

LIBERTY OF CONSCIENCE THREATENED

Chaos and Natural Disasters are Coming Upon the Earth

A National Sunday Law Will be Established as the Mark* of the Beast

**\$1,000
Reward
for missing
Bible text**

See Below*

Sunday Laws are Coming! On Friday, June 15, 2007 in the Weekend Edition Opinion Journal page W-11 of the *Wall Street Journal* appeared an article by Mollie Ziegler Hemingway entitled: "The decline of the Sabbath in America: Less praying, more working and playing." This article was circulated worldwide to over 2 million people promoting Sunday-keeping and Sunday closing laws as necessary for saving our culture. The Wall Street Journal's editorial perspective is one sided. The *USA Today* endorsed Sunday observance in an article written by Gladys Edmunds on Oct. 24, 2007 entitled: "Better Take a Break, Or You'll Break Down."

Similar articles have appeared in daily newspapers across America and the rest of the world: *Associated Press*, July 15, 2008 "Sunday Shopping banned in Croatia," Associated Press, May 27, 2008 "Louisiana Barber Ticketed for Working on Sunday," Time Magazine, Dec. 17, 2008 "Sunday Shopping? France Says No," *CBS News Sunday Morning*, Feb. 1 2009, "A History of Sunday," Associated Press, December 5, 2008 "Auto Dealers to ask Legislature for Sunday Sales Ban." These are just a few headlines from different publications who have recently been endorsing Sunday observance. We should welcome an intelligent, healthy discussion on issues that will affect both the morality and economy of our nation.

These are just a few examples of how the Sunday movement is gaining momentum around the world. Many more examples can be cited. History tells us that Sunday legislation, regardless of how sincere it may appear, always brings persecution to small minorities. Prophecy declares that such religious intolerance will again be revived to the point that "no man might buy or sell, save he that had the MARK*, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name." Rev. 13:17. From this prophetic insight we can see that church and state will unite and all of our most cherished liberties will be lost. God have mercy on us all when these days shall "come to pass" John 14:29.

Sabbath from the Biblical Perspective

Jesus — "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." Luke 4:16.

Jesus declared — "...The sabbath was made for man*." Mark 2:27 The word for *man* in this verse is the Greek word "anthropos," meaning mankind and not just the Jews. See also Isa 56:2-6. "The Son of man is Lord even of the sabbath day." Matthew 12:8. Many say Revelation 1:10 is used to designate Sunday as the Lord's day: "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day." The Greek word is *Kuriake* (*Lord's hemera* (*day*)). So what is the day of the Lord's. Jesus answers this question himself: "The Son of man is Lord (Kurios) even of the Sabbath day" (Matt. 12:8). Lord's day is just another way of saying the day of the Lord. All through scriptures the seventh-day Sabbath is the Lord's "own day" (Isa. 58:13, Gen. 2:2-3, Exo. 20:8-11).

God commanded — "But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God." Exodus 20:10.

Paul — "And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three Sabbath days reasoned with them out of the Scriptures." Acts 17:2, 3.

"And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks." Acts 18:4.

Paul declared — "There remaineth therefore a rest* [*Greek: "sabbatismos" or "Sabbath-keeping"*] to the people of God. For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from His." Hebrews 4:9, 10.

"For he spake in a certain place of the seventh day...And God did rest the seventh day from all his works," "and blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it." Hebrews 4:4.

Paul and the Gentiles — "And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath. And the next Sabbath came almost the whole city together to hear the Word of God." Acts 13:42, 44. The book of Acts records 84 Sabbaths on which the Apostle Paul and his associates held religious services (Acts 18:4, 11). Yet there is not ONE word in the entire Bible authorizing Sunday keeping in place of the Seventh-day Sabbath.

Disciples — "And that day was the preparation and the sabbath drew on. And the women also, which came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulcher, and how His body was laid. And they returned and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment" (Luke 23:54-56).

Notice that Luke, a non-Jewish biblical writer, approximately 37 years AFTER the resurrection of Christ, still called the Sabbath (the seventh day of the week) a Commandment of God.

"And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James...very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulcher at the rising of the sun... And entering into the sepulcher, they saw a young man...And he saith unto them, be not affrighted; Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: He is risen." (Mark 16:1-6). It is well known that Sunday was the resurrection day. "*The Sabbath was past*" when it dawned. Thus, it is evident that the Sabbath is Saturday, the day before Sunday.

"Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill". "For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled" (Matthew 5:17, 18). Throughout the New Testament, there are no fewer than 59 references to the Sabbath.

Sabbath in the New Earth — "For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain; and it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before Me, saith the LORD" (Isaiah 66:22, 23). According to Colossians 2:14-17, the sacrifices with the 7 annual festivals, or ceremonial sabbaths [plural] as registered in Leviticus 23 and other texts, were nailed

[abolished] on the cross, as Christ's life and work fulfilled the meaning of these annual Sabbaths. But not the Sabbath of the Fourth Commandment that is Eternal, because it was given to man at Creation, even before sin was introduced into this earth (Gen. 2:2-3).

"Sunday in the Bible"

Millions of faithful Christians attend church each Sunday, the first day of the week. They do this thinking that somehow there was a change in the day of worship. Others keep Sunday because they are not conscious that God set apart the seventh-day as His holy day and not the first day of the week. It is true that there has been a change but by who? There are only 8 Bible texts in the New Testament that speak about the first day: (1) Matt. 28:1, (2) Mark 16:1-2, (3) Mark 16:9, (4) Luke 24:1, (5) John 20:1, (6) John 20:19, (7) Acts 20:7-8, (8) 1 Cor. 16:1-2.

The first five texts simply mention that the women went to the sepulcher early in the morning of the resurrection (Sunday) and that Jesus had resurrected. The sixth text reveals that they were gathered together "for fear of the Jews" not knowing if they would also be crucified as was their Savior. They were hiding Sunday morning, they were not having a worship service nor is there any mention of any change of the Sabbath. The seventh text is Acts 20:7-8: "And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight. And there were many lights in the upper chamber, where they were gathered together."

This was a Saturday night meeting—the dark part of the first day of the week. Remember, according to Biblical time, the day begins at evening. "And the evening and the morning were the first day." Gen. 1:5. In other words, at sunset (evening) is when the next day begins, not at midnight as we calculate today. The Bible registers the days from sunset to sunset. The Seventh-day, Saturday begins Friday evening at sunset. The first day of the week actually begins at Saturday evening at sunset. Paul was meeting on the first day of the week during the dark part of the day, which was actually Saturday night. Remember, Acts 20:7-8 speaks about how "there were many lights." Paul spent Sunday morning traveling to Assos. We do not see any change or command to keep Sunday holy.

The New World Translation says, "On *Saturday night*, in our assembling for the breaking of bread, Paul, who was to leave next day." Acts 20:7. The last text that mentions Sunday is found in 1 Cor. 16:1-2: "Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come." This verse does not speak about a worship service in the church. Notice how the International Standard Versions translates the verse: "After the Sabbath ends, each of you should set aside and save something from your surplus in proportion to what you have, so that no collections will have to be made when I arrive."

After the 7th-day Sabbath is over the first day of the week is the best time to start saving your money so as not to spend it during the rest of the week. Paul told the church to do this so that when he came, which was always on the Seventh-day Sabbath (Acts 13:42, 44), the church wouldn't have to try to collect everything at once.

The argument is made that we should keep Sunday holy in honor of the resurrection of Jesus, yet this custom is based on man's tradition (Eze. 8:15, 16; Matt. 15:9, 14). However, the Bible commands us to commemorate His death, burial, and resurrection through baptism [immersion, not by sprinkling]. Please read Rom. 6:4, 5.

The Encyclopedia Britannica — "There is no evidence that in the earliest years of Christianity there was any formal observance of Sunday as a day of rest or any general cessation of work." 1911 Edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica, Article: Sunday (www.1911encyclopedia.org).

Baptist: "Of course I quite well know that Sunday did come into use in early Christian history as a religious day, as we learn from the Christian Fathers and other sources. But what a pity that it comes branded with the mark of Paganism, and christened with the name of the sun-god, then adopted as sanctified by the Papal apostasy, and bequeathed as a sacred legacy to Protestantism." Dr. E.T. Hiscox, author of the Baptist Manual, from a photostatic copy of a notarized statement by Dr. Hiscox.

Roman Catholic: "Question: Which is the Sabbath day? Answer: Saturday is the Sabbath day. Question: Why do we observe Sunday instead of Saturday? Answer: We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday." Peter Geiermann, *The Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine*, 1957 edition.

\$1,000 REWARD for only one KJV Bible verse that will say that Jesus or His 12 apostles transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday.

Roman Catholic: "Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change was her act... And the act is a MARK* of her ecclesiastical authority in religious things." H.F. Thomas, Chancellor of Cardinal Gibbons. Nov 11, 1895.

While we are "saved by grace through faith" (Eph. 2:8), Jesus also said, "If you love me keep my commandments (John 14:15). God also says, "He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him." (1 John 2:4, 5). God means all 10, not just nine (James 2:10).

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