

What Day Is God's Sabbath Day?

One very controversial subject among Christians is God's Seventh Day Sabbath.

Some Christians are **not** even aware that the Sabbath is on a Saturday in our Roman calendar.

The change of the Seventh Day Sabbath to the first day Sunday came about over hundreds of years and resulted in the murder of millions of Christians.

This is another fact that most Christians are unaware of.

If these points are true, why don't we hear more pastors teaching them?

If the Sabbath is Saturday, then why don't the majority of Christians keep the true Sabbath day?

How could the majority be wrong on what day we should set aside to worship the Creator God?

So do we still have to keep the Seventh Day Sabbath to obey our Creator God, Jesus Christ?

Since the majority of Christians grow up with Sunday worship as their custom, it becomes very much a mindset and people are also very reluctant to accept change or alter their lifestyle.

Saturday is also a day that is **not** convenient for most Christians and so sadly, most would rather not know the truth and go into denial!

Because of these factors, even when the Sabbath truth is presented, it becomes difficult to both see and accept.

A great evangelist was said to have acknowledged the Sabbath truth but stated, "*if I were to teach this truth, I would lose most of my listeners.*"

Many say the Sabbath was changed to Sunday in honour of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ said we are both to obey and teach the law, the Ten Commandments and **not** sacrifice the truth, His words, at any cost. [**Matthew 5:17-19; Matthew 28:19-20**]

Some say that any day can be kept as the Sabbath day as long as you keep one.

Others say it is legalism, and that the Ten Commandments are done away with.

We should never underestimate Satan's ability to slowly and subtly bring heresy into the Church and make those with most Biblical truth to get labelled falsely as cults or legalists.

Romans 7:7 [NIV] "*What shall we say, then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! Indeed I would not have known what sin was except through the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, 'Do not covet.'*"

Since the Sabbath is one of the Ten Commandments that defines what sin is, why wouldn't Satan attack the Sabbath command that is the easiest one to attack and do everything in his power to ensure that it does not get recognised or taught?

In doing this Satan can ensure that vast numbers of people unknowingly are living in lawlessness. [**1 John 3:4**]

If we truly study this subject in God's Word, the Christian Bible, and check with unbiased Church history, we will find that Satan has achieved his goal.

As most Christians do not study the Word of God, the Christian Bible, intensely but tend to rely on what their friends or pastor tell them, the lie continues to perpetuate.

What is the Sabbath Day about?

Our Creator God starts the Fourth Commandment with the word "*remember.*" This is because He knew it would be lost and forgotten.

The Fourth Commandment concludes the section of the Ten Commandments that specifically helps us to have a proper relationship with our Creator God, Jesus Christ [**John 1:1-3**], how we should love, worship and relate to Him.

It explains why and when we need to take special time to draw closer to our Creator, Jesus Christ.

The Sabbath is a sign as to who are God's people. [**Exodus 31:12-17; Ezekiel 20:12, 20**]

A special sign between us and God forever.

On the Roman calendar, that is kept by all people today, the Sabbath begins at sunset on Friday and ends at sunset on Saturday.

Those who keep the true Sabbath say it is a blessing and their favourite day of the week.

The Sabbath is quality time with the family and fellowshiping with God and other Christians.

Jesus said we are not only to obey the Ten Commandments but teach them to our children. [**Deuteronomy 6:1, 7**]

Why are some people so determined to take this blessing from those who keep the true Sabbath properly and in the way that Jesus intended and taught, not like the scribes and Pharisees who turned it into a legalistic burden?

Isaiah 58:13-14 [NIV] *"If you keep your feet from breaking the Sabbath and from doing as you please on my holy day, if you call the Sabbath a delight and the LORD's holy day honourable, and if you honour it by not going your own way and not doing as you please or speaking idle words, then you will find your joy in the LORD, and I will cause you to ride on the heights of the land and to feast on the inheritance of your father Jacob." The mouth of the LORD has spoken.*

God intended the Sabbath to be a joy **not** a burden.

The Ten Commandments were written in stone while the ceremonial law was written in a book, hence it is called the '*Book of the Law.*'

Written in stone means forever. [**Exodus 31:13-17**]

So basically God gave two specific sets of laws.

One set, the Ten Commandments, eternal, hence **not** nailed to cross.

The other was temporary, pointing towards the sacrifice of Jesus Christ and came to an end at His death, hence nailed to the cross.

[Please download and study our article on **Colossians 2:14-16** under heading '*Ceremonial Law*']

God makes a distinction between the temporary ceremonial Sabbath laws and His Ten Commandments that includes the Sabbath Day.

“Sabbath of the Lord.” [Exodus 20:10; Deuteronomy 5:14]

“My Sabbath,” as in His weekly Sabbaths. [Exodus 31:33; Ezekiel 20:20], while calling the ceremonial Sabbaths that were for Israel only *“her Sabbaths.”* [Hosea 2:11; Lamentations 1:7]

Some people say that the special sign that defines God’s people was for Israel only.

The question is who are the Israel of God today?

1 Corinthians 10:18 [King James] *“Behold Israel after the flesh: are not they which eat of the sacrifices partakers of the altar?”*

Israel of the flesh are those who are Jews by birth.

Galatians 6:14-16 [NIV] *“May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is a new creation. Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule, even to the Israel of God.”*

All who accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour are the Israel of God today. [Romans 2:28-29; Romans 9:6-8; Galatians 3:28-29]

Hebrews 8:10 [NIV] *“This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time, declares the Lord. I will put my laws in their minds and write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.”*

The New Covenant that Jesus Christ ratified with His blood was made with the house of Israel, Christians who are the people of God.

Since the Sabbath is a sign that we are God’s people, if we reject His Sabbath, are we not rejecting Jesus Christ who is *“Lord”* of the Sabbath? [Mark 2:27-28]

If we reject Jesus Christ’s Sabbath are we not rejecting the sanctification that the Sabbath brings, as it sets us apart as the children of God?

What are the consequences of not keeping the Sabbath?

James 2:10 [King James] *“For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.”*

If we fail to keep one point of the law we are guilty of all the law.

Hosea 4:6 [NIV] *“my people are destroyed from lack of knowledge. ‘Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject you as my priests; because you have ignored the law of your God, I also will ignore your children.’”*

It is because people reject the knowledge of God that is available to them that God will reject them as His people.

God is here accusing religious leaders of keeping the people from knowing Him as the keeping of the true Sabbath is intended to accomplish.

Romans 1:18-19 [NIV] *“The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them.”*

One of the things that are made that reveals our Creator God to us is the Sabbath.

Hebrews 10:26-29 [NIV] *“If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God. Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. How much more severely do you think a man deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God under foot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified him, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace?”*

If we wilfully reject keeping the Sabbath which is part of the law that is a way in which we show lack of love towards our Creator God and Saviour who shed His precious blood for us, [**Romans 13:9-10**].

Are the Ten Commandments still relevant today?

If something as important as the Ten Commandments were to change by even the smallest amount, we would be told with crystal clear scriptures.

Yet most Christians agree that nine of the Ten Commandments need to be obeyed yet freely sweep the fourth under the carpet as not applicable since Christ's sacrifice.

Unless clear scriptures can be produced that say the Day has changed or abolished then to break it by **not** keeping it makes us just as guilty as committing murder or adultery.

We are saved by the Grace of God **not** by our own works, but faith in what God has done for all humanity through Jesus Christ. [**Ephesians 2:8-9**]

But we are saved **for** good works [**Ephesians 2:10**] and part of that is keeping the Sabbath of God, in obedience to His command.

Romans 6:1-2 [King James] *“What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?”*

Being saved by grace does **not** mean we can continue to sin, that is break the law, but obey it more completely.

Romans 6:14-15 [King James] *“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.”*

We continue to be obedient to the law, part of which Jesus Christ claims He is “*Lord*” of, the Sabbath Day.

Did Jesus say He came to do away with the law [**Matthew 5:17**], or change the law? [**Matthew 5:18; Luke 16:17**]

Did Jesus say we have to teach the law as well as obey it? [**Matthew 5:19**]

Did Jesus Christ say that those who practice lawlessness, which is the breaking of the Ten Commandments, will not enter the Kingdom, created family of God, and receive the gift of eternal life? [**Matthew 7:21; 1 John 2:4; Matthew 19:16-19**]

Revelation 22:14-15 [NIV] *“Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. Outside are the dogs, those who practise magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practises falsehood.”*

All these law breakers are kept out of the presence of God. Joining those listed in **Revelation 21:8** who are about to experience the second death in the lake of fire, from which there is **no** resurrection.

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 [NIV] *“Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole [duty] of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.”*

Solomon summed up very well in his final conclusion, it is a great shame that he did not follow his divine-given wisdom in his own life.

Did the early Church keep the Sabbath?

Matthew 24:20 [NIV] *“Pray that your flight will not take place in winter or on the Sabbath.”*

Jesus clarified beyond all doubt that the keeping of the Sabbath would **not** end at the cross by this reference to the future destruction of Jerusalem in 70AD.

Acts 17:1-5 [NIV] *“When they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, 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, explaining and proving that the Christ had to suffer and rise from the dead. ‘This Jesus I am proclaiming to you is the Christ,’ he said. Some of the Jews were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a large number of God-fearing Greeks and not a few prominent women. But the Jews were jealous; so they rounded up some bad characters from the market-place, formed a mob and started a riot in the city. They rushed to Jason’s house in search of Paul and Silas in order to bring them out to the crowd.”*

Paul continued his custom of attending the Jewish synagogue on the Sabbath Day.

Acts 26:4-5 [NIV] *“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.”*

Jews and Pharisees which Paul was, always kept Saturday as the Sabbath.

Acts 13:42-44 [NIV] *“As Paul and Barnabas were leaving the synagogue, the people invited them to speak further about these things on the next Sabbath. When 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. On the next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord.”*

Preaching to Jews and Gentiles on the Sabbath.

Acts 18:4 [NIV] *“Every Sabbath he reasoned in the synagogue, trying to persuade Jews and Greeks.”*

Paul joined the Jews every Sabbath in the synagogue.

If we are to follow the apostles and the Christians of the early Church we also should be keeping the Seventh Day Sabbath.