

It is said that the Truth had an appointment in a certain town where the people were very anxiously waiting for him. It was a hot day, and Truth was walking along a dusty, narrow road toward the people who were waiting. Finally, the heat became unbearable. As he was going along, he saw through the woods a pond. The Truth thought, "I think I'll have a swim," So Truth went through the woods and there by a rock next to the pond, he pulled off his lovely white garments, and hung them on a branch and jumped into the cool water, enjoying himself on that hot summer day.

But you know, wherever Truth goes, Lie goes. And Lie heard that Truth was going to town, and as he followed along behind, he too was caught in the heat. And when he came to the pond he thought, "I'll take a swim and cool off a bit." So he went over to get ready to jump in the pond when suddenly he saw the pure garment of Truth hanging on the branch. And Lie being sneaky as he was, got an idea. "Ah," he said, "Rather than going for the swim, I think I'll just steal Truth's clothes." So he threw his old rags to the ground and put on the pure garments of Truth, and started down the road towards town. And when the people saw him coming, they began to rejoice, "Here comes the Truth!" Until finally one perceptive elder in the town said, "No, hold it people, that's not the Truth, that's a Lie dressed up as Truth!" And sure enough it was.

After a while, Truth finished his swim intending to get dressed and go into town. But when he got out, he noticed his clothes were gone, and he was very disappointed. He wondered where they could be. And as he looked around, he suddenly spotted the old, ragged garments of a Lie. And Truth decided, "Before I wear that, I'd rather wear nothing." So he started down the road just as he was!

And when the people saw him coming, they really began to rejoice and shout as they cried out, "Look folks! Here comes the Truth, the *naked* Truth!"

Tonight's lesson takes us to a subject in the Bible that is significant for a number of reasons that will become clear as we go through it. You could say we're going to look together at the Naked Truth tonight! Are you ready?

A promise we make in this series of lessons that we aim to keep is that we will not present man-made theories, rather we will keep to Bible truth. With that said, let's get into our lesson.

The great message to prepare our generation for Christ's coming is found in Revelation 14:6-10. *⁶Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language and people. ⁷He said in a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water." ⁸A second angel followed and said, "Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great, which made all the nations drink the maddening wine of her adulteries." ⁹A third angel followed them and said in a loud voice: "If anyone worships the beast and his image and receives his mark on the forehead or on the hand, ¹⁰he, too, will drink of the wine of God's fury, which has*

been poured full strength into the cup of his wrath. He will be tormented with burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb.

The last phrase of **verse 7** directs our attention to the subject of worship.

Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water

The obvious problem we are dealing with then in Revelation is the difference between Revelation 14:7 and verse 9,

One group	worships the creator- "him who made"
The other	"worships the Beast."

The entire world including you and I will be on one side or the other.

Look up the incredible passage found in Revelation 13:1,2,3,8. ALL the world is worshipping and following the beast! We have already learned who this beast represents in previous studies, and a review of these lessons may be wise at this time. You will recall, we discovered that the beast represents the Holy Roman Empire or the Papacy.

Some time just before the return of Christ, the Bible tells us that the whole world will be divided into only 2 camps – those who worship the beast, and those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life. So today, if we find that many are following the beast instead of the Bible, it should not surprise us, for God has told us it would be so. Since the message of Revelation 14:7 says to "worship Him that made heaven and earth," let's go back to the beginning when God made everything and read that from the Bible.

Genesis 1:1 ¹ *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

In the remaining verses of this chapter, you can find...

On the first day, He created light; Second day he separated the waters above from the waters below, creating the atmosphere, on the Third day, brought dry land from the water and vegetation upon it, on the Fourth day, he made the sun, moon and stars etc, on the Fifth day, he created the birds and fish; and on the Sixth day, animals and then the crowning act of creation - man and woman.

Here in Genesis 1 we have the first six days of the history of the world. As we close the chapter we read in Gen 1:31

³¹ *God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.*

And now we come to the first seventh day of the history of the world.

Genesis 2:1-3, ¹ *Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.* ² *By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work.* ³ *And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.*

And so the Bible says that God created the Sabbath day. Now this is interesting...the Bible says that after God finished the work of creation, he pronounced it VERY GOOD and then He did something interesting. He created a day and set it aside as a memorial of His creation. This verse says that he blessed it and sanctified it. Why?

Vs 3 ³ *And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.*

You see it is not only a holyday, it is a holiday. Especially in the early part of the year, here in New Zealand, we have a lot of holidays. You know what the purpose of a holiday is? It is designated as a day to remember something. So we have Anzac day, Queen's birthday, Labour day, etc. God gave us the Seventh-day Sabbath as a way to remember His works of creation. We can read about it

Psalms 111:2-4 ² *Great are the works of the LORD; they are pondered by all who delight in them.* ³ *Glorious and majestic are his deeds, and his righteousness endures forever.* ⁴ *He has caused his wonders to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and compassionate.*

If fact, God Himself said it and wrote it in His law. Look up Exodus 20:8-11
Did you notice that the fourth commandment is quoted directly in Revelation 14:7?
So when God calls people living in the last days to worship Him, He's simply doing what He did when He made us - He calls the world's attention back to the fourth commandment.

Why? What right does God have to tell you how to live your life? What right does God have to give to us the 10 Commandments and tell us to keep them? Since this is really an issue of worship, what right does God have to ask for our worship? Well, it is really quite simple.

The answer to these questions is Because, He is our Creator. He made the earth and everything in it, including you. That gives Him the authority. If He was not the creator, then He would have no right to ask anything of you. You can read the 10 Commandments from start to finish and you will only find one commandment that identifies Him as the Creator; it is the fourth commandment.

By the way, now might be a good time to ask which day does this commandment identify as the Sabbath? The seventh day, right? Which day is the seventh day?

Saturday. How do we know that? Look what Webster says, "Sabbath; the seventh day of the week (Saturday)." -Webster's New World Dictionary, second college edition. We can also look to the Bible. Three of the most famous days in history will clearly tell us what day is the Sabbath.

Luke 23:50 ⁵⁰*Now there was a man named Joseph, a member of the Council, a good and upright man,* ⁵¹*who had not consented to their decision and action. He came from the Judean town of Arimathea and he was waiting for the kingdom of God.* ⁵²*Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body.* ⁵³*Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen cloth and placed it in a tomb cut in the rock, one in which no one had yet been laid.* ⁵⁴*It was Preparation Day, and the Sabbath was about to begin.*

Here it says that Jesus died on the preparation day. What day did Jesus die on? Friday; that's why many celebrate Good Friday.

Vs 55 ⁵⁵*The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee followed Joseph and saw the tomb and how his body was laid in it.* ⁵⁶*Then they went home and prepared spices and perfumes. But they rested on the Sabbath in obedience to the commandment.*

It says that the women rested on the Sabbath, this is the day following the preparation day which we learned was Friday, so what day is the Sabbath? Saturday

Luke 24:1 ¹*On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb.* ²*They found the stone rolled away from the tomb,* ³*but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.*

This verse says that Jesus rose from the grave very early on the first day of the week. What day did Jesus rise from the grave? Sunday. So here we see these three days: Friday referred to as the preparation day, Saturday referred to as the Sabbath, and Sunday referred to as the first day of the week.

Friends, it couldn't be clearer, Saturday is the Sabbath, the seventh day of the week. Now, there may be several questions that naturally arise and should be answered.

1. Some of you might be thinking, I thought that seventh day was the Jewish Sabbath.
2. Does it really matter what day we keep, isn't one day just as good as the other.
3. If Saturday really is the seventh day of the week, why do most Christians keep Sunday instead?

These are all good questions, so let's get the answer to them. But let's not just use human reasoning and opinions, but let's get the Bible answers.

Let's start with this idea of the seventh day being a Jewish Sabbath. Did you know that nowhere in the Bible is the Sabbath ever referred to as the Jewish Sabbath, or a Sabbath for the Jews?

When the earth was created, how many people were on planet earth on the sixth day? *Two!* What were their names? *Adam and Eve.* When was the Sabbath created? *On the 7th day!* Were they Jews? *NO! There were no Jews for hundreds of years.*

In fact, we can also find the answer to this question in Mark 2:27.

Mark 2:27 ²⁷*Then he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man."*

M-A-N - that is a funny way to spell JEW. The fact is that God didn't make the Sabbath "for the Jews." It was given for Adam and Eve, and every other human being. So obviously it is not just for the Jews. What about any other day, does it really make a difference?

Genesis 2:1-3, ¹ *Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.* ² *By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work.* ³ *And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.*

There were three things God did to specifically set apart the seventh day. He rested on it, He blessed it, He sanctified it - or made it holy, and set it apart for sacred use. God did not do this to any other day. Why is this day different? Let's read the full commandment and see why

Ex 20:8 ⁸ *"Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. 9 Six days you shall labor and do all your work, 10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. 11 For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.*

We discover the last time we were together that this is the only part of scripture that God himself wrote, with His own finger. What is the first word that God used? "Remember."

And just as it begins with the word REMEMBER, He gave it so that his creation would remember Him as the Creator, resting from what they do all week long, to remember who God is and who they ARE.

Once a week, when I leave the house on a Tuesday morning and my wife says to me, "Remember to pick up Colin our son from Kindergarten," why do you think she says "remember"? - Because she thinks I might forget!! God says "Remember!"

Why? Because He knew we might forget! And it's amazing that in only one of the 10 commandments He said REMEMBER, the whole world has forgotten!

Friends, with the pace at which we live, we need the Sabbath today more than ever before. Think of the pace at which you are charging through life every week. Now imagine if once a week you took a whole 24 hours to stop, to rest, to recharge, to be with your family, and to be with your creator - God. When God created you and I, he knew we needed to rest and to take time to be with Him. Incidentally if He designed us, do you think He might have at least a few clues as to how often we might need rest?

But there is another reason that God gave us the Sabbath and it is this. More than anything else, God wants to build a relationship with you. In fact that's the reason He made us in the first place. To know Him. And if there is one thing I have learned it is this; any relationship needs time if it's going to grow. God wants to spend time with you and for you to spend time with Him. Not just a few minutes here and there, but God sets aside an entire day every week to spend with you.

And that's also the reason the devil hates God's Sabbath. It is obvious this is the commandment he has attacked more than any other. Why? He knows what will happen when you spend time with Jesus! Furthermore, the Sabbath carries the significance of being a sign of our relationship with Jesus.

Ezekiel 20:20 ²⁰ *Keep my Sabbaths holy, that they may be a sign between us. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God."*

God said "keep my Sabbath's holy" they will be a sign just between you and me. Now the devil knows full well the meaning of the Sabbath. Every time God has given something as a blessing, the devil has come up with a counterfeit. That's his trademark.

God gave the Sabbath, and the devil knew that unlike any of the other commandments, the Sabbath commandment alone identified and honoured God as our Creator. In order to detract from the worship of the true God, and nullify everything that honors God he twisted things so much that today most of the sincere Christian world is breaking the Sabbath day and don't even know it. We have forgotten this precious gift that was given to us the week we were created!

But not only have people forgotten, many attempt to use the Scriptures themselves to justify a teaching that the commandments have been done away with! We looked at some of this in our last meeting, but did you know that there is only one commandment that they try and lose in this argument? The Sabbath commandment.

Interestingly enough, most of those who teach that the law was done away with by Jesus' death on the cross, still keep all but one of the Ten Commandments! One commandment bothers them, and in an effort to set aside the fourth commandment,

they have come up with a teaching that Jesus did away with the whole law! And the idea is that having done away with the ten commandments, nine of them were referred to by at least one New Testament writers, and were therefore reinstated!

Let's take another look at what Jesus himself had to say in Matthew 5:17-19

*¹⁷"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, **not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen**, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. ¹⁹Anyone who breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven*

James 2:10-12 *¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. ¹¹For he who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker. ¹²Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom.*

If we break ONE, we break them all.

Why is this? The answer is simple. Keeping God's law is based on one principle, "LOVE." God gives us His law because He loves us, and He asks us to follow it if we love Him. Jesus said in **John 14:15**, *"If you love me, you will obey what I command."* The 10 commandment law simply shows who or what we love most, Jesus or sin. Let's look again at a few of the verses we read last time we were together.

John 14:21, *²¹Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him.*

1 John 5:2, 3, *²This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. ³This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome.*

You see, love is at the center of our desire to keep the commandments. So choosing to break one commandment, no matter which one it is, is inconsistent with love relationship with Christ. That's why it says if we break one we break them all.

It's just like that with us and our relationships with each other – think about it – LADIES – how many of you would be happy with a man to be devoted to you for 9 days out of 10, but on that 10th day he spends it with another woman? **How many of you would believe that he really loved you?**
It's an all or nothing deal right?

It's the same way with Jesus. Matthew 22:36-40 ³⁶"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" ³⁷Jesus replied: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' ³⁸This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

What day did Jesus keep? We can be safe in doing what Jesus did. In fact this is what the Bible says we are to do.

1 John 2:3-6, ³We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands. ⁴The man who says, "I know him," but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him. ⁵But if anyone obeys his word, God's love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him: ⁶Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.

This passage says, beloved that you and I ought to walk as Jesus walked. So, let's see then what Jesus' custom was. Luke 4:16 tells us...¹⁶He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. And he stood up to read.

It was Jesus' custom to go to church on Sabbath. In fact, Jesus had so much respect for the Sabbath that He, looking far into the future asked us to respect it. Matthew 24:15-20 ¹⁵"So when you see standing in the holy place 'the abomination that causes desolation,' spoken of through the prophet Daniel—let the reader understand— ¹⁶then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. ¹⁷Let no one on the roof of his house go down to take anything out of the house. ¹⁸Let no one in the field go back to get his cloak. ¹⁹How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! ²⁰Pray that your flight will not take place in winter or on the Sabbath.

Jesus here looked 40 years into the future, and still asked His disciples to honor the Sabbath. God answered their prayers, and they fled in A.D. 70, in October, on a Wednesday, to a city called Pella, and not one Christian died in the destruction of Jerusalem! If Jesus was expecting His Church to keep the Sabbath, looking 40 years into the future, then we can be sure He wanted it kept to the end of time.

Which day did the disciples keep? Let's go to **Acts 13:14** ¹⁴From Perga they went on to Pisidian Antioch. On the Sabbath they entered the synagogue and sat down.

Vs 42 ⁴²As Paul and Barnabas were leaving the synagogue, the people invited them to speak further about these things on the next Sabbath. ⁴³When the congregation was dismissed, many of the Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who talked with them and urged them to continue in the **grace of God**.

Here we have New Testament Christians who were living under grace, keeping the Sabbath. Another text, **Acts 18:4**, ⁴Every Sabbath he reasoned in the synagogue,

trying to persuade Jews and Greeks. Paul preached every Sabbath to the Jews and Greeks. Even without a church, the apostles still kept the Sabbath day.

Acts 16:13, ¹³*On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there.*

The Lord's day? Often sincere people say, "We keep the Lord's day." Did you know there is only one text in the entire Bible that says "Lord's Day?" Let's read it in Revelation 1:10, ¹⁰*On the Lord's Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet.* According to this text, which day is the Lord's day? It doesn't say! Let's find from the Bible which day it is. **Matthew 12:8**, ⁸*For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.*"

"Lord of the Sabbath." And the commandment says the *seventh day* is the Sabbath of the *Lord!*

A holy day: Some others say, "Oh, it doesn't matter which day you keep. I keep every day." But here we must be careful. The same commandment says six days are days for labor, not to be kept holy. God didn't say keep a Sabbath. He said keep *the* Sabbath. **The** is a definite article identifying a specific person, place, or thing. The Bible says *the* seventh day is *the* Sabbath of *the* Lord. Is it possible to **keep** a day holy that God has not **made** holy. Clearly no.

The Bible says there is a way which seems right to a man but the end there of is death. (**Proverbs 14:12**) We must follow God's Word, not human reasoning.

Calendar change? Then people sometimes say, "Well, the days have been mixed up and we don't know what day the Sabbath is. The calendar was changed." Yes it was - But time hasn't been lost. You see we only have to go back as far as Jesus. Yes the calendar was changed once since Jesus in 1582 by Pope Gregory XIII. That's where we get our present Gregorian calendar. Prior to the Gregorian calendar, the Julian calendar was used from 46 B.C. on. It had a length of a year as 365 days and six hours. This was 11 minutes more than it was supposed to be. Over the years, the 11 minutes accumulated, and by 1582 the calendar was approximately 10 days out of harmony with the solar system.

So it was Thursday, October 4, 1582 and the next day, Friday, which should have been October 5, became October 15. The days of the week were not affected at all, only the dates. Today we do the same thing every four years on leap year. And speaking of the calendar, it is a fact that in 108 languages of the world, the seventh-day, Saturday, is called "Sabbath." There is no question that the Sabbath day today is exactly the same seventh-day Sabbath Jesus kept while He was on this earth.

Often people will sincerely say, "We keep Sunday in honor of the resurrection." While that's a wonderful thought, we must ask: Is it biblical? You see, God **did** give two things to honor His death, burial, and resurrection. First He gave communion

and said "this do in remembrance of Me." Secondly, He gave baptism as a memorial, *not* a new Sabbath.

And so from Genesis to Revelation and from Eden to Heaven there will always be a Sabbath. From **creation**, all throughout **the Old Testament**, it was kept. Then **Jesus**, in the four gospels, kept it. The **early Christians** in the New Testament kept it, **Paul** kept it, and when we **go to heaven** and God creates the new heavens and new earth, we are going to keep it there. Let's read that verse together.

Isaiah 66:22 ²² *"As the new heavens and the new earth that I make will endure before me," declares the LORD, "so will your name and descendants endure. ²³ From one New Moon to another and from one Sabbath to another, all mankind will come and bow down before me," says the LORD.*

Now after disturbing you with a study like this, I think it well to tell you clearly who, when, and by what authority the Sabbath was changed. Let's once again go to that prophecy in Daniel that describes the antichrist Daniel 7:25

Daniel 7:25 ²⁵ *He will speak against the Most High and oppress his saints and try to change the set times and the laws. The saints will be handed over to him for a time, times and half a time.*

God has identified the papal power as the one who "changes times and laws." Interestingly, the only "laws" that deal with "times" are found in the fourth commandment.

"Remember the sabbath day ... Six days shalt thou labor ... the seventh day is the sabbath ... For in six days the Lord made ... and rested on the seventh day ... the Lord blessed the sabbath day. ..."

God is simply telling us here that we can expect to find the papacy responsible for changing the time of the Sabbath day from Saturday to Sunday. Let's read now from the Catholic Catechism itself and see if this is so.

The Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine, p.50:

Q. What is the Third Commandment?

A. The Third Commandment is: Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.

Q. Which is the Sabbath day?

A. Saturday is the Sabbath day.

Q. Why do we observe Sunday instead of Saturday?

A. We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday.

There it is, straight from the lips of the antichrist. Now the issues become clear. On one side is the one who stands in the place of Christ, the Antichrist and commandments of men. On the other is Jesus Christ and the commandments of God.

Closing word: Understanding the Bible Sabbath can bring a whole lot of practical questions that also beg to be answered. These are all questions that the Pastoral team would be happy to talk over with you and we encourage you to do this. But often we find that the most pressing question that surfaces is when a person is convicted of this Bible truth but wonders how their lives could ever be reorganized in a way that they could keep the Sabbath day holy.

Perhaps you are working on the Sabbath currently, or are in a relationship with someone who you fear may not understand, or you have a business that relies on Sabbath patronage to remain viable. Again we'd love to meet with you and here's why. We have found that just as surely as God leads people to follow the conviction that He places within their hearts, He also takes care of every detail that accompanies any decision He calls for. May God bless you as you welcome a new and deeper experience with your Creator and Redeemer.

Appendix:

Here are one hundred plain Bible facts upon this question, showing conclusively that the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord in both the Old and New Testament.

Sixty Bible Facts Concerning the Seventh Day

Why keep the Sabbath day? What is the object of the Sabbath? Who made it? When was it made, and for whom? Which day is the true Sabbath? Many keep the first day of the week, or Sunday. What Bible authority has they for this? Some keep the seventh day, or Saturday. What Scripture have they for that? Here are the facts about both days, as plainly stated in the Word of God.

1. After working the first six days of the week in creating this earth, the great God rested on the seventh day. (Genesis 2:1-3).
2. This stamped that day as God's day, or Sabbath day, as Sabbath day means rest day. To illustrate: when a person is born on a certain day, that day becomes his *birthday*. So when God rested on the seventh day, that day became His rest, or Sabbath, day.
3. Therefore the seventh day must always be God's Sabbath day. Can you change your birthday from the day on which you were born to one on which you were not born? No. Neither can you change God's rest day to a day on which He did not rest. Hence the seventh day is still God's Sabbath day.
4. The Creator blessed the seventh day. (Genesis 2:3).
5. He sanctified the seventh day. (Exodus 20:11)
6. He made it the Sabbath day in the Garden of Eden. (Genesis 2:1-3)
7. It was made before the fall; hence it is not a type; for types were not introduced until after the fall.
8. Jesus says it was made for *man* (Mark 2:27), that is, for the race, as the word *man* is here unlimited: hence, for the Gentile as well as the Jew.
9. It is a memorial of creation. (Exodus 20:11: 31:17). Every time we rest upon the seventh day, as God did at creation, we commemorate that great event.
10. It was given to Adam, the head of the human race. (Mark 2:27; Genesis 2:1-3).
11. Hence through him, as our representatives, to all nations. (Acts 17:26).
12. It is not a Jewish institution, for it was made 2,300 years before ever there was a Jew.
13. The Bible never calls it the Jewish Sabbath, but always "the Sabbath of the Lord thy God". Men should be cautious how they stigmatize God's holy rest day.

14. Evident reference is made to the Sabbath and the seven-day week all through the patriarchal age. (Genesis 2:1-3: 8:10, 12; 29:27, 28, etc.)
15. It was a part of God's law before Sinai. (Exodus 16:4, 27-29).
16. Then God placed it in the heart of His moral law. (Exodus 20:1-17). Why did He place it there if it was not like the other nine precepts, which all admit to be immutable?
17. The seventh-day Sabbath was commanded by the voice of the living God. (Deuteronomy 4:12, 13).
18. Then He wrote the commandment with His own finger. (Exodus 31:18).
19. He engraved it in the enduring stone, indicating its imperishable nature. (Deuteronomy 5:22).
20. It was sacred preserved in the ark in the holy of holies. (Deuteronomy 10:1-5).
21. God forbade work upon the Sabbath, even in the most hurrying times. (Exodus 34:21).
22. God destroyed the Israelites in the wilderness because they profaned the Sabbath. (Ezekiel 20:12, 13).
23. It is the sign of the true God, by which we are to know Him from false Gods. (Ezekiel 20:20).
24. God promised that Jerusalem should stand forever if the Jews would keep the Sabbath. (Jeremiah 17:24,25).
25. He sent them into the Babylonian captivity for breaking it. (Nehemiah 13:18).
26. He destroyed Jerusalem for it's violation. (Jeremiah 17:27).
27. God had pronounced a special blessing on all the Gentiles who will keep the Sabbath. (Isaiah 56:6, 7).
28. This is in the prophecy which refers wholly to the Christian dispensation. (See Isaiah 56).
29. God has promised to bless all who keep the Sabbath. (Isaiah 56:2).
30. The Lord requires us to call it "*honourable*". (Isaiah 58:13). Beware, ye who take delight in calling it the old Jewish Sabbath", "a yoke of bondage", etc.
31. After the holy Sabbath had been trodden down "many generations, it is to be restored in the last days." (Isaiah 8:12, 13).
32. All the holy prophets kept the seventh day.
33. When the Son of God came, He kept the seventh day all His life. (Luke 4:16; John 15:10). Thus He followed His Father's example at creation. Shall we not be safe in following the example of both the Father and the Son?
34. The seventh day is the Lord's Day. (See Revelation 1:10; Mark 2:28; Isaiah 58:13; Exodus 20:10).
35. Jesus was Lord of the Sabbath. (Mark 2:28), that is, to love and protect it, as the husband is the lord of the wife, to love and cherish her. (1 Peter 3:6).
36. He vindicated the Sabbath as a merciful institution designed for man's own good. (Mark 2:23-28).
37. Instead of abolishing the Sabbath, He carefully taught how it should be observed.
38. He taught His disciples that they should do nothing on the Sabbath but what was "*lawful*". (Matthew 12:12).
39. He instructs His apostles that the Sabbath should be prayerfully regarded forty years after His resurrection. (Matthew 24:20).
40. The pious women who had been with Jesus carefully kept the seventh day after His death. (Luke 23:56).
41. Thirty years after Christ's resurrection, the Holy Spirit expressly calls it "the Sabbath day". (Acts 13:14).

42. Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles, called it the "Sabbath day" in A.D. 45. (Acts 13:27). Did not Paul know? Or shall we believe modern teachers, who affirm that it ceased to be the Sabbath at the resurrection of Christ?
43. Luke, the inspired Christian historian, writing as late as A.D. 62, calls it the "Sabbath day". (Acts 13:44).
44. The Gentile converts called it the Sabbath. (Acts 13:42).
45. In the great Christian council, A.D. 49, in the presence of the apostles and thousands of disciples, James calls it the "Sabbath day". (Acts 15:21).
46. It was customary to hold prayer meetings on that day. (Acts 16:13).
47. Paul read the scriptures in public meetings on that day. (Acts 17:2, 3).
48. It was his custom to preach upon that day. (Acts 17:2, 3).
49. The Book of Acts alone gives a record of his holding eighty-four meetings, upon that day. (See Acts 13:14, 44; 16:13; 17:2; 18:4, 11).
50. There was never any dispute between the Gentiles and the Jews about the Sabbath day. This is proof that the Christians still observed the same day as the Jews did.
51. In all their accusations against Paul, they never charged him with disregarding the Sabbath day. Why did they not, if he did not keep it?
52. But Paul himself expressly declared that he had kept the law. "Neither against the law of the Jews, neither against the temple, nor yet against Caesar, have I offended any thing at all". (Acts 25:8). How could this be true if he had not kept the Sabbath?
53. The Sabbath is mentioned in the New Testament fifty-nine times, and always with respect, bearing the same title it had in the Old Testament, "the Sabbath day".
54. Not a word is said anywhere in the New Testament about the Sabbath's being abolished, done away, changed, or anything of the kind.
55. God has never given permission to any man to work upon it. Reader, by what authority do you use the seventh day for common labour?
56. No Christian of the New Testament, either before or after the resurrection, ever did ordinary work upon the seventh day. Find one case of that kind, and we will yield the question. Why should modern Christians do differently from the Bible Christians?
57. There is no record that God has ever removed His blessing or sanctification from the seventh day.
58. As the Sabbath was kept in Eden before the fall, so it will be observed eternally in the new earth after the restitution. (Isaiah 66:22, 23).
59. The seventh-day Sabbath was an important part of the law of God, as it came from His own mouth, and was written by His own finger upon stone at Sinai. (See Exodus 20). When Jesus began His work, He expressly declared that He had not come to destroy the law. "Think not that I am come to destroy the law or the prophets". (Matthew 5:17).
60. Jesus severely condemned the Pharisees as hypocrites for pretending to love God, while at the same time they made void one of the Ten Commandments by their tradition. The keeping of Sunday is only a tradition of men.

Forty Bible Facts Concerning the First Day of the Week.

1. The very first thing recorded in the Bible is work done on Sunday, the first day of the week. (Genesis 1:1-5). This was done by the Creator Himself. If God made the earth on Sunday, can it be wicked for us to work on Sunday?
2. God commands men to work upon the first day of the week. (Exodus 20:8-11). Is it wrong to obey God?
3. None of the patriarchs ever kept it.
4. None of the holy prophets ever kept it.
5. By the express command of God, His holy people used the first day of the week as a common working day for 4,000 years, at least.

6. God Himself calls it a "working" day. (Ezekiel 46:1).
7. God did not rest upon it.
8. He never blessed it.
9. Christ did not rest upon it.
10. Jesus was a carpenter (Mark 6:3), and worked at His trade until He was thirty years old. He kept the Sabbath and worked six days in the week, as all admit. Hence, He did many a hard day's work on Sunday.
11. The apostles worked upon it during the same time.
12. The apostles never rested upon it.
13. Christ never blessed it.
14. It has never been blessed by any divine authority.
15. It has never been sanctified.
16. No law was ever given to enforce the keeping of it, hence it is no transgression to work upon it. "Where no law is, there is no transgression" (Romans 4:15; also 1 John 3:4).
17. The New Testament nowhere forbids work to be done on it.
18. No penalty is provided for it's violation.
19. No blessing is promised for it's observation.
20. No regulation is given as to how it ought to be observed. Would this be so if the Lord wished us to keep it?
21. It is never called the Christian Sabbath.
22. It is never called the Sabbath day at all.
23. It is never called the Lord's day.
24. It is never even called a rest day.
25. No sacred title whatever is applied to it. Then why should we call it holy?
26. It is simply called the "first day of the week".
27. Jesus never mentioned it in any way, never took it's name upon His lips, so far as the record shows.
28. The word Sunday never occurs in the Bible at all.
29. Neither God, Christ, nor inspired men ever said one word in favour of Sunday as a holy day,
30. The first day of the week is mentioned only eight times in all of the New Testament. (Matthew 28:1; Mark 16:2, 9; Luke 24:1; John 20:1, 19; Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:2).
31. Six of these texts refer to the same first day of the week.
32. Paul directed the saints to look over their secular affairs on that day. (1 Corinthians 16:2).
33. In all the New Testament we have a record of only one religious meeting held upon that day, and even this was a night meeting. (Acts 20:5-12).
34. There is not intimation that they ever held a meeting on it before or after that.
35. It was not their custom to meet on that day.
36. There was no requirement to break bread on that day.
37. We have an account of only one instance in which it was done. (Acts 20:7).
38. That was done in the night - after midnight. (Verses 7-11). Jesus celebrated it on Thursday evening (Luke 22), and the disciples sometimes did it every day. (Acts 2:42-46).
39. The Bible nowhere says that the first day of the week commemorates the resurrection of Christ. This is a tradition of men, which contradicts the law of God. (Matthew 15:1-9). Baptism commemorates the burial and resurrection of Jesus. (Romans 6:3-5).
40. Finally, the New Testament is totally silent with regard to any change of the Sabbath day or any sacredness for the first day.

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