

WHY WORSHIP ON SUNDAY

BY APOSTLE BRIAN E. MCINDOO

The Jewish Sabbath - Exodus 20:8-11. *Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.*

1. Definition: - The word “sabbath” comes from the Hebrew word, “Shabbath”, which in turn comes from the Hebrew “shabath”. However “Shabbath”, specifies an intermission on every Sabbath
 - ◆ Strong's number: 7673; Hebrew: shabath; Pronunciation: shaw-bath' a primitive root; to repose, i.e. desist from exertion; used in many implied relations (causative, figurative or specific): --(cause to, let, make to) cease, celebrate, cause (make) to fail, keep (sabbath), suffer to be lacking, leave, put away (down), (make to) **rest**, rid, still, take away.
 - ◆ Strong's number: 7676; Hebrew: shabbath, Pronunciation: shab-bawth' intensive from 7673; intermission, i.e (specifically) the Sabbath: --(+ every) sabbath. Strong's number: 7677; Hebrew: shabbathown; Pronunciation: shab-baw-thone' from 7676; a sabbatism or special holiday: --**rest**, sabbath.
2. Preparation to the Sabbath being instituted - **Genesis 2: 2-3; Exodus 16: 4, 25, 26; Mosiah 7:118**
3. The Sabbath was a covenant and sign for Israel - **Exodus 31: 13, 16, 17; 34: 27, 28; 24:7; Deuteronomy 4: 13; 5: 2, 3; Ezekiel 20: 12**
4. Blessings come by compliance - **Isaiah 56: 6, 7; 58: 13, 14; Jeremiah 17: 24, 25**
5. Sabbath observed in the Book of Mormon - **Jarom 1: 10, 11; Mosiah 7: 116-118; 9:56, 58**
6. Historically, Sunday was the Sabbath of Christians
 - *“But Sunday is the day on which we hold our common assembly, because it is the first day on which God, when he changed the darkness and matter, made the world; and Jesus Christ our Saviour, on the same day, rose from the dead.”* - Justin Martyr, *First Apology*, page 52, Oxford Edition.
 - *“The Christians of this century assembled for the worship of God and for their advancement in piety, on the first day of the week, the day on which Christ reassumed his life; for that this day was set apart for religious worship by the apostles themselves, and that, after the example of the church at Jerusalem, it was generally observed, we have unexceptionable testimony.”* Mosheim's, *Ecclesiastical History* –Book I, Century 1, Part 2, and chapter IV, Section 4.
 - *“Now the greater part of the Christians deemed it wrong to consecrate any other day than the Lord's day in remembrance of Christ's resurrection.”* Mosheim's, *Ecclesiastical History* –Book I, Century I Part 2, and chapter IV, Section 10.
 - *“But on the other hand, they also celebrate the Lord's days very much like us, in commemoration of his resurrection.”* Eusebius, *Ecclesiastical History*, Book III, chapter
7. Sabbath keeping is part of The Law of the Old Covenant – **Deuteronomy. 4:13; 5:2-3; Exodus 24:7; 34: 27, 28; Isaiah 56: 6, 7.**
 - a. One of the Ten Commandments - **Exodus 20: 8-10; Deuteronomy 5: 12-14; Mosiah 7:116.**

8. Under the law **you must keep all the law**, there is no exception given to New Testament times, other than being free from the law through Jesus Christ - **James 2:10**
 - a. How Sabbath was kept - **Exodus 16: 23, 29: 20:10; 23:12; 35:3; Leviticus 23:3, 4,31,32; Numbers 28:9; Nehemiah 13: 19; Jer 17: 21, 22.**
 - b. Other Sabbath also commanded - **Leviticus 23:1-3** (*24 hour Sabbath*); **Leviticus 23:15-16,21** (*48 hour Sabbath*); **Leviticus 23: 24, 25** (*seventh month, in the first day*); **Leviticus 23: 27, 32** - (*tenth day of this seventh month*); **Leviticus 23: 38** (*Sabbath occurs in plural*); **Leviticus 23: 39** (*fifteenth day of the seventh month*), **Leviticus 25:2-4** (*1 year land sabbath*); **Leviticus 25: 8-12, 21,22** (*land sabbath*); **2nd Chronicles 36:20,21.** (*70 year land sabbath*).
 - c. Severe penalties were instituted for Sabbath breaking - **Jeremiah 17: 27; Ezekiel 20: 21; Exodus 31:14,15; 35:2.**
 - d. Examples of transgression of Sabbath keeping - **Numbers 15: 32, 36; Nehemiah 13: 15, 16**
 - e. Deviation of necessity permitted on the Sabbath – **Matthew 12:2-10; Luke 6:5-10; Luke 13: 15; John 7: 22, 23.**
9. Christian not under The Law - **Galatians 2:16; 3:23-25; 4:4,5, 21-31; 5:18; 1 Corinthians 9: 20, 21; Romans 6:14**
10. Those in Christ are under a New Covenant - **Galatians 3: 24, 25; Jeremiah 31:31; Hebrews 8: 7, 8,13; 10:16-19; Ether 5:11,12**

THE LORD'S DAY - **Matthew 16:21** *From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day.*

Matthew 28:1 *In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.*

1. New Testament "Lord" applied to Christ including the Lord's Day - **Acts 9:5;1st Corinthians 10: 21.** (*Lord's cup, table*), **1st Corinthians 11:20** (*Lord's supper*) **1st Corinthians 11: 26.** (*Lord's death*), **1st Corinthians 11: 27,29** (*cup, body and blood of the Lord*) **Revelation 1: 10** (*Lord's day*)
2. Christ's relationship with the Sabbath - **Luke 6:5-10** (*Lord also of the sabbath*)
3. In Jesus we find our rest (*Sabbath*) - **Matthew 11:28; Hebrews 3:11,18; 4:1-11**
 - a. In Christ's teaching concerning Sabbath He pointedly states that He is greater than the law, the temple and the Sabbath which they kept - **Matthew 12: 1-6; Mark 2: 21-28; Luke 6: 1-5**
 - b. New Testament sins do not mention Sabbath breaking - **Mk 7:21, 22** (*13 sins mentioned*), **Romans 1: 29-31** (*19 sins mentioned*), **Galatians. 5: 19-21.** (*Seventeen sins mentioned*), **2nd Timothy 3: 1-4.** (*18 sins mentioned*) Quite a contrast from the severe penalties for Sabbath breaking under the old covenant
 - c. In Christ's Gospel there is a Law - **Isaiah 42: 4; Galatians 6: 2; 1Corinthians 9:21**
 - d. Not being under the Law does not mean there should be a lack of obedience or no commandments for believers - **Matthew 22: 37-40; Matthew 28:18-20; John 12: 49; John 14: 15,,21; 15: 10; Acts 1: 2; Galatians 2:17-19; 3:21,22; 1st Corinthians 14: 37; 1st Thessalonians 4: 2; 2nd Peter 3: 2; 3rd Nephi 8:42,46, 60, 67; 10:27; 12:33; 13:28; Mormon 2:36; 4:2-4; 8:29**
4. First day (Lord's Day) happenings - **Matthew 16:21; 20: 19; 27:40; Mark 8:31; 16:19; (Jesus rose from the dead), Luke 24.** (*first appears to disciples*), **John 20: 26.** (*Second appearance to his disciple*), **Leviticus 23 / Acts 2** (*Pentecost came on Sunday*)

5. First Day Observance by the Disciples - **Acts 20: 7; 1st Corinthians 16: 1, 2; Revelation 1: 10**
6. Greek word SABBATON used 62 times in New Testament, It has been translated either Sabbath for the recognized Jewish Sabbath or the first day of the week.
 - ◆ *Strong's number: 4521, Greek: sabbaton, Pronunciation: sab'-bat-on of Hebrew origin [7676]; the Sabbath (i.e. Shabbath), or day of weekly repose from secular avocations (also the observance or institution itself); by extension, a se'nnight, i.e. the interval between two Sabbaths; likewise the plural in all the above applications: --sabbath (day), week.*
 - a. **Mark 16:1.** *And when the sabbath (sabbaton) was past...*
 - b. **Luke 6:6** *...another sabbath (sabbaton), that he entered into the synagogue...*
 - c. **Mark 16:2**...*the first day of the week (sabbaton), they came unto the sepulchre...*
 - d. **Mark 16:9.** *... early the first day of the week (sabbaton),*
 - e. **Acts 20:7**...*first day of the week (sabbaton), when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.*
 - f. **1 Corinthians 16:2.** *Upon the first day of the week (sabbaton) ...*