunday) that God detested? Does God's blessing have any value or is it worthless? Why do parents pray for God to bless their children? The seventh day is different from the other six because it has God's blessing and is Holy. Why did God make this day Holy? He made this day Holy because He is Holy and it is for intimate Holy time with Him. Ever heard the expression you can't change it because it's written in stone? It is very relevant that the Commandments were written in stone by God's finger. When God puts it on stone like this it's solid, it's eternal and it's immovable and you can't change it. God gave many other Laws to Moses at Mt Sinai but they were not written in stone and most of those were nailed to the cross. The Ten Commandments were the only thing God wrote in stone.

Why did God bless the day? Because He had created the world in six days. It was the birthday of the world, a memorial of the mighty act of creation. It is the test Commandment of our love and obedience to God while also celebrating creation and reminding us He can and will do it again. Can the Sabbath memorial be changed? Never. It points backward to an accomplished fact. July 4 is Independence Day. Can it be changed? It can't change anymore than your birthday. It is a memorial of your birth, which happened on a set day. History would have to run through again to change your birthday, or Independence Day, or to change the Sabbath day. We can call another day Independence Day, and we can call another day the Sabbath, but that will never make it so. It is the day that it is.

Did God ever give man the privilege of choosing his own day of rest? He did not. In fact, God confirmed in the Bible that the Sabbath was settled and sealed by His own divine selection and should not be tampered with. Read [Exodus 16](#) concerning the giving of manna. For 40 years God worked three miracles every week to show Israel which day was holy. (1) No manna fell on the seventh day. (2) They could not keep it overnight without spoilage, but (3) when they kept it over the Sabbath, it remained sweet and fresh. But some Israelites had the same idea as many modern Christians. They felt that any day in seven would be all right to keep holy: *“And it came to pass, that there went out some of the people on the seventh day for to gather, and they found none. And the Lord said unto Moses, How long refuse ye to keep my Commandments and my laws?”* [Exodus 16:27-28](#). Sadly, these people thought another day could be kept just as well as the seventh day. Perhaps they were planning to observe the first day of the week, or some other day which was more convenient for them. This seems to be the plan for many Christians today. So how did God respond to these non-Jews? God accused them of breaking *all* His Commandments and laws.

Would God say the same thing to those who break the Sabbath today? Of course! He is the same yesterday, today and forever, He changes not. God made it clear that, regardless of our feelings, those who work on the Sabbath are breaking His Commandments. James explains that breaking even one Commandment is sin and is to break all of them just as God demonstrated in Exodus 16: *“For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all. For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law.”* James 2:10-11.

Was the Sabbath only for the Jews?

This falsehood has gained such strength that multitudes of Christians refer to it as the “Jewish Sabbath.” But nowhere do we find such an expression in the Bible. It is called “the Sabbath of the Lord,” (Exodus 20:10) but *never* “the Sabbath of the Jews.” Luke was a Gentile writer of the New Testament and often made reference to things which were peculiarly Jewish. He spoke of the “nation of the Jews,” “the people of the Jews,” “the land of the Jews,” and the “synagogue of the Jews.” Acts 10:22, 12:11, 10:39 and 14:1. But please take note that Luke never referred to the “Sabbath of the Jews” or the “Jewish Sabbath” and we do find that he mentioned the Sabbath repeatedly.

Jesus taught that *“the Sabbath was made for man.”* Mark 2:27. It does not say the Sabbath was made for Jews. Some say since it was made for man we can choose not to keep it. The fact is that all the Commandments were made for man. So does this mean we can choose to ignore all of them? Of course not! Man was made on the sixth day and the only reason that we have a seventh day is because God added it for a Sabbath rest for man. It was made for man at creation so what has changed? Nothing! The Pharisees thought the Sabbath was made just for them so Jesus was correcting them and said the Sabbath was made to be a blessing for ALL man and not a day of legalistic rules that they had turned it into. Picking corn on the Sabbath for a meal was a necessity and not unlawful.

The fact is that Adam was the only man in existence at the time God made the Sabbath. There were no Jews in the world for at least 2,000 years after creation. It could never have been made for them. Jesus used the term “man” in the generic sense, referring to mankind. The same word is used in connection with the institution of marriage which was also introduced at creation. Woman was made for man just as the Sabbath was made for man. Certainly no one believes that marriage was made only for the Jews. The fact is that two beautiful, original institutions were set up by God Himself before sin ever came into the world; marriage and the Sabbath. Both were made for man, both received the special blessing of the Creator and both continue to be just as holy now as when they were sanctified in the Garden of Eden. Note that the “children of Israel” God was angry with for not keeping the Sabbath in Exodus 16:25-30 were not Jews either. They were Abraham’s seed just as we are. Galatians 3:29, *“And if ye be Christ’s, then are ye Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.”* We are in fact spiritual Jews! See also Romans 2:28-29.

Jesus was the One who made the Sabbath in the first week of time. There was a reason for His claim to be Lord of the Sabbath day (Mark 2:28). If He is the Lord of the Sabbath day, then the Sabbath must be the Lord’s Day. John had a vision on *“the Lord’s day,”* according to Revelation 1:10. That day had to be the Sabbath. It is the only day so designated and claimed by God in the Bible. In writing the Ten Commandments, God called it *“the Sabbath of the Lord.”* Exodus 20:10. Adam and Eve were not Jewish. *“God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it.”* Genesis 2:3. Sanctified means “to be set apart for holy use.” This was pre-sin and the only ones in Eden to “Sanctify” the Sabbath were Adam and Eve. The other Nine are not “Just for the Jews.” Does idolatry, murder, stealing and adultery apply only to Jews? The Sabbath is also for the “stranger” who are Gentiles. Exodus 20:10. In *“the new earth ... from one Sabbath to another, shall ALL FLESH come to worship before me, saith the Lord.”* Isaiah 66:22-23. Grace saved Gentiles kept the Sabbath. *“The Gentiles besought that these words be preached to them the next Sabbath ... Paul and Barnabas ... persuaded them to continue in the grace of God.”* Acts 13:42-43. Luke was a Gentile who kept the Sabbath. Luke was the only Gentile writer in the New Testament. He travelled with Paul and wrote, *“On the Sabbath we went out of the city by a river side.”* Acts 16:13. It was the Creation Sabbath. Both Luke and Paul knew it.

This argument has also led many to believe the Sabbath existed only for a limited period of time following creation. But is this a fact? Actually, the Sabbath could never be just a type or shadow of anything, for the simple reason that it was made before sin entered the human family. Certain shadows and typical observances (ordinances) were instituted as a result of sin and pointed forward to the deliverance from sin. Such were the sacrifices employed to symbolize the death of Jesus, the Lamb of God. There would have been no animal sacrifices had there been no sin. These offerings were abolished when Christ died on the cross, because the types had met their fulfilment (Matthew 27:51). But no shadow existed before sin entered this world; therefore, the Sabbath could not be included in the ceremonial law of types and shadows. The ceremonial laws were temporary but all of God’s moral law is eternal as it mirrors His loving, unchanging Holy character. He is *“the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.”* Hebrews 13:8.

Paul referred to the temporary system of ordinances in Colossians 2:14-16 as being *“against us”* and *“contrary to us.”* He tied it to the meat offerings, drink offerings and yearly festivals of the law that were *“blotted out.”* It is true he referred to sabbaths also in the text, but take careful note that he called them *“sabbath days* (note also the original Greek here is plural) *which are a shadow of things to come.”* Were some sabbath days blotted out at the cross? Yes, there were at least seven yearly sabbaths which came on certain set days of the month, and they were nailed to the cross. They were shadows and required specified meat and drink offerings. All of these annual sabbaths are described in Leviticus 23:24-36, and then summarized in verses 37 and 38: *“These are the feasts of the Lord, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, to offer an offering made by fire unto the Lord, a burnt offering, and a meat offering, a sacrifice, and drink offerings, every thing upon his day: beside the Sabbaths of the Lord...”* The Scripture differentiates between the annual, shadowy sabbaths and the weekly *“Sabbaths of the Lord.”* The ceremonial sabbaths were only for the Jews and were blotted out at the cross as they had been added as a consequence of sin. But the Sabbath of the Ten Commandments was hallowed before sin and Jews and later incorporated into the moral law written by the finger of God. It was eternal in its very nature as love is everlasting.

Were the Ten Commandments abolished?

It grieves me to say that it is commonly taught, without any scriptural authority, that the Ten Commandments were abolished at the cross. Proponents of this belief never stop to realize that, if there is no law, there is no transgression as Paul plainly states in Romans 4:15. This would mean that no one has sinned since Christ's death, and therefore, we would have no need for a Saviour! God's law is a gift to mankind, yet humanity thanklessly rejects it. As good and glorious as this law is, human nature is hostile to it. (Romans 8:7) Selfishly, it wants to have everything which God's way of life brings but it rebelliously resents travelling the road God demands one should take to obtain His blessings. Paul writes in [Romans 7:12](#) that "...the law is holy, and the Commandment holy and just and good."

Notice how God's moral law (The Ten Commandments) is a reflection of God's most beautiful and Holy character. To declare that the God's moral law is no longer relevant is an insult and attack on God, His Holy character and love.

» Romans 16:26: God is Eternal » Psalm 111:7-8: The law is Eternal	» Luke 18:19: God is Good » Romans 7:12: The law is Good	» I John 1:5: God is Light » Proverbs 6:23: The law is Light
» John 4:24: God is Spiritual » Romans 7:14: The law is Spiritual	» Deuteronomy 32:4: God is Just » Romans 7:12: The law is Just	» Psalms 48:1: God is Great » Hosea 8:12: The law is Great
» Psalm 145:17: God is Righteous » Psalm 119:172: The law is Righteous	» 1 John 3:3: God is Pure » Psalms 19:8: The law is Pure	» Deuteronomy 32:4: God is Truth » Psalm 119:142: The law is Truth
» Matthew 5:48: God is Perfect » Psalm 19:7: The law is Perfect	» I John 4:8: God is Love » Romans 13:10: The law is Love	» Isaiah 5:16: God is Holy » Romans 7:12: The law is Holy

When God led the children of Israel out of Egyptian bondage, He delivered to them in fiery majesty the Ten Commandments. This holy law was spoken by God, written by God, recorded on tables of stone, and is of eternal duration. At the same time another law, of temporary usage, was also delivered to the children of Israel. This law dealt with the ceremonial rites of the Jewish sanctuary service, and concerned itself with a system of religion that passed away at the cross. Large sections of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy describe in detail this temporary ceremonial code. This Law can easily be identified in the Scriptures. It talks about circumcision (a religious Jewish rite), sacrifices, offerings, purifications, ceremonial holy days, and other rites associated with the Hebrew sanctuary service. Let the Bible explain itself and clarify the differences between these two laws.

THE MORAL LAW (The Ten Commandments)	THE CEREMONIAL LAW (A temporary Jewish law)
1. Spoken personally by God. Exodus 20:1-22	1. Spoken by Moses. Exodus 24:3
2. Written by God's finger. Exodus 31:18; Exodus 32:16	2. Written by Moses hand. Exodus 24:4; Deuteronomy 31:9
3. Written on stones. Exodus 31:18	3. Written in a book. Exodus 24:3, 7; Deuteronomy 31:24
4. Handed by God its writer to Moses. Exodus 31:18	4. Handed by Moses its writer to Levites. Deuteronomy 31:25-26
5. Deposited by Moses "in the ark." Deuteronomy 10:5	5. Deposited by the Levites "by the side of the ark." Deuteronomy 31:26, ARV
6. Deals with moral precepts. Exodus 20:3-17	6. Deals with ceremonial, ritual matters. (See parts of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy)
7. Reveals sin. Romans 7:7	7. Prescribes offerings for sins. (See book of Leviticus)
8. Breaking of "the law" is "sin." 1 John 3:4	8. No sin in breaking, for now "abolished." Ephesians 2:15 (Where no law is, there is no transgression. Romans 4:15)
9. Should "keep the whole law." James 2:10	9. Apostles gave "no such commandment" to "keep the law." Acts 15:24
10. Because we "shall be judged" by this law. James 2:12	10. Not to be judged by it. Colossians 2:16
11. The Christian who keeps this law is "blessed in his deed." James 1:25	11. The Christian who keeps this law is not blessed. (See for example, Galatians 5:1-6)
12. "The perfect law of liberty." James 1:25 (Cf. James 2:12)	12. The Christian who keeps this law loses his liberty. Galatians 5:1, 3
13. Paul said, "I delight in the law of God." Romans 7:22 (Cf. verse 7)	13. Paul called this law a "yoke of bondage." Galatians 5:1; Galatians 4:3, 9 (See Acts 15:10)
14. Established by faith in Christ. Romans 3:31	14. Abolished by Christ. Ephesians 2:15
15. Christ was to "magnify the law and make it honourable." Isaiah 42:21	15. Blotted "out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us." Colossians 2:14

To the unbiased reader of God's Word, it becomes more than clear that the Ten Commandments are binding upon all men for all time in every place, whereas no man is bound to keep the Ceremonial Law, often referred to as the ordinances that were fulfilled in Christ. The Ceremonial Law with its sacrificial system pointed the people to the coming of Christ. Every time the blood of a beast was shed in the old Jewish temple, it was a dramatic reminder to the onlooker that One would come and die for his sin. Hence, John the Baptist pointed to our Lord and declared the significant words, "*Behold the Lamb of God.*" When He died on Calvary's cross the veil of the great temple curtain was torn from top to bottom, to signify that the entire ceremonial system was forever finished. Matthew 27:50-51. No longer do the priests need offer up sacrifices. The One great and perfect Sacrifice was offered that Friday afternoon, when the true Passover Lamb bowed His head and died. When He cried out, "*It is finished*", the old Ceremonial Law that pointed the people to His sacrificial death was nailed to the cross. But NOT so with the Ten Commandments. There was nothing temporary about them. They are to last as long as heaven and earth. Matthew 5:17-19

This is how [Matthew 5:17-19](#) reads, “Do not think that I have come to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I have not come to destroy but to fulfill. For truly I say to you, Till the heaven and the earth pass away, not one jot or one tittle shall in any way pass from the Law until all is fulfilled. Therefore whoever shall relax one of these Commandments, the least, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least [by those] in the kingdom of Heaven. But whoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of Heaven.”

Jesus certainly did not have any intentions of making any change; in fact, Jesus condemned men who taught that it was acceptable to break God’s law, and commended those who taught the necessity of keeping it. This one passage alone is the absolute proof that the Sabbath was not abolished or the day changed and everything else has to be misunderstandings or intentional excuses to justify why we don’t need to obey one of God’s Commandments. Jesus said, “... Till the heaven and the earth pass away, not one jot or one tittle shall in any way pass from the Law...”

This is what The People’s New Testament (1891) by B. W. Johnson comments in regards to the meaning of a “Jot” or “Tittle.” **One jot or tittle.** Jot means the smallest letter of the Hebrew alphabet, while tittle refers to a simple turn by which one letter is distinguished from another. The expression, “jot or tittle,” was proverbial for the smallest part.

Some say, “To fulfil the law is to bring an end to the Ten Commandments and abolish them.” There is overwhelming evidence that proves this is absolute nonsense, such as this passage would contain more contradictions than we could count. If fulfilling the law ends the law then the law is destroyed, yet Jesus declares in Matthew 5:17 that He did not come to destroy the law. Not only did Jesus not come to destroy the law but He actually came to magnify it. We should not be strangers to this fact as we are given a Messianic prophecy that tells us that Christ would in fact do exactly this. [Isaiah 42:21](#), “The LORD is well pleased for his righteousness’ sake; he will Magnify the law, and make it HONOURABLE.” In the remainder of Matthew chapter 5 we see how Jesus has without a doubt magnified the law. We note the following; Matthew 5:19 from not only obeying the law but teaching it also, 5:21-22 from do not kill to not being angry with your brother without cause, 5:27-28 from do not commit adultery to being guilty of adultery if you look at a woman lustfully, 5:31 from divorcing by a letter to any man who divorces his wife except for sexual immorality, causes her or anyone who marries the divorced woman to commit adultery, 5:33-37 from not breaking oaths made to the Lord to do not swear at all, either by heaven or earth or by Jerusalem. And do not swear by your head, let your Yes be Yes, and your No, No, 5:38-42 from an eye for an eye and tooth for a tooth to turning the other cheek and if someone sues you for your coat, give them your cloak also, 5:43-45 from love your neighbour and hate your enemy to love your enemies and bless them that curse you and pray for those that are spiteful and use you.

Does this give the impression that Jesus came to destroy the law or that fulfilling the law ends it? What truth seeker could possibly come to that conclusion after reading this passage? If this was so, then all the following things have also ended. Clearly this is NOT possible! These scriptures also use the same Greek word G4137 used in verse 17.

[Matthew 3:15](#) “...it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness.”

[John 17:13](#) “...that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves.”

[2 Thessalonians 1:11](#) “...and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power.”

[Philippians 2:2](#) “Fulfil you my joy, that you be likeminded, having the same love...”

[John 17:12](#) “...that the scripture might be fulfilled.”

[Colossians 1:25](#) “...which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God.”

[2 Corinthians 10:6](#) “...having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.”

Thayer definition for G4137:

- 1) to make full, to fill up, i.e. to fill to the full.
- 2) to render full, i.e. to complete. 2a) to fill to the top: so that nothing shall be wanting to full measure, fill to the brim. 2b) to consummate: a number. 2b1) to make complete in every particular, to render perfect. 2b2) to carry through to the end, to accomplish, carry out, (some undertaking). 2c) to carry into effect, bring to realisation, realise. 2c1) of matters of duty: to perform, execute. 2c2) of sayings, promises, prophecies, to bring to pass, ratify, accomplish. 2c3) **to fulfil, i.e. to cause God’s will (as made known in the law) to be obeyed as it should be**, and God’s promises (given through the prophets) to receive fulfilment.

The most relevant part for the word “fulfil” in Matthew 5:17 in the Thayer dictionary is “2C3.” Jesus did not come to destroy the law; He obeyed and carried out the law *to the full* and magnified it! Jesus never contradicts Himself. If this word “fulfil” meant destroy, Jesus would be saying “*I did not come to destroy the law I came to destroy the law!*”

So is the law only for the Jews? Does it apply to New Covenant Christians? Notice Acts 7:38-39 five chapters after the start of the New Testament church. This is Moses who was in the congregation in the wilderness with the Angel who spoke to him on Mount Sinai, and with our fathers, the one who *received the living oracles to give to us*, whom our fathers would not obey, but rejected. Speaking to the Jews, Stephen, a converted Christian, says that God gave these “living oracles...to us,” Christian and Jew. They are still in effect today as a complete spiritual law, and we Christians and or Jews do not have the authority to choose which ones we want to obey. This event on Mount Sinai was the basis for making the Old Covenant, but what is the basis of the New Covenant? “*For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.*” [Hebrews 8:10](#) (quoting Jeremiah 31:33).

From all the above proofs, two points are clear. 1. God’s Ten Commandments (not the Nine Commandments and one suggestion) is not a temporary one designed to end or become obsolete at the cross or any other time. God’s moral law can no more change than God’s character can. He is the same yesterday, and today, and forever. 2. His law is not a special law for one nation only. God is not a respecter of persons (Acts 10:34; Romans 1:16). Neither Gentiles nor Christians are excluded from the laws of God. (e.g., Exodus 12:38, 48-49; Isaiah 56:1-3, 6-7)

Is there a New Law in Christ?

Some try to dispose of the law or the Sabbath based on the “new” commandment of love which Christ introduced. It is certainly true that Jesus laid down two great laws of love as a *summary* of all the law, but did He give the idea that these were new in point of time? Loving God with all your heart, soul and might and loving your neighbour as yourself was quoted not only by Jesus in the New Testament but is also found “*from the beginning*” i.e. the Old Testament. Jesus was in fact quoting directly from the Old Testament scriptures as He quite frequently did when He gave those commandments. “*And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.*” [Deuteronomy 6:5](#). “*...Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.*” [Leviticus 19:18](#). Did all the law hang on these two Commandments in the Old Testament when they were *first* given, and more specifically, did loving God with all thine heart include the Sabbath in this Old Testament verse? Of course! This was seventeen verses after the second reading of the Ten Commandments and Jesus says ALL the law STILL hang on these two Commandments.

When a lawyer tried to trap Jesus into saying which was the greatest Commandment in the law, he received the answer: “*Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang All the law and the prophets.*” [Matthew 22:37-40](#) Note that these two Commandments of love simply summed up “*all the law.*” All Ten Commandments hang on these two principles of love just as they did in the Old Testament. Christ was saying that love is the fulfilling of the law as Paul said in Romans 13:10. If one loves God with all his heart, mind and soul, *he will obey the first four Commandments* that relate to our duty to God. He will not take God’s name in vain, worship other gods, etc. If one loves his neighbour as himself, *he will obey the last six Commandments*, which relate to our duty to our fellow man. He will not rob his neighbour or murder him etc. Love leads to obeying or fulfilling all the law and hence if you love God and man you are keeping all Ten Commandments.

If this was some “new” Law then Jesus and his apostles would no longer have kept the Sabbath but scripture shows again and again that they did. [Matthew 5:18](#) says, “*For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.*” [Matthew 19:18-19](#) says, “*...what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? ...Jesus said, You shall do no murder, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and your mother: and, You shall love your neighbor as yourself.*” And after the cross, [Romans 13:9](#), “*...You shall not commit adultery, You shall not kill, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, You shall not covet; and if there be any other Commandment, it is summed up in this saying, namely, You shall love your neighbor as yourself.*”

What did Jesus mean exactly when He said a “new” commandment I give unto you? When Jesus died, He demonstrated the ultimate act of love. Did the disciples before the cross exercise the same Christ like love? We find in [Luke 22:24](#), “*And there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest.*” Jesus said in [John 13:34-35](#), “*A new commandment I give unto you, That you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. 35 By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love one to another.*” In the Greek there are two words for “NEW”, one means totally brand new and the other meaning new to us. The word Jesus used here was NOT brand new but new to us, meaning it was a type of love that would be new to them that they were not currently practising. In order for the disciples to continue the work of Christ, they had to be able to demonstrate the same Christ like example of love, so as verse 35 says, “*By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love one to another*” in the same way that Jesus loved them and laid down His life. This is the new level of love that we all need to learn and walk in and what Paul expressed in [Ephesians 5:1-2](#) “*Be you therefore followers of God, as dear children; 2 And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us, and has given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour.*” Jesus’ ultimate example of love was laying down His life for others and He knew His apostles would be confronted with the same challenge.

John said that there was nothing new about loving your neighbour as yourself and that this was a law from the beginning. John explains this in [1 John 2:7-8](#), “*I write NO new commandment unto you, but an old commandment which you had from the beginning*” followed by the words, “*Again, a new commandment I write unto you*” This sounds like a contradiction to the previous verse but John is pointing out what Jesus taught in that Loving your neighbour as yourself is now magnified to the strength that we should love one another to the point of being prepared to lay down our lives for each other as Christ did for us. John furthers this in [2 John 1:5-6](#), “*I beseech you, lady, NOT as though I wrote a new commandment unto you, but that which we had from the beginning, that we love one another. And this is love, that we walk after his Commandments. This is the commandment, That, as you have heard from the beginning, you should walk in it.*” Jesus is the perfect model of the love of God in His perfect example of loving obedience. Christ loved us so much that He sacrificed His own life for us. He Himself explained this ever so beautifully in [John 15:13](#), “*Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends.*”

Is obedience legalism when done in love?

Someone may bring up the objection that after the law has accomplished its purpose of pointing the sinner to Christ for cleansing, it will no longer be needed in the experience of the believer. Is that true? Most definitely not. Paul finds need to clarify this a few times. The Christian will always need the watchdog of the law to reveal any deviation from the true path and to point him back to the cleansing cross of Jesus. There will never be a time when that mirror of correction will not be needed in the progressive growth experience of a Christian. Law and grace do not work in competition with each other but in perfect cooperation. The law points out sin turning us to Christ for forgiveness and grace saves from sin. The law is the will of God and grace is the power to do the will of God. We do not obey the law in order to be saved but because we are saved. A beautiful text which combines the two in their true relationship is [Revelation 14:12](#), “*Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the Commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.*” What a perfect description of faith and works! And the combination is found in those who are “saints.”

The works of obedience is the real test of love. This is why they are so necessary in the experience of a true believer. *"Faith without works is dead."* [James 2:20](#). No man ever won a fair maiden's heart by words alone. Jesus said, *"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."* [Matthew 7:21](#). Words and profession are not enough. The true evidence is obedience. Today's bumper stickers reflect a shallow concept of love. They say, *"Smile if you love Jesus"* or *"Honk if you love Jesus"*; but what did the Master Himself say? He said, *"If ye love me, keep my Commandments."* [John 14:15](#). And that is exactly what most people don't want to do. If love makes no demands beyond a smile or wave, then it is welcome; but if the lifestyle must be disturbed, the majority will reject it. Unfortunately, most people today are not looking for truth. They are looking for a smooth, easy, comfortable religion which will allow them to live the way they please and still give assurance of salvation. There is indeed no true religion which can do that for them.

One of the strongest texts in the Bible on this subject is found in [1 John 2:4](#) *"He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his Commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him."* John could write that with such assurance because it is one of the most deeply established truths in the Bible. Jesus spoke of those who said, *"Lord, Lord,"* but did not do the will of the Father. Then He described many who would seek entrance to the kingdom claiming to be workers of miracles in the name of Christ. But He would sorrowfully have to say, *"I never knew you: depart from me."* [Matthew 7:21-23](#). This is very sobering as Jesus is saying *"Not everyone who calls me 'Lord, Lord' will enter the Kingdom of heaven."* God's grace does not cover deliberate disobedience that is therefore without genuine repentance. You see, to know Christ is to love Him, and to love Him is to obey Him. The valid assumption of the Bible writers is very clear and simple: If one is not obeying Christ, he does not love Christ. And if he doesn't love the Master, then he doesn't know Him. Thus, we can see how knowing and loving and obeying are all tied closely together and are absolutely inseparable in the life of God's faithful people. The beloved John summed it up in these words: *"For this is the love of God, that we keep his Commandments: and his Commandments are not grievous."* [1 John 5:3](#).

Was the Sabbath a memorial of Creation or Egypt?

This strange idea comes from the second reading of the law and is distorted to contradict many clear statements about the true origin of the Sabbath. [Deuteronomy 5:14-15](#) reads, *"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, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, ... nor thy stranger that is within thy gates; that thy manservant and thy maidservant may rest as well as thou. And remember that thou wast a servant in the land of Egypt, and that the Lord thy God brought thee out thence through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm: therefore the Lord thy God commanded thee to keep the sabbath day."*

Some draw from this text that God gave the Sabbath as a memorial of the Exodus from Egypt. But the Genesis story of the making of the Sabbath (Genesis 2:1-3) and the wording of the fourth Commandment by God Himself (Exodus 20:11) reveals the Sabbath as a memorial of creation. The key to understanding these two verses rests in the word *servant*. God said, *"Remember that thou wast a servant in the land of Egypt."* And in the sentence before this one He reminds them *"that thy manservant and thy maidservant may rest as well as thou."* In other words, their experience in Egypt as servants would remind them to deal justly with their servants by giving them a Sabbath rest also.

In similar vein God had commanded, *"And if a stranger sojourn with thee in your land, ye shall not vex him ... for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt"* [Leviticus 19:33-34](#). It was not unusual for God to hark back to the Egyptian deliverance as an incentive to obey other commandments. In [Deuteronomy 24:17-18](#), God said, *"Thou shalt not pervert the judgment of the stranger, nor of the fatherless; nor take a widow's raiment to pledge. ... Thou wast a bondman in Egypt, and the Lord thy God redeemed thee thence: therefore I command thee to do this thing."*

Neither the command to be just nor to keep the Sabbath was given to memorialise the Exodus, but God told them that His goodness in bringing them out of captivity constituted a strong additional reason for their dealing kindly with their servants on the Sabbath and treating justly the strangers and widows. In the same way, God spoke to them in [Leviticus 11:45](#), *"For I am the Lord that bringeth you up out of the land of Egypt...ye shall therefore be holy."* Surely no one would insist that holiness did not exist before the Exodus, or that it would be afterwards limited only to the Jews, to memorialise their deliverance. There is however one thing the Sabbath is a memorial of which is creation.

A year comes from the time it takes for the Earth to fully orbit the sun and a month is the time it takes for the Moon to orbit the Earth and a day of course, is the time it takes for the Earth to do one full rotation. But what astronomical reason do we have for our week? There is none. Our week comes from the time it took God to complete creation. So, if God finished creation in six days, why does the whole world have a seven-day week? The now obvious reason is because God rested on the seventh day and made it a memorial day for completion of creation. Remember also that the word translated "rest" in our English Bibles in Genesis 2:3 is actually "Sabbath" in the Hebrew. This extra day of the week existed **before sin** and is for **all people** to rest on and remember that God created us and all things and has the power to do it again. It is not just the Jews that have a seven-day week. The whole world does!

Is Jesus our Sabbath rest ending the Sabbath?

Jesus cannot give us physical rest. We get this rest by keeping the Sabbath as God Commanded, not how we decide is acceptable. The proponents typically use the passage below but usually stop before verse nine. If they don't, then they certainly never give you the honest meaning, if any, of the word translated "rest" in the KJV Bible.

[Hebrews 4:1-5](#) *"Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. 2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it. 3 For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world. 4 For he spoke in a certain place of the seventh day on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works. 5 And in this place again, If they shall enter into my rest."* Below is the remainder of this passage.

Hebrews 4:6-9 “Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein, and they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief: **7** Again, he limiteth a certain day, saying in David, To day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if you will hear his voice, harden not your hearts. **8** For if Jesus had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day. **9** There remaineth therefore a [Sabbath] rest to the people of God.”

The word “rest” in Hebrews 4:9 is the Greek word “sabbatismos.” The King James and New King James Version and a few other Bibles render the word as “rest” while the Amplified Bible the ASV, NASB, NIV, RSV and NRSV and several other translations somewhat more correctly render that word as “Sabbath rest.” A few Bibles such as the Darby translation transliterate the word as “Sabbatism.” Its literal translation however, is “Sabbath observance” and “The Scriptures” translated by The Institute for Scripture Research render it as such while the Thayer dictionary and the Bible in Basic English give the equally literal phrase “Sabbath keeping.” See [the eternal Sabbath](#) for more detail.

Speaking of the destruction of the temple in 70 A.D. which was nearly forty years after the cross, Jesus says pray that you do not have to flee persecution on the Sabbath day. (Matthew 24:20) Why would you need to worry about *physically* fleeing on the Sabbath if it was just resting in Jesus? See [Sabbath in the New Testament](#) or [Sabbath and the Ten Commandments in the New Testament](#) for more. The following facts prove the Sabbath remains a physically rest. The Greek word for *rest* in Hebrews 4:9 unquestionably refers to a *physical* rest. Isaiah 66:22-23 says we still *physically* keep the Sabbath in the New Heaven and Earth. Jesus words show that everyone would still be *physically* keeping the Sabbath at 70 A.D. (Matthew 24:20) The Sabbath cannot be a spiritual rest if one had to worry about *physically* fleeing on this day. God and His law changes not. Hebrews 13:8, Psalms 111:7-8, Luke 16:17.

We are not under Law but under Grace

We often hear this argument in an effort to belittle God’s law, “*Well, since we are not under the law but under grace, we do not need to keep the Ten Commandments any longer.*” Is this a valid point? The Bible certainly does say that we are not under the law, but does that imply that we are free from the obligation to obey it? The text is found in [Romans 6:14-15](#), “*For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.*” How easily we could prevent confusion if we accepted exactly what the Bible says. Paul gives a clear explanation of his statement. After stating that we are not under law but grace, he asks, “*What then?*” This simply means, “*How are we to understand this?*” Then notice his answer. In anticipation that some will construe his words to mean that you can break the law because you are under grace, he says, “*Shall we sin (break the law) because we are not under the law but under grace? God forbid.*” In the strongest possible language Paul states that being under grace does not give a license to break the law. Yet this is exactly what millions believe today, and they totally ignore Paul’s specific warning. Most do not seem to understand that God’s grace is His unmerited, undeserved favour that is preceded by the act of genuine repentance when we do sin. If there were no law, there would actually be no need for God’s grace.

Suppose a murderer has been sentenced to death in the electric chair. Waiting for the execution the man would truly be under the law in every sense of the word, under the guilt, under the condemnation, under the sentence of death, etc. Just before the execution date the governor reviews the condemned man’s case and decides to pardon him. In the light of extenuating circumstances the governor exercises his prerogative and sends a full pardon to the prisoner. Now he is no longer under the law but under grace. The law no longer condemns him. He is considered totally justified as far as the charges of the law are concerned. He is free to walk out of the prison and not a policeman can lay hands upon him. But now that he is under grace and no longer under the law, can we say that he is free to break the law? Indeed not! In fact, that pardoned man will be doubly obligated to obey the law because he has found grace from the governor. In gratitude and love he will be very careful to keep the law of the state which granted him grace.

Is that what the Bible says about pardoned sinners? “*Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law.*” [Romans 3:31](#). Here is the most explicit answer to the entire problem. Paul asks if the law is nullified for us just because we have had faith in Christ’s saving grace. His answer is that the law is established and reinforced in the life of a grace saved Christian. The truth of this is so simple and obvious that it should require no repetition, but the devious reasoning of those who try to avoid obedience makes it necessary to press this point a bit further. Have you ever been stopped by a policeman for exceeding the speed limit? It is an embarrassing experience, especially if you know you are guilty. But suppose you really were hurrying to meet a valid emergency, and you pour out your convincing explanation to the policeman as he writes your ticket. Slowly he folds the ticket and tears it up. Then he says, “*All right, I’m going to pardon you this time, but...*” Now what do you think he means by that word “*but*”? Surely he means, “*but I don’t want to ever catch you speeding again.*” Does this pardon (grace) open the way for you to disobey the law? On the contrary, it adds compelling urgency to your decision not to disobey the law again. Why then should any true Christian try to rationalize his way out of obeying the law of God? Consider carefully also what [1 John 3:4](#) says, “*Whoever sins is guilty of breaking God’s law, because sin is a breaking of the law.*” Are we sinners? If we are not sinners, then why was Jesus nailed to the cross?

How could the majority be wrong about the Sabbath?

The simple answer is because Satan nearly wiped out the fourth Commandment during the dark ages through the death of millions, and by the time Protestant reformation began, all the Protestant Churches continued keeping Sunday in ignorance. It is always harder to restore a lost truth and even more so when people do not want to know because it would disrupt their Church or lifestyle. See a true story on [how the Sabbath was nearly lost](#). In Christianity the majority is hardly ever right. Revelation says that God is going to destroy a Church for its abominations and yet the majority of Christians belong to this Church. The majority are wrong because Satan works hard to keep this truth from Christians and this is his BEST accomplishment on the Christian Church and the majority have no idea. Why? Because Satan has the majority busy making excuses or perpetuating the last persons excuse instead of checking this out. Sadly, the majority are not searchers of truth and don’t study the Word or see only what they want to see.

2 Timothy 4:3 says, "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; 4 and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables."

After the Sabbath and other truths were revealed to me in my search, I attempted to share these truths with large numbers of people and was astounded to find more than 98% would not even consider the possibility because they said how could so many be wrong or they just simply did not want to know. This is sad when you consider God created us, sent His Son to die for us and we can't be obedient to Him in love as it would mean some sacrifice on our part. It is no longer a mystery to me why the majority are wrong. It is because our adversary still has Christians perpetuating those same excuses they were previously told because it means changes they don't want to consider or they are ignorant of the fact that Satan accomplished the change by the death of millions of Christians over several centuries. Thus the majority continue to stay wrong and only [500 plus denominations](#) remain obedient to God in love. Until the majority stop making excuses and start saying let's investigate this, the majority will remain wrong. Many also do not know that the attack on this Commandment and Sun-day worship actually began with the worship of Satan as early as 2000 B.C. See [the Sabbath to Sunday change](#) and how 666 relates to this change.

Is it possible to obey the law or keep the Sabbath?

Countless Christians have been taught that since the law is spiritual and we are carnal (Romans 7:14), no human will ever be able to meet the requirements of the law in this life. Others have said that since we cannot keep the law perfectly then there is no point in trying. Is this true? Quoting from the second Commandment, Jesus said "If you love me, keep my Commandments" [John 14:15](#). What did Jesus mean by this if it is not possible to keep His Commandments? Have the Ten Commandments been given by God as some idealistic impossible goal toward which converted souls should struggle but never be able to attain? Is it possible to love God and man perfectly? To do so would mean being perfect as Christ was perfect and that we would not be sinners. [Romans 3:23](#) says, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" and [1 John 1:8](#) "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." [Romans 6:23](#) has the penalty and the solution, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." So can we obey the law perfectly? Not on our own we can't but through Jesus Christ we can. [Romans 8:3-4](#) states, "For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."

Paul gave light to these verses in Romans 7. "What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. No, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, You shall not covet." (v.7) "...For without the law sin was dead." (v.8) "Wherefore the law is holy, and the Commandment holy, and just, and good." (v.12) "For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do." (v.18-19) "O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin." (v.24-25)

Now here is why we need God's grace. As Paul stated in Romans chapter 7, even though he loves the law and acknowledges that it is Just, Holy and Good, in the flesh he still fails. This is not to become distraught over as Paul explains that for those who walk after the spirit and not the flesh, there remains no condemnation. [Romans 8:1](#) "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." So why is this? When we fail in the flesh and sin, through faith we repent and believe we are forgiven, that is, we believe through faith that Jesus died for us and paid the full penalty for our sins. Hence when we genuinely repent, we receive God's grace, which is His unmerited, underserved favour. In fact, if there was no law, there would be no need for God's grace. Thus by faith and genuine repentance, we are found righteous in God's eyes through the sacrifice of Jesus. The only way we can fulfil the righteousness of the law is through Jesus Christ.

It is very much about loving God supremely. When we do so, it becomes easier and a more natural occurrence to keep His Commandments as it comes from our heart and something we desire very much to do and should want to do because we do love Him. No one should desire to continue in the sin that nailed their Saviour to the cross.

Jesus said in [John 15:10](#), "If you keep my Commandments, you shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's Commandments, and abide in his love." Jesus obeyed the Father's Commandments and He asks us to demonstrate our love for Him by doing the same. We also find in [1 John 2:1-4](#) "My little children, these things write I unto you, that you sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: 2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. 3 And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his Commandments. 4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his Commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him."

Paul desires with all his heart and mind to obey the law but in the flesh he continually fails. But by the grace of God through faith in Christ, and sincere repentance, he is seen by God as righteous. However, knowing God's law and having no intention or desire to obey it is wilful sin and hence cannot have genuine repentance. We need to take the following passage very seriously as it says that there remains NO more sacrifice for deliberate sin.

[Hebrews 10:12-29](#), "But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;... 14 For by one offering he has perfected for ever them that are sanctified... 26 For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, ... 28 He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: 29 Of how much sorer punishment, suppose you, shall he be thought worthy, who has trodden under foot the Son of God, and has counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and has done despite unto the Spirit of grace?"

Is the Sabbath in the New Covenant?

Jesus said that He did not come to destroy the law OR the prophets, yet some say that you are putting us back under the Old Covenant and that the **Sabbath changed to Sunday** with the New Covenant. Not so. The only change to the New Covenant is the sacrificial Law of Moses ended (Hebrews 9:1) and where God writes His law. God's law changes not, for He is the same yesterday, today and forever. (Hebrews 13:8) God says the fault was with the people in they did not obey it, so He now writes His law in our hearts. (Hebrews 8:8-10)

I had just finished preaching on the subject of the Sabbath in one of my evangelistic crusades. As I stepped off the platform to greet people as they left, three young men blocked my way in the aisle. One of them addressed me in quite a loud voice... loud enough to cause about fifty people near the front of the auditorium to stop and listen. "Dear brother" he said, "we were disappointed tonight with the way you put us back under the Old Covenant. Don't you realize that we are living under the New Covenant now, and should keep Sunday instead of the Sabbath?" Although most of the congregation were leaving the Church, the group near the front gathered closer to hear all that the young men were saying. It was obvious that I would have to take the time to answer this trio's challenging question. As I suspected, they turned out to be young seminarians in training at a local Bible college. Eagerly they held their Bibles in their hands and waited triumphantly for me to answer. Usually, I do not like to debate controversial matters in a public forum for fear of stirring combative natures, but there seemed no way to avoid dealing with these ministerial students. Anyway, they had my path completely blocked and the circle of listeners looked at me expectantly for some explanation. "Well, it seems as though you have studied the subject of the covenants quite deeply," I suggested. "Oh, yes," they affirmed, "we know all about the covenants." "Good," I replied. "You undoubtedly know when the Old Covenant was instituted." One of them spoke up quickly, "It was instituted at Mt. Sinai." "And how was it ratified?" I asked. Without a moment's hesitation one of them answered, "By the sprinkling of the blood of an ox." "Very good," I commented, "and how was the New Covenant ratified?" All three chorused the answer, "By the blood of Jesus on the cross." I commended the young men for their knowledge of the Scriptures and asked them to read me two verses out of their own Bibles. Hebrews 9:16-17 and Galatians 3:15. They responded eagerly to the invitation, and read the verses, commenting on each one after reading. "We agree that the New Covenant did not go into effect until after Christ died, and nothing can be added or taken away after He ratified it on the cross," the spokesman for the group asserted. All three nodded their heads emphatically over this point. I said, "Now you must answer two more questions for me. Here is the first one, and you must think carefully to give me the correct answer: When did Sunday-keeping begin?" There was a moment of shocked silence, and then another, and another. The boys looked at each other, and then down at their feet, and then back at me. I gently prodded them for the answer, "Surely you can tell me the answer to this question. You have known all the others, and have answered correctly. When and why do you think people began keeping Sunday?" Finally, one of them said, "We keep Sunday in honour of the resurrection of Jesus." I said, "Then I must ask you my last question. How could Sunday keeping be a part of the New Covenant? You just stated that nothing could be added after the death of Christ. He died on Friday and was resurrected on Sunday. If Sunday was added after Jesus died, it could never be a part of the New Covenant could it?" The three young men shuffled their feet, looked helplessly around, and one of them said, "We will study into that and talk to you later." They then fled from that auditorium as fast as they could go. I can assure you that they never returned to talk further about the covenants."

Was the Sabbath abolished?

Many Christians believe that Colossians 2:16, Galatians 4:10 and Romans 14:5 are referring to the Seventh day Sabbath and even some believe that Colossians 2:16 refers to the Ten Commandments rather than the referenced ceremonial law. Before continuing with these three very misunderstood verses, let's give a quick explanation on how **the Ten Commandments and the Ceremonial law** relate to each other. If a man sinned, he broke LAW No. 1 - the moral law of the Ten Commandments. So then he brought his offering, according to LAW No. 2 - the law of sacrifices, and he received forgiveness. LAW No. 1 defines sin, for sin is the transgression of the moral law. (1 John 3:4) LAW No. 2 defined sacrifices, the **Ceremonial law** which was the remedy for sin. When the Israelite sinned, he broke the first law. To secure forgiveness he had to obey the second law. So here are two very distinct laws. This is the biggest area of confusion when it comes to concluding the Sabbath or Ten Commandments were abolished. Law No. 2 was ONLY for the Children of Israel and Jews until the cross while Law No. 1 is eternal and for EVERYONE.

Colossians 2:16 reads, "Let no man therefore judge you in meat (offering), or in drink (offering), or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the Sabbath days:" and so the argument is the fourth Commandment was deleted from stone. What was done away with here was called the ordinances (Ceremonial Law). This is seen by noting what Paul said two verses earlier. **Colossians 2:14** states, "blotting out the **handwriting** (Moses) of **ordinances** that was against us, which was contrary to us, and has taken it out of the way, nailing it to the cross." Paul then goes on to say, so "Let no man therefore judge you...of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the Sabbath days:" **Luke 1:6 KJV** shows that the ordinances and the Commandments are two totally different things. It states, "And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the **Commandments** and **ordinances** of the Lord blameless." And **Hebrews 9:1** explains that the ordinances of this ceremonial sanctuary system are now gone leaving only the Ten Commandments, "Then verily the first covenant had **also** ordinances of divine service, and a worldly sanctuary."

It was the ordinances that were nailed to the cross, "not one jot or one tittle" of the law. The main differences between the Commandments and the ordinances are that the Commandments were written by *God's finger*, written in stone, placed *inside* the Ark of the Covenant, are love, eternal, for everyone and it is sin to break them. The ordinances were in *Moses' handwriting*, written in a book, placed on the *outside* of the Ark of the Covenant, are not love, not eternal and were only for the Jews and practised because of sin. The One great and perfect Sacrifice was offered that Friday afternoon, when the true Passover Lamb bowed His head and died. When He cried out, "It is finished", the old ceremonial law that pointed the people to His sacrificial death was nailed to the cross.

Note how every part of these verses in Colossians 2:14-17 refers to the ceremonial law. Unfortunately, most modern Bible translations have translated the phrase *meat or in drink* in verse sixteen incorrectly. The King James Bible is one of the few translations that has translated these words correctly and is therefore recommended in these studies. So much gets lost at times when translators don't have a good understanding of Jewish culture and terminology. To be referring to clean or unclean foods here would be totally out of context for the passage but when it is kept in context, every single point here refers to the various feast days that belonged to the sacrificial sanctuary system. Further clarification is found in the book of Hebrews which is believed by most to be written by Paul. You will note that the context of this passage is undoubtedly the sanctuary service in regards to sacrifices and offerings, of which Christ became the One and final perfect sacrifice for us. The meat and drink described in this passage has to be meat and drink offerings by the unmistakable context of this passage in Hebrews 9:7-14 below. Paul speaks of meat and drink offerings and carnal ordinances which were imposed until the time of reformation, being Jesus Christ who obtained eternal redemption for us and brought an end to the sacrifices prescribed by the ordinances of the ceremonial law once and for all. This continues to illustrate the perfect context of Colossians 2:16 and as per Colossians 2:14, we see that everything referenced belongs to the ordinances of the ceremonial law which Paul said was against us and contrary to us and it was taken out the way and nailed to the cross by Jesus' perfect sacrifice.

Extra verses are given to show context. [Hebrews 9:7-14](#) *"But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people: The Holy Ghost this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing: Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience; Which stood only in **meats and drinks**, and divers washings, and **carnal ordinances**, imposed on them until the time of reformation. But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"*

Nowhere in this passage are clean and unclean foods referred to and there never were unclean drinks, only unclean foods and these had no relationship to the ordinances that were nailed to the cross. What is spoken of here in both Colossians and Hebrews are references to meat and drink offerings that were part of the sanctuary service that are in the ordinances of the ceremonial law. This is all that can possibly be referred to and when done so it fits absolutely perfectly into the context of both passages as it remains totally in context with the sanctuary service.

So let's look at Colossians 2:14-17 again to see if everything does actually refer to the ceremonial law by the fact that the context of the passage remains the same throughout. "*Blotting out the handwriting*", the ceremonial law was written in Moses handwriting. "*Ordinances*", Strong's dictionary also directly translates this word to ceremonial law, "*that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way*", the ceremonial law is now against us and contrary to us, as Christ has become that One and perfect sacrifice for us. "*Nailing it to his cross*", and of course now that Christ has become that perfect sacrifice for us, no longer are meat and drink offerings and animal sacrifices and all associated Holy days necessary, so the ceremonial law was *nailed to the cross*. Moving onto verse sixteen, "*Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink*", and as we have now seen were part of the ceremonial law. "*Or in respect of an holyday*", these Holy days included such days as Passover, Feast of Weeks and many others. "*Or of the new moon*", new moon celebrations were also part of the ordinances. "*Or of the sabbath days*", Passover, Feast of Unleavened Bread, Feast of Weeks, Day of Atonement, Feast of Tabernacles and many others were all sabbath days. When spoken of in plural and the context of the passage is the ceremonial law, then the sabbaths referred to can be nothing else but ceremonial. Verse seventeen goes on to say, "*Which are a shadow of things to come.*" These sabbaths were called a shadow because Passover was a shadow of the crucifixion and Feast of Weeks was a shadow of Pentecost. These Old Testament feasts and holy days were shadows of what was to come and once those things had come and gone then the shadows disappeared. Here is one verse from Leviticus that refers to such feasts and Holy days, which involves meat and drink, that is meat and drink offerings. [Leviticus 23:37](#), "*These are the feasts of the LORD, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, to offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD, a burnt offering, and a **meat offering**, a sacrifice and **drink offerings**, everything upon his day.*"

You can also find the perfect parallel between Colossians 2:16 and Ezekiel 45:17. You will note in Ezekiel 45:17 that this was a **sin offering, to make reconciliation for the house of Israel** for breaking God's Commandments as prescribed by the ceremonial law until such time that Jesus nailed this law to the cross. Parentheses are added. This is what Israel had to do to make atonement for sin, which is the breaking of God's Ten Commandments and of course includes the Seventh Day Sabbath. This clearly demonstrates the issue and leaves no doubt as to what Paul was explaining to the Colossians. Note first the Strong's dictionary definition for **holyday** used in Colossians 2:16. You will note that the words "feast" and "holyday" are synonymous and so the following verses are a perfect match.

G1859 *heorte*, Of uncertain affinity; a festival: - feast, holyday.

[Colossians 2:16](#) *"Let no man therefore judge you in **meat [offerings]**, or in **drink [offerings]**, or in respect of an **holyday**, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days."*

[Ezekiel 45:17](#) *"And it shall be the prince's part to give burnt offerings, and **meat offerings**, and **drink offerings**, in the feasts, [holydays] and in the new moons, and in the sabbaths, in all solemnities of the house of Israel: he shall prepare the **sin offering**, and the meat offering, and the burnt offering, and the peace offerings, to make reconciliation for the house of Israel."*

Since some prefer a table for comparison, this one has been provided for those who prefer this format.

Colossians 2:16	Ezekiel 45:17
<i>meat, or in drink,</i>	<i>meat offerings, and drink offerings,</i>
<i>KJV of an holyday, NKJV regarding a festival (feast)</i>	<i>in the feasts,</i>
<i>or of the new moon</i>	<i>and in the new moons,</i>
<i>or of the sabbath days:</i>	<i>and in the sabbaths,</i>

These various Holy days or festivals concerned **days** that took place at various **times** of the year as well as **yearly** Holy days such as the Day of Atonement and **monthly** like the New Moon celebrations already discussed. As these were a shadow of things to come and those things have past and the shadows are now gone, to still observe these days would be putting us back into unnecessary bondage. This is what Paul is talking about in [Galatians 4:9-10](#) which says, “*But now, after that you have known God, or rather are known of God, how turn you again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto **you desire again to be in bondage?** You observe **days, and months, and times, and years.***” Paul is definitely not saying you can ignore anything that is a day, month or year in the Bible. He is referring to something that includes all of these things, which is and can only be the ceremonial law.

The ordinances of the ceremonial law was a law of servitude and bondage. [Galatians 4:3](#) “*Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world.*” Paul continues telling the Galatians that they are no longer servants in [Galatians 4:7](#) “*Wherefore you are no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.*” God’s Commandments on the other hand are a law of liberty. [James 1:25](#) “*But whoso looketh into the **perfect law of liberty**, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.*” And for further clarity [James 2:11-12](#) reads, “*For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if you commit no adultery, yet if you kill, you are become a transgressor of the law. So speak you, and so do, as they that shall be **judged by the law of liberty.***” If we keep these points in mind and explore the context of the chapter when studying the Bible it will help us see what law is being spoken of.

While still on this very misunderstood topic of the ceremonial law, let’s cover another scripture that is frequently misinterpreted. Such misunderstandings are common with God’s ten Commandment law and this temporary law which pointed the way to Christ. I have chosen to use some Bible Commentaries for this scripture, as I believe they explain it very well. The scripture concerned, is mainly Romans 14:5, but I have given the surrounding verses so the context of the passage can be seen. [Romans 14:1-5](#), “*Him that is weak in the faith receive you, but not to doubtful disputations. 2 For one believeth that he may eat all things: another, who is weak, eateth herbs. 3 Let not him that eateth despise him that eateth not; and let not him which eateth not judge him that eateth: for God has received him. 4 Who are you that judgest another man’s servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth. Yes, he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand. 5 One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind.*” Note that the word “alike” in verse 5 does not exist in the Greek text and is an added word, which tends to convey an idea which the apostle never designed or intended.

To begin with, it must be admitted that the word “Sabbath” is very significantly not even found once in this entire chapter. People assume Paul is talking about the Sabbath. But is he really? The chapter begins, “*Him that is weak in the faith receive you, but not to doubtful disputations.*” [Romans 14:1](#). The NKJV reads, “*disputes over doubtful things.*” This chapter concerns “doubtful things” and is not a discussion of the Ten Commandments. God’s “Big Ten” are not “doubtful,” but exceedingly dear and written personally with the finger of God on two tables of stone.

It becomes clear from Romans 14 and 15, that many misunderstandings existed between Jewish and Gentile Christians in relation to certain customs, which were sacredly observed by one but disregarded by the other. The main subject of dispute was concerning meats and days and the day issue is not over the Seventh day Sabbath but over the various feast days of the ceremonial law. The converted Jew retaining respect for the Law of Moses abstained from certain meats and observed ceremonial days while the converted Gentile understood that Christianity put him under no such obligation or regard to ceremonial points. It also appears that mutual and heartless judgments existed among them and that brotherly love and reciprocal tolerance did not always prevail. Paul exhorts that in such things no longer essential to Christianity, that even though both parties had a different way of thinking they might still have an honest and serious regard for God. Paul further explains they should not therefore, let different sentiments hinder Christian fellowship and love, but they should mutually refrain and withhold and make allowance for each other and especially not carry their Gospel liberty so far as to prejudice a weak brother or a Jewish Christian.

The “weak” brother “eats” some things and “esteems one day above another” while the strong brother believes that he may “eat all things” and “esteems every day alike.” Romans 14:2, 5. The early Church was made up of Jewish believers and Gentile converts. Although Paul did not specify what “days” he was referring to, he could only be talking about the “esteeming” or “not esteeming” of certain Jewish fast or feast days and certain pagan feast days when people were especially “eating of those things that are offered in sacrifice unto idols.” [1 Corinthians 8:4](#).

A “strong” Jew who knew that “an idol is nothing” would have no scruples about eating “meat in an idols temple” on a pagan feast day. [1 Corinthians 8-4, 10](#). Paul warned these “strong” Jewish believers, “*But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to them that are weak. [the Gentile convert from idolatry]. For if any man see thee which hast knowledge sit at meat in the idol’s temple [on a pagan feast day], shall not the conscience of him that is weak be emboldened to eat those things which are offered to idols; and through your knowledge shall the weak brother perish [if he is drawn back to idolatry], for whom Christ died? But when you sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. Wherefore, if meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth.*” [1 Corinthians 8:9-13](#).

There is NO evidence that the discussion about “the weak and the strong” in Romans 14 and 1 Corinthians 8 has anything to do with the Sabbath. God has never said “one man may choose to esteem MY Sabbath, while another man may choose to esteem Sunday, or every day alike.” He has NOT left it up to us to “pick a day.” Rather, God has commanded, “Remember the sabbath day to keep it holy ... the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God.” [Exodus 20:8-10](#). The book of Romans is very clear, “by the law is the knowledge of sin.” [Romans 3:20; 7:7, 12](#)

When the context of the passage is about foods or various days and especially things associated with the sanctuary service, then we must realize that it is not possible that the Ten Commandments are being referred to. When God’s Moral law is being referenced, you will always know as the context of the passage will be centred around love, as that is what God’s law is. The Bible tells us in [1 John 4:8](#), “He that loves not, knows not God; for **God Is Love**.” As God is eternal, then Love also must be eternal. [1 John 4:16](#) says, “And we have known and believed the love that God has to us. God is love; and he that dwells in love dwells in God, and God in him.” Love and obedience are inseparable from God and the true Christian, as God is Love and Love is God. This is why the Ten Commandments are eternal and unchanging, as God changes not, and Love changes not. The Sabbath is a love Commandment!

The remainder of this topic will now be left to some of the world’s best theologians so no doubt can be left as to what the meaning of this passage is all about.

John Wesley’s Explanatory Notes on the Whole Bible, Romans 14:5 - One day above another - As new moons, and other Jewish festivals. Let every man be fully persuaded - That a thing is lawful, before he does it.

Adam Clarke’s Commentary on the Bible, Romans 14:5 - One man esteemeth one day above another - Perhaps the word day, is here taken for time, festival, and such like, in which sense it is frequently used. Reference is made here to the Jewish institutions, and especially their festivals; such as the Passover, Pentecost, feast of tabernacles, new moons, jubilee, etc. The converted Jew still thought these of moral obligation; the Gentile Christian not having been bred up in this way had no such prejudices. And as those who were the instruments of bringing him to the knowledge of God gave him no such injunctions, consequently he paid to these no religious regard.

Another - The converted Gentile esteemeth every day - considers that all time is the Lord’s, and that each day should be devoted to the glory of God; and that those festivals are not binding on him. We add here alike, and make the text say what I am sure was never intended, viz. that there is no distinction of days, not even of the Sabbath: and that every Christian is at liberty to consider even this day to be holy or not holy, as he happens to be persuaded in his own mind. That the Sabbath is of lasting obligation may be reasonably concluded from its institution (see the note on [Genesis 2:3](#)) and from its typical reference. All allow that the Sabbath is a type of that rest in glory which remains for the people of God. Now, all types are intended to continue in full force till the antitype, or thing signified, take place; consequently, the Sabbath will continue in force till the consummation of all things. The word alike should not be added; nor is it acknowledged by any MS. or ancient version.

Let every man be fully persuaded - With respect to the propriety or non-propriety of keeping the above festivals, let every man act from the plenary conviction of his own mind; there is a sufficient latitude allowed.

Albert Barnes’ Notes on the Bible, Romans 14:5 - One man esteemeth - Greek “judgeth” krinei. The word is here properly translated “esteemeth;” compare [Acts 13:46](#); [Acts 16:15](#). The word originally has the idea of “separating,” and then “discerning,” in the act of judging. The expression means that one would set a higher value on one day than on another, or would regard it as more sacred than others. This was the case with the “Jews” uniformly, who regarded the days of their festivals, and fasts, and Sabbaths (*i.e. ceremonial Sabbaths*) as especially sacred, and who would retain, to no inconsiderable degree, their former views, even after they became converted to Christianity.

Another “esteemeth - That is, the “Gentile” Christian. Not having been brought up amidst the Jewish customs, and not having imbibed their opinions and prejudices, they would not regard these days as having any special sacredness. The appointment of those days had a special reference “to the Jews.” They were designed to keep them as a separate people, and to prepare the nation for the “reality,” of which their rites were but the shadow. When the Messiah came, the Passover, the feast of tabernacles, and the other special festivals of the Jews, of course vanished, and it is perfectly clear that the apostles never intended to inculcate their observance on the Gentile converts. See this subject discussed in the second chapter of the Epistle to the Galatians.

Every day alike - The word “alike” is not in the original, and it may convey an idea which the apostle did not design. The passage means that he regards “every day” as consecrated to the Lord; [Romans 14:6](#). The question has been agitated whether the apostle intends in this to include the Christian Sabbath. Does he mean to say that it is a matter of “indifference” whether this day be observed, or whether it be devoted to ordinary business or amusements? This is a very important question in regard to the Lord’s day. That the apostle did not mean to say that it was a matter of indifference whether it should be kept as holy, or devoted to business or amusement, is plain from the following considerations.

(1) the discussion had reference only to the special customs of the “Jews,” to the rites and practices which “they” would attempt to impose on the Gentiles, and not to any questions which might arise among Christians as “Christians.” The inquiry pertained to “meats,” and festival observances among the Jews, and to their scruples about partaking of the food offered to idols, etc.; and there is no more propriety in supposing that the subject of the Lord’s day is introduced here than that he advances principles respecting “baptism” and “the Lord’s supper.”

(2) the “Lord’s day” was doubtless observed by “all” Christians, whether converted from Jews or Gentiles; see [1Corinthians 16:2](#); [Acts 20:7](#); [Revelation 1:10](#); compare the notes at [John 20:26](#). The propriety of observing “that day” does not appear to have been a matter of controversy. The only inquiry was, whether it was proper to add to that the observance of the Jewish Sabbaths, and days of festivals and fasts.

(3) it is expressly said that those who did not regard the day regarded it as not to God, or to honor God; [Romans 14:6](#). They did it as a matter of respect to him and his institutions, to promote his glory, and to advance his kingdom.

Was this ever done by those who disregard the Christian Sabbath? Is their design ever to promote his honor, and to advance in the knowledge of him, by “neglecting” his holy day? Who knows not that the Christian Sabbath has never been neglected or profaned by any design to glorify the Lord Jesus, or to promote his kingdom? It is for purposes of business, gain, war, amusement, dissipation, visiting, crime. Let the heart be filled with a sincere desire to “honor the Lord Jesus,” and the Christian Sabbath will be revered, and devoted to the purposes of piety. And if any man is disposed to plead “this passage” as an excuse for violating the Sabbath, and devoting it to pleasure or gain, let him quote it “just as it is,” that is, let “him neglect the Sabbath from a conscientious desire to honor Jesus Christ.” Unless this is his motive, the passage cannot avail him. But this motive never yet influenced a Sabbath-breaker.

Let every man... - That is, subjects of this kind are not to be pressed as matters of conscience. Every man is to examine them for himself, and act accordingly. This direction pertains to the subject under discussion, and not to any other. It does not refer to subjects that were “morally” wrong, but to ceremonial observances. If the “Jew” esteemed it wrong to eat meat, he was to abstain from it; if the Gentile esteemed it right, he was to act accordingly. The word “be fully persuaded” denotes the highest conviction, not a matter of opinion or prejudice, but a matter on which the mind is made up by examination; see [Romans 4:21](#); [2Timothy 4:5](#). This is the general principle on which Christians are called to act in relation to festival days and fasts in the church. If some Christians deem them to be for edification, and suppose that their piety will be promoted by observing the days which commemorate the birth, and death, and temptations of the Lord Jesus, they are not to be reproached or opposed in their celebration. Nor are they to attempt to impose them on others as a matter of conscience, or to reproach others because they do not observe them.

Notice how the Treasury of Scriptural Knowledge, which primarily references other verses that are referring to the same topic, has referenced the passages that Paul discussed with the Romans, Galatians and Colossians regarding the ceremonial law also. This as we have now seen is because these verses are all referring to the ceremonial law.

Treasury of Scriptural Knowledge. Romans 14:5 - esteemeth: [Gal 4:9](#), [Gal 4:10](#); [Col 2:16](#), [Col 2:17](#)

People’s New Testament By B. W. Johnson. One man esteemeth one day above another. A second difference of opinion is now cited. Some, Jewish converts or Gentiles who did not understand that the old covenant was ended, believed that the Jewish Sabbaths and new moons should be kept sacred. Compare [Col 2:16](#), and [Gal 4:10](#).

This ends the Commentaries on Romans 14:5. You will note that the People’s New Testament commentary above also references Colossians 2:16 and Galatians 4:10. There can be no doubt that the context and the meaning of all these passages is the ceremonial law with all its various holyday festivals, new moons and ceremonial Sabbaths. The following table should clear up any remaining misunderstanding between the ceremonial sabbaths and the Sabbath of our Lord. Please look at this table carefully and give the statements that follow some serious thought.

Sabbath of the Lord	Ceremonial Sabbaths
Spoken by God personally -- (Exodus 20:1, 8-11)	Spoken by Moses -- (Exodus 24:3)
Written in stone by God Himself -- (Exodus 31:18)	Written by Moses hand on paper -- (Exodus 24:4)
Placed inside the Ark of the covenant -- (Deuteronomy 10:5)	Stored on the outside of the Ark -- (Deuteronomy 31:26)
Breaking the Sabbath is sin -- (1 John 3:4)	These were kept because of sin -- (See Leviticus)
It is a law of love -- (Matthew 22:35-40 , Isaiah 58:13-14)	They were not love -- (Colossians 2:14 , Galatians 4:9-10)
It is a law of liberty (freedom) -- (James 1:25 , 2:10-12)	They were bondage -- (Galatians 4:9-10 , Colossians 2:14)
Was established before sin -- (Genesis 2:1-3)	Were established after sin -- (Exodus 20:24)
Was made at creation -- (Genesis 2:1-3)	Were made after Sinai -- (Exodus 20:24)
The Sabbath is for everyone -- (Mark 2:27)	Only for the children of Israel & Jews -- (Read Old Testament)
God calls it MY Sabbath -- (Exodus 31:13 , Ezekiel 20:20)	God calls them HER sabbaths -- (Hosea 2:11 , Lam 1:7)
The Sabbath is eternal -- (Exodus 31:16-17 , Isaiah 66:22-23)	Were nailed to the cross -- (Colossians 2:14 , Ephesians 2:15)

The Facts:

- God is all knowing. (Omniscience)
- He is a God of infinite wisdom.
- God is love. (1 John 4:8, 16)
- God’s Ten Commandments are a law of love. (Moral law)
- The ceremonial sabbaths were observed as a result of sin. (Are not love)
- The Sabbath of the Lord is for personal quality time with our Creator. (A love Commandment)

The Questions:

- Why would our omniscient God put His Sabbath in His eternal law of love if it is not eternal?
- Why would our God of infinite wisdom put His Sabbath in His law of love if it is not a law of love?
- Why didn’t God put His Sabbath with all the ceremonial Sabbaths if it was to end at the cross?
- Why didn’t God put His Sabbath with the Jewish ceremonial Sabbaths if His Sabbath was only for the Jews?

The Sabbath truth:

God did not include His Sabbath with the ceremonial sabbaths that ended at the cross because His Sabbath is not a ceremonial sabbath. God did not include His Sabbath with the ceremonial Sabbaths that were only for the Jews because His Sabbath is for EVERYONE. Why would our God of infinite wisdom place a Temporary law in an Eternal law or a law that is *not* love in a law that *is* love? Our God “*is not the author of confusion...*” [1 Corinthians 14:33](#) or some fool. God put His Sabbath in His Moral Law because it is a Law of Love and a very special one that is a *sign* that it is God we Love and Worship and that we are His children. It is also a *sign* that it is God that sanctifies us. What person who truly loves God would not want to be under this *sign*? It is NOT a sign when we keep another day. To do so is to profane the Holy and to try and make Holy the profane. Only God can make a day Holy.

Did Jesus break the Sabbath?

Some say Jesus broke the Sabbath so it was not one of the Ten Commandments but a ceremonial law (Mosaic Law) but the Sabbath was never practised because of sin and this was also before the cross where that law ended and so is irrelevant anyway. 1 John 3:4 says that sin is transgression of the law and if Jesus broke the Sabbath then he would have broken His own law and sinned and hence those making this statement obviously have no idea of the implications of their accusation. Be thankful that Jesus only broke the Pharisees rules as breaking the Sabbath is sin and was also made before sin existed. Jesus was there when the Ten Commandments were given, but that does not mean that He can murder or break any one of the Ten Commandments. As a sinner He could not have been our one and final perfect sacrifice and redeemer. Let's look at the verses in contention just to clear up this fallacy anyway. The main passage is found in the book of John where Jesus healed a man on the Sabbath, and so the Pharisees accused Jesus of breaking the Sabbath. Note that John is quoting the words of the Pharisees in this passage and are not John's personal opinion. We will see evidence of this soon. This is what Jesus said about the Pharisees in [Matthew 5:20](#), "*For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.*" These are those who also had Jesus crucified. Whose words do you think we should listen to? The words of Jesus or the words of the Pharisees?

[John 5:5-18](#) "*Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up your bed, and walk. 9 And immediately the man was made whole, and took up his bed, and walked: and on the same day was the Sabbath. ... 15 The man departed, and told the Jews that it was Jesus, which had made him whole. 16 And therefore did the Jews persecute Jesus, and sought to slay him, because he had done these things on the Sabbath day. 17 But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work. 18 Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the Sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God.*"

The Pharisees also accused Jesus of blasphemy because He made Himself equal with the Father. Were the Pharisees correct? They were no more correct on this allegation than they were on their accusation of Jesus breaking the Sabbath. In the book of Matthew, we have another account of Jesus healing someone and the Pharisees once again accused Him of breaking the Sabbath. However, this time we have the words of Jesus to establish if doing good deeds or things of absolute necessity are lawful on the Sabbath.

[Matthew 12:10-12](#) "*And, behold, there was a man which had his hand withered. And they asked him, saying, Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath days? that they might accuse him. 11 And he said unto them, What man shall there be among you, that shall have one sheep, and if it fall into a pit on the Sabbath day, will he not lay hold on it, and lift it out? 12 How much then is a man better than a sheep? **Wherefore it is lawful to do well on the Sabbath days.***"

Why do the proponents quote the Pharisees but ignore the words of their own Lord and Saviour? Why would they put their faith in the Pharisees rather than Jesus Christ? Why do they quote John 5:5-18 but never mention Matthew 12:10-12 where Jesus says it was NOT unlawful to heal and do good on the Sabbath? Jesus thankfully did not sin and so did not break any of the Ten Commandments as He clarifies in this passage when He says "*that it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath,*" such as healing people or pulling an animal out of a hole.

What day is the Lord's Day?

The Bible uses the phrase "*Lord's day*" only once in Revelation 1:10, so we know the Lord does have a special day. But there is not one single verse in the whole Bible that refers to Sunday as the "*Lord's Day*." However, the Bible does plainly identify the Sabbath as the Lord's Day. The only day ever blessed by the Lord or claimed by Him as His holy day is the Seventh day Sabbath. [Matthew 12:8](#) "*For the son of man is Lord even of the Sabbath day.*" Jesus did not say I AM the Sabbath, or I am LORD Sabbath! Jesus said, "I am Lord OF the Sabbath!"

It was Jesus who made the Sabbath at creation and is the reason for His claim to be Lord of the Sabbath day. (Mark 2:28) If Jesus is the Lord of the Sabbath day, then the Sabbath is the Lord's Day. The vision John had on "the Lord's day" according to Revelation 1:10 had to be the Sabbath. It is the only day so designated and claimed by God in the Bible. In writing the Ten Commandments, God called it "*the Sabbath of the Lord*." It was in fact early in fourth century when Sunday was officially named the "*Lord's Day*" which was about 200 years after some of the so called early Church fathers in Alexandria and Rome first changed to Sunday in fear of persecution and against God's will.

The Sabbath was made for man

Christ taught that "*the Sabbath was made for man.*" [Mark 2:27](#). Some seem to think that since Jesus said this that we can choose not to keep it or choose our own day. Note also that Jesus did not say the Sabbath was made for "Jews." He said the Sabbath was made for "man" meaning all people! Man was made on the sixth day and the only reason we have a seventh day of the week is because God added it for a Sabbath rest for man. The Sabbath was made for man at creation so what has changed? Absolutely nothing! The fact is that all the Commandments were made for man. So does this mean we can choose to ignore all of the other Commandments as well? Obviously not!

So what was happening when Jesus said this? The Pharisees assumed the Sabbath was made just for them so Jesus corrected them stating that the Sabbath was made to be a blessing for ALL man and not a day of legalistic rules that they had enforced. They had accused Jesus of breaking the Sabbath by picking corn for sustenance and so Jesus pointed out that the Sabbath was made to be a blessing to man and not a burden. This statement of Jesus in Mark 2:27 is not some magical subclause that annuls the fourth Commandment. Picking corn on the Sabbath for nourishment was a necessity. It was not wrong for Jesus to heal the sick and to meet human needs on His Holy Day. (Matthew 12:10-12) Jesus said that not even a comma of the law is going to change (Matthew 5:17-19) and Isaiah prophesied "*The LORD ... will MAGNIFY the law...*" ([Isaiah 42:21](#)) not make the law less strict by allowing us to pick and choose if we want to obey a Commandment or not. God Commanded, "*Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy ... the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God.*" [Exodus 20:8-10](#).

Stoned for working on Sabbath

Some have made the point that since Sabbath breakers were stoned to death in the Old Testament, therefore the Sabbath must not be in force today since stoning is not in force. But take note that not only Sabbath breakers were stoned to death but adulterers as well (Leviticus 20:10). Those who broke the third Commandment were also put to death (Leviticus 24:16). Surely no one feels that adultery and blasphemy are any less wrong today just because God prescribed death for such sins in the Old Testament. The fact is that death applied to more than just the Sabbath. It was in fact the penalty for any Commandment broken wilfully. However, it did not apply when done in ignorance, so death was easily avoided by not being wilfully disobedient. Under the theocracy of Israel, God ruled the people directly. He commanded punishment immediately for certain flagrant acts of disobedience. Today the same sins are equally abhorrent to God such as breaking HIS Sabbath, but punishment is delayed until the Day of Judgment.

Exodus 31:14 *"You shall keep the Sabbath, therefore, for it is holy to you. Everyone who profanes it shall surely be put to death; for whoever does any work on it, that person shall be cut off from among his people."*

This verse says the person who profanes the Sabbath will be put to death and it also says that person will be CUT OFF from among his people. So why the apparent contradiction? Does it mean separated (cut off) from his people or put to death? It does in fact mean put to death as "CUT OFF" was a phrase that meant to be put to death in Biblical days. Note Gills Commentary for this verse.

John Gill's Exposition of the Entire Bible. Dr. John Gill (1690-1771)

"that soul shall be cut off from among his people; that is, shall die by the hand of the civil magistrate, it being but another phrase for being put to death;"

And for even further confirmation, compare the Good News Bible with the King James further below for verses 30 and 31 in regards to being "CUT OFF" and that this does in fact mean being put to death.

Numbers 15:30-31 GNB *"But any who sin deliberately, whether they are natives or foreigners, are guilty of treating the LORD with contempt, and they shall be put to death, 31 because they have rejected what the LORD said and have deliberately broken one of his commands. They are responsible for their own death."*

Reading the passage carefully below you will note being "CUT OFF" (put to death) applied to all the Commandments but again, only those broken in ignorance. Straight after this is spoken, we find an example and in this case it just happened to be the Sabbath. It could have been any Commandment such as wilful murder and it would have still been the same result. This is what most people have failed to understand.

Numbers 15:28-36 *"And the priest shall make an atonement for the soul that sinneth IGNORANTLY, when he sinneth by ignorance before the LORD, to make an atonement for him; and it shall be forgiven him. 29 You shall have one law for him that sinneth through IGNORANCE, both for him that is born among the children of Israel, and for the stranger that sojourneth among them. 30 But the soul that doeth ought presumptuously, whether he be born in the land, or a stranger, the same reproacheth the LORD; and that soul shall be CUT OFF from among his people. 31 Because he has despised the word of the LORD, and has BROKEN his COMMANDMENT, that soul shall utterly be cut off; his iniquity shall be upon him. 32 And while the children of Israel were in the wilderness, they found a man that gathered sticks upon the Sabbath day. 33 And they that found him gathering sticks brought him unto Moses and Aaron, and unto all the congregation. 34 And they put him in ward, because it was not declared what should be done to him. 35 And the LORD said unto Moses, The man shall be surely put to death: all the congregation shall stone him with stones without the camp. 36 And all the congregation brought him without the camp, and stoned him with stones, and he died; as the LORD commanded Moses."*

Is the Sabbath a ceremonial law or moral law?

The Law of Moses (ceremonial law) was written separately on paper by Moses and was stored on the "outside" of the Ark of the Covenant (Deuteronomy 31:24-26). The Ten Commandments on the other hand was written in stone by God personally and stored on the "inside" of the Ark of the Covenant (Exodus 31:18; Deuteronomy 10:5). To quote the obvious, if the Lord's Sabbath was a Mosaic Law, it would have been written in the Mosaic Law! But it was a Moral law and why God wrote it and placed it in His Ten Commandment law because that is exactly what it is.

The ceremonial law (Mosaic Law) was instituted 430 years after God made the covenant with Abraham, (Galatians 3:17-19) while the Lord's Sabbath was made at creation before sin had even entered the world. The ceremonial law was added because of transgressions, and hence was an added because of sin, and consisted of animal sacrifices to make atonement for sin before Christ permanently took the place of this law by becoming the Lamb of God that took away the sins of the world. Thus there is no way the Lord's Sabbath can be a ceremonial Sabbath. The fourth Commandment is called "the Sabbath of the Lord thy God." (Exodus 8-11) It is the Lord's Sabbath and was "never" practised because of sin. God did not make a mistake when He put His Sabbath in His moral law instead of the ceremonial law, which did have all the ceremonial sabbaths! God put His Sabbath exactly where it belonged.

Jesus while referring to the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. said, *"And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath."* **Matthew 24:20** The ceremonial law (Mosaic Law) was nailed to the cross and yet Jesus shows everyone was still keeping the Sabbath forty years after the cross and yet even further proof it cannot be a ceremonial sabbath that were nailed to the cross. **Isaiah 66:22-23** says, *"For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make ... and from one Sabbath to another, shall ALL flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD."* We keep the Lord's Sabbath in the New Heaven and Earth that also proves the Lord's Sabbath is eternal and a moral law. So God is vindicated and is not some fool or the author of confusion that made a serious blunder when He put His Sabbath in His moral law. I would have hope that most Christians would never be foolish enough to believe He did! See [is the Sabbath a ceremonial law or moral law](#) for more detailed information.

Was the Sabbath changed to Sunday in the Bible?

Did God amend the original stone tablets that John saw in heaven in Revelation 11:19 to, “Remember to keep the first day”? Never. You can’t change a memorial day of creation. Paul said in [1 Corinthians 7:19](#), “Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but obeying God’s Commandments is everything.” Paul plainly identifies here how important God’s Commandments are in comparison to circumcision. Yet this law of circumcision that was changed, and does not have the importance of the Ten Commandments, Paul mentioned more than 33 times and up to 10 verses at a time, and they were not verses you were left to make assumptions on. Yet there is not one clear verse in the whole Bible that says the Sabbath was changed to Sunday. Paul’s letters always had plenty to say when people needed correcting or misunderstood the scriptures but the Sabbath was so ingrained in the culture that Paul never had to correct them. Observing the Pharisees reaction to breaking the Sabbath clearly shows this also but they went overboard and turned the day into a burden instead of a blessing, which Jesus found need to correct them on several times. In John 5:18 they accused Jesus of breaking the Sabbath by healing a man on the Sabbath. Jesus said that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven. Whose words should we trust and listen to? The Pharisees or Jesus? In Matthew 12:10-12 Jesus heals a man and He says to them, “...it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath.” Jesus shows that they misunderstood the *intent* of the Sabbath day, not the day to keep it. Imagine if Jesus had proposed changing the Sabbath, what a dreadful uproar would have ensued by the Jews that would be heard in several books of the Bible.

When Christ was in the flesh, and lived on this earth, how did He regard the Sabbath? [Luke 4:16](#), “So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as HIS CUSTOM was, He went into the synagogue on the SABBATH DAY, and stood up to read.” Jesus made the seventh day Sabbath and He also kept the seventh day Sabbath. He is our perfect example. We also find after the cross that Sabbath observance continued as we see by Paul’s example. In Acts 13:42-44 there is no conflict between Jews and Gentiles over the day to keep the Sabbath. The Jews of course still continue to keep the seventh day Sabbath today. What a perfect opportunity for the Jews to bring a valid accusation against Paul. But the allegations against Paul were always false and never involved an accusation for breaking the Sabbath such as those the Pharisees falsely brought against Jesus.

[Acts 13:42-44](#) “And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath. [43](#) Now when the congregation was broken up, many of the Jews and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas: who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God. [44](#) And the next Sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God.”

Again in this example, we find no conflict between the Jews (who still keep Saturday today) or Greeks in regard to the day. Paul “came to Corinth ... he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and persuaded the **Jews and the Greeks**” [Acts 18:1, 4](#). “He continued a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them” (verse 11). Paul did not preach the traditions of men, but only “the word of God.” “Many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized,” including “Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue” (verse 8). Crispus was a Sabbath keeper who probably became one of the leaders (see [1 Corinthians 1:14](#)) of the early New Testament Sabbath keeping Church of Jesus Christ in Corinth. Paul’s letters, First and Second Corinthians, were written to this Church.

After Paul was finally arrested in the Temple in Jerusalem, in his trial before the Sanhedrin, even the Pharisees said, “we find no evil in this man” [Acts 23:9](#). Before Felix, Paul declared, “so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets” [Acts 24:14](#). Before Festus, “Neither against the law of the Jews, neither against the temple, nor yet against Caesar, have I offended any thing at all ... to the Jews have I done no wrong” [Acts 25:8, 10](#). Before Agrippa, “I continue unto this day ... saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come” [Acts 26:22](#). The prophets and Moses did not say that “Sunday keeping should come.” Finally, Paul spoke to the Jews in Rome, “persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening” [Acts 28:23](#). During all his trials, the Jews NEVER once accused Paul of breaking the Sabbath. Why? Because he NEVER did! Paul was a Pharisee since his childhood.

We also see Paul going into a Jewish synagogue in Thessalonica and “as his custom was, Paul went into the synagogue and on three Sabbath days reasoned with them from the scriptures...” [Acts 17:1-4](#). As already stated, all practicing Jews still keep the seventh day Sabbath today, always have and undeniably did then and so there is no mistake as to what day Paul kept the Sabbath on as was “HIS CUSTOM” as this was a Jewish synagogue. As for his custom, Paul was a Jew and a Pharisee since childhood. [Acts 26:5-6](#) “The Jews all know the way I have lived ever since I was a child, from the beginning of my life in my own country, and also in Jerusalem. They have known me for a long time and can testify, if they are willing, that according to the strictest sect of our religion, I lived as a Pharisee.”

Jesus also said in [Matthew 5:18](#), “...Till the heaven and the earth pass away, not one jot or one tittle shall in any way pass from the Law...” Not even a comma of the law will be altered. We never have to make assumptions when it comes to important issues in God’s Word. When anything significant changed we were always told. The Ten Commandments are the only thing that God personally added to the Bible. There is no way in this universe that God would not unmistakably tell us in His Word if He were to alter the Ten Commandments by even the smallest amount.

Now for that one verse assumption that some use to argue that the Sabbath was changed to Sunday. In Acts 20:7 we find a religious meeting on the first day of the week but it was not a Sunday meeting. It was after sunset, prior to midnight on the first day of the week. At that time in history the first day of the week did not start at midnight but at sunset. All Bible days begin and end at sunset. Therefore this meeting and Paul’s preaching took place on what we call Saturday night. It was not a Sunday meeting at all. Regardless of this fact anyway, breaking bread is commonly understood by the Jews as having a meal together and was not the Lord’s Supper. Note how the Good News Bible translates it “*The fellowship meal.*” Here are two examples using the King James and the Good News Bible.

(Acts 20:7 King James) "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 Good News Bible) "**On Saturday evening** we gathered together for the **fellowship meal**. Paul spoke to the people and kept on speaking until midnight, since he was going to leave the next day."

(Acts 2:42 King James) "And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in **breaking of bread**, and in prayers."

(Acts 2:42 Good News Bible) "They spent their time in learning from the apostles, taking part in the fellowship, and sharing in the **fellowship meals** and the prayers."

The following verse shows not only that breaking of bread was having a fellowship meal but also demonstrates that this breaking of bread was done every day of the week! Therefore, even if it was the Lord's Supper, which it is not, it was done every day of the week making the argument of the Saturday night meeting irrelevant anyway.

(Acts 2:46 King James) "And they, continuing **daily** with one accord in the temple, and **breaking bread** from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,"

(Acts 2:46 Good News Bible) "**Day after day** they met as a group in the Temple, and they had their **meals** together in their homes, eating with glad and humble hearts,"

Sunday Keeping in Corinth?

In 1 Corinthians 16:1-2 Paul wrote: "Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come...whomsoever ye shall approve by your letters, them will I send to bring your liberality unto Jerusalem." Please carefully notice what the apostle said, and also, what he did not say. Many have assumed that a religious meeting was held and a collection plate passed. This is not the case. Paul was writing special appeals to the churches in Asia Minor, because many of the Christians in Jerusalem were suffering greatly for lack of food and daily necessities. Paul asked the church at Corinth to gather food, clothing, etc., and store it up at home until he could send men to transport it to Jerusalem. The expression "lay by him in store" in the original Greek gives the clear connotation of putting aside at home. Even Sunday advocates agree to this. There was no service held on the first day of the week. The gathering up and storing was to be done on that day. Why did Paul suggest that this work be done on Sunday, and what was involved in getting it done? First of all, the letter would have been shared with the church on the Sabbath when they were all gathered for worship. The first opportunity to do the work would be the next day - the first day of the week. Keep in mind that there was an apparent food shortage in Jerusalem, and the need was not primarily for money. Such famine conditions were not unusual in areas of the Middle East, as Luke reminds us in Acts 11:28-30. Paul urges them to return carnal, or material, gifts in appreciation of the spiritual truths received from them. This throws light on Paul's counsel to the Corinthian Christians to do their work on the first day of the week, "so that there be no gatherings when I come." Such work as gathering and storing up produce from the field would certainly not be appropriate on the Sabbath. Sunday is identified again as a day for secular activities and gives no indication of religious observance.

Besides the two assumptions that are used to try and justify Sunday keeping, the Bible and history show them not to be correct. We have already seen that both Jesus and Paul kept the Sabbath and there can be no doubt that it was the seventh day Sabbath that Paul kept as he was a Jew and a Pharisee and kept it as was his custom since childhood. It has also been established by many historians and theologians holding PhD's in their field that Matthew and Luke were written between 60 and 80 A.D. and there was never a better time for Luke to tell us of a day change but instead he states in Luke 23:56, "...And they rested on the Sabbath according to the Commandment." Jesus also showed that the Sabbath would still be kept after the cross and speaks of no day change when He is talking to the Apostles about the destruction of the temple in about 70 A.D. Jesus says in Matthew 24:20, "And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath." World leading historians also confirm this and that the Sabbath was kept by Jews and Gentiles till about 90-120 A.D. where persecution of the Jews became so great that some Christians changed to Sunday using the justification that it was in honour of the resurrection in order to avoid persecution and death. Later you will find out how the Sabbath got changed to Sunday and was made law about 364 A.D. As a result it was early in the fourth century when Sunday was officially named the Lord's Day.

Who changed the Sabbath to Sunday?

Bible prophecy plays an enormous part in how the change came about, so to comprehend the following material in regards to the time periods involved, you need to be aware that when Bible prophecy is symbolic in nature, the well known and proven day for a year principle is applied as demonstrated by Ezekiel 4:6 and Numbers 14:34. The following material and this rule is covered in more detail later on the page titled Prophecy tables and time charts.

Starting in Daniel 7:3, we find him in vision and he sees "four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another." These four beasts were like a lion (Babylon), a bear (Medo-Persia), a leopard (Greece) with four heads (Alexander's four generals that took over when he died suddenly) and some dreadful, terrible beast (Rome) that had ten horns. Verse 23 says, "The fourth beast (Rome) shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces." Verse 24 tells us that "the ten horns out of this kingdom (Rome) are ten kings (divided Europe) that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings." The king that subdued three kingdoms is called the little horn in verse 8 and it destroyed the Vandals, the Heruli and the Ostrogoths. A history check already reveals that this diverse kingdom was a religious political power that was responsible for their demise. Verse 25 says this little horn power would "speak great words against the most High" (God) and oppress God's people and very importantly it states that he will "think to change times and laws."

Moving on to the book of Revelation and chapter 13, John in his vision sees the same thing that Daniel saw as a composite beast. Note how it matches Daniel seven. It says that a beast (*kingdom government or political power*) with *seven heads* and *ten horns* rises out of the sea with a crown upon each horn (*ten kings*) and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. Verse 2 goes on to say the beast was like unto a *leopard* and feet of a *bear* and mouth of a *lion* (*same four beasts*) and that the dragon (*Satan*) gave this beast his power, his throne, and his vast authority. The meaning of these beasts coming out of the sea is found in [Revelation 17:15](#) which reads, “*And he saith unto me, The waters which you sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.*”

Next verses 3 through 6 state that one of the seven heads had received a fatal wound (*causing death*) but his deadly wound was healed and all the world would wonder after the beast and they worshipped the dragon which gave power to the beast and they worshipped the beast also. The beast was allowed to make proud claims which were insulting to God, and it was permitted to have authority for 42 months. Daniel 7:25 says, “*a time (1 year) and times (2 years) and the dividing of time (half a year = total 3.5 years * 12 Months = 42 months)*” which of course is the same period of time. (*Bible time works in lunar months which = 30 days * 42 months = 1260 days and using the day for a year rule = 1260 years*). It opened its mouth and uttered *blasphemies against God* and blasphemed his name and his residence, that is, those who are living in heaven. Verse 7 states that it was also allowed to fight against God’s people and defeat them, and it was given authority over every tribe, nation, language, and race.

In order for this to make more sense, note that [Revelation 12:17](#) says, “*the dragon was wrath with the woman (The Church), and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which KEEP the Commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.*” Satan hates those who keep the Commandments of God, especially the Sabbath and desires to make war with these remnant people. Those who receive the mark of the beast will be those who chose to follow the commandments and traditions of man above the Commandments of God. In effect a line will be drawn between those that follow the Commandments of God and those that follow the traditions of man. Sadly, the majority are proving to be traditionalists. Read what [Mark 7:6-9](#) says about keeping human traditions, which is exactly what we are doing by keeping the Sabbath on Sunday. “*Jesus answered them, “How right Isaiah was when he prophesied about you! You are hypocrites, just as he wrote: “These people, says God, honor me with their words, but their heart is really far away from me. It is no use for them to worship me, because they teach human rules as though they were my laws! “You put aside God’s command and obey human teachings.” And Jesus continued, “You have a clever way of rejecting God’s law in order to uphold your own teaching.”*”

Now back to Daniel 7:25 where Bible prophecy shows a power would arise and think to change times and laws. There is a Commandment which is both a time and law, which is the fourth Commandment. “*Remember to keep The Sabbath.*” The Bible says that keeping the Sabbath is a *sign* between God and those who love and worship Him and keep His Commandments, and that it is God that sanctifies us. With this being the case what would Satan desire to do? Because keeping the Sabbath on God’s Holy day is a *sign* that it is God who we worship and belong to, then it becomes obvious that Satan would endeavour to change the day so that we are no longer keeping the fourth Commandment. So who is this Beast power?

As already stated, a beast is a kingdom or government or a political power. In 321 A.D. after the severest persecution, Constantine who was a pagan became Caesar in Rome and he began to see the balance of power shift from paganism to the Church. So in 321 A.D. he passed the first Sunday law, which eventually resulted in the Catholic Church enforcing Sunday worship in the council of Laodicea (364 A.D.) Two years later Constantine joined the Roman Church and so now we had a mingling of paganism and the Church. In order to control the eastern and western halves of his empire, he built a new city in Byzantium which he named Constantinople after himself and transferred his headquarters there, leaving Rome vacant. As a result the Papacy moved in and sat on the throne of Caesar and so the Church took over Rome. This explains what the Bible said, “*and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.*” The dragon as previously stated is the devil. In the Vatican there’s a tapestry on the wall about 75 feet long, and underneath the tapestry it says “The donation of Constantine to the Pope” What did he donate? He donated the city of Rome and the Church became a kingdom.

This is the first beast. Revelation 13 states that he would blaspheme God. [Luke 5:21](#) reads, “*And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, Who is this which speaketh blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone?*” Today in the Roman Church they allege that every Priest can forgive sins. No man on Earth can forgive sins. As for power, Elizabeth I defied the Pope and he sent word to all Catholics in England not to obey the Queen. Henry of Germany offended the Pope and he had to stand barefoot in the snow for three days to pay penance to the Pope before he would forgive him. Verse 7 says the beast would fight against God’s people and defeat them.

The coming statement is not intended to foster ill towards another as this would be contrary to Christian teaching, plus over the centuries this Church has done many great things by many wonderful people. But the truth is the Roman Church murdered and tortured an estimated 70 million people as heretics and many for keeping God’s Sabbath rather than Satan’s counterfeit day made law by the Papacy. All this is a matter of history and can be read in your local library. Start with “*The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*” by Edward Gibbon.

Every criterion mentioned in the Bible is met by this first beast power. Now the Bible says that this beast would receive a deadly wound to its head. The Pope took over Rome and rose to power in 538 A.D. The Bible says he would have power for 1260 years which takes us to 1798. What happened in 1798? Precisely on time as prophesied in the Bible, in 1798 Napoleon’s General Berthier was sent down to Rome to kidnap the Pope and exiled and imprisoned him in France. In 1799 the Pope got sick and died. The head of the Catholic Church was dead! This is the deadly wound to the head. For a while there was no head of the Roman Church. But the Bible says the deadly wound would be healed, and in 1800 they elected a new Pope and the healing of the deadly wound began.

However, this new Pope had no real power until 1929. At that time a man in Italy called Benito Mussolini signed a concordat in Rome giving back to the Pope, not the whole city but about 108 acres called the Vatican and so the deadly wound was healed. As a result, the Bible says, *"the whole world wondered after the beast."* American Presidents have bowed before the Pope but they have never bowed before the head of any other Church.

In 1562 the Archbishop of Reggio openly declared that tradition now stood above scripture. This is what he wrote. *"The authority of the Church is illustrated most clearly by the scriptures, for on one hand she recommends them, declares them to be divine, and offers them to us to be read, and on the other hand, the legal precepts in the scriptures taught by the Lord have ceased by virtue of the same authority. The Sabbath, the most glorious day in the law, has been changed into the Lord's day. These and other similar matters have not ceased by virtue of Christ's teaching (for He says that He has come to fulfill the law, not to destroy it), but they have been changed by the authority of the Church."* Gaspare de Posso, Archbishop of Reggio, Council of Trent.

Sadly, Bible truth has been weighed against tradition, and men by the millions voted for tradition and still are today regardless of what God's Word says. In the Catholic catechism you will find the following questions and answers.

Question: Which day is the Sabbath day? Answer: Saturday is the Sabbath day.

Question: Why do we observe Sunday instead of Saturday? Answer: We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church in the council of Laodicea (A.D. 364), transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday. *Rev. Peter Geiermann, The Coverts Catechism.* These councils sometimes sat for up to 18 years or more.

Revelation 13:16-18 below says that 666 is the number of a man. Since the beast power is the Papacy, it is not hard to work out who the most prominent man of this Papal Church is. The Pope wears a *triple* tiered crown which means he is the king of Heaven and Earth and Purgatory. This of course is obviously wrong. There is a King of Kings and His name is Jesus Christ our Lord. He is King of Heaven and King of Earth and since there is no purgatory, that one can go to the Bishop of Rome. On the original crown are inscribed the words in Latin "VICARIUS FILII DEI" which means Vicar of the Son of God. What really becomes interesting here is the result of adding up the corresponding numbers of the letters of this title in Roman, Latin or Greek Numerals. We will use Roman numerals for this example.



V=5	F=0	D=500
I=1	I=1	E=0
C=100	L=50	I=1
A=0	I=1	
R=0	I=1	
I=1		
U=5		
S=0		

Total 112 + 53 + 501 = 666

Revelation 13:16-18 reads, *"And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: 17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. 18 Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six."* If you have not already noticed, almost all things in the book of Revelation are symbolic

and so is the "mark of the beast" as is the "mark or seal of God" that goes on the forehead of Christians who love God and keep His Commandments. For example, see Deuteronomy 6:1-8. Note [verse 8](#) which says, *"...bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes [forehead]."* Does anyone really think in the end times that everyone is going to walk around with a mark on their forehead? We know that the "mark or seal of God" is obviously not going to be some barcode or computer chip. Therefore it stands to reason that the "mark of the beast" will also be a symbolic mark. The Devil is extremely deceptive and counterfeits many things of God. Most people in the world have heard of the mark of the beast, so who in their right mind would take such a mark? Here is another statement from the Papacy: *"Of course the Catholic church claims that the change was her act, and the act as a MARK of her ecclesiastical authority in religious things."* H.F. Thomas, Chancellor to Cardinal Gibbons.

In [Mark 7:6-9](#), Jesus said, *"...This people honor me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. But in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. For laying aside the Commandment of God, you hold the tradition of men...Full well you reject the Commandment of God, that you may keep your own tradition."* Jesus does not want us following the traditions of man and even more so something changed by the "Beast" or more specifically the one behind the beast, which is the dragon and this as already mentioned is Satan himself. I don't know about you but our family is not going to keep the Sabbath on Sunday just because the Catholic Church chose to change it on their own human authority and tradition and even more so because Satan himself was directly behind it. [Joshua 24:15](#) says, *"...choose you this day whom ye will serve...but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."* I and my house choose to serve the Lord and not man or the beast. Choose Christ, He chose us!

Remember that keeping the Sabbath is a *Sign* between God and us that it is *Him we Love and Worship* and Satan hates the Sabbath for this reason. This is why Satan set out to change the day to Sunday, which throughout the Old Testament is about Baal worship (Sun worship, Sun-day) and God makes it quite clear that this was detestable to Him. If we don't keep the Sabbath on Saturday we are following the traditions of man or more specifically the day Satan changed it to as prophesied in [Daniel 7:25](#), *"And he shall...think to change times and laws."* God said to love and follow Him is to keep the Sabbath on His Holy day. The mere fact that Satan changed the Sabbath should tell us that keeping the exact day is important to God or Satan through the "Beast" would not have changed it to Sunday.

Satan knows the consequences for *NOT* keeping God's Commandments and [James 2:10-12](#) says if we break one Commandment we've broken them all. So Satan has attacked the one Commandment that is most important to God and because it was the easiest one to attack as he knew how *most* people would make every excuse to not give this time to God. Jesus said in [John 14:15](#), *"If you love Me, keep My Commandments"* Do you truly love Jesus? If you do truly love Jesus, you will desire to keep all God's Commandments without excuses and devote His Holy day to Him.

Catholic Church quotes on the Sabbath to Sunday change

We have now clearly shown that the reasons given by many to justify why they keep Sunday as the Sabbath are un-Biblical and incorrect. We have also shown from scripture that the little horn of Daniel 7, which is synonymous with the beast of Revelation 13 would think to change God's law and it did. The word *think* is used because the Roman Catholic Church think they have changed the day and that their authority stands above scripture and that God will just go along with their change, but in reality, as far as God is concerned it remains eternally unchanged. Below are statements from the Roman Catholic Church which give the simple and truthful answer as to why most Churches now keep Sunday as the Sabbath. Most Christians have no idea that this even happened or how. Revelation 13 also tells us that Satan gave his power and authority to the Catholic Church. Why? It was Satan's plan to have this Church change the Sabbath to Sunday. Why did Satan do this? The Sabbath is about who we give our allegiance to. If we obey God and keep His Sabbath day Holy, we give our allegiance to God. If we obey the Commandment of the Catholic Church and keep their day Holy, who do we give our allegiance to then? The Catholic Church answers this question below with two of their quotes. But looking deeper, who gave this Church power so God's true day of worship could be changed? Read [Catholic Church Statements about the Sabbath](#) for more quotes.

Does the Bible support the change to Sunday?

"Most Christians assume that Sunday is the biblically approved day of worship. The Catholic Church protests 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. If Protestantism wants to base its teachings only on the Bible, it should worship on Saturday." Rome's Challenge www.immaculateheart.com/maryonline Dec 2003.

"Is not every Christian obliged to sanctify Sunday and to abstain on that day from unnecessary servile work? Is not the observance of this law among the most prominent of our sacred duties? But you may read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, and you will not find a single line authorizing the sanctification of Sunday. The Scriptures enforce the religious observance of Saturday, a day which we never sanctify." James Cardinal Gibbons, *The Faith of Our Fathers* (1917 edition), p. 72-73 (16th Edition, p 111; 88th Edition, p. 89)

"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 [Roman Catholic] church outside the Bible." Catholic Virginian, October 3, 1947, p. 9, article "To Tell You the Truth."

Who Made Sunday Holy?

"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' was chosen, not from any direction noted in the Scriptures, but from the (Catholic) Church's sense of its own power...People who think that the Scriptures should be the sole authority, should logically become 7th Day Adventists, and keep Saturday holy." St. Catherine Church Sentinel, Algonac, Michigan, May 21, 1995.

"Question - Which is the Sabbath day?"

"Answer - Saturday is the Sabbath day."

"Question - Why do we observe Sunday instead of Saturday?"

"Answer - We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church, in the Council of Laodicea (A.D. 364), transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday." Peter Geiermann, C.S.S.R., *The Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine*, p. 50, 3rd edition, 1957.

Whose Day of Worship is Sunday?

"They [the Protestants] deem it their duty to keep the Sunday holy. Why? Because the Catholic Church tells them to do so. They have no other reason...The observance of Sunday thus comes to be an ecclesiastical law entirely distinct from the divine law of Sabbath observance...The author of the Sunday law...is the Catholic Church." *Ecclesiastical Review*, February 1914.

"Nowhere in the Bible is it stated that worship should be changed from Saturday to Sunday...Now the Church...instituted, by God's authority, Sunday as the day of worship. This same Church, by the same divine authority, taught the doctrine of Purgatory long before the Bible was made. We have, therefore, the same authority for Purgatory as we have for Sunday." Martin J. Scott, *Things Catholics Are Asked About*, 1927 edition, p. 136.

"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 News*, Elizabeth, New Jersey, March 18, 1903.

Who Do We Reverence by Keeping Sunday Holy?

"It was the Catholic church which...has transferred this rest to Sunday in remembrance of the resurrection of our Lord. Therefore the observance of Sunday by the Protestants is an homage they pay, in spite of themselves, to the authority of the (Catholic) church." Monsignor Louis Segur, *Plain Talk About the Protestantism of Today*, p. 213.

"I have repeatedly offered \$1,000 to anyone who can prove to me from the Bible alone that I am bound to keep Sunday holy. There is no such law in the Bible. It is a law of the holy Catholic Church alone. The Bible says, 'Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.' The Catholic Church says: 'No. By my divine power I abolish the Sabbath day and command you to keep holy the first day of the week.' And lo! The entire civilized world bows down in a reverent obedience to the command of the holy Catholic Church." father T. Enright, C.S.S.R. of the Redemptoral College, Kansas City, in a lecture at Hartford, Kansas, February 18, 1884, printed in *History of the Sabbath*, p. 802. Select for a [document clip](#) or select the following for the [full original image](#) that the above quote originated from.

How to keep the Sabbath Holy

Just how are we to keep the Sabbath? The scribes and Pharisees tried to legislate in minute detail all that was acceptable or unacceptable to do on the Sabbath. In doing so, they made the Sabbath a great BURDEN which was something God never intended (cf. 1 John 5:3). God gave the Sabbath in Exodus 20 and *magnified* it in other places in His Word with *some* specifics, but mainly by expounding broad, spiritual principles. So what does God tell us about Sabbath day observance?

God wrote and spoke these words in the fourth Commandment, "*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 manservant, nor your maidservant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates*" Exodus 20:10. So you are not to do any kind of real *work* on the Sabbath be it your occupation, personal business, housework or any laborious activity. And neither are those in the environment over which you have control. Of course, preparing or cleaning up after a light meal would not be wrong as we find a number of occasions when Jesus enjoyed a Sabbath meal with others. And He *never* condemned the practice of hospitality on the Sabbath (cf. Luke 14:1-6). Since Jesus said in Matthew 12:10-12 "...it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath", such as rescuing an animal or healing the sick, that would no doubt include *Essential Services* such as Doctors, Nurses and Ambulance etc. Finally, to really understand how God intended the Sabbath to be used, look at what He said in Isaiah 58:13-14 "*If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on My holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight...not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words, then you shall delight yourself in the Lord; and I will cause you to ride on the high hills of the earth...*" So we are not to be doing our own pleasure on God's Holy Day. That does not preclude doing any enjoyable things on the Sabbath whatsoever, for we are to find *delight* in it. The point is that, whatever we do, God must be an intrinsic part of it. A family walk through a natural setting for example, is a wonderful way to get in touch with God who made the beautiful creations we see. When the seventh day arrives, we must stop pursuing our "*own ways*" (the things we normally do), seeking our "*own pleasure*" (your normal things of enjoyment) and speaking our "*own words*" (the everyday things we talk about that do not involve God). This last one is often *very hard* to follow because "*out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks*" Matthew 12:34. To truly keep the Sabbath in the spirit, we must focus our minds on God and those things He wants us to be concerned with during His holy time. Then, as God promises, we will be truly blessed. And since it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath, we can make encouraging phone calls or write letters to the sick or visit Christians who are lonely. It may also be possible to *visit* the sick or others in need on the Sabbath or to have them over for an evening meal. Matthew 25:34-36. The Sabbath is also a "...*sabbath of rest, an holy convocation*" (Leviticus 23:3) and is therefore ideal for worship services. When we fellowship with other people in whom God dwells, we are in fact also fellowshiping with Him (cf. 1 John 1:3, 7). So we should not think of the Sabbath as the day we can't do this or that! Rather, we should approach this very special day as a period when we *can* and *should* really take time to deeply *study* and thoughtfully *analyse* the scriptures. It is a time when we can sit quietly, meditating over and *thinking through* the truly big issues of life. In addition, the Sabbath is the perfect time for unhurried, thoughtful, heartfelt *prayer* to our Father in heaven to *commune* with our Creator, to *worship* Him, to get to *know* Him intimately. This is how to keep God's Sabbath holy.

Another way to establish how the Sabbath should be kept is to imagine spending the day with someone you are absolutely head over heels in love with and that you have the opportunity to spend this one specific day with. You would have as many things as possible prepared the day before so you could spend as much time as possible with that person because you are so in love with them and you want every available moment to spend with them. This is what the Sabbath is all about. Are you head over heels in love with God? If you are then do the same for Him.

The Sabbath is and always has been the real *test* Commandment (cf. Exodus 16). Many can accept the other nine but the fourth Commandment is quite different. It means living differently from the society around you, perhaps even being looked upon as odd or weird. Yet Jesus said in Luke 14:26-27, "*Those who come to me cannot be my disciples unless they love me more than they love father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and themselves as well.*" Does this mean giving up some personal activity on the Sabbath? The answer lies in what your conscience tells you and what the Holy Spirit lays upon your heart. The main consideration is the rest our bodies and minds need and the most beautiful part is that it is a day that we devote entirely to God, i.e. in everything we do, God should be an intrinsic part. How spending one day a week with God who we claim to love could ever be called legalism or a burden is beyond me. Our relationship with Jesus is supposed to be one of faith and trust believing He will always provide our needs when we trust and obey Him. The sacrifice of moving an activity to another day is nothing in comparison to what Jesus did for us in His sacrifice. He was beaten, scourged and nailed to a cross for us. If the only thing that He asks in return is to keep the Sabbath holy then I think our sacrifice is no comparison. "*For this is the love of God, that we keep his Commandments: and his Commandments are not grievous.*" 1 John 5:3

In Daniel 3, King Nebuchadnezzar made a gold *image* with dimensions equal to 666 that he commanded all to worship. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego would not disobey God's Commandment and refused to obey the king. Since they refused, the king threw them into a blazing furnace heated seven times hotter than usual. The King in amazement said, "Why do I see four men walking around in the fire? They are not tied up, and they show no sign of being hurt and the fourth is like that of the Son of God. Praise the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego! They disobeyed my orders and risked their lives rather than bow down and worship any god except their own. There is no other god who can rescue like this." As a result, the king promoted them to higher positions in Babylon. Here is a beautiful example of obedience to God. This example is a parallel of Revelation 14 showing how we need to respond in end times, i.e. is we should obey God rather than man and not worship the Beast or his image. So do we worship God on the day specified by the Beast and get the mark of the Beast or on the day God commanded and receive the Seal of God? Do you love the "praise of men" more than the praise of God? Or do you have the FAITH and the COURAGE to obey God's Commandments, even if you were to lose your job and perhaps a few of your friends?

Sabbath Truth Summary

The Sabbath was not changed in honour of the resurrection. Scripture says the Papacy would change God's law and History confirms this. God will not accept any day in seven demonstrated by Exodus 16:4-31, which is *before* Jews and the Commandments being written in stone. God *blessed* and made *holy* ONLY the *seventh* day and that is why we have a seven day week. God's law of love did not become obsolete at the cross and can no more change than God's character can. He is *the same yesterday, and today, and forever*. It is not a special law for one nation only. It is eternal and so was made at creation for all man *before* sin and Jews and *ALL FLESH* keep it in the New Earth. God is *all knowing* and the Sabbath was not made one of God's eternal Commandments by some oversight. If it were for Israel only, God would have placed it in the ordinances which were for Israel only and ended at the cross. There is no new law in Christ based on Matthew 22:37-40. Jesus was quoting the Old Testament and He said ALL the law hang on these two commandments just as they did also in the Old Testament. Loving your neighbour as yourself means obeying the last six Commandments (Matthew 19:18-19, Romans 13:9) and to love God with all your heart means to obey the first four. The Law is LOVE. If you truly Love God, you would not have other gods before Him or worship idols and you certainly would not take His name in vain. And speaking of Loving and Worshipping God with all your heart, that is *EXACTLY* what the Sabbath is all about. *"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..." Exodus 31:16-17.* All Commandments show our allegiance but the fourth is a special SIGN of loyalty that we may know we truly love and follow God as His people. We are also *children of Israel* as is Abraham. [Galatians 3:29](#) *"And if you be Christ's, then are you Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."* We are and need to be children of Israel as both covenants were made with the house of Israel. [Hebrews 8:10](#), *"For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel...says the Lord: I will put My Laws into their mind and write them in their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people."*

The Bible unmistakably shows that the real test of love is obedience to God. These following scriptures are just three of many that could be quoted. [John 14:15](#) *"If ye love me, keep my Commandments."* or [1 John 2:4](#) *"He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his Commandments, is a LIAR, and the truth is not in him."* and [1 John 5:3](#) *"For this is the love of God, that we keep his Commandments: and his Commandments are not grievous."* This last verse says we should keep God's Commandments because we love God so much that it is our heart's desire to do so as Psalms 119 shows and not because we feel obligated to do so. Devoting a whole day to God should be to us a most beautiful and gratifying experience and should be our hearts desire, not something we call a burden or legalism. Jesus spoke of those who said, "Lord, Lord," but did not do the will of the Father. Then He described many who would seek entrance to the kingdom claiming to be workers of miracles in the name of Christ. But He would sorrowfully have to say, *"I never knew you: depart from me."* [Matthew 7:21-23](#). This is terribly sad because Jesus is saying, *"Not everyone who calls me 'Lord, Lord' will enter the Kingdom of heaven."* [Revelation 22:14](#) describes those who will live with God the Father and Christ throughout eternity in the New Jerusalem: *"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."*

[1 John 3:4 GNB](#) says that, *"Whoever sins is guilty of breaking God's law, because sin is a breaking of the law."* So if there were no requirement to keep God's Commandments, then there would be no sin and if there were no sin, then Jesus did not need to die on a cross for us and therefore the Gospel would be immaterial as would be Christianity and we would be no different to anyone else in this secular world. Do you see how absolutely absurd this is? Some have twisted this the other way by saying if we still have to obey the law then Jesus died for nothing. This is a very distorted view of the Gospel. Jesus redeemed us by His blood and paid the penalty for our sins which was death. He died on the cross so by faith and Grace we can repent and go on living, not go on sinning! This is Satan's attempt at deceiving us into believing that since we are under Grace we no longer have to keep God's Commandments. Jesus said *if you love me keep my Commandments*. He did not say I died for you so you can disobey my Commandments. Paul clarifies this well in [Romans 6:14-15](#), *"For sin shall not have dominion over you: for you are not under the law, but under grace. What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid."* It really is just this plain and simple. The ceremonial laws that have evidently confused so many were temporary and are gone. The Ten Commandments are *Eternal* and if we love God and man then we obey ALL of them FOREVER. They are NOT the Ten Suggestions and they are NOT the Nine Commandments and the One Suggestion. The Sabbath is the real test of love for God, yet never have I seen so many people twist and distort the word of God and fight so hard to justify why they can dodge this one Commandment. God is saying that He wants us to fully devote one day a week to Him because He loves us so much and people respond by searching for every excuse under the sun as to why they do not have to spend this time with God. I pray with all my heart that you are not one of them.

Isn't it interesting that the *only* part of the Bible specifically written by God's own hand, His Law, is the part so many people want to excuse away? And isn't it interesting that the only part of that Law some say is for the Jew only, is the one Commandment that states it was for the "stranger" also? And isn't it interesting that it is the only Commandment that specifically states it was instituted at Creation long before *sin* or *Jews* or *ceremonies*? And isn't it interesting that it has not only been kept since creation but will also be kept in the new Heaven and Earth? And isn't it interesting that the only Commandment man wants to forget is the one God specifically says to "remember?" Jesus said, *"For truly I say to you, Till the heaven and the earth pass away, not one jot or one tittle shall in any way pass from the Law..."* and Jesus then went on to say *"...whoever shall relax one of these Commandments, the least, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the LEAST [by those] in the kingdom of Heaven. But whoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called GREAT in the kingdom of Heaven."* The thought of being called least by those in Heaven because I have not taught or have relaxed even one of God's Commandments definitely does not appeal to me in the slightest. There are the most wonderful blessings beyond comprehension both now and in eternity for obeying God's Commandments and especially when it is done in love for our heavenly Father and our fellow man.

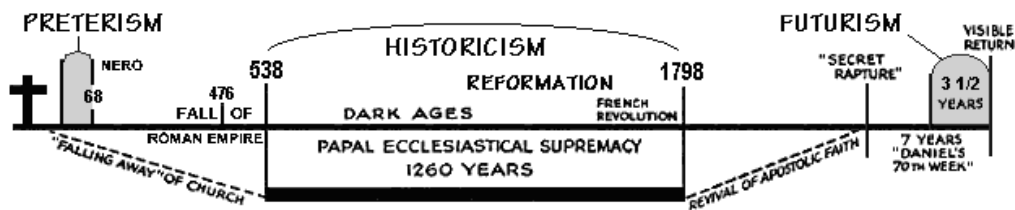
The Great Catholic Diversion Revealed

With the arrival of the printing press in the 15th century and the resulting explosion of Bibles accessible in the common language from Protestant sources, it became readily apparent to those who could now study the prophecies of Daniel and Revelation in particular, that Bible prophecy identified by symbols a persecuting apostate entity generally known as antichrist. If we list characteristics of antichrist, the following becomes readily apparent.

1. It will rise to be a great power after the fall of the pagan Roman Empire (after 476 A.D.). See table next page.
2. It will be a geographically small nation (a little horn).
3. It would uproot three of the ten kingdoms the Roman Empire collapsed into.
4. It will rule over many people, nations, and tongues (it will be universal).
5. It will be headquartered in the city of seven hills, Rome.
6. It will be a religio-political entity - a political city-state ruled by a priest-king.
7. Its priest-king will make great and blasphemous claims.
8. It will claim authority over all kings.
9. It will claim its power to change the holy times and laws of God as its mark of authority.
10. It will be an apostate church that makes the nations drink her cup of apostate doctrine.
11. It will be a "mother" church, with apostate daughters coming from her.
12. It will be a persecuting power, killing the faithful saints of Jesus Christ as heretics.
13. It will hold power and authority for 1260 years following the fall of pagan Rome.
14. It will suffer a deadly wound that will end 1260 years of dominance and persecution.
15. It will be revived after the deadly wound, and all the world would wonder at its revival.

In this the "Historical" interpretation, the antichrist was clearly not merely a single individual, it was a system of apostasy and persecution that would hold control for over twelve centuries. The inevitable conclusion of those who studied these prophecies in scripture, before and during the Protestant Reformation, was that there was only one entity that fit all the above characteristics: the papal dynasty of the Roman Catholic Church. Is it any wonder that the Catholic Church was so violently opposed to the scriptures being available for everyone to read for themselves? There was such a stir created during the reformation that the Fifth Lateran Council (1512-17 A.D.) resorted to strictly forbidding anyone to publish a book without prior censorship, and also prohibited anyone from preaching on the subject of antichrist. The intent of both Futurism and Preterism was to be diversionary, to counter or offset the Protestant Historical interpretation, and present alternatives, no matter how implausible they might be.

The result is evident from the following chart, which illustrates the three schools of interpretation regarding antichrist. Ribera's futurism puts the antichrist into a future three and one-half literal years. Alcazar's preterism identifies the



antichrist as Nero. Both of them put antichrist outside the Middle Ages and the reformation period, identified by Protestant Historicists as antichrist's reign of 1260 prophetic years.

Now the truly amazing part of all this is that the Futurist theory dominates Protestant teaching today. About all you hear or read about today is the yet to appear antichrist, who will be unveiled in the last 3 1/2 years of Daniel's 70th week, when he declares himself to be God in a rebuilt temple in Jerusalem. That scenario, as you can now see, is directly traceable back to the pen of the Jesuit Francisco Ribera who manufactured this theory for the sole purpose of diverting attention from the papacy. Note what one Protestant writer had to say over one hundred years ago:

"Accordingly, towards the close of the century of the Reformation, two of her most learned doctors set themselves to the task, each endeavouring by different means to accomplish the same end, namely, that of diverting men's minds from perceiving the fulfilment of the prophecies of the Antichrist in the Papal system. The Jesuit Alcazar devoted himself to bring into prominence the Preterist method of interpretation, which we have already briefly noticed, and thus endeavouring to show that the prophecies of Antichrist were fulfilled before the Popes ever ruled in Rome, and therefore could not apply to the Papacy. On the other hand the Jesuit Ribera tried to set aside the application of these prophecies to the Papal Power by bringing out the Futurist system, which asserts that these prophecies refer properly not to the career of the Papacy, but to that of some future supernatural individual, who is yet to appear, and to continue in power for three and a half years. Thus, as Alford says, the Jesuit Ribera, about A.D. 1580, may be regarded as the Founder of the Futurist system in modern times."

"It is a matter for deep regret that those who hold and advocate the Futurist system at the present day, Protestants as they are for the most part, are thus really playing into the hands of Rome, and helping to screen the Papacy from detection as the Antichrist. It has been well said that 'Futurism tends to obliterate the brand put by the Holy Spirit upon Popery.' More especially is this to be deplored at a time when the Papal Antichrist seems to be making an expiring effort to regain his former hold on men's minds." From Daniel and the Revelation: The Chart of Prophecy and Our Place In It, A Study of the Historical and Futurist Interpretation, by Joseph Tanner, published in London by Hodder and Stoughton, 1898, pages 16,17.

In what could only be described as a stunning reversal, Protestants have over time actually become the papacy's greatest ally by spreading its Jesuit spawned propaganda. What irony that Protestants, who originally broke away from what they clearly recognized to be the harlot antichrist led church of prophecy, now champion the Futurist interpretation from high profile ministries. Futurism has without doubt, been successful beyond the wildest dreams of its Jesuit authors. The same applies to the Preterist interpretation of Luis De Alcazar, although to a lesser degree.

Prophecy Time Charts and further Evidence

Due to the importance of the identity of the Antichrist beast power and to see how this truth could not be quite so easily established without using the book of Daniel, we are going to cover this topic with some more detail and charts. Understanding how Daniel and Revelation work together is an important part of understanding [666 and the mark of the beast](#), the identity of [mystery Babylon](#) and [Armageddon](#). Read [who is the Antichrist in the Bible](#) for very detailed evidence that the beast power is an Apostate Church and can be no other than the Roman Catholic Church.

1) What does the Bible have to say about “Antichrist”?

Some are surprised to know that the word antichrist appears nowhere in the book of Revelation. The word antichrist occurs only five times and only in the Books of 1st and 2nd John.

- 1 John 2:18-22 – He is antichrist that denies Jesus is Christ. In John’s time there were many antichrists.
- 1 John 4:1-3 – Test the Spirits. Every spirit that denies Jesus came in the flesh is the spirit of antichrist.
- 2 John 1-11 – Those that deny Jesus came in the flesh are a deceiver and antichrist.
- Antichrist = “against Christ” or in “place of Christ” as it is in this case with the Pope. Attacking Christ’s character (Gnosticism), specifically with regard to love expressed in obedience to God’s Ten Commandments.

2) What is one method Satan uses to “deny” Christ?

2 Corinthians 11:3-4, 13-15 – Appear as “*apostles of Christ*” but preach a “*different Jesus*”

3) Does the Bible give us a way to identify the Antichrist power?

Review Daniel 2 to get a prophetic blueprint of history: Babylon --> Medo-Persia --> Greece --> Rome --> 10 Divisions of Rome --> Kingdom of the Stone.

Now apply the principle of repetition and enlargement to Daniel’s next vision.

Prophecy Symbols:

- Beasts – Kings/kingdoms (political powers). Daniel 7:17, 23
- Horns/heads – Subdivisions of political powers. Daniel 7:24, 8:22
- Wings – Speed or swiftness.
- Winds – War/Strife. Jeremiah 49:35-37
- Sea – Multitudes of people. Revelation 17:1, 15

Daniel 7:1-8 – Daniel’s vision of four beasts



- The Lion - Babylon. Wings represent conquering speed. King Nebuchadnezzar.
- The Bear - Medo Persia. One shoulder raised above the other represents the dominance of the Medes over the Persians. The three ribs represent the three kingdoms overthrown by this kingdom - Egypt, Lydia, and Babylon. (Daniel 8:20)
- The Leopard - Greece. Four wings representing great conquering speed. The four heads represent Alexander the Great’s four generals who ruled Greece after his death – Seleucus, Ptolemy, Lysimachus and Cassander. (Daniel 8:21-22)

- The different beast - Rome. The ten horns - the divisions of Rome (Same as the toes of Chapter 2). The ten horns are the 10 divisions of the Roman Empire as it fell apart. These were the Anglo Saxons (England), Alemanni (Germany), Heruli (x493AD), Vandals (x534AD), Ostrogoths (x538AD), Visigoths (Spain), Suevi (Portugal), Lombard’s (Italy), Burgundians (Swiss) and the Franks (France).

4) What 9 characteristics help us to identify the little horn power?

- 1) Location: out of the 4th beast and among the ten horns (v.8) - The Papacy arose out of Rome among the ten tribal divisions of Rome
- 2) Timing: after the ten were established (v.8) - the Papacy became a political power by decree of the Roman emperor Justinian in AD 538 which was after the emergence of the ten tribal divisions that emerged as the Roman Empire fell apart in AD 476.
- 3) Uprooted three of the ten horns (v.8) - As the Papacy came to prominence, it influenced Pagan Roman armies to destroy three of the tribes which opposed its Christian doctrines. These three were the Vandals, Ostrogoths, and Heruli. The last of these was destroyed in AD 538 when Justinian’s decree went into effect.
- 4) Eyes and mouth of a man (v.8) - the Papacy has a man as its visible head.
- 5) Persecutes the saints (v.21, 25) - Ever hear of the Papal persecution during the dark ages - Inquisition, etc. More than 50 million Protestant Christians tortured and killed by the Catholic Church.
- 6) Different from the other ten horns (v.24) - the Papacy was a religio-political entity different from the kingdoms before it.
- 7) Speak out against God (v.8, 11, 20, 25) - Verse 8 says it will utter boastful or blasphemous things. One quote of many like it from *Prompta Bibliotheca Canonica Juridicia Moralis Theologica* appearing in the Catholic Encyclopedia Volume VI, pp. 25-29, “*The Pope is of so great dignity, and so exalted, that he is not a mere man, but as it were, God and the Vicar of God. The Pope is, as it were, God on earth, chief king of kings, having plentitude of power.*”
- 8) Little Horn attempts to change God’s times and laws (v.25) - The Papacy deleted the second



Commandment of the Decalogue on idolatry, changed the Sabbath to Sunday in favour of sun worship and divided the tenth Commandment on coveting into two parts to get back to Ten Commandments.

- 9) Have power for a time, times, and half a time (or three and a half years, forty two months, or 1260 days - see Rev 12:6, 14) (v.25) - Applying the prophetic day for a year principle established in Numbers 14:34 and Ezekiel 4:6 that equals 1260 years. The Papacy lasted in primary power from AD 538 to 1798 in which year Napoleon's general Berthier marched into Rome, deposed the Pope, and carried him into exile where he died.

5) How does Daniel's vision compare with John's vision in Revelation 13?

The table below also demonstrates how a lot of Bible prophecy can be understood by comparing Revelation with the Old Testament and the book of Daniel in particular. Again this is very important to understanding the Battle of Armageddon as the beast is Mystery Babylon who is the major player in this prophecy.

Antichrist Power - Daniel 7	Antichrist Power - Revelation 13
Four beasts from the Sea. Verse 3	Four Beasts in one from sea. Verse 1
Lion. Verse 4	Lion. Verse 2
Bear. Verse 5	Bear. Verse 2
Leopard. Verse 6	Leopard. Verse 2
Ten horned beast. Verse 7	Ten horned beast. Verse 1
Mouth Speaking great things. Verse 8	Mouth Speaking great things. Verse 5
Make war with the Saints. Verse 21	Make war with the Saints. Verse 7
Power for 3.5 years = 42 Months. Verse 25	Power for 42 Months. Verse 5

The above similarities are not a coincidence. God deliberately concealed many things like this so that they would not be seen until the time of the end. This applies to most prophecies involving the book of Daniel.

Daniel 12:4 "But you, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased."

There has only been one power that has persecuted Christians for 1260 years and only one power had the privilege of taking out three of the ten kingdoms from the collapse of the Roman Empire. It can be no other than the Papacy on these two points alone, and as we have seen there are far more identifying points.

Table showing common elements that help identify the antichrist power just described:

Characteristics	The Little Horn (Daniel 7)	The Man of Sin (2 Thessalonians 2:3)	The Sea Beast (Revelation 13)	Woman on Beast (Revelation 17-18)
Source	Comes out of the head of the 10 horned fourth beast (Rome)	Owes his rise to removal of a hindering power	Comes from the "sea" meaning many people (densely populated Europe)	Arises in a city with seven hills (Rome) and rules over many waters (peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues)
Time of Origin	Comes up among 10 horns (the divided successors of the Pagan Roman Empire)	Revealed only after the fall of the hindering Pagan Roman Empire	Receives power, seat and authority from the Dragon (Satan working through Pagan Rome)	Arises among the ten horns (divisions of Rome) that will hate her
Religio-political Church-State Power	Diverse power, blasphemes God, exercises authority over the saints, changes times and laws of the most high	Political characteristics not mentioned, but demands and receives worship	Composite of Daniel's beasts, which are kingdoms, and wear crowns, that demands and receives worship	The woman is an apostate church the beast is the power of the state hence this is a religio-political power having a priest-king ruler
Blasphemous Presumption	In this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things and words against the most high	Exalts himself above God.	Has a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies	Full of names of blasphemy
Time of Dominance	Given power over the saints for a time, times and a dividing of time. (1260 years)	---	Given power forty and two months (1260 years)	---
Warring against God's people	Made war with the saints and prevailed against them	---	Makes war with the saints and overcomes them	This woman (apostate church) is drunk with the blood of the saints - in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth.
Great Power	Looks more stout than his fellows	Has all power, signs and lying wonders	Who is able to make war with him?	The woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.
Demands Divine Homage	Sets himself over the saints, times, and laws of the most high	Sets himself up as God, above all that is worshipped	Causes multitudes to worship him	This woman is the apostate "mother" of harlot churches
End	They shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end (the second coming)	The Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:	Cast into the lake of fire	Utterly burned with fire

The Empires of Daniel and Revelation

As already demonstrated, Bible prophecy quite often uses the principle of repetition and enlargement to allow you to see and understand the full picture. This is a very simple principle that so many do not understand which is why Satan succeeds in having so many interpretations of Bible prophecy in the world. As you can see from below, interpretations are not required. Besides the fact that history shows that Medo-Persia conquered Babylon, we are also told directly in Daniel 8 that Medo-Persia follows Babylon and Greece follows them.

Empire	Daniel 2	Daniel 7	Daniel 8	Revelation 13
BABYLON Until 538 B.C.	Head of Gold vs. 32, 38	Lion from Sea vs. 4, 17	---	Mouth of a Lion v. 2
MEDO - PERSIA Until 331 B.C.	Chest of Silver vs. 32, 39	Bear from Sea vs. 5, 17	Ram vs. 3, 20	Feet of a Bear v. 2
GREECE Until 168 B.C.	Belly of Brass vs. 32, 39	Leopard from Sea vs. 6, 17	He-Goat vs. 5, 21	Body like a Leopard v. 2
PAGAN ROME Until 476 A.D.	Legs of Iron vs. 33, 40	4 th Diverse Beast from Sea, Iron Teeth vs. 7, 17	---	World power of John's time Rome / Dragon v.2
Europe Divided (Ten Kingdoms)	10 Toes (kingdoms) Iron & Clay vs. 33, 41	10 Horns (kingdoms) vs. 20, 24	---	10 Horns (kingdoms) Beast from the Sea v. 1
PAPAL ROME Begins 538 A.D. Head Wound 1798 A.D.	Clay & Iron Church & State Jeremiah 18:1-6	Diverse Little Horn vs. 8, 11, 24-25	Little Horn vs. 9-12, 23-25	Composite of previous Empires headed 10 horned Beast from the Sea vs. 1-3
JUDGMENT BEGINS 1844 A.D.	---	Judgment scene vs. 9-10, 22, 26	Sanctuary Cleansed v. 14	---
UNITED STATES	---	---	---	Lamb-like 2 Horned Land Beast v. 11
PAPAL Head Wound Healed Lateran Treaty 1929	---	---	---	Head Wound to Sea Beast Healed vs. 3,12
GOD'S KINGDOM	Stone – Mountain vs. 35, 44	God's Kingdom vs. 13-14, 27	---	---

Daniels Prophecy proves the Day for a Year Rule.

The following is just some of the evidence that shows the day for a year rule is correct when prophecy is symbolic. The Book of Daniel was written while the Jews were in Babylon in exile because of their sins. Daniel 9:24-27 contains a prophecy from the angel Gabriel to encourage the Jewish people that they would be given a "second chance" to return to Jerusalem, rebuild their temple and ultimately receive Jesus Christ as their Messiah. Thus we have a prophecy of "seventy weeks." Gabriel subdivides the period into three smaller periods of seven weeks (verse 25), sixty-two weeks (verse 25), and one week (verse 27). $7+62+1=70$. Seventy weeks = 490 days and on the day for a year rule is actually 490 years. The prophecy starts with a "commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem" (verse 25) after the Babylonian captivity and reaches down to the first coming of Jesus Christ. After 69 weeks (483 years), "shall Messiah be cut off" (verse 26), i.e. the Messiah would die. So after the 69 weeks and in this final week it says "And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease" (verse 27.) The sacrifices and offerings ceased of course when Jesus became the final perfect sacrifice for us. Here we see the day for a year rule fits history absolutely 100% perfectly. If we did not apply the day for a year rule, Jerusalem would have had to have been rebuilt in 49 days (impossible) instead of the actual 49 years it did take and the ministry of Jesus would have been only 3.5 days instead of the actual 3.5 years. Daniel was told to seal up this 2300 day prophecy as it applied to a long time in the future which the angel called the "time of the end" (Daniel 8:17; 12:4, 9) and 2300 days into the future would not have even made 400 BC. Hardly what one could call the "time of the end" in which we now live.

