2ND ADVENT REVIVAL MINISTRY

1st-Day Versus 7th-Day Worship

Page 9

HE ANSWERED AND SAID TO THEM,
"WHY DO YOU ALSO TRANSGRESS
THE COMMANDMENT OF GOD
BECAUSE OF YOUR TRADITION?"
MATTHEW 15:3

Read in (Matthew 28:1-2; Mark 16:1-2; Mark 16:9; Luke 23:54; 24:1; John 20:1). These are the first five texts in the New Testament that mention the first day of the week. Not one of these texts mention anything about a blessing being placed on the first day of the week. There is no sacred title given to the first day. The Bible and its writers make it clear that the Sabbath was the day before the day of resurrection (Saturday). not the day of the resurrection (Sunday).

Read in (John 20:19). The disciples were not holding a meeting to honor the resurrection. Most of them didn't even believe in the resurrection yet. The Bible tells us that the true reason why they were assembled was "for fear of the Jews".

Read in (Acts 20:7-8). It is clear that Paul was preaching at night. In Bibical times, the new day began at evening, as it says in (Genesis 1:5). The Sabbath was kept from Friday sundown to Saturday sundown. Paul's meeting was on the dark part of the first day of the week which would mean this was Saturday night meeting. Paul had been with the believers all Sabbath and continued preaching until midnight. The New English Bible reading of this passage also confirms this as a Saturday night meeting. The breaking of bread is of little significance in this passage. (Acts 2:46) states that they broke bread daily.

Read in *(I Corinthians 16:1-3)*. There are four characteristics that can be identified in this plan:

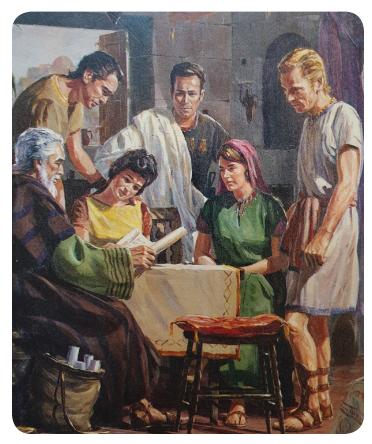
- (1) The offering was to be laid aside periodically;
- (2) It was to be done personally, "each of you";
- (3) It was to be done privately, "by himself in store", before Paul came; (4) As God prospered. The text makes no mention of Sunday sacredness. It makes no mention of a worship service. There is no form of worship even in the context.

Read in *(Romans 14:5-6)*. Note, that neither the Sabbath nor worship is mentioned in the text.

Further, the discussion is about a day that *man* regards, and not about the day *God* regards. The issue seems to center around judging one another which is the prerogative of God only. This verse has nothing to do with which day should be observed as the Sabbath.

Read in (Colossians 2:16-17). This passage states "let no one judge you...regarding...sabbaths which are a shadow of things to come..." This is a clear reference to the yearly sabbaths which were connected with the Hebrew sacrificial system which pointed forward to Christ and His death, burial and resurrection. Read in (Hebrews 10:1; Ezekiel 45:17). These yearly sabbaths are differentiated in (Leviticus 23:37-38). After Christ was crucified there was no longer a need for these yearly sabbaths. The seventh-day Sabbath instituted by Jesus at creation as it says in (Genesis 2:1-2; John 1:3) points back as a memorial of creation and not as a shadow of things to come.

Baptism is the symbol of the death and resurrection of Christ, not Sunday worship. Read in *(Romans 6:3-5).* In vain, we worship God by keeping our traditions instead of His commandments. Read in *(Matthew 15:3-9; Mark 7:7-9).* Amen and amen.



Verses on 1st-Day Versus 7th-Day Worship Page 9A

These are the first five texts in the New Testament that mention the first day of the week. There is no sacred title given to the first day.

(Matthew 28:1-2) Now after the Sabbath as the first day of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb. (2) And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door and sat on it.

(Mark 16:1-2) Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him. Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen.

(Mark 16:9) Now when He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons.

(Luke 23:54) That day was the Preparation, and the Sabbath drew near.

(Luke 24:1) Now on the first day of the week, very early in the morning they, and certain other women with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared.

(John 20:1) Now the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.

The disciples were not holding a meeting to honor the resurrection.

(John 20:19) Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you."

Paul's meeting was on the dark part of the first day of the week, which would mean Saturday night.

(Acts 20:7-8) Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight. (8) There were many lamps in the upper room where they were gathered together.

(Genesis 1:5) God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.

(Acts 2:46) So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart...

This text makes no mention of Sunday sacredness, or mention of worship service.

(I Corinthians 16:1-3) Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given orders to the churches of Galatia, so you must do also: (2) On the first day of the week, let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come. (3) And when I come, whomever you approve by your letters I will send to bear your gift to Jerusalem.

This text is about the day man regards, not about the day God regards.

(Romans 14:5-6) One person esteems one day above another; another esteems every day alike. Let each be fully convinced in his own mind. (6) He who observes the day, observes it to the Lord; and he who does not observe the day, to the Lord he does not observe it. He who eats, eats to the Lord, for he gives God thanks; and he who does not eat, to the Lord he does not eat, and gives God thanks.

This text points to the yearly sabbaths which looks to Christ's death and resurrection.

(Colossians 2:16-17) So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, (17) which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.

After Christ was crucified, there was no longer a need for a yearly sabbath.

(Hebrews 10:1) For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year after year, make those who approach perfect.

(Ezekiel 45:17) Then it shall be the prince's part to give burnt offerings, grain offerings, and drink offerings, at the feasts, the New Moons, the Sabbaths, and at all the appointed seasons of the house of Israel. He shall prepare the sin offering the grain offering, the burnt offering, and the peace offerings to make atonement for the house of Israel.

(Leviticus 23:37-38) These are the feasts of the Lord which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, to offer an offering made by fire to the Lord, a burnt offering and a grain offering, a sacrifice and drink offerings, everything on its day—(38) besides the Sabbaths of the Lord, besides your gifts, besides all your vows, and besides all your freewill offerings which you give to the Lord.

The seventh-day Sabbath points back to creation, not as a shadow of things to come.

(Genesis 2:1-2) Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. (2) And 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.

(John 1:3) All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

Baptism, not Sunday worship, is the symbol of the death and resurrection of Christ.

(Romans 6:3-5) Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? (4) Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in the newness of life. (5) For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection.

In vain we worship God by keeping traditions of man above His commandments.

(Matthew 15:3-9) He answered and said to them, "Why do you also transgress the commandment of God because of your tradition? (4) For God commanded, saying, 'Honor your father and your mother', and, 'he who curses father or mother, let them be put to death'. (5) But you say, 'Whoever says to his father or mother, "Whatever profit you might have received from me is a gift to God"— (6) then he need not honor his father or mother.' Thus you have made the commandment of God of no effect by your tradition. (7) Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about you, saying: (8) 'These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me' (9) And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'"

(Mark 7:7-9) And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men. (8) For laying aside the commandments of God, you hold the tradition of men—the washing of pitchers and cups, and many other such things you do. (9) He said to them, 'All too well you reject the commandments of God, that you may keep your tradition'.