

THE MOUNT ZION REPORTER

EXPLANATION OF COMMON

TEXTS USED AGAINST

THE BIBLE SABBATH

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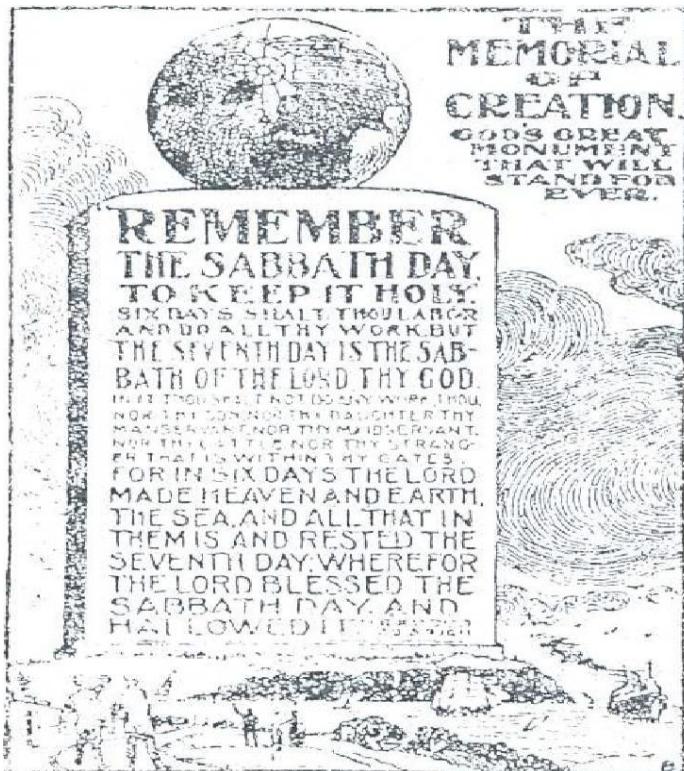
The Sabbath of the 4th commandment is strictly observed in Israel, with the bus lines and trains stopping their service, and business closed but synagogues filled.

The Jews have been gathered here from all countries of the world where they have been scattered for nearly 2,000 years. Most of this long period of their dispersion, had no telephone or other means of communication with one another, yet as they are gathered here from all countries and islands of the sea, there is no confusion among them about which day is the seventh day. They all agree that Saturday is the seventh day of the week, the same day they observed in Palestine when Christ was here with the apostles. This is the same day the Jews observed then, and it is called the Sabbath day fifty four times in the New Testament. Surely in-as-much as the Holy Spirit gave us the New Testament long after the crucifixion, and called this day the Sabbath more than fifty times, it must still rightly hold this title.

Sabbath keeping does not save anyone, for we are not saved by the works of any law, but we are put into a saved condition when we obey the gospel, and follow what the apostle Peter said in his wonderful Pentecost sermon, and are baptized with the Holy Spirit. This is what saves people, but when we are in this saved condition, we will by nature bear the fruit of the spirit. That fruit is being obedient to the Father's Holy commandments and the testimonies of Jesus. Rev. 12: 17. Not just the portion of this gospel that pleased the flesh to observe, but all of the commandments of God, and the rules of life laid down by Christ. There were ten of the commandments of God, dear ones, and not just nine, as many believe brought over to the New Testament

Our fathers and mothers, who observed Sunday and thought it was in keeping with the 4th commandment, will be saved in the kingdom, if otherwise they lived holy lives. Paul knew about the approach of the power of darkness when he said in regard to the return of Christ, first 2 Thess. 2:3-11. He says

there was a "Time of ignorance that God winked at, but now He commands all men everywhere to repent." Acts 17:30. Our parents who had no opportunity to learn about this beast power, and what it meant to worship the beast will not be held accountable, but it is different with us. The closing world-wide message is a warning not to worship the beast. Revelation 14: 9. It is just before the return of Christ. Verses 12 to 14.



This beast is introduced in Daniel 7:23 where it says plainly that it refers to the fourth kingdom upon the earth. Everyone who has studied history knows that this was ROME. The ten horns it says represent the ten kings of Rome. History tells us they reigned from 400 to 500 A.D., and the little horn here was the papacy, the Roman Catholic power, that was to

change TIMES AND LAWS. Verse 25. They did change times and laws and brought in many heathen practices such as Christmas, Easter, sprinkling for baptism, Sunday as a day of rest etc. This Roman church ruled from 538 to 1798 when the Pope was taken prisoner through the wars of Napoleon.

In speaking of the time of the end, the angel Gabriel told Daniel that at the time of the end, knowledge would be increased, and many would run to and fro. We are in that time now when knowledge of all kinds has been wonderfully increased, and this Roman power unmasked. It behooves each one of us to "Walk in the light as He is in the light" 1 John 1:7. Then it says the blood of Christ will cleanse us from ALL SIN. If we do not walk in the light, however, His blood will NOT cleanse us from sin, and we are doomed to be eternally LOST. If we do not love the TRUTH we will be given strong DELUSION and will BELIEVE a lie and be condemned. 2 Thess. 2:10-12.

We are to walk in the light of His steps and be followers of Him. St John 8:12 and 1 Peter 2:21. The Saviour made it His custom to keep the Sabbath day, the same day the Jews observed. See Luke 4:14-16. This is therefore a subject that merits our most careful and prayerful study, remembering that we must "Love the TRUTH," and walk in the light, or we will be given strong delusion to BELIEVE something that is not TRUTH.

When all of the New Testament texts bearing on this question are carefully analyzed, we will find that there is no warrant for keeping any other day as a day of rest excepting the day blessed by the Creator at Creation, Gen. 2:1-2, and later incorporated in the Commandments of God. Exodus 20:8-11. In Exodus 31:15 we learn that during the days "WORK MAY BE DONE." Therefore we are not breaking the commandment if we do not work the six days. To work all six days is not the intent of the precept, but the object is that we may be patriotic and

obedient to the Father in commemorating His great work of creation, and His blessing the 7th day.

A commandment was given to churches in the New Testament to make a CERTAIN contribution for the poor saints at Jerusalem. 1 Cor. 16:1-2. When we examine this same commandment where it was repeated to the other churches, we find that it was just for one special purpose, and one collection of dried fruit which had to be carried with the help of others to Jerusalem for the poor. It was a collection at each home and not in an assembly. In 2 Cor. 9:1-5 it is called BOUNTY. In Romans 15:25 to 28 it says it was JUST A CERTAIN contribution, and it also says it was fruit. In 1 Cor. 16:3 it says others would need to go along to carry it. As it required work to gather and lay by at each home, it was a command to work on the first day, just as God did in the beginning. This fruit consisted of raisins, prunes, dried figs etc., as that was the kind of fruit in this district, and the manner they had of preserving it.

Another text is Acts 20: 7 where it says they came together on the first day of the week TO BREAK BREAD. They broke bread every day, Acts 2:46. But the purpose of their coming together on this occasion was to take the common meal after the Sabbath on the dark part of the first day of the week just as they do now in Jerusalem. There were many lights in the upper chambers it says here. Therefore as the days began then at sundown, and still do, this was the beginning of the first day of the week. It says Paul preached all night. Then on the light part of this first day he walked across the cape, 19 miles to Assos, Verse 14. The main brethren mentioned in verse 4, had set sail around the cape (verse 13) for Paul chose to remain with these brethren all night, and then walk across to meet them at Assos. These brethren would not get sail on the Sabbath, hence they remained at Troas until the Sabbath was over, and then set sail, but Paul remained there, preferring to walk across to Assos. Read this carefully, for it tells the whole story, and shows that

they were observing the day before the first day of the week here, and on the first day, Paul was walking and they were sailing the ship, which required much physical work in those days to manipulate the sails etc.

This was not the partaking of the Lord's Supper as some claim, for it says they left Philippi AFTER THE DAYS OF UNLEAVEN BREAD. The Passover was a yearly ordinance then by the followers of Christ, in commemoration of His shed blood, and it was kept up until changed by Rome, 321 A.D. making it on Sunday they called Easter.

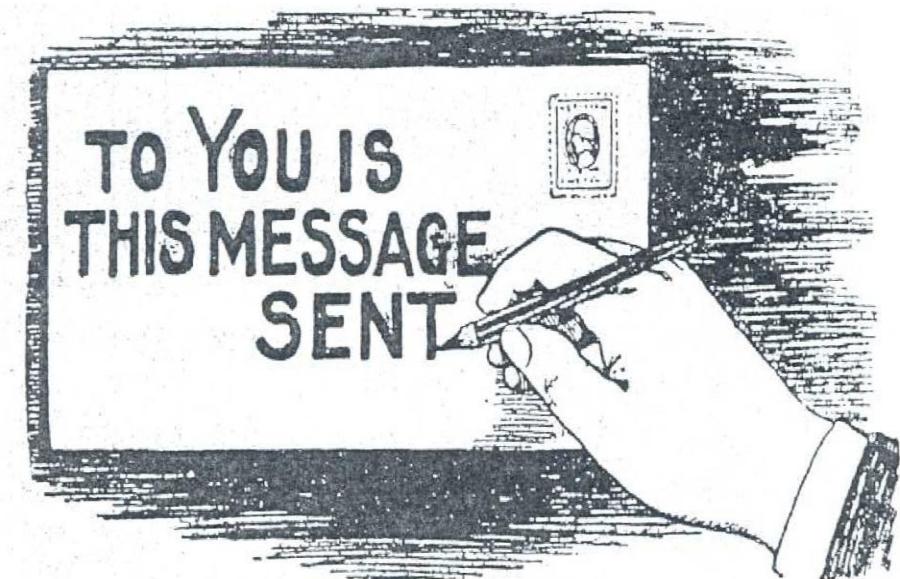
It is well to look into this thoroughly and prayerfully with an eye single to the glory of God in search for TRUTH. If we do not LOVE TRUTH we are warned that strong DELUSION will be sent to us. 2 Thess. 2:9-12.

We are told to be followers of Christ, and to walk in His steps, St. John 8:12 and 1 Peter 2:21. It was His CUSTOM to worship on the Sabbath day. Luke 4:14-16. Paul also made it his custom to worship on this same day the Jews worshipped. Acts 17:4 and 18:11. Notice in these texts, the Greeks (Gentiles) also met with them on this same day. This book was dictated by the Holy Spirit down in this age long after the crucifixion, and the Spirit said these meetings with both Jews and Gentiles were on THE SABBATH day. The Holy Spirit did not deceive us, and to say that this day is not the Sabbath, is speaking against the Holy Spirit, which sin we are told will not be forgiven man in this world or in the world to come. Mat. 12:32.

The Holy Spirit spoke to Paul and told him to go over into Macedonia Acts 16:9. He obeyed and went over there and held a meeting by the river side on the SABBATH. Verses 12-14. This was a special call, and we are told he preached on the Sabbath. Then in chapter 16:4 it says as his manner was, he preached at the synagogue three Sabbath days to the Jews and Greeks. In Acts 13:42, a whole city of Gentiles asked Paul to preach to them the next Sabbath day. In verse 44 it says the

whole city of Gentiles came to hear him. Why did these Gentiles not ask Paul to come over and preach to them TOMORROW which would have been the first day of the week, if the Sabbath had been changed? This was 12 years after the crucifixion, when the Holy Spirit called this day the Jews were worshipping on the Sabbath therefore it is the Sabbath yet, for they are still observing the same day of the week here that they were then. This would have been a golden opportunity for Paul to have corrected the Gentiles and told them as Gentiles he would meet with them the first day of the week, but not a word of correction was given.

It is said that the day of Pentecost in this age answers to the event of Sinai in the Old Testament, and that a new law was given, but I never have found such a scripture. Pentecost would have been a wonderful day to have given this new law, but not a word is said about it. We are told, however, that the three thousand baptized on that day, CONTINUED IN THE APOSTLES DOCTRINE. Acts 2:42. The heathens surrounding Palestine in those days were sun-worshippers. They worshipped the sun each Sunday morning at its rising. The Jews therefore built their places of worship so the people all sat with their backs to the East, in opposition to the worship of the Sun. It would sure have taken a lot of preaching and teaching to have changed those Jewish apostles to worship on the same day with the sun-worshippers. There would have been very much in the New Testament about it, and Pentecost would have been the crowning event for giving the new law, or telling the people that the first day was to be observed in honor of the Resurrection, if Christ had been resurrected that day. Jews were in Jerusalem from every nation, but the apostles let that event go by without a word being said about any change, and these 3,000 went forward steadfastly in the APOSTLES DOCTRINE.



The Saviour only gave one sign that He was the Messiah, and that was that He would be in the grave 3 days and 3 nights. Matt. 12:38-40. That would be impossible if He were crucified on Friday and resurrected on Sunday. Every visit made to the tomb recorded by Mark, Luke and John, He was gone. This was early the first day of the week. Only one witness tells us just when He arose, Matt. 28:1. It says it was in the end of the Sabbath as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week. As the Bible day begins at sunset, this was just before sundown on the Sabbath. This word "Dawn" does not mean getting light in the morning, because the new day did not begin in the morning. It is taken from the Greek word "Epifisko," which means "to draw on towards." The resurrection actually took place when the earthquake took place, and it says here it was "In the end of the Sabbath," and the next day was just the first day of the week and nothing more. Here again the Holy Spirit called the day before the first day of the week the Sabbath and this was written down in this age, a good many years after the crucifixion, and to

refuse to believe what the Spirit said and teach otherwise is surely speaking against the Holy Spirit, which is the "Unpardonable Sin". The Saviour said, "Whosoever speaketh against the Holy Spirit, it shall not be forgiven him in this world or in the world to come." Matt. 12:32. Therefore those who say the day before the first day of the week is not the Sabbath, are contradicting and speaking against the Spirit.

Just a few verses down in this same chapter the Master gives the only sign that He is the Son of God. He says He will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth, verses 39-40. Now people say this was not so, that He was only in the grave from Friday night to Sunday morning. Hence they are again speaking against the Holy Spirit, by denying what was said is the TRUTH.

In Mark 16:9 it says, "When Jesus was risen early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary." Some misunderstand this text, and believe it shows the resurrection to be on the first day of the week. If it did then there is a contradiction in the testimony of the Holy Spirit. Everyone who knows the English language understands that the word "RISEN" used here is the past perfect tense of the verb "RISE", and it always refers to an act as being in the past and indefinite. He arose some time previous, and after He arose He appeared first to Mary on the first day of the week. Any unbiased Grammarian will analyze this scripture in this light.

The apostle Peter, the charming figure at Pentecost says of Paul's writings, "There are things hard to be understood which they that are UNLEARNED and UNSTABLE wrest to their own destruction." 2 Peter 3:15-16. Here we find two classes of men wrongly teaching Paul's writings, and interpreting them in a way that destroys people. As sin is what destroys men and "Sin is the transgression of the law," 1 John 3:4, it is Paul's statements concerning this law they are thus twisting, to make people believe that the Ten Commandments

are abolished, when it is the Mosaic law concerning animal sacrifices always referred to by Paul in this way. When led by the Spirit we will by nature keep all of the Commandments of God mentioned so much in the New Testament. In 1 John 2:4 it says, 'He that saith I know Him and keepeth not His commandments is a liar and the truth is not in him.' Also 5:3 says "This is the love of God that we keep His commandments," and that they are not grievous. See Rev 14:12 and 12:17, also 22:14.

The ten commandment law remains in the New Testament, for James 2:10-11 says, "If we keep the whole law and offend in one point we are guilty of ALL." Then two of these Ten Commandments are given. These commandments are spoken of repeatedly in the New Testament as the commandments of God, because they are the only part of the Bible written by the finger of God on tables of stone. We are told seven times that they were so written. Some texts are Exodus 24:12, also 31:18, Deut. 10:1-4 etc. Christ tells us that not one jot or tittle shall pass from this law as long as heaven and earth are here. Matt. 5:17-19. Some say that He fulfilled this law by keeping it, and that when He fulfilled it that ended it. If so, when He was baptized He said He had fulfilled all righteousness. Then baptism and all righteousness have also ended, if the word "fulfill" used by Christ meant to finish them. They all stand or fall together.

That there were two definite sets or codes of law is evident from Colossians 2:14 where it says "Blotting out the hand writing of ordinances which was against us, contrary to us." Note that this law written by the hand of Moses, and written in a book, which contained the killing of animals in sacrifice for sin, was against the apostles and contrary to them, for they had accepted the blood of Christ. Many unthinkingly apply this to the Ten Commandments, but dear reader, were the Ten Commandments against the apostles and contrary to them?

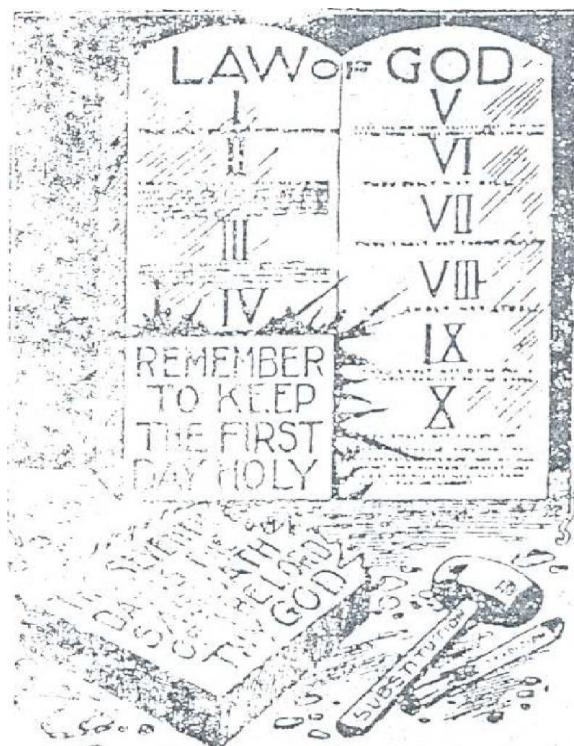
These men were baptized with the Holy Spirit, and therefore in harmony with all of these Ten Commandments. They are not against any good man, but in perfect harmony with any born again person.



This is positive proof that there are two codes of law, for this law against the apostles contained new moons, and eight yearly Sabbaths, governed by the moon. Read all of Leviticus 23rd chapter, and see for yourself. This is the "Law that was added BECAUSE OF TRANSGRESSION" Gal. 3:16. Therefore there was a law before this that was transgressed, or there could not have been transgression, and the law of pardon was added to it. The ten commandments of God is what was transgressed, for sin is the TRANSGRESSION of this law. James 2:10-11 and 1 John 3:4.

Another scripture often misunderstood is found in Romans 14:1-6, in Paul's letter to the Romans concerning

judging one another. He says "One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind. He that regardeth THE day, regardeth IT unto the Lord; and he that regardeth not THE day, to the Lord he doth not regard it." There were many of the Romans who did not observe any day, and others who observed different days, sun-worshippers, and those who followed different gods and had different customs. I could say the same thing today in America, and many places, that some esteem one day above another and some every day alike, and for every person to be persuaded in his own mind.



Before Paul was converted he was binding people, and forcing them to do as he thought and consented to the stoning of Stephen, but after he was converted, he said, "Now I persuade men." This was his attitude, and it was right, that every person was to be persuaded in his own mind.

Paul did not say "He that regardeth any day, or he that regardeth a day regardeth it to the Lord", but he said THE day, meaning THE one and only Sabbath day of that time. He said THE day, he regardeth IT to the Lord and the man who does not regard THE day, a special day to the Lord, to the Lord he does not regard it. This is just the same today. Paul observed THE day, and he called it the Sabbath day, in line with the Holy Spirit, that called it the Sabbath over fifty times in the New Testament

In speaking to the Hebrews, Paul says that "God did rest the seventh day from all His works." Hebrews 4:4. In verse 8 Paul says "If Jesus had given them rest, then would he not have spoken of another day." This is positively saying that Jesus did not speak of another day. Then why, dear reader, should we keep another day? In verse 9 Paul says there remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. These are the born again, baptized of the Holy Spirit people. Paul says here there REMAINETH a "REST". This word is taken from the word "SABBATISMAS", root word "SABBITON", referring to the 7th day Sabbath, as referred to over fifty times in the New Testament using the same word. This does not refer to the future rest in Eden, or the Millennium kingdom, for it is taken from the Hebrew, and the Greek words that refer to the 7th day Sabbath. The word "Rest" used in this chapter referring to rest when one is tired or to the rest on the Sabbath is taken from the Greek word "CATAPOSIS." Therefore both words are used. In making the claim, as some do, that this only refers to the coming kingdom rest, they are wrong and need be properly enlightened.

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