

Where did Sunday worship originate?

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

—Catholic Press (Sydney, Australia), Aug. 25, 1900.



Colossians 2:8 says, Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. (Acts 5:29)

"Of course, the Catholic Church claims that the change was her act;... And the act is a MARK of her ecclesiastical power and authority in religious matters." Cardinal Gibbons, letter dated July 7, 1895.

- The Sabbath is a gift from God and the true Lord's Day. (Mark 2:27,28) It may be used for kind deeds to others. (Matt. 12:12)
- The Sabbath begins at sundown Friday night and continues until sundown Sabbath. (Lev. 23:32, Gen. 1:5, 1:8, etc.)
- On the preparation day (Friday) we should complete all our work as biblically directed. (Ex. 16:23, Luke 23:54-56)
- On Sabbath we should refrain from buying and selling and all other common labor. (Neh. 13:15-21, Deut. 5:12-14)
- The Sabbath is to be a holy convocation. (Lev. 23:3)



God promises a blessing on His special day if we refrain from secular pursuits. ***"If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: Then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it."*** Isaiah 58:13,14

CONCLUSION

With not a shred of biblical evidence for the observance of Sunday, and multiple Bible texts supporting the Seventh day Sabbath--Saturday, we then have a choice to make. Do we follow the traditions of man or obey God's law, accept God's gift to us and REMEMBER the seventh-day Sabbath?

A

Command to REMEMBER

I
Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

II
Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them; for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me: And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

III
Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

IV
Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days hath the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.

V
Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

VI
Thou shalt not kill.

VII
Thou shalt not commit adultery.

VIII
Thou shalt not steal.

IX
Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, nor his wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is his neighbour's.

Bible Study Pathways Lesson 9

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A Story to Ponder...

A slave named Joe was being sold at a slave auction to a new master. As the auction price for him escalated higher and higher, he set his jaw in defiance. One man, though poor in appearance, continued to outbid all the others and finally Joe was sold to this highest bidder. As his sellers dragged him away with a chain around his neck, rather like an animal, Joe was surprised to hear his new master command them to remove the chains. They protested that he would run away, but his new master was firm and the chains were removed. The new owner told him, "I bought you to set you free." He then took him to a little house and told him, "This house is for you. You can marry and have a family if you like. I will give you food from my own table. My house is right over there." Not surprisingly, Joe decided he wanted to work for this man-- not out of fear, or even hope of reward, but out of thankfulness and love. Today, we may follow God's commandments, out of love for him because he bought us with the price of his Son to set us free.



1 John 5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. (1 John. 2:3, 4; John 14:15)



When we love God we will keep his _____.



Deut. 6:24 And the LORD commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as it is at this day. (Deut. 10:13)



James 2:10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in _____ point, he is guilty of all. (Mal 2:8, 9)



The commandments were given for our good. Therefore it is important to keep all of them to obtain the special blessing.



Exodus 20:8-11 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

? Which commandment did God specifically say to Remember? _____

💡 The fourth commandment is like God's seal; it reminds us that he is the Creator and the rightful owner of this world. The Sabbath had its origin in Eden, being made on the seventh day of Creation week. God rested on that day, blessed it, and sanctified it—setting it apart for holy and sacred use.

? The Bible states that the _____ day is the Sabbath. (Gen. 2:1-3, Ex. 31:16, 17, Ex. 16:26-30, Deut. 5:14)

📖 **Ezekiel 20:19,20** I am the LORD your God; walk in my statutes, and keep my judgments, and do them; And hallow my sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I am the LORD your God. (Ezekiel 20:11, 12)

? The keeping of God's law, and particularly the Sabbath, is a special _____ between God and His people.

📖 **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. (Acts 17:1-4)

? Which day of the week did both Jesus and Paul attend church? _____

📖 **But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day: Matt. 24:20. (Isaiah 66:22, 23; Malachi 3:6, Rev. 14:12)**

💡 The Bible lets us know without a shadow of a doubt that the commandments of God and the Sabbath will forever be kept by God's people. Matthew 24 shows that Jesus anticipated that the Sabbath would continue to be observed following his ascension and during the end of time. It will also be kept in the new Earth.

? Daniel 7:25 warns us of a kingdom represented by the little horn of the fourth beast, who defies God and tries to change _____ and _____

📖 *Daniel 7:25 And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws...*