



The Lie that has Fooled Millions!

The Bible says, “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD thy God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made the heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it. Exodus 20:8-11

Many millions of Christian people worship on Sunday, the first day of the week. Why and how did Sunday become the day of worship? Does the Bible support this change?

- I. How did Sunday become the day of worship.
 - A. In the first century A. D., “Almost all churches throughout the world celebrate the sacred mysteries (the Lord’s Supper) on the Sabbath of every week, yet the Christians of Alexandria and at Rome, on account of some tradition, have ceased to do this.” C.B. Haynes, From Sabbath to Sunday p. 35
 - B. “Beginning with the first Jewish Revolt against Rome (66-70), various repressive measures—military, political and fiscal—were imposed by the Romans upon the Jews.” Dr. Samuele Bacchiocchi, Divine Rest for Human Restlessness p. 238
 - C. “Impressive indications (suggest) that Sunday observance was introduced at this time in conjunction with Easter-Sunday, as an attempt to clarify to the roman authorities the Christian distinction from Judaism.” Dr. Samuele Bacchiocchi, Divine Rest for Human Restlessness p 237
 - D. “Christians were not the only ones who became careless and gradually compromised their faith. The erosion of the purity of the Apostolic church stood firm and pure, but when the second and third generation Christians came along, we see evidence of compromise and apostasy.” Apostolic Constitutions bk. 7, ch. 23
 - E. Emperor Constantine placed into law the first civil Sunday law. It was put into effect March 7, 321 A.D. “On the venerable ‘Day of the Sun’ let the

magistrates and people residing in the cities rest, and let all the workshops be closed. In the country, however, persons engaged in agriculture may freely and lawfully continue their pursuits.” History of the Christian Church ed. 1902, v. 3, p. 380

- F. “In the year 325, Sylvester, Bishop of Rome changed the title of the first day, calling it the Lord’s day.” A History of the Councils of the Church Council of Laodicea v.2, p. 316
- G. “Christians shall not Judaize (keep Sabbath) and be idle on Saturday...but shall work on that day; but on the lord’s day they shall especially honour, and, as being Christians, shall if possible, do no work on that day. If however, they are found Judaizing, they shall be shut out...from Christ.” A History of the Councils of the Church Council of Laodicea v. 2, p. 316. If one was found to be keeping the Sabbath rather than Sunday the church claimed they would be shut out from Christ.
- H. Pope Gregory denounced in the sixth century those who were still keeping the seventh-day Sabbath, “as the prophets of Antichrist those who maintained that work ought not to be done on the seventh day.” From Sabbath to Sunday C.B. Haynes p.43
- I. During the dark ages much of the Bible truth almost disappeared but then came the reformation and the slow recovery of lost truth. The printing press and many people able to read certainly played a part in the recovery of God’s eternal truths. Luther, Wesley, Huss, and Jerome all added to the recovery of God’s truth. Finally the seventh-day Sabbath was re-discovered in the early 1800’s.
- J. “It was the Catholic Church that decided Sunday should be the day of worship for Christians, in honor of the resurrection.” Catholicism & Fundamentalism Karl Keating 1988, p.38
- K. “Perhaps the boldest thing, the most revolutionary change the Church ever did happened in the first century. The holy day, the Sabbath, was changed from Saturday to Sunday...not from any directions noted in the Scriptures, but from the Church’s sense of its own power...People who think that the Scriptures should be the sole authority, should logically become Seventh-day Adventist, and keep Saturday holy.” Saint Catherine Catholic Church Sentinel May 21, 1995
- L. “The church...after changing the day of rest from the Jewish Sabbath, or the seventh-day of the week, to the first, made the Third Commandment refer to Sunday as the day to be kept holy as the Lord’s Day.” The Catholic Encyclopedia vol. 4, p. 153

- II. Does the Bible support this change of the day for worship from the Seventh-day Sabbath to Sunday in honor of the resurrection?
- A. Jesus says about those who change his commandments, "...These people honor Me with their lips, but their hearts are far from Me. They worship Me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men." "You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to observe your own traditions!" Mark 7:6,7,9
 - B. There are only eight passages in scripture that talk about the first day of the week. Not one indicates it is a holy day or a day of worship. Matthew 28:1; Mark 16:1,2; Mark 16:9; Luke 24:1; John 20:1. All five of these passages only talk about the fact the Jesus rose on the first day of the week, Sunday. Grateful as we are for the resurrection it does not make God's law change nor does it make Sunday a holy or sanctified day of rest.
 - C. John 20:19 talks about the disciples hiding together for fear of the Jews. This does not say it was a worship service.
 - D. Acts 20:7 preached on Saturday night. Biblically this would be the first day of the week. Remember they recorded the days from even to even. Preaching does not make the day holy or sanctified.
 - E. I Corinthians 16:1, 2 Paul wanted people, who generally got paid daily, to be prepared with a good offering when he came. He did not want to worry about putting together the funds when he got there. The week started on Sunday so he told the people to store up on the first day of the week. This does not make the first day holy or sanctified.
 - F. "You may read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, and you will not find a single line authorizing the sanctification of Sunday. The Scriptures enforce the religious observance of Saturday." Cardinal Gibbons, The Faith of our Fathers, p. 89
- III. We respond to God's love and sacrifice through obedience. This is how we show Him how much we love him, "For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome." I John 5:3