

1

**Answering The Religious Errors Of Our Family, Friends, and Neighbors**  
**“Sabbath Keeping Is Still Binding Today.”**  
**Lesson 8**

**INTRO:**

- A.** There are a number of religious groups around the world that insist the Sabbath is to be observed as the day for Christians to worship.
1. Some believe Sunday is the ‘Christian Sabbath’.
    - a. Sunday cannot be the Sabbath.
      - 1) **Exodus 20:10** states "*the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord.*"
      - 2) Anyone familiar with a calendar knows the seventh day of the week is Saturday and Sunday is the first day of the week.
- B.** Some arguments made to justify keeping the Sabbath today:
1. Some religions claim, based on **Genesis 2:1-3**, that God sanctifying the seventh day makes it binding upon all mankind. (*“1 Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. 2 And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. 3 Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.”*)
    - a. However, the command regarding the Sabbath is not found until **Exodus 16:23-30**. *“23 Then he said to them, ‘This is what the LORD has said: ‘Tomorrow is a Sabbath rest, a holy Sabbath to the LORD. Bake what you will bake today, and boil what you will boil; and lay up for yourselves all that remains, to be kept until morning.’ 24 So they laid it up till morning, as Moses commanded; and it did not stink, nor were there any worms in it. 25 Then Moses said, ‘Eat that today, for today is a Sabbath to the LORD; today you will not find it in the field. 26 Six days you shall gather it, but on the seventh day, the Sabbath, there will be none.’ 27 Now it happened that some of the people went out on the seventh day to gather, but they found none. 28 And the LORD said to Moses, ‘How long do you refuse to keep My commandments and My laws? 29 See! For the LORD has given you the Sabbath; therefore He gives you on the sixth day bread for two days. Let every man remain in his place; let no man go out of his place on the seventh day.’ 30 So the people rested on the seventh day.”*
      - 1) From reading **verse 4** this occurrence was given as a test to see if the children of Israel would obey the commandments of God. (*“Then the LORD said to Moses, “Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you. And the people shall go out and gather a certain quota every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in My law or not.”*)
      - 2) The law/particulars of observing the Sabbath apparently were not binding because some gathered manna on the Sabbath and were not punished. (**verses 27-28** *“27 Now it happened that some of the people went out on the seventh day to gather, but they found none. 28 And the LORD said to Moses, ‘How long do you refuse to keep My commandments and My laws?’”*)
      - 3) When the law/particulars were given, a man was stoned to death when he picked up sticks on the Sabbath. **Numbers 15:32-36** (*“Now while the children of Israel were in the wilderness, they found a man gathering sticks on the Sabbath day. 33 And those who found him gathering sticks brought him to Moses and Aaron, and to all the congregation. 34 They put him under guard, because it*

Lesson 8

*had not been explained what should be done to him. 35 Then the LORD said to Moses, ‘The man must surely be put to death; all the congregation shall stone him with stones outside the camp.’ 36 So, as the LORD commanded Moses, all the congregation brought him outside the camp and stoned him with stones, and he died.”)*

- a) Even this event shows the Sabbath had not been in observance very long “because it had not been explained what should be done to him.” (verse 34)
2. Some want to say the word “remember” in **Exodus 20:8** shows the Sabbath was already being observed and therefore is binding on all mankind today.
- a. The command “remember the Sabbath day” means they are to remember the Sabbath from that day forward.
  - b. In **Exodus 13:3** God commanded: “...Remember this day in which you went out of Egypt...” in regards to the Feast of the Passover.
    - 1) But they had never observed the Passover prior to this command.
    - 2) Again, “remember” means they were to remember it from that day forward.
3. Some say the Sabbath is binding today because it was a “perpetual covenant” and was to last “for ever”. **Exodus 31:16-17** “Therefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations as 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.”
- a. The word “perpetual” and “for ever” means ‘age lasting’ or an indefinite period of time.
  - b. If the Sabbath is still binding today because it is referred to as being “perpetual” or “for ever”, what about:
    - 1) **The Passover - Exodus 12:14** “And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.”
    - 2) **The Levitical Priesthood - Exodus 29:9** “And thou shalt gird them with girdles, Aaron and his sons, and put the bonnets on them: and the priest's office shall be theirs for a perpetual statute: and thou shalt consecrate Aaron and his sons.”
    - 3) **Incense - Exodus 30:8** “And when Aaron lights the lamps at twilight, he shall burn incense on it, a perpetual incense before the Lord throughout your generations.”
    - 4) **The Feast Of Booths - Leviticus 23:41-42** “You shall thus celebrate it as a feast to the Lord for seven days in the year. It shall be a perpetual statute throughout your generations; you shall celebrate it in the seventh month. 'You shall live in booths for seven days; all the native-born in Israel shall live in booths”.
    - 5) **IF WE ARE TO OBSERVE THE SABBATH TODAY BECAUSE IT WAS A ‘PERPETUAL’ COVENANT, WOULDN’T THE SAME HOLD TRUE FOR THESE AS WELL?**

**I. WHAT DO THE SCRIPTURES TEACH?**

**A. Of The Ten Commandments Given In Exodus 20:1-17 And Deuteronomy 5:1-21, There Is One Which Is Not Re-instated In The New Testament - “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.”**

1. It is not to be found in any book, chapter, or verse in the New Testament.
2. Therefore, there is no command in the New Testament which binds the Sabbath on Christians today.

**B. The Command To “Remember The Sabbath Day, To Keep It Holy” Was Given To Israel, Not Christians!**

1. God made a covenant with the nation of Israel at Mt. Sinai. **Deuteronomy 5:2-3** “*The LORD our God made a covenant with us in Horeb. 3 The LORD did not make this covenant with our fathers, but with us, those who are here today, all of us who are alive.*”
  - a. This covenant included the Ten Commandments because they are listed in the remainder of chapter 5 where the Sabbath is specifically mentioned in verse 12-15.
  - b. This covenant, including the keeping of the Sabbath, was not given to anyone other than the Israelites - not even to their forefathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. (Deuteronomy 5:3)
- C. Also, in **Exodus 31:16-17** the Lord said, “*Therefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant. 17 It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever; for in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed.*”
2. In the New Testament, Jesus and His disciples kept the Sabbath.
  1. They were Israelites and during the time Jesus was on earth they lived under the Old Testament/Law Of Moses.
  2. Jesus had not yet died and nailed that law/covenant to the cross. **Colossians 2:14-17** “*having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. 15 Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it. 16 So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, 17 which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.*”  
**2 Corinthians 3:7** “*But if the ministration of death, written and engraven in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not steadfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance; which glory was to be done away.*”
3. Christian are never commanded to keep the Sabbath; neither do we have a single New Testament example of a Christian keeping the Sabbath holy.

4

**Answering The Religious Errors Of Our Family, Friends, and Neighbors**  
**“Sabbath Keeping Is Still Binding Today.”**  
**Lesson 8**

**C. Many Who Profess To ‘Remember The Sabbath And Keep It Holy’ Are Not Doing So According To What God Commanded!**

1. Here were but a few of the things involved in remembering the Sabbath and keeping it holy that God commanded:
  - a. No work was to be done (Exodus 20:8-10; 31:15; 35:2).
    - 1) An Israelite found picking up sticks on the Sabbath was put to death (Numbers 15:32-36).
    - 2) Could not carry a load (Jeremiah 17:22-23).
  - b. No cooking (boiling or baking) or kindling a fire (Exodus 16:23; 35:3).
  - c. They were commanded to offer two lambs every Sabbath (Numbers 28:9)
  - d. Death was required of those who violated these laws concerning the observance of the Sabbath (Exodus 31:14-14).
2. I know of no religious group or nation today that keeps all of these regulations! Do you?
3. Even those who claim to observe the Sabbath today do not do so in the way God commanded the Israelites to observe it.
4. Consider this: If they are not observing the Sabbath in the way God commanded, are they in fact observing it at all?

**CONCLUSION**

- A. The day for Christians is the first day of the week.
  1. This is the day when our Lord and Savior arose from the grave (**Matthew 28, Mark 16, Luke 24, John 20**).
  2. It was on the day of Pentecost, which always fell on a Sunday, when the church/kingdom was established (**Acts 2; Leviticus 23:15-16**).
  3. It was on the first day of the week that early Christians worshiped God by partaking of the Lord's Supper (**Acts 20:7**).
  4. It was on the first day of the week the church is commanded to “*lay by in store as God has prospered*” (**1 Corinthians 16:1-2**).
  5. The first day of the week is the “*Lord's day*” (**Revelation 1:10**) and is not the “Sabbath”!
- B. God did not change the Sabbath day to Sunday.
  1. Instead He completely abolished the entire system of the Law Of Moses that required remembering the Sabbath! (**Colossians 2:14-17**)
  7. Whoever would bind the Law Of Moses on people today have “*fallen from grace*” (**Galatians 5:4**) and have made themselves “*a debtor to do the whole law*” (**Galatians 5:3**), not just to remember the Sabbath.

5

**Answering The Religious Errors Of Our Family, Friends, and Neighbors**  
**“Sabbath Keeping Is Still Binding Today.”**  
**Lesson 8**

**QUESTIONS:**

1. **Why did God command Israel to keep the Sabbath Day? (Deut. 5:15).**

**Answer:**

---

---

---

---

2. **Is Sunday the “Christian Sabbath”?**

**Answer:**

---

---

---

---