

## The Bible Speaks

they were fulfilled by His death, the ceremonial law was abolished, because it was no longer necessary.” - Shorter Catechism, 1834 ed., p. 16.

### **10. By what startling event was its termination indicated?**

“Jesus, when He had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent.” Matthew 27:50, 51.

### **11. How did the apostle Peter urge believers to recognize the abolition of the ceremonial law?**

“Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though you know them, and be established in the present truth.” 2 Peter 1:12.

### **12. What did Paul declare to be the only law to which the believer now owes a debt of obedience?**

“Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but the keeping of the commandments of God [“obedience to God’s commandments is everything,” Weymouth].” 1 Corinthians 7:19.

## ***God’s Memorial***

### **1. WHAT did God desire men ever to keep in mind?**

“The works of the Lord are great. He hath made His wonderful works to be remembered.” Psalm 111:2-4.

### **2. What special memorial did He provide to keep in remembrance His creative work?**

“On the seventh day God ended His work which He had made; and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it.” Genesis 2:2, 3.

NOTE. “Such an honor was not conferred on any of the preceding six days; and as it is impossible to conceive in what this peculiar distinction put upon the seventh day consisted, except in making it a season for the bestowment on man of some important benefits suited to his exalted nature and destiny, we must suppose that, when ‘God blessed and sanctified the seventh day,’ He declared His gracious purpose of marking that day by the tokens of His best and most valuable gifts, and by such communication of benign and purifying influences from above as would encircle the Sabbath with a halo of holiness. But while God, on His part, thus honored the Sabbath, by reserving for that season the richest manifestations of His grace and love, He designed that it should also be a period consecrated on the part of man to the purposes of religious meditation and divine worship.” Robert Jamieson, Commentary, note on Genesis 2.

If we had no other passage than this of Genesis 2:1 there would be no difficulty in deducing from it a precept for the universal observance of a Sabbath, or seventh day, to be devoted to God, as holy time, by all of that race for whom the earth and its nature were specially prepared. The first men must have known it. The words ‘He hallowed it’ can have no meaning otherwise. They would be a blank unless in reference to some who were required to keep it holy.” John Peter Lange, Commentary, note on Genesis 1 to 2:3.

### **3. How does God designate this day?**

“My holy day; ... the holy of the Lord.” Isaiah 58:13.

### **4. Who was associated with the Father in the work of creation and in the rest of the first Sabbath?**

“All things were made by Him [Christ]; and without Him was not anything made that was made.” John 1:3. See also Ephesians 3:9; Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 1:2.

### **5. What could Jesus, therefore, assert concerning the Sabbath rest?**

“Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the Sabbath.” Mark 2:28.

### **6. Where is the law of the Sabbath most comprehensively stated?**

In the fourth commandment. “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shall thou

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labor, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God. In it thou shall 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." Exodus 20:8-11.

### **7. Is the Sabbath merely one-seventh part of the week, or must it be a definite day and no other?**

"The seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God." Verse 10.

NOTE. "The institution of the Sabbath is of still higher importance to man by affording him a periodical season for withdrawing from the engrossing scenes of the outer world to attend to the interests of his higher nature and prepare for the enjoyment of that future state to which he is destined. Though naturally religious, and disposed by the original instincts of his being to dedicate a portion of his time to the worship and service of his Creator, he was not left at liberty to determine at what season he should perform that sacred duty. But the authority of a positive commandment, united with the inborn sentiments of his moral nature, led him to consecrate 'the seventh day,' the first of his existence, to the honor of God. And this fixing of the time for religious worship from the first was an act of divine wisdom. For, had it been left to be appointed by the will or at the convenience of mankind, either the world would have been a theater of religious dissension, or religion would have been entirely extinguished in the contest. Human wisdom would have been incompetent to decide the just proportion of time that was due to God, and human power to establish a uniformity of practice. But God was pleased at the commencement of man's history to make known His will, by allowing him six days in continuous succession to carry on the necessary business of the world, while the Creator claims only 'the seventh day' to be held sacred to divine service. The Sabbath is the sun of the moral world, the mainspring of moral action, the handmaid of Christian faith and piety, a weekly stage at which man pauses to think of the journey that still lies before him, to examine into the progress he has made Zion ward, and to strengthen his views of 'the better country' which has been promised him." Robert Jamieson, Commentary, note on Genesis 2.

"The Sabbath is Saturday, the seventh day of the week; it was to be kept holy by consecrating it to God."-K W. Farrar, The Voice From Sinai, page 163.

### **8. How precisely did God define the bounds of the Sabbath?**

"From even unto even, shall you celebrate your Sabbath." Leviticus 23:32.

### **9. When does evening begin?**

"At even, when the sun did set!" Mark 1:32.

### **10. What example of God are His creatures to follow on the Sabbath?**

"Six days thou shall do thy work, and on the seventh day thou shall rest." Exodus 23:12.

NOTE – "The researches of the most eminent physiologists have brought them to the conclusion that the human constitution has been framed on the principle of a seventh portion of time being dedicated to the enjoyment of repose. And that the man who faithfully gives to his body its weekly interval of rest, and to his mind a relaxation from the pressure of worldly pursuits and cares, is the better fitted for resuming, with new zest and fresh vigor, the duties of the ensuing week. In a medical point of view, then, the Sabbath forms part of the remedial system of nature."- Robert Jamieson, Commentary, note on Genesis 2.

### **11. Was the Sabbath to be merely a period of physical rest?**

"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy." Exodus 20:8-11.

NOTE I believe that the Sabbath question today is a vital one for the whole country. It is the burning question of the present time. If you give up the Sabbath, the church goes; if you give up the church, the home goes; and if the home goes, the nation goes. That is the direction in which we are traveling."-D. L. Moody, Weighed and Wanting, page 47.

### **12. Of what would the faithful observance of the Sabbath be a sign?**

"Hallow My Sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between Me and you, that you may know that I am the Lord your God." Ezekiel 20:20. "Moreover also I gave them My Sabbaths, to be a sign between Me and them, that they might know that I am the Lord that sanctify them." Verse 12.

NOTE "For the Sabbath to be a sign of sanctification, it must of course include more than the

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mere abstinence from labor on a certain day. It is in a very vital sense true, that no unregenerate man can keep the Sabbath holy. He may cease from his common duties, he may even attend divine service, but this does not ensure his entering into the rest of God. Only a Christian can do this. Only 'we which have believed do enter into rest.' Hebrews 4:3. Hence only he who is himself holy can keep the Sabbath holy. True Sabbath keeping is a spiritual service which can be rendered only by a Spirit filled person. True Sabbath keeping involves complete dedication to God. The Sabbath is a bit of heaven transferred to this earth. It is a small sample of what heaven will be. The man who keeps it as God would have it kept, must be at peace with God. Not only or merely must his body rest. Rather, his whole soul, body, and spirit must for that day be used in God's service, and everything worldly be shut out."-M. L. Andreasen, *The Sabbath*, pages 198, 199.

### 13. To what future state would the Sabbath also point?

"There remains therefore a rest to the people of God." Hebrews 4:9.

### 14. For how many was the Sabbath intended?

"He said unto them, The Sabbath was made for man [mankind], and not man for the Sabbath." Mark 2:27.

NOTE "Did He [Christ] not say that the Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath? He it was who originally gave the law upon Mount Sinai! He it was who at the creation of the universe rested on the Sabbath day, and blessed it, and hallowed it. When He spoke of the Sabbath, He spoke of His own. He explained His own appointment. He set forth the meaning and the purport of His own institution."- Joseph B. McCaul, *The Ten Commandments*, pages 106, 107.

### 15. How does the fourth commandment emphasize its universality?

"In it thou shall not do any work.... nor thy stranger that is within thy gates." Exodus 20:10. "Six days thou shall do thy work, and on the seventh day thou shall rest: that your ox and your ass may rest, and the son of thy handmaid, and the stranger, may be refreshed." Exodus 23:12.

### 16. To how many does the prophet Isaiah declare the blessings and rewards of Sabbath keeping are extended?

"Also the sons of the stranger [or Gentile], that join themselves to the Lord, to serve Him, and to love the name of the Lord, to be His servants, everyone that keeps the Sabbath from polluting it, and takes hold of My covenant. Even them will I bring to My holy mountain, and make them joyful in My house of prayer." Isaiah 56:6, 7.

NOTE "The Sabbath is equally important and necessary to every child of Adam. It was no more necessary to a Jew to rest after the labor of six days was ended, than to any other man. It was no more necessary to a Jew to commemorate the perfection of God, displayed in the works of creation; it was no more necessary to a Jew to obtain holiness, or to increase in it; it is no more necessary to a Jew to seek or to obtain salvation. Whatever makes either of these things interesting to a Jew in any degree, makes them in the same degree interesting to any other man. The nature of the command, therefore, teaches as plainly as the nature of a command can teach, that it is of universal application to mankind."- Timothy Dwight, *Theology Explained and Defended*, 6th ed., vol. 3, P. 225.

### 17. For how long did God intend that the Sabbath should be observed?

"Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant." Exodus 31:16. "Thy name, O Lord, endures forever; and Thy memorial, O Lord, throughout all generations." Psalm 135:13.

NOTE "Because this commandment has not been particularly mentioned in the New Testament as a moral precept binding on all, therefore some have presumptuously inferred that there is no Sabbath under the Christian dispensation. The truth is, the Sabbath is considered as a type. All types are of full force till the thing signified by them takes place; but the thing signified by the Sabbath is that rest in glory which remains for the people of God, therefore the moral obligation of the Sabbath must continue till time be swallowed up in eternity."-Adam Clarke, *Commentary*, note on Exodus 20:8.

### 18. What attribute of God is given special prominence in His last message of mercy to the world?

"I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them

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that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come. And worship Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.” Revelation 14:6, 7.

### **19. Will Sabbath keeping continue beyond the end of this present world?**

“It shall come to pass [in the new earth], that from one new moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before Me, said the Lord.” Isaiah 66:23.

NOTE-The Sabbath in this world has been a perpetual reminder of creation and recreation or redemption; and in the world to come it will continue to be observed in eternal remembrance of what man owes to God.

### **20. What acclamation will still be upon the lips of the redeemed in the kingdom?**

“Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power: for Thou has created all things, and for Thy pleasure they are and were created.” Revelation 4:11.

### **21. In what future glories will faithful Sabbath keepers participate?**

“If thou call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honorable; and shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words: then shall thou delight thyself in the Lord. And I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.” Isaiah 58:13, 14.

### **22. How then should we relate ourselves to God’s Sabbath memorial?**

“Yea, in the way of Thy judgments, O Lord, have we waited for Thee; to Thy name and to Thy memorial is the desire of our soul.” Isaiah 26:8, R. V.

## ***How Jesus Kept the Sabbath***

### **1. IN what prophetic declaration was Jesus’ relation to the law of God defined?**

“Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of Me, I delight to do Thy will, O My God: yea, Thy law is within My heart.” Psalm 40:7, 8.

### **2. What did prophecy declare He would do for the commandments?**

“The Lord is well pleased for His righteousness’ sake; He will magnify the law, and make it honorable.” Isaiah 42:21.

### **3. When He entered upon His ministry, what example did Jesus set as to the proper use of the Sabbath?**

“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.

### **4. How had the Sabbath been marred by the Pharisees?**

“All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not you after their works: for they say, and do not. For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men’s shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers.” Matthew 23:14.

### **5. What, therefore, was one of the first conflicts Jesus had with the Pharisees?**

“When He was departed thence, He went into their synagogue: and, behold, there was a man which had his hand withered. And they asked Him, saying, Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath days? that they might accuse Him.” Matthew 12:9-10.

### **6. How did Jesus define the lawful use of the Sabbath?**

“It is lawful to do well on the Sabbath days.” Verse 12.

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### **7. BY what act did He immediately illustrate His assertion?**

“Then said He to the man, Stretch forth your hand. And He stretched it forth; and it was restored whole, like as the other.” Verse 13.

### **8. On another occasion what fault had a ruler of the synagogue to find with Jesus and the people?**

“The ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because that Jesus had healed on the Sabbath day, and said unto the people, There are six days in which men ought to work: in them therefore come and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day.” Luke 13:14.

### **9. How did Jesus justify His action?**

“The Lord then answered him, and said, Thou hypocrite, does not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his ox or his ass from the stall, and lead him away to watering? And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?” Verses 15, 16.

### **10. When some of the Pharisees sought to condemn Jesus because He would not observe the restrictions they had put upon the Sabbath, what did others reply?**

“Therefore said some of the Pharisees, This man is not of God, because He keeps not the Sabbath day. Others said, How can a man that is a sinner do such miracles? And there was a division among them.” John 9:16.

### **11. Because they were invariably shamed when they sought to accuse Jesus, to whom did the Pharisees turn their attention?**

“The Jews therefore said unto him that was cured, It is the Sabbath day: it is not lawful for thee to carry thy bed.” John 5:10.

### **12. What effective reply did the man offer?**

“He answered them, He that made me whole, the same said unto me, Take up thy bed, and walk.” Verse 11.

### **13. In what other way did the Pharisees seek to convict the disciples of Sabbath breaking?**

“At that time Jesus went on the Sabbath day through the corn; and His disciples were an hungered, and began to pluck the ears of corn, and to eat. But when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto Him, Behold, Thy disciples do that which is not lawful to do upon the Sabbath day.” Matthew 12:1,2.

### **14. What was the only accusation the Pharisees could make against Jesus and His disciples?**

“Then came to Jesus scribes and Pharisees, which were of Jerusalem, saying, Why do Thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders?” Matthew 15:1, 2.

### **15. How did Jesus effectively reply to this criticism?**

“But he answered and said unto them, Why do you also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?” Verse 3.

NOTE – “Much has been made of the attitude of Christ in speech and deed toward the Sabbath. Some have imagined that by words He uttered and by deeds He did He relaxed the binding nature of the old command. This view, however, is to absolutely misunderstand and misinterpret the doing and the teaching of Jesus. It is impossible too clearly to state the fact, because many who teach that in the Christian dispensation the original ideal of the Sabbath is not binding, quote our Lord’s words in support of their contention. This is indeed to fail to distinguish between things that differ.” G. Campbell Morgan, The Ten Commandments, page 76.

### **16. What did He declare would become of the doctrines of men set up in opposition to the truth of God?**

“He answered and said, Every plant, which My heavenly Father bath not planted, shall be rooted up.” Verse 13.

### **17. How did Jesus conclusively refute the suggestion that He had in any way countermanded God’s**

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### **commandments?**

“I have kept My Father’s commandments.” John 15:10.

NOTE-“God did everything that He could do to magnify the seventh-day Sabbath. He honored it by keeping it Himself. He rested upon it, He blessed it, He sanctified it, He proclaimed it in glory from the mount. He did none of these things for the first day of the week. Christ had nothing to do with any change of the Sabbath day from the seventh to the first day of the week.”-M. L. Andreasen, *The Sabbath*, page 128,

### **18. Did He in any way modify the law of God?**

“Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill [fully preach,” Romans 15:19].” Matthew 5:17.

NOTE - I honestly believe that this commandment [the fourth] is just as binding today as it ever was. I have talked with men who have said that it has been abrogated, but they have never been able to point to any place in the Bible where God repealed it. When Christ was on earth, He did nothing to set it aside; He freed it from the traces under which the scribes and Pharisees had put it, and gave it its true place. It is just as practicable and as necessary for men today as it ever was-in fact, more than ever, because we live in such an intense age. The Sabbath was binding in Eden, and it has been in force ever since. This fourth commandment begins with the word ‘remember,’ showing that the Sabbath already existed when God wrote this law on the tables of stone at Sinai. How can men claim that this one commandment has been done away with when they will admit that the other nine are still binding? “-Dwight L. Moody, *Weighed and Wanting*, pages 46, 47.

### **19. What pronouncement did He make concerning commandment keeping and the kingdom of heaven?**

“Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.” Verse 19.

### **20. What should, therefore, characterize the lives of those who claim to be followers of Christ?**

“He that said he abides in Him ought himself also so to walk, even as He walked.” 1 John 2:6  
“This is the love of God, that we keep His commandments: and His commandments are not grievous.” 1 John 5:3.

## ***How Was the Sabbath Changed?***

### **1. AGAINST what peril did Paul warn the early church to be on its guard?**

“I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things!” Acts 20:29, 30.

### **2. What particularly dangerous philosophy did Paul actually name?**

“O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babbling, and oppositions of science [gnosis, whence Gnosticism] falsely so called.” 1 Timothy 6:20.

### **3. What was the most noteworthy feature of Gnostic teaching?**

Disparagement of the Old Testament.

NOTE “The whole of the Old Testament was abandoned to the inspiration of an inferior and evil demon; the Jews were left in exclusive possession of their national Deity, whom the Gnostic Christians disdained to acknowledge. To them the mission of Christ revealed a Deity altogether unknown in the dark ages of a world which was the creation and the domain of an inferior being.”-Henry Hart Millman, *The History of Christianity*, Volume 1, Page 208.

### **4. In consequence how did they regard the law of God as set forth in the Old Testament?**

They rejected it for the supposed “new law” of Christ.

NOTE. “The God of the Jews, who created the world, gave the law, and rested upon the Sabbath,