

AN INTIMATE PLACE IN TIME

See With New Eyes, Session 6

THE SABBATH IS a weekly reminder of both creation and redemption, telling us over and over again that our salvation is 100% the gift of His grace, totally His accomplishment and not ours, to be received into our lives by faith alone.

A MEMORIAL OF CREATION AND OF REDEMPTION

The Ten Commandments were given twice, and both versions were precisely the same, except with regards to the Sabbath commandment. The first time, the Sabbath is a memorial of creation, and the second time it is a memorial of salvation.

Genesis 2:1-3—¹Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. ²And 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. ³Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work, which God had created and made.

Compare **Exodus 20:8-11** and **Deuteronomy 5:12-15** and notice that the Sabbath is both a memorial of creation and of salvation.

Genesis 1:1—In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. . .

John 1:1—In the beginning was the Word, and the Word . . .

2 Corinthians 4:6, NIV—For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

Psalms 51:10-12—¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. . . ¹²Restore to me the joy of Your salvation.

John 17:4—I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do.

John 19:30—So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, “It is finished!” And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

Luke 23:54-56; 24:1, Summary—Jesus died on “the Preparation” or Friday, rested on the “Sabbath” and He rose from the dead “on the first day of the week, very early in the morning.”

A SIGN OF THE NEW COVENANT

The Old Testament foretold that when Jesus would come to the world He would establish a church that keeps the Sabbath as a sign of the new covenant. In the New Testament we see that Jesus was a Sabbath keeper, that He claimed to have created the Sabbath for all of mankind, and that the New Testament church, both Jewish and Gentile followers of Jesus, were all Sabbath keepers.

Hebrews 8:10—For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

~NOTES~

Adam and Eve were created on the sixth day, after ALL the work of Creation was “finished.” They did not participate in the work of Creation, nor did they witness it with their eyes. They awoke to receive it as a free gift from their Maker by faith alone. Then they rested on the seventh day as their first full day of life.

Gal. 5:1; Rom. 6:14-16 on the spiritual slavery.

See also 2 Cor. 5:17; Eph. 2:8-10;

Isaiah 56:1-7—¹Thus says the LORD: “Keep justice, and do righteousness, for My salvation *is* about to come, and My righteousness to be revealed. ²Blessed *is* the man *who* does this, and the son of man *who* lays hold on it; who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, and keeps his hand from doing any evil.” ³Do not let the son of the foreigner who has joined himself to the LORD Speak, saying, “The LORD has utterly separated me from His people”; nor let the eunuch say, “Here I am, a dry tree.” ⁴For thus says the LORD: “To the eunuchs who keep My Sabbaths, and choose what pleases Me, and hold fast My covenant, ⁵even to them I will give in My house and within My walls a place and a name better than that of sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off. ⁶Also the sons of the foreigner who join themselves to the LORD, to serve Him, and to love the name of the LORD, to be His servants—everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, and holds fast My covenant—⁷even them I will bring to My holy mountain, and make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices *will be* accepted on My altar; for My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.”

Acts 13:13-44—¹³Paul and his party. . . ¹⁴went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day and sat down. . . ⁴²So when the Jews went out of the synagogue, the Gentiles begged that these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath. . . ⁴⁴On the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God.

Luke 4:16—So 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 to read.

Mark 2:27-28—The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. Therefore the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath.

Matthew 24:20—Pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath

FROM SABBATH TO SUNDAY

If the New Testament church kept the Sabbath, why do so many Christians keep Sunday instead? We need not guess. The Bible tells us that after the time of Christ there would a “great falling away” (apostasy in the Greek) during which a false “Christian” system would attempt to change the “times and laws” of God.

Daniel 7:25—He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand for a time and times and half a time.

2 Thessalonians 2:3-7—³Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, ⁴who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. . . ⁷For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work.

Catholic Encyclopedia—The Church, on the other hand, after changing the day of rest from the Jewish Sabbath, or 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 Convert’s Catechism of Catholic Doctrine, p. 50— **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.